**The Great Race came through Bishop for a lunch stop last Sunday. Prepare to be amazed by more cars like this 1916 Hudson Hill Climber. See photos p. 20.**

**PUMPED-ACTION**

Premium Energy keeps pitching local Pumped Storage projects. Owens Gorge is now preferred alternative.

*By Lunch*

Two months ago, Premium Energy Holdings, based in Walnut, Calif., proposed a Pumped Storage project for Wheeler Crest, which contemplated the erection of three large dams on Wheeler Ridge above the community of Swall Meadows, located within sight of Highway 395 in between Mammoth and Bishop.

While the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission denied this initial application for a preliminary permit to study the feasibility of such a project, Premium Energy has since filed multiple applications for other Eastern Sierra locations.

The latest filing was made this past Monday, June 24.

A proposal located entirely within the Owens Gorge has emerged as Premium Energy’s top alternative.

Two other proposed alternatives would also use the Lower Gorge as the lower dam/reservoir, with the upper dams/reservoirs proposed in the White Mountains adjacent to the Ancient Bristlecone Pine Forest.

Premium Energy CEO Victor Rojas told The Sheet Tuesday that he considers a project located within the Gorge as the best option for a number of reasons.

1. It already contains existing infrastructure and power plants.
2. He believes the project will not affect recreation in the Gorge.
3. The Gorge would require dams that are half the size of what would be required for alternatives #2 and #3.

[see PUMPED, page 28]

**A MAMMOTH S*%TSTORM**

Dog and human feces pose health threat

*By Lunch*

Ariane Weiner took her dog Chessler for a walk last Friday up at the end of Old Mammoth Road where the through-access to the Lakes Basin is still closed.

Weiner let Chessler, her 12-year-old Cairn Terrier, off-leash during the walk.

By the time the pair returned to the car, Chessler was a mess.

“I thought he’d had a stroke,” said Weiner. “He couldn’t stand. He was vomiting. He had diarrhea.”

Weiner drove Chessler down to the Bishop Veterinary office and saw Dr. Talbot.

Rather than leave Chessler there overnight (“He was snapping, jerking ... like he had an uncontrollable tic”), Ari snuck him into the Best Western so she could keep an eye on him.

[see FECES, page 18]

**MCWD FLUSHES HAYES**

Press Release

Tom Smith, President of the Mammoth Community Water District Board of Directors, has announced that Pat Hayes is stepping down after six years as General Manager of the Mammoth Community Water District.

This decision was reached after discussions between the Board and Mr. Hayes, which resulted in a mutual agreement that a change in leadership would be beneficial for the District. This change takes effect immediately.

“The Board is grateful for everything Pat Hayes has done over the past six years for Mammoth Community Water District”, said Board President Smith. “We believe that Pat’s passion for the District, his steady focus on its mission, and involvement in outside organizations like ACWA and AWWA have established MCWD as a leader in the water and wastewater industry. Pat’s leadership over the past six years has ensured the continued successful operation of the District’s water and wastewater systems in this challenging climate.”

The District’s Maintenance Superintendent, Mark Busby, has been selected as interim general manager. The Board will actively engage with the leadership team to ensure a successful transition and the existing high level of service to the community.
TIME FOR MAMMOTH TO BENCH THE STARTERS

“The Town’s information flow over the planning efforts of The Parcel may be a bit overboard. I can appreciate that they are trying to get people engaged in the process and are looking for feedback from people who normally aren’t expressive or involved. I’m not sure tons of mailings and advertising going to be effective. There is an old axiom in the real estate business that you “can’t advertise the market into activity.” I get the feeling the Town is just trying to buy some time until they figure out what to do. And again, the rules of the game have changed; the State is promoting workforce housing and supposedly has dollars to infuse, but the last round of federal tax changes have removed some of the corporate incentives to be involved in workforce housing. Push may come to shove. The Town may have to increasingly reallocate some of its bed tax (TOT) windfall into housing.” -Paul Oster

Paul Oster wrote the above in his newsletter earlier this month. Given Wednesday’s abysmally unproductive Town Council workshop on “The Parcel,” I think he was pretty much dead-on in his assessment.

You know what Wednesday felt like? It felt like the entire bureaucratic weight of the Town of Mammoth Lakes had its foot pressing the brake pedal to the floor. A no one knows what to do, and everyone’s afraid of making mistakes.

Public Works Director Grady Dutton said of The Parcel, “We’ve got one chance. We need to do it right.” He repeated this later in the meeting. It’s indicative of the mindset. It’s one thing to tell people they have to skate in a tent. It would be another thing to tell ‘em they’re gonna sleep in one. Town staff is nervous.


At one point she let slip that she worked on previous concept plans for the property 14 YEARS AGO while she worked for the Town.

Sure we can’t recycle anything from that? Why can’t we just scoop some Tollhouse cookie dough onto the baking sheet? Why do we have to make the damn cookies from scratch?

Members of the public tried to engage staff and Council. Kirk Stapp said the latest housing needs assessment determined that the Town needs 600 more units by some date in the 2020s. He may as well have said we needed infinity. We’ll never hit that number. Why even commission housing needs assessments?

“I would’ve charged $20 for my expert needs assessment. I would’ve told them we needed “a lot.” Stapp also mentioned that the maximum number of units the Town can build on The Parcel using affordable housing density bonuses is 344.

So Drew Hild, who has an ownership stake in the Sierra Center Mall, tried to at least commit the Town to that. Reasonable, right? If you don’t build the 344, where do the rest come from? Can you really settle for anything less than 344? he asked.

Hild was clearly trying to extract some sort of promise of... something. Some incremental movement forward. A tiny decision. Some sort of justification for attending the workshop so he could feel like the Town had made
MAMMOTH LAKES 4TH OF JULY WEEKEND ACTIVITIES

WEDNESDAY, JULY 3
MHS Boosters Old Mammoth Road
George Washington Crawl
3 - 7 pm • Register in advance at www.MHSBoosters.org
or at Refers beginning at 2 pm

THURSDAY, JULY 4
Lions Club July 4th Pancake Breakfast
7 - 11 am • Mammoth Mall parking lot
Mono Arts Council: Mammoth Celebrates the Arts
9 am - 6 pm • Footloose Sports parking lot
Mammoth Lakes Concourse D'Elegance:
Exotic & Classic Cars
10 am - 6 pm • Hayden Cabin at the Mammoth Museum
14th Annual Footloose Freedom Mile
8 - 10 am registration • 10:30 am race • Mammoth Creek Park
Info: www.MammothTrackClub.com
Fourth of July VIP Biergarten
10 am - 2 pm • Tickets: www.MammothLakesChamber.org
or Sierra Nevada Resort
Annual Mammoth Lakes 4th of July Parade
presented by Mammoth Film Festival
California's Highest Parade • 11 am
Old Mammoth Road to Main Street
Pops in the Park
1 pm • Mammoth Creek Park
Mammoth Museum July 4th
Family Celebration and Pie Contest
1 - 6 pm • Hayden Cabin at the Mammoth Museum
Pie Contest at 3 pm

FRIDAY, JULY 5
Mono Arts Council: Mammoth Celebrates the Arts
10 am - 6 pm • Footloose Sports parking lot
Mammoth Lakes Concourse D'Elegance:
Exotic & Classic Cars
10 am - 6 pm • Hayden Cabin at the Mammoth Museum
The Village at Mammoth 4th of July Events
Ducky Races 11 am • Chihuahua Races 3 pm • DJ 4 pm
Concert 8 - 9:45 pm
The Village at Mammoth Fireworks 9 pm

SATURDAY, JULY 6
Free Fishing Day in Mono County (no license required)
Mono Arts Council: Mammoth Celebrates the Arts
10 am - 6 pm • Footloose Sports parking lot
4th Annual Jazz by the Creek Brunch
10 am - 5 pm • Hayden Cabin at the Mammoth Museum
Tickets: www.MammothMuseum.org
Mammoth Lakes Concourse D'Elegance:
Exotic & Classic Cars
10 am - 6 pm • Hayden Cabin at the Mammoth Museum
Tickets: www.MammothMuseum.org
All American Picnic, .5K Fun Run and Silent DJ
at The Village at Mammoth
All American Picnic 1 - 5 pm • .5K Fun Race 3 pm benefiting
Eastern Sierra Conservation Corps • Silent DJ 6 - 9:45 pm
Summit Sunset Party Freedom Bash
Fireworks on Mammoth Mountain
• 6:30 - 9:30 pm • Mammoth Mountain Ski Area

SUNDAY, JULY 7
Mono Arts Council: Mammoth Celebrates the Arts
10 am - 6 pm • Footloose Sports parking lot
Mammoth Lakes Concourse D'Elegance:
Exotic & Classic Cars
10 am - 6 pm • Hayden Cabin at the Mammoth Museum
Romancing the West Musical
6 - 9 pm • Hayden Cabin at the Mammoth Museum
Silent DJ
6 - 9:45 pm • The Village at Mammoth

All events subject to change

VisitMammoth.com
#MAMMOTHLAKESEVENTS

NO PERSONAL FIREWORKS ALLOWED IN THE TOWN OF MAMMOTH LAKES OR MONO COUNTY
LETTERS

MLC “has lost its way”

Dear Editor,

I am writing in response to the recent article about Wilson and Mill Creeks (“Can Two Creeks Make it With One Paddle?” June 22, 2020). While I was happy to see the coverage of this important issue, the article contains some significant inaccuracies. They appear to have resulted from your paper being given misinformation.

The article is correct in noting that water has flowed down Wilson Creek for more than 100 years, and supports a developed natural ecosystem. The article is incorrect, however, in stating that People for Mono Basin Preservation (PMBP) wants to see an increase in flows in Wilson Creek. The community-based PMBP group does not seek increases in flows to Wilson Creek above those that have flowed there for more than 100 years. PMBP simply does not believe that flows should be cut off or greatly reduced without environmental review of the potential adverse consequences.

The article incorrectly states that a 2011 order of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) requires Edison to put most of the Lundy powerhouse outflow into Mill Creek. This is one hundred percent incorrect. A close reading of your article suggests this incorrect information came from the Mono Lake Committee. In fact, FERC said that allocation of flows between Wilson and Mill Creeks, downstream of the powerhouse, is “...a matter for the State of California to address.” FERC specifically stated that it did not authorize or require the redirection of flows into Mill Creek. (See 134 FERC 61,195.) We do not understand how the Mono Lake Committee can be confused on this point.

