GREENER BY THE DAY
Two more cannabis licences approved by the Mono Planning Commission
By Gorman

The Mono County Planning Commission approved two new cannabis land-use permits, one for retail and one for cultivation and distribution.

The cultivation permit was awarded to Walker River Farms at 1129 Larson Lane in Coleville. Walker River Farms will grow a cannabis canopy of roughly 8,600 square feet inside 4 separate buildings. The parcel owned by Walker River Farms is just under 400 acres, and includes a building that will be available for housing employees.

The county regulates odor from cannabis cultivation facilities. The nearest odor “receptor,” is 2,265 feet, far enough for the commission to say that odor will not be a problem.

Commissioner Scott Bush said that he wanted to make sure that Walker River Farms would not be able to expand its growing operation to the rest of its acreage without further approval. Wendy Sugimura, planning analyst for the county, said that there were a few checks to ensure that Walker River Farms is limited to the 8,600 foot canopy in its application. The operating permit must be reevaluated and approved by the county supervisors each year, and the finance department assesses taxes based on canopy size, so it audits the amount that the farm grows each year.

The commission approved the land-use permit 5-0. The farm must now receive an operating permit from the Mono County Board of Supervisors. After approving the farm, the board considered the application of a cannabis retailer in Lee Vining.

Tioga Green applied for its cannabis retail land-use permit for a building at the south end of Lee Vining, on the west side of 395, north of the turnoff for 120. The building had originally been permitted as a drive-through restaurant but was never opened for that purpose.

The Mono Basin RPAC created the regulations for Cannabis dispensaries in Lee Vining. The code requires that a cannabis dispensary be at least 600 feet from a sensitive building, meaning a school or community center.

The proposed building for Tioga Green is 1,400 feet from Lee Vining Elementary School and 3,000 feet from Lee Vining.

HAGGLING OVER GOOSE DROPPINGS
Town tosses MLT another 400K from reserve fund

Mammoth Lakes Town Council agreed to release $400,000 from the Joint Tourism Reserve it holds with Mammoth Lakes Tourism (MLT) at its regular meeting Wednesday.

MLT had asked to pull $750,000 from reserves. Council released $300,000 to go toward special event funding over the next two years. $100,000 will backfill the remainder of a town signage and wayfinding project that came in priced over estimate. As for the $350,000 not awarded at this time, Council didn’t say “no” so much as “not yet.”

The Joint Reserve was established in 2017 in order to cap the amount of dedicated money the town hands to MLT every year. The Town deducts 2.5 points of Transient Occupancy Tax revenue to MLT every year. But if TOT exceeds budget ($13.5M in 2018-2019), the excess is tossed into the reserve fund.

This year, MLT Executive Director John Urdi anticipates TOT revenue coming in a whopping $6.5 million over budget, which will translate into another $1.1 million or so being ticketed for a reserve fund which already had approximately $800,000 in it.

But if there’s one thing that the Town of Mammoth Lakes can’t stand, it’s excess.

The philosophical divide

On the one hand, MLT feels shorted by having its marketing dollars from the Town capped. And Mr. Urdi clearly resents having to go to Council, hat in hand, to ask for funds he feels are rightfully MLT’s.

And former MLT Board member Paul Rudder was on hand at the meeting Wednesday.

FAMILY AT DOLLAR

Rebecca and Jessica Borin with Angela Kneip and her son, Kayden, and grandmother Cara Borin shopping at Family Dollar. James’ piece on the new Bishop location can be found on page 5.
Jack of all Lunches

Public comment as "dangerous and inappropriate."

Night's meeting.

Councilmembers. Mayor Hoff said 13 letters were received prior to Wednesday's meeting.

Mammoth Lakes Tourism will survive just fine on the remaining $6,000,000 funding they received from the business communities' TBID source.

Item #19 should stop and ALL Measure A funding should be pulled from Mammoth Lakes Tourism, bonded and used for housing and transit purposes. Mammoth Lakes Tourism will survive just fine on the remaining $6,000,000 funding they received from the business communities' TBID source.

Leadership role for which they were elected. All additional funding such as that in the TOT revenue coming in right now, says Rudder, is the product of intelligent marketing. "The money's coming in like never before," he said. "Let's not screw things up for a political idea."

Rudder's fear is that any easing on the marketing accelerator could lead to catastrophe.

But then, why did MLT make a $250,000 ask for planning money? As Urdi explained in his presentation, he wishes to spearhead the creation of a Destination Marketing Plan. Why? Because, he says, with marketing success, "We are creating problems we need to solve."

On the other hand...

Businessman Tom Cage doesn't think the Town or MLT needs to blow through $250,000 on a plan and the associated consultants. "We've already studied these things," he said. He suggested spending the $250,000 on a two-bedroom.

Broad strategy might be something nice to consider down the road, but right now there is only one strategy: housing. "Throw that excess, whatever you have, at housing," he said.

Because the longer it takes to address the housing issue, the worse the service product Mammoth will provide. "Our service levels are deteriorating in a drastic way," said Cage, in large part because so many businesses are short-staffed.

In his business, Cage said he generally has 20 full-timers, 20 seasonals and 20 new hires. This past winter, he only had 10 new hires because of a thinner labor pool and for the first time he can remember, he's having trouble filling summer positions.

As to the $400,000 Council agreed to release to MLT, Cage thought MLT should have reached into its own pocket rather than raid the reserve. As he pointed out, TBID (Tourism Business Improvement District) dollars have also increased proportionally this year. Surely, that excess could have been designated toward special event funding just as easily.

Mono County Supervisor (and former Mammoth Lakes Housing Executive Director) Jennifer Halferty observed that what we're all struggling with the effects of intense budgetary imbalance among competing priorities since the Town's near-bankruptcy in 2012.

There's a reason why certain elements (housing, marketing, transit) were funded at certain percentages, she said. So they would grow in sync.
LUNCH
continued from page 2

Halferty’s analysis is that the town’s stuck paying catch-up in regard to housing and longtime Housing Board member and Councilman Kirk Stapp did not disagree. He said housing has essentially been unfunded for the past seven years post-airport lawsuit.

‘There is the fundamental question of why budget TOT at such an absurdly conservative number?’

