Lee Vining H.S. students attended the Citizens Climate Lobby conference in Washington, D.C. earlier this month.

Tom left to right: Sabrina Cisneros, Fiona Godoy, Andrea Santillan, Ellery McQuilkin. See Trefry’s story p. 13

Yosemite National Park announced Thursday there will be limited access to Tioga Road (Highway 120 East) for visitors interested in crossing the Sierra.

Tioga Road will be open to all vehicles, including bicycles, from 10-11 a.m. and from 3-4 p.m. No parking will be allowed on Tioga Road and day use recreation is not permitted. There is no visitor parking available at either end of the road closure.

There are no visitor services available along Tioga Road. The Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center, Wilderness Center, and the Tuolumne Meadows Campground remain closed. Opening dates for the 2019 season have not been determined.

Restroom facilities will be available 5 miles east of Crane Flat Junction and at Tioga Pass.

Visitors are encouraged to plan their trips over Tioga Road in advance and to prepare for the restricted access and no access to visitor services. The road will remain closed outside of these times to allow for continued roadwork and snow clearing.

Cyclists traveling over Tioga Road will need to be prepared to cross over the full length of Tioga Road during daylight hours. Tioga Road is closed to overnight camping.

Backpackers planning trips in the High Sierra will be able to drop off and pick up at trailheads along Tioga Road. All backpackers will need to pick up their wilderness permits in advance and have a bear canister in hand. It is strongly recommended for all backpackers to be aware of the timing that the road is open and closed and to plan their trip logistics accordingly. Any backpacker who misses the road open period will need to be prepared to spend an additional night in the wilderness. All wilderness regulations will remain in effect.

All motorists should drive with caution and be aware of possible hazards in the roadway, including rocks, debris, and water. Tioga Road may be impacted by incoming storm activity, including snow and icy driving conditions, over the next several weeks. Tioga Road may temporarily close due to weather and unsafe driving conditions at any time.

For updated 24-hour road and weather conditions for Yosemite National Park, please call 209-372-0200.

The planning commission meeting Thursday was purely informational. The commissioners had a chance to ask questions about the plans submitted by the developer.

Commissioner Patricia Robertson opened up the questioning. She asked, why build a day-care and how will the daycare be managed?

Domaille said that he has a lot of young couples working for him, and especially a lot of young hispanic families, who he said often have more children, so a daycare is necessary. He said it would hopefully be run by local mothers and that it would be licensed. He also said that it would be open to the greater Lee Vining community, not only his residents.

Robertson then asked a series of questions about the housing. She was concerned that there was no stipulation for rent control on the units. Throughout the plan the 150 new units are referred to as “workforce housing units,” not “affordable housing units,” and she said that she wanted to make sure that these units are affordable for the community that rents them.

Domaille said that he currently houses employees of the Mobil and their rents are determined based on what they are paid and what they can afford.

“I need employees. Employees, in theory, need a job and a place to live … I am not going to make the rents so high that the units stay empty.”

Domaille said that he houses an employee currently who pays no rent simply because he is so valuable to Domaille.

Robertson then asked if there will be criteria for who can live in these units since there are too many for Tioga Inn employees to fill them all.

Domaille said that anyone living in this housing must be employed in Mono County.

“This is not for backpackers to use as a base camp for the summer,” he said.

This led Commissioner Scott Bush to ask what will happen to a resident who loses his job. Domaille said that there are no terms in this document for that event.

The plan proposes that the property be broken up into four separate parcels with the intention that each could be sold individually. Commissioner Roberta Lagomarsini suggested that Domaille was likely planning to sell the hotel to a larger company like Best Western that could manage it more efficiently.
“THE GROW”

Below right are the marijuana plants being grown behind Mammoth Nursery, in plain sight. We told Nursery owner Jenny Bouwman that we’d been alerted to the plants, and that they are in violation of Town Ordinance 18-02, which states that outdoor cultivation of cannabis is illegal within town limits.

In effect, she told us to pound sand. But it got us sand-pounders to thinking. The reason the Town’s so rudderless right now, and never mind Paul, is that we can’t seem to find any common ground on our various ideas.

So what if we combine them all?

Forget The Parcel. Too many hero-ball playing bureaucrats to make that happen. Forget the MUF. Too In-Tents. And rest in peace, Billy Buck.

How about The Grow? Housed inside a 25-acre translucent tent at Shady Rest Parcel. And we’ll grow marijuana there. Which we’ll sell, and become the wealthiest and most notorious ski town in America.

And we’ll place cots next to the rows and have the Town’s pizzerias deliver on an hourly basis, so we’ll fix the housing problem while we’re at it, and boost small business.

But as I get rolling on this idea, Gorman informs me that it’s been done before. I’ll let him take the keyboard from here.


The plot: Shore and Baldwin accidentally enter a giant dome while looking for a place to pee and get sealed into a closed-door, dome experiment with five environmental scientists for one year. They proceed to eat all the food too quickly, get pizza delivered to the dome, destroy various experiments and grow “Purple Sticky Punch.” Shore and Baldwin do a better job during the movie of explaining the plant’s benefits than we ever could.

Shore: “I know what you’re thinking, ‘Illegal! Illegal!’ But the value of Purple Sticky Punch goes way beyond just toking it. Ain’t that right, Professor Johnson?”

Baldwin: “That’s correct, Professor Macintosh. Purple Sticky Punch, or hemp, is an excellent source of paper. It makes a fine rope. It can even make a contaminant-free fuel. But the greatest value to us Bio-Domers is its rapid rate of photosynthesis, which means more oxygen for everyone!”

Speaking of bio-domes...

The Mono County Planning Commission unanimously approved a use-permit for a company called BASK Ventures to grow 10,000 square feet of cannabis in a building in the Sierra Business Park across from the Mammoth Yosemite Airport.

BASK Ventures is made up four friends who have lived in Mammoth Lakes seasonally; Brian Herman, Ames Ressa, Steven Kent, and Kyle Paben.

The proposed indoor grow-house would be 21,858 square feet. A 10,000 square foot cannabis canopy was approved. The building will have no windows or signage, and the odor will be mitigated to be no more obnoxious than other industrial facilities.

Brian Herman stood before the commission as the proponent of this project. He said that BASK hopes to grow about 2-3,000 square feet of canopy in its first year with only one grower and the four owner-operators on staff. It will not distribute, but will sell its product to a distributor. BASK hopes to grow its operation to eventually operate as its own distributor and cultivate the maximum 10,000 square foot canopy. Since BASK will not be a distributor it will not have a say over whether its product will be sold at retailers in Mammoth Lakes.

Commissioner Scott Bush asked purely out of curiosity how cannabis is priced and if there is a commodity market for it.

Herman said that there are essentially three tiers: outdoor, greenhouse, and indoor, indoor being the highest quality. From that baseline, exact pricing is worked out between the grower and distributor.

Roberta Lagomarsini said that this farm seems like, “the perfect location.” No opposition was voiced during the hearing from the public and no letters of opposition were submitted.

BASK now must receive an operating permit from Mono County Supervisors and a license from the state. BASK hopes to build its facility this summer.
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WEEKLY SPECIALS

Monday Bowling ‘N’ Beats
$4 games after 9pm, $2 shoes, Drink specials too!

Tuesday Taco Tuesday!
$2 street tacos, $7 margaritas and $10 pp timed bowling

Wednesday In the Biz Wednesday
After 9pm, $1 games, $1 shoes $4 for all draft beers and $5 well drinks

Thursday Pizza ‘N’ Bowl
$10 large one topping pizza (extra toppings $2 each) $4 all draft beer!

