SEEING RED
The Red’s Meadow gate opened July 4. According to Bobby Tanner, it should have opened June 20.

By Lunch
It’s a difficult business, but one that’s been in the family for the past six decades. Bobby Tanner and his wife Claudia own Red’s Meadow Resort and Pack Station. And as Tanner says, the tourist “season” for the resort has compressed over the years. June 10 to August 20, he told Mammoth’s Town Council during public comment at its June 26 meeting. That gives you about seventy days, or ten weeks.

Not opening the gate until July 4 means he’s literally lost one-third of his season. He told The Sheet over a countertop at the Resort’s cafe on Tuesday that the tourist season used to extend into September when folks used to hunt.

RIDGECREST EARTHQUAKE
From the U.S. Geological Survey Website.
A magnitude 6.4 earthquake struck southern California on July 4, 2019 at 10:34 a.m. local time.

The closest large population center is Ridgecrest, population 28,000. Strong to very strong shaking and damage has been reported there. Shaking from the earthquake was felt by millions of people across the region, including the greater Los Angeles and Las Vegas areas.

Estimated dollar loss for damage is ten to one hundred million dollars.

This event has triggered many aftershocks, but these will decrease in frequency over time. It is likely that there will be smaller earthquakes during the next week, with 50 to 700 magnitude 3 or higher aftershocks. Magnitude 3 and above are large enough to be felt near the epicenter.

On average, a magnitude 6.4 earthquake will produce an aftershock as large as magnitude 5.4, and about 10 aftershocks with magnitude 4.4 or larger. Earthquakes of this size can cause damage, particularly close to the rupture. USGS estimates a 9 percent chance of one or more aftershocks of magnitude 6.4 or larger in the next week.

FOUR MORE YEARS
MLT narrowly approves four-year, million dollar contract for Executive Director
By Gorman
Wednesday’s Mammoth Lakes Tourism board meeting saw Scott McGuire replaced as Chairman of the Board, and the board approve a 4-year contract for Executive Director John Urdi.

After the three new board members, Rhonda Duggan, Jeremy Goico, and Matt Hammer, introduced themselves, the board members gave their opening comments. John Morris took this opportunity to criticize Scott McGuire for his comments from the board’s June meeting.

“I just want to state for the record that, Scott, I disagree with the comments that were made at the end of the last meeting,” Morris said.

McGuire ended last month’s meeting with an invective on MLT’s lack of strategic vision. He said that the group is continuing to pour money into a strategy that it considers to have worked in the past without any reconsideration or forward thinking.

“We have kept doing the same thing, and we are spending the second largest budget in this community, without having a very clear, “this is our vision,” McGuire said on June 5.

Morris’s issue with McGuire’s comments were that, “(MLT) staff got thrown under the bus.”

“None of this is on the record,” McGuire said.

This criticism led right into a coup d’état. Michael Ledesma nominated Morris to replace McGuire as board chair and nominated McGuire to become Vice Chair. The nomination was approved 4 votes to 3. Rhonda Duggan, Matt Hammer, and Cleland Hoff voted no, while Eric Clark, Jeremy Goico, Michael Ledesma, and John Morris voted yes. McGuire abstained from the vote, saying he felt uncomfortable voting for board chair while in the position of board chair.

“I serve at the will of the board,” he said.

Rhonda Duggan was voted board treasurer and Jeremy Goico board secretary.

McGuire’s fall from power continued as he opted to step down as MLT’s representative on the Mammoth Lakes Recreation (MLR) board. The board see MLT, page 7

Survey says
Dunces
More Dunces
Lamb chopped
Buford justice
p. 2/
p. 14/
p. 16/
p. 10/
p. 24/
WALK LIKE AN EGYPTIAN

The Town of Mammoth Lakes hired Lisa Wise Consulting (LWC) a few months back. The task: To complete a “Conceptual Land Use Plan” for The Parcel - the 24 acres in the center of town Mammoth purchased last year for the purpose of building an affordable housing development.

The price tag: $400,000.

*Former Town Planner Jen Daugherty is now a associate at LWC. Nepotism is alive and well. I hope bringing in the contract nets her a promotion.

As part of the scope of work, LWC set out to determine community priorities/values in regard to The Parcel and concocted a survey.

Survey questions and my answers below.

Question 1. What is your interest in The Parcel?
-My interest lies in self-preservation, because watching Town Staff try to build affordable housing may be enough to cause me to drown myself in a shallow pond.

Question 2. If you’ve been to The Parcel, how did you get there, what did you do, and what were your impressions?
-After dropping my car off at Alpine Garage on Center Street and learning what it would cost to fix, I sauntered over to The Parcel to have a good cry and look at the garbage strewn all over the forest. My impression was that The Parcel is a good place for a cry, and I’ll bet Mike Fieberger goes there often after 49er games.

Question 2.1: Have you been to The Parcel?
-Are you people stupid? You just asked that.

Question 2.2: Where did you enter The Parcel?
-Okay dummy. Now I’m getting upset.

Question 2.3: What mode of transportation did you use and what did you do?
-Jesus H. We’re paying $400,000 for this?!

Question 2.4: What were your impressions of The Parcel?
-As I said, it’s a place to make one cry ... reminds me of this survey.

Question 2.5: How do you think future residents will get to and from The Parcel?
-Spaceship.

Question 3: What does affordable housing mean to you?
-About two bedrooms less than I really want, but way better than couch surfing.
-Indoor plumbing.

Question 4: What other uses should be provided on-site?

Question 5: What are the obstacles to developing The Parcel?
-Town Council. Town Staff. Surveys like this. Consultants like you.

Question 6: What is your long-term vision for The Parcel?
-The same as my short-term vision. Housing. With a dose of boobs bursting out of tight orange tops and Lawn Bowling. Haven’t we been over this?

Question 7: What are your three objectives for The Parcel?
-To have the long-lasting construction and spiritual impact of Stonehenge and the Great Pyramids.
-Indoor plumbing.
-To rename it. “The Parcel” is lame.

Question 8: What are some ideas you have for engaging the community?
-Engagement? Um. Speed dating?
-Beer always helps get people engaged. Well, beer goggles.
-How about hosting another one of those events where people get to put sticky dots on posters? People love those sticky dots!

Question 8.1: What other questions do you think we should ask the community?
-Hmm. Ask yourself, “What would Donald J. Trump do?”
-If Train A is traveling east at 25 mph, and Train B is traveling west at 46 mph, will either stop in Mammoth if the United States Forest Service and/ or the Town of Mammoth Lakes is responsible for getting the train depot open?
-Corollary: Will Mammoth Lakes Tourism take credit for Train B being faster than Train A?

Question 8.2: How can we get more potential residents of The Parcel involved in the planning process?
-Free raffle entries. People love raffles.
-Maybe create a path of Reese’s Pieces leading to the site. Worked with E.T.

Question 9: Is there anything else you would like to add?
-I really like the Lakers signing of Jared Dudley.
The Village
AT MAMMOTH

Fourth of July

Friday, July 5
11:00am  Ducky Races
3:00pm  Chihuahua Races
4:00pm  DJ RodneyO
8:00pm  Concert with Soul Graffiti
9:00pm  Fireworks
9:15-9:45pm  Concert with Soul Graffiti

Saturday, July 6
1:00-5:00pm  Picnic in The Plaza
5:30-9:30pm  Silent DJ

Sunday, July 7
5:30-9:30pm  Silent DJ

VILLAGEATMAMMOTH.COM  VILLAGEATMAMMOTH  @THEVILLAGEMENTHEN

Ahhhh!