So, what has the California State Water Resource Control Board said on the subject? The Board, when reviewing a proposal to radically increase flows in Mill Creek by diminishing flows in Wilson Creek said: “The present level of flow in Wilson Creek serves a wide variety of resources including fish, wildlife, recreation, irrigation and scenic values which have not been adequately addressed or considered ... [T]he proposal to rewater Mill Creek at the expense of present flows in Wilson Creek has the potential for significant adverse environmental impacts.” (Order WR 98-05, p. 43.) It noted the need for an environmental review before changing historic flows in the two streams. The Mono Lake Committee was a party to the case where the Board issued this directive.

Your readers may wonder why Wilson Creek, a fairly obscure creek, matters. There are many reasons. Waterfowl is one of them. It is well documented by PRBO on Wilson Creek. (The PRBO study is also available on the MLC website in the “Clearinghouse” section.) Yellow warblers are nesting in lower Wilson Creek right now in the riparian habitat along the creek channel. The yellow warbler is listed as a Bird Species of Special Concern (Category 2) by California Fish and Wildlife.

Per your article, the Mono Lake Committee suggests that “established water rights” require moving water from Wilson to increase flows in Mill Creek regardless of environmental consequences. PMBP does not agree with MLC’s interpretation of the water rights decree. But more importantly, it is ironic that MLC tries to justify killing Wilson Creek and its habitat by citing old water rights and saying they must be followed regardless of environmental consequences. Had the MLC taken that approach when it was trying to save Mono Lake, it would never have challenged long-established water rights that allowed diversion of tributary streams. Mono Lake would not have been saved. The fact is the MLC, when it fought to save Mono Lake, argued that decades-old water rights had to be reexamined by the State since adhering to them was causing environmental destruction.

The community-based PMBP group feels that the Mono Lake Committee, which is the driving force in moving water out of Wilson, has lost its way. We hope that the MLC will correct its course. The diversity of habitat that Mill and Wilson Creeks together provide is incredible. PMBP wants to see both creeks continue as functioning ecosystems. The MLC or others may not agree. But fairness, and environmental laws, require a public process where science and differing viewpoints can be examined. After all, public resources are at stake. Their fate should not be decided by Edison and the MLC, or any other entity, behind closed doors. These resource decisions must be made in a transparent and public process.

Katie Maloney Bellomo
Spokesperson for People for Mono Basin Preservation

see MORE LETTERS, page 6
MAMMOTH MUSEUM

JAZZ BY THE CREEK

SAT JULY 6
AS PART OF A 4-DAY INDEPENDENCE WEEKEND CELEBRATION!

Live Jazz & Brunch Buffet
10am–5pm

FEATURING A CONCOURS D’ELEGANCE CLASSIC & INDY CAR EXHIBIT
Including Rick Mears’s 1992 Marlboro Penske PC21 Indy Car—
one of only six ever built & one of only two fully restored.

INFO WWW.MAMMOTHMUSEUM.ORG TICKETS
760-934-6299

ON THE BANKS OF MAMMOTH CREEK

INDEPENDENCE Celebration

STARTS THURSDAY, JULY 4TH WITH A BBQ AFTER THE PARADE
ENDS SUNDAY, JULY 7TH WITH A MUSICAL

THUR JULY 4
FAMILY BBQ & CONCOURS D’ELEGANCE CAR EXHIBIT NOON – 6PM FREE
AFTER THE PARADE: Hotdogs, Cupcakes, Lemonade, Pie Baking Contest,
Yard Games & Live Jazz/Funk Music. Food/Drinks for Purchase.
CONCOURS D’ELEGANCE: Exotic & Classic Cars on Exhibit

FRI JULY 5
CONCOURS D’ELEGANCE CAR EXHIBIT 10AM – 6PM FREE
Exotic & Classic Cars on Exhibit

SAT JULY 6
‘JAZZ BY THE CREEK’ BRUNCH 10AM – 5PM, TICKETED EVENT
Enjoy Live Jazz, a Delicious Buffet & Tour the Concours d’Elegance
Along the Banks of Mammoth Creek.
Yve Evans, Tom Rigney & Flambeau, Joe Gray, Jr. Ensemble

SUN JULY 7
CONCOURS D’ELEGANCE CAR EXHIBIT 10AM – 6PM FREE
‘ROMANCING THE WEST’ MUSICAL 6 – 9PM, TICKETED EVENT
Historic & Epic Documentary Meets Live Concert Performance
in this Critically Acclaimed Musical of How The West was Sung.

Parking and shuttle service provided between parking areas and venue.
Outdoor event, appropriate apparel & footware recommended.

INFO WWW.MAMMOTHMUSEUM.ORG TICKETS
5489 SHERWIN CREEK RD | (760) 924-6299

Mammoth Museum is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit and a project of the City of Mammoth Lakes Chamber of Commerce
Dear Editor,

It would seem that both Mono County and the Mammoth Lakes Town Council are poised to let another wonderful opportunity to build some affordable workforce housing slip on by.

The rapidly deteriorating halfway house on Davison is surrounded on all four boundaries by condominiums.

It would seem so sensible for the Town to get together with the County to leverage grant monies, building and planning expertise to build a Yotel type condominium but owned jointly by the County and TOML.

The CC & Rs could have stipulated that so many rental days each year should go to the local workforce, transient and otherwise.

A development corps using building department expertise and local contractors and labor force could have leveraged those dollars to maximum effect back into our town’s economy rather than to some out-of-town advertising or consulting firm.

Because market rate housing can be constructed for far less than “affordable” housing, it would have been very doable.

But that would assume we have people on our council and in our county who can think laterally.

But I guess that owning an appreciating asset is not as valuable a use of tax monies as gifting consultants exorbitant amounts or providing marketing gurus from our clown council as it paddles and splashes in the shallow end rather than swim out with real purpose.

Graham Inder
Mammoth Lakes
INYO GRAND JURY ISSUES INTERIM REPORT ON HIGH TURNOVER WITHIN SHERIFF’S DEPT.

By James

The topic of high deputy turnover at the Inyo County Sheriff’s Office was one of the key issues debated in the last Sheriff’s race between candidates Jeff Hollowell and Josh Nicholson.

While the issue appeared to gain little traction amongst voters, it was noted that low pay was a critical factor in the turnover rate.

Hollowell’s opponent also alleged that another reason for high turnover was for leadership in the department.

The Inyo County Grand Jury acknowledged the pay issue in an Interim Report released this week. It did not weigh in on the leadership question.

The Inyo Sheriff’s Department has long recognized that the issue of pay parity with surrounding law enforcement departments is a significant factor behind deputies leaving for greener pastures, which are literally just on the other side of the fence.

Some have criticized the timing of the report as there are labor contract negotiations beginning between the county and the deputies. When asked for his thoughts on the timing, Sheriff Hollowell said, “I don’t believe the Grand Jury knew about negotiations when it started the inquiry. I tend to agree with their findings, but I believe the county already recognized that before the [Grand Jury] report came out.”

Many deputies have left the department for higher paying jobs at the Bishop Police Department, Mammoth Lakes Police Department and Mono County Sheriff’s Department.

The report states that it costs Inyo County a minimum of $133,000 per person to send a recruit to a police training academy and to provide basic field training.

While the Inyo County Sheriff’s Department has put through 15 deputy recruits in training over the past three years, none of the three competing local law enforcement departments have had to do so in the past six years.

Nor have the competing local law enforcement departments incurred the expense of training new officers because its deputies are significantly underpaid by comparison to the other law enforcement agencies in the surrounding departments of Bishop, Mono County and Mammoth Lakes.

The Inyo County Sheriff’s deputies for the Inyo County Sheriff’s Deputies.

The difference in salaries is even greater when compared to the Mono County Sheriff’s Department or the Mammoth Lakes Police Department. The report found in one instance that there was a $1,038.00 per month ($12,456.00 per year) difference between an Inyo County Sheriff Deputy with the same rank, experience and education when compared to the salary of a Mono County Sheriff deputy.

Other findings in the report included:

- Inyo County Sheriff’s deputies work for $11,160 to $22,032 per year less than the officers and deputies in the surrounding departments of Bishop, Mono County and Mammoth County.

Raising salaries ... $1,038 per month would cost less than half of what is now being spent ... training new recruits.

-Inyo Grand Jury finding

The report concludes that the Sheriff’s Department is losing experienced officers because its deputies are significantly underpaid by comparison to the other law enforcement agencies within the county and adjacent to Inyo County.

A few of the points made in the report are:

- Inyo County spends an average of $133,729.25 to train a new deputy sheriff and it has trained 15 new deputies in the last three and a half years.

- Sixteen sheriff’s deputies have left the department in the last three and a half years. Of those, five retired, one resigned, two were terminated, and two left law enforcement altogether.

- Six of the deputy sheriffs went to work for neighboring law enforcement agencies.

- Deputies and officials still working for the Inyo Sheriff’s Department were interviewed and most felt that the salary issue was the main driving force behind the decision by their former co-workers to leave for other local departments.

In one example, the report noted that two Inyo deputies that left were hired by the Bishop Police Department at a starting salary that is $930 per month more than the starting salary of an Inyo County Deputy.

The Grand Jury’s interim report is available online at the Inyo County Superior Court website or by request at both the Bishop and Independence Courthouses. For more information or to obtain a copy of the report, the public can also call Alyse Caton in the Jury Services Department at 760.872.2859.
MLT WELCOMES NEW BOARD MEMBERS
By Gorman

Mammoth Lakes Tourism (MLT) begins a new fiscal year in July, and with the new year comes a changing of the guard. Three of the nine board members are being replaced. After his seven years at MLT, Brent Truax has stepped down as the mammoth lkes of Chamber of Commerce representative, with Jeremy Goico of Black Tie Ski Rentals taking the seat.

The two year, at-large seat previously held by Paul Rudder now belongs to Rhonda Duggan. And Matt Hammer will take over the Retail Seat from Sean Turner, who recently resigned from the Board. The Sheet spoke with each of the incoming board members on their backgrounds, why they wanted to join MLT, and how they hope to affect the organization.

Goico moved to Mammoth Lakes ten years ago. He is the co-owner of Black Tie Ski Rentals, which is in its tenth year of operation, and Mammoth Cycle Works, currently in its third year of operation.
He has been a board member at the Chamber of Commerce for seven years and currently sits as the chair of the customer service committee at the Chamber.
He said that he hopes to serve as the Chamber’s representative for at least four years and then reevaluate his desire to serve on the board.
Goico said that MLT is responsible for bringing people to Mammoth and the Chamber is responsible for ensuring that those visitors have a memorable experience while they are here. He hopes to bridge those two goals.
“Right now, there is a lot of synergy between MLT and the Chamber of Commerce,” Goico said.
“I hope we can give the local businesses the tools they need to succeed.”
Goico said that his business has given him firsthand knowledge of MLT’s influence on increasing visitation to Mammoth.
“MLT has done a good job bringing people in during months that traditionally have no visitation,” Goico said.
“With Black Tie Skis, our range of business has increased by 2 months a year and found that the funds couldn’t buy as much later as they could when they were put away. She said she has also seen the town spend money studying things multiple times unnecessarily.
“I don’t want to waste any more dollars,” she said.