Friday & Saturday Cosmic Bowling
Fun under the Black Light

Sunday Kid’s Day
4-6pm, Kids Bowl FREE with paying adult!*

EVENTS & TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE
*Kid’s 12 and under, 1 Kid per paying Adult

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We are Planting Fish throughout the season.

Join us for breakfast or lunch at The Aspen Grill located in front of The General Store.
Pursuing the Green dream

Dear Editor,

I am writing in support of the Tioga Green proposal for a cannabis dispensary on the outskirts of Lee Vining. In November of 2016, California voters passed proposition 64, allowing for cannabis use, and allowing for local jurisdictions to develop appropriate regulations to address commercial projects. Mono County staff, Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission have been working diligently in each community to come up with appropriate ways to implement the state guidelines.

State voters approved Proposition 64 by 57%. Mono County voted at an even greater percentage than the state in favor of Proposition 64, at 62% in favor, and voters in District 3, which includes June Lake and Lee Vining, voted 64% in favor. Voters in the Lee Vining precinct voted in favor at 65.42%, higher than any other precinct in Mono County outside of the Town of Mammoth Lakes.

Recently I have become aware that some business owners, but by no means all, in Lee Vining have been circulating petitions, and speaking out in various ways against the Tioga Green proposal. Some of those signing these petitions do not even live or vote in Lee Vining, or Mono County. In any case, everyone is entitled to their opinion and to represent their point of view, however the Board, the Planning Commission and the public should recognize that many others in this community support this proposal, and a substantial majority of voters in this community voted in favor of the laws allowing this type of business.

Steve Barager
Lee Vining

Stop playing God

Dear Editor,

Growing up on the north shore of Mono Lake with both Wilson and Mill creek in my backyard, I have fond childhood memories of playing in the watersheds of both creeks.

I am very concerned that if not given equal attention and immediate protection, Wilson Creek will be irreparably damaged. The birds, fish, and other wildlife are suffering, while large populations of shorebirds will be forced to leave their Wilson Creek Delta home, and relocate to other sources of water. Resident brown trout, whose home was on the lowest portion of the creek, have already been killed. As a 4th generation resident of the Mono Basin, what disturbs me most, is how over the course of my lifetime, the local special interest “environmental” groups have used their platform and influence to supposedly “protect” and “restore” the resources of the Mono Basin, but only the natural resources of their choosing. While they play God, other natural resources are being ignored, simply because they do not provide a source of income or create enough controversy for them to fundraise over.

Steve Barager
Lee Vining

Hillary Hansen Jones
Mono Lake
Mono County CAO Finalists

After an extensive, nationwide search which resulted in the receipt of 45 applications, Mono County is pleased to announce that it will be interviewing three finalists next week for the position of County Administrative Officer. The finalists are:

Stephen Barwick was most recently City Manager for the City of Aspen, Colorado. He served the city for nearly 26 years, beginning in 1993, when he started there as Assistant City Manager, and he was City Manager for 19 years. Prior to his time at Aspen, he was Finance/Administrative Services Director for the Town of Vail, Colorado, from 1985-1993. Mr. Barwick has a Bachelor of Arts degree and a Master of Public Administration degree, both from the University of Colorado, Boulder.

Todd Bodem has 20 years of city/county management experience and was most recently City Administrator for the City of Sand City, California, where he served for four years. His prior management positions have been in Minnesota and include County Administrator for Waseca County, and City Administrator positions for the cities of Big Lake, Jordan, Belle Plaine and Red Lake Falls. Mr. Bodem has a bachelor’s degree in Local & Urban Affairs from St. Cloud State University, and a master’s degree in Urban & Regional Studies from Minnesota State University.

William Wasson just recently retired from McLean County, Illinois, having been County Administrator for the past 8 years. He started with the county in 1985 as a Park Manager and served in positions including Director of Parks & Recreation, County Administrative Services Director and Assistant County Administrator before becoming County Administrator. Mr. Wasson has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Organizational Management & Development, and a Master of Public Administration degree, both from the University of Illinois.

Two events will be held in Mammoth (to accommodate candidates’ schedules) and one event will be held in Bridgeport as follows:

- The first Mammoth event will be Sunday, June 23rd from 6:00 to 8:00 pm in the Board of Supervisors’ meeting room on the third floor of the Sierra Center Mall, located at 452 Old Mammoth Road.
- The second Mammoth event will be Monday, June 24th from 1:00 to 3:00 pm in Suite Z, located at 437 Old Mammoth Road.
- The Bridgeport event will be Monday, June 24th from 1:00 to 3:00 pm at the Memorial Hall, located at 73 N. School Street.

Light refreshments will be provided at all events. For further information, please contact interim County Administrative Officer David Wilbrecht at 760.932.5414 or County Counsel Stacey Simon at 760.924.1704.

---Press Release---

Body found on Whitney

SEQUOIA AND KINGS CANYON NATIONAL PARKS, Calif. June 19, 2019 - The body of missing hiker Ling Dao was located Tuesday afternoon on the north side of Mt. Whitney in Sequoia National Park and transported to the Ash Mountain Helibase in Sequoia National Park, where he was turned over to the Tulare County Coroner’s Office. Cause of death is under investigation.

Dao was reported missing to the Inyo County Sheriff’s Office on Friday, June 14 after not reporting for work.

According to the reporting party, Dao flew into Las Vegas on Tuesday, June 11, had planned to summit Mt. Whitney on June 12, drive back to Las Vegas after summiting and catch a red-eye flight back home, to be at work on Thursday, June 13.

The Inyo County Sheriff’s Office contacted the rental car company that Dao used and was advised that Dao had returned his vehicle at 10:00 a.m. Friday, June 14, but after continuing calls from family regarding Dao, the sheriff’s office decided to contact the rental company again, at which point differing information was provided.

A vehicle description and license plate information was requested and provided to the sheriff’s office, and later that day the rental vehicle was located in the Whitney Portal parking area, prompting search and rescue efforts to begin early on Sunday, June 16.

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks’ staff was contacted to assist with search operations on Sunday, June 16. Park staff confirmed that day that Dao was not listed in the Mt. Whitney register. Search efforts were halted on June 17 due to unsafe weather conditions. On June 18 park staff received notification that the point last seen for Dao had been the summit of Mt. Whitney, at which point search by aircraft continued in the area, and the body was found and recovered.

The search area was approximately 30 square miles of high mountain terrain. The search teams included staff from Inyo County Sheriff’s Office, Inyo Search and Rescue, Mono Search and Rescue, China Lake Mountain Rescue, and aerial reconnaissance from CHP- Inland Division Air Operations, as well as Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks.

Back-country conditions can still be hazardous this time of year with snow instability, ice, rock slide areas, and more. For current trail conditions please visit our website www.nps.gov/seki.

“Good news. We’re slow”

You know you’re in trouble when the most compelling part of a public meeting is the update from the Coroner’s Office, but ... that said, we’ll tell you what happened at Tuesday’s Inyo County Board of Supervisors meeting.

As Board Chair Rick Pucci said jovially when the Coroner’s agenda item came up, “Only good news from the Coroner’s Office.”

To which Coroner Jason Molinar re-joined, “Well, right now we’re slow.”

The Stats

There were 270 deaths in Inyo County last year. 175 required investigation, because a doctor wasn’t around at time of passing. The Coroner’s Office performed 35 autopsies.

Inyo County holds the dubious distinction of leading the state in opioid deaths per capita. There were three last year; one deemed a suicide and two accidental.

However, Molinar pointed out there were other drug-related deaths which were not necessarily labeled as opioid deaths, but opioids were a contributing factor. For example, a vehicle death where the person may have had opioids in their system at the time of the accident.

Darts, Spaghetti, Mud

The only other agenda item of note was an update provided by Planning Director Cathreen Richards regarding the latest Pumped Storage project proposal.

