An analysis of the three Multi-Use Facility options
By Gorman

As the Mammoth Lakes Town Council considers the alternatives for the proposed Multi-Use Facility (MUF), it is important to be clear on exactly each alternative entails.

The most recent directive from Council to Town staff was to explore the viability of the current site next to the library for a rink. Staff’s report on this directive will be ready by February 6th, and then the town will likely make a decision.

Here are council’s choices: Choice A - $13 million facility at Mammoth Creek Park West Choice B - Less Expensive facility at Mammoth Creek Park West Choice C - Find a way to keep the facility where it is

To be clear, none of these facilities include a community center. These proposed facilities are “Multi-Use Facilities,” alternatively called, “Rec-Zones.” The proposed design is for a sport court that will be iced over in the winter and melted in the summer to reveal courts for basketball, tennis, etc. The design has a roof with two walls on the windward side and and openings on the other two sides. The idea is to make this RecZone adaptable, so that a community center can be added later when funds become available.

Here is why Choice A will likely be Council’s final decision:

First, Choice B is essentially a non-choice. There is very little information about it. The town created an amenities profile for Choice A. Not only has it not made such a profile for Choice B, but it has no intention to do so. Council did not direct staff to analyze the prospective amenities of a smaller facility.

Town Manager Dan Holler said during the course of the December 5th Town Council meeting that Choice B was included as an option because the town does not have enough money for Choice A, and he felt that it would be bad management to only give the council one choice for which it does not have the funds. The Town

GIDDY FOR GROCERIES

No, this isn’t a bread line. But then, it could be. It’s people waiting to enter the newly opened Grocery Outlet in Mammoth Lakes. Two Grocery Outlets opened on Thursday, one in Mammoth Lakes and one in Bishop. For more coverage of the new stores see page 10
LUNCH GETS ZELLOUS

As Sheet readers know, I mostly don’t weigh in on national politics, but I thought this excerpt from a profile on real estate mogul Sam Zell pretty clearly lays out why immigration is to be embraced, not feared.

“We know what happens to an anti-immigration society. Japan is being emptied out. If you don’t propagate, and don’t immigrate, you shrink. The enor- mous growth of this country was built on immigration and the mental set of an immigrant. My parents each had six siblings. They pleaded with their siblings to leave Poland (before World War II). They turned them down.

“Immigrants are the ultimate consumers of what we’ve historically sold: freedom. Maybe 75% would use their freedom to watch TV. But the rest would start a business and work 20 hours a day instead of 10. Our immigration policy needs to encourage people like this who are contributors. We need to encourage the students who come to our universities to stay here.”

-Sam Zell, June 2017 in Barron’s Magazine

Onto local politics. The gaming of agenda bills has to stop.

I’m referring to Mammoth Town Council agenda bills.

And I’m a little puzzled as to why Mammoth’s Town Council tolerates the way information is presented by staff.

The latest offense: The update regarding the Town of Mammoth Lakes Civic Center.

The report basically says the town has two options. 1. Sign a new lease at its existing offices in the decrepit Minaret Mall. Or 2. Build a new office building which would be located right next to the County’s proposed new office building.

And maybe these are the two most viable alternatives. It’s possible. But this is what really gets me. When you read the agenda bill it just feels like staff is leading Council around by the nose.

One of the points presented for a new building is investment already made, namely in the purchase of the McFlex property, and in a neighborhood side-walks project, which benefits more than just this Civic Center.

So there’s a big number thrown in the report - $2.5 million - which staff claims has already been invested towards a new office building. This is just disingenuous.

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“Quod modo ut incipiat esse quod loqueris ad quiet facere incipient.”

-Walt Disney

JACK LUNCH

PUBLISHER

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SHEET

News, Views & Culture of the Eastern Sierra

EASTERN SIERRA

FELICI TRIO

YEARS

CONCERTS

The Sonora Strings with guest artists
Jaime Amador, viola, and Sophia Schuldt, violin

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Duostring in F Major

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January 26, 2019
Mammoth Lakes Lutheran Church

SUNDAY @ 4:00 pm
January 27, 2019
Cerro Cosa College, Bishop

Tickets are available at ChamberMusicUnbound.org

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Zero has been invested in a new office building. Unless you want to count Grady Dutton and Dan Holler’s time bullshitting about it over lunch at Robert’s an investment.

Ironically, money invested in the current ice rink - real money in real infrastructure - has never been included in any responsible discussion of the pros/cons of moving the ice rink to Mammoth Creek Park.

The Town has spent approximately $2 million on the current rink site. Primarily in development fee forgiveness to Mammoth Resorts (in exchange for grading work performed) and for concrete.

Further, the Town has been derelict in maintenance of the concrete slab upon which the rink sits. Convenient, right? If I don’t service the car I have, then I’m justified in buying a new one.

Seems to me staff just cherry-picks the information it wants Council to hear. And if I’m a Councilmember, I’m irate.

This brings me to the Mammoth Unified School District discussion scheduled for Thursday evening.

Council, in the wake of receiving bids double that of the original estimates for the MUF asked staff to go back to the drawing board and see if another lease agreement and rink plan could be hammered out with the School District.

Town Manager Dan Holler’s letter to the District was half-hearted. It’s evident he doesn’t support such an option.

Nevertheless, MUSD Superintendent Lois Klein said Thursday that she anticipates at least a two-year extension will be signed.

Mono County School Superintendent Stacy Adler has previously talked about a child care facility at the site, but has since told The Sheet the Office of Education will seek a different location - so she’s out.

But Mono County Behavioral Health appears interested in leasing the parcel itself.

Behavioral Health has floated the idea of a 55-year lease from Mammoth Unified. Its intention: to construct approx. 35 units of low income and supportive housing at the site. 55 years is the necessary time frame for receiving government subsidies and tax credits.

Upon completion of the lease agreement, the District would own the housing. Mono County would be working with a company called Integrity Housing to help develop the housing.

At the school board meeting, representatives from the town confused the school board by supporting Mono County’s lease request over their own. Mammoth Councilmember Lynda Salcido took to the podium at Thursday’s meeting and encouraged the school board to consider the Behavioral Health lease offer.

“I am speaking as a community member,” Salcido said. “The opportunity for permanent housing is of the utmost importance ... Consider seriously the ben- efits to the community of doing something like this.”

Mammoth Lakes Recreation Commission Chair Betsy Truax expressed her commission’s reticence at the Town’s leasing the site.

“We at the recreation commission are reluctant to invest in a property that the town does not own, and we believe that there is significant investment needed at the school site,” Truax said.

“We support putting the facility at Mammoth Creek Park.”

School Board member Shana Stapp replied, “I’m confused. Town Council came to us asking for a lease and now its members are coming and saying, ‘no.’”

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Get Hoff my lawn!

President Trump, Congressman Cook, Senator Feinstein, and Senator Harris:

The Town of Mammoth Lakes urges you to find a compromise and immediately end the partial government shutdown. The shutdown is placing undue burden on our local community, its residents and visitors, and our public lands.

The Town of Mammoth Lakes is a small, remote community of about 8,000 full-time residents in the Eastern Sierra region. Mammoth Lakes is surrounded by federal lands, and visitors travel from all over the world to recreate in these areas year-round. As a tourist destination, Mammoth Lakes sees an average of 2.8 million visitors each year.

Since the shutdown began, the Town of Mammoth Lakes has had to expend local resources to maintain critical public infrastructure, including the United States Forest Service Visitor Center. Although the Visitor Center itself is closed, Town staff has been maintaining the parking lot by plowing snow, and visitor information and services are being provided by Mammoth Lakes Tourism, a non-governmental offshoot of the Town.

Due to the significantly reduced presence of federal park employees and security, our neighboring Yosemite National Park is overflowing with trash, natural resources are endangered, and the safety of visitors is uncertain. If not for the snow restricting access to much of the public lands surrounding our Mammoth Lakes, we no doubt would be seeing similar impacts directly impacting our community. Negative visitor experiences have direct impacts to the local economy of Mammoth Lakes and other rural communities that depend on recreation-based tourism.

By taking action this week to end the shutdown, you have the ability to stop these harmful impacts to our citizens and lift the burden from our economy.

Cleland Hoff, Mayor
Mammoth Lakes

Hafferty on The Parcel

Dear Editor:

In life there are many ways to get from one point to the next. Sometimes we can get so focused on going down one path that even when we hit roadblocks and speed bumps, we don’t step back and approach our destination from a new path. This is how I see the path the Town is on for the development of The Parcel. In roughly sixty days the Town will have owned The Parcel for one year. And, aside from the due diligence as part of the purchase, there’s little to show for that time.

