SCHOOLS LOCKED DOWN
Eastside schools locked down after gun threat
By Benham

Mammoth Schools and Bishop Union High School were locked down Wednesday afternoon for separate gun threats. Both investigations found no guns and no arrests were made.

The parking lots at Mammoth High, Middle and Elementary schools remained open during the lockdown. A group of parents gathered outside the front doors of the elementary school. Three policemen were stationed in the parking lot around the west side of the building.

A mother’s eyes were red and swollen from crying. “I just want to get my daughter,” she said.

There were no law enforcement vehicles parked outside Mammoth Middle School. In that parking lot, a few parents waited in cars.

Outside the front office of Mammoth High School, a cluster of law enforcement SUV’s were parked. Their lights were off. Mammoth Lakes Police Department led the investigation and was assisted by: Mammoth Lakes Fire Department, Mono County Sheriff, California High Patrol officer was stationed right in front of the Mammoth High School entrance to the high school. He announced, “About 10 minutes ago, we received a tip directed at MHS that there might be someone with a gun on campus. The school and all of our investigations found no guns for separate gun threats. Both investigations found no guns and no arrests were made.

At 11:43 am, according to a press release from Mammoth Lakes Police Department, a tip was sent through the school’s anonymous tip system, Tip Now, that a student was armed. After receiving the tip, Mammoth School Resource Officer Daniel Hansen, Superintendent of Mammoth Unified School District Lois Klein, and Mammoth High School Principal Chris Powell made the decision to lock down the schools.

At 12:12 p.m. over its emergency notification system, Mammoth High School announced, “About 10 minutes ago, we received a tip directed at MHS that there might be someone with a gun on campus. The school and all of our investigations found no guns for separate gun threats. Both investigations found no guns and no arrests were made.

For story, see p. 18

PASSING JUDGEMENT
Mono County swears in a new judge
By Gorman

Gerald Mohun was sworn in on Wednesday as the ninth judge in the history of the Mono County Superior Court. He is replacing Judge Stan Eller, and will be working alongside Judge Mark Magist. Mohun comes to the the judiciary from the law firm, Liebersbach, Mohun, Carney and Reed.

Originally from the San Francisco Bay Area, Mohun graduated from UC Santa Barbara in 1979 and subsequently moved to Lake Tahoe to ski for a season.

There he worked as a lift operator and a server at a restaurant. “Those were the only jobs my political science degree qualified me for,” he joked.

He enrolled in Hastings Law School in San Francisco and graduated in 1983. After passing the bar he began work at a law firm in San Francisco practicing civil litigation. In 1985, his best friend from law school, Kip Dwyer, convinced Mohun to come to the Eastern Sierra to work at what was then Paul Rudder and Ed Forstenzer’s law firm.

“I figured I would come out here for a couple years, do some skiing, then move back to the Bay Area,” he said. “I’ve stayed for 33 years.”

Over that time, Mohun saw his employers Paul Rudder and Ed Forstenzer move on to the real estate industry and the judiciary, respectively, and the firm was eventually transformed from Rudder and Forstenzer into Liebersbach, Mohun, Carney and Reid.

With Mohun’s election to the judiciary, the firm is now just Liebersbach, Carney and Reed.

In those 33 years he also saw the man who brought him to the Sierra, Kip Dwyer, pass away at a young age from kidney cancer.

Mohun has accumulated extensive courtroom experience during the course of his career. He appeared in Mono and Inyo county courts, as well as appellate courts in San Francisco, working on both civil and criminal cases. While working at his private practice, he also worked as a contracted public defender for Mono County, which is small enough that it does not require a full-time public defender’s office, and so relies on contracted attorneys.

Along with having the requisite experience, those who have worked with Mohun believe he has the temperament to make a good judge.

For story, see MOHUN, page 6

Scottie’s bowl game /p. 13/
He’s baaaack /p. 5/
Asada-licious /p. 18/
Hire a pro /p. 2/
Not tired of winning /p. 12/
HIRE A PRO

For a few years at the outset, The Sheet would hold anniversary parties at the Clocktower Cellar where Mac and I would bartend and donate the tips to charity (Mac and I were not the charity).

At the 2nd anniversary party, a guy sitting at the bar said something like this to me, “You know, I like your paper, but it looks like crap.”

I told you, I know, I like your paper, but it looks like crap.

It did look like crap. I was all ears. The guy’s name was Nils Davis and he was a graphic designer and I hired him off that barstool to redesign The Sheet.

His redesign remains in place 13.5 years later and I have zero plans to touch it. He did a fantastic job. And I was smart enough not to interfere. (Actually, this is bullshit. My daughter had just been born. I didn’t have the time or inclination to micromanage).

I tell you this story in preface to what I’m going to tell you about what I learned at the joint Mammoth Lakes Town Council/Planning and Economic Development Commission workshop.

Mammoth’s Public Works Director Grady Dutton, who has recently been appointed to serve as Czar of The Parcel (aka Grady Acres), gave what amounted to a pre-planning update.

Now, a few housing experts (among them Jennifer Halferty and not among them Kirk Stapp) have suggested to me that a lot of what Dutton and Town Staff is now doing in pre-planning (which takes time and money) would have been done by the developer had the town chosen to issue a Request for Proposals to solicit a developer to do the project.

So I went to the podium and I asked Council why it had decided to appoint Dutton versus hire an expert in the field.

And Dutton’s response was as follows. “We have to have a base of knowledge to move forward,” he said. After the staff acquires this base of knowledge, it was suggested that that would be the time to engage a developer.

My comment Wednesday in reply was that this sounds like an incredibly expensive staff training exercise. And to relate it to my own experience, imagine if I had said to Nils Davis, “Well, that sounds like a wonderful idea. Let me take a graphic design course and I will hire you to redesign The Sheet.

It did look like crap. I was all ears. The guy’s name was Nils Davis and he was a graphic designer and I hired him off that barstool to redesign The Sheet.

He did a fantastic job. And I was smart enough not to interfere. (Actually, this is bullshit. My daughter had just been born. I didn’t have the time or inclination to micromanage).

More than likely, my design would have been half as good, taken me twice as long and taken me away from the things I’m actually good at (putatively writing and drumming up business). Never mind the redesign would have been delayed by a year.

So my message to Mammoth’s Town Council is pretty straightforward: Hire a pro. Get the hell out of the way. And reassign Mr. Dutton to the job you hired him to do in the first place. It will lead to a better outcome, and very likely save you money in the process.

Now onto my flogging of Sheet reporter Tim Gorman. He submitted a “news” story last week on commercial air service to Denver, but didn’t interview anyone about the experience. No one from United, no one from Mammoth Lakes Tourism, not even fellow passengers.

It wasn’t news. It was an unresearched op-ed based upon narrow experience. So I reassigned the story this week. This is what he wrote:

The loss of Alaska Airlines has had an effect on the number of passengers flying through Mammoth Yosemite Airport. Recorded FAA enplanements through the airport were down 51% for the month of December year-over-year from 2017 to 2018, from 3,777 to 1,865. This number does not include flights through JetSuite X, because it is a charter service and not counted by the FAA.

Mammoth Lakes Tourism Executive Director John Urdi said that JetSuite X’s enplanements would not represent a significant number because it started flying December 19th and only flies four days a week.

A culprit for the decrease in passengers, according to Urdi, is the switch of carriers from Alaska to United.

“Since the Los Angeles flight switched from Alaska to United there has been a re-education process. We need to let people know that this flight has been replaced and is not just gone.”

Urdi said that a flight needs a couple of years to gain the awareness that will bring load factors up.

This is especially true of the flight between Mammoth Yosemite and Denver International Airports, which is completely new this year.

That flight’s load factor is currently sitting at around 50%, asserted Urdi. “That flight is pacing a little behind where we would like to see it.”

MLT is marketing the new flight to the Denver audience, but a first year flight often struggles with awareness.

The JetSuite X flight through Burbank originally had similar load factors to the Denver flight, but now that it is in its third year its load factors are closer to 70%, according to Urdi.

MLT is hoping the the IKON pass will also bring the Denver audience to Mammoth, as skiers from mountains like Steamboat and Copper now have Mammoth included on their passes.

MLT is authorized to subsidize up to $1.5m for flights during the winter, and between $800k-$1m in the Summer. Anything above $1.5m in the winter is covered by Mammoth Resorts.

While Gorman was speaking to Urdi, I spoke to Embark Aviation’s Clint Ostler about his take on the sudden drop in enplanement numbers. Embark is the Town’s air marketing consultant.