And the answer from Town Finance Director Bob Patterson during the afternoon’s budget workshop was pretty darn revealing. “If we put it in the budget, we’ll spend it,” he said bluntly.

But based on what happened regarding the joint reserve fund, it appears Council will spend it anyway.

Mayor Cleland Hoff went off on a long tangent in her comments, before concluding helplessly, “We’re just tools for the great money-making machine.”

Sheet observation: If you don’t like being a tool, stop being a tool.

MLT Board member Brent Truax told The Sheet Thursday that if TOT was budgeted Honestly, “We’re just tools for the great money-making machine.”

Council will spend it anyway. Mayor Cleland Hoff went off on a long tangent in her comments, before concluding helplessly, “We’re just tools for the great money-making machine.”

Sheet observation: If you don’t like being a tool, stop being a tool.

A is for Housing

Hello Council,

We are writing today to express our strong feelings that Measure A money used to be used to support housing, not used for marketing purposes.

We support the work of Mammoth Lakes Tourism, and recognize that the work they do is greater than any of us could individually.

However, we feel that the money-generated through TBD and TOT is far more than required to market a resort town of our size. We feel the town is already terribly unbalanced in the amount funded to marketing versus housing, and taking Measure A funds only tips the scales further.

In fact, our town is at a great cross-roads - one that will impact our future for many years to come. The future of both Mammoth Lakes businesses and the community in general depend on affordable or ‘workforce’ housing.

We can market our town and plan all the events we like - but it is all for not without housing and the workforce that comes with it. It is this same workforce that creates a healthy, positive, invested sense of community.

As restaurant owners for the last 14 years we have watched the labor market squeeze tighter and tighter. Finding qualified employees now literally keeps us up at night, and our concern for the future is so great it has kept us from pursuing new business growth. Look in the “Help Wanted” ads or ask most any business owner and you will hear similar stories.

You, as council members, have an incredible opportunity to forge a new path from these crossroads. You can forge a path that uses these funds from Measure A to begin the process of creating housing that will sustain both business and community in Mammoth for many years to come.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

John F Farber
Victoria A Farber
Giovanni’s/The Stove Restaurants

A is still for Housing

Town Council,

I was intrigued to comment on tonight’s Agenda Item #19 titled “MLT Request for funding from Tourism Reserve”. This request is for three quarters of a million additional dollars, yes $750,000, on top of MLT’s budget, this is MLT’s second request for funding from the Tourism reserves in less than a year.

As a business owner and public citizen, one would have to ask themselves how we continue to look to achieve Mammoth greatness with our continued workforce housing crisis, infrastructure challenges, and lack of community amenities that is in dire need, much greater than the funding request provided.

You have the authority to think outside the box and hold tight onto the reserves.

Look to those reserves and to utilize Measure A funds to move our community forward with items as mentioned and focus on smart business decisions for our community TODAY, in which builds the foundation for the future.

I urge you to just SAY NO to this request and direct as much funding as possible to immediately address our housing crisis by bonding Measure A to acquire existing housing stock for immediate utilization and to develop the Shady Rest parcel as soon as possible.

Michael Raimondo
Old New York Deli

... And while some complained about the subject matter of Benham’s farewell poem in last week’s issue, he had at least one fan.

Proud Grandmother

Dear Editor

Who would have thought that we have a future poet laureate in Mammoth writing for The Sheet? May he have a very bright future.

Phyllis Benham
Mammoth Lakes
WHERE ARE THE RUNNERS NOW?
Following MTC athletes after they’ve lost their team housing

By Gorman

Runners from the Mammoth Track Club (MTC) moved out of their team condos at the end of April. Mammoth Mountain had been donating the housing to the track club for six years but decided to reclaim the two condos for employee housing (See MTC is Our Family).

The Sheet caught up with four of the elite runners to see how they dealt with the loss of housing.

Sandie Raines was an All-American for the University of Texas before moving to Mammoth to join MTC. She was not able to afford living in Mammoth without the condo, and moved back to Austin. She has also retired from elite distance running, and will begin working for Beto O’Rourke’s Presidential Campaign in June.

“For me it was a little different than for some of the other members,” Raines said. “I’ve been injured for a year and that put financial pressure on me. Housing was expensive when combined with physical therapy.”

Raines was working part-time at Elixir Superfood and Juice in Mammoth while training with the team.

The Kastors were able to offer team members a $200 a month stipend for some of the other members, “Raines said this was not enough.

“I wanted something that would involve working part-time in exchange for housing. “I wanted something that would have taken some amount of work less than full-time,” Leon said. “I didn’t want something that would take away from my training potential.”

Leon said that he is still looking for a way to come back to Mammoth. Grace Barnett and Reid Buchanon were both able to find housing with the help of friends.

Barnett, who was a seven-time All-American for Clemson University, moved to Mammoth last fall after reading Deena Kastor’s book.

“I got flowers for Mother’s Day for the first time in I don’t know how long.”

-Carolyn Ballett

Buchanon said that he is treating his new residence as only temporary, just as he treated the old condos.

“I will stay here as long as it is available … just like the condo, it’s never permanent.”

YOTELPAD SQUEAKS OUT PLANNING APPROVAL

2-1 vote approves hotel design

The design for the new Yotelpad hotel was approved by the Mammoth Lakes Planning and Economic Development Commission on Wednesday. The hotel is proposed to be built at the northwest corner of Main Street and Minaret Road.

Commissioner Greg Eckert was the sole no vote, with Michael Vanderhurst and new commissioner Jessica Kennedy voting yes. Paul Chang and Jennifer Burrows were absent. Eckert’s main concern was parking at the Village.

The Yotelpad will have 198 bedrooms, it will offer 196 parking spaces underground. Replay Resorts, the developer of this project, proposes to use valet parking for both the hotel and the restaurant.

114 trees are proposed to be removed during construction, at the request of an arborist that was contracted.

Also of note, the building has credits that will allow the developers to bypass housing mitigation impact fees.

The Yotelpad has 40.41 Full-time Employee Equivalent (FTEE) housing credits. Each credit is worth $14,571 in Housing mitigation fees. These credits were earned through the donation of some land to the town by the previous owner and traveled with the property.