I have worked in the field of affordable housing for over 12 years, I’m on the Board of Directors of the California Coalition for Rural Housing and as such I have a lot of colleagues and friends that work in the field of developing housing. The path the Town is on is not the worn path of developing community owned property for housing. In fact, the majority of communities can’t afford the path the Town is on with paid consultants to educate staff prior to engaging a developer or development team.

I’ve been puzzled for some time by the chosen path. Then a couple of weeks ago, a request for proposals (RFP) soliciting an experienced and qualified affordable housing developer or development team to create local housing from Placer County for a parcel in Tahoe City came into my inbox.

They put out an RFP for housing on a parcel they were in escrow on in September 2018. Before they even closed escrow they were searching for a developer or development team to work with for the development of their soon-to-be-purchased 12 acre parcel. According to their RFP schedule, by now they’re likely in contract negotiations with their chosen developer. Five months.

I would be negligent if I didn’t come forward and share with you and the community the red flags I’m seeing. The Parcel is in my district, along with the majority of our community’s affordable workforce housing.

It’s not too late to stop work on the educational RFPs and put out an RFP that puts us on the right path to a more speedy and cost-effective development. Beside the hundreds of thousands of dollars we are spending for work that would be done without cost to the tax payer by the developer, we are wasting precious time. Time we will never get back. Our community is in desperate need for housing our workforce can afford. The businesses are struggling to fill jobs and families are stacking up in unhealthy living conditions. Please, let’s all set our egos aside and take a better, more worn path to the development of The Parcel.

Jennifer Hafferty
County Supervisor
District 1

Acquitting Gerry

Dear Lunch:

I read your article, "Winter of Our Discontent" (January 19, 2019), with interest. It is important to understand that Judge Mohun did not make his decision to recuse himself in the case of MLT v. Winter without careful and thoughtfully deliberation. On Monday, January 14, 2019, Judge Mohun also requested an ethical opinion from the California Judges Association. Following a detailed analysis of the facts, Judge Mohun received an opinion on Wednesday, January 16, that he should recuse himself.

Your opinion about Judge Mohun’s decision lacked an appreciation of the difficulty small county judges face in balancing their duty to hear a matter and their ethical responsibility to disqualify him or herself when they have a conflict of interest. It is often a close call between matters that require disqualification and matters that require only a disclosure to parties of facts that might lead a party to seek to disqualify a judge from hearing a case. The latter situation was your experience with Judge Forstener. Most small county judges are often frustrated at how strict the rules of judicial ethics regarding conflicts are when applied to small counties. The principle treatise on California judicial ethics expressly states: “the disqualification and disclosure rules, as is the case with all the rules of judicial ethics, make no distinction between the big city and the small town.”

We appreciate your concern for the court’s financial limitations. However, there is no direct cost to our court for an assigned judge. The Judicial Council recognizes that conflicts will arise and has a budget for these expenses. Our court recognizes that attorneys and parties may have to travel considerable distances to appear for their cases, or travel in winter conditions, and liberally allows those persons to appeal by telephone whenever possible.

We welcome The Sheet’s coverage of the court and understand that our decisions will come with scrutiny and criticism. Our only hope is that such criticism will be based on the facts, reasoned consideration of the issues, and the legal basis for the decision.

Mark Magit, Presiding Judge
Mono County Superior Court
HOT FOR TEACHER (CONTRACTS)

L.A. strike ends. What did Mammoth teachers think about it?

By Gorman

The Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) announced an agreement with United Teachers Los Angeles on Tuesday. After six school days of striking, the teachers returned to their classrooms Wednesday with the majority of their demands met.
The new contract agreement included the following stipulations:
- Six-percent salary increase; 3% retroactively for ’17-’18, 3% for ’18-’19
- Increase in nurse staffing; 150 in 2019-20, then at least 150 in 2020-21, which will provide a full-time nurse at every school five days a week
- Increase in counselors; 17 by October 2019, allowing for a ratio of 500-1 students to counselors
- Increase in secondary school librarians; 41 in 2019-20 and 41 in 2020-21, which will provide a full-time teacher librarian at every secondary school campus five days a week
- Class Size Reduction; Immediate reduction of 7 students from secondary math and English classes, with all class size caps to be reduced over the next four years

LAUSD is the second largest school district in the United States with 667,000 students at over 1,000 schools. It is still dwarfed by New York City, which has over 990,000 students.

Many of the challenges facing urban school districts are unique, but the methods that benefit students are the same in Mono County as they are in Los Angeles.

While Los Angeles teachers were warring with their district, Mammoth Unified School District quietly came to consensus with the local teacher’s union, the Mammoth Education Association, on a contract.

Mammoth Education Association President Michelle Quirsfeld described the new contract, which is currently going through board approval.

“The teachers received a 2% raise. The benefits have remained consistent,” Quirsfeld said. The ’17-’18 contract saw the teachers receive a 0% raise; 2%, though merely in line with inflation, was a welcome boon by comparison.

“When we hear that L.A. Unified is doing a 6% raise, that sounds nice,” Quirsfeld said. “2% is nice, but not wonderful. I am not going to complain that we got one.”

The Mammoth Unified contract has no limitations on class size, the key-stone issue for LA Unified. Mammoth’s contract merely says that the superintendent will, “make every reasonable effort to maintain class size which would be safe and appropriate to a good learning environment.”

Quirsfeld said that, “We would like to see smaller class sizes, you bet. Smaller classes are what’s best for the kids.” She said that it is not the highest priority for Mammoth, however.

“Our district average class sizes are low compared to UTLA…There are some classes in the middle school that are in the thirties, but generally our class sizes are in the twenties, and that’s good for now.”

Many classes in L.A. Unified were in the forties or even fifties. Quirsfeld said, “In a class of fifty, if you are below average, good luck.”

There has been controversy over whether reducing class sizes is the most effective use of funds. Matthew Chingos of the Urban Institute’s Center on Education Data and Policy said, “Reducing class size is one of the most expensive things you can do in education.” It involves hiring many more teachers.

LAUSD has proposed spending $130 million to reduce class sizes. It uncertain whether a marginal decrease from a large class of 46 students to a still large 39 student class will be the most effective use of money.

The highest quality study on class size, according to Chingos, came out in the 1980’s in Tennessee. In those studies the ideal class sizes were between 13-17 students, with “large classes” having between 22-26 students.

Still, Quirsfeld said that class sizes are what teachers and parents care about most.

“You have to look at who writes these studies. A lot of the people who discuss class sizes don’t deal with students and don’t have education training… I think teachers would argue that low class sizes have the greatest impact on students.”

Quirsfeld said that funding for class size reduction has dwindled as other priorities come up. Community members met on Wednesday night to discuss the recent threats that have been made to local schools. Quirsfeld said that student safety is the biggest priority for the
STATE OF THE COUNTY

County staff provides insights on pulse of county

By Benham

The federal government shutdown might delay and move the State of Union address, but it did not affect Mono County’s State of the County address. It happened on-time at Suite Z in Mammoth Lakes on Tuesday morning.

Every county department gave a presentation to the Board of Supervisors about the status of their work. What follows are the highlights of each presentation.

Alicia Vennos of the Economic Development, Tourism and Film Commission said the county’s economy persevered through the smoke during last summer’s fires with help from a $25,000 grant from Visit California, the state’s tourism entity. She told the board about a sixteen page feature story on the Eastern Sierra printed in GEO, a French travel magazine with a circulation of 250,000. Also of note, this department kept a proliferate social media presence especially during its fall colors campaign, which had staff posting everyday. Besides staff posts, the department recruited three social media influencers to the county.

Robin Roberts, Directors of Behavioral Health spoke about being “the department of yes.” She explained that her staff try not to admit clients to hospitals, but rather opt to, “wrap them in the process,” of outpatient care. She wants to continue to reduce stigma about mental health by continuing programs like the department socials in Benton and Walker.

The department is going to grow in the coming years. The county will reclassify positions in the Behavioral Health staff, making some people supervisors or managers. Roberts said that two of her staff will likely retire in the next three to four years. She wants to replace that leadership by reclassifying positions to supervisory or managerial. By growing leadership, she hopes to build a staff for the long-term.

Tom Boo, Public Health Officer in the Public Health Department, said that the county’s shipment of Narcan, a brand of the opioid overdose reversing drug naloxone, from the state hadn’t arrived yet. He expects it to come this week. The county is still three to four months away from acquiring syringes for a syringe exchange.

Social Service’s Manager of Child and Adult Services Michelle Raust said that the department added capacity by certifying two more staff members to conduct child forensic interviews. Now they have four people to interview children for abuse and other cases.