Ostler’s explanation was that air service traffic is tightly connected to weather, and you really only see an uptick in bookings 30-35 days out from that first significant snowfall.

He said bookings have rebounded nicely in January but are still a little below projection.

He did not attribute any drop in bookings to an airline change. No matter what travel site you surf, United flights are always going to pop up. He said there is always a sluggish ramp-up period when it comes to reintroducing seasonal service.

The difference between last year and this (both not having early snow) is that last
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there is no such thing as the "Liberal" special rights) against the rest. Oh wait, pitting one group (economic/ethnic/racial) who is guilty of "Identity Politics" Media (that controls 80% of the Narra the Rules for Radicals. It's the Liberal best for the Gov't Ruling Class, and their Rich and Poor), based solely on what's governing Class that Picks the Winners (for the Misdirection, Obfuscation and Strawman Arguments. Straight out of Marxist Saul Alinsky's Rules for Radicals (paraphrased as 'blame the other side for what you are guilty of doing').

"Like reading long, winding tweets." Fox and "right-wing radio" don't write articles based on Tweets and Headlines that include MAY/PERHAPS/COULD/POSSIBLY/ALLEGEDLY from an Unnamed Source--the Definition of FAKE News, because there is the Plausible Deniability of, 'we just reported what an other source said, but we won't divulge the source, because we don't have to'. That is the realm of (liberal) Yahoo News and Huffington Post.

"McMartin doesn't like the government'. I don't like the Government Ruling Class that Picks the Winners (for the Rich and Poor), based solely on what's best for the Gov't Ruling Class, and their fieldstone.

"Sad diatribe that pushes to divide and categorize us humans" tribalism; '"Us versus Them'. You there go again, with the Rules for Radicals, It's the Liberal Media (that controls 80% of the Narrative) who is guilty of "Identity Politics" pitting one group (economic/ethnic/special rights) against the rest. Oh wait, there is no such thing as the 'Liberal' Media, because they're All owned by those Bad Of conservative Corporations (like New York Times, MSNBC/Company and Michael Moore, CEO of Dog-Eat-Dog Productions, INCORPORATED). "As if being poor [aka, Workforce] and being a senior citizen are like water and oil". We ARE treated differently by the county and its gov't, because we are no longer part of the suffering Workforce. Senior Citizens get "Free Stuff and Free Medical", because we PAID FOR IT by working 40 YEARS! The town/county pays little or Nothing for us, and because we're not beholden to them. That's the problem for the Gov't Ruling Class.

"Clearly, the current artificially (?) low new development housing mitigation (DHM) fees have not helped the middle class...the FOLKS [who was that guy who used "folks", to remain Folksy, just like the rest of us Proletariat Workers?], who are most burdened when shopping to buy a place." Really? So the multi-home or middle-class single-home builders just absorb all the DHM Fees, and the Sewer Fees, School Fees, etc. in the Building Permits? Or do they pass them on to (or get eaten by) the Middle Class via Higher Prices. How does that help the Middle Class? Will the existing Sewer, School, etc. Fees disappear when these higher DHM Fees are passed? "CLEARLY", existing fees are NEVER eliminated. Silly me. "Clearly", the consumer gains by the State increase of taxes, and not in her Watts constituency neighborhood.

"Middle class business owners don't benefit from police protection?" More Deflection & Misdirection. "increased law enforcement calls are linked with increased visitors, not local workforce". Strawman Argument. Obviously, there are more calls with 3-4 times as many people in town. So it's the TOURISTS visiting S. Chicago that are creating the law enforcement problems there? Shocking! And it's those Doggone 2nd homeowners and Oligarch Bluffs & Juniper Ridge people burglarizing their neighbors and the Ghetto. Shocking! That is what Halferty is implying ("don't the poor have a right to law enforcement...?" -Another Strawman). Not all of us are Gullible Low-Information Voters, with Halferty's Agenda of 'Lies, Damn Lies, Statistics and then Liberal Facts (Half-Truths with an Agenda)' Check the Percentages of crimes, and calls for service of law enforcement instead of the numbers. Check the Town Location (Middle Class & Above neighborhoods vs Lower Income neighborhoods) of the "people crime" (not property crime, most likely committed by the same people, contrary to Halferty's Spin). Are there 200-100 more crimes (not traffic infrac...tions) committed by the visitors vs the residents (not just the workforce)? And more importantly, are the 10,000-25,000 visitors responsible for 10-20X the crime, especially felonies, of the small minority of repeat-offender Mammoth residents? Since the Awful visitors are usually here only on the Weekends (and around town at Night), AND the Mammoth Police is NOT (calls are transferred to Mono County Sheriff), why do we need the large expense of MLPD at all?

"No more non-funded subsidies for new development" More Wealth-Redis...tribution, instead?

"If we all work together, we all benefit". Ahh, the platitudes to hide the REAL Percentages of crimes, and calls for service of law enforcement instead of the numbers. Check the Town Location (Middle Class & Above neighborhoods vs Lower Income neighborhoods) of the "people crime" (not property crime, most likely committed by the same people, contrary to Halferty's Spin). Are there 200-100 more crimes (not traffic infrac...tions) committed by the visitors vs the residents (not just the workforce)? And more importantly, are the 10,000-25,000 visitors responsible for 10-20X the crime, especially felonies, of the small minority of repeat-offender Mammoth residents? Since the Awful visitors are usually here only on the Weekends (and around town at Night), AND the Mammoth Police is NOT (calls are transferred to Mono County Sheriff), why do we need the large expense of MLPD at all?

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HE’S BAAAAAACK!
Carunchio angles for the double dip in Mono Cone-ty

Former Inyo County Administrative Officer Kevin Carunchio is off the couch.

On Tuesday, January 8, at it’s first regular meeting of 2019, the Mono County Board of Supervisors approved the hiring of Carunchio as interim Assistant County Administrative Officer.

Carunchio announced his retirement on June 12 of last year and left his post in October. But he hasn’t stopped working. In the interim Carunchio joined Willdan Engineering, a consultancy, in its Public Agency Resources group. Mono County has contracted him, a Willdan employee. He’s a consultant filling in for a full-time county staff vacancy.

“Basically, the offer affords me an opportunity to accept assignments working for multiple public agencies around the state doing what I enjoy and am good at: solving problems and identifying opportunities,” Carunchio told The Sheet.

“I will be working independently and usually from my home office, but will be available to travel to the county offices to meet with staff and officials whenever requested,” Carunchio said.

“And he’ll be receiving a paycheck in addition to a retirement check!”

Tony Dublino served as Mono County’s previous Assistant CAO until the position, “Leslie Chapman told The Sheet.

The county continues searching for a full-time Assistant CAO. It is unclear whether Carunchio will leave after this contract expires.

CAO Chapman said, “he will serve other clients when his assignment at Mono County is complete.”

His assignments might extend beyond the terms of this contract, and the county might hire him again.

Board members denounced the federal government shutdown.

Supervisor Bob Gardner, in a theatrical bit of garstading, called it, “Two-year old childish behavior.”

He explained that he called District 8 representative (which consists of Mono County) Paul Cook’s office and found out that Cook voted against a bill to reopen the federal government because he disagreed with some policy riders that were attached.

On January 3, Representative Cook voted ‘Nay’ on HR 21-Making appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes.”

Besides the lack of maintenance in the National Parks and Forests and other facilities, the government shutdown threatens a federally funded food assistance program, CalFresh.

Kathy Peterson, Director of Mono County Social Services reported to the board that, “As the partial federal government shutdown has entered its third week with no progress in the negotiations, there is now increased concern that some programs, including the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP/CalFresh) would, for the first time ever, exhaust all federal funding by early to mid-February.”

(SNAP is short for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. CalFresh was formerly known as Food Stamps) She continued, “Despite SNAP’s status as a mandatory entitlement program not subject to the annual appropriations process, it is technically dependent on an allocation from the U.S. Treasury. Given that Congress has not enacted a bill to extend the Agriculture Department and its programs, SNAP is relying on reserve funds of at least $3 billion appropriated by Congress early last year. The USDA’s Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) has not revealed how long it projects the SNAP reserve fund will last.”

CalFresh in Mono County hasn’t been affected. Yet. But around mid-February if Congress does not fund the Department of Agriculture and SNAP’s reserve funds run out, then CalFresh in Mono County will not be able to provide food to its clients.

At the beginning of the meeting, Supervisors chose John Peters as Board Chairman for 2019, succeeding Supervisor Gardner.