The Yotelpad’s housing fee payment would be $402,500, which they do not have to pay because they have the FTEE’s. They can sell their remaining FTEE’s as though the were commodities to another developer.

Chris Heinrich represented the developer at Wednesday’s meeting. Commissioner Eckert asked how many staff the Yotelpad would employ. Heinrich said that the total staff would be 34 at any given time. Eckert would say at the end of the meeting that he was disappointed in how few jobs this development would create.

Andy Ott, a member the board of directors of the Viewpoint Condominium project next to the Yotelpad property, was the first to speak during public comment. He said that the project intended to cut down too many trees.

“We make believe that the mountains are the only views that we have, not true,” he said. “We are a village in the trees.”

“We would like to review the arborist’s plan.”

-Citizen Sandy Hogan stepped up to say that the North Village Specific Plan, which set the regulations for this development, was inadequate. She also called for parking impact mitigation fees to go along with the housing impact mitigation fees.

“Parking is a problem. We can’t ignore it anymore,” she said. Vice President of Development for Mammoth Mountain, Tom Hodges, was the last of the public to speak. He said the condo leaves the team condo short of what was posted on the Mammoth Buy Sell Trade Facebook page that she was looking for a place to live.

Carolyn Ballett saw the post. She knew Barnett already because they attend the same church.

She had an empty room in her house but was hesitant to take on a roommate.

“I have lived alone for almost 25 years,” Ballett said.

Ballett eventually decided to rent to Barnett out of support for MTC.

“I knew Deena and Andrew Kastor and I think what they are doing is great,” she said.

Ballett said that her experience renting the room has been “wonderful.”

“Grace is a very healthy eater. When I’m here we share the fantastic egg scramble that she does,” Ballett said.

“And I got flowers for my Mother’s Day for the first time in I don’t know how many years.”

She said she would recommend others fill their empty rooms if they can in order to alleviate Mammoth’s housing shortage.

“I have been aware of the housing issues here since I’ve lived here,” she said. “I would urge absentee homeowners to try renting out to help give housing to those who need it.”

Reid Buchanon is a 27:58 10k and 13:27 5k runner. He rents from his agent who owns a second home in Mammoth. He said that knowing someone willing to rent to him helped because there was a short timeline for finding a house.

“We were told about the situation I believe in January,” he said. “So we had three months, and that’s not a lot of time to do a lot of shopping.”

Buchanon had been living in the team condo for two and a half years, and said he always anticipated the day that it would be taken away.

“Andrew (Kastor) told me that the condos were a donation from the mountain, and he never knew how long we would have them,” Buchanon said.

“I would save what I would consider rent in Mammoth just in case … And that has prepared me well for when it became real that we wouldn’t have the condos anymore.”

Buchanon said that he is treating his new residence as only temporary, just as he treated the old condos.

“I will stay here as long as it is available … just like the condo, it’s never permanent.”
GROCERY GAMES
Another cheap option opens in Bishop

By James

The new Family Dollar Tree store in Bishop held its Official Grand Opening on Saturday, May 11. Local business and community leaders are optimistic about the store. It replaced the former JC Penney Store on Main Street, which was closed in June 2017 last year despite appeals by the community to the corporation to keep it open. Comments from shoppers on the new store were positive as a line formed at the check-out counters.

The new store carries a variety of sundry items, including discounted groceries.

“There are dairy, grocery and frozen food sections,” says District Training Manager Cayetano Legaspi, who oversees 10 other Family Dollar stores, with an eleventh on the horizon. There are five Family Dollar stores in Bakersfield alone.

On a tour of the Bishop store, Legaspi said, “We sell cooking, grilling and baking supplies, as well as staples such as milk, eggs, and bread, at discounted, competitive prices.”

There is one thing that you will not find in the store: fresh produce. “There is one thing that you will not find in the store: fresh produce. For many grocery shoppers that might prove a deal breaker, especially with existing discount grocery stores such as Grocery Outlet and Smart & Final already in town, both of which carry fresh produce.”

One shopper asked, “If this is a dollar store, why are many of the prices over a dollar?” It is a good question.

The answer is that Retail is struggling with the paradigm shift created by e-commerce.

According to a recent article in USA Today, the Chesapeake, Virginia-based discount retailer Dollar Tree Inc., bought its rival Family Dollar Tree in 2015 for $9.2 billion, but the brand has been alluring. As part of an aggressive restructuring, it has closed as many as 390 Family Dollar Stores, changing the name of roughly 200 more, and planning to renovate 1,000 stores in 2019. The renovated stores will include $1 Dollar Tree merchandise sections, and testing charging more than a dollar in some of its namesake stores.

All the discount retailers, including Dollar Tree competitor Dollar General, have been aggressively restructuring, closing some stores, remodeling others, and expanding their merchandise offerings to find ways to re-invent themselves to stay competitive with the internet. Part of that strategy is opening new stores in new markets, such as the one in Bishop.

An additional challenge is that tariffs resulting from President Trumps trade dispute with China, has a strong effect on dollar stores like Dollar Tree and Family Dollar that can’t raise the price of products. The company admits that there are dangers to moving away from the $1-only proposition long-term because, otherwise, it loses its unique identity and possibly becomes just another store.

Despite problems facing the industry, the new Family Dollar Store in Bishop represents a step up from the economic stagnation that has plagued the local economy resulting in many empty store fronts. Again, there is optimism… and the fact is, there are many shoppers who love shopping at dollar stores and finding good deals.

RUMMAGIN’
Everything has a story. Find one at the Rummage Company

By James

What on earth is the Rummage Company in Bishop? It is a new store opened on April 27 by Arline Acosta which is filled with second-hand items, many with a “story” behind them. Everything from old furniture to commonly used everyday items such as clothing, lamps, furniture, trinkets, jewelry, old family heirlooms, and so on can be found here. Everything is either for sale, rent, or on consignment. But The Rummage Co. is also a service. Acosta is a Wedding and Event Stylist, not to be confused with an Event Planner. There is a difference.