Sunday Brunch

10 am-2 pm

GOMEZ
RESTAURANT | TEQUILERIA
IN THE VILLAGE // 760.924.2693 // GOMEZ.COM  //  //

Sunny Patio
Chill Vibe with DJ RodneyO
Mimosas & Bloody Bar
Delicious Food
Organic Fair Trade Peruvian Coffee
Policy over science

Dear Editor,

We live in a human managed landscape. This is not good, nor is it bad, just is. The management decisions we make may be good or bad, but they need to be based on knowledge - data.

In reference to the June 22 story about Mill and Wilson Creeks, which feed Mono Lake . . .

There is a fair amount of information about Mill Creek (and its ecosystem). There is extremely limited data, if any, on the impact of the water reduction on the wildlife, plants, recreational values, or local hydrology of Wilson Creek, DeChambeau Ranch, or the various ponds. It appears that some of the organizations involved have resisted the collection of scientific data in the Wilson Creek area.

Some people refuse to use the name Wilson Creek, insisting that it is a diversion ditch. There is ample evidence that the water table in the Wilson/Mill Creek area has dropped significantly, not only from LADWP diversions but also as a result of the onset irrigated agriculture in the north end of Mono Basin. Was there year round water in Wilson Creek in the early 1800s? Nobody knows. We do know that at some time, pre-European settlement, Native people used Wilson Creek and its immediate environs as evidenced by grinding holes along the creek.

I farmed in the Central Valley for 25 years and have a PhD in Wildlife and Fisheries Science. I was a member of the Pioneer Water Company Board of Directors (Porterville), the Tulare County Farm Bureau Water Committee, the Tulare County Audubon Board of Directors, and the City of Davis Open Space Committee. I am flabbergasted by the decision-making process on water flow in Wilson Creek. It is being managed as if the water and creek were private property. Explanations offered for the lack of data are that it is all confidential due to the decision-making process on Mill Creek (and its ecosystem).

There are important biological, recreational, cultural, and hydrologic issues associated with water in Wilson Creek that need to be addressed before they are damaged or lost.

There is a fair amount of information about Mill and Wilson Creeks, which feed Mono Lake. Though no one has taken up the offer to talk yet, I feel that more of this property’s story needs to be told.

Cole Hawkins
Lee Vining

The good news for the next chapter of the story is that the Davison property is slated to be developed as affordable housing. The Mono County Board of Supervisors made the decision to sell the property last year. In an effort to help create more community housing in Mammoth and Mono County, the Board of Supervisors also decided to restrict the sale of the Davison house for the development of affordable housing. That’s in the works, but it’s a lengthy process.

The backstory of the Davison house that you referred to in your editorial last week involves the county’s plan two years ago to renovate the existing building and use the property for permanent supportive housing for community members living with mental illness. While that effort stalled mostly due to the structure getting heavily damaged in the winter of 2017, it also suffered from an outbreak of NIMBYism.

Along with County Behavioral Health Director Robin Roberts, I spoke with neighbors and reminded them that people living with mental illness are part of our community, and that the residents of a supportive housing development owned and operated by the Mono County Behavioral Health Services will be good neighbors. I hope this will happen.

The moral of the story is this: I am we—are “those people.” One in five adults in the U.S. experiences mental illness. And the lack of stable, affordable housing is a major barrier to recovery for people with mental illness.

Meanwhile, the property sits unused, and Mono County Behavioral Health is looking for another location for the supportive housing development.

Since the Davison house itself is further deteriorating, the county installed fencing as liability mitigation. It’s an unsightly symbol of the challenges we face in addressing our community’s housing needs, and in fighting the stigma of mental illness. I invite readers willing to help us meet these challenges to get involved. One way is through the County’s Behavioral Health Advisory Board. On-line meetings are held every Thursday at 3:00 p.m.

Stacy Corless
Mono County Supervisor
760.920.0190, scorless@mono.ca.gov

Bury your business

‘Sup Ted,

In your June 29th article about dogs eating people poo, you failed to mention a simple solution that would be part of an educational campaign. As any responsible hiker or camper knows, you simply bury your business. Even if you don’t have a trowel or shovel, it’s usually pretty easy to kick a hole or dig one with a stick.

Yes, this all comes down to people being responsible for their impact on the world around them, which is a lot to ask (in our society), but it would work.

Kirk Shultz
Mammoth Lakes

LETTERS

4 | THE SHEET | Saturday, July 6, 2019
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
Convict Lake Resort
stay, dine, adventure

@ConvictLakeResort

convict lake resort
MARINA

Now renting
2019 Avalon Pontoons
2015 Angler Qwest Pontoons
Also available-
new Kayaks & Paddleboards

convict lake resort
HORSEBACK

2-hour guided ride along the same trail
taveled by the convicts in 1871.

convict lake resort
ASPEN GRILL

Open 7 days a week from 6am-2:30pm
serving Breakfast & Lunch

Visit convictlake.com or call 760-934-3800

The resort is located just 10 minutes from Mammoth off US 395 and across from Mammoth Yosemite Airport.
2000 Convict Lake Rd. Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

This institution is an equal-opportunity provider. This program is operated under special use permit with the Inyo National Forest.
decided to replace him with Rhonda Duggan. While MLT currently has a seat on the MLR board, MLR Executive Director Matt McClain said at MLR’s Tuesday meeting that he doesn’t understand why MLT has that seat.

“Why are we holding a seat for MLT?” McClain said. “We don’t actually work a whole lot with MLT.” MLR plans to review a section of its bylaws that offers that seat to MLT.

The MLT board considered a new contract for its Executive Director John Urdi. It would be Urdi’s first new contract since joining MLT 8 years ago. Here are some of the finer points of the new contract:

- Base Salary of $206,685 in the first year, with a salary range between $161,000 and $221,000
- Potential for annual bonuses not exceeding 15% of base
- Salary not to be increased by more than 5% from year to year
- Signing bonus of $30,000
- 6-month severance in case of termination without cause
- Benefits including family health-care, 401(k), company vehicle, and family IKON and Snowcreek Golf Course passes
- Employment period of four years, from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2023

The contract has not yet been approved by MLT’s attorney, Tim Sanford, who has been on vacation. The board opted to consider the contract anyway.

Mayor Cleland Hoff was the first to take issue with a feature of the contract.

“I really don’t get the signing bonus,” she said. “Maybe down the road if there were any changes to the position then that would make sense, but since we do have Mr. Urdi who’s already in the position…”

Michael Ledesma, who had been drafting the contract, explained his reasoning for the bonus. “The bonus there was a way to encourage the incumbent to not look at other positions and to stay and to sign on for a length of time longer than short term.” He said that these bonuses are common in athlete contracts, and, extending this logic, he said that MLT has a winning team and it wants to keep its “players.”

Hoff also said that the 6 month severance package was “pretty hefty.” Scott McGuire clarified that this severance would only be triggered for termination without cause, which would only likely occur if MLT decided it was going to “fold or walk away.” Termination with cause would trigger no severance.

Eric Clark, the Mammoth Mountain Ski Area representative on the board, pointed out that the data that the board used to inform this contract showed that 50% of polled comparable executives have a 6 month or longer severance.

Hoff said, “If anybody on the town government had a six month clause, everybody in this room would be up in arms.”