By Benham

LOCAL NEWS

THE SHEET | Saturday, January 12, 2019

www.thesheetnews.com
LOCAL BRIEFS

**DEATH VALLEY, CA** – Due to the ongoing federal government shutdown, several sites within Death Valley National Park will be closing for health and safety concerns associated with continuing issues of human waste, trash, vandalism and park resource damage.

On Friday, January 4, the Furnace Creek and Texas Springs Campgrounds closed. Access roads to Natural Bridge, Dante's View, and Keane Wonder Mine also closed. The road to Salt Creek remains closed.

Visitor services are limited due to the lapse in federal appropriations. During the government shutdown, national parks are working to remain as open and accessible to the American people as possible.

All normal park rules and regulations still apply and violators will be cited. Dogs are not permitted on park trails or off leash. Off-road vehicle travel is illegal within the park; vehicles must stay on established roadways. Camping must be in accordance with park regulations. The Stovepipe Wells Campground as well as private campgrounds at The Oasis Furnace Creek Ranch and Panamint Springs remain open and operational.

Visitors are encouraged to stop and use restroom facilities in the gateway communities before entering the park as there are extremely limited restroom facilities in the park. Visitors are also encouraged to practice leave no trace principles and pack in and pack out waste.

Additional roads and facilities within Death Valley National Park may close at any time for the health and safety of park visitors.

Thanks to donations from The Oasis at Death Valley, restrooms at the Ryan Junction, Zabriskie Point, Golden Canyon, and Badwater are cleaned and stocked daily. The Death Valley Natural History Association has also made a donation to have the Furnace Creek Visitor Center open from 8am-5pm daily. Ortega National Parks LLC continues to operate the Stovepipe Wells Campground as a donation.

For updates on the shutdown, please visit www.doj.gov/shutdown.

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**Eastern Sierra Observatory & Stargazing Glamglamp**

After six previously successful Kickstarter projects, Scott Lange and Nick Foster - aka DarkSkyPhotography - have set out on their most exciting and interactive endeavor yet — building an observatory and stargazing glampground in California’s Eastern Sierras.

The project launched on January 2nd, and reached 26% of its funding goal on its first day. The plan is to create a unique stargazing experience where guests will visit for a night of telescope observing and astrophotography, relaxing in a hot tub underneath the Milky Way, using binoculars in the stargazer lounge, and capping off the night on a comfy memory foam cot in an awesome SHIFTPOD tent!

SHIFTPOD and Meade Instruments have agreed to sponsor the ESO in part and help create this experience.

The site of the observatory - an old gold mine - has already been acquired and work is already underway to transform the land to better accommodate the observatory. The ESO is expected to be hosting its first guests in late April.

The current Kickstarter campaign is seeking to round out the funding for an upgraded 14” Meade LX600 telescope. This awesome scope features an onboard auto-guider which will make astrophotography a breeze. The project launched on January 2nd, and runs until February 5th. The duo then plan to host guests from late April onward.

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**MORE INFORMATION**

For more information about this project, or to schedule an interview with Scott or Nick, please call Scott Lange at 415/690-9778, or send email to: contact@easternsierraobservatory.com.

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**DON’T KILL BILL**

On Monday afternoon, The Sheet called Bill Walters, owner of Minaret Cinemas, to ask him about his movie theater, Minaret Cinemas being sold.

The conversation went something like this.

**The Sheet:** Is this Bill?

**Bill:** This is Bill.

**The Sheet:** So you’re movie theater sold...

**Bill:** It did.

**The Sheet:** That’s what we heard.

Bill laughed. He explained that his business has not sold, and that The Sheet’s reporter was the millionth person to tell him that it had.

**Bill:** Let me tell you a story. A while ago, my wife was changing hair style almost every month. She had just gotten her hair done and we were in Slocum’s having a drink. A few days later, she’s back in the salon and her stylist tells her that Bill was seen with a strange woman at the bar. I was having an affair and didn’t even know it.

The takeaway: Minaret Cinemas is still on the market.

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**TRUMP AXES FEMA FUNDING**

President Trump announced via Twitter this week that he would not send any more FEMA funding to the areas affected by the forest fires in California. According to FEMA’s website over $48.7 million in federal aid has already been approved. It is unclear whether Trump’s threat will affect funds that have not yet been distributed.

Attempts to contact the Inyo National Forest and FEMA were unsuccessful, as both organizations have been furloughed during the federal government shutdown. Mammoth Lakes Fire Chief Frank Frier va l said that the only federal funding that his department receives from the federal government is grant funding for fuels removal.

“I don’t know if grant funding will be affected by the President’s announcement,” Frier va l said.

“If you’re asking whether or not the President’s message will have any affect on the Inyo National Forest, I have no idea,” he added.

The Camp Fire killed 86 people in Butte County last fall, and 6,646 have applied for FEMA assistance to find temporary housing.

California Governor Gavin Newsom

see BRIEFS, page 7
responded to the President on Twitter, saying, “Disasters and recovery are no time for politics. I’m already taking action to modernize and manage our forests and emergency responses."

On his first full day in office, Governor Newsom signed two executive orders on Emergency preparedness, EO N-05-19, and EO N-04-19. The first asks state agencies to look at disaster preparedness through an added socio-economic lens. The second, “modernizes the way the state contracts for technology systems, and the order’s first application will be fire detection.”

-Gorman

Inyo Supes

At its regular meeting on Tuesday, January 8, the Inyo County Board of Supervisors honored Olancha-Cartago Fire Chief Steve Davis, who has announced his retirement. Davis said that he looks forward to spending time with his eight grandchildren.

The Board approved 18 commercial cannabis licenses and denied two. In total, the Board has approved 110 commercial cannabis permits.

Inyo County Agricultural Commissioner Nathan Reade (He is also Mono County’s Agricultural Commissioner) explained that he gives each application a score. For him to recommend approval, the application must score 80% or higher. The scoring criteria is divided into six sections: security, operations, environmental, cultivation, community impact and community benefit.

The Board approved a lease agreement with Canon Financial Services for five years and an will pay Canon no more than $90,000 annually.

At the beginning of the meeting, Matthew O’Connor was introduced as the new Executive Director of Wild Iris. He’s from Delaware and to raise the publics awareness of Wild Iris’s services.

Inyo CAO Clint Quilter introduced new Risk Manager Aaron Holmberg. Quilter called Holberg “the whole nine yards.” Holmberg said, “I’m very excited to be here and be of service to you.” Assistant County Counsel John Vallejo was appointed to serve as an Alternate Director to the Indian Wells Groundwater Authority Board of Directors. Terri Red Owl was appointed as Water Commissioner by the Board and the Water Department for a four-year term ending on December 31, 2022.

-Maddux
MLH IS MALL IN
By Gorman
At its meeting last Monday, the board of Mammoth Lakes Housing (MLH) discussed its plans to create 24 new units of affordable housing within the next 18 months.

The non-governmental organization owns a building at 238 Sierra Manor Road that it plans to convert into 11 units. Another project within the privately-owned Mammoth Mall should translate into 13 units. Both proposals are contingent upon federal grant funding for renovation.

The Mammoth Mall property should be the first to become move-in ready. MLH will apply through the town for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding from the Department of Housing and Urban Development. CDBG’s help fund local and state governments to create low-income housing.

The Mammoth Mall location’s CDBG grant will be submitted by the town on Feb. 5th, and the grants will be awarded in May. If a grant is awarded, MLH would then reach a deal with the mall owners regarding terms (money, qualifications, deed restrictions, etc.). The mall owners would perform their own renovations.

The Sierra Manor Road property will require $30,000 in renovations before it can be eligible to apply for CDBG funding. That money will come from an MLH project specific reserve of $385,279 funding. That money will come from an MLH project specific reserve of $385,279

The parcel floated the RFQ in December to any consultant that could, “Support and inform the Town’s Parcel Development Team.”

If MLH is awarded the bid then it will get funds from the town that can be used to hire a full-time person to work on the parcel. MLH Executive Director Patricia Robertson said that this is a good opportunity for MLH to cement its role in the parcel’s development.

“Applying for this RFQ is an extension of our mission,” Robertson said.

These funds would also help MLH to incrementally flesh out its staff. Currently MLH has two employees, Executive Director Patricia Robertson and Grant & Financial Associate Diane Doonan. Board member Tom Hodges called this level of staffing “bare bones” and citizen Sandy Hogan got up at the Monday meeting to say, “MLH needs three full-time employees.”

The rehab costs that the CDBG grant will fix should cost around $3.6m. This grant application will have to wait until the August round of CDBG applications.