Matt Hammer. Retail Representative. Term: 3 Years.
Matt Hammer moved to Mammoth in 1998 to snowboard. He was a professional snowboarder for 20 years, he said, “touring the world and having too much fun.” He spent some time designing clothes and manufacturing boards before he started Black Velvet Coffee Roasters in 2008. Originally just a roastery, the Black Velvet Espresso Bar was added in 2011, and Hammer opened his second business, Shelter Distilling, in 2017.
Hammer said that his love of Mammoth inspired him to join the MLT board.
“I believe that Mammoth is this amazing wonderful place,” Hammer said. “I want people to experience what I love.”
He cited a moment he had with a friend at Convict Lake as emblematic of the outlook. The two were riding bikes in the fall. The leaves were changing. Hammer’s buddy said he was pissed that there was such a big crowd of people gumming up the trails and making them wait.
“I felt the opposite,” Hammer said. “I want everyone to experience this.”
He said that he hopes to influence the way that MLT markets the Mammoth experience.
“There is more to Mammoth than what we’ve been selling,” he said.
“What makes Mammoth amazing is the people.”
“I think that Visit Mammoth has done a great job of getting people here, but I don’t know if, as a whole, we’ve done a great job showing them a great time once they’re here.”
Hammer said his most basic goal is to continue the forward momentum that’s already in place.
“I want to help everybody here squeeze out more profit so that my family can have more fun and the people coming here can have more fun. Hammer has never been on a public board before. He said he believes that what makes a board successful is a group of committed people with the right vision.
“I know that’s what it’ll be,” he said.
“That crew there is a bunch of amazing people. I’m stoked to be a part of it.”

Goico
SKIER DIES AFTER FALL IN WIPEOUT CHUTES

John Picard, 25, of Boston, Massachussetts died following a ski accident at Mammoth Mountain on Saturday, June 22.

At approximately 8:30 a.m., Mammoth Mountain Ski Patrol dispatch received a report of an unconscious male at the bottom of the Wipeout Chutes, located off Chair 23.

Patrol arrived on scene two minutes later and found a male skier in full cardiac arrest.

CPR and advanced life support was administered immediately and the guest was quickly transported to the care of paramedics where life support continued en route to Mammoth Hospital. Despite life-saving efforts en route and at the Hospital, the guest was pronounced dead Saturday afternoon.

Determination of cause of death is pending an autopsy report from the Mono County Sheriff/Coroner.

Witness reports state the skier fell near the top of the run named Wipeout 1 and tumbled downhill after losing a ski.

TIoga Road Open to Unrestricted Traffic on July 1

Yosemite National Park announces the Tioga Road will open to unrestricted vehicular traffic on Monday, July 1 starting a 8 a.m.

From now until the full opening, vehicular access will continue to be available from 10-11 a.m. and 3-4 p.m. daily.

There will continue to be no stopping along the road and no overnight parking. Park Rangers will sweep the road after each open and closed period to make sure visitors are utilizing the corridor only to cross the Sierra. Bicycles will be allowed during daylight hours throughout the weekend.

Visitors seeking information as general park information and restrooms will be available beginning Monday. Other visitor services, such as campgrounds, lodging, and the store and grill, will be opened incrementally throughout the month of July.

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

BLUESA SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

From Staffing Coordinator Elizabeth Weeks:

We are just beginning to put the schedule together and we have a lot of jobs to fill. If you’re interested in working the 2019 Bluesapalooza (August 1-4), you can either work for wage or work for trade.

For trade options ... Level 1: Volunteer at least 6 hours to be eligible for a free staff t-shirt, a 1-day festival ticket and one beer coupon*. All tickets include music & beer tasting, applicable to that day’s events, but do not include food coupons.

Level 2: Volunteer at least 10 hours to be eligible for a free staff t-shirt, a 2-day festival ticket and one beer coupon*. All tickets include music & beer tasting, applicable to that day’s events, but do not include food coupons.

*Beer coupons are good for one 24 oz. beer or non-alcoholic beverage. Must be at least 21 years of age to exchange.

“Beer coupons have no cash value and are good only at the event-site Bluesapalooza bars. All hours must be completed prior to getting the event wristbands. Info: www.mammothbluesbriefest.com/760.709.6279/bluesavolunteers@mammothbrewingo.com

BECOME AN AMERICORPS MEMBER

Eastern Sierra Land Trust has a great opportunity for an enthusiastic, conservation-minded young leader.

On July 1, applications will open to become a Nevada AmericaCorps Partnership (SNAP) AmeriCorps Member with this local Bishop-based nonprofit.

During their 11-month service term, this new full-time team member at Eastern Sierra Land Trust (ESLT) will lead and collaborate on education, outreach and restoration projects that engage the Eastern Sierra community in local conservation efforts.

ESLT’s new Education Coordinator and AmeriCorps Member will work on a variety of interesting projects with a high level of responsibility and creative freedom. They will lead ESLT’s Eastside Pollinator Garden Project, now in its 6th year of certifying pollinator-friendly gardens across the Eastern Sierra region. They will also be responsible for organizing youth and adult environmental education programs, field trips, seminars, workshops and volunteer-driven stewardship events on the land.

The service term for this position starts on October 16, 2019, and runs through September 19, 2020.

For more information, visit www.eslt.org.

APPLY FOR THE MONO GRAND JURY

The Mono County Grand Jury is seated from July 1st to June 30th, annually.

The court is announcing that the time for persons to submit applications for the 2019-2020 grand jury has opened and will remain open until Friday, July 12th. 2018-2019 Mono County Grand Jury Foreperson, Juliana Olinka Jones, summarized her two-year experience serving on the grand jury by saying, “This past year was my second term on the Grand Jury. It has been a wonderful experience. I was gifted with the opportunity to work with a group of dedicated fellow citizens, learn a great deal about local government and hopefully, make a difference. I highly recommend it.”

Mono County needs you to participate. Members are reimbursed for meetings, travel to meetings, and the group decides amongst itself the best meeting times and locations. Committees operate the same way. The time commitment is not huge, but the responsibilities are serious. It is a wonderful way to become involved in government oversight.

For more information on the Grand Jury and how you can participate, please visit http://www.mono.courts.ca.gov/generalinfo/jury-grandjury.htm or call Danielle Bauman, Executive Assistant at (760) 923-2321.

FOOD, WINE AND YOU

The Mammoth Food and Wine Experience has surpassed its ticket sales from last year, which means they are nearing their limit!

So get off your ass and buy your tickets and don’t miss out.

The Friday Night Wine Walk at The Village features 21 wineries—and you get to go home with a commemorative wine glass (fanily!).

Saturday’s Grand Tasting features 24 wineries, 8 local eateries, beer, dessert, and some fun auctions with excellent items.

And the eight seminars this year, are filling up fast (one only has 3 tickets left!).

Each seminar is limited to 30 people, so don’t delay in reserving your seats as walk-in sales are not guaranteed. For more information, see ad page 13 or visit mammothfoodandwine.org.

50% OFF EVERYTHING SALE AT THE BOOK CHALET

The Book Chalet (located across from The Stove on Old Mammoth Road) has got a huge sale on Books, DVDs, CDs and Audio books this coming week.

Lunch, FriYI, purchased a complete set of Churchill’s six-volume set on the Second World War at The Book Chalet for a criminally low price.

His house then burned down, demonstrating that karma is a bitch. But that’s his karma, not yours!

Sale hours: July 3, 12-5 p.m, July 5 & 6 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

All proceeds benefit the Mammoth Lakes Library.
TOWN REJECTS COMPLAINT CLAIMING TBID AMOUNTS TO “CONSPIRACY TO DEFRAUD”  
By Lunch

H is name is Jean Harris. He’s a retired City Attorney who formerly served the cities of Poway and Rancho Mirage. And let’s just say he’s a tad bit annoyed.

In May, Harris joined the Town of Mammoth Lakes with a “Claim For Damages Form” along with a three-page letter outlining his complaint. The full text of his complaint is included below. And while it’s not exactly the Mammoth version of the Mueller report, it’s pretty entertaining.

Mr. Harris alleges that the formation of the TBID in Mammoth Lakes amounted to a Rusty Gregory-led conspiracy to defraud the public and enrich the ski company. … Among other things, the Sheet spoke with Mr. Harris on Wednesday evening, as his claim was on the Mammoth Lakes Town Council agenda.

He was surprised that his claim was included in the Council agenda packet, figuring it would be a closed session item.

“I wouldn’t have gotten involved at all if this was so annoyed by Alterra wiping out the senior [ski] discounts that I started researching antitrust law,” said Harris. “From there, he added, “All I did was follow the money.”

He had his interest in pursuing this claim is in “trying to do the town a favor.”

On Wednesday, Council voted unanimously to have Town Attorney Andrew Morris draft a rejection letter to Harris’s claim.

“There’s no viable cause of action anywhere in here,” said Morris, who predicted the Town will be sued shortly after the rejection letter is delivered.

Mr. Harris was not surprised by the Town’s response. He said he has six months to decide his next course of action.

“They’ll want to see if I have the tenacity to go forward,” he said.

In the cover letter he wrote on May 15, Mr. Harris indicated that “The Claims are fluid, including the Plaintiffs, and amendments are likely.”

“I have researched the facts and law supporting the current claims made. I opine this to be a very strong plaintiff case.”

Members of Mammoth’s Town Council made no public statements regarding the Claim, simply choosing to reject it.

Mammoth Lakes Tourism Executive Director John Urdi said he’s had to spend about ten hours of his time responding to the claim and/or fulfilling requests.

Without further ado, here’s the Harris Report.

MAMMOTH LAKES TOURISM [MLT] IS A MUTUAL BENEFIT CORPORATION

1. MLT was incorporated on May 11, 2010, as a non-profit MUTUAL BENEFIT CORPORATION (Cal. Corp Code 7110, et seq). As such, MLT was formed for the mutual benefit of its members and not for the benefit of the public.

2. The Articles of Incorporation for MLT specifically provide its purpose to be “to improve the tourism industry in the Town of Mammoth Lakes” for the members of this corporation.

3. Cal. Corp Code 7111 provides that a Mutual Benefit corporation formed under CCC 7110 et seq may not dedicate its assets to public purposes.