John Morris, who also worked to draft this contract, voiced his support for it. He said that 6 month severance is appropriate when the termination is not due to any fault of the Executive Director. He also defended the compensation package.

He said, “(Urdi) is very qualified to do what he does and he does a very good job. Finding someone to do that job as well as he does it currently at less than or equal to what we are proposing here would be difficult.”

Scott McGuire voiced his issues with this contract, and in doing so, defended and reiterated his controversial comments from last meeting.

He opened with, “Here is where I think we have a lack of strategy.” McGuire compared Urdi to Bend, Oregon’s former Tourism Director Doug La Placa.

“You can go back and look at the history of La Placa’s time in Bend, and it looks like you were reading out of The Sheet coverage of MLT from the last five years.”

“My concern is that in four years we will have an airport in Bishop, we will see the $2 million in airport subsidy go to Bishop… I don’t believe that we have the majority of TBID providers in town saying they would sign up for a second time.”

“I’m not sitting here celebrating how we’ve been winning. I am trying to think about how we are going to get kicked in the shins and lose. And I don’t think we’ve addressed that as a group and I don’t think our Executive Director has planned for that.”

He said that Measure A revenues could also decrease in the next four years.

“So we don’t get a TBID, we have a smaller Measure A, and we don’t have a tourism pot that is $8 or $9 million, we end up with $2 or $3 million.” He continued the cautionary tale of Bend. “This happened in Bend,” he said. “They had a $10 million tourism subsidy. They had the attitude of, we’re winning, we’re doing great. You know what happened? Their Executive Director got run out of town. They lost millions of dollars out of their TBID. Their current Executive Director gets a $97,000 a year salary. They have 7 full-time employees. They don’t use outside contractors. Their entire creative is done in house. They lost 70% of their budget.”

“And you know what? They’re still growing. In fact, they’re growing at the same rate we are!”

McGuire concluded with, “Should we keep doing the same thing over and over again? I have an issue with writing a contract that is effectively a million dollars over four years without having a really clear vision on how that is going to show up for this community… This contract and this agreement with our executive director doesn’t have my support.”

He said he wants employees to be reviewed on an annual basis and he does not support the $30,000 signing bonus, no matter how it is justified.

Rhonda Duggan was the third board member to express her disagreement with some features of the contract.

“I’m not comfortable with the signing bonus whether you call it a signing bonus or a retention bonus,” she said.

She also had a problem with the fact that MLT bonuses go disproportiately to Urdi.

“I would like to see the team that helped get us here weigh in on some bonuses as well.”

According to its website, MLT has 7 full-time employees.

“Bonuses for just one person within the organization, I know what that would tell me if I was an employee.”

The contract went to a vote. Cleland Hoff, Scott McGuire and Rhonda Duggan voted no. Eric Clark, John Morris, Michael Ledesma, Jeremy Goico, and Matt Hammer all voted yes. The contract passed 5 votes to 3 pending final legal approval from Tim Sanford.

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**This contract and this agreement with our executive director doesn’t have my support.**

-Scott McGuire
Three killed in traffic collision

On Sunday, June 30, 2019, at approximately 3:36 P.M., California Highway Patrol (CHP) Bishop Communications Center received a report of a two-vehicle traffic collision, just north of the town of Walker.

Multiple CHP Officers from the Bridgeport area, along with the Mono County Sheriff's Department and emergency medical personnel responded. A Nissan Pathfinder traveling southbound on US 395, collided head-on with a Toyota Tacoma traveling northbound.

Two occupants of the Toyota Tacoma were transported to the Renown Medical Center. The driver of the Toyota Tacoma, Russell Martin Roeben, age 76, of South Lake Tahoe succumbed to his injuries. Five passengers from the Nissan Pathfinder were transported to Renown Medical Center; two passengers died. Maria Antonio Castillo, age 41, of Downey, Calif. died en route to the hospital. Enriqueta Guzman Rosales, age 81, a Mexican National from Los Angeles, died at the scene.

Remaining passengers from both vehicles are in critical condition.

This collision is still under investigation to determine the cause. Anyone who may have information regarding this collision, please contact the CHP Bridgeport Area Office at (760) 932-7995.

BLM issues seasonal fire restrictions

BISHOP, Calif. - The Bureau of Land Management Bishop Field Office has issued seasonal fire restrictions for BLM-managed public lands in the Eastern Sierra effective Monday, July 1, due to increased wildland fire danger in the region.

The restrictions will remain in effect until November 1, or until wildland fire conditions on public lands in the region improve.

Fire officials estimate that nearly 90 percent of wildland fires affecting BLM-managed public lands in California during the last decade have been human caused.

Individuals who spark wildfires, intentionally or unintentionally, may be held responsible for fire suppression and property damage costs. Officials encourage the public to be extremely careful when recreating outdoors, to carry a shovel and water at all times, and to check weather forecasts and fire danger conditions before leaving home.

The following restrictions will remain in place until the risk of wildland fire in the Eastern Sierra subsides:

- No campfires, charcoal or wood barbecues, or similar open flame fires, except within a designated campsite with a fire ring or fire pit specifically provided for such use in the following developed campgrounds: Tuttle Creek Campground, Goodale Creek Campground, Horton Creek Campground, Crowley Lake Campground and Pleasant Valley Pit Campground. Portable stoves using gas, jelled petroleum or pressurized liquid fuel are allowed outside of developed campgrounds when used in accordance with a valid California Campfire Permit, available free at BLM, Forest Service and Cal Fire offices or at www.preventwildfire.ca.org/Permits.
- No tools powered by internal combustion engines off established roads, trails or parking areas.
- Target shooters may not use incendiary, explosive, tracer, steel core or armor piercing ammunition. Shooting at steel or exploding targets that could emit sparks is not allowed. Target shooters must have a shovel or fire extinguisher on hand. Hunters may use steel shot and other non-lead ammunition as required by California State Law.
- No use of explosives, except by special permit.

BLM-managed public lands subject to these fire restrictions extend from the southern Owens Valley in Inyo County, north to Topaz Lake and the Nevada border in Mono County. These fire restrictions also apply to popular recreational areas in the region including the Alabama Hills National Scenic Area, Inyo Mountains Wilderness, Volcanic Tableland, Long Valley, Adobe Valley, Mono Basin, Bodie Hills and Slinkard Valley.

A listing of fire restrictions throughout BLM California is available at https://go.usa.gov/xMjRG. For specific questions, please contact the Bishop Field Office at 760.872.5000.

Public Land Mining Claim Fees and Waivers are due September 3

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – The Bureau of Land Management reminds claimants now on hand to retain the mining claims on federal public lands through the 2020 assessment year to pay a maintenance fee or file a Maintenance Fee Waiver Certification (Small Miner’s Waiver) on or before Tuesday, September 3, to prevent the mining claim from being declared forfeit and void.

The maintenance fee for a lode claim, tunnel site, or mill site is $165 per claim/site. For placer mining claims only, the fees are $165 for every 20 acres or portion thereof.

Since the maintenance fee due on or before the last day of the assessment year has been increased from $155 to $165, those who have already paid, will be given an opportunity to pay the additional amount without penalty, provided claims are filed before September 3.

Claimants who filed a Small Miner’s Waiver last year in 2018 for the 2019 assessment year will be required to file an Affidavit of Annual Assessment Work form, including the required $15 processing fee per claim on or before December 30.

Each payment must be accompanied by a written list of the claim names and BLM serial numbers for which the maintenance fee is being paid.