The county’s Certified Emergency Response Team continues to grow. In 2018, the team added 7 new members.

Community Development Director Wendy Sugimura previewed a General Plan amendment that will increase the density of the county’s multi-family residential zones, allowing more families in the same space. Community Development takes on matters ranging from responsibility for the county’s water to short-term rentals. The grand range of responsibility has led to a lot of work, and the department has had to delay the state-mandated work on developing a hemp ordinance and incorporating environmental justice into the county’s General Plan.

Supervisor Bob Gardner told Sugimura, “You guys are building the airplane while you’re flying it!”

Public Works Director Tony Dublino’s focus has been on the new county office building in Mammoth. Dublino assumed a vacancy in the Public Works director job in October and has been rebuilding the department since.

“Not everything is broken,” he said. Joe Blanchard, the Superintendent of facilities, reported that residents are now able to reserve plots in the county’s cemeteries, which, he said, will increase cemetery revenue.

His department has installed fourteen fire rings at campgrounds and added two bear boxes.

Garret Higerd of Engineering said that the county’s engineers handle a litany of projects, but are focused on the new office building.

Janet Dutcher, Director of Finance, stressed the county’s financial resilience and warned that experts predict a recession will hit by the end of this year. She is excited to grow OpenGov.com, a website that allows the public to track government spending. There are still a few reports missing from the website that Dutcher wants to add. She also wants to refine the program’s ability to track spending on specific projects and transactions.

Her department is on the cusp of being fully staffed. As of Monday, January 28 they’ll be at capacity.

Sheriff Ingrid Braun’s office is also understaffed, even after adding two new public safety officers.

District Attorney Tim Kendall reported an increase crime and a “huge increase” in DUI’s in 2018.

Francine Avita of Social Services informed the board of the actions that the county is taking to ensure residents who use CalFresh (food stamps) will get food if the government shutdown continues. Cal Fresh recipients received February’s benefits in January and were advised to budget as if the government won’t reopen by the time March’s benefits roll around.

Chad Mitchell of Inyo Mono Advocates for Community Action, Inc. (IMACA) said that CalFresh recipients and any residents who qualify for food aid can visit any of the food banks inMono or Inyo counties to receive food during the shutdown. Residents ‘self-certify’ if they need food aid, meaning IMACA trusts that they need the help.

Supervisors Stump and Gardner bemoaned the federal shutdown...more Garstading.
TIPPIED OFF
Families in Mammoth meet to discuss new emergency tip program

By Benham

Two weeks after Mammoth schools were locked down because of a gun threat, Mammoth Unified School District (MUSD) held a public meeting about school safety.

MUSD Superintendent Lois Klein, Mammoth High School (MHS) Principal Chris Powell and School Resource Officer Daniel Hansen recounted the events of the lockdown in detail that had previously had not been disclosed.

Klein read the conversation that occurred on the school’s anonymous tip system, Tip Now.

The initial tip read, “Someone has a gun on campus. Lockdown is advised.”

After receiving this tip, Klein, Powell and Hansen initiated a lockdown.

Klein wrote back, “Please send details. Who is this?”

The tipster said, “Not sure. Trailers have suspicious activity.”

Shortly after noon, Powell received a call from a teacher who said that a girl in his classroom wanted to talk. She told Powell that another student told her that he had a gun and that police were coming for him. Powell had a name of the boy and a connection to the tip.

The girl went to Powell’s office to be interviewed. She confirmed the identity of the boy who told her he had a gun.

With the boy in custody, law enforcement searched the campus: including all rooms, students, and bags.

Mammoth Lakes Police Sergeant Jason Heilman led the search.

At Wednesday’s meeting, he said that he wanted officers to focus on finding a firearm and not illicit items such as weed or tobacco vaporizes or other drugs. According to Klein, officers found “a lot of substances in their [the students’] backpacks.”

Officers did not find a firearm in the school or on the boy. Law enforcement questioned the boy and released him that day.

At the meeting, Klein said that the climate on campus during the lockdown was threatening, intimidating, and invasive.

The next day, the boy returned to campus. He then left campus. Administration and law enforcement were notified.

The boy was arrested off campus for trespassing. Law enforcement was able to verify that the boy had been on campus, in between the island in the front parking lot and the portable classrooms, by going through security camera footage.

The Mono County District Attorney’s office has since taken the case.

After Wednesday’s debriefing, parents asked questions to the officers and MUSD administration.

Klein repeatedly praised the students for their willingness to cooperate, calling them “amazing” and “wonderful.” She praised the responding officers, focusing on how fast they arrived on campus. Parents echoed the praise of the response.

The consensus among the crowd was that it was fast response and an amazing response.

A woman asked, “How can we strengthen our consequences?”

Klein informed her that school discipline is mandated by the California Department of Education and has to be changed through legislation.

Another woman asked, if the boy would ever be able to return to school. The boy has been expelled. Expulsions would ever be able to return to school.

Klein said that it was an amazing event. The Mono County District Attorney praised the students.

No one said, “My child was absolutely terrorized.” She wanted to know if the school could do more to address student trauma.

Lieutenant Joseph Vetter let her know that he understood her concerns. He added that a lot trauma has to do with societal perception of police officer “Our society has criminalized the police officer,” he added.

Tip Now

Would the tip that led to the lockdown be considered false? The system seems ripe for abuse because of the anonymity of the tip sender (tipster) and the openness of the system.

Tip Now created phone numbers for each school in Mammoth Unified School District that students, faculty, staff, parents, community members, anyone can text or call and leave an anonymous message about anything: bullying, sexual harassment, gun threats, bomb threats, suicide, hazing, drugs, etc.

When a tip is sent, the principal of the school, Resource Officer Hansen and MUSD administration can see TIP NOW, page 8.

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Superintendent Klein receive the tip. If they need more information than was provided in the initial tip, they can communicate with the tipster, as happened on Wednesday, January 9. Klein asked for more details, and received a location “trailers have suspicious activity” that turned out not be the site of suspicious activity.

It isn’t known if the girl who told staff about the boy with a gun, is the anonymous tipper. The district can’t find out the identity of the tipster without a subpoena from the district attorney. Also, the district and law enforcement cannot disclose the identity of the boy because he is a minor.

If a tip falsely accuses a student of violence or possession of a gun, can that student request that the identity of the tipster be sought?

The district tracks its tips on a spreadsheet shared between the four schools (Sierra High School is the fourth school.) The school has to track the tips because Tip Now doesn’t offer access to the tip data.

Principal Powell explained the high school receives a range of types of tips. “Most are school safety related,” he said. “Most are about parties on the weekends, or students concerned about friends and other.”

“People vaping in the restrooms,” Klein added.

There have been tips about suicidal thoughts, or as Klein put it, “someone doing something at a football game.” At Mammoth Middle School, the tips tend to be about bullying. When The Sheet spoke to Klein on Wednesday she mentioned that there had been a tip about bullying that morning.

Mammoth Elementary has only received one tip.

The only tip about a gun on campus was the one sent to the high school on January 9. "We haven’t had anything that’s a false tip," Powell said in a phone call with The Sheet on Tuesday.

The tips that the schools receive are private, Klein said.

In August, 2018, at the beginning of the school year, MUSD adopted Tip Now.

Tip Now is a product of Resiligence, Inc., a San Jose based software company that creates emergency mitigation solutions. ‘Resiligence’ is not misspelled; it is the combination of ‘resilience’ and ‘intelligence’.

Tip Now did not respond to The Sheet’s phone calls. The Sheet wanted to know what it does with the data it receives from the tip system.

The system costs $8,000 per year and does not give the district the ability to access the tip data.

It also fails notify the tip receivers—Superintendent Klein, Officer Hansen, and the corresponding principal—if one of them has already responded. Klein might ask the tipster for more information after Officer Hansen has already asked. This redundancy could confuse a tipster, and diminish the system’s credibility.

MUSD is looking at another anonymous tip system offered by its insurance company SISC (Self-Insured Schools of California). That system would notify tip receivers if a tip has already been answered and would allow the district to access tip data.

Another scare

On Wednesday, January 16, MUSD was closed because of this tip.

The district deemed Wednesday a Red Day, meaning all school related activities are cancelled. That Red Day distinction is to have anything to do with a threat made on Snapchat by a middle school student.

In a letter from January 17, Klein stated, “Dr. Annie Rinaldi, the Middle School Principal and law enforcement went to the student’s home (Wednesday) and met with the student and the parents. After their investigation, they are confident that the threat was meant as a hoax.