4. Upon dissolution, the assets of MLT will be distributed to its members and not to the public.

UNLAWFUL GIFT OF PUBLIC FUNDS TO A MUTUAL BENEFIT CORP: MLT

1. As a result of the above, public funds cannot be transferred from the Town of Mammoth Lakes [TOML] to MLT for MLT’s non-public purposes.

2. Because MLT benefits only its mutural members, the TOML, its residents and the general public have no obligation to pay the salaries of MLT’s officers.

3. On or about July 7, 2010, MLT announced the hiring of John Urdi as the Executive Director of MLT. The TOML, its residents and the general public have no obligation to pay the salary and wage benefits of John Urdi to any employee of MLT or the Chamber of Commerce MLT serves.

4. After the formation of MLT, the TOML knowingly deposited Measure A TOJ, Business License tax revenue and other public funds into the account of MLT to be used for non-public purposes.

5. The deposit of said public funds into the account of MLT is a violation of Cal. Const., art XVI, no. 6.

6. All funds deposited by the TOML into the account of MLT may be recovered in a class action lawsuit. Plaintiff is a member of this class.

UNLAWFUL OUTSOURCING OF PUBLIC SERVICES TO MLT

1. Prior to 2010, the TOML employees were responsible for advertising and marketing the TOML as a destination vacation resort.

2. After the incorporation of MLT, the advertising and marketing activities, formerly vested to Town employees, was outsourced to MLT. As a result of this work having been performed by Town employees, MLT could not provide “special service” for the TOML. The outsourcing of marketing to MLT was in violation of Gov. Code sect. 53060 and 37103.

FRAUDULENT SCHEME TO PILFER PUBLIC FUNDS BY CREATING A MAMMOTH LAKES TOURISM BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT TO LINE THE POCKETS OF MSMA

1. Prior to 2013, Mammoth Mountain Ski Area [MSMA] had entered into airline subsidy contracts with various airlines to persuade them to land at Mammoth Yosemite Airport to bring people to ski. The cost of these subsidy payments were about $2.5 million annually. TOML was not a party to these contracts. As such, there is no public obligation to pay for these subsidies.

2. During the 2011-2012 period, Rusty Gregory, the CEO of MSMA, came up with the scheme creating new money to pay the airline subsidy contracts and also pay for the marketing expenses of MSMA, through a TBID assessment. Gregory, believing the Town would transfer these corporate expenses onto the shoulders of the local residents and visiting consumers without the need of a public vote to raise taxes. Gregory’s fraudulent idea was simply a scheme to raise the net income of MSMA to make MSMA more saleable.

3. To raise the funds Gregory needed to cover the MSMA corporate liabilities, Gregory’s plan was to impose an assessment upon all consumer transactions within the corporate limit of the TOML.

4. To complete the petition drive and also create the “association” that would receive the assessment proceeds, Gregory conspired with John Urdi, Executive Director of MLT. With the statutory 40% control advantage for MSMA, Gregory could assure that MLT would pay the MSMA corporate subsidy and marketing expenses from TBID proceeds.

5. By 2012, the Town airport litigation judgment, now at $43 million, had not been paid, the Town was in bankruptcy [Ed. note: The Town never formally entered bankruptcy] and the Superior Court judge had ordered TOML to pay the judgment. By late 2012, the Town had entered into a settlement agreement of $29 million, payable $2 million annually with the first payment due July, 2013.

6. The Gregory TBID idea would save the Town from paying summer airline subsidy payments it had been paying to MSMA [an unlawful gift of public funds].

FINANCIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:

7. At the behest of Gregory, John Urdi presented the TBID petition results to the Town Council in June, 2013. With that information Mr. Urdi’s financial conflict of interest was void.

8. On July 24, 2013, acting as the Town consultant, John Urdi presented the MLTBID “Agenda Bill” containing everything necessary for the Council to adopt the MLTBID and the contract with MLT as the “association” to hold and spend the assessment funds.

9. As the Town consultant, proposing the MLTBID, conditioned on the contract with Urdi as Director of MLT, Urdi had a financial conflict of interest recognized by California courts.

10. Also the Town Council set the adoptions resolution hearing for July, 2013 ab initio.

11. The vote of the Council was 3 to 2 in favor with Raimondo and Eastman voting in the majority. This time, Raimondo was owner of a defined “benefited” business as described in the approval documents submitted by Urdi. Eastman, the proponent, had a financial conflict of interest. These conflicts void the resolution of July 24, 2013 ab initio.

12. Public funds pilfered by Gregory’s 2013 TBID scheme equal approx. $45 million from the Town and approx. $250,000 from Mono County. These funds may be recovered in a class action lawsuit from Alterra, Gregory, Urdi, the TOML and others.

OVERBROAD SCOPE OF MLTBID CAUSES RESOLUTIONS TO BE FACIALLY UNLAWFUL AND VOID

1. Gregory’s overbroad scope of the MLTBID incorporated residential zoned property within the TBID. Assessing residential zoned property is expressly prohibited by GC 36632. Residential zoned property is “conclusively” deemed to have no benefit from a TBID. Each resolution is thereby facially unlawful and therefore void.

CONSPIRACY TO DEFRAUD THE MAMMOTH LAKES BUSINESS COMMUNITY, RESIDENTS AND TOURISTS

1. None of this unlawful behavior, to raise new money only for the mutual benefit of MSMA, Gregory, Urdi and the Town, could have been accomplished without the direct or indirect approval of all beneficiaries.

2. With the MSMA increased net income, MSMA was purchased by Alterra to become part of the Alterra resort cartel.

3. None of the local businesses benefited from this scam because the gross marketing, now controlled by MLT, remained the same as it was prior to the MLTBID.

see HARRIS, page 26
COME AND HOOK EM

We are planting lots of fish all season long.
Last plant on June 9, 3.81# Avg. Two plants coming up before July 4th.

NEW kayaks and paddleboards!

SCENIC horseback rides
Thurs-Tues
9:00am-12:00pm

Join us for breakfast and lunch at the
Aspen Grill
located in front of The General Store.
SHEET SURVEY

As we celebrate our nation’s Independence ...

The Sheet asked people on the street: Do you still believe the U.S. is the best country in the world? Why?

“Yes, Because you can quit your job and hike the PCT.”  
-TJ Fox, Milwaukee

“Yes, The beauty of the Sierra for one!”  
-Craig Everhart, Mammoth Lakes

“Yes, Women can grow and run corporations, have opportunities, and wear shorts and not be raped for showing skin”  
-Elizabeth Peterson, Mammoth Lakes

“No, Because Trump has divided our country.”  
-Lisa Brown, Santa Monica Mountains

“Yes, Older Americans understand the freedom we have and the cost. Millennials ... not so much.”  
-Terry Wilcox, Reno

“Yes, because we have freedom and equal rights, most countries don’t.”  
-Jeri Rienda, Mammoth Lakes/Huntington Beach

“Yes, but we could do better”  
-Christ Cotter, Mammoth Lakes

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“Yes, but we could do better”  
-Christ Cotter, Mammoth Lakes
9th Annual
MAMMOTH FOOD & WINE EXPERIENCE

JULY 11-13 2019

Friday, July 12, 2019
WINE WALK
AT THE VILLAGE AT MAMMOTH
15+ prestigious wineries pouring 50+ exceptional wines
Includes Mammoth Food & Wine Experience wine glass
5 - 8 pm
$50

Saturday, July 13, 2019
GRAND TASTING
AT SIERRA NEVADA RESORT & SPA
25+ wineries pouring 100+ exceptional wines
Local chefs showcase delicious tasting samples
Now including Beer, Cider & Dessert
5 - 8 pm
$125 FULL TICKET or $59 FOOD ONLY TICKET
kids 12 & under are free!

July 11-13, 2019
SEMINARS
THROUGHOUT MAMMOTH
Check social media for the latest
STARTING AT $30

For tickets & more information, go to: MAMMOTHFOODANDWINE.ORG
SOME THOUGHTS ON THE FIRST DEMOCRATIC PARTY DEBATE

By Gorman

Wednesday night’s Democratic National Debate acted as an introduction as much as a debate. 10 of the 20 candidates considered contenders by the Democratic National Committee were given podiums, with the other ten proceeding to debate on Thursday, and each had a message of self-actualization to push.

Elizabeth Warren, the only candidate of the night with double digit numbers in recent polls, cemented her place as one of the furthest left candidates on the stage, most notably when she and New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio were the only candidates to raise their hands when asked, “Who here would replace private insurance with a public healthcare system?”

She also talked about banning “weap-ons of war,” and increasing research on green technology by tenfold.

“Warren also needs a haircut because it looks like she has a chicken wing on the side of her head.”

Congressman Beto O’Rourke’s most memorable moment came during his opening question, when he used much of his time to speak in Spanish. Unfortunately, while speaking Spanish, he avoided answering the question on whether he would support a 70% income tax on the wealthiest Americans. His reticence to answer, combined with his defense of private insurance companies, further placed him as a centrist candidate. He otherwise appeared somewhat meek on the debating stage, often being interrupted.

New Jersey Senator Cory Booker would later imitate O’Rourke’s tactic of speaking in Spanish, but despite getting more speaking time than any other candidate, he did not make much of a splash on Wednesday. He delivered common lines about gun violence being a national crisis and the economy only working for a few at the top. These notions were shared by all on stage, and Booker faded into the fray for most of the debate.

Bill de Blasio and former Housing and Urban Development Secretary Julian Castro appeared to fare the best of the dying-to-be-less-known. Castro came across as young and dynamic. His stance on decriminalizing illegal border crossings to prevent child separations made Beto O’Rourke look weak by comparison. He also received resounding applause when saying that he not only supports reproductive rights, but “reproductive justice.”

De Blasio came across as a seasoned executive of a successful city. He shined when talking about racial justice with regards to his son, Dante, and he successfully interrupted O’Rourke to challenge him on his support of private insurance.

Of the more marginal candidates, Washington Governor Jay Inslee and Hawaii Congresswoman Tulsi Gabbard made the worst impressions. Inslee tried many times to interrupt people on a range of subjects and never made his voice heard. He also put his foot in his mouth on one crucial issue. He said that he was the only candidate to pass a law supporting a woman’s right to choose. Minnesota Senator Amy Klobuchar made him look foolish by saying there were three women on stage who fought hard for women’s rights.

Gabbard came off as a one note song. She clearly wanted to get across the point that she has served in the military, and that is essentially all she got across throughout the night.
WHAT WILL YOU DO FROM YOUR PAD?

Mammoth living – and we mean living – from the $300Ks.