All maintenance fees or Maintenance Fee Waiver Certifications must be paid or filed by mail with a check to BLM California State Office, 2800 Cottage Way, Room W-1623, Sacramento, CA 95825, or online with a credit card through the BLM’s payment portal. Payments or filings must be postmarked on or before September 3.

The BLM’s Information Access Center (Public Room) is open for payments or filings from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Cash, check or credit card can be presented to make payment in person.

For more information on the filing deadlines, maintenance fees, Maintenance Fee Waiver Certifications, or Federal Land and Policy Management Act filings (Affidavit of Annual Assessment Work or Notice of Intent to Hold) please call 916-978-4470, or visit https://www.blm.gov/public-room/california.

The BLM manages more than 245 million acres of public land located primarily in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The BLM also administers 700 million acres of subsurface mineral estate throughout the nation. Diverse activities authorized on these lands generated $75 billion in sales of goods and services throughout the American economy in fiscal year 2016—more than any other agency in the Department of the Interior. These activities supported more than 372,000 jobs.
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

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT
MonoArts.org
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.

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DEMONSTRATING DISTILLERY
MAMMOTH LAKE, CAL.

AWARD WINNING
SMALL BATCH
BARREL AGED SPIRITS
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Tasting room hours: 3pm-6pm,
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DRINK WITH THE DEVIL

ADDITIONAL EVENTS

FOR THE JULY 4th FESTIVAL

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

OVER 70 TALENTED ARTISTS SHOWCASING:
- Hand Crafted Jewelry
- Log Furniture
- Handmade Clothing
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RED’S continued from page 1

But that business doesn’t exist anymore.

The last time the gate didn’t open until July 4, recalls Tanner, was 1993, but back then the last two weeks of August were always very busy and he did $75,000 worth of deer-hunting trips in September.

Now, once the kids go back to school in mid-August, the business shrivels.

Which means getting the gate open, regardless of what kind of winter there was or how much snow fell, is of critical importance.

And this year he just didn’t feel like he got the help he needed from the Town of Mammoth Lakes.

"The Town really fumbled on this one," Tanner proclaimed at the June 26 meeting.

His principal complaint was as follows:

In a typical year, said Tanner, Caltrans plows to Minaret Summit, and then the Town takes over and plows all the way down to the valley.

But this year, he said, Caltrans got its job done and then the Town, in his view … hesitated.

Perhaps, he said, the Town had other priorities (Lakes Basin).

But this is what worries him. The Town is set to assume maintenance of Red’s Meadow Road starting in 2022 or 2023 after the road gets a $25 million make-over thanks to a Federal Highways grant.

Mr. Martin could not be reached for comment.

Town Engineer Manager Haislip Hayes is sympathetic to Tanner’s plight and understands how vital it is to get the road open, but as he said this week, “We still make decisions as a group when to go [plow] … it’s based on the Forest Service asking us to help them out.”

And despite the relatively late open for the gate (July 4), the after-effects of a long winter remain. Hayes said the sewer system was still failed as of July 3 and campgrounds don’t have bathrooms. The Town has brought down port-a-potties as a stopgap measure.

The other issue which could/could not prove problematic. The Red’s Meadow Gate is normally closed to private traffic after 7:30 a.m. This has been the case historically to minimize traffic and to encourage public transportation.

According to Tanner, while the above rule will still be in effect, Mammoth District Ranger Gordon Martin has indicated to him that the gate may not be actually manned until 9 or 10 a.m.

And a rule without enforcement is bound to be ignored - and exploited.

If the gate is left unattended until later in the morning, “Just watch what a cluster-flck this valley’s gonna be,” said Tanner.

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Mr. Martin could not be reached for comment.

JUDGE FUDGE

Inyo Judge Lamb reprimanded by Commission on Judicial Performance

By James

It is a well-known axiom that “Justice delayed is justice denied,” so it is a matter of concern when citizens of Inyo County hear official criticism directed at one of its two Superior Court judges for delaying justice.

The state’s independent Commission on Judicial Performance, established in 1960, is responsible for investigating complaints of judicial misconduct and judicial incapacity for disciplining judges under the California Constitution. The commission just issued a public warning on Tuesday, June 2, to Inyo County Superior Court Judge Brian Lamb for—for a third time in the last 13 years—signing salary affidavits stating that he was up to date on his casework when he was not.

State law requires that judges attest that they have no cases pending, otherwise they are not to be paid.

The commission said Lamb signed two salary affidavits in 2017 falsely indicating he was caught up with his work.

In July, 2018, former Inyo County Court Executive Officer, Tammy Grimm, was arrested and charged by the district attorney in San Francisco with numerous felonies for offering false evidence, forgery, and filing false documents with the Commission on Judicial Performance (CJP) accusing Lamb of falsifying just such affidavits in the past. Whether this most recent development helps to clear Grimm of the charges against her are unknown.

All eight commissioners who participated in the case (there are eleven on the board) voted to publicly admonish the judge. Lamb had previously been issued an advisory letter in 2006 and a private admonishment in 2015.

The commission wrote the following in its disciplinary decision on Tuesday, July 2:

“The commission recognizes that Judge Lamb is a hard-working judge, but it did not consider his assertions about his workload or his apologies about the charges against him. The state’s independent Commission on Judicial Performance, established in 1960, has been previously disciplined twice for similar misconduct. Lamb has accepted the commission’s findings, reportedly telling the commission that he had “lost track” of the matter.

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THE SPRUNG SOLUTION

By Oster

Q: The recent proposal for the ice rink/MUF to be a "sprung" structure seems like a serious compromise, and even though we think it would work, it certainly doesn’t seem like it is consistent with Mammoth’s goal of being a world class destination resort. The local government holds everybody else to strict development and design review standards. Are Mammoth’s town leaders messaging that we are destined to be the feared "half assed" resort?

A: This new proposal has many interesting implications for the future direction of this community and local real estate.

The sprung or tensile fabric structures are successfully used worldwide and effectively in harsh environments. And even though they are normally considered to be portable or temporary structures (like the ones at Eagle Base — 20 years later), they can have a usable lifespan of more than 50 years.

The new proposal would represent the first sprung structure approved on private land within Mammoth Lakes as a permanent facility. That is important. It would have been far more cost efficient. The 24 acres at The Parcel, our major workforce housing site, could be dominated by sprung structures. It would make sense. The people looking for a warm, affordable place to live don’t really care what it looks like. And after living here through so many big winters, I think a sprung structure house might be an interesting alternative — my own igloo. Or maybe we can have a bunch of sprung "tiny homes" at the RV Park. They could be made to look like Yosemite cabins. And sprung structures could make the Main Street and Old Mammoth Road redevelopment plan viable. The parking could be merged right into the inside of the structure. Presto!

If we head in this direction, it may be the proverbial "game changer" the community leaders are searching for. They are an ends-justifies-the-means group. Their lofty goals that always seem to be out-of-reach (or is that out-of-touch?) can become reality. A plethora of sprung structures may very well be in Mammoth’s future. Sometimes you have to make compromises. It might not be pretty, but at least our fearless leaders can claim "mission accomplished!" However, such a trend wouldn’t be consistent with all of our noble planning and resort "visioning" of the past 30+ years. But those standards have been unevenly applied depending on the public officials and public employees of the day — and every generation has witnessed a major, frustrated general contractor who is "never going to build in Mammoth again."

My administrative law professor at UCLA liked to belabor the phrase "arbitrary and capricious." That is the fitting term for Mammoth’s aesthetic police over the past decades.