The hoax started as a dare between two boys at the middle school: ensure that school was cancelled on Wednesday. One of the boys sent a Snapchat private message of a photograph of a photomaton in a magazine of a guns and ammunition with a caption that read ‘don’t come to school.’ Tip Now was not used to notify school administration or law enforcement. At Wednesday’s meeting, Gary Taylor, MUSD’s Maintenance, Operations, and Transportation Director, said the district would install more cameras next year.
Hertz to close in Mammoth

The Hertz car rental locations in Mammoth Lakes and at the Mammoth Yosemite Airport will be closing down at the end of April 2019. Owner Tom Cage said his licensing agreement with Hertz has changed to the point where it is no longer viable to keep the business in operation.

“IT has everything to do with the percentage I pay Hertz, how revenue for cars is handled, and the fact that they want me to own five more cars every year,” Cage said.

“I looked at them and said, ‘guys, I can’t make any money.’ Owning the cars he rents can be one of the biggest impediments to revenue for Cage. He owns 15 cars, and Hertz wants him to keep upping that number every year.

“40 cars is a million-two in cars. I can’t continue to be a licensee.”

Cage’s business takes in $700,000 a year in revenue, and after Hertz takes out its portion and Cage pays payroll, he nets $20,000.

“It’s a very slim margin business.”

Cage says that he is happy with the service his company provided for the community, but he can’t handle the headache anymore. He worries about the hole that this will leave in the community.

On any given day in July and August Cage could have 40 to 60 rental cars on the road. If no new company fills that role then there will be an unmet need in the town for rental cars.

Enterprise, the other rental service at the airport, does not have the inventory to meet the need.

“My never seen enterprise have more than 18 cars,” Cage said.

Hertz has not expressed interest in continuing its service in Mammoth without Cage. It has said that once he is out, it too will exit. Hertz told Cage, “There is not enough revenue in your marketplace to justify an agency there.”

“What are all these people gonna do,” Cage asked about the customers who rent cars from him.

Cage's business takes in $700,000 a year, “Cage said.

Civic Center won't pay fees

It was revealed at Wednesday’s Town Council meeting that Mono County does not plan not plan to pay impact mitigation fees on the Civic Center that it will be building next to the Police Station this Spring.

After County Public Works Director Tony Dublino gave an update to Mammoth’s Council saying that Mono would break ground on the new facility in April, Councilmember Wentworth asked “There’s been some hearsay, anecdotal discussion about fees… Is there any update you want to give us?”

Town Attorney Andrew Morris answered that it is Mono County’s position that it does not have to pay mitigation fees to the town of Mammoth Lakes, nor does it have to abide by the zoning regulations of the town.

This came as a surprise to Council. Mayor Cleland Hoff said, “It leaves me unsettled that the County knew about this and it was not factored into our decision.”

In a show of good faith last March, the Town sold the land on which the Civic Center will sit to the county for $1. Originally, the town, county, and hospital received this land jointly from the Forest Service through a land exchange, according to assistant to the Town Manager Pam Kobylarz. It was always intended to house a Civic Center, but the parking lot for the courthouse took over the county’s portion of the land. Thus the town’s low price of sale.

Council Members Wentworth and Salcido were more concerned about the county’s skirting of the town building codes than that of the mitigation fees.

Salcido asked if County building codes would be sufficient for a location that could get 40 feet of snow. Wentworth asked if, since eventually the Town plans on building a civic center attached to the county’s portion, the county building would be compatible with a town building.

Tony Dublino said that, even though it doesn’t need to, the county plans on building according to the Town’s code.

Civic Center won't pay fees

The judge is the Honorable Evelin Grillo. Los Angeles’s lead attorney is Amrit S. Kilkarni.

TOT record high for December

The Town of Mammoth Lakes’ Finance Director, Bob Patterson, told Town Council at its January 23rd meeting that Transient Occupancy Tax for the month of December was the highest that it has ever been for that month.

Though the taxes are still in the process of being collected and filed, Patterson said that December 2018 likely broke the old record by $80,000, with TOT totals reaching $2.5 million for the month.
Hundreds of patrons waited outside the new Grocery Outlets in Bishop and Mammoth Lakes for their grand openings on Thursday morning.

Bobby McGhee, owner of the Mammoth Lakes branch, said he is excited to offer the people of Mammoth a new option for groceries, especially since it is one where they can stretch their dollar. “People here either have a couple condos or work a couple jobs, but everybody needs to save money,” McGhee said.

McGhee added that his outlet can offer people 40-70% savings from Vons by taking advantage of opportunistic buying. “Our model mostly revolves around vendors changing packaging,” McGhee said. “We bought a truckload of Coke products with Santa on them after Christmas for pennies on the dollar.”

McGhee said that this allows for savings, but also means that the outlet might not have items in stock. “We might not have barbecue sauce in the summer if there isn’t a good deal on it.” For this reason, McGhee said that the role his franchise will play in this town is the first stop to look for savings, and then people can go to Vons afterwards for the rest of their essentials.

The McGhee’s, Bobby and his wife Ronica and their children Savannah and Christian, moved to Mammoth Lakes from Modesto, California. McGhee said that Mammoth is a, “breath of fresh air,” after living in a big city. “We are so happy to be a part of the community… My kids go to the local elementary school, we are active in the local chamber.”

McGhee also said one of the biggest differences between Vons and his store is that the Grocery Outlet is locally owned and operated. “I can put whatever I want on the end-caps. I don’t have to consult with corporate,” McGhee said. “My wife might be the one bagging your groceries… There is no job too big or too small for us.”

Top-to-bottom: Bobby and Ronica McGhee with son Christian and daughter Savannah cut the ribbon at the Mammoth location; Former schoolteacher Ed Hartigan. He arrived at the Mammoth location at 7 p.m. on Wednesday to get in line. Around midnight, MLPD asked him if he was homeless; Mayor Hoff exuberant over bargain groceries flanked by Supervisor John Peters, looking sharp in a blazer, and Councilman John Wentworth.
Last week, Mono County Supervisors approved Tilth Farms LLC’s adult-use cultivation cannabis permit. Now that Tilth and its owner Eric Edgerton have approval, what are his plans and where can Eastside residents find his cannabis?

First off, his farm is located in Walker. Edgerton created Tilth after Proposition 64, the Adult Use of Marijuana Act, passed in 2016. Walker’s winters will force Tilth to grow under hoop houses for part of the year. Frosts coming early in the fall or into the late spring or summer could damage plants not under hoop houses.

Walker’s climate is conducive to growing cannabis. “The location of Tilth’s property in Antelope Valley makes it uniquely qualified for cannabis cultivation with its elevation of 5,300 feet, arid climate, cool nights, and over 320 days of sun per year,” Edgerton said. “This closely resembles the characteristics of Afghanistan, where the indica marijuana varieties originated. These ideal environmental conditions for cannabis cultivation will help ensure cost competitiveness as cannabis production capacity in the state increases and wholesale prices subsequently decrease.”

And it’s not just the climate that Tilth looks to benefit. It is latitudinally in the middle of California on Highway-395, one of the major north-to-south shipping routes in the western United States. Edgerton said, “Most of California’s cannabis production is located in northern California while the majority of the population is in southern California. We believe the company will benefit from the cooler conditions of the north while being closer to the southern California demand than many of our competitors. US Highway-395, which the property is adjacent to, provides the Company direct access to a valuable supply route to Southern California.”

Tilth will staff five employees. He doesn’t plan on hiring seasonal labor. Tilth will sell flower, the technical term for bud and other biomass to wholesale distributors such as Britz Labs (the fictitious business name of Golden State Recycling Collective Inc.) Britz Labs will distribute statewide. Because cannabis remains federally illegal it cannot be shipped across state lines, restricting the Nevada market that is closer than some of the California cannabis market.

Eastside residents will be able to find Tilth bud at June Lake’s boutique dispensary High Sierra June Lake. Tilth has contracted with Humboldt County Seed Company (HSC) to select cultivars. A cultivar is a type of cultivated plant, it’s a combination of the words “cultivated variety.” A cultivar is one species of cannabis. It’s agriculture’s way of saying one type of plant.

As far as the future, “With required State and local setbacks, Tilth’s property has the capacity for up to 44 acres of canopy but will use less than two acres at the outset.” Tilth’s property has also received land use designation for other business in the cannabis realm, including nursery, processing, manufacturing, distribution, and retail, Edgerton said.