The proponent, Premium Energy Holdings, initially floated the idea for a project at Wheeler Crest. This was denied because part of the proposed project was located in a wilderness area.

Richards said FERC (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission) has also just shot down a Premium Energy proposal north of Hualiee dam on similar grounds.

“It seems Premium Energy is just throwing darts at the wall,” observed Richards.

“Darts, spaghetti, mud,” chimed in Supervisor Jeff Griffiths.

There is an existing application for a preliminary permit to study a site in the White Mountains which is not located in wilderness, but that application has not reached a stage where public comment would be solicited.

*Look for an update on the Pumped Storage issue next week.

---End---

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JLB OPEN LaserCat SAYS HOURS SUMMER 11AM - 8PM OHANAS395 OPEN 11AM - 4PM
SUDDENLINK HAS TERRIBLE CUSTOMER SERVICE
Is this news to anyone who’s dealt with the company locally?

By James

Techdirt.com recently posted an article regarding an annual survey that rates the customer service of various cable and broadband companies. Among the companies surveyed was Suddenlink (Altice USA), which is the only local cable and broadband service available to most residents in Inyo and Mono counties. It will not come as a surprise to many local Suddenlink customers that the company received the lowest score for its subscription television service, showing the largest drop in customer satisfaction of all companies surveyed. Out of a possible 100 points, Suddenlink scored a 55, a drop of 5.2 points in just the last year.

Walk into the local offices in Bishop with a problem and they’ll invariably hand you a slip of paper telling you to call a customer service representative located somewhere else. Poor customer service is a common topic in the communities of the Eastern Sierra, as it is in many parts of the country. Techdirt.com noted that the latest American Consumer Satisfaction Index showed that ISPs and cable providers continue to see the worst customer satisfaction scores in America. And a quick survey of many popular online review sites such as Yelp! show a score of barely 1.5 stars out of 5 for Suddenlink’s internet service, while others, at best, give it 3 stars.

Unexplained price and fee increases are often among the most common complaints made by consumers. Suddenlink increases in a cable bill are often never explained to the consumer, which is interesting considering that most of the companies have the word “Communications” in their title.

The most disgruntled customers often cancel their television service with cable companies and turn to satellite companies such as DirectTV or Dish or learn to stream the shows that they wish to watch. The overall average industry score for Internet Service Providers is 62. Only three had ratings above average: Verizon FIOS (70), AT&T Internet (69) and Altice (63).

At the bottom of the rankings: Frontier (55), MediaCom (56), and Windstream (57). (Suddenlink is owned by Altice, but the level of service provided can vary between different regions of the country.)

Streaming video sites such as Netflix, Hulu, and Amazon routinely have higher customer satisfaction ratings. In response to cable/television customer complaints, the above companies offer lower prices and more flexible channel bundles. Unlike cable operators, providers of streaming content must compete on price, whereas cable companies such as Suddenlink simply don’t. Most communities have no choice when it comes to truly high-speed broadband service that could foster pricing competition that might lead to incentives to improve cable company customer service or offer better products.

The news is not all negative for Suddenlink (Altice USA), P Chang said in the third fastest ISP it tested in 2018. Thanks to fiber optic cable increasingly being installed nationwide, broadband speeds have been doubling and tripling. The evolution of the Internet will likely continue at a faster pace as fiber optic cable is installed directly into homes and businesses. Gigabyte service is now considered the goal for many customers, and as more and more home devices and an increase in consumer electronics dependent on the Internet are created, more is better.

Suddenlink’s internet service, while

CAN TWO CREEKS MAKE IT WITH ONE PADDLE?
By Ben Trefry

Tuesday’s Mono County Board of Supervisors meeting featured a decades-old water battle reignited...the split of water between Mill and Wilson Creeks.

On one side: the Mono Lake Commit-tee, advocating for more water for Mill Creek, at the possible expense of the lower portion of Wilson Creek.

On the other side: People for Mono Basin Preservation (PMBP), a local group founded by Katie Bellomo in 1996, asking for the reverse. Both creeks are tributaries of Mill Creek, and both flow into the lake at roughly the same spot. Their water comes from the same place (Mill Creek above Lundy Lake), and they both support diverse ecosystems.

One important difference: while MBP is a natural, and blissful, diversion into Mono Lake since long before any of the ranches or developments in the north-ern Mono Basin came to be, Wilson Creek is essentially a diversion from Mill Creek’s watershed to support a hydroelectric facility operated by Southern California Edison.

However, it is a long-established diversion that has developed a natural ecosystem of its own. Water has flowed through Wilson Creek for more than 100 years, and it supports a brown trout population, as well as willows and other aquatic plants. Mill Creek has a brown trout popula-
tion too, and studies have suggested that there is insufficient water in the Mill Creek watershed to support healthy brown trout fisheries on both creeks.

Significant environmental impacts to Mill Creek have occurred as a result of diversions into Wilson and other uses; the previous multiple channels of Mill Creek near Mono Lake have consolidated into just one, much of the vegetation has been lost and the fishery has been affected. On May 13, while on a walk with her husband, Bellomo discovered that lower Wilson Creek had dried up (besides a few standing pools of water, which contained only dead fish). Bellomo brought the matter to the County’s attention during public comment at the June 4 Supervisors meeting. “Note: Wilson Creek isn’t completely dry right now, and the flow varies sig-nificantly day to day. The dry parts are further down, ‘past the DeChambeau Ranch. (DeChambeau, under the ownership of the Forest Service, is another user of Wilson Creek water.)”

With the above as backdrop, these were the respective pitches at Tues-\day’s meeting.

The Mono Lake Committee wishes to return water to Mill Creek and work on restoration.

“Mill Creek has developed over thousands of years and, when healthy, provides a home for native trout, waterfowl, and migratory songbirds that is rare amidst the dry sagebrush habitats of the region,” said Geoff McQuilkin, executive director of the Mono Lake Committee.

Bellomo’s proposal at the Board meeting was for the County to obtain a temporary injunction (restraining order) forcing Wilson to bring diversions from Mill back to what they were before what she refers to as the “experiment” of using a return ditch to put the hydroelectric facility’s outflow- back into Mill Creek. Then, she would ultimately like to bring the matter in front of the Mono County Superior Court and resolve this issue through litigation.

“[A temporary injunction] prevents irreparable harm, and the beauty of this is it doesn’t harm any of the par-ties,” said Bellomo of this proposal. Steve Parmeter, the Department of Fish and Wildlife’s department’s goal is to restore Mill Creek, and keep permanent flow in Wilson Creek at least as far as Decham-beau Ranch. “I can’t stand here and tell you there’s enough water to do much more than that,” he said.

Parmeter also recommended honoring existing water rights (meaning, more water to Mill Creek). This isn’t really an issue of reallocat-ing water rights to individual users, but of whether to preserve at-risk parts of Wilson Creek by giving it water that is beyond what’s provided in the water rights decree, and that prevents Mill Creek from receiving the historic flows that Wilson Lake Committee and others want to restore.

McQuilkin pointed out that Bel- lomo’s proposal to put water back into Wilson Creek would take more water from Mill Creek than is allowed by established water rights, and would bring water levels further from the historical, natural flow the Mono Lake Committee wishes to restore.

County Supervisors didn’t vote on or approve any action beyond writing a letter expressing concern and asking for collaboration and inclusiveness in future debate.

Board members seemed hesitant to pursue any action, because they felt that much of what they were being asked to do was outside of their pur-

see CREEKS, page 19
42nd Annual Summer Festival

David Cubek, Conductor

Friday, June 28th at 7:30 pm
Music of Vivaldi, Southers, and Haydn

Saturday, June 29th at 7:30 pm
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www.easternsierrassymphony.org
OWENS RIVER WATER TRAIL INCHES CLOSER TO REALITY
By Lunch


The bottom line conclusion of the 400-page report: No significant impact.