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FULL OWNERSHIP & FULLY FURNISHED

833-YOTELCA (968-3522)  ·  yotelpadmammoth.com
Mark Lehman of Lehman Construction is building 5 new high-end condos on Manzanita Road in Mammoth Lakes. The condos are set to be finished next week.

Four of the units will be 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom configurations and the plan is to rent them at $2,600 to $2,700 a month. The fifth unit has three bedrooms and three baths. It has already been sold.

In light of the lack of development in Mammoth Lakes over the last decade, Lehman explained how he has been able to make this project work when so many others haven’t.

First off, he said that had his company not been both the owner and contractor, it wouldn’t have happened.

“It wouldn’t have penciled out to buy this and hire a contractor at $300-$400 a square foot,” Lehman said. “Since I’m a contractor, and it’s my own deal, it pencils.”

This property was on the market for about three years and went in and out of escrow multiple times.

“People saw how much it would cost to build and said, ‘No way,’” Lehman said.

Lehman, no relation to former Mammoth Mayor Matthew Lehman, said that it will be interesting to see how the affordable housing development on the Shady Rest Parcel will play out. When public money is involved, then workers must be paid what is called, “prevailing wage,” the contracting wage mandatory for employees on public works projects.

Lehman said that this could increase the costs of development dramatically.

The fees in Mammoth Lakes are a second factor that drive up the cost of development prohibitively, according to Lehman. He paid about $300,000 in fees for this development. The Town’s development fees, said Lehman, are pretty much “in line” with other municipalities. The Housing Impact Mitigation Fee was about $5,000 per unit for this development. The bigger fees come from the school district, water district, fire district, park, garbage, library fees, etc. The water district fee alone was $50,000.

A third factor increasing development costs are the high rates of subcontractors in Mammoth Lakes.

“Costs in Mammoth are 30-40% higher than they are down south,” Lehman said. The cost of drywall installation, for example, was bid at $125,000.
LEHMAN
continued from page 16
from a Mammoth company and $71,000
from a Bishop company. Lehman
wouldn’t name names, but he said that
a Mammoth heating, ventilation, and air
conditioning company wouldn’t even
give him a quote when it learned what a
company from down south was charg-
ing. Triad surveyors was one of the only
local subcontractors that Lehman used.
Otherwise, all the work was done by a
company from Bishop, Southern Califor-
nia, or in-house.
A fourth expense comes from law
firms suing builders for defects in
condos. Lehman said that as soon as a
condo is registered with the state’s condo
association, law firms reach out to own-
ers soliciting them to sue the builders.
Lehman said attorneys have reached out
to him looking for him to sue himself.
“IT’s a cash cow for attorneys,” Lehman
said.
California has slowly changed the laws
to allow for builders to correct a problem
once it is identified.
Lehman said that for this to work he
will maintain ownership of four of the
units and rent them for about 10 years
before selling.
Lehman lives across the street from
the condo complex, so part of his deci-
sion to develop this property was simply
having control over his neighborhood.
He said that he knew the property would
sell eventually. One day he ran the
numbers on the property and said, “Why
not?”
For information on the complex email
Manzanitateck131@gmail.com.

The 24th Annual
Mammoth Festival of Beers and
Bluesapalooza™
August 1-4, 2019 • The Woods at Mammoth Lakes

Mammoth’s Biggest
Party of the Summer
Our 24th year is our best ever with the strongest lineup of
internationally-known bands, four days of music on two stages,
and Saturday and Sunday beer tasting with 85+ brewerries!
Tickets are selling fast and likely to sell out!

Classics and Rising Stars—This Year’s Lineup Is Explosive

Buddy Guy
Trombone Shorty
& Orleans Avenue
Karl Denson’s
Tiny Universe
Charlie
Musselwhite
Jimmie Vaughan
Popa Chubby

Mindi Abair & The Boneshakers • Sugaray Rayford • Christone “Kingfish” Ingram
Southern Avenue • Shamarr Allen & The Underdawgs • Emily Wolfe • Sal’s Greenhouse
Dirty Cello • The Sextones • Reverend Tall Tree & The Blackstrap Brothers • Katie Henry Band
Chris Pierce • Kings & Associates • Katie Knipp • The Bald Eagles

The party never stops: late-night acoustic blues at the Minaret Stage Thu-Sat until 11:30 PM

Purchase advance tickets today at Mammoth Brewing Co. Tasting Room and save—no service charges!
Come see us at the corner of Minaret and Main Street.

Benefits the California Craft Brewers Association and Infinite Music. Featured Winery: Castoro Cellars.
Artists and times subject to change.

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Festival Hotline 888-992-7397
There are many words used to describe people’s reaction to dogs eating poop. Among them are “disgusting,” “gross” and “revolting.”

The technical term for it is Coprophagia, which is eating feces or dung. Fact is, most mammals do it, and even a few humans have been known to do it. (Hopefully, no one close to you.) But in this story, we are focusing on dogs and their owners “doo-doo” doing it in the great outdoors.

Dogs eating poop is usually harmless but not local veterinarians, but it can sometimes spread an infectious disease or parasite to your dog. It can also cause gastrointestinal results that result in vomiting and diarrhea. And as some dog owners are finding out recently, it can get your dog high, but not in a good way. It seems dogs can’t really appreciate a “good pot high.” It confuses them and, although not life-threatening, causes very unpleasant side effects.

The Call of Nature

Apparently, people pooping outdoors in nature is “a thing” in certain parts of Mammoth Lakes, where people are known to live out of their cars, particularly in the summer months, to avoid paying sky-high rents.

Others seek “relief” while out hiking or staying in camp sites, and are suddenly struck by the need to “drop the kids off at the pool,” in a manner of speaking – except there is no pool!

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR DOG GETS IN THE DOO-DOO

By James

There are several things to think about when your dog gets into marijuana. The biggest concern is that a dog might become so sedated that it might inhale the marijuana-laced poop.

We invite you to be a part of the Mammoth Lakes community housing solution!

• The Parcel is a Town-owned 25 acre vacant site zoned for Affordable Housing
• Join our conceptual Land Use Planning Process: Housing, infrastructure, public amenities, and recreation
• Public workshops to be held Jun-Dec 2019
• 4-day design charrette Aug 20-23, 2019
• We’re building on the strategies outlined in the Community Housing Action Plan

Plan The Parcel!

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Stay Informed and Involved

• THE PARCEL WEBSITE TheParcelMammothLakes.com
• NOTIFY ME email and text message sign up www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov/list.aspx

For questions or more info, contact Grady Dutton
Para preguntas o más información, comuníquese con Grady Dutton
TheParcel@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov
760.965.3659
found in human waste. "I’m envisioning guys in lab coats taking samples in the woods and marking locations with GPS coordinates," he said. "The more we know, the better decisions we can make," he added. "And right now, it’s more speculation [as to what’s in the waste] than anything."

Interestingly, Ascent does sell cannabis products tailored to dogs.

The Dogshit Issue

A more recognizable issue within the community has been the sheer volume of dog waste, especially as the snow has melted.

The Mammoth Lakes Recreation Commission discussed the problem at its June 4 meeting.

As Parks and Recreation Director Stu Brown stated in his staff report, "The prevalence of dogs off-lease at Shady Rest Park and the overwhelming amount of dog waste is not only a major safety concern for staff, but an escalating environmental issue for the community."

Brown noted that a Dog Waste Task Force led by Trails Coordinator Joel Rathje had literally removed several "buckets" of waste.

And if you don’t believe the health hazard part, Rathje said the reason his team did the cleanup is because the state forbids its prison inmates from cleaning up dog waste because it is considered a "biohazard."

Brown does not want Mammoth to become another Boulder, Colorado. He quoted a recent study by the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics. That organization tracked "canine defecation events" in Boulder’s open space and mountain park lands for a little more than a month last summer. "The area sees over 5.3 million visitors across 45,000 acres, resulting in 60,000 pounds of dog waste left behind."

And dog waste is anything but harmless fertilizer. "Dog waste is full of bacteria and parasites, poisons grass and lawn, transmits human diseases and pollutes waterways."

Recreation Commissioners Dan O’Connell and Laurel Martin believe that enforcement of the leash law (which can carry a fine of $150) would eliminate a lot of the problem.

Chapter 12.20.340 of the Town’s Municipal Code prohibits dogs on park property unless kept on a leash at all times. Removal of feces is required by the owner/custodian of the animal.

But do you really want your Public Safety officers spending their time on leash citations? And do you really want to send home visitors with a $150 penalty?

Stu Brown suggested signage, public education and a leave no trace/personal responsibility campaign might be a better idea for starters.

Why is it so difficult to build an Ice Rink/Multi-Use Facility? Baker extraordinaire Sue Eber sold made this one for Recreation Commission Chair Betsy Truax’s birthday, and it didn’t cost anywhere near $13 million!
THE GREAT RACE

By Gayla Wolf

The Great Race 2019, Vintage Rally! From the Inland Empire to the Pacific Northwest. Riverside, Calif. to Tacoma, Washington, made an afternoon stop in Bishop on Sunday, June 23 at the Bishop City Park. Below: Heading for the high country, classic cars pull out of Bishop.

Caryl Koch and Junter Mall, racing team drivers modeling their Great Race T-Shirts.

Clockwise three from above: A 1917 Peerless Green Dragon; Jeff Thomson admires American Legend 1932 Ford Speedster; Jim and Stephanie Hemmings of Motor News with Holy Smoke BBQ's Patty Hollon.

Above: Not all who wander are lost ... TAX!!!
Left: Stephanie Sigot Navigator, and Jim Menneto Driver and Publisher of the Hemmings Motor News in a 1932 Ford Speedster.

They love this Packard, owned by Brett Stahl

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Left: Stephanie Sigot Navigator, and Jim Menneto Driver and Publisher of the Hemmings Motor News in a 1932 Ford Speedster.

They love this Packard, owned by Brett Stahl
one baby step toward one poured foundation.
Instead, he was admonished for being way too far ahead of the process by Mayor Cleland Hoff.
"We’re just getting started," is what he was told.
I leaned over to ask former Councilman Colin Fernie to remind me when the Town bought the property.
Two years ago. And we’re just getting started. Christ.
So ... I’m going to give a shout-out to Mammoth Lakes Tourism here. I may not agree with the $3.5 million they give to their Sacramento-based advertising agency every year - it seems way too lavish - but you know what? It may not be the most efficient use of resources, but at least they get the job done.
Meanwhile, Grady Dutton and Town Manager Dan Holler are inefficiently NOT getting the job done.