If the applications can be filed in the August round then the grant will be awarded about 5 to 6 months afterwards, and work will begin on the new housing units in Spring of 2020.

Request for Qualification

The MLH Board also voted to apply jointly with the Sierra Business Council in response to the town’s Request For Qualification (RFQ) for affordable housing development expertise for the parcel.

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MLR REITERATES ICE SUPPORT
By Gorman
The Mammoth Lakes Recreation (MLR) board of directors voted to reiterate its support for a $13 million Multi-Use Facility at Mammoth Creek Park to Town Council. MLR along with Mammoth’s Recreation Commission is considered a “recommending body” by the town. It has twice before supported a project not to exceed $13 million at Mammoth Creek Park. This vote marks its third time recommending this option.

Initial bids solicited by the town last year came in at approximately $19 million, so a scaled-down project is being contemplated.

Along with this recommendation, the board appointed Colin Fernie to sit on a committee that would do a fiscal, amenity, and programming analysis of the different MUF options, those being a $13 million facility at Mammoth Creek Park, a less expensive facility at Mammoth Creek Park with inferior amenities and programming, and a facility at the current location next to the library. MLR made this appointment at the town’s request.

MLR Board Member Bill Sayer was not thrilled at the prospect of convening a committee. “The depth of my sorrow at hearing that we are going to form yet one more committee to deal with ice issues...This has all been decided, I cannot tell you how many times in the last twenty years, by numerous recommending bodies, and committees, and commissions,” Sayer said.

David Page, who during this meeting was appointed to replace Tom Johnson as MLR board president, agreed with Sayer.

“We have analyzed almost ad nauseam...to revisit it at this point seems like a delaying tactic that ends up costing the taxpayer money,” Page said.

On being appointed to the committee to reconsider the project, Colin Fernie said, “I don’t think a lot has really changed in terms of the fundamentals of the original decision point...Maybe it would be good to have a check in on that. I think some of that is probably a waste of time, but I am happy to waste my time.”

The rest of the board came to a consensus on these opinions, and made the motion to once again reiterate its recommendation to council.

This $13m facility would be for an Olympic sized ice rink, but it is not enough for a community center. The town hopes to build a facility with the future capability of scaling it up.

MLR has stated that once the first facility is built, it can help to fundraise for the community center expansion.

MLR also voted to recommend to the council that it approve the funding of a disc golf course in Shady Rest Park. The U.S. Forest Service has approved an area of land in the park for geographical and archeological surveys.

The surveying should be completed in the spring and the course should be ready to play on in the Fall.

The course will cost the town about $30,000 for the NEPA survey, staff time, the hardware (catchers, tee pads, and course map), and course design by the Professional Disc Golf Association. The Mammoth Lakes Disc Golf Club has fundraised $3,000 for the project.

The board was supportive of this project, but worried about maintenance.

Board member Scott McGuire said, “If we are asking for money I want to make sure that we have enough set aside to make sure that the course stays an attraction and viable for a long period of time, and not all the sudden we have one epic winter and its becomes an eyesore and no one wants to play it.”

MLR Board Member Eric Wasserman suggested that leagues and tournaments, like in softball, could help to offset the price of maintenance.

Sean Turner of Mammoth Brewing Company spoke to the board about traditional Wood Site events, Bluesapalooza, Labor Day Arts Festival, and Shakespeare in the Park, still not having a location.

“Bluesapalooza is less than seven months away, and we have sold over 800 tickets...I sure hope we get an event site in place. As I learned in business school, hope is not a business plan.”

If the lawsuit between MLT and the Wood’s Site property owner Dirk Winter is resolved in the next few months then perhaps these events will return there. In the meantime Turner is looking for MLR to come up with a plan B.

MLR Board Member Eric Wasserman suggested that leagues and tournaments, like in softball, could help to offset the price of maintenance.
LOCKDOWN continued from page 1

Schools are on lock down. “Students hunkered down in their classrooms, before being escorted to the Multi-Purpose Room. From the temporary buildings on the south side of campus, students and staff walked in single file with their hands raised to the entrance to the gym. A sheriff’s officer with a long gun watched the lines file into the gym.

In the Multi-Purpose Room, authorities patted down students for weapons. According to the Mammoth Police press release, the pat downs were only used to search for weapons and no weapons were found. With the students sequestered, authorities searched the classrooms. While they waited, students were fed peanut butter sandwiches and chips. (The menu was disclosed over the emergency text system.)

At 12:45 p.m., after Mammoth Police took a suspect into custody, the lockdown at the elementary school was lifted. At 12:58 p.m., the lockdown at the middle school was lifted. When those lockdowns were lifted, students went home for the day.

The suspect, a high school student, who was taken into custody during the lockdown, was released from custody later Thursday afternoon. “The responding officers really performed well. Our teachers were fantastic. Our kids followed directions wonderfully,” Lois Klein told The Sheet that the lockdowns at the elementary and middle schools were precautionary. They were initiated because of the close proximity of the campuses.

Students were released at 3:05 p.m.—the regular time when school ends. “I never thought I’d have to walk through the hallway with my hands up,” senior Emily Galvan said. “I always saw it on the news, but never thought I’d have to go through that.”

Ninth grader Ryan Sandvigen wondered why there was a school shooter “at this tiny school.” “It was weird,” he added. Junior Cardiff Smith echoed Sandvigen. “It was weird,” Smith said. “When asked how school on Friday would be, Smith said, “Probably weird.”

But his being armed presented a threat. The student who was taken into custody was suspended from school according to Mammoth Principal Chris Powell.

On Friday, when the student decided to return to campus, Mammoth Police arrested the student for trespassing around 11 a.m. When The Sheet went to press the student remained in custody.

In the aftermath, Klein said, “We are stressing with our students that if they see something they should say something.”

When asked about how Thursday morning felt, Powell said, “orderly.” He recorded a short video of himself to prompt discussion of the incident in morning classes.

Klein and Powell believed the response to the tip and the procedures in place worked.

A Bishop Police Department press release read, “At approximately 11:06 a.m. today, the Bishop Police Department was notified by Bishop Union High School administration that staff may have heard a student in a crowded hallway say that he had a gun. Staff could not determine who had uttered the words.” Bishop Police did not find a gun. The investigation is ongoing in Bishop.
SCT TO GO FOUR-FOR-FOUR MLK WEEKEND

By Allison McDonell Page

Sierra Classic Theatre is ambitiously putting on four staged readings over MLK weekend featuring many local actors whom you love and as well as a talented newcomer in Geoff McCabe. Producer/Director Allison Page’s synopses of the plays and casts appear below.

“Art” by Yasmine Reza (Jan. 17, 7 p.m.)

This Tony Award-winning comedy seems to be about the meaning of art (in the form of a solid white painting) for both the man who bought the painting (for an exorbitant price) and the two friends who come to see it. In fact, it is less concerned with the socioeconomic forces behind cultural taste, than with the power dynamics of friendship and the difficulty of being truly honest, even between people who love each other.

Background: From the NY Times: “Written by Yasmine Reza in Paris in 1994, this lacerating comedy dissects the bonds among three friends when one mocks another for buying an expensive all-white contemporary painting, and the third is stuck in the uncomfortable middle. The play won prestigious prizes in Paris and London, and has enjoyed the kind of global success rare for a modern script. Let alone a French one. Let alone one by a woman. It has been produced in 45 countries and translated into some 30 languages.

The original 1996 London production starred Albert Finney and Tom Courtenay, and ran for six years. The original Broadway ensemble consisted of Alan Alda, Victor Garber and Alfred Molina.

Why I chose the play: I laughed loudly when I saw the play with Alda, Molina and Garber in NYC in the ’90s but when I re-read it after the 2016 election, it struck me that the play explored the tension between friends and loved ones that myself and others were experiencing (specifically now) after this divisive election. When a friend makes a choice that one absolutely cannot understand, can that friendship survive? The play is about tolerance and what we will tolerate in our relationships, with our friends, in our marriages, with our children and parents.

Cast: Kevin Green, Jim Marcotte, Mike Dostrow

Venus in Fur by David Ives (Jan. 18 @ 7)

From the NY Times: A sexy comedy with something darker, stranger and altogether more delicious: a suspense-packed study of the erotics (and the semiotics) of power, in which the two participants prove to be seriously, almost scarily adept. “Venus in Fur” provides a seriously smart and very funny stage seminar on the destabilizing nature of sexual desire: vanilla-flavored, kink-festooned or anything in between...

Background: David Ives is a hilarious, prolific playwright. Venus was a huge success on Broadway upon its debut in 2012.