The 45-day comment period on the DEIR ends this Friday for the proposed Water Trail project.

The 6.3 mile trail would extend from just north of Lone Pine to the intersection of Highway 136 (which branches toward Keeler south of town).

As Supervisor Matt Kingsley, who represents Southern Inyo County, said this week, the project “would fulfill the dream and vision of the new Owens River.”

The DEIR and the comments it elicits represent just one more hurdle for a project that has been in the conceptual stages since 2013.

But it’s already come further than many had envisioned, thanks to the enthusiasm of user groups and healthy financial support from the State Resources Agency and the City of Los Angeles, which paid $540,000 for the environmental study.

The Vision

As Larry Freilich, the Inyo County Water Department’s Mitigation Manager who manages the LORP (Lower Owens River Project) said in a phone interview this week, while the County put together a Draft Recreation Use Plan in 2013 that referenced a potential Water Trail, the catalysts for action were the familiar names of Dick Noles, Randy Gillespie and Randy Short, who had founded Eastern Sierra Waterways with the idea of providing more wilderness access for the disabled, particularly veterans.

As Freilich explained, when the State Resources Agency visited in 2015, their vision was a trail along the river, but as Randy Short recalled, Eastern Sierra Waterways flipped the question on its axis: “What about a river as a trail?” And the possibilities got people excited. Short recalls then-Inyo County Supervisor Matt Kingsley saying “this is almost a trail in itself.”

For more info email info@basecampcafe.com

www.thesheetnews.com
THE SHEET | Saturday, June 22, 2019
TRAIL
continued from page 8

CAO Kevin Carunchio turning to him at one point during an event and saying, “When have you ever been in a meeting trying to build something and everyone’s in favor of it?” A rare, rare circumstance indeed.

And when do so many diverse partners who’ve disagreed so long about so much come together to do something very special for a user group that merits every ounce of their attention? The State Resources Agency?

It was convinced. It threw down $500,000 in grant money.

“Part of the reason it was convinced was due to the efforts of Friends of the Inyo, which has hand-cleaned 3,000-feet of river via volunteer events over the past several years. “The project couldn’t have gotten as far without volunteers hand-cutting tules and opening river,” acknowledges Freilich.

The State Boating and Waterways Commission (of which Short was a member) offered another $110,000 in grant money.

And as Friends of the Inyo Executive Director Wendy Schneider says, “It can provide a wilderness experience for those who can’t hike on the trail ... and this section of the river feels very remote.”

And to address another of Bancroft’s concerns regarding threat to archaeological or paleontological resources, Freilich said, “the area’s in a flood plain. The place has been scoured over and over again. Most stuff is either gone, or it’s deeply buried. The odds of finding items of significance are pretty low.”

And while some are concerned about increased visitation, others are pleased. “The Lone Pine Chamber is excited,” said Freilich. “They’ve had their backs to the river for 100 years. Now they might be able to turn and look at it and use it ... Lone Pine can now be a river city. How can we benefit from the new recreational capacity?”

To read the draft EIR and/or to submit last-minute comments, visit www.inyowater.org.
**A “SUPER AWESOME” FIVE YEARS**

By Gorman

Friday, June 21, June Lake Brewing (JLB) celebrates five years of making “Super Awesome Beer” in its warehouse in June Lake. Though the brewery has been in operation for five years, the story of JLB, the first brewery opened in unincorporated Mono County, begins over ten years ago, when owners Justin and Sarah Walsh decided that they wanted to leave Southern California and raise a family in June Lake. June Lake reminded Justin of the way his childhood had been in Encinitas: play outside when it’s light out, come home when it gets dark.

The pair saw a promising lifestyle in June Lake, but they didn’t see many opportunities for gainful employment. “The Walsh’s had backdrops in marketing and sales. They considered working for June Mountain, but it didn’t seem realistic.”

“They are much more of an accountancy based company, as well as, to a certain extent, an operations based company,” Justin said. “And I wasn’t gonna go learn how to be a gnarly lift guy in my thirties.”

They decided that they would have to start their own thing to be successful. The logic for starting a brewery went something like this: the number one natural resource in June Lake is water, water is the main ingredient in beer, and there was only one brewery within 130 driving miles of June Lake, so the market was wide open.

The pair saved their money for two years with the vision of a brewery in mind. When it was time to move to June, Justin spent thirty days as an unpaid apprentice at his buddy’s brewery. “I learned everything front to back about production brewing,” Justin said. The original location Justin and Sarah had in mind was the building that currently houses The Lift at the entrance of June Lake. They had the loan all lined up and the deal to purchase the building settled when the owner asked for more money at the last minute. Justin and Sarah had to back out.

“We said, ‘Sorry, we’re not independently wealthy. We’re financing this.’ The Walsh’s moved into their house and spent six months knocking down doors seeking any space that could house their prospective brewery. The original plan was to have an operation similar in size to Black Doubt, A three barrel brew system. “We couldn’t find anything even to do that, and we had the money saved up personally, liquid, to be able to do that 100% on our own without financing,” Justin said.

“If you think its difficult to find a place to live in Mono County, try finding a place to start a commercial brewery.”

Justin and Sarah Walsh

In that process we got the backing of Eric Drell, who said, “You know Eric, I’d really have to look inside it, I don’t even know if there’s any infrastructure in there.”

Already he was planning his new business model. This new space could produce ten times as much beer as he had planned to make. He would have to pivot to a bigger plan: greater production, more financing. “We knew at that point that we needed to get some money.”

The Walsh’s rented the space. They

See JLB, page 11

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liquidated their 401(k)s, asked their parents to do the same, and borrowed all they could from the three F’s: friends, family, and fools. Then it took six months of constructing a system to get running water and electricity into the warehouse. All the contracting was done by the Walsh’s or by friends for the cost of materials or for dinner and beer.

The only aspect of construction that wasn’t done cheaply was the installation of brewing equipment. Four state-of-the-art, 30-barrel fermenters were installed, much larger than the 3-barrel system that the Walsh’s envisioned.

The brewery opened on the summer solstice of 2014 with Sarah as CEO and Justin as Maker-of-Beer and Doer-of-Things.

The Growth

To start, Justin did all the brewing and Sarah managed the tasting room. There were no other employees.

All the original beer recipes came from Justin. He had no education in brewing, but both he and Sarah had been home brewing for years. Sarah had been brewing with her father since she was a teenager. JLB relied on the familial relationships between brewers for its success. Justin would run his recipes by brewer friends of his, and he would borrow a bag of grain here and there when friends of his, and he would borrow a bag of grain here and there when

One of Justin’s first brews, the Deer Beer, was inspired by his youth drinking too much Newcastle Brown Ale. He wanted to create a hop-forward brown ale, and now Deer Beer is by far his biggest seller by volume. A new 50-barrel tank in the brewery is dedicated exclusively to Deer Beer, which Justin said is smooth enough to turn beer-loving tourists into JLB-loving tourists.

JLB only distributes to a thirty-mile driving range from the brewery. It does not have the size to negotiate favorable terms with a distributor, so it distributes itself. While Deer Beer is the largest seller in the area, JLB’s largest sellers at the tasting room are its India Pale Ales. Hoppy beers are currently the rage in craft beer. According to the Brewers Association for Independent and Small Craft Brewers, India Pale Ales make up about 45% of the craft beer sold in the U.S. Tourists from Southern California love IPA’s, and so do the Walsh’s, so that has been what the taproom at JLB has focused on.

Sarah said a big part of JLB’s success has been bringing in the right employees. In five years, JLB has only lost two employees, and it has created 8 full-time, year-round jobs with benefits.