To rummage is to search thoroughly or actively through (a place, receptacle, etc.), especially by moving around, turning over, or looking through contents, such as the “stuff” found in Acosta’s store, or already in a client’s home or found in a thrift store… or even a dump. It’s proof that one person’s trash might be someone else’s treasure. Many things can be reused or repurposed, hence the creative aspect of what Acosta provides.

The store is in a building that is just across the street from the Alpine Sign Company and the new Family Dollar Store on South Main Street.

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MAMMOTH LAKES FILM FESTIVAL

REVIEW: 17 BLOCKS
20 years of cyclical loss in 90 minutes
By Gorman

17 Blocks follows the Sanford-Durant family for 20 years, record- ing its journey as an example of the suffering and resilience so common in the United States. The title, 17 Blocks, refers to the distance that this family lives from the Capitol building in Washington, D.C. The title leads the viewer to assume that this film would compare policy with humanity, as so many modern documentaries do. It doesn’t. Not once is there a shot of the Capitol, or of politicians, or any of the sights that make D.C. recognizable to most. They are invisible to the viewer just as they are to the subjects of this film.

The proximity to lawmakers is denoted in the title and left, only to return as a dark memory while you watch boys beat each other in the street over drug money. During the bleakest scenes of this documentary, you remember how close the politicians are who have done so little to help this situation, or worse, who have enacted laws to help cause it in the first place: the 13th amendment, Plessy vs. Ferguson, the war on drugs.

The geography of this film has no impact on the story. It could have happened anywhere in the United States, but that it happened there matters. If a community that is practically within sight of the statue of Columbia on the Capital Dome could be so neglected, then anyone on Earth could be.

The footage is so intimate as to feel staged. When talking about this documentary I found myself consistently referring to the subjects as “characters.” I was subconsciously trying to detach myself from their hardships, but I also just continually forgot that this footage was real. This film reveals a family like no documentary I have ever seen. It records drug use, domestic abuse, drug sales, courtroom drama, and fights with the casual confidentiality of a conversation between friends. It should be stated that this film was not staged.

The 20 years of footage was filmed partly by Emmanuel Durant when he was a nine-year-old aspiring film maker and was later resumed by Director Davy Rothbart. The amount of footage and timeframe of the film reveal a cycle of destruction in Sanford-Durant family. Death of father figures, drug addiction, teen pregnancies, and incarceration are passed down through the family like societally imposed DNA.

To say that suffering is all this documentary records would be looking through too narrow a lens. Rothbart captures a charming and buoyant family trying to break their cycles of poverty and addiction. The loss that the Sanford-Durant family endures is not uncommon, but this family has no outlet for their pain. We watch each member blame themselves for a death in the family and turn to drugs and alcohol to close their minds and try to forget the shame.

Eventually, the subjects seek out counseling to help them break the cycle. In these moments too, the viewer remembers the lawmakers 17 blocks away and hopes that they had some hand in funding these much needed respite.

REVIEW: A GREAT LAMP
The strangest Christmas movie you’ll see this year
By Gorman

A Great Lamp explores a common feature of the quarter life crisis in stark black and white.

The film, which will be showing at the Mammoth Lakes Film Festival at the end of the month, braids the narratives of three derelicts desperately searching for family on the streets of Wilmington, North Carolina. Through a Linklater-esque menagerie of endearing character cameos edited with art house jump cuts and integrated animation, A Great Lamp deals with the loss that each person faces when they reach maturity, when they realize how insignificant their tokens of a live-action protagonist.

Howie, a sharp-dressed bipolar, has come from Arkansas to see a rocket launch over the city. As it becomes clear, however, Howie really came to Wilmington to help people. He listens to the wishes that people throw with their coins into fountains and, by granting them, offers them the material selflessness that he lost at the death of his mother.

Gene, a scruffy, anxious loner, walks the streets crushed by his life of banal deceit. He lives with his parents and out of fear of his father, and at the advice of his mother, he has not told his father that he quit his job. Each week for two months he absconds out to wander the city pretending for an audience of one that he is at work as an insurance agent. With the heaviness of his lie pressurizing his world, each pin prick disappointment, for instance, a broken coffee mug, brings him agony.

Howie during one of the close-ups that mark each character’s emotional climax

That this is a Christmas movie may pass unnoticed. It opens on Max singing The Little Drummer Boy as he paints the town with his grandmother’s face. The themes of this song permeate. All the little drummer boy wanted when approaching the newborn Christ was to gift. The wisemen famously gave extravagant gifts, but the drummer boy was poor and had no gift to give.

So too do the protagonists of this film mistakenly believe that love, their salvations, can be won by gifts: a coffee mug, posters, wishes. They obsess over what these gifts might win them not realizing how insignificant their tokens might be.

Each of the three narrative climaxes come during revelations of great woe or understanding shot in intimate, sometimes discomfiting close-up. These moments can be sentimental but never feel contrived.

One jaggedly affecting revelation comes when Gene finds out that his deceived father plans to buy him a new television for Christmas because he is proud of him for doing his job. The pain of creating a lie that will inevitably disappoint a proud parent felt acutely relatable.

The lovable acting and wonderful cinematography make this film firmly enjoyable, and the prevailing theme that one’s first tragic loss means the loss of part of one’s self will hit home for anyone who has lost a loved one, which is to say, just about everyone.
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MUCHADO ABOUT NOTHING
by William Shakespeare

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Question: What word means, “Details, considerations, or pieces of information of little importance or value?”

Answer: Trivia.

Well, it turns out these pieces of information only hold “little value” for some. In Mammoth Lakes, they hold enough value to attract 50 people to the top floor of Mammoth Brewing Company (MBC) on a Tuesday night for the brewery’s weekly trivia competition.

His MC style: “piss everybody off equally but not to the point where they leave or beat me up.”

He cracks jokes, plays songs with hints between questions, and calls out especially off-base answers. For instance, this week he made fun of the whole bar for their guesses at the name of the Malibu rehab once attended by Britney Spears. No one got it right, but the common answer was something like, “New Sunrise Horizons.”

The first year he hosted, the bar shut it down during the spring when town slowed down. After running it through the summer, the owners asked when in the fall he wanted to shut it down.

“I said no,” Calhoun said. “We’ve gotten such a loyal, local following that it is almost busier in the offseason than it is during the busy season because people have time.”