For those playing Who Wants To Be A Master Builder at home, it’s time for Grady and Dan to call a friend.
And as I’ve said a thousand times before, call Andrea Clark, Mammoth’s first Housing Director and the only person who’s ever gotten any affordable housing built in Mammoth.
Clark is still in the biz. She works with her husband Caleb Roope, who is the Founder and CEO of The Pacific Companies (TPC). From Roope’s bio on the TPC website: “He has over 20 years of professional real estate experience with a concentration in affordable housing development, and over his career has successfully constructed more than 160 apartment communities for lower and moderate income families and senior citizens.”
Clearly, we can’t possibly use any of that.
So I called Clark this week. I asked her if anyone from the Town had contacted her. Nope. She them mentioned that TPC is working on an 11-acre affordable housing project for Placer County. The escrow hasn’t even been finalized yet, and TPC is already in the site-planning phase.
Mayor Hoff said at one point Wednesday, “If this was [sic] easy, everyone would be doing this.”
Lunch response: It may not be easy, but why do you have to make it so damn hard?
Council needs to tell Holler and Dutton it’s time to step aside on this one.
But honestly, I don’t think this Council has the heart or the nerve to manage its one employee (Holler) or stand up for its constituents.

Are dogs good for your health?
As a tie-in to our story about dog feces, (because we want to remind our visitors that this is a small-town newspaper bent on covering the biggest, stinkiest issues around), there was a story in The Economist this week concerning the “Global Boom in Pet-Keeping.”
A few observations:
“Pet-pushers have spent years trying to prove that animals improve human health, and have largely failed.
Yes, a study might say dog owners get out more and visit the doctor less, but that might also suggest comparatively sociable, healthy people are more likely to acquire dogs.
A study of California that tried to correct for social and economic influences concluded that having a pet is not associated with better general health. It is, however, correlated with having asthma.
But now for the good news. Pets are good for men trying to meet women.
“A decade ago, researchers positioned a 20-year old man in a park in Paris and had him repeat the same chat-up line to 240 young women. When the man lacked a dog, he obtained 9% of the women’s phone numbers. While holding a dog on a lead, however, his success rate rose to 28%.”
DOUBLING DOWN AT WAVE RAVE

This past Friday Wave Rave was set to give away 30 free shop decks as part of our annual Go Skateboarding Day celebration. The attendance was so significant that [Owner] Steve [Klassen] ended up giving away over 60 shop decks and 3 custom skateboard completes.

I’ve been a part of this event for the past eight years and I’ve never seen the turnout/vibe as strong as this one. I figured good news like this might be worth sharing.

-Todd Robertson, Wave Rave (and photographer)

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.

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.
**Help Wanted**

Experienced server needed. Prefer full time, but part time positions available as well. Please call or stop by and apply.

**Sierra Employment Services, Inc.**

- **Front Desk/Reservations M 14**
- **Housekeepers M 15 - 17**
- **General Laborers M 15 - 18**

Contact: 760-924-3091 or stop by at 3228 Main St in Mammoth Lakes.

**Mammoth Rock & Bowl/Mammoth Rock Brasserie**

- **Bartender, Brasserie Hostess.** Contact Todd Roberts at 760.934.2414 or info@rocknbowl.com.

**Mammoth Spa Creations**

- **Cabin Housekeeper.** Must be comfortable with basic electrical and plumbing issues. Must be willing to work any shift. Starting wage $15.60/hr.

- **Marina Personnel.** Carrying out daily operations of the marina such as assisting customers with their rentals. Rent keeps fleet in optimum condition. Ensure docks are well-maintained for customer safety. Starting wage $16/hr.

- **Store Clerk.** Cashiering. Must be willing to work weekends and late shifts. Stop by to speak with Buddy or send your resume to info@hugsicecream.com. We're interested in being part of the Hugs team.

Footloose Sports has an opening for a Full Time year round office assistant. Duties include but are not limited to daily operations, Human Resources, and Order Entry. The ideal candidate should be self-motivated, detail oriented and able to multi-task in a fast paced atmosphere. Microsoft Excel and Photoshop would be a bonus. We hope you will join our team.

Please drop off your resume or email it to lisa@footloosesports.com.

Creating an amazing and wholesome eating experience for our guests and adventurous travelers.

**Now Hiring Café Team Member:** Full time. Great Basin Bakery is seeking energetic, out-going people for part- or full-time cafe shifts. Excellent customer service, strong work ethic, enjoyment of a fun, fast-paced environment required. Duties include basic food preparation, POS operation, and cleaning/stocking the Café. Both early and afternoon shifts are available. May work evenings and holidays. We offer excellent benefits, competitive pay and great free food! Apply in person at Great Basin Bakery, 275 South Main Street in Bishop.

**Mammoth Taxi**

- **Services and clean driving records.** Experienced drivers with great customer service, strong work ethic and enjoyment of hard work are encouraged to apply. Full time and part time drivers are available, may work weekends and evenings.

**Best Western High Sierra Hotel**

- **Now Hiring Front Desk Supervisor permanent position.** $14-$18 DOE plus paid vacation. Please call to stop by at 522 Main St in Mammoth Lakes.

- **Mammoth Taxi is accepting resumes for experienced drivers with great customer service. No driving record is required, but driving record checks are also looking for office staff for the right person with great organizational skills and customer service background. Please inquire with Scottie at 760-914-7433. www.mammothtaxi.com.

- **Bleu Handcrafted Foods**

Hiring for food passionate individuals to join our baking team. Starting Team shifts start at 7am and Culinary Team shifts start at 10am. Based on your experience and interests, we will train and place you in the right role at Bleu.

- **Part Time or Full Time Send resumes to the restaurant@bleumammoth.com or call 760.709.6683**

- **Now to work one of the most beautiful resorts in the Eastern Sierra! Black Lake Resort is hiring for the following positions A.S.A.P:**
  - **Cabin Housekeeper.** Starting wage $15.26/hr.
  - **Cabin Housekeeper.**
  - **Marina Personnel.**

**Town of Mammoth Lakes Assistant Planner**

- **$50,482 - $71,033 + competitive benefits package**

Join a team of dedicated professionals in Mammoth Lakes and take the next step in your planning career!

Visit www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov for more info.

Application deadline: July 15, 2019.

**LUNCH continued from page 21**

Okay, before I continue farther I’m going to tell you a secret: I’m running on fumes here. It’s 8:17 p.m. I’ve got two columns left to finish (pages 23 and 27). I should just publish the nonsense stats from the Town’s Parcel “Outreach” presentation instead.

But I’ll kill myself first. You know, there were 13 Town staffers at that workshop Wednesday. For a total of 3 hours apace. The average age is around $125/hour if you factor in benefits. That totals about $5,000 from the taxeatching for that travesty.

As a dojovel to James’s story on page seven regarding the Inyo County Sheriff’s dept. salaries.

I recently made a public records review of the Town of Mammoth, City of Bishop, Inyo County and Mono County regarding wages and union contracts.

What was interesting to me were the adjustments made in 2012-2013. Let’s use Mono County as the example.

For the Mono Sheriff’s Dept., if you were hired before 2013, the retirement formula was 3% @ age 50.

After 2013, it became 2.7% @ age 57 for the Mono Sheriff’s Dept., if you were hired after 2013, you receive longevity pay of 6.5% of base pay after 12 years of service.

Per 2013, zip.

Same deal with the Mono County Public Employees, who are eligible for longevity pay if they were hired before August, 2011.

And in relation to retirement, if they were hired after 2013, they get 2% @ 62. It used to be 2.7% @ 57.

The Public Employees Pension Re- form Act of 2013 is credited with these changes, which I’m sure were truly initiat- ed by the Great Recession of 2008.

What I can’t find out is the Inyo County Sheriff Deputies contract. I would tend to go with James’s story regarding pay disparity, but I want to research their retirement deal.

As we reported last week, Mammoth Lakes pays more than Bishop, but the Bishop Sheriff offers superior benefits. Does the same hold true with the re- spective counties?

Shoot. I just found this in my notes. Ward Jones admittance to Town Council regarding The Parcel: “Go make a mistake. Do something!”

In regard to Graham Inde’s letter and the photo of 71 Davison Road, Mono County Supervisor Stacy Corless weighed in as follows:

Corless said Mono County Behavioral Health “hated” off on past does was “not good.” We are going to have an eyewear there for as long as takes for the County to figure it out.

“Print my number,” she said. “They can call if they’d like.” 760.920.0190.
24 | www.thesheetnews.com | THE SHEET | Saturday, June 29, 2019

calendar of events

BARS & MUSIC

Happy Hour /

Austria Hof, Happy Hour 5-7:30 p.m. Daily. Taco Tuesdays and Polki Taco Thursdays. More info: See ad p. 16
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. 14
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. 9:00 p.m. Bowling & Beats, Thurs. DJ 10 p.m. Latin Night, Saturday DJ 9 p.m. Info: See ad p. 20
Clockwork Cellar Happy Hour 4-7 p.m. daily. $6 dollar menu items, drink specials. Info: See ad p. 19
Petra’s Bistro. Happy hour 5-7 p.m. Signature cocktails. Wine by the glass. See happy hour menu p. 19.
Roberto’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. Dinning at 5pm, daily. “No Reservations, just come on in.” More info: See ad p. 7
T-Bar Social Club in June Lake. Entertainment virtually every night. More info: www.tbarsocialclub.com. Giovanni’s Happy hour 4-6 p.m. Large pizza and a pitcher of beer gets you free wings. See ad on this page.
Shelter Distilling Open 11am - 11pm Daily Happy Hour: 3-5pm Sunday through Thursday/Half Off All Drinks Taco Tuesday: $6 Blue Agave Cocktails and $2 Street Tacos All Day Thursday/8 Growler Fills All Day See ad, p. 6. 
Bleu Daily Happy Hour 5-6 p.m. $5 Beer, Wine and Small Plates. Devils Creek Distillery tasting room hours. 3-6 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. Location: Industrial Park (off of Meridian). 123 Commerce Dr. Info: 760.793.7131. See ad. p. 29
Blurry Velvet Coffee happy hour 4-6. Wine tastings on Wednesdays. Side Door. Check out t-go discounts on Village movie nights, Sundays and Thursdays.