The newest employee is a head brewer to replace Justin.

John Morris is the “game-changer” that the Walsh’s hope will bring their beer to a new level. He was brought into the fold in May 2018 and has taken over beer production. Morris studied brewing at the Siebel Institute, worked as a brewer at Mammoth Brewing, and head brewer at Refuge Brewing, and Stadium Brew Pubs.

“Hiring a head brewer has been the plan since day one,” Justin said.

Morris’s first two beers as head brewer will be released at Friday’s anniversary party. The “Changing of the Guard” IPA is named after a joint tour of the bands Slayer and Lamb of God that Justin attended in the early ’00s. Morris described it as a “true west coast IPA... the type of stuff you would see in San Diego all the time.”

The second, Juice Rooster Hazy IPA, is the first hazy beer that JLB has produced meaning it is not filtered and hops are added late in the brewing process.

Part of the reason that the Walsh’s brought in a head brewer at this time is because JLB is shifting into a property development company. When they negotiated their lease on the brewery they were given right of first refusal on sale of the property.

Eric Drell and his family decided they wanted to sell not just the warehouse that the brewery is on, but all the land they own in June Lake. JLB had cash on hand because it intended to increase its capacity, so it took out a supplemental loan and bought all the land the Drells’ had to sell.

That includes the property the brewery is on, the June Lake General Store, Gordo’s Mexican Restaurant, and the lot next to it.

Justin is now working on the development of that land full-time. Gordo’s and the lot next to it will become the new general store. Construction slated for 2021.

The current general store is planned to be torn down in 2024. Justin said it likely be ten years before JLB can expand its beer production enough to grow distribution substantially.

The tasting room will be moved up to the highway level to have views of Gull and June Lakes. A new building will be built on the lower level for brewing, and will connect to the tasting room via a sky-bridge. Justin hopes that these structures will be built in the 2024-2028 timeframe.

Despite all this development, Justin and Sarah detest the notion that they are responsible for June Lake’s recent growth.

“A lot of bullsh*t has been bandied about over the years about how Sarah and I are responsible for the resurgence of June Lake and that’s just not true,” Justin said. “It was a confluence of socio-economic events in this country and in the west in general where people changed their discretionary spending habits... And we got all our friends and families to help us make it happen.”

“It’s just not our program,” he said.

“Check out the schedule for June Lake Brewing’s 5 year anniversary party on page 15.”
BERNASCONI CELEBRATION

Family and friends are invited to attend a Celebration of Life for Kathleen Bernasconi (1955-2018) on June 29 at 2 p.m. at the Shady Rest Park Pavilion located about a half mile north of Shady Rest Campground off Sawmill Cutoff Road in Mammoth Lakes. Kathleen was married to her long-time sweetheart and friend, Peter, for 41 years.

The two met while attending Owens Valley Junior High School. A favorite story told by family is when Kathleen and Peter were attending summer Band Camp at the now "Bernasconi Outdoor Education Center” in Big Pine, they were “caught” by Mr. Bernasconi, leaving the group and heading for the orchard.

"Where are you two going?" inquired Peter’s father.

"On a hike to talk about getting married and having four children," quipped Kathleen.

That is exactly what the future held for the couple.

After attending school in San Luis Obispo, and living in Benton City in Washington state where Kathleen graduated from Columbia College, Ventura, and eventually settling in Mammoth Lakes, they did, in fact, have four children!

Kathleen worked as an RN for over thirty years and had just recently retired from Mammoth Hospital, where she was well-respected in the Emergency Room. She was a hard worker, both in and outside of her career. She was an excellent cook and baker, often referred to as the "Martha Stewart" of the family.

Most of all, Kathleen loved her family and life, in general. Her weekends were most often spent with family working and playing in the mountains. She prided herself with having enough wood in the pile to last at least 3 winters!

"For more, see a nice article in the Mammoth Lakes publication of "The Sheet News" dated February 1, 2019 in the featured section, thesheetnews.com/2019/02/01/Kathleen-bernasconi-1955-2018/

In addition to her husband, Peter, Kathleen is survived by her four children and their spouses:

- Katrina and Travis Allison, of Ventura; Peter Gabriel and Kristin Bernasconi, of Bishop;
- Brian and Coreena Bernasconi of Ventura; Louis and Meryl Bernasconi, of Reno.

Kathleen is also immeasurably missed by her seven grandchildren, Kylee, Kiera, Kayla, Evan, Aubrey Rose, Leo, and Ava, all of whom were taught the proper use of a shovel, rake, hatchet and various other necessary tools while camping at Pismo Beach and the desert.

She is also survived by her brother Daniel of Independence, and her two sisters-in-law, Melva of Mt. Vernon, WA., and Jayne Ellen, of San Luis Obispo, nephews Reese Cooney, Matt and Simon Larson, Josh Ottum, and niece Brittany Couch.

NOBODY LEFT BEHIND - PERIOD

The No Runner Left Behind awarded eight $500-$750 scholarships to Mammoth High School seniors who are planning to attend colleges and universities in the fall. Pictured from left to right: Tomas Rodriguez (Sponsor), Lucas Strazzere, Tyler Goodwin, Lexi Craven, Coach Anna Strathman, Jacob Schroder, Gary LaBorde, and Robin Romagnino. These students participated in Cross Country and Track & Field during their four years at MHS. Mammoth High School Principal Chris Powell awarded the Principal Scholarship to Melissa Cook and Jose Solorio Cruz (not pictured).

In addition, Tomas Rodriguez and the Rodriguez Family Trust have created the "No Student Left Behind" Scholarship. This award was created to financially assist seniors who were not fortunate enough to receive a scholarship for whatever reason.

To apply, contact Kim Dudley, the MHS scholarship coordinator or contact Tomas Rodriguez at rarestjewels@gmail.com or call 310-629-7263. If you’re a graduating senior and plan to attend college or a trade school, "No Student Left Behind" will award you $250-500 towards your education.

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Mammoth Orthopedic Institute at Mammoth Hospital is pleased to introduce Stephen Knecht, M.D.

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Stephen L. Knecht, M.D.
Lee Vining students attend Climate conference

By Trefry

On Saturday, June 8, armed with suitcases, notebooks, and a desire to protect our environment and our future, myself and six other students from Lee Vining High School headed for Washington D.C. to learn about climate change and meet other climate activists at the Citizens’ Climate Lobby National Conference.

We flew overnight from Reno to Dulles, logging less than four hours of sleep before heading straight from the airport to the conference on Sunday morning. Those of us who attended last year (myself and Sophia McKee) immediately saw some familiar faces, while the newcomers of our group were introduced to the unique philosophy and strategy of Citizens’ Climate Lobby.

For starters, the Citizens’ Climate Lobby is non-partisan. It doesn’t donate to campaigns or endorse candidates for office, a breath of fresh air compared to the groups on both sides that have politicized climate change. This welcoming atmosphere made an impression upon all of us, and although the activists at the convention were predictably (mostly) liberal, there were also plenty of conservatives who might not have joined most other climate action groups.

“One of the most important realizations I had while at the conference this year was during a conversation our group had with the founder of [Citizens’ Climate Lobby]. While we were talking, Marshall Saunders explained that he formed CCL with the basis of love. I understood then that this was more than just a climate conference, but a way to bring people from all different backgrounds together,” said Sophia McKee of her experience.

On the subject of diversity—young people. Last year when I attended the same conference, I recall there being very few people under 50, and the majority of attendees were retired. This was counter-intuitive, given that young people are the ones who will have to live with the reality of climate change.

This year, that totally changed. As soon as we walked into the conference, we noticed how many more young people there were.