Since incorporation, Mammoth Lakes has engaged in endless discussions about design review. I have sat through more than enough of them. Volumes of ideas and guidelines have been discussed, with many being established. Most developers typically don’t want to spend excess dollars on aesthetics. So there are always compromises. But if the established guidelines weren’t in place, there would be no chance to create some sort of resort character as the community evolves.

Mammoth has a record of successes and failures. We may be on the precipice of another success. Or failure.

And here is a fitting example. In the early 1990s, the Town’s planners went to war with the community over signage. It was important for it to happen. There were lengthy and heated public meetings and eventually a new sign ordinance was approved. The goal again was to create a more attractive resort community, a place that “looked different from where the visitors came from.” Signage was limited in size based on building frontages and were to be made of natural materials, preferably wood with relief, etc. Back-lit signs were prohibited. Neon signs were limited to “Open” signs. Buildings with "sprung" structures may very well be in Mammoth’s future.
more than one business needed to have an approved sign plan. And on and on.

The “old guard” in town didn’t like the new requirements (and ironically some of the old “grandfathered” signs are still standing some 30 years later). But over time when new, conforming signs were constructed we saw the visual impact of quality signage on the community. But unfortunately, it all went sideways. Commissions and staff buckled to the hardship and whining of business owners. Other business owners just ignored the permitting process and put up whatever they wanted to. And the activity went unchecked. During Mammoth’s “BK era” there was simply no enforcement at all.

Now there is new, crap signage all over town. The last time I went through the process, I had a $5,000 wood-carved sign made by a well-known local artisan. The regulators were nitpicking about the placement of the mountains in the background of the sign. I laughed at them. It’s a piece of art by a real artist. The Town doesn’t like the Town artists. They think it should look like a white elephant. I think it should have a trunk on it so it would look like a woolly mammoth. Maybe that is how they want to. And the activity went unchecked. During Mammoth’s “BK era” there was simply no enforcement at all.

But they arbitrarily enforce permanent signage all over town.

So I ask. How is the Town going to regulate all of these sprung structures?? Arbitrarily? Capriciously? If the Town fails to regulate signage, how will it regulate all of the sprung structures that people will want to put up. I’ll put mine up on a weekend and be done. Theoretically, because of new affordable housing mandates, the State (and Town) should be promoting smaller sprung “homes” as ADUs (accessory dwelling units). These can be placed on already developed residential lots. The demand and rental for these freestanding ADUs would be high. That could be coming to our neighborhoods.

The most recent presentation of this sprung structure recreation center (ice rink/MUF) proposed giving the “tent” some whimsical add-ons that could give it some sort of aesthetically appealing appearance. Is this the infamous “lipstick on a pig”? And is this going to be the acceptable level for approvals going forward?

One local resident told me that the sprung structure reminds him of the enormous Donald Trump balloons in the London street protests. Another resident suggested putting a trunk on it so it would look like a white elephant. I think it should have a trunk and some tusks so it can resemble a woolly mammoth. Maybe that is how we make it work; all new sprung structures have to have trunks and tusks and maybe even hair. At least it is a reasonable fitting design theme for our town.

But everything aside, the real question remains; Is the Town going to have to live by its own design review and development standards? And what precedent should it set? Can we hear them now, arbitrarily reasoning that this should be the only one allowed. I guess we’re going to find out. And do the new, major investors in Mammoth think that sprung structures are appropriate, and maybe all over town. But don’t forget, our leaders could solve numerous community problems with these inexpensive and efficient structures. Or ruin the place. You decide.

And many are still asking. How did it all come to this?? Well, because a small cohort in Mammoth decided the ice rink should be on land that the Town actually owns. So it went from an $800,000 ice rink roof to a $20 million dollar ice rink and summer day care center. And the fiasco has the potential to get a lot worse. Mammoth could become a tent city. Even worse, nobody really seems to have an idea what the long term costs of the facility are. And cost goes beyond dollars.

But is this ownership issue really a matter of the fiasco or the ice rink? Because the Town is allowed. So it be on land that the Town actually owns. But over town? The last time I went through the process, I had a $5,000 wood-carved sign made by a well-known local artisan. The regulators were nitpicking about the placement of the mountains in the back...
**Books**

**DUNCES, FIFTY YEARS AFTER TOOLE’S DEATH**

By John Kennedy Toole

**A Confederacy of Dunces**

Wings Books, a div. of Random House 462 pages.

It is a shame that John Kennedy Toole is not alive and writing today because Toole wrote one of the most enjoyable novels of the 20th century. A Confederacy of Dunces bounces cheerily along for 462 smart, surprisingly wily pages chronicling Ignatius J. Reilly as he tries to find gainful employment in New Orleans.

The story is wild, and the book’s history is just as wild. Toole attempted to get this book published unsuccessfully for months in the late 1960s and killed himself shortly after shelving the book in 1969. Toole’s mother found a carbon copy of the book and spent a decade trying to get it published. She was more persistent than her son, and eventually beat down the door of author Walker Percy and convinced him to read it. Percy saw its genius and had it published in 1980. In 1981, it won the Pulitzer Prize for fiction.

A 21st century reading of Dunces found the book to be far ahead of its time. Toole, with his brash, misogynistic main character, was a harbinger. Though Ignatius Reilly was wholly original when Toole wrote him, he has sworn him- self to celibacy, believing modern women’s behavior to be an affront to his morality. And yet his sheets are cum-stained.

Ignatius Reilly perfectly parodies the useless, overeducated, self-assured man-boy-still-living-with-his-mother who has only become more common since the book’s publication.

Dunces follows Ignatius as he is forced into society after what he believes to be a decade-long Miltonian retreat of solitary philosophical reflection. Through the course of his debut he tramples social norms like a hot dog-fueled bull in a china shop. Every situation he enters combusts upon reacting with his loud uniqueness. His increasingly vitriolic behavior is not taken seriously until it causes society to implode. When you think that he has reached his social cre scendo he always manages to do something even more outlandish, to the increasing amusement and discomfort of the reader.

New Orleans is one of the most important characters in the book. Toole exposes the eccentricities of New Orleans with a skill approaching Joyce’s exploration of Dublin or David Foster Wallace’s of Boston.

While on the topic of Wallace, it should be noted that Toole’s influence on “Infinite Jest” is obvious. Any Jest lover will see the parallels between these two tragicomedies. Both follow characters through fantastic situations where nothing is normal and the absurdity builds to a fever pitch. Against such kaleidoscopic backdrops, the biggest laughs come from the banal moments standing out from the absurd like a black spot on tie-dye. Wallace seems to have stolen one character; the comedic cop who cross dresses uncon vincingly, brazenly from Toole. But as T.S. Eliot said, “Good writers borrow; great writers steal.”

Toole’s prescience really shines in his descriptions of the violent nature of Ignatius’s sociopathy. Ignatius attempts to find violent political uprisings everywhere he goes. When they fail, he blames his sexually awakened girlfriend in New York for spurring his worse tendencies. A clear through line can be drawn from Reilly’s violence to that of the modern Incels who mirror him so closely. The shooters who killed 6 people in Isla Vista, California in 2014, 9 people in Roseburg, Oregon in 2015, and 17 people in Parkland, Florida in 2018, all identified as Incels. Their violent rage was motivated by pseudo-political regressive ideologies and misogyny, just like Ignatius. While Ignatius’s social isolation was almost absolute, these modern renditions have the internet to allow their philosophies to feed off each other and fester. Toole was able to masterfully lampoon Ignatius and his ideologies in the 1960’s. A modern version of this humor would be welcome to help the rest of us cope with the surreality of the violence of Ignatius’s modern imitators. For now, Toole is enough.