Why I chose the play: First, to see if I could get away with a play like this in Mammoth. Second, I knew Julia Runcie would be amazing. Third, I loved how it explores the tension between living responsibly and truthfully: living in the moment versus living the trajectory. A tension that crops up in life and in theater.

Cast: Julia Runcie, Geoff McCabe

Heisenberg by Stephen Simon (Jan. 19 @ 7)

From the NY Times: “Though the play’s name is that of a theoretical physicist, chemistry — to be pronounced with a sizzling “s” — is the science that first comes to mind as you watch the splendid play. I mean, in particular, that kind of chemical reaction whereby X meets Y, and the room suddenly pulses with a premonition of violent explosion and you know that something either wonderful or terrible is going to happen, and the possibilities are almost too exciting to tolerate.”

The characters: She’s a loud, aggressive, potentially psychotic 42-year-old American who works as — well, what? Assassin, waitress, con woman, grade school receptionist? (her job description keeps changing) He’s a self-effacing, stand-offish British butcher of 75, whose life has been one monotonous blur.

Background: It starred Mary Louise Parker and was a huge success on Broadway when it opened in 2016.

Why I chose the play: It’s beautifully written. It’s funny and heart-wrenching and simple and beautiful. Chuck wanted to do it and Stacy loved it.

Cast: Chuck Scatolinii, Stacy Corless

Ages of The Moon by Sam Shepard (Jan. 20 matinee @ 4 p.m.)

This play is a poignant and hilarious meditation on aging and loss. A lesser known, more recent Shepard play, written in 2010, consists of the funny ruminations of two old coots as they sit on the front porch, getting drunk and watching the sun go down. Shepard’s sometimes laconic sometimes hardtalk dialogue sets the pace and carries the play wherever it wanders, which is often to women, which like the moon are distant, desirable and mysterious beyond man’s understanding. (edited from Variety)

Background: It originated at Dublin’s Abbey Theater starring Stephen Rea.

Why I chose the play: When Sam Shepard died in 2017 I thought it was about time SCT perform one of his plays. After rereading a few, I could not imagine them appealing to the Mammoth audience. They are often just a little too dark, gritty, out there. This one is not that way, seemed more relatable and was actually the first play we chose to do. I have always been a fan of Shepard, especially after seeing Philip Seymour Hoffman and J.C. Reilly perform both roles in “True West.”

Cast: Kevin Worden, Jeff Frome
The Sheet asked people on the street: Describe your own personal blackout date?

“After every town council meeting.”
- Cleland Hoff, Mammoth Lakes

“Christmas, New Years, my birthday. All the traditional ones.”
- Jay Tee, San Diego

“Almost everyday except my days off.”
- Kyle Randolph, Mammoth Lakes

“I haven’t had one in a while. I guess that’s a good thing?”
- Elijah Grice, Mammoth Lakes

“From my birthday on February 12 through Valentines Day.”
- Lindsay Johnson, Mammoth Lakes

“After a long day of snowboarding at the mountain.”
- Natalie Judah, Mammoth Lakes

Because Ikon Pass blackout dates were a big issue over the holidays...

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Mammoth Girls win a pair as Thompson, Escobar return
By Benham

Mammoth High School girls varsity basketball team has won it’s last two games. On Friday January 4, Mammoth beat Lee Vining, 40-33 and on Tuesday, January 8, Mammoth beat Coral Academy of Science (Reno, Nevada), 43-33.

The game versus Lee Vining was Mammoth’s first after ten days off. “It’s always hard to get back into it,” Head Coach Andrew Jones said.

Point guard Nicole Escobar and Captain Ella Thompson returned to play in Lee Vining after being sidelined most of December with injuries. Mammoth played its 2-3 zone and Lee Vining played man-to-man. At the end of the first half, Mammoth led 26-24.

To start the fourth, Nicole Escobar hit a jumper from the right wing, which gave Mammoth a little breathing room. Mammoth’s Tina Orrick led her team’s defensive attack. She seemed to be everywhere. She laid out for loose balls, caused jump balls, and stole a ball from Lee Vining’s Andrea Sanillian which led to a Mammoth lay-up.

Lee Vining went to a press in the fourth, but it wasn’t enough. The final would have been 40-31, but Lee Vining’s Sophia McKee hit a buzzer beater mid-range shot. She ran to her bench and was swarmed by teammates. Don’t call it a meaningless buzzer beater.

The final was Mammoth 40, Lee Vining 33.

Mammoth had another close game on Tuesday versus Coral Academy. In the first half, the Mammoth shot 10 of 19 from the free throw line while Coral Academy went 0-2.

Coral Academy kept it close. They were able to stretch the zone at the wings. The low wing player for Mammoth would meet the ball at the three point line, leaving space at in the mid-range around the block.

Mammoth led 20-19 at halftime then started the second half on a 6-0 run. The team begins league play on Friday, January 11 at Lone Pine. Lone Pine went undefeated in Desert Mountain League play last year. Mammoth finished second, losing to Lone Pine twice: by 2 and then by 5.

Clockwise from top right: Elia Thompson leads a fastbreak, Tina Orrick fights a box out, Sam Jones shoots a jumper against Lee Vining, Kelly Alvarado (22) and Nicole Escobar (left) on the double team vs. Coral Academy.

Mammoth Boys trump Tigers, Coral, extend win streak to nine

Mammoth High School’s Varsity Boys Basketball team finished non-league play with two wins last week. The Tigers won nine in a row.

In Lee Vining on Friday January 4, Mammoth beat the Tigers 71-28. Mammoth led by 9 at the end of the first quarter, then by 10 at halftime. They opened the second half in a press that led to a Liam Bassler lay-up and a Trent Presson three-pointer.

The press continued and the Mammoth’s lead grew. Joel Guileen made a three pointer to push the lead to 19.

In the fourth, freshman Ben Castro sunk a three to his teammates’ delight. With 1:30 left, the lead was 40, invoking the “40 Point Rule,” whereby the clock runs continually for the rest of the game.

On Tuesday, January 8, the Huskies beat Coral Academy of Science (Reno, Nevada), 57-40. According to Mammoth Head Coach Robbie Presson, it was the first time Mammoth has ever played Coral.

Coral had five players over 6 feet tall to Mammoth’s three players. That height disadvantage made it difficult for Mammoth to score in the paint.

Seth Gacho found openings along the baseline a few feet behind the block. Storm Patrie joined him making shots from next to the baseline.

Mammoth began the game on an 11-0 run. Then Coral Academy hit some shots and the Mammoth’s missed a few shots. The game was scrappy, even sloppy at times.

In the third quarter, Coral Academy captain Ahmed Sanousi—a 6’3” forward—slashed Mammoth’s defense right down the middle. He drove from the top of the key and ducked defenders with a smooth side-step or jump stop. Although he didn’t make a lot of his shots, his penetration led to second chance opportunities. By the end of the quarter, Coral cut Mammoth’s lead to nine.

In the fourth, Mammoth’s Liam Bassler scored five in a row in the fourth: a fast break lay-up followed by a three. It was a crucial burst that put the game away. He totaled 16 points.

But Coral Academy’s Head Coach Roosevelt didn’t think the game was done. His team trailed 15 with a minute left and he instructed them to foul. They fouled twice in that minute, the second foul came with one second left and the score Mammoth 56, Coral Academy 40.

Trent Presson hit the first and missed the second and the game ended.

The Huskies begin Desert Mountain League play on Friday January 11, at Lone Pine.

Last year, the Huskies beat Lone Pine twice last year, first by 30 points then by 21.

“It’s always tough to play down there,” Presson said about playing in Lone Pine.

Clockwise from top right: Seth Gacho under the basket against Coral Academy, Dylan Eastridge boxes out Lee Vining’s Giovanni Canno, Liam Bassler with a finger role against Coral Academy, Cardiff Smith dribbles the ball against Lee Vining.
continued from page 2

year, Alaska had two daily flights to L.A. and another daily flight to San Diego.

This year, United has one daily flight to Southern California. JetSuite X also has flights whose combined seats don’t add up to a second flight. So if you halve the seats, well, it would stand to reason you’d halve that traffic.

Ostler did note that JetSuite’s traffic has been very strong this year.

Another point of optimism. Ostler believes the “geographical mix” is much better with Denver in the lineup, even if Denver’s load factor has been sluggish thus far.

The theory being every passenger from Denver is most likely a unique visitor. As an example, he pointed to Aspen’s daily flight to Dallas, noting that just 26% of Aspen’s Dallas traffic is actually from Dallas. The rest are connections.