By Benham

Top: Owners of Bishop Grocery Outlet Dennis and Sarah Freundt cut ribbon opening store joined by local city and county officials. Bottom: The facade of the Bishop store.
BISHOP TEAMS WIN AT HOME

Girls Basketball blows out Desert
By Benham

The Bishop Union High School Girls Varsity Basketball team beat the Desert Scorpions, 64-22, on Tuesday, January 29. The Broncos led by two after the first quarter. By halftime, they led by 16. In the second half, they held Desert to 4 points: a free throw in the third and a three pointer in the last. The Broncos defended in 2-3 zone, trapping the ball handler with double and triple teams. Desert could not withstand the pressure and was forced into taking low percentage shots. They couldn’t get a good look.

Desert’s Head Coach John Taylor yelled, “Grab the ball!” and “Get the ball!” and “Get the rebound.”

During a pair of Desert free throws, Bishop cheerleaders chanted, “Miss it. Miss it for me!”

Desert’s initiated full court press in the third quarter. Bishop passed over the top it, leading to 2 on 1 fast breaks, 2 on 0 fast breaks, 1-1’s, 1 on none’s.

Bishop’s Morningstar Lent lead all scorers with 19 points. Drew Dondero dropped 14, and Lauren Allen added 10. Desert improved to 10-13 on the year and 5-3 in league play. They remain third in the High Desert League. Desert has remained undefeated on the season, 0-9 overall, 0-8 in league.

Ben Arcularias is in his first season as Bishop’s head coach. The team’s record in the High Desert League has already improved. Last year the Broncos went 3-7 in league play and finished tied for fourth.

Bishop has six returning players; and a blend of ages: three seniors, three juniors and four sophomores.

The Broncos next three games are on the road. First, on Friday, January 25, Bishop travels to California City. Next to Boron on the 29th and then to Lake Isabella to play Kern Valley on the first of next month.

Boys’ Basketball hangs on for 52-49 win

On Tuesday night, Bishop Union High School Boys Varsity basketball hung on versus Desert, 52-49.

Bishop led all the way through three quarters. Clay Omohundro opened scoring on Bishop’s first possession with a three-pointer fro the left wing. He hit another three from the left wing shortly after. Bishop throw long baseball passes to force fast breaks. Desert walked the ball down court.

A couple minutes into the fourth, Bishop led by 15. Desert reduced the deficit. With three minutes left in the game, Bishop led by 7, then by 5, then 4, 2-1.

With 20 seconds left and Bishop holding onto the slimmest of leads, 50-49, Bishop’s point guard Luke McClean tried to inbound the ball. Desert was in a full court man-to-man press.

He couldn’t inbound the ball, but before his five seconds expired he called timeout.

McClean took the ball under the basket a second time. Again nobody could shed a Desert defender and again McClean called timeout. As he walked to the bench he smirked the ball.

On the third attempt, with the ball still in McClean’s hands, Desert’s Tyvon McBridge tripped Bishop’s Blaine Spoonhunter. Bishop had advanced the ball. Spoonhunter hit the first free-throw and missed the second. But around half-court and out of bounds, he intercepted a pass. He flung it behind his back, and stopped short of the plastic boards and padded edges of the scorer’s table.

His teammate Cal Omohundro caught the pass, and like the ball was on fire, dished it to McClean who was promptly fouled. He split his free throws and the score became 52-49. That was the score’s resting place, but the game was not over.

On the ensuing possession Desert’s Jaleel Walker missed a three from the top of the key.

Clay Omohundro was fouled and with a chance to seal the game missed two free throws. Desert grabbed the rebound and immediately called timeout. There were 2 seconds left.

Desert inbounded the ball to half court and called another timeout with .8 seconds to go. Bishop’s Joe Weaver intercepted the inbound pass. His momentum carried him out of bounds toward the ticketing table. He flung the ball behind him, back in bounds and the clock expired.

First year head coach Robert Chavez was proud that his team had played. “Our boys wanted it more tonight,” he said.

It was a big win for the Bishop. Bishop came into the game third in the High Desert League. Desert was in second, a game and a half ahead of Bishop. Bishop improved to 5-3 in league play and moved to within half a game of second place. California City leads the league at 8-0.

Chavez said that it’s a rebuilding year, but said his team is playing better, “more together.”

Their next three games are on the road: California City on January 25, Boron on the 29, and Kern Valley on February 1.

Clockwise from top: Clay Omohundro (10) shoots and misses a lay-up in the fourth quarter. Blaine Spoonhunter reverses his approach to the rim.

Left to right: Morningstar Lent boxes out. Drew Dondero on the cusp of an ace bank shot after getting open out of a ‘stack’ inbound play. A Morningstar Lent lay-up hang on the rim. It went in.
continued from page 1

MUF currently has $9.1 million in the bank for a Multi-Use Facility. The rhetoric around this project has consistently been to, “do it right,” and to make this facility, “world class.”

Though Holler said that the town does not currently have the funds for a $13 million facility, he presented the council with ways that the funds could be found. Of the $9.1 million already allocated to the project, the majority has come from a bond issuance, $5.5 million, and Measure R, $2.6 million. Significant additional funds could come from Measure R reserves, $1.2 million, and Measure U Reserves, $900,000. However, Holler said he did not recommend that the town dip into these funds for the project. Bill Sauser also said at the Dec. 5 meeting that he feels that, “Some General fund monies should be spent on recreation.”

Second, the town’s recommending bodies have all recommended Choice A. Both Mammoth Lakes Recreation and the Town Recreation Commission, which were asked for their opinion by the town, have sent multiple letters notifying council of their preference for A. Their preference for A stems in part from the fact that the current facility is simply not viable. On many January days this year, the Parks and Recreation department has had to put thermal blankets on the ice in order to prevent it from melting. The rink is over twenty years old, along with the dasherboards and scoreboard. The rink was purchased from a semi-professional hockey team in Boston in the 1990s, according to Recreation Manager Stuart Brown. The longest that this rink could last is 2020 when the refrigerant they use, R-22, is to be discontinued.

More pressing than the rink, however, is the concrete slab beneath the ice. The slab was improperly installed in 2010, as it was not installed by an ice rink specialist, according to Brown. It is already showing significant wear. It is also not certain that the school decides to stay there.

Two further issues with the current ice rink site:

- The town does not own the property, the school district does. The current cost to the town for leasing the site is around $40,000 plus snow removal, which brings the annual cost to over $60,000. A similar lease going forward would cost the town between $1.5 to $2 million over thirty years. The town does own Mammoth Creek Park, and so would have no lease payments. It is also not certain that the school would choose to offer the town this lease. Mono County Behavioral Health has also asked to lease the land from the school to build community housing. Housing is also a priority of the town, and allowing Behavioral Health to build housing on the site and avoiding lease payments could be a win-win for Mammoth. The Mammoth Unified School Board was scheduled to consider both options at its meeting on Thursday, January 24.

The second issue is that the school site is not big enough to build an expansion or complementary recreation amenities. The $13 million facility at Mammoth Creek Park is proposed to have an Olympic-sized rink with room for a community center expansion and perhaps other community desired recreation facilities.

The school site has room for an NHL sized rink, and no room for expansion. The town would still likely use Mammoth Creek Park for the community center if it built the RecZone at the school site. The town’s official assessment of the school site will be published on February 6th.

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BARS & MUSIC

Happy Hour/
Austria Hof. 4-7 p.m. Sunday-Thursdays and 4-6 p.m. Friday & Saturday. See ad. p. 7.

The Liberty Sports Bar & Grill Slider Mondays, Monday’s @ 9 p.m. Taco Tuesdays, 3 homemade tacos for $8. Wine Wednesday is 1/2 off the entire list all day, happy hour wine from 3 p.m.-close. See ad. p. 9.

Outlaw Saloon Happy Hour Mon.-Fri., Happy Hour from 4-6 p.m.

Morrison’s Happy Hour Daily, 5-7 p.m. The Most All Night Happy Hour during NFL games. Bar only.

Mammoth Rock ‘N Bowl Mon. 11:45 p.m. Bowling & Beats, Thurs. DJ 10 p.m. Latin Night, Saturday DJ 9 p.m.

Petrus’s Bistro & Wine Bar Daily, 5-7 p.m. $5-10 menu items and drink specials. See ad. p. 11.

Rock Clock 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. 17.

Roberto’s Happy Hour: 4-6 p.m. daily. Sunday: open at 10 a.m. for football.

Famous Slocums Happy Hour Mon.-Fri. 4-6 p.m., Sat.-Sun.4-5:30 p.m. Dining at 5pm, daily, “No Reservations, just come on in” See ad. p. 5.


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

Sheltier Distilling Happy Hour 3-5 p.m. daily: half off all drinks. FreeSpirit tasting flight 2-3 p.m. daily. See ad. p. 7.