**CASTING AROUND AMERICA**

By Mike McKenna

Published last fall and featuring over 50 local fishing experts, pick up a copy at your favorite Eastside tackle shop, resort or bookstore, places like Kittredge Sports and the Booky Joint in Mammoth, the Convict Lake Resort or Spellbinder Books in Bishop. Copies can also be ordered at www.CastingAroundAmerica.com. For more information, call 760.914.1877.

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- John Kruse

on America Outdoors Radio

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**CASTING AROUND EASTERN SIERRA**

by Mike McKenna

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**Great reviews are coming in for Casting Around the Eastern Sierra:**

A year-round fishing guide to Mammoth Lakes, June Lake and Mono County, California

“A book you’re going to love if you’re an angler, especially if you’re an angler in the Western United States… Each entry, each lake or river, there’s a good photo, there’s easy to read information there’s a map as well. This is a great guidebook.”

- John Kruse

on America Outdoors Radio
LUNCH
continued from page 2

-Goats. Lots of goats. They could help with fire suppression and yoga classes. Lunch knows a dealer ...
-Elizabeth Warren can win.

Actual responses

The actual responses to the Lisa Wise Consulting survey were absolutely milquetoast, but I’ll be considered an irresponsible journalist if I don’t fill you in on all the insightful data gleaned by LWC.

1. The community is concerned about housing and affordability issues.
2. Two-thirds of the community has visited the Parcel. The majority entered via Tavern Road by foot and they enjoy the beautiful surroundings. Someday, they believe people will walk, ride, bike, or drive to and from the Parcel.
3. People believe affordable housing refers to a mixture of rental products.
4. Folks want nature, child fare, a trail system, parks in their development.
5. They think the biggest obstacle to construction will be neighborhood opposition.
6. They envision a strong community of long-time residents and a nice neighborhood.
7. Objectives? Well-designed. A lot of units. Open to range of income levels.

As if I needed a survey to obtain the very generic responses listed above.

The following was my experience with affordable housing.

see LUNCH, page 22
In the event you win. Being, you’re supposed to be prepared for the respective party’s nomination. Point to position “teams” once they win their parties, by law, must create “transition teams” to their sister. The Kushners apparently took their grudges seriously. Christie assembled a team and spent months researching and vetting candidates for different administration posts. Days after the election, Lewis reported that Christie was fired and his binder of candidates tossed. Why? White House Chief Strategist Steve Bannon later conceded, “It was Jared,” according to Lewis. Trump was going to handle the transition by himself.

“I was f**king nervous as s**t,” Bannon later told friends. “I go, ‘Holy F**k, this guy [Trump] doesn’t know anything. And he doesn’t give a s**t.’”

So what is the Fifth Risk? John MacWilliams, the first-ever Chief Risk Officer at the Department of Energy (DOE) under President Obama, characterizes it as simply “Project Management.”

Basically, a lot of things can go wrong, and anyone who knows anything about chaos theory knows shit will happen. Really clever people can imagine the risk and plan for it ahead of time. Not-so-clever people have bad shit happen to them and chalk it up to lousy luck and think no more about it. Here’s a classic example of how things can go wrong.

Lewis tells the story of the DOE burying radioactive waste in New Mexico. “The contents of the barrels were volatile and so needed to be seasoned with, believe it or not, kitty litter … According to a DOE official, a federal contractor in Los Alamos, having been told to pack the barrels with ‘inorganic kitty litter, had scribbled down ‘an organic kitty litter.‘ The barrel with organic kitty litter burst and spread waste inside the cavern. The site was closed for three years, significantly backing up nuclear waste disposal in the U.S. and costing $500 million to clean.”

So this is what can happen even with the best of intentions. But what happens when you de-fund climate science just because you don’t want to contemplate what studying climate science may reveal? Risk doesn’t go away just because you ignore it. The final story in the book is powerful. It references a woman whose house is destroyed by a tornado. She tells the guy from FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) “for the last ten years, I prayed for a tornado to come and take that barn. I didn’t think it would take the house, too.”

Turns out her husband had committed suicide in the barn ten years before. But here’s Lewis’s larger lesson: “You might have good reason to pray for a tornado, whether it comes in the shape of swirling winds, or a politician. You imagine the thing doing the damage you would like to see done, and no more. It’s what you fail to imagine that kills you.”

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Old Mammoth Road and Main Street in Mammoth came alive for the annual 4th of July parade.
Clockwise from above: Irie McCoy with Uncle Sam, The Mammoth Lakes Fire Department Honor Guard, Chris, Makinley and Madison Gil, and a water gun fight on Old Mammoth Road.
Clockwise from top left on page 18: Callecia Yates and Greta Koehler at their lemonade stand outside of Wave Rave, Daisy Godinez, Josita Jaimes, Regan Ritchie, Ana Villalobos, Kate Moxley and Areli Ramirez of Mammoth HS cheer, Brant Miller of The Fun Shop and Keith Erickson juggling, Emma Louman, and “Pancake” Pletcher enjoying the Lion’s Club Pancake Breakfast.

This page, Clockwise from top left: Councilman John Wentworth shaking hands, Jack Lunch and John Urdi who put aside their differences to volunteer for the dunk tank, Craig and Jennifer Burrows, a fire truck, and Ray Duncan from Bongo Fro-Yo giving out candy as Willy Wonka.
BARS & MUSIC

Happy Hour/
Austria Hof, Happy Hour 5-7:30 p.m. Daily. Taco Tuesdays and Poki Taco Wednesdays. More info: See ad p. 10
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. 2.
Outlaw Saloon Happy Hour Mon.-Fri., Happy Hour from 4-6 p.m.
Morrison’s Happy Hour 5pm-7pm all summer Sunday through Thursday in the bar.
The Mogul Happy Hour Sun.-Thurs. from 5:30-6:30 p.m in the bar with food and drink specials.
Mammoth Rock ‘N Bowl Mon. DJ 9:00 p.m Bowling & Beats, Thurs. DJ 10 p.m Latin Night. Saturday DJ. 9 p.m. Info: See ad p. 17
Clocktower Cellar Happy Hour: 4-7 p.m. daily. $6 dollar menu items, drink specials. Info: See ad p. 4
Petra’s Bistro. Happy hour 5-7 p.m. Signature cocktails. Wine by the glass. See happy hour menu p. 4.
Robert’s Happy Hour: 4-6 p.m. daily. The Public House Karaoke every Tuesday starting at 8 p.m and going until midnight at 11 p.m.
Famous Slocums Happy Hour Tues.-Fri 4-6 p.m.; Sat. 4-5:30 p.m. Closed Sun./Mon. Dining at 5 p.m. daily. “No Reservations, just come on in.” More info: See ad p. 17
Giovanni’s Happy Hour daily 4-6 p.m. Large pizza and a pitcher of beer gets you free wings. See ad on this page.
SHELTER DISTILLING 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 $10 Growler Fills All Day See ad, p. 25.
BLOG: 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: 760.783.7131. See ad p. 5.

Friday, July 5/
DJ Rodney O entertains @ The Village at Mammoth starting 4 p.m.
Soul Graffiti takes the stage @ The Village at Mammoth starting 8 p.m. and will play pre- and post-fireworks. Elephant Rifle plays Mountain Rambler Brewery. Genre: Metal. Free. 10 p.m.