For now, Ostler preaches patience. “If this slumps into February, then we will start asking more questions,” he said.

In regard to airline seats, a comparison between last year and this which appeared in the July 14, 2018 issue of The Sheet.

Last year, Mammoth had about 32,500 available seats during the winter season, broken down as follows:

LA 17,176
SF 7,280
San Diego 6,156
Burbank 1,890

This year, the breakdown appears to be as follows:

LA 10,570
SF 7,140
Denver 7,140
Burbank 1,740
Orange Cty. 1,740

Total: Approx. 28,300, representing a -13% decrease.

More actual reporting from Gorman

Mammoth Lakes Tourism met on Thursday to discuss Executive Director John Urdi’s contract and the tax revenue from December.

The board members, most of whom own businesses or work in the lodging and food industry in town, reported their anecdotal evidence for how business was over the holiday season. Michael Ledesma reported that Gomez’s Restaurant and Hugs Ice Cream were up significantly from last year, and he credited the “marketing blitz” that MLT ran from Nov. 22nd to Dec 24th using reserve funds it held jointly with the town.

“What we learned is that we have to compound this messaging because it matters,” Ledesma said.

Sean Turner reported that Mammoth Brewing Company underperformed in the last two weeks of December.

Board Chair Scott Maguire offered this explanation for the difference: “Maybe the dirtbags were out of town [during the blackout], and they like to drink beer, but families were still here to go to Gomez.”

Eric Clark, the MLT representative from Mammoth Mountain Ski Area, said that the first year of the IKON pass has been a great success.

“There were fewer people during the blackout but there was still a lot of spending during that period and great visitation on the sides.”

By “the sides,” Clark means the dates before and after the blackout. It was a goal of the blackout dates to push some visitation to the off-peak dates, and Clark said that this was accomplished. He said the result is that January is already “looking great.”

Board member Paul Rudder asked if there was consideration of having blackout dates on Mammoth but not June next year, and Clark said yes there is consideration but still no decision.

Year to date Transient Occupancy Tax is $1,590,418, 41% ahead of budget, and Tourism Business Improvement District (TBD) tax is at $1,243,405, 2% below budget.

The board also had a lengthy discussion over Executive Director John Urdi’s bonus for Fiscal Year 17-18.

For hitting the metric in his contract for winter employment numbers, Urdi was awarded a bonus of $2,922. John Morris, who headed the committee on Urdi’s review, requested that the board offer another $8,765, or roughly 4% of Urdi’s annual salary, for exemplary performance that was not covered in the bonus metrics set out in his contract.

This bonus was considered because the TBD and TOT tax revenue from 17-18 was nearly as high as it was in the record setting year of 16-17, even though 17-18 was a dry snow year.

The board felt comfortable with this bonus, until Paul Rudder brought up the fact that it might be an illegal gift of public funds since it was outside the explicit bonus metrics of the contract. Urdi’s contract has a bonus cap of 15% of total salary, and this bonus addition was within that limit. Had MLT been a private entity this discretionary bonus would have been legal, but with public funds there is some confusion.

The Board passed a motion to ask its counsel whether this discretionary bonus is legal or not, and to work to update Urdi’s contract. Urdi is now six months into the new fiscal year, and his contract has still not been updated. It automatically renewed in June 2018.
BARS & MUSIC

Happy Hour /
Austria Hof. 4-7 p.m. Sunday–Thursday and 4-6 p.m. Friday & Saturday. See ad.
The Liberty Sports Bar and Grill Slider Mondays, Monday’s @ 9 p.m. Taco Tuesday, 3 homemade tacos for $6. Wine Wednesday is 1/2 off the entire list all day, happy hour wine from 3 p.m. – close) See ad, p. 7. Outlaw Saloon Happy Hour Mon–Fri., Happy Hour from 4-6 p.m.
Morrison’s Happy Hour Daily, 5-7 p.m. The Mogul All Night Happy Hour during NFL games. Bar only.
Mammoth Rock ’N Bowl Mon. 19:00-21:00 p.m. Bowling & Beats, Thurs. DJ 10 p.m Latin Night, Saturday DJ 9 p.m.
Peter’s Bistro & Wine Bar Daily, 5-7 p.m. $5-10 menu items, drink specials. See ad, p. 9.
Clocktower Cellar Happy Hour: 4:30 p.m. daily, $5 dollar menu items, drink specials. Sunday: open at 10 a.m. for football. See ad, p. 4.
Roberto’s Happy Hour: 4-6 p.m. daily. Sunday: open at 10 a.m. for football. Famous Shooters Happy Hour Mon.- Fri. 4-6 p.m.; Sat/Sun. 4-5:30 p.m. Dining at 5p.m, daily, “No Reservations, just come on in” See ad, p. 5.
Social T-Bar Club in June Lake. Entertainment virtually every night. More info: www.tbarsocialclub.com. Giovanni’s Happy Hour daily 4-6 p.m. Large pizza and a pitcher of beer gets you free wings. See ad on this page.
Shelter Distillery Happy Hour 3-5 p.m. daily: half off all drinks. Free Spirit tasting flight 2-3 p.m. daily. See ad, p. 6.
Devis Creek Distillery tasting room hours. 2:30-5:30 p.m. every day (except New Year’s Day). Location: Industrial Park (off of Meridian). 123 Commerce Dr. Info: 760.793.7131. See ad, p. XXX.
Carson Peak Inn in June Lake. Special after-ski menu 4-6 menu.

January 11-12/
Ben Mistrika & Collective play Liberty. Time: 9 p.m. Free.
LAW (rock) plays Rafters. Time: 10 p.m. Free.

January 11-13/
Beach Bar Apres, music by DJ WLDCST. Featuring a silent disco and giveaways. Village Gore ondola opens late to return to The Village. Location: Canyon Lodge. Time: 1-6 p.m.
Saturday, January 12/
Template Shreds concert. Time: 8-10 p.m. Location: June Lake Community Center. More info: see sidebar column next page.
Sunday, January 13 /

BARS & MUSIC

Monday, January 14/

Tuesday, January 15 /
Team trivia @ Mammoth Brewing Co. Time: 7 p.m. Free. Prizes.

Wednesday, January 16 /

Friday, January 18/
The Novelists at T-Bar Social Club. Time: 9 p.m. Tix: $5 at balancedrocksaloon.com, $8 at the door.

Saturday, January 19 /

TOWN STUFF

Friday, January 11/
Bishop hosts Frazier Mountain (Lebec, CA). Girls varsity at 6 p.m. Boys varsity at 7:30.
Free skiing at Mammoth Ice Rink. 7-10 p.m.

Saturday, January 12/
Bucky (June Min. mascot) hosts a bonfire. Cookies, hot chocolate and dancing. Time: 2-3 p.m. Location: June Mountain Chalet.
Woolly’s Saturday Parade through The Village. Face painting, dancing, music, and a parade with Woolly and Friends from Mammoth Mountain Ski School. Time: 3:45-4:30 p.m. Location: meet at The Plaza in The Village. IKON Passholder Early-Ups. Location: Mammoth Mountain. Time: 7:30-8:30 a.m. More info: see sidebar column next page.

Sage to Summit & Inyo Search and Rescue 5K. All proceeds go to Inyo SAR. Time: Registration @ 8 a.m. Race @ 9 a.m. Cost: $10 suggested donation. Location: Millpond Recreation Area, Sawmill Road, Bishop. Info: sagetosummit.com.

COSA Bird Walk with Eastern Sierra Audubon. Birders of all experience levels welcome. Time: 8:30 a.m. Location: meet at BLM/Forest Service Office, Pacu Lane, Bishop. Info: 406.390.5291.

Sunday, January 13/
Sierra Club Outing. Cross-country ski the Lookout Mountain Loop. 5.4 miles roundtrip. Meet in Union bank parking lot at 10 a.m. More info: Vivian, 520.414.9948 or Ann, 760.934.9271.
LET'S EXPERIENCE THE LAKES BASIN UNDER A FULL MOON WITH TAMARACK CROSS COUNCIL.

**Moonlight Snowshoeing**

The June Lake Community Center is located at 90 Granite Avenue in June Lake. There will be beer and lasers. For more info, call 760.934.3131 or visit sierraclassictheatre.com.

**Sierra Classic Theatre presents four staged readings over four days.**

Monday, January 14/7 p.m. Location: City Council Chambers, City Hall.

Tuesday, January 15/2-5 p.m. Info: 760.852.4420.