Both this year and last year, two students’ travel was paid for by California chapters of Citizens’ Climate Lobby, but this year 350 Mono Climate Action, another local climate action group, raised extra money to supplement this.

“It was empowering to see how even though I’m from a small town, I was able to be heard in the big city, in the big House [of Representatives],” said Andra Santillan, a conference rookie.

The solution to climate change advocated by Citizens’ Climate Lobby is a carbon fee-and-dividend plan, which would put a fee on carbon emissions, then split up the money collected from the fee and return the same amount to each US resident monthly. This way, 7 out of 10 families would come out ahead financially (especially poorer families), differentiating this plan from a tax that would take money out of the pockets of low-income families.

Besides telling others about our experience, upon our return, we’re planning to work on getting more students interested in protecting our environment, and making our community more sustainable. This includes helping with recycling programs at our school, asking the school board to pass a resolution in support of climate action, and planning events at school to raise awareness about the effects of—but also solutions to—climate change.

The size and energy of Citizens’ Climate Lobby’s organization, plus their overwhelming positivity, has inspired us all to do more.
**BARS & MUSIC**

**Happy Hour /**

- **Austria Hof**, Happy Hour 5-7:30 p.m. Daily. Tacos Tuesday and Polk Taco Thursday. More info: See ad p. 9

- **The Liberty Sports Bar and Grill**. Happy hour 3-6 p.m. (3-8 p.m. on Mondays and Thursdays). More info: See ad p. 11

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

**Morrison’s Happy Hour** Sun-Thurs., 5:30-7 p.m.

**The Mogul Happy Hour** Sun-Thurs. from 5:30-6:30 p.m in the bar with food and drink specials.

**Mammoth Rock ‘N Bowl**

- Mon. DJ 9:00 p.m. Bowling & Beats
- Thurs. DJ 10 p.m. Latin Night
- Saturday DJ 9 p.m. Info: See ad p. 3

**Clockwork Cellar Happy Hour** 4-7 p.m. daily. $6 dollar menu items, drink specials. Info: See ad p. 7

**Petra’s Bistro**, Happy hour 5-7 p.m. Signature cocktails. Wine by the glass. See happy hour menu p. 7.

**Robert’s Happy Hour**: 4-6 p.m. daily.

**Famous Slocums Happy Hour** Tues.-Fri 4-6 p.m.; Sat 4-5:30 p.m. Closed Sun. Mon. Dishing at 5 p.m., “No Reservations, just come on.”


**Giovanni’s Happy Hour** daily 4-6 p.m. Large pizza and a pitcher of beer gets you free wings. See ad on this page.

**Shelter Distilling Happy Hour** 3-5 p.m. every day and all day Wednesday: half off all drinks. Free Spirit tasting flight 2-3 p.m. daily, $2 tacos and half priced agave cocktails on Tuesday. See ad. p. 7.

**Bleu Daily Happy Hour** 5-6 p.m.

**Bleu Daily Happy Hour**: $5 Beer, Wine and Small Plates.

**Devils Creek Distillery**

- Tasting room
- Happy hour 3-5 p.m. daily
- $4 drafts.

**Black Velvet Coffee**

- Happy hour 4-6.
- Wine tastings on Wednesdays.

**Side Door**

- Check out t-o-go discounts on Village movie nights, Sundays and Thursdays.
- See ad p. 8

**June 21-22**/ **Jason Petty**: Hank Williams - The Lonesome Tour at the Edison Theatre. Jason Petty brings Hank Williams’ music and story alive in his one man show. Time: 7 p.m. Tickets: $20 general admission.

**Saturday, June 22**/

- **The Novelists**
- **T-Bar Social Club**
- Genre: harmonies and four part melodies. Time: 9 - 11:30 p.m. Tickets: $7-$10 with shuttle from Mammoth.
- **June Lake Brewing 5th anniversary party** featuring four bands and complimentary shuttle service to and from Mammoth. Time: 11 a.m. till 9 p.m. More info: See ad p. 3 and sidebar column next page.

**4th Annual Music and Moonshine @ Hayden Cabin.** Andrew Webber Blues Band plays. Drinks from Mammoth Brewing and Shelter and Devil’s Creek Distilleries. BBQ and desserts available. Time: 5 p.m. Tickets: $12, kids under twelve free.

**Driftwood Creek plays the East Side Bake Shop** as part of its prix fixe music and story Saturday series. Special event with optional winemaker pairing starring David Scheidt. More info: See ad p. 9

**The Red Steppes** from Brooklyn, NY play a free concert at the Black Sheep in Bishop 6:30 p.m.

**Sunday, June 23**/ **Sunday Brunch @ Gomez Restaurant and Tequilaeria** in the Village at Mammoth. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. DJ Rodney O and Mimosa/Bloody Bar.

**Derek Olson** plays the Mobil Mart in Lee Vining. Free. 4-7 p.m.

**Groove CRAter Method** plays Black Doubt Bowling, 7-9 p.m.

**Daughters Rea** plays Mammoth Brewing Company. 4-9 p.m. Free.

**Monday, June 24**/ **Bowling and Beats** at Mammoth Rock and Bowl. Live DJs Magaly and Chronofuscious and drink specials. More info: See ad. p. 13

**Tuesday, June 25**

- **T-Time** at Mammoth Brewing Co. Time: 7 p.m. Free.

**Wednesday, June 26**/ **In the Biz Wednesdays** at Mammoth Rock’n Bowl. $1 games and $1 shoes after 9 p.m.


**Thursday, June 27**/ **Pizza ’n Bowl @ Mammoth Rock’n Bowl**.

- $10 one-topping large pizzas and $4 drafts.

- **Bicicletas Por La Paz play the Mobil Mart** in Lee Vining. Time: 6-9 p.m


**TOWN STUFF**

**June 21-22**/ **Mammoth Jazzfest @ the Village at Mammoth.** Free. More info: See sidebar column next page.

**Friday, June 21**/

- **Summer Solstice Celebration** at the Tri-County Fairgrounds. Enjoy the longest day of the year. There will be live music featuring Hurricane, Skip Cooper, Bob Snow, Andrew Webber, and more. Free. 4 p.m. until sundown.

- **Bachar Lives! party** 6-9 p.m. Location: Mill Creek Station. Potluck, Camping available.

**Saturday, June 22**/ **Bishop Summer Kickoff** at the Bishop City Park, 11 a.m. ’til 3 p.m. Music, dancing, crafts, raffle, food, more. Info: betsymscmcdonald19@gmail.com

- **Bishop Creek Canyon Opens.** The roads will be open to Lake Sabrina, North Lake and South Lake.

- **Learn About Reptiles** at the ESIA Campfire Program. Time: 7-9 p.m. Free. Location: Old Shady Rest Campground Amphitheater.

**Sunday, June 23**/ **“The Great Race” Lunch Stop** in Bishop. This old car rally will host 120 of the world’s finest antique automobiles to town. The participants in the event will cover more than 2,300 miles from Mission Inn in Riverside, California to Tacoma, Washington over the course of 9 days. Location: Bishop City Park. Time: 12 - 3 p.m.
**EASTERN SIERRA MAMMOTH JUNE 21-22, 2019**

**TOWN STUFF**

**Sunday, June 23 (cont.)**

**Mammoth Half Marathon and 5k**

Start at Horsethjaw Lake and finishes in downtown Mammoth. Register at mammothhalffmarathon.com

**Monday, June 24**

**TEDD Fitness**

Experience the benefits of a community adult group training & conditioning classes. Free Introductory Workout Class: Monday, June 24 and Wednesday, June 26, at 5:30pm Limit of 4 adults per class. RSVP your spot: info@teddski.com See ad. p. 11

**Elder Abuse Awareness, Health and Resources Fair**

Demonstrations, a blood pressure screening, health education, an “Ask the Doctor” table, and raffle prizes. Free lunch served. Location: Statham Hall, 138 Jackson Street, Lone Pine. Time: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

**June 24-26/ Bishop Country Club hosts a junior Golf Clinic for kids ages 7-17 from 8:30-11:30 a.m. each day. Cost: One child $40, Two or more: $35 each. Info: steve@bishopcountryclub.com / 760.873.5828**

**Thursday, June 27**

**Bishop Paiute Community Market**

Local produce, artisan goods, food vendors, live music, and activities. Free and open to the public. Location: Owens Valley Paiute Shoshone Cultural Center, 2300 West Line Street.