June 28-29/

The Village Summer Jam at the Village at Mammoth. Line-up: Mestizo Beat, Jelly Bread, Gene Evaro Jr., The Lique, Jake Castillo Trio, Michelle & the Mix, Smokey The Groove, and Piddar Padder. Time: 10 a.m. - 10 p.m. both days. Info: 661.998.7106.
Saturday, June 29/

Sunday, June 30/

Sunday Brunch @ Gomez Restaurant and Tequileria in the Village at Mammoth. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. DJ Rodney O and Mimosa/Bloody Bar.
Darren Senn plays the Mobil Mart in Lee Vining. Free. 4-7 p.m. The Jaded Haters plays Mammoth Brewing Company. 4-9 p.m. Free.
Steven Graves Band plays the T-Bar Social Club in June Lake. Catchy hooks and harmonies. Time: 9 p.m. Tix: $7

Monday, July 1 /


Tuesday, July 2 /

Team trivia at Mammoth Brewing Co. Time: 7 p.m. Free.

Wednesday, July 3 /

Eddy Evans plays the Liberty Bar for happy hour jazz on the patio. 3-6 p.m.
In the Biz Wednesdays @ Mammoth Rock ‘n Bowl. $1 games and $1 shoes after 9 p.m.
George Washington Pub Crawl on Old Mammoth Road from 3-7 p.m. $40 includes signature cocktail or draft beer at Roberto’s, Rafters, Bleu, Mogul. Also includes GW wg. Event supports MHS Boosters fundraising campaign for weight room floor.
Enjoy New Wave Crane @ the T-Bar Social Club in June Lake. ‘80s Dance party. Starts 9 p.m. Tix: $12.

Thursday, July 4 /

Good Livin’ play the Mobil Mart in Lee Vining. Time: 3-7 p.m.
So Stoked plays Rafters post-parade. 12:30 p.m.
VIP Bergvaren at the Sierra Nevada Resort hosted by Mammoth Brewing Company. Time: 10 a.m. ’til 2 p.m.

Town Stuff

Friday, June 28 /

Social Ballroom Dance. Free, informal dancing. All are welcome. Location: Bishop Senior Center. Time: 7-9 p.m.
Green Drinks Networking meet-up at The Fort in Mammoth inside the Sierra Center Mall. 4-6 p.m.

June 28-29/

Eastern Sierra Symphony’s 42nd Annual Summer Festival includes FREE symphony orchestra concerts both nights starting 7:30 p.m. @ St Joseph’s Catholic Church in Mammoth. Conductor: david Cabek. Info: www.easternsierrasymphony.org.
Saturday, June 29 /

Trout Fest @ the Hot Creek Fish Hatchery. Free event features fishing for kids 15 & under, lessons on casting, cleaning and cooking, crafts, more. 8 a.m. ’til 1 p.m. Note: It’s impossible for your kid NOT to catch a fish. Directions: Take the Mammoth/Yosemite Airport exit off of Hwy. 395. Drive past turnoff for the airport, continue straight, take following right. Bodie State Historic park stays open until 10 p.m. tonight. Astronomer Dave Hurst presents “Star Stories” [free] starting around 8:30 p.m. Info: www.bodiefoundation.org/760.616.5040.
The “Folk Collection” fundraiser concert takes place at the Nazarene Church in Bishop from 7-9 p.m. Celebrate the folk revolution of the ‘60s all over again. Tix: $25. Benefit for Eastern Sierra Cancer Alliance, Owens Valley Hospice and Sierra Communities Aviation Mentoring. Location: 900 West Line St.
Celebration of Life for Kathleen Bernasconi. Time: 2 p.m. Location: shady Rest Park Pavillion.
**June Lake Triathlon**

Join us for the 13th Annual June Lake Triathlon - The Toughest Race in the Most Beautiful Place - on Saturday, July 13.

- Kids Mini, Adult Sprint, Olympic and Half Ironman Triathlons.
- AquaBike, Individual and Relay Team options.
- Physically Challenged Divisions as well.

Info: See ad. p. 21

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**E.S. Symphony Summer Festival**

The 42nd annual festival takes place at St. Joseph’s Church, 58 Ranch Road, Mammoth. All performances are free and open to the public.

**Friday, June 28th, 7:30-9 p.m.**

**Saturday, June 29th, 7:30-9 p.m.**
Felix Mendelssohn: Die Schöne Melusine. Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart: Violin Concerto #3 featuring 2019 Horton Kohn Young Artist, Avery Tracy. Johannes Brahms: Symphony #4

**July 4th**

Alright, folks. There’s a lot going on. We’ll do our best to lead you through it.

In Mammoth, the advertisement on page three represents a pretty good cheat sheet, but some highlights…

- 7-11 a.m. Mammoth Lakes Lions Club Pancake Breakfast in the Mammoth Mall parking lot. $12 adults/$8 kids.
- The menu’s pretty standard: Pancake, sausage, juice, coffee.
- But new this year - Bliss Handcrafted Foods will have a special seating section where you’ll be able to “Sipke Your Drink.”
- They’ll also offer fruit add-ons to your pancakes for a nominal charge.

Sierra Nevada Resort will host a Biergarten from 10 a.m. ‘til 2 p.m. Refreshments, et. al. Food will be available as well.

Sierra Club Bohler Canyon hike at mammoth Fire Station #1 from 12-3 p.m. There are fireworks at Crowley Lake and Independence around ten minutes south of Mammoth.

The cost is $25/car or $5 individual walking or bicycling in.

In Bishop, the firework show is at the airport. Gates open at 4 p.m. Fireworks start 9 p.m. BYO BBQ, coolers and shade. The suggested donation for cars is $20 to help support your local fire department.

**First Friday Markets are back!**

Eastern Sierra Artists is bringing back the popular First Friday Night Markets this summer.

Our First Market will be held July 5th from 6-9 p.m. Academy Street will be closed from Main to Warren and filled with fun arts & craft booths and community service booths.

Downtown Bishop will rock out to the tunes of DJ Mark Vincent’s portable entertainment system getting everyone in a dancing mood! Our bar will feature Mammoth Brewing Company beer, plus margaritas and mojitos. Owens Valley Distillery will offer tastings and four cocktails for purchase. Food will be available as well.

Please come and enjoy our Market! This free event has been made possible by a grant from the County of Inyo with support from the City of Bishop.

For more information, call/text Gaye Mueller at 760.937.2942. Booth spaces are available!

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**Town Stuff**

**Saturday, June 29/ Mammoth Motorcross Pit Bike Challenge on Canyon Blvd. Action starts 6 p.m.**

**Lower Rock Creek Work Day with SEMBA (Sierra Eastside Mountain Bike Assn.).** They’ll provide the gloves, tools, training, raffle prizes, and fun! Who: All ages. What: Trail maintenance, trash pickup, and rubble! Where: Park and meet between sections one and two of the trail, in the lot on the west side of Lower Rock Creek Rd. Time: 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Info: friendsortheymio.com/events.

**Historic Benton Hot Springs fundraiser dinner.** Dine in rarely-opened historic buildings and enjoy a fun and fascinating presentation on the history of Mono County’s oldest living town. Cater dinner and presentation is $50/person with all proceeds going to Historic Benton Hot Springs non-profit thanks to a Mono County Grant. Tonight: The Famous and Not-So-Famous Dead of Benton. For reservations, call 760.933.2287.

**South Side Tours @ Mono Lake** with the Mono Lake Committee and California State Parks. Naturalist-led tours every day at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. $3 fee. One-mile walk. Spectacular scenery.

**Tintabulations Handbell Ensemble performs** @ the First United Methodist Church, 205 N. Fowler St. in Bishop. Time: 7 p.m.

**Music & Psychodelic Healing @ The Imagination Lab in Bishop.** Starts 3 p.m. Join Ben Malcolm - Board Certified in Psychiatric Pharmacy (BCPP) at 621 West Line Street, Suite 204 in Bishop.

**Monday, July 1/ Free concert in Bishop City Park @ the gazebo.** Starts 8 p.m.

**Mammoth Lakes Housing Board meets.** 6 p.m. Suite Z. Minaret Mall.

**Tuesday, July 2/ Inyo County Supervisors meet.** Time: 10 a.m. Location: 224 No. Edwards in Independence.


**(editor’s note)** For more regarding all weekend activities at Hayden cabin, check out the advertisement on page five.

In Bishop, celebrate the annual “Big Day at the Park.” Schedule includes a free public swim from 1-4 p.m., arts and crafts at 1 p.m., music, free watermelon, ice cream and pie at 2 p.m.

In June Lake, join the Women’s Club at Gull Lake from 8 a.m. ’til 3 p.m. for a flea market, live music, carnival games, food and beverage.

Silver Lake Resort hosts its annual 4th of July Horseshoe Tourney and BBQ from 11 a.m. ’til 5 p.m.

In Bridgeport, it’s a weekend-long fair featuring craft vendors, kids entertainment and old town fun along with live music, rodeo, fireworks and a parade put together by local businesses, law enforcement, ranchers, community members and more.157th annual.

You’ve got two main fireworks options.

There are fireworks at Crowley Lake about ten minutes south of Mammoth.

You’ve got two main fireworks options.

The cost is $25/car or $5 individual walking or bicycling in.

In Bishop, the firework show is at the airport. Gates open at 4 p.m. Fireworks start 9 p.m. BYO BBQ, coolers and shade. The suggested donation for cars is $20 to help support your local fire department.

Although... Mammoth Mountain will be providing fireworks as part of its Freedom bash, but that won’t take place until July 6, and it is a ticketed event which involves a ride to the summit on the Panorama Gondola.

*For more information, see the advertisement which appears on p. 2.*

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**THE MOVIES**

**BRIEF NEWS**

- To order, call D. Freeland at 760.934.3131.
- Visit Movie Info Line at 760.934.3131.
- Visit Ticketing Online at DPlaceEntertainment.com.
- View the List of Movies Playing this Week:

**Movies Playing this Week 6/28 to 7/4**

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**MOVIE NEWS**

**Holiday Inn Express**

**Downtown Bishop**

Downtown Bishop will rock out to the tunes of DJ Mark Vincent’s portable entertainment system getting everyone in a dancing mood! Our bar will feature Mammoth Brewing Company beer, plus margaritas and mojitos. Owens Valley Distillery will offer tastings and four cocktails for purchase. Food will be available as well.

Please come and enjoy our Market! This free event has been made possible by a grant from the County of Inyo with support from the City of Bishop.

For more information, call/text Gaye Mueller at 760.937.2942. Booth spaces are available!
I hope folks have had a chance to pick up a copy of The Sheet’s Eastern Sierra Summer Guide, which hit the shelves last Friday.

Aleksandra Mendel truly did a fabulous job putting the book together.

One of the stories in this year’s publication talks about Robert Joki and the two 1992 Penske racing team cars which he has restored.

The cars will make an appearance in this year’s 4th of July Parade in Mammoth and will be featured in next weekend’s Concours d’Elegance car show at Mammoth Museum’s Hayden Cabin.