Teams come back every week searching for glory, and you can tell because they use the same names. Some perennially returning teams are “Better Late Than Pregnant,” “Rehab Is Better Than Pregnant,” “Lennon’s Llamas,” and “The Beatles.”

The competition has grown substantially over the years, Calhoun said. The first year he hosted, the bar shut it down during the spring when town slowed down. After running it through the summer, the owners asked when in the fall he wanted to shut it down.

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For Quitters,” and “Amy Nipplehouse.” This week the competition was won in a landslide by the “Cliff Clavin Fan Club,” or C.C.F.C. Their name is a reference to a Cheers episode wherein Cliff Clavin loses Jeopardy by betting all his money on the final question.

C.C.F.C. has two core members, Dave Leonard, owner of the Booky Joint, and Jamie Godoy, History teacher at Lee Vining High School. They only got two questions wrong all night and have become the team to beat with a healthy handful of wins over the last couple of months.

This trivia competition has a points system that involves wagering. It is broken up into six rounds of three questions each, with a middle question of ever-changing value, and a final Jeopardy question where you can wager as many points as you have. In each round you are given the category of each question and you decide whether to bet 1 point, 3 points or 5 points depending on your confidence. In the second half those values grow to 2, 4, and 6.

Here are some sample questions from last week. Answers will be provided at the end of this article.

“Who played Sean Connery in the Saturday Night Live skit, ‘Celebrity Jeopardy?’

“What month is named for the Roman God of Time, Transitions, and Gates?”

“In what city was Martin Luther King Jr. assassinated?”

“In what year did Roger Maris hit 61 home runs to break Babe Ruth’s single season record?”

The last question of the night is always preposterously difficult and involves putting a list in some sort of order.

This week’s was, “Put these musicians in order from the highest to lowest one of their songs has ranked on the U.S. Billboard chart: Nicki Minaj, David Guetta, Nirvana, and Adele.” Half the time no one gets it right, but the exciting nights are when a team in seventh place risks it all on a shot in the dark and wins.

One of the most welcome and unlikely virtues of trivia night is that people put their cell phones away for the evening. If you’re caught looking at a phone you will be accused of cheating, so contestants leave them in their pockets.

“It’s like 1987,” Calhoun said. “No one is on their phones, and everyone is engaged. Everyone is talking to each other.”

Another unlikely aspect of trivia night is that drunk people actually get quiet for a moment. The room will be typically raucous but as soon as Calhoun starts up on the mic with a question, everybody shuts up to listen. The bar drops silent.

“Everybody is in it because everybody wants to win,” Calhoun said.

Over the course of the years Calhoun has seen teams grow and team names meld together as friendships form.

“Random people will walk in and be like, ‘Oh hey, I want to play trivia,’ and I’ll say hey join that team. There are communal teams, communal tables,” Calhoun said.

“It’s just a nice friendly activity for the evening. Nobody has died yet.”


Andrew Hallberg, Evan Farese, Gabrielle Solomon, and Eric Tymstra from Lee Vining, other.

Sean Fahey and Emily Dann weren’t competing, but they would feed answers to the team behind them when they could.
FAST TIMES AT MANZANAR AIRFIELD

Don’t worry about crashing your car. Spicoli’s dad has an ultimate set of tools. He can fix it.

By Maddux

This year will be the 49th anniversary of the Time Trials, a race around the 2.2-mile track at the Manzanar Airfield. It will be held May 18-19 from 7 a.m. - 5 p.m. On Friday evening racers can sign up at the Dow Villa Motel in Lone Pine and enjoy dinner, drinks, and a keg of beer from 5-11 p.m. Event Chairman of the Time Trials, Bret Norgaard said the time trials is, “the greatest event you never knew about.”

The Time Trials pits a single car and driver against the clock. It primarily features street cars, and is open to any driver. “Just about anyone can do it,” Norgaard said. Racers get 3-4 chances on the course to get their desired time, but a penalty of 2-seconds is deducted from the racer’s time if an orange cone is hit. When one car is finishing the 2.2-mile course another car is mid-course, and a third is waiting to start.

For next year’s 50th anniversary, organizers are planning to boost everything—from a big party to bigger partners and sponsors. This is partly because it will likely be the last year at the Manzanar Airfield. Norgaard plans to move the time trials due to the condition of the airfield’s road. If the event ends in the area, it will possibly move to the Central Valley in Stockton, Norgaard said.

“It’s rare for events like this to last this long.” Cars are classes according to their potential. According to the Sports Car Club of America (SCCA) there are approximately 95-100 car classes. Racers not only drive, they volunteer. When not racing, you help out by picking up orange cones, monitoring cone penalties and keeping the course set.

The fastest time around the 2.2-mile course happened in 2016: 112.7 seconds with an average speed of just under 72 mph—with a top speed of about 105 mph, Norgaard said. Those who do and do not race can “expect to have a heck of a lot of fun…and enjoy their cars—with [social times in the evening],” Norgaard said.

Even through the excitement, there has been a lack of coverage from local media on the event, and “it’s been a challenge to get local awareness up,” he said. Nevertheless, the event attracts drivers from L.A., and has a good following in Bishop, Ridgecrest and Lone Pine.

The Time Trials donates event proceeds to the Los Angeles Braille Institute Youth Programs, for sight impaired youth. The event is a “gathering of car friends, and [it’s] for a good cause,” said Norgaard.

This year, Bret Norgaard is bringing his heavily modified 2005 Acura TL to race in the event. Norgaard said he has competed nationally in his Acura for 5 years in the SCCA autocross and the Pro Solo Series.

The Time Trials was held in 1970 at the Manzanar airfield. Before Norgaard became the event chairman of the time trials in 2011, Craig and Ranee Angel had chaired it since 1980. Craig passed in 2008 and Ranee in 2011. Norgaard said he first heard of the time trials in 1992.

Jim Ellis, Mayor of Bishop said the Time Trials is a “great event, [and I] just want to go down to watch it.” As a kid, he remembers his dad and uncle racing at the Time Trials in the mid-70’s, with a Ford version of an El Camino and a Nova, Ellis said. His dad and uncle were, “two guys building cars all hyped up on the weekend, taking them out and having some fun,” he said.