**Business After Hours at Bishop Co-Work**

Enjoy complimentary appetizers, no-host beverages and meaningful conversation. Time: 5-7 p.m. Location: 180 Home Street.

**How To Train Your Dragon III**

At the Village at Mammoth. Free screening at sunset.

David and Gayle Woodruff continue

**TOWN STUFF**

**June 29-30/ Open Tournament at Bishop Country Club**

Entry: call the pro shop @ 760-873-5828 or by email @ steve@bishopcountryclub.com.

**Saturday, June 29/ "The Folk Collection" fundraiser concert at The Nazarene Church in Bishop. Famous ‘60s folk songs. Tickets: $25 @ brownpapertickets.com. Location: 900 West Line Street. Time: 7 -9 p.m.

**Trout Fest at Hot Creek Hatchery**

Learn to tie, cast, clean and cook. Free. Location: 121 Hot Creek Hatchery Road. Time: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

**Tintabulations handbell ensemble performs @ the First Untited Methodist Church, 205 N. Fowler St. in Bishop. Time: 7 p.m.**

**for Saturday, June 22 from 11 a.m. ’til 12:30 pm at the Lee Vining Library, which is ADA accessible. Address: 51710 Highway 395. For more info or to RSVP, please contact Deanna at EasternSierraSGM@gmail.com.**

**Mammoth Motocross**

June 21-30, is the summer’s best spectator sport with 7 days of competitions. Riders have ventured to 6 qualifying locations around California during the Road to Mammoth race circuit and are more than ready to bring home a coveted Mammoth Bear trophy.

**Saturday, June 22: 4-8 p.m.**

The Village Plaza Stage: Live Music in The Village at Mammoth. Bring your dancing shoes and get down to live music.

**Monday, June 23: 4:30 p.m.**

Mammoth Rock ‘n’ Bowl: Americore SMX Rock N’ Bowl Tournament Presented by Lucas Oil. Teams will go head-to-head for swag prizes, custom Americore SMX-made trophies and Championship rings.

**Friday, June 28:**

MotoCross Track: Podium Bash Presented by Kawasaki. Come for the Moto, stay for the party. After the awards, stick around the track for live music from The Sundowners.

**Saturday, June 29: 6-9 p.m.**

The Village at Mammoth: Pit Bike Challenge and Village Summer Jam. Riders get down for the annual Pit Bike Challenge on Canyon Boulevard then a line up of live bands will rock The Village Summer Jam, plus plenty of food and outdoor bars for all.

**Saturday, June 29: 9 p.m.**


**Kids Tennis Camps**

Children Tennis Camps starts this Monday June 24th @ Snowcreek Athletic Club Time: 1-3 p.m. Ages: 7-12 years old. Includes tennis instruction and swimming pool activities. Tennis rackets provided at no charge. June 24th - 27th July 8th- 11th July 22nd-25th July 29th-Aug 1st Need more information? Check MammothTennis.com or give Russ a call at 760.709.1737

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**JLB turns 5**

We are turning five and want you to party with us! There is no cover charge because this is June Lake Brewing. Beer, Live Music (four bands), Food, Beer, Fun and a FREE BUS FROM Mammoth! *Friendly reminder, no pets allowed* When: Friday, June 21 (11 a.m. to 9 p.m.) Where: June Lake Brewing, 131 S. Crawford Ave, June Lake, CA Yummy Food: Provided by Ohanas 395 & Gordo’s Mexican Food Beer specials: Release of Chingona Amber Lager. All beers will be $6 FREE BUS FROM MAMMOTH! Mammoth Bus will depart from the Village stop #18 (across the street from Old New York Deli)

*Mammoth to JLB/JLB to Mammoth 11:30 12:15 1:00 1:45 2:30 3:15 4:00 4:45 5:30 6:15 (last bus)*

This message is Berto the Borracho Bumble Bee approved.

**MS Support Group**

A Multiple Sclerosis support group is forming. The first meeting is scheduled
**Help Wanted**

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

- Front Office Recruitment Coordinator M
- Front Desk Medical Clerk B $16.5
- Production Line Machinist B $12.5
- General Laborer Plumbing B $18

See our full job list online at www.Sierraremployment.com.

Call 760.924.0523 or 760.873.8599 for our full job list online at www.Sierraremployment.com.

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**Hugs Ice Cream**

In the Village is looking for fun, happy people part or full time. Email us at info@hugsicecream.com if you're interested in being part of the Hugs family. Employees receive discounts for Hugs, Gomes's and Base Camp Cafe.

For more information, apply in person at the Breakfast Club. No phone calls please.

For More Info: mammothlakes-trails.org/PublicAccessFoundation/

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**Mammoth Rock & Bowl/Mammoth**


760-934-2414 or email absenteehomeowners@yahoo.com or call 760-934-6563

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NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF JAMES AMOS DEBLASIO

To all, heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the estate of James Amos Deblasio, deceased: Notice is hereby given that a Petition to Administer Estate has been filed in the Superior Court of California, County of Mono, resident of the State of California, Ward of the Court is the personal representative to administer the estate of James Amos Deblasio, deceased. All persons entitled to notify under the provisions of Section 13830(a)(1) of the Probate Code, or to receive notice as a creditor or a person interested under the provisions of Section 13800 of the Probate Code, are hereby notified to administer the estate under the Independent Administration Act, Section 7206, Probate Code (the “Act”). This petition will be heard on a date and time to be determined by the Court. If you fail to answer this petition, the personal representative may be appointed by the Court without further notice to you and, your property, assets, or any interest in the estate may be sold, distributed, or otherwise disposed of without further notice to you.

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Cancer: The Stars say that the first part of this year has been mean to test you and help build your character. Now that you have passed this test and a lucky year is beginning, please remember that change is good, that love and getting lucky are what it’s all about, and that Hemingway was right. “The world breaks everyone and afterward many are strong at the broken places.”

Leo: The Summer Solstice is always a good time for Leo. The reason is because the long days and lack of clothing have arrived to help energize you. It also reminds you to slow down and enjoy the sunshine, to smell the roses and to admire the great things in life like tan lines. So your new motto comes from a Yogi tea bag: “Happiness is an accomplishment.”

Virgo: Your motto is “You should start feeling like a superhero soon. But that doesn’t mean you should actually try to leap tall buildings in a single bound or start calling out, ‘I’m your captain, Starship Crew’.” It just means that you should realize that you can tackle any problem as long as you balance out work with fun. It will also help to wear more tight-fitting, revealing clothing and to embrace you inner “Captain Libido.”

Libra: With so much chaos and change going on in the world, you may be feeling a little miffed, or off-kilter. Don’t worry, the Stars say that how you should be feeling and that all you have to do is add to the equation some hope. It might also be good to add some vitamin sea. Stills and Nas. “What heaven brought you and me cannot be forgotten...you know love can endure and you know it will.”

Scorpio: This summer promises to be a full, positive and productive one for Scorpio. Since the sky’s the limit for you, it would behoove you to spend more time staring at the stars and daydreaming about what you want in your life. If it’s money, happiness or love, all you’ve got to do is realize you can make it. That’s why your new motto is, “You’ve got to believe in luck to get it.”