A few details which were omitted from the Summer Guide story due to space considerations:

1. Robert Joki is a big, big guy. He’s gotta be 6’5” minimum. And he’s built like a mountain. So one of the fascinating things about his Indy car obsession is the fact that he restores cars that he’ll never be able to drive. He can’t fit.

“Race car drivers are built like jockeys,” Joki observed while I was out visiting him at his airport hangar in Mammoth where his cars are currently stored.

Though he said Indy driver Paul Tracy has offered to strap him to the wing of the Mears car and take him for a lap if he wants.

2. The explanation for Joki’s obsession lies, I think, in the fact that Rick Mears is his favorite athlete of all time.

And I guess I’ve never met someone whose favorite athlete is a driver.

Mears grew up in Bakersfield. He won the Indianapolis 500 four times, tied with A.J. Foyt for most ever.

The speedway car you’ll see this weekend was the same car Mears used to reach his final podium, a 2nd at Surfer’s Paradise.

After he wrecked at Indy in May, 1992, Mears never raced again.

3. Speedway cars, explained Joki, have no brake ducts. Why? You only use your brakes in Indy racing to go to the pits, so there’s no risk of overheating.

“If you’re using brakes for anything [on the track],” said Joki with a twinkle, “that probably means you’re not winning.”

4. Joki bought the car in 2005. It took about ten years to restore. Original Penske team members who were pivotal in the restoration process were John Cummiskey and Chuck Cornelison.

5. When Joki bought the Mears car, it didn’t have an engine, and Joki thought it was an absolute impossibility to acquire one. After all, Penske only built six cars for that racing season.

But as he explains, “We paid to restore one guy’s two engines … in return, an engine magically appeared on our loading dock.”

He still doesn’t know where it came from.

Some of Joki’s photo albums will be on display at the museum for 4th of July weekend.

And a final little piece of trivia. That “Marlboro” you’ll see placed prominently on the Mears car—these days, you’re not allowed to put “Marlboro” on cars as a sponsor anymore. Only the logo.

Hope to see you all on Victory Lane.

Happy 4th.
So this is how a Pumped Storage project works and why there is interest in it.

During the day, water is pumped uphill, using cheap solar power generated during daytime hours, to upper reservoirs.

At night, water is released, generating power during peak demand periods.

In short, electricity arbitrage.

Proponents say this type of system is far more efficient than using massive lithium-ion batteries for energy storage.

Steve Evans of CalWild (based in Oakland) believes the new push for such projects has been spurred by cities like L.A. which have passed green mandates calling for 100% renewable power by 2030.

Evans said the Pumped Storage craze reminds him of the 1980s when passage of the Federal Power Act set off a rush to create small hydroelectric projects, particularly on public land.

This led to a “paper fight” between potential energy developers and environmentalists.

The upshot: A few projects got done. But not a lot.

Evans characterizes Premium Energy’s six filings for the Eastern Sierra over the past three months as “Hydro Whac-A-Mole.”

“California has 1,400 dams,” says Evans. “Why not use existing facilities versus create [new ones] in undeveloped areas?” he asked rhetorically.

So The Sheet then asked him to answer his own question.

“Because they [Premium Energy] don’t own it [existing dams/infrastructure],” he laughed.

Although he did point out Los Angeles Department of Water and Power could build its own project using Crowley Lake and the Pleasant Valley Reservoir as the nodes.

The Sheet bit again. Why isn’t LADWP pushing that?

Because, said Evans, several utilities, including PG & E and SMUD (Sacramento Municipal Utility District) are already walking away from their own Pumped Storage projects because they do not pencil.

The latest rendering of Premium Energy’s Pumped Storage proposal for the local region.

There’s a reason why several local groups, including Friends of the Inyo, are skeptical of Mr. Rojas and his latest proposal.

Because it’s not just a few small dams...
Mammoth Celebrates the Arts

FOR THE
4th
of July Festival

Free!

JULY 4-7, 2019
Footloose Sports Parking Lot

Show Hours

Thursday JULY 4  9am – 6pm
Friday JULY 5  10am – 6pm
Saturday JULY 6  10am – 6pm
Sunday JULY 7  10am – 5pm

+ Over 70 talented artists showcasing:
  Hand Crafted Jewelry
  Log Furniture
  Handmade Clothing
  Stained Glass
  Pottery

+ Cold Mammoth Brewing Beer/Cocktails
+ Live Local Bands
+ International Food Court

MONO ARTS COUNCIL (MAC), a non-profit arts council, sponsors this event to encourage the growth and appreciation of the arts in the Mammoth Lakes area. The funds that MAC receives from the exhibitors are used to cover the expenses of the festival, and support arts in education in Mono County.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT
MonoArts.org

DRINK WITH THE DEVIL

AWARD WINNING
SMALL BATCH
BARREL AGED SPIRITS
FAMILY OWNED
TOURS & TASTINGS

devilscreekdistillery.com

Tasting room hours: 3pm-6pm, Fridays & Saturdays or by appointment.
760-279-3670 • 123 Commerce Drive, B8
Pumped continued from page 28
The Latest Proposal

There’s a reason why several local groups, including Friends of the Inyo, are skeptical of Mr. Rojas and his latest proposal. Because it’s not just a few small dams in out-of-the-way places.

The Gorge alternative, for example, calls for a 400’ high dam above Pleasant Valley Reservoir and a 375’ high dam below Crowley Lake.

While the White Mountain alternatives call for even larger upper dams. Alternative #3 in Silver Canyon would have a proposed 655’ high dam, which Swall Meadows resident Stephen Kalish says would be the fifth highest dam in the United States.

Alternative #2, the proposed Gunner Reservoir, would have a 515’ high dam.

And the proposed surface area for the Upper Gorge alternative. 175 acres.

Victor Rojas did not betray great enthusiasm for alternatives #2 and #3, primarily because each option would require a fair amount of tunneling – at least five miles worth.

He did say working on the Eastside of the Sierra versus the Western slope has proven a lot – quieter.

While there are a few people around here following and checking on Premium Energy’s various proposals, Rojas said he encountered a lot more headwinds and complaints on the Westside.

“There’s a lot more people, and a lot more who feel threatened,” he said. That, or perhaps folks in the Eastern Sierra are simply a bit more communal.

Lynn Boulton, Chair of the local Range of Light Chapter of the Sierra Club, said “I don’t know where a good place is [for a pumped storage project],” but she’s no more of a fan of the latest proposal than she was of past iterations, even if the current project alternatives are not sited in protected areas.

While the Sierra Club’s official position is to support properly-sited renewable energy projects, according to Boulton, the Owens Gorge, “is not where I’d place my dream pumped storage project.”

But this is Boulton’s personal opinion. The Range of Light Chapter has not taken a formal position on Premium Energy’s proposal.

Fran Hunt, a local organizer for the Sierra Club, submitted the following statement:

“Climate change and the transition to a clean, renewable energy economy is the existential threat – and opportunity – of our time and the Sierra Club is fully committed to this transition. Pumped storage projects can be a vital clean energy tool, but they should be directed to areas with existing infrastructure and already disturbed lands, not in special places with high cultural significance to Native American tribes; and recommended wilderness, Wilderness Study areas, and national forest roadless areas; and vital habitats for critically at risk species, like the Bi-State Sage Grouse or Owens Tui Chub.

These are serious impacts that cannot be overlooked.”

Premium Energy Has submitted six premit applications to FERC within the past three months, including three applications within the Eastern Sierra, and one each in Utah, Arizona and Pyramind Lake, Nevada.

14th Annual Footloose Freedom Mile Fun Run Entry Form
Mammoth Lakes, California July 4, 2019 *Start is at 10:30AM

Race proceeds go to the Mammoth Track Club Elite Athletes
And Mammoth High School Cross Country Running Teams

Start: Corner of Minaret and Old Mammoth Rd. * Finish: Footloose Sports - race HQ (Limited to 750 Entries)

**$500 Bonus for a new Course Record**


*One entry per participant (fill out multiple entries for individual family members)

Name ___________________________ ___________________________ ___________________________ ___________________________

Address ___________________________ ___________________________ ___________________________ ___________________________

City ___________________________ State ___________ Zip ___________

Phone ___________________________ ___________________________ ___________________________

Email ___________________________ ___________________________ ___________________________ ___________________________

Select from the following:

☐ Race Entry Fee and T-shirt (on or before 7/3/19)…………………………………………………$25.00

☐ Race Day Entry and T-shirt (race day registration 7/4/19 closes at 10:00AM)………….$30.00

☐ Donation to the Mammoth Track………………………………………………………………………………...$_________

*All participants will receive a commemorative finishers medal, small U.S. flag to wave at parade and bottle of water.

T-shirt Size (circle one): Youth Sm       Youth Md        Adult Sm      Adult Md        Adult Lg        Adult XL

Signature___________________________________________________________________________Date ___________________________

TOTAL ENCLODED: $______________ (Please make checks payable to “Mammoth Track Club”)

REGISTER IN PERSON at FOOTLOOSE SPORTS on the corner of Main Street and Old Mammoth Rd.

Or mail this form to:
Mammoth Track Club
Attention: Footloose Freedom Mile
P.O. Box 5068
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

For more information go to: www.mammothtrackclub.com

PLEASE SIGN WAIVER: In consideration of this entry acceptance, I hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors and administrators, waive, release and forever discharge any and all rights and claims for damages I may have against, and covenant not to sue, the Town of Mammoth Lakes, County of Mono, State of California, Mammoth Track Club, all sponsors, all volunteers, and/or any other individual or company associated with the above for any and all injuries or damages I/my child may suffer as a result of I/my child competing in, observing or participating any way in the 14th Annual Footloose Freedom Mile, including travel to the event. I/my child hereby agree that race officials have my permission to authorize emergency treatment if necessary.

Signature___________________________________________________________________________Date ___________________________

(If under 18, parent or legal guardian must sign)
The Mammoth Lakes Lions Club
Presents
ALL YOU CAN EAT PANCAKE BREAKFAST
Breakfast includes:
ORANGE JUICE, COFFEE, SAUSAGES &
ALL THE PANCAKES YOU CAN EAT
Mammoth Mall Parking Lot • July 4th 7-11AM
Collection of Used Eye Glasses at the Breakfast

Children $8
(under 12)
Adults $12

Spike your Drink & Top your Cakes
Bring us your drink with room to SPIKE...
Coffee + Whiskey = Irish Coffee
O.J. + Bubbles = Mimosa
O.J. + Vodka = Screwdriver
$5/Spike
Includes $1 toward Lions Club

Top Your Cakes
Brings us your cakes to TOP...
Wild Blueberries
Chocolate & Whipped Cream
$3/Topper
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