Wednesday, January 16/5 p.m. Tix: $30. Presale tix available at Elks Lodge, 20171 Main St., Mammoth, CA 93546.


**Topic Schedule:**
1. Botany & Plant Science Feb. 20-28
2. Soils & Fertility Mar. 1-12
3. Horticulture Mar. 13-31
4. IPM Apr. 1-10
5. Pest Management Apr. 11-20
6. Irrigation Apr. 21-30
7. Vegetable Gardening May 1-14
8. Pomology May 15-31
10. Specialty Topics including: Jun. 9-20 a. Turf b. Landscape design c. Ornamental plants d. Poisonous plants 11. Certification Exam Jun. 21-25. Cost: $100 training fee. You do not need to pay until you are accepted. Applications due January 24. Return to our office at 207 West South St., Bishop, or email to melyeager@ucanr.edu. or melyeager@ucanr.edu. Info: Melissa Yeager, 760.873.7854 or melyeager@ucanr.edu or immg@ucanr.edu.

**ESLT open house**

Join ESLT for an informal gathering to meet and mingle with our board, staff, conservation partners and supporters like you as we raise our glasses to 2019!

We hope you’ll join us on January 23 for a fun evening at our office. Help us welcome our new Education Coordinator, AmeriCorps Member, Marie Ring, and our new Communications Coordinator, Kristen Stipanov. And celebrate the New Year with us!

**Eastern Sierra Land Trust’s Open House Celebration**

Wednesday, January 23rd 5:00-6:30pm ESLT’s Office (250 N. Fowler St. in Bishop)

All Are Welcome ◆ RSVP Helpful

Please email marie@eslt.org or call (760) 873-4554 if you plan to attend. While your RSVP isn’t required, it will help us make sure that we have enough food and drink for our guests.

**ESLT’s Office**

Let’s spend an hour of late lift access at Mammoth Mountain from 4-6:30 p.m. In addition, there is a free skate this Friday from 7-10 p.m. More info, see ad p. 7.

**National Skating month**

...is January. Free skate lessons at Mammoth Ice Rink Jan. 11, 18 and 25 from 4-6:30 p.m. In addition, there is a free skate this Friday from 7-10 p.m. More info, see ad p. 7.
Sierra Employment Services, Inc. is hiring for the following positions:

- Bilingual HR Personnel M $ DOE
- Payroll & Benefits Office Staff $15 to $22
- Housekeepers & Housemen M $15 to $17
- Construction General Laborer M/B $15 to $20
- Quickbooks Bookkeeper M $20 to $22
- Shovelers M $20 to $22

MCWD–Mech. Maint. Wkr $18.41 to $25.45

Call 760.924.0523 or 760.873.8599
See our full job list online www.Sierrajobemployment.com

Holiday Haus Motel and Hostel
Now Hiring for year round permanent position for a Front Desk. Excellent pay DOE. Please contact Todd, Scheduled position to stop by and see us in person at 3805 Main Street in Mammoth Lakes.

Registered Dietician Full time, oversees kitchen and nutrition service for skilled nursing facility, great opportunity with benefits, 401K, fully staffed kitchen and a fantastic team to work with. Please call to schedule an interview with the Bishop’s post-acute and long term care needs. Give us a call at 760-872-1000, or drop in to see us at Bishop Care Center 151 Pioneer Lane, EOE
Entry Level Housekeeping / Laundry Aide We have full time entry level positions for, Housekeeping and Laundry Aide. Day shifts available which offers, benefits and 401K. Give us a call at 760-872-1000, or drop in to see us at Bishop Care Center 151 Pioneer Lane, EOE
Entry Level Dietary Aide We have full time entry level positions for Dietary Aide for our skilled nursing facility which offers, benefits and 401K. Give us a call at 760-872-1000, or drop in to see us at Bishop Care Center 151 Pioneer Lane, EOE
Austria Hof Lodge is seeking full time and part time housekeepers. Day shifts available, must be able to work weekends. Starting salary at $15.00 per hour. Apply in person at 924 Canyon Blvd or call 760-934-5646

Personal Services

I saw you... think the Chargers will finally get there. They know how to supervise a solid defense and are hungry! If you think you can handle the excitement, WE WANT YOU!

Mammoth/Bishop Domino’s is Hiring! Come on in and join our fast-paced environment! We are looking for full and part time team members for year round and seasonal positions. Applicants must be able to work weekends and holidays. Day, evening, and night shifts are available. Please apply in person at 6808 Minaret Rd, Mammoth

Alpenholz Lodge is accepting applications for winter employment. We are looking for full and part time team members for year round and seasonal positions. Applicants must be able to work weekends and holidays. Day, evening, and night shifts are available. Please apply in person at 6808 Minaret Rd, Mammoth

Mammoth Birch Spa Creations is seeking Office/ Sales Associate position, which incl, vacation accrual, benefits and paid holidays. Experience preferred. Some heavy lifting, a clean background and clean DMV is required. Call 760.924.3091 or stop by at the 1401 Tavern Rd in Mammoth

Account Manager – Needed for local established bookkeeping office. Competitive pay. Accounting/bookkeeping experience preferred. Email resume to info@superbbookkeepers.com or Butte Homeowner Assoc. Services, P.O. Box 199, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

Eastern Sierra Transit Hiring Drivers for Winter Season $100.00 sign on bonus, MMSA-hue Ski Pass, Paid Training Provided Full time and Part time Training starts Soon, Interested? Go to easternsierratransit.com/ or call 760.872.1901 ext 11
First chair food truck! Experience line cooks only Am shift, flexible schedule. Simple menu Fun work environment Competitive pay tips Applicant must be a strong line cook and be able to help customers too. Call Dan 530 207 9012

Second Chance Thrift Shop seeks bright, energetic sales associate. Must be able to lift at least 40 lbs, and have some experience in a busy retail environment. Competitive pay. Bring resume. 501 Old Mammoth Rd. Info: clepreg@sabinlesports/eamericasierria.org. Skadirestaurant.com is hiring for all positions. If you have a great attitude, please send inquiries to info@skadirestaurant.com

For Rent

Season Rental: Beautiful “Chateau Blanc” 3 bed/2 bath remodeled condo for seasonal rental. Furnished, sleeps 8, walk to main road close to town and the “Red Line.” Flexible on the start and end dates, but must be a minimum “5 months” lease. Rent is $2000 per month and utilities are tenants’ responsibility. Please call Pam Mowat, Agent, at 530-393-3662 for more details.

2BD/1BA 900 sq. ft. duplex located on Avenue Road in June Lake. Wood stove recently remodeled. On county maintained road. $1,300.00/mo. N/S, NO PETS. Info: 805.439.7485.

2 bedroom, 1 bath unfurnished condo. June Lake. No garage. One year lease. $1,600.00/mo. 760.877.7569

For Hire


Drummer Wanted

Putting together a killer blues & funk band. Maybe you haven’t played in a while and have been thinking about getting back into it. Here ya go. Get those chops back. Call Mike. 760-920-8271

Housepeople’s M $15 to $17

Sierra/Red Roof Inn

Mammoth Rock & Bowl/Mammoth Rock Brasserie has the following positions available: Bowling Desk Employees, Server, Bartender, Brasserie Hostess. Contact Stephan 760.789.0559, or Ann Ward ext. 221.

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Notice of Public Hearing
Zoning Code Amendment (ZCA 18-003)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Wednesday, January 16, 2019, beginning at 6:00 p.m. and continuing until finished, at the Town Council Chambers, Suite Z in the Minaret Village Shopping Center, 437 Old Mammoth Road the Mammoth Lakes Town Council will hear a request for the following:

Application: Zoning Code Amendment (ZCA 18-003) — Amend the sections of the Town’s Municipal Code (Title 17) related to the allowance of physical wellness and rehabilitation facilities to: (1) add a service use classification in Section 17.32.010; and (2) define the proposed use for the proposed Zoning, in reclassification in Section 17.144.050.

PEDC Recommendation: The Planning and Economic Development Commission (PEDC) considered ZCA 18-003 at a noticed public hearing on December 12, 2018 and recommended to Town Council to adopt the minor changes which have been incorporated into the ZCA language.

CEQA Determination: Exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15160(b)(3).

Location: Public-Quasi Public-zoning districts

Proponent: Displaced Sports Eastern Sierra and Mammoth Lakes Foundation

All persons having an interest in the proposed application request may appear before the Town Council either in person or represented by counsel and present testimony or may, prior to said hearing, file with the Town Clerk written correspondence pertaining thereto. Pursuant to Government Code Section 65069 (b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice or in written correspondence delivered to the Town of Mammoth Lakes at, or prior to, the public hearing. For additional information, or to obtain a copy of the staff report which will be published no later than January 11, 2019, contact Sandra Mobley, Community & Economic Development Director, at (760) 965-7493 or e-mail at smobley@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov.