Saturday, July 6/
Silent DJ entertains in The Village at Mammoth. 5:30-9:30 p.m.

Sunday, July 7/
Sunday Brunch @ Gomez Restaurant and Tequileria in the Village at Mammoth. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m DJ Rodney O and Mimosas/Bloody Bar.
Sara McConnell plays the East Side Drive Shop starting 9:30 p.m in McGee Creek. 1-2:30 p.m.
Tarantula plays the Mobil Mart in Lee Vining. Free. 4-7 p.m.
Silent DJ entertains in The Village at Mammoth. 5:30-9:30 p.m.

Monday, July 8/

Tuesday, July 9/
Team trivia at Mammoth Brewing Co. Time: 7 p.m. Free.

Wednesday, July 10/
Eddy Evans plays the Liberty Bar for happy hour jazz on the patio. 5-6 p.m.
Driftwood Creek then takes over @ Liberty starting 9 p.m. playing classic rock and more.
In the Biz Wednesdays @ Mammoth Rock ‘n Bowl. 51 games and $1 shoes after 9 p.m.

Thursday, July 11/
Good Medicine plays the Mobil Mart in Lee Vining. Time: 3-7 p.m.

BARS & MUSIC

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TOWN STUFF

July 5-6/
Train Rides @ Laws Museum, just east of Bishop off Highway 6. 10:30-2:30. Tickets may be purchased in the Train Station. Prices are $5/person, under 13 rides free with paying adult. Info: 760.873.5950.

July 5-7/
Mammoth Celebrates The Arts Festival continues in the Footloose Sports parking lot at the corner of Main and Old Mammoth. Food, music, 70+ talented artists.
Mammoth Sports Concours d’Elegance featuring exotic and classic cars, including Rick Mears 1992 Indy Car. Time: 10 a.m. til 6 p.m. daily.

Friday, July 5 /
Fireworks @ The Village at Mammoth. 9 p.m. Free! First Friday Night Market in Bishop from 6-9 p.m on Academy Street between Main and Warren. More info: See sidebar column next page.

Saturday, July 6/
4th Annual Jazz By The Creek. Live jazz & brunch buffet. Time: 10 a.m. ’til 5 p.m. Tick: www.mammothmuseum.org/760.934.6299.
Botany in Rock Creek with Robin McGee. Time: 7 p.m. Free. 1-2:30 p.m. Join Friends of the Inyo Trail Ambassador Robin Hirsch on a trip through the spectacular flora of Little Lakes Valley. Come prepared. Meet Rock Creek Lakes Resort @ 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.

MAMMOTH LIQUOR

Beer lovers’ candy store
Selection of more than 300 beers
LUNCH’S TWO WORDS FOR SUMMER: VODKA TONIC
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Working with local contractors since 1970.

GAMING CONTESTS

Car
13 rides free with paying adult. Info: 760.873.5950.
California free fishing day! No license required!
4th Annual Jazz By The Creek. Live jazz & brunch buffet. Time: 10 a.m. ’til 5 p.m. Tick: www.mammothmuseum.org/760.934.6299.
Botany in Rock Creek with Robin McGee. Time: 7 p.m. Free. 1-2:30 p.m. Join Friends of the Inyo Trail Ambassador Robin Hirsch on a trip through the spectacular flora of Little Lakes Valley. Come prepared. Meet Rock Creek Lakes Resort @ 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.
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 Division as well.
Info: See ad. p. 24

Bridgeport Trails Day
Bridgeport Trails Day takes place next Saturday, July 13 from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Celebrate summer at the third annual Bridgeport Trails Day! Meet at the Mono Village parking lot at Upper Twin Lake for a fun morning of trail work and lakeshore clean-up. All volunteers will receive a free coupon for ice cream at the Twin Lakes Resort.
Learn more at friendsoftheinyo.org/events

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 plus margaritas and mojitos. Owens Valley Distillery will offer tastings and
Valley Distillery will offer tastings and plus margaritas and mojitos. Owens Valley Distillery will offer tastings and plus margaritas and mojitos.

Mammoth Rec Calendar
A brief accounting of upcoming events in Mammoth, many of which are free:
Free Skate Night at the Mammoth RecZone
• July 5, 12, 19 & 26/6-8 p.m.
• Enjoy complimentary admission and skate at the Mammoth RecZone every Friday evening in July.
Free Swim Sunday at the Whitmore Pool
• July 7, 14, 21 & 28/12-6 p.m.
• Free swim day at Whitmore Pool every Sunday in July
Men’s Softball Tournament
• July 13-14/8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
• Annual Men’s Softball Tournament at the Shady Rest Softball Fields (Sawmill Cutoff Road) - a slow-pitch, round robin tournament with single elimination playoffs and a home run derby.
Coed Softball Tournament
• July 20-21/8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
• Annual Coed Softball Tournament at the Shady Rest Softball Fields (Sawmill Cutoff Road) - a slow-pitch, round robin tournament with single elimination playoffs and a home run derby.

KIDS FISHING FESTIVAL
• July 27/8 a.m.- 1 p.m.
• FREE Annual Kids Fishing Festival open to kids 14 years and under at the ponds adjacent to the Snowcreek Resort Rental office (1254 Old Mammoth Road). Reels provided.

Coed Beach Volleyball Tournament
• July 27/12:00 a.m.
• 3rd Annual Coed Beach Volleyball Tournament at the Shady Rest Sand Volleyball Courts (Sawmill Cutoff Road). 4 v. 4 coed teams. Must have at least 1 female and let’s guess at who you are. Get on the lookout for writer Mary Austin and Stephen Willard, renowned artist of the Eastern Sierra, as well as some Shakespearean characters and a famous Father.

Be a Grand Juror
The Mono County Grand Jury seeks volunteers.
Grand Jurors are officers of the Court and are an independent body. They are charged with local government oversight through investigations, addressing concerns, and to make suggestions for improvements.
Members are reimbursed for travel, and the group decides amongst itself the best meeting times. 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 Mono County Grand Jury and how you can participate, please visit http://www.mono.county.ca.gov/generalinfo/jury-grandjury.html or call Lester Perpall, Court Executive Officer at 760.923.2330.

The Court is requesting all applications to be submitted by July 15, 2019.

AT THE MOVIES
Movies Playing This Week 7/6 to 7/11
PG 114 40m

EMERGENCY

TOWN STUFF
Saturday, July 6 (cont.)/
Mammoth Lakes Trails Day work outing @ the Earthquake Fault. 8:30 a.m. ‘til 1:30 p.m. Sponsored by MLTPA, Footloose Sports and SEMBA. More info: See ad p. 15.
FREE Introductory Workout Class:
Saturday, July 6 at 7:30 am. Limit of 4 adults per class. RSVP your spot: info@teddskii.com. See ad. p. 16.
June Lake Library Book Sale
10 a.m.-3 p.m. June Lake Community Center.
Don’t miss the Bridgeport Ranch Rodeo @ the north end of town. Starts 11 a.m.
Friends of Bridgeport Library Book Sale
Location: School St. Time: 9-5.
Sunday, July 7
“Romancing the West” time-traveling musical documentary presented by Mammoth Museum. One-night only. Celebrate 200 years of American History through music and stories. 6-8:30 p.m. Location: Hayden Cabin in Mammoth. Cost: $15 adult/$10 child.
Free swim Sunday @ Whitmore Pool.
12-6 p.m. More info: See sidebar column this page.
Sierra Club Glass Creek Meadow hike. Come prepared. Dogs welcome. Meet at the Union Bank parking lot in Mammoth to carpool to the trailhead. Participants coming from the north can head over to the Obsidian parking area next to 395 at 8:30 or at the trailhead at 8:45. Info: Ann at 760.934.9271/annleithliter@gmail.com.
Village at Mammoth Movie Series. Tonight: How to Train Your Dragon: The Hidden World. Rated PG. Starts 8:30 p.m. Come prepared - bring a blanket and dress warmly.
Monday, July 8
Concert in the Park in Bishop at the Gazebo. Starts 8 p.m.