Though the online entry had not closed for pre-registered at the time of this writing, 65 drivers were expected to compete on Saturday, and 55 drivers were scheduled to compete on Sunday—making it the biggest Time Trials in two decades. “We love all the support—come out and check it out or compete in it…that’s why we still exist!” Norgaard said.
Mammoth Rock & Bowl/Mammoth Rock Brasserie has the following positions available. Bowler, Bartender, Server, Maintenance, Food Prep, Cook, Dishwasher, Host. Apply within. Contact Todd Roberts at 760-934-2414 or stop by and see us in person at 3905 Main Street, Mammoth Lakes.

Season 4 Condominiums Rentals - Front desk position. FT/PT reservation/guest services preferred. Must be computer literate, enjoy working with guests, general office, file, datentry, and answering the phone. Call 760-934-2030.

The Alpine Lodge is looking to add to its team! We are looking for self-motivated individuals who want to work for an established, family run hotel. Full and part time, front desk positions are available at our front desk and with our housekeeping department. Starting wages and benefits DOE. Please email resume to info@thealpinelodge.com and we’ll set up an interview. 760-934-2030.

Help Wanted

Front Office Recruitment Coordinator M $14 - $17 (Fulltime)
We are looking for a motivated Recruitment Coordinator to join our team and participate in the hiring process form beginning to end in our Mammoth Lakes Office. You will be responsible for interviewing candidates, evaluating resumes, scheduling and conducting interviews and managing the hiring process.

Knowledge of front office clerical responsibilities, systems, and procedures a must with excellent time management skills and the ability to multi-task and prioritize with excellent written and verbal communication skills. Spanish bi-lingual a plus. Must have a driver’s license and a clean DMV record. Join our team today! call to start the application process.

Call 760-924-0523 or 760-873-8589 or visit our job list online: www.SierraEmployment.com

Mammoth Rock & Bowl/Mammoth Rock Brasserie is currently hiring for the following positions:
- Back of House Coordinator
- Line Cook
- Baker Apprentice(s)


Mammoth Taxi is accepting resumes for part-time drivers. We offer great customer service and clean driving records. We are also looking for office staff for the right person with great organizational skills and customer service background. Please inquire: (760) 914-7433. www.mammoth-taxi.com.

Bleu Handcrafted Foods is now hiring managers, host and hostess, prep cook, dishwasher, and bussers. We are looking for fun, responsible, professional people to join our team! Bakers, prep cooks, and dishwasher are also available. Our fast-paced environment offers time off, paid holidays, and an excellent benefit package.

Eastern Sierra Transit is hiring a customer service oriented, outgoing individuals for driving positions in Mammoth, MPT and/or training to obtain a commercial driver’s license if provided. Full and part-time hours available.

Mammoth Lakes -Seasonal Drivers (FT & PT hours available) $15.75 per hour after paid training is complete. Applications can be found online at: www.eastransit.com or at our offices in Mammoth (210 Commerce Dr.) or call 760-472-1901 Ext.11.

Sure Save Self Storage Full Time Manager, Year Round. Office+Maintenance Duties, PC/Computer Skills. Service skills appreciated. Please call 760-934-5463 or email suresavestorage@gmail.com.

Fictitious Business Name Statement

The Following Entity is Doing Business As: Full Circle Physiotherapy & Pilates
Full Circle Physiotherapy & Pilates
126 Old Mammoth Rd, P.O. Box 8104
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

This business is conducted by a Corporation. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on May 1, 2019. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on April 30, 2019. File Number 19-097.

Statement Of Abandonment Of Use Of Fictitious Business Name Statement

The following corporation has abandoned the use of the fictitious business name:

Mammoth Realty Group, Inc.
P.O. Box 100, PMB 574
501 Old Mammoth Rd.
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

This business is conducted by a corporation. The fictitious business name was filed in Mono County, July 15, 2014. 14-115-155.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on April 30, 2019. 2019-0078 (5/4, 5/11, 5/18, 5/25)

Fictitious Business Name Statement

The Following Entity is Doing Business As:

Rock Star Real Estate

The following corporation has abandoned the use of the fictitious business name:

High Altitude Farms

Fictitious Business Name Statement

The Following Entity is Doing Business As:

Ranch Star Real Estate

The following corporation has abandoned the use of the fictitious business name:

Bask Ventures, Inc.
471 Sierra Star Circle
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

This business is conducted by a corporation. The fictitious business name was filed in Mono County, July 15, 2014. 14-115-155.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on April 30, 2019. 2019-0078 (5/4, 5/11, 5/18, 5/25)

Fictitious Business Name Statement

The Following Entity is Doing Business As:

High Altitude Farms

Fictitious Business Name Statement

The Following Entity is Doing Business As:

Rock Star Real Estate

The following corporation has abandoned the use of the fictitious business name:

High Altitude Farms
BARS & MUSIC

Happy Hour /
Austria Hof. 4:7 p.m. Sunday-Thursday and 4-6 p.m. Friday & Saturday

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. 9.

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

Morrison’s Happy Hour Sun-Thurs., 5-30 p.m. See ad. p. 15

The Mogul Happy Hour Sun. Thurs. from 5:30-6:30 p.m.in the bar with food and drink specials. Note: Closed Tuesdays and Wednesdays in May. See ad. p. 8

Mammoth Rock ‘N Bowl
Mon, DJ 9:00 p.m. Bowling & Beats, Thurs. DJ 10 p.m. Latin Night, Saturday DJ 9 p.m. Clocktower Cellar Happy Hour: 4-7 p.m. daily. $5 dollar menu items, drink specials. See ad. p. 8

Roberto’s Happy Hour: 4-6 p.m. daily. Famous Slocums Happy Hour Tues.-Fri. 4-6 p.m.; Sat. 4-3:30 p.m. Closed Sun./Mon. Dining at 5pm, “No Reservations, just come on out.” See ad. p. 3.

T-Bar Social Club in June Lake

Glovinion’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 Distilling Happy Hour 3-5 p.m. every day and all day Wednesday; half off all drinks. Free Spirit tasting flight included in $5 Beer, Wine and Small Plates. See ad, p. 5.