In accordance with Board Policy 6141.6.1, “Indian Policies and Procedures.”

Statement of Abandonment
Of Use of Fictitious Business Name Statement:
Mammoth Business Essentials Inc.
The following persons have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name:
Craig Hansen, P.O. Box 100, 1934 Meridian Blvd. Mammoth Lakes, CA. 93546
This business is conducted by a Corporation, the fictitious business name was filed in Mono County on 1-20-2019.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on November 5, 2018.

Fictitious Business Name Statement
The Following Person is Doing Business As:
Mammoth Business Essentials
Samantha Taylor, P.O. Box 100, 1934 Meridian Blvd. Mammoth Lakes, CA. 93546
This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on December 26, 2018.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on Number 18-0012-001.

Statement of Abandonment
Of Use of Fictitious Business Name Statement:
Mammoth Lakes Fire Chief is seeking an administrative assistant. The job description is posted below.

Position: Regular full-time non-exempt permanent appointment. One opening exists for this position due to a retirement on or around April 30, 2019. It is desired to have the person filling this vacancy available to work through two full payroll cycles (i.e., 28 days each) with the present administrative assistant prior to their retirement. How to Apply: Send a completed application (available at the MLFD@ca.gov), your resume, and a letter of interest (signed, not to exceed one-page, single space, 11 Font Calibri, 1 margins), summarizing why you would be strong candidate for this specific position, to Jody@mlfd.ca.gov no later than 2/15/19 at 5:00 pm PST. Eligibility Requirements: Go to http://mammothlakesfd.homestead.com/
Process of Selection: Applications received by the District will be scored with specific emphasis on:
• Completeness and legibility of the application,
• Required and preferred qualifications of the applicant,
• Current, grammar, and punctuation of the applicant’s Letter of Interest.
The top applicants (not to exceed 10) will be invited to participate in an assessment center comprised of:
• A skills evaluation for:
  o Microsoft Word, Excel, and Outlook
  o QuickBooks
• A series of “in-Basket” tasks to address,
  dress, concurrent with the testing, that are consistent with the actual position duties. Examples include but are not limited to:
  o Phone calls, o Citizen walk-in inquires, o Routing/Prioritization of District related documents
• An interview panel.
The Fire Chief will make the final selection from among the top five candidates.
Position Duties: Visit http://mamm
mammothlakesfd.homestead.com/.
Pay: Base pay for this position is $43,738 - $57,819, depending on qualifications.
Benefits include: Pension: California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS) retirement as a PEPRA Non-safety (i.e., Miscellaneous) employee.
Health Care: Full healthcare benefits (including vision and dental) Vacation: The vacation accrual rate for this position is based on years of service and ranges from 60-160 hours of paid vacation per year. Sick Leave: The sick leave accrual rate for this position is 8 hours per month (96 hours of paid sick leave per year). Work Schedule: The position has a 40-hour per week schedule; Thursdays may be scheduled with a delayed start to accommodate attendance during the first part of Fire District Thursday night trainings.

New Tailwaggers owner Johnathon Seely cuts the ribbon at the Mammoth Lakes Chamber's ceremony on Thursday. Seely bought the business from his former employer Lyn Dunlap. He has worked at Tailwaggers since 2009, when he first got a job stocking shelves.
CASTRO’S TACOS ... and Asada-licious burritos in Lone Pine

By Maddux

On a Sunday night in January, tourists and this local Lone Pine night, and another worker prepare tacos and burritos behind the glass window of the taco truck. The food at Castro’s Tacos is satisfying, as several customers discuss what they ordered and how they found out about the truck. According to Veronica Castro, the most popular selling food item are the asada tacos.

Escondido resident, Jed Burt said that his family came back from snowboarding in June Mountain and this was their last trip before the kids go back to school. The four kids that came along with Jed ordered anything from a carnitas burrito to carne asada street style tacos. Jed said that their friends were “passing through on Saturday night, [and] everything was closed [so] they stopped here and they have six kids—everyone was super stoked on it,” he said. According to Jed Burt, the taco truck scene is “pretty big in San Diego, they are everywhere,” and after finding out about the truck in Lone Pine, Burt said “they are pretty good!”

Robby Williams, also a resident of Escondido and friend of Jed Burt, ordered a carne asada burrito. “We yelped something to eat on Friday, [as we] were driving up to do a little skiing in June Mountain,” and this is his second time at Castro’s Tacos, Williams said. According to Williams, the customer service at the truck is “very smiley, very personable, [and] everyone seemed very happy with their jobs,” he said.

“It’s so good we’re coming back... [and] I recommend it to everyone,” Williams said.

Lone Pine resident, Alexis Austin ordered a shrimp burrito and said that she comes once a week if possible, to the taco truck. Austin said that she found out about the truck “from my mom, she brought me food from here, and I also know this family,” she said. As to the quality of the food and service, “it comes out in a good amount of time, [and] if I had to choose any place to eat, I would eat here,” Austin said.

Veronica Castro, daughter of Antonio and Carmen Castro, said the taco truck has been in operation for 3 years, and the family’s catering business has been going for six. The Castro children help out whenever it is needed, but “my younger brother is the one that helps the most,” Veronica Castro said.

While the family currently serves tacos in Lone Pine, their catering business has traveled as far north as Bridgeport.

The current construction behind the taco truck will be a “mini store with a commercial kitchen,” which will hopefully open sometime this year, Castro said.

Currently, Castro’s Tacos is open from 3-11:30 p.m. on Wed.-Sun. Castro said the time they close depends on the traffic. Veronica Castro said that on a busy night they serve about 200-300 customers, and on a non-busy night they serve up to a hundred customers, she said.
MT. WHITNEY GOLF CLUB RECEIVES FACELIFT

By James

Last month, Inyo Associates, a local independent group founded in 1935 by Father Crowley and local business owners to help promote recreation in the area to stimulate economic development through tourism, held its last dinner meeting of 2018 at the 9-hole Mt. Whitney Golf Club just south of Lone Pine to let members see the newly refurbished clubhouse made possible through the efforts of several anonymous donors.

Originally opened in 1959 and set against the backdrop of the Sierra Nevada Mountains to the west and the Inyo Mountains to the east, golf enthusiasts have been treated to some of the most spectacular views in the Eastern Sierra region for the past 60 years. Over the years the golf club has faced many challenges from declining club membership to maintaining its facility. Attracting new members and younger players has been a long-time challenge to the industry. Nevertheless, the club continues to survive...

Efforts have been underway for several years to ensure the Club's sound financial footing. There have been times when there has been considerable concern over declining membership and the club's ability to maintain the condition of golf course, including the greens and the surrounding landscaping.

Often, a local golf clubhouse and greens are the “go-to” place for many locals, especially business owners wishing to enjoy lunch or play golf while networking, socializing and “doing-business” in an outdoor setting. The club's 9-hole course is perfect for busy people who do not have the 4-hour plus to play 18 holes of golf. The club membership sits at around 60 members, and the greens fees are very reasonable, especially when compared to those often charged at the bigger courses. The club is open to the public and more than a few visitors to the area have commented online about what a great place it is to stop and play a round of golf during their stay in the area or driving up or down the 395 Hwy.

The new clubhouse has been remodeled and all the furniture and fixtures upgraded. Several public events were held in Lone Pine during December to “show off” the new clubhouse and golf course improvements.

The clubhouse building has always had large windows that allowed impressive views of the links set against the backdrop of the local mountains. New wallpaper, light fixtures and a light-gray wood floor offer a cheerful setting. There are also new, comfortable chairs and tables in the dining room, which has an alcove with its own lights for band entertainment.

The bar and the back bar have also been redone and the kitchen has new appliances and fixtures. The new board is emphasizing a new “business-like approach” to management and is promoting the advantages the facility has for weddings, public and private gatherings, and business and community meetings.

The golf course is located on the west side of the 395 Hwy, south of Lone Pine.
A NEW HOME FOR FAMILY FUN
CREEKHOUSE WELCOMES 14 NEW FAMILIES TO THIS YEAR'S WINTER SEASON.

THERE'S NEVER BEEN A BETTER TIME TO EXPLORE CREEKHOUSE
New Luxury Residences Minutes from Mammoth Mountain.

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