Bleu Daily Happy Hour 5-6 p.m. $5 Beer, Wine and Small Plates.

The Warming Hut Restaurant Happy Hour 3-6 p.m., daily. “No reservations, first come first serve”. See ad. p. 10.

The Village Happy Hour 3-5 p.m. daily. $5 Beer, Wine and Small Plates.

The Yawpers play T-Bar Social Club Saturday, January 26/ Time: 9 p.m. Cover: $10. Also featured: DJ RodneyO. Info: 760.934.2515.

January 25-26/
Beach Bar Apres, music by DJ WLDCT. Featuring a silent disco and giveaways. Village Gondola open late to return to The Village. Location: Canyon Lodge. Time: 4-6 p.m.

Freak Out plays Liberty Bar. High Octane 90s grunge. Time: 9 p.m.

Kick Stop Ensemble plays S3 Kitchen and Cocktails. Time: 3:30-4:30 p.m. Free.

Saturday, January 26/

Rebel Souls play Rafter’s. Time: 10 p.m. Also featured: DJ RodneyO. Info: 760.934.2515.

Sunday, January 27/
Sherry McConkey speaks at Rebel Souls play Rafters 760.648.7774. Info: www.tbarsocialclub.com or 760.934.2515.

BARS & MUSIC


Monday, January 28/
Open Mic at Black Doubt Brewing Co. Time: 6-10 p.m. Free.

Tuesday, January 29/
Team trivia at Mammoth Brewing Co. Time: 7 p.m. Free. Prizes.

Wednesday, January 30/

TOWN STUFF

Friday, January 25/
Drive-in movie night @ Bishop Union High School. Kid’s Movie: Surf’s Up, starting at 5 p.m. Adult Movie: Blended, starting at 6:45 p.m. $5 per car. Tune into the high school’s radio station while staying cozy in your vehicle. Snack bar will be available.

Free skate lessons for beginners @ Mammoth Ice Rink. Time: 4-6:30 p.m.

Lee Vining High Basketball hosts Trona. Time: Girls 5 p.m. Boys 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 26-27/
Chamber Music Unbound presents The Sonora Strings, Jaime Amador on viola and Sophia Schuld on violin in a concert titled “The Next Generation”. Enjoy a program of string quartets by Ravel and Mozart. Tix: $25/adult, $20/ senior, $7/student, available online at www.chambermusicunbound.org, at the Booky Joint, or at the door 45 minutes before performances. Times: Saturday at 7:30 p.m. at Mammoth Lakes Lutheran Church. Sunday at 4 p.m. at Cerro Coso’s campus, Bishop. More info: see ad. p. 2.

Saturday, January 26/
Bucky (June Mtn. mascot) hosts a bonfire. Cookies, hot chocolate and dancing. Time: 2-3 p.m. Location: June Mountain Chalet.

Wooly’s Saturday Parade through The Village. Face painting, dancing, music, and a parade with Wooly and friends from Mammoth Mountain Ski School. Time: 3:45-4:30 p.m. Location: meet at The Plaza in The Village.

Helmet Decorating @ Main and Canyon Lodges. Time: 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Part of MMMS’ recognition of Safety Month.

4-H Washboard (kinda like Horseshoes) Tourney & BBQ dinner. Fundraiser for local 4-H Program. Time: 1:30-7 p.m. Location: Tri County Fairgrounds Heritage Arts Building in Bishop. Cost: $100 per team with dinner included. $20 for dinner only. Adults 21+ only event. Time: Check in at 1:30 p.m., first toss 2 p.m., dinner 5-5:30 p.m., silent auction 6. Tix: Pre-sale only, call 760.873.7854.

Sweep with Ski Patrol. Take the last run of the day with members of Mammoth Mountain’s Ski Patrol Team, as they sweep the mountain to make sure no one is left behind, lost or injured. Time: sweeps start at 4 p.m. Location: meet at the top of Chair 3 to sweep to Main Lodge, or meet at the top of Chair 5 to sweep to Canyon Lodge. Info: mammothmountain.com
Shake & Bake with Burgenbauchs

On Saturday, February 2, East Side Bake Shop will open its doors to host the talented Cassie and Devin Burgenbauch & an intimate dinner and music show. Doors open at 5 p.m. Music starts at 6. A select dinner menu, wine, beer and desserts will be available.

Sierra Club Outing

A cross-country ski outing is planned for Sunday, January 27. The location and itinerary depend on coverage. A detailed description of the outing will be published closer to the date. It will last approx. three hours, at an advanced-beginner ski level.

Dress in layers for winter conditions and bring snacks, lunch, water and sunscreen. Dogs are welcome. Meet at Mammoth Outside Bank parking lot in Mammoth, opposite Von’s, at 10 a.m. Info: contact Ann Leithliher, 760.934.9271.

Mammoth Film Festival

The second annual Mammoth Film Festival takes place February 7th through the 11th. The Festival will take place at the Village and will include five days of films, events, a red carpet, and world premieres.

There will be a Film Summit, an intensive hands-on program led by celebrities and Film & Television industry leaders designed to empower youth and young adults.

There will also be MammothCon, a convention hall that will house booths and activations for companies looking to showcase their products.

The festival opens Thursday with the world premiere of Jean Claude Van Damme’s new film We Die Young. Airplane Mode, a comedy featuring YouTube Logan Paul, will also premiere at the festival.

Ticket options are $100 for a pass to all films for three days excluding premiers, $160 for all films excluding premieres plus opening and closing night Gala events, or $300 for all films and events. Info: mammothfilmfestival.org

It’s For The Kids

On January 26, round up your on mountain purchase to the nearest dollar at any of Mammoth Mountain’s participating locations and the difference will be donated to Mammoth Mountain Community Foundation (MMCF), supporting local youth in their academic and athletic endeavors.

Unbound Ski & Snowboard Cross

The Unbound Series continues on Saturday and Sunday, February 2-3. Open to all ages and skill levels, each event will feature a medal ceremony and a chance to win tons of sweet stuff.

Event day check-in time: 7:30-8:30 a.m. on the day of competition. Location: Mammoth Mountain Ski & Snowboard Team (MMSSST) headquarters located slopeside at the bottom of the Panorama Gondola. Entry fee: $45/event. Lift ticket/season pass required. Discounted lift ticket bars include 1, 2, 15, 16 and Lower. Round up on-mountain purchases at the nearest dollar at any of Mammoth Mountain in Mammoth Lakes. Info: Ben Wisner at 760.934.2571 x3144 or bwisner@mammothresorts.com.

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Help Wanted

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

Bilingual HR Personnel M $ DOE
Hotel Front Desk M $14 to $15
Housekeeping Attendant M $10 to $15
Construction General Laborer M/B $15 to $20
Quickbooks Bookkeeper M $20 to $22
Snow Shovelers M $20 to $22
Mammoth Rock & Bowl - Mammoth Rock & Bowl has the following positions available: Bowling Desk Employees, Server, Bartender, Brasserie Hostesses. Contact Stephan 760.709.0559, or Ann Ward ext. 221.

Holiday Haus Motel & Hostel
Holiday Haus Motel and Hostel is now hiring for year round permanent position for a Front Desk. Excellent pay DOE. Please contact Todd Roberts at 760.934.2414 or drop by and see us at 3905 Main Street in Mammoth Lakes.

registered dietitian
Registered Dietitian Full time, oversees kitchen and nutrition service for skilled nursing facility. Salaried position with benefits, 401K, fully staffed kitchen and a fantastic clinical team. Join us in serving Bishop's post-acute and long term care needs. Give us a call at 760-872-1000, or drop by to see us at Bishop Care Center 151 Pioneer Lane, EOE.

entry level housekeeping / laundry aide
Entry Level Housekeeping / Laundry Aide We have full time entry level positions for Housekeeping and Laundry Aides 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.

entry level dietary aide
Entry Level Dietary Aide We have full time entry level positions for Dietary Aide for our skilled nursing facility which offers benefits, 401k. Give us a call at 760-872-1000, or drop in to see us at Bishop Care Center 151 Pioneer Lane, EOE.

Mammoth Taxi
Mammoth Taxi is accepting resumes for experienced drivers with great customer service and clean driving records. We are also looking for office help for the right person with great organizational skills and customer service background. Please inquire with Scottie at 760-914-7433. www. mammothtaxi.com

austriahof lodge
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 760-934-2764.

For hire


Drummer wanted
Putting together a killer blues & funk band. Maybe you've 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

Help wanted

alpenholz lodge
Alpenholz Lodge is accepting applications for winter employment. We are looking for full and part time team members for year round positions. Applicants must be able to work weekends and holidays. Day, evening and night shifts are available. Please apply in person at 6080 Minaret Rd, Mammoth.