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

Devils Creek Distillery tasting room
3-6 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. Location: Industrial Park (off of Meridian). 123 Commerce Dr. Info: 760.793.7131.

Black Sheep Coffee happy hour 4-6. Wine tastings on Wednesdays.

Friday, May 17/ Open Mic Night at Black Sheep Coffee. Time: 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Beer on tap. Free. Open air with music on the back deck. All musicians are welcome. Location: 232 North Main Street, Bishop. Sierra Wave Double Cloudy IPA Release Party at Mammoth Brewing Company. Beer Release taster for the first 50 participants. $1 off glasses of Sierra Wave. Time: 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 18/ DJ William’s Shots Fired plays T-Bar Social Club. “Karl Denson’s Tiny Universe guitarist has assembled an all star cast of musicians featuring members of today’s best bands.” Time: 9:11:30 p.m. Tickets: $12 at door, $24 with shuttle from Mammoth at balancedrocksaloon.com.

Crazy Mountain Billies plays Shelter Distilling. Free. Time: 3 p.m.

Silver plows Mountain Rambler Brewery. Genre: Rock. Time: 8 p.m. Tickets: $5 at door or $1 with drink order.

Sunday, May 19/ Growler Crusher Method plays Black Doubt Brewing. 7-9 p.m. Free. Roland Ruby plays Bleu Handcrafted Foods. Genre: Acoustic. 5-6 p.m. Free.

BARS & MUSIC

Monday, May 20/ Open mic at Black Doubt Brewing Co. Time: 8-9 p.m.

Bowling and Beats at Mammoth Rock and Bowl. Live DJ and drink specials. Time: 9-11 p.m.

Tuesday, May 21/ Team trivia at Mammoth Brewing Co. Time: 7 p.m. Free.


Thursday, May 23/ Riders in the Sky with Dave Stamey concert. 7:30 p.m. Charles Brown sings with the group in Bishop. Tickets: $45. Info: www.muledays.org.


TOWN STUFF

Friday, May 17/ Drive-In Movie Night on the Bishop Union High School front lawn. Movie: The Sandlot. BBQ @ 7:15 p.m. and movie at 8 p.m. BYO lawn chairs and blankets. BBQ Movie combos $10/$8 high schoolers/$5 kids. Movie only: $5.

Saturday, May 18/ The Eastern Sierra Chamber Orchestra and Chamber Music Unbound’s music students perform a free program of classical favorites @ Mammoth’s Cerro Coso campus. Time: 7 p.m. Will feature music by Gershwin (his masterpiece, Rhapsody in Blue), Schubert, Mozart, Vivaldi, Telemann and more. Soloists include Ari Schuld, piano; Arianna Pope, Liam Bassler, Alex Molina, violins; Alisha Thompson, viola.

Mammoth Mountain Wedding Expo. Time: 6-9 p.m. Location: McCoy Station. Meet the wedding specialists. Sample delicious menu items. Prices: $25 per person. Tickets can be purchased on-site. Couples who have a future wedding booked with Mammoth or June Mountain will receive 2 free tickets.

Grand Opening and Community Open House @ the Eastside Guesthouse and Bivy. Address: 777 No. Main St. in Bishop. All are invited to tour guesthouse accommodations & grounds. Bring a picnic blanket and beverage. Food will be available for purchase by Rock Creek Lakes Resort and Miller & Sons BBQ. Time: 6-8 p.m. Info: 707.974.1055

BUHS Broncos Fundraising BBQ. Western Style Dinner and Auction. Live music provided by Ron Rompus. Open bar. Time: 6-9 p.m. Location: Elk’s Bullpit Park, Line Street, Bishop. Tickets: $25 per person. Tickets can be purchased on-site. Couples who have a future wedding booked with Mammoth or June Mountain will receive 2 free tickets.

Sunday, May 19/ Preview with special guests Cory Shiozaki and Richard Imamura and then screening of the acclaimed documentary “The Manzanar Fishing Club” followed by a guided walking tour. Event starts 11 a.m. Location: Manzanar National Historic Site. Info: 760.878.2184.

Mule Days Bird Walks start today for the season. Time: 8 a.m. More info: See sidebar column next page.
**Mule Days**

May 21-26. 2019 marks the 50th anniversary of this one of a kind celebration of the American Mule. Bishop Mule Days Celebration is tough to explain if you’ve never attended...it’s part serious competition, part wild-west show and all fun for everyone. This year’s event will feature arena world’s premier western concerts, BBQ’s and of course the Main Street Parade. It’s free to stop by the Tri-County Fairgrounds to browse the wares of terrific vendors and check out the displays. On-site camping is available. For on-site camping and event tickets call the Mule Days office at 760.872.4263.

### Mule Days Decorating Contest

The Bishop Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring a fun contest for the purpose of showing our community’s Mule Days spirit.

All types of businesses are encouraged to decorate the exterior and/or interior with a western Mule Days inspired theme.

Entering the contest is easy. Just take some photos of your display and post them on your Facebook or Instagram page. Please remember to tag @bishopchamberofcommerce and use the hashtag #muledaysturns50 to enter!

This is a contest with no judging! Every business that participates will be entered into a raffle for nice prizes provided by the Bishop Chamber. Raffle winners will be chosen and announced on May 24th.

For more information, contact Bishop Chamber of Commerce 760.873.8405.

### Bird Walks Begin at Mono Lake

Mono Lake bird walks begin Sunday, May 19 at the Mono Lake County Park, 5 miles north of Lee Vining. It’s a free, self-guided walk to the shore of Mono Lake, observing water birds are among the birds that can be seen throughout this rich variety of habitats.

Participants will make their way from the parking lot under the old cottonwoods, around the willow thickets and onto the State Natural Reserve boardwalk to the shore of Mono Lake, observing a variety of feathered residents of this area. Bring binoculars, a hat and sunscreen. Birders of all levels are welcome. For more information call the Reserve at (760) 647-6311.

### Radio Observatory Open House

The Owens Valley Radio Observatory will host an open house on Saturday, June 8 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Tour one of the premier radio observatories, learn how radio telescopes work and find out about current astronomy projects.