Sagittarius: To help you embrace this time of change and romance, please remember that all you’ve got to be is yourself, especially since everybody else is already taken. To help you in the amorous department, listen to Foster the People. “Come over here, sit next to me. See where things go naturally, just say the word and I’ll part the sea.”

Capricorn: Even though your sign is known for holding your feelings in check, the Stars are reporting this summer will have you feeling more emotion than usual. When a flower doesn’t bloom you cannot fix the flower; you can only fix the environment in which it grows. “Aquarius: Some folks say that if you’re not getting your hands dirty every once in awhile during the spring then you’re not living.” Your new assignment is to plant some flowers or a tree. To help, please find motivation from the undeniable fact that plants have all the answers and that Alice Walker nailed it, “If you pass by the color purple in a field and don’t notice it, God’s really pissed off."

Pisces: One of the only things that holds most Pisces back in life is that they’re always looking for the easy way out. But what they don’t realize is what looks like the hard way can often be the most rewarding. That’s why it helps to recall this Frank A. Clark line, “If you find a path with no obstacles, it probably doesn’t lead anywhere.”

Aries: If Clouds could sprinkle one magic ingredient in the lives of most Aries it would include spells of self-confidence. Even though most Aries know they are exceptional, they sometimes have trouble believing it. That’s why you’re always looking for the easy way out. But what they don’t realize is what looks like the hard way can often be the most rewarding.

Taurus: To celebrate the Summer Solstice, please work on getting some good karma by complimenting and being extra kind to other people. Lots of folks are in the midst of changes that are challenging but ultimately positive. That’s why it’s important that solid rocks like the Bulls of this sign are there for others to lean on. To help, try sharing lines sort of like this one from Muhammad Ali, “If you can make pinchcushion out of moldy bread, they can sure make something out of you.”

Gemini: In case you didn’t notice, now would be the perfect time to remember to stop and smell the roses. Not only because they should be blooming, but also because if you want life to appreciate you more, you’ve got to appreciate it more. So please take some admiration breaks before life has you quoting Shel Silverstein, “What did the carrot say to the wheat? Lettuce rest, I’m feeling beet.”
CREEKS

continued from page 6

that they ‘want to encourage collabora-
tion’ but collaboration has supposedly
been happening for 20 years and yet,
here we are,” said Hillary Hansen, a
concerned local.

Bellomo also felt that PMBP has
disappeared from the discussion and
the meeting had never been shown to
PMBP.

However, the return of water to Mill
Creek is hardly a complete surprise;
it’s consistently been one of the Mono
Lake Committee’s objectives, and in
2011, Edison obtained an order from
the Federal Energy Regulatory Com-
mision (FERC) that required the facil-
ity to return almost all of its outflow
to Mill Creek; the only water that goes
to Mill Creek is the only water that
can be helped by this. “There’s plenty of people out there that
believe in this,” said Michael McQuilkin, chair of IMACA’s Board of Directors.

McQuilkin also said that even before
the decision to move more water to
Mill, the lower portion of Wilson Creek
had dried up several times in the past
- even when Mill Creek was getting
significantly less than what the estab-
lished water rights held by Mono County, the United State
Forest Service and others.

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Forest Service and others.

Since obtaining that order from
FERC, Edison and the Mono Lake
Committee have been exploring op-
tions to return the water, and repairing
the then-defunct return ditch going
back into Mill.

Now that they’re moving forward
with the return ditch, McQuilkin sug-
gested that the needs of both creeks
could be better met by coordinating
the release of water from the hydro-
electric facility with the amount of
Wilson’s water being pulled out for
irrigation.

This kind of management can likely
reduce the chance of future fish kills,
but the fact remains ... there is only so
much water, and some concrete deci-
sion needs to be made

One thing for certain: You’ll be see-
ing a lot more of this issue in the weeks
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A sample of dead fish Bellomo collected
on her May 13 outing.

ONE ROOF AT A TIME

County to sell unit to IMACA for transitional housing

By Ben Trefry

For quite some time, Mono County has been looking into various
options for selling its Birch Creek Condominium (located at 40 Willow Ave
#5 in June Lake).

Last June, Mono County Supervisors announced an intent to sell the con-
dominium, most likely with deed restric-
tions that would keep it “perpetually
affordable” for low income families.

After discussion at its regular meet-
ing Tuesday, it appears the Board will
sell the unit to Inyo Mono Advocates for Community Action (IMACA), a non-
profit.

IMACA plans to use the unit as transi-
tional housing for those at risk of home-
lessness, meaning tenants would stay
3-12 months while they seek permanent
housing.

The Birch Creek Condominium was acquired by the County in 2002 as
housing mitigation for the Highlands development. Selling it to IMACA for
transitional housing would still fulfill that requirement.

Kathy Peterson, Director of Mono County Social Services, noted that the
location of the condominium is not perfect for transitional housing
Eastern Sierra Transit Authority (ESTA) currently provides no transpor-
tation from the condominium’s down-
canyon location.

But it appears need trumps logistic
ics, and as Alterra Resorts’ CEO Rusty
Gregory likes to say, “Don’t let perfect
get in the way of good.”

Or as Supervisor Fred Stump said
Tuesday, “If we waited for perfect, we’d
be right where we are today, forever.”

At its own board meeting last week,
Eastern Sierra Continuum of Care (a
coalition of service providers in Inyo,
Mono and Alpine counties, which part-
ners with IMACA) supported IMACA
purchasing the unit and agreed to
commit funds for the purchase when it
moves forward.

Of course, that may not happen for a
while, as it will likely be time-intensive
for the County Counsel and other de-
partments to work out the details of the
sale.

According to Peterson, the purpose
of bringing this proposal in front of the
Board on Tuesday was just to see what
they thought of it.

Fortunately for IMACA, every Board
member present was supportive, with
only minor caveats.

“The biggest caveat: more public
outreach to prevent neighbor hostility
toward the low-income families who will
ultimately occupy the residence.

Board members were very optimistic
about getting ESTA to provide some
form of transit in and out of June Lake,
making the condominium a more viable
option.

“I’m really excited,” said Carolyn Bal-
liet, chair of IMACA’s Board of Directors.

“There’s plenty of people out there that
can be helped by this.”

PUBLIC SERVICE
ANNOUNCEMENT

TRAFFIC & TRANSIT ADVISORY – SATURDAY, JUNE 29, 2019

Mammoth Mountain Ski Area (MMSA) would like to notify
motorists and guests of the scheduled traffic control
measures and route changes on Saturday, June 29 for the
Monster Energy Mammoth Motocross Village Bash produced
by MMSA. Below is an outline of the scheduled traffic and
transit impacts taking place as a result of this event.

TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURES

Lower Canyon Boulevard will be closed between
Lake Mary Rd. and Hillside Dr. from 11AM–10PM.

TRANSIT ADVISORY – MAMMOTH BIKE PARK SHUTTLE

New Route: Down Minaret Road, turn around near Sierra Star
Golf Course, stop across from the New York Deli in The Village.

LAKES BASIN TROLLEY

New Route: Lake Mary Road to “The Voodoo Chute,” turn on Lakeview
toward Canyon Blvd., crossing on Hillside to reach Forest Trail and
then stopping on Minaret in front of The Village below the Main Plaza.

TOWN TROLLEY

New Route: Main St to Minaret Rd., wrap around The Village on
Forest Trail and Hillside, then up to Canyon Lodge and down Lakeview.
NEW BUILDING RELEASE SHOWCASING HOMES AVAILABLE FOR SUMMER 2019 MOVE-IN
Luxury Mountain Retreats with Alpine Golf Course and Athletic Club at Mammoth Mountain.

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