Mammoth/Bishop Domino's Hiring!
Come work in the fastest paced restaurant! We are looking for Pizza Makers, Shift Managers, and Drivers. Hours are typically determined by performance. Applicants closing depending on the position. This is a high-energy environment and we need people who are coachable, who can multitask, and who can handle pressure. When the RUSH comes, we expect everyone to be available who is employed who are prepared to serve the customers in the best and most efficient way. All applicants must be able to pass a background check, and Drug test. We have a good Motor Vehicle Record with three or less violations in the last 3 years. We are located at 1339 Rocking W Dr. in the Bishop Plaza, same building as Rite Aid, or Mammoth 1394 Meridian across from Vons. We are the newest restaurant in town and everybody is hungry! If you think you can handle the excitement, WE WANT YOU!

Mammoth Spa Creations has FT positions in spa maintenance, offering vacation accrual, benefits and paid holidays. Experience preferred. Some heavy lifting, a clean background and clean DMV is required. Call 760.924.0991 or stop by the store at 1401 Tavern Rd. in Mammoth.

Stellar Brew is hiring! Kitchen staff, bartenders, and a baker are needed. Be a part integral part of the community while working with an energetic crew of awesome individuals. Pay competitive, many benefits. Hiring for year round and seasonal positions. Please call stellarbrew@gmail.com for all the details!

assistant manager needed at La Residencia 4 and 5 condos in Mammoth. 2-3 days a week maybe more. Work includes: lawn care, pool/spa care, snow blowing/ removal on walkways. Pick up application at entry pool/spa on Aztlan Rd. or at Mammoth Nevada and Meridian. Call 760.934.4900 for details, or submit application.

The Skier Bento is looking for full and part time ski techs. Knowledge of skiing/snowboarding helpful. Apply at The Ski Bento at Old Mammoth Rd. and Main. 760.934.6590.

Elkridge Superfood & Juice is hiring Kitchen Team Members and early morning Cold Press Juice Operators. We are looking for hard working individuals with a passion for good food & healthy living. Benefits include great wages and a fun and energetic work environment. Apply in person or online at www.enjoyelkridge.com/jobs.

Reservation Agent - part time: must include weekend shift; up to 20 hours per week; am and pm shifts available. Salary $15.00 per hour. Email info@employment@snowcreekresort.com.

Help Wanted Food and Beverage Manager - Expanding June Lake business is seeking a Food and Beverage Manager. 9:30am to 5pm M-F. $15.00 per hour. Email inquires to employ@juneLake.com.

Renters
Renters 76 is hiring a Full Time mini mart clerk/cashier. Apply in person.

Restaurant Skaiti is seeking a pastry cook, line cook & dishwasher. Applicants should be passionate, humble, quick and detail-oriented. Call/text lan 760.914.1500 or email info@skaiti.com, skaitirestaurant.com

Subway of Mammoth is looking for attentive and motivated people to join our team. We are accepting applications for FT/PT Sandwich Artists and Management positions. Apply in-store or at Subway.com.

We are accepting applications for all departments, both FT and PT. Retail, Repair, Boot, Rental, Demo. Apply online or in-store.

Mammoth Ski Creations seeks 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 760.924.3991 or stop by the store at 1401 Tavern Rd. in Mammoth.

Mammoth Shell now hiring Cashier/Stick Team Members. Seeking friendly, mature & reliable applicants, flexible hours, apply in person at 301 Main St. Mammoth.

First Chair Food Truck hiring line cooks only. Morning shift, flexible schedule, and 10% tip. Come join our fantastic clinical team. Join us in serving the community while working with an energetic crew of awesome individuals. Pay competitive, many benefits. Hiring for year round and seasonal positions. Please call stellarbrew@gmail.com for all the details!

Samurai Restaurant and Bar is seeking Hostess, Kitchen staff, servers, Bartender. Apply. Holiday hours, part time, 3-5 p.m., ask for Hide (Hee-dey).

Fictitious Business Name Statement
The Following Person is Doing Business As:
Fish Mammoth
James Elias
1801 Old Mammoth Road, P.O. Box 425
Mammoth Lakes, CA. 93546
This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed above on December 13, 2018. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on December 13, 2018.
File Number 18-204 2019-0007 1/1/19, 1/26, 2/2, 2/9

NO CLASSIFIEDS

Help Wanted

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. Apply within. Hiring: 501 Old Mammoth Rd. Info: clement@disabledsportseasternsierra.org.

zPizza hiring delivery driver, pizza chef, cashier. Hiring PT/FT for all positions. Please apply either in-store in Do It Center mall or via email at mammothsales@gmail.com.

Mono Arts Council is seeking an energetic, responsible, and self-motivated individual to join our team! We are looking for a Festival Assistant to provide support for our major summer festivals, the Mammoth Celebrates the Arts Festival, Labor Day Festival, and the June Lake Jam Fest. Applicants should be skilled in social media, Microsoft Office, have strong communication and computer skills, be able to lift up to 30lbs, and stand and walk for long periods. A detailed job description is available upon request. Send any inquiries and resumes to kristin@monoarts.org.

NO CLASSIFIEDS

Help Wanted

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Renters
Renters 76 is hiring a Full Time mini mart clerk/cashier. Apply in person.

Black Velvet Coffee
We are looking for Passionate Individuals to Join our Team
Now Hiring

Full & Part Time Positions Available. AM & PM Shits
Barista / Bar Back / Shipping & Logistics

Please enquire at the counter or email a resume to info@blackvelvetcioffe.com
Fictitious Business Name Statement

The Town of Mammoth Lakes is seeking proposals for professional graphic design services to substantially expand its marketing and graphic design capacity with the goal of delivering integrated and branded public information across all print and digital mediums. The Request for Proposals is being forwarded to professional graphic designers who are familiar with our community, have experience working with large agencies, are experts in print and electronic media facilitation and design, are competent communicators, and are versed in project management techniques and methods.

The RFP can be viewed online at www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov under Services-Bids & Proposals.

Proposals must be received by or before: Thursday, February 14, 2019, at 5:00 p.m.

Contact: Stan Brown Parks and Recreation Director Public Information Officer (at) 760-955-2696 or stbrown@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov or for additional information, call 760-934-2100.

COMMUNITY PROJECT SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM COMPETITIVE GRANTS

T he Inyo County Community Project Sponsorship Program is accepting grant applications for 2019 Community Project Sponsorship Program competitive grants. The Program is open to all organizations and projects during the Fishing Season; Line derbies and other promotional events and programs that attract other high-quality independent films and filmmakers to the Eastern Sierra. The festival has been consecutively selected by Movie Maker Magazine as one of the “Top 50 Film Festivals Worth the Entry Fee” of the first year, and has been covered by Variety, Associated Press, LA Magazine, The Wrap, Movie Maker Magazine, and The Huffington Post, among many others.

The 5th annual Mammoth Lakes Film Festival takes place Memorial Day weekend, May 22-26, 2019. Submissions are open now. For more information about the festival and competitive grants, visit MammothLakesFilmFestival.com.
Aquarius: To honor your latest birthday, one of them these lines from Winston Churchill, “When you’re 20 you care what everybody thinks. When you’re 40 you don’t care what one was ever thinking about you in the first place.” That’s why all that really matters is what you think about yourself. So please try to live the kind of life that makes you be-you-tiful.

Pisces: If you’re anything like the rest of us, you probably spend a fair amount of time holding the door to the fridge open looking for answers. The good news is that is exactly where lots of good answers can be found, like yogurt and fresh produce, pickle juice and beer. Another good place to find answers is the fridge. If you’re just relaxing enough to listen to it, it will guide you to where you need to be, which sometimes be back to the fridge to grab some ice cream.

Aries: During the long cold nights of winter it’s easy to get down and feel like you’ve been buried. To help with this, instead of thinking you’ve been buried be sure to realize that you’re already in bed to achieve. That’s why self-medicate, simply say, “Screw it, the new building is more important than you and if it makes you want to para- doxically, the new building is more important than you.”

Taurus: Don’t be surprised if life starts showing you all kinds of new angles you never new existed. Practicing yoga will help get you in a comfortable position. For others, you’ll need to remember this line from Albert Einstein, “The measure of intelligence is the ability to change.”

Gemini: With the Super Bowl—also known as the “New England Invitation-al”—taking place soon you might find yourself asking two questions: First) If scrawny, sixth round draft pick Tom Brady can be great for 20 years, why can’t I? And secondly) How have I been listening to the National Anthem my whole life but I still don’t know who Jose is and why he can’t see? As usual, bet the over and hope for lots of action.