Directions: Head east on Hwy. 168 out of Big Pine for 2 and 1/4 miles. Turn left onto Leighton Lane. Then four miles north and through the gate. Info: Dr. Mark Hodges @ 760.358.6410.

---

**AT THE MOVIES**

**Movies Playing This Week 5/17 to 5/23**

**PG**

**John Wick: Chapter 2**

*Motion Picture Rating: PG*  
*437 Old Mammoth Rd*  
*Movie Info Line (760) 934 3131*  
*Online*  
*DPalaceEntertainment.com*  
*7:00 PM*  
*Every Day*  
*4:45 PM*  
*7:15 PM*  
*7:30 PM*  
*I’m Tired of Fuckin’ with Ya At”*
The amended application was filed with FERC on May 2019-0066 (5/4, 5/11, 5/18, 5/25)

Statement Of Abandonment
Of Use of Fictitious Business Name Statement:
Mammoth Lakes Film Festival. Because I’d like to take you around the block – 17 blocks to be precise - on Saturday night.

I hope to see you ... at Mule Days, so I

REQUEST FOR QUOTATIONS
The Town of Mammoth Lakes (Town) is seeking Statements of Qualifications from qualified Consultants (Consultant) to develop the Mammoth Lakes Trail System Master Plan. The plan will focus on planning for trail system facility improvements and social media, website maintenance and improvements, and professional planning support for concepts derived from the Trail System Master Plan, Sherwin’s Area Recreation Plan, Lakes Basin Special Study, Walk, Bike Ride Action Plan, and other related efforts that are in various stages of project planning.

The Town of Mammoth Lakes works in partnership with local, regional, and state agencies, and internal and external partners to plan and manage the Town’s trail system. This partnership is essential for the successful management of the Town’s trail system.

The following persons have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name:

- James

in Mammoth Lakes, California. Responses to this Request for Statements of Qualifications (RFQ) are due at 4:00 PM, Wednesday, May 22, 2019.

The amendment was filed with FERC on May 13, 2019. The amendment reflects the use of under-ground pressure tunnels and cave type powerhouses in order to avoid land use conflicts or environmental concerns.

The fictitious business name was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County, Sept.9, 2014. # 14-110437 U.S. Highway 395 Cokeville, CA 96107

This business is conducted by a Married Couple. The fictitious business name was filed in Mono County, Sept.9, 2014. # 14-110437 U.S. Highway 395 Cokeville, CA 96107

This business is conducted by an Corporation. The registrant will commence to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on April 10, 2019.

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CANNABIS

continued from page 1

High School.

The building is allowed two signs, one freestanding by the road and one on the building, both no larger than 25 square feet. The commission was shown a crude design for the signs that included the name, Tioga Green, and drawings of trees and the green crosses that commonly denote the sale of cannabis.

Wayne Beaver stood during the public comment portion of the meeting to air his grievances with the retailer. Beaver said that the buffer zone of 600 feet was not enough. He said that children walk to school along 395 and high school cross-country runners jog that route, and both would be exposed to walking in front of the dispensary.

He thought that the buffer zone should be extended to 1,000 or 1,500 feet. Bush reminded him that the RPAC could have considered that yet chose 600 feet. Commissioner Roberta Lagomarsini also brought up the fact that Crowley Lake restricted cannabis retailers from being on children’s paths to school, but the ship had sailed for Lee Vining to do the same.

Stephanie Banta was the next Lee Vining resident to give public comment. She said that she did not like that this building would be the first that people see as they drive into town from the south.

“What does this say about the people who live in this town?” she asked. “That we support drug use?”

Banta said that this dispensary would be right at the entrance to Yosemite National Park where cannabis use is illegal, and that that might pose a problem. She spoke for quite a while, and started to get off track. She posited the idea that heroin use might increase with the opening of this dispensary, or that vandalism and home break-ins might increase. When she brought up kidnapping, Commissioner Bush stopped her. He reminded her that this discussion was meant to be about the location of this dispensary, not about cannabis use in general. He said that her comments really were more appropriate before the 2016 state vote on cannabis legalization, and said that legal cannabis use was approved by a large margin in the state of California.

Banta was the last of the public to speak, and then the commissioners gave their comments. Commissioner Chris Lizza said that he was also not happy that this dispensary will be the first thing people see upon entering Lee Vining. However, he said that the effects of alcohol have been proven to be much worse than those of cannabis, and he felt that it was okay to sell both of these products under the correct controls.

Commissioner Daniel Roberts said that cannabis has been in Lee Vining for as long as he has lived there. “My hope is that by controlling it,” he said, “it will be better regulated and will be less available on the black market.”

The board unanimously approved the land-use permit with the condition that county staff work with the owner on the location of the free-standing sign.

Both companies must now be approved for operating permits by the Mono County Board of Supervisors.
Taco Tuesdays Featuring $2 Tacos & $6 Agave Cocktails

Wednesdays
All Day Hump Day Happy Hour Pricing

MADE IN MAMMOTH LAKES, CA
New Specials: Taco Tuesdays $2 Tacos & $6 Agave Cocktails / Wednesday All Day Happy Hour
Free Spirit Tasting 2-3 & Happy Hour 3-5 Every Day / Open 11am - 11pm Every Day
100 Canyon Blvd In The Village At Mammoth / shelterdistilling.com

SHELTER DISTILLING
Small Batch Craft Distillery, Brewery & Kitchen

MEMORIAL DAY SALE
MAY 15 - 27

Get everything you need to paint in one trip or delivery is FREE!

BUY ONE, GET ONE
50% OFF

 участие ב-Optimus® ו-Aspire® ו-Clark® Kensington® גלים
כגון פעם אחת Leastest priced will be discounted. Limit 2 discounted bottles total. Mixing and matching. Only valid at participating locations only.

Bishop 444 South Main St | 760.873.5874
Mammoth 243 Sierra Manor Rd | 760.924.8876
www.HighCountryLumber.com • Find Us on

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JULY 6: ERIC MCAFADDEN, GUITAR VIRTUOSO
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SEPTEMBER 6: THE HIGGS, LEADING JAM BAND

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