Cancer: The world’s largest known Great White Shark was filmed off the Hawaiian Islands recently, “Deep Blue” is a 20-foot long female. Despite being the size of a short school bus and frightening away all the other sharks, she’s been tagged before and is curious and gentle with humans. Deep Blue even has two rough-toothed dolphins as sidekicks. That’s why it’s time for you to embrace your Water Sign and inner Deep Blue. Caution: This may inspire you to binge eat seafood and skinny dip more often, but there are also other benefits.

Leo: Your inspiration for the depth of winter comes from writer Brooke Hampton, “I hope there are days when your coffee tastes like magic, your play-list makes you dance, strangers make you smile and the sky touches your soul.” Your back up inspiration comes from Clouds, “I hope there are days when all you need to put on is a smile to make your dreams come true.”

Virgo: If life throws a little too much at you over the next few weeks be sure to call some well-needed “Time Outs” for some rest, recovery and rejuvenation. Using this line will help, too. “I had no idea that I was supposed to know so much by my second rodeo.”

Libra: Since this is going to be a year of growth for you it might be tough to figure out what to let go of and what to hold on to. To help, calmly think about whatever it is in your life that troubles you and if it makes you want to paraphrase MC Hammer, keep it: “I can’t quit, because I’m too legit.” If it makes you want to wear MC Hammer’s pants, drop it like it’s hot.

Scorpio: Sometimes the only thing that ever holds Scorpios back is a fear of failure or of rejection. That’s why you need to remember what Joel Osteen said, “Failure is an event, it isn’t who you are.” You should also probably remember that Clouds said, “Life is like a game of strip poker, if you don’t put anything on the table you’re going to look seriously over-dressed.”

Sagittarius: This year will have a few deja vu moments, including later this month. That’s because the Stars are asking you to clear any baggage that is holding you back, especially anything from around 2010, give or take a year. There are several ways to clear out your mental garbage: talk it out, write it down and burn it, forgive yourself for not forgetting; let go and let God, file a restraining order, find something new to complain about, decide to live in the now, self-medicate, simply say, “Screw it. I’m over it!”

Capricorn: If you were feeling like you could use a good cleanse, the Stars are saying now is the perfect time to do so. That’s why healthy living should be your focus right now, eat well, take it easy on the substances, get plenty of rest and be sure to work up a sweat—all things you don’t even have to get out of bed to achieve.

CORN OFF THE C.O.B

By Maddux

On January 15, Inyo County’s Board of Supervisors approved the new Consolidated Office Building (COB) that will move county offices in Bishop into one new building.

The Sheet spoke to two residents who were unaware of the details of the C.O.B building. Inyo County Supervisor Steve Oglesby and Inyo County CAO Clint Quilter about the consolidation.

Retired Bishop resident Wahlhena Coburn said that she heard about the C.O.B from a neighbor. “I would like to know more about it,” she said.

Coburn said that they could “put the money into the schools or refund it to the people that paid into it. The seniors could use it a hell of a lot more than a new building. Benefit the seniors for once, with the seniors struggling to make a living.”

Coburn acknowledged that building vacancy is a problem in Bishop. “Why don’t they just utilize the buildings that are available at this time, instead of building something new? Why not just let the buildings sit empty in town—when it’s not necessary. You can save money and put it towards something that is necessary. A new building is not necessary,” Coburn said.

She was also concerned that the building will increase traffic around the area. “It’s going to be a lot more than a new building. Benefit the seniors for once, with the seniors struggling to make a living.”

Quilter said that the project will help get you in a comfortable position. “That’s why all that really matters is what you think about the project,” he said.

Quilter said that Joseph Enterprises is one of the original partners in the deal, “back when the original request from proposals went out, they’re still involved, but I’m not sure what the structure of their deal is,” he said.

The estimated life of the building is at least 50 years. Quilter said that in “actuality” the building has a 100 year lifespan. The maintenance cost of the C.O.B will “change from year to year,” he said.

Coburn said that it was not “made until it is ready for occupancy,” Quilter said.

The disadvantages of the C.O.B: “For the County there aren’t any cons [or disadvantages], as I can see necessarily. Overall, we’re going to pay less money for it and have everything in one spot,” said Quilter.

The advantages of the building according to Quilter: “All of the County services will now be in one building, we won’t be subject to the inflation cost of rent. Once we’re done with this lease, we don’t have to pay rent anymore,” he said.

Quilter said that the County will no longer have to worry about moving out of a building, or the worry of the increasing rent, because “every time we move, we have to pay a substantial [amount] to tenant improvements to make the building habitable for what we need to use it for.”

Fifth District Supervisor Matt Kingsley expressed concern about the C.O.B. “I’m somewhat hesitant because it’s building a building in Bishop, we have a lot of County employees, and I want to make sure we maintain services for the residents and my constituents that live out in the southeast part of the county,” he said.

According to Kingsley, owning one building is beneficial, because “The rents go up. Some of the offices...it’s hard to maintain them, keep them up. If we owned the building where all of our employees were, we wouldn’t be renting office space, we’d own the office space,” Kingsley said. As for the vacancy problem in Bishop, Kingsley said he hopes those buildings there are “opportunities for other businesses to move in.”
Cassidy being transported via Life Flight on her way to Reno

area for many years. Valerie said her husband proposed to her at the top of the Gondola and she was snowboarding in Mammoth when she was pregnant with Cassidy. Cassidy had been unconscious for a full day during her medical emergency, but after treatment, she recovered and has since returned to school.

Last weekend, in a show of confidence, Cassidy’s father, Jason Seitz, was back up on the mountain skiing with his 12-year-old daughter, Stella. If what happened to the family on December 31 is an example of “never knowing what life will throw at you,” it is also an example of why visitors to Mammoth Mountain and Resorts should be confident that, if something wrong does happen, you can be assured that you will be well taken care of.

CASSIDY continued from page 1

Cassidy’s waist to prevent her from falling off the chair. They quickly lowered the security bar. Julianna held on to her as well. As the chair approached the end of the lift, the group signaled the lift operator that there was an emergency as they came to the landing. Ski patrol was almost immediately on the scene providing lifesaving care. Cassidy was unresponsive and showed no signs of a pulse. An automatic external defibrillator (AED) located in the lift shack was successfully applied. She was immediately transported down the mountain to the Mammoth Hospital Emergency Room and would then later be flown to Reno and then down to Los Angeles. It would be a full day before she fully regained consciousness, in part because she was kept under sedation as doctors attempted to diagnose her medical condition.

Again, heart attacks for young people are very rare. Her mother said that the cardiologist treating Cassidy, after numerous tests came out normal, told her that it was most likely a genetic anomaly. The diagnosis was that it was an electrical problem with the heart. The heart is the only organ in the human body with its own built-in electrical system which causes the heart to beat. When it is disrupted, bad things generally happen, such as a heart attack. Valerie Seitz and her family are enthusiastic in their praise of everyone involved in saving their daughter’s life. One person for whom they were especially grateful was Cindy Dady, Mammoth Resorts Health and Safety Manager. She kept the family updated on what was happening, arranged for transportation around town, settled their accounts during their stay (i.e., removed all charges) and took care of a myriad of tasks for the family while at the hospital. She also repeatedly contacted the family even after the incident to make sure that Cassidy was okay. The family was very impressed with the service from Mammoth Resorts.

Mammoth Resorts President and Chief Operating Officer, Mark Brownlie, issued a statement saying that “the Mountain Ski Patrol performed to the highest ability in what can best be described as a life or death situation for Cassidy. Cassidy was then transferred to our local emergency services and has since recovered and returned to school. We are incredibly proud of the performance of our team that day, and of their dedication to providing a safe and fun environment for our guests.”

Kathleen Dunn, Corporate Director of Clinical Services for REACH Air Medical Services offered the following: “We are so grateful for the operational excellence, expert skill and expansive knowledge our clinical, aviation and maintenance team brings to the Sierra Lifeflight mission. They continually strive to provide extraordinary service in a community they consider ‘family.’ We are proud to have played a role in the continuum of care while transporting this patient to much needed specialized care.”

The Seitz family loves Mammoth Mountain and has been coming to the area for many years. Valerie said her husband proposed to her at the top of the Gondola and she was snowboarding in Mammoth when she was pregnant with Cassidy. Cassidy had been unconscious for a full day during her medical emergency, but after treatment, she recovered and has since returned to school.

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Cassidy recovering in the hospital
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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