TOWN STUFF
Tuesday, July 9/
Mono County Supervisors meet. 9 a.m. Bridgeport Courthouse, Teleconference site: CAO Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Sierra Center Mall in Mammoth.
Inyo County Supervisors meet. 10 a.m. 224 No. Edwards. Independence.
Wednesday, July 10/
Mammoth Hospital invites you to meet the newest orthopedic surgeon Dr. Knecht. Info: See ad p. 25.
Mammoth’s Planning and Economic Development Commission meets. 2 p.m. Suite Z. Minaret Mall.
July 10-13
Junior Livestock Show @ the Tri-County Fairgrounds in Bishop. Highlight is the Buyers’ Dinner and Auction on Saturday night. Info: www.tricountyfai.com/events. 760.873.3500.
Thursday, July 11
Brown Bag Lunch Series @ Mammoth Museum. One-night only. Presented by “Romancing The West” time-traveling musical documentary. More info: See sidebar column 12-6 p.m.
July 11-13
Mammoth Food and Wine Experience. Info: See ad p. 5.
Saturday, July 13
July 13-14
June Lake Chipper weekend. 10 a.m. ’til 4 p.m. each day in the June Mountain Ski Area parking lot.

Eastern Sierra Book Festival
A FREE all-day celebration of books, reading, writing and publishing.
When: July 14
Where: Yosemite Cabin.
Some highlights:
-Meet local authors from 3-5 p.m.
-Come as your favorite literary characters and let us guess who you are.
-On the lookout for writer Mary Austin and Stephen Willard, renowned artist of the Eastern Sierra, as well as some Shakespearean characters and a famous Father.
-Meet the Working Dogs of the Eastern Sierra at 2 p.m.
-There’s also a story hour at 2 p.m. with book “Sirellera” and a drawing workshop.
-The speaking program will include: 10:30 a.m. Chris Platt, Mono County Librarian “Books Can Change Your Life, No Matter Your Age” 11:00 a.m. Panel: “What Do Bookellers Look for in a Book?” 12:30 p.m. Teri Rider: “Update on Publishing Trends” 12:30 p.m. Panel: “How Did I Get My Book Published?”
Also, a publishing workshop will be held in the afternoon for authors. Tables with resources for those who wish to write or publish available all day.
Info: 685.205.9530
**Help Wanted**

**The Alpenhof Lodge**

**is now hiring for various positions:**

- Experienced server needed.
- Apply in person at Great Basin Bakery, 275 South Main Street in Mammoth Lakes.
- Mammoth Taxi is accepting resumes for experienced drivers with great customer service and a driving record. They are also looking for office staff for the right person with great organizational skills and customer service background. Please inquire with Scottie at 760-941-7433. www.mammothtaxi.com.
- Bleu Handcrafted Foods is Hiring! Looking for food passionate individuals to join our BAKING and CULINARY TEAM!
- Baking 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.
- Great wages, benefits and a fun team atmosphere.
- Part Time or Full Time Send resumes to the resumes@bleuhandcrafted.com or call 760-709-6089.
- Want to work one of the most beautiful resorts in the Eastern Sierra? Cabin Lake Resort is hiring for the following positions:
  - Cabin Housekeeper. Starting $15.25/hr.
  - Cabin Maintenance Helper. Must be physical and electrical handyman with scheduling issues. Must be willing to work any shift. Starting wage $14.50/hr.
  - Marina Personnel. Carrying out daily operations of the marina such as assisting customers with their rentals. Rent kitchenaret in optimal condition. Ensure docks are well-maintained for customer safety. Starting wage $16/hr.
- Stop. Clerk, Cashiering, Stocking. Must be willing to work weekends and late shifts. Stop by to speak with Buddy or send me your contact information to the email address below. Starting wage $15.50/hr.
- Administrative Assistant. Clerical duties including: answering phones, assisting the Reservation Manager. Assist Marketing Department as needed. Must have written and communication skills. $16.30/hr.
- Reliable transportation for all positions is a must. Please email your resume to cwell@convictlake.com. You can stop by to pick up an application. Ask for Lisa.
- Full time retail job in Mammoth and in Bishop. Apply at Mammoth Mountaineering Supply, Alpine Approach, Mammoth Gear Exchange, or to dave@mammothgear.com.
- Expanded June Lake business seeking bartenders, lounges server and food prep/dishwashers to join our team. Benefits include entry to all events. We aim to be the coolest place to work in the Sierra. Send cover letter and resume to info@balance-droolsaloon.com.
- Absentee Homeowners Service is seeking a full-time employee for our round work in Mammoth. Paid time-off, flexible hours and work truck included. Landscaping experience, handyman skills and/or snow removal skills preferred. Bilingual a plus. Please email info@absentehomew Смотрите все наши вакансии и предложения.

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**Sierra Employment Services, Inc. is hiring PT & FT for:**

- Front Desk/Reservations M $14 - $18
- Housekeeper M $15 - $17
- General Labores M $10 - $12
- Cabinet Inst M $20 - DOE
- M/C Welder We $20 – $22

**Call Us Today**

760-924-0532 or 760-873-8599
www.SierraEmployment.com

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

*has the following positions available:* PT & FT.

- Experienced drivers with great customer service and a driving record. They are also looking for office staff for the right person with great organizational skills and customer service background.
- Bleu Handcrafted Foods is Hiring! Looking for food passionate individuals to join our BAKING and CULINARY TEAM!
- Baking 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.
- Great wages, benefits and a fun team atmosphere.
- Part Time or Full Time Send resumes to the resumes@bleuhandcrafted.com or call 760-709-6089.
- Want to work one of the most beautiful resorts in the Eastern Sierra? Cabin Lake Resort is hiring for the following positions:
  - Cabin Housekeeper. Starting $15.25/hr.
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  - Marina Personnel. Carrying out daily operations of the marina such as assisting customers with their rentals. Rent kitchenaret in optimal condition. Ensure docks are well-maintained for customer safety. Starting wage $16/hr.
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- Administrative Assistant. Clerical duties including: answering phones, assisting the Reservation Manager. Assist Marketing Department as needed. Must have written and communication skills. $16.30/hr.
- Reliable transportation for all positions is a must. Please email your resume to cwell@convictlake.com. You can stop by to pick up an application. Ask for Lisa.
- Full time retail job in Mammoth and in Bishop. Apply at Mammoth Mountaineering Supply, Alpine Approach, Mammoth Gear Exchange, or to dave@mammothgear.com.
- Expanded June Lake business seeking bartenders, lounges server and food prep/dishwashers to join our team. Benefits include entry to all events. We aim to be the coolest place to work in the Sierra. Send cover letter and resume to info@balance-droolsaloon.com.
- Absentee Homeowners Service is seeking a full-time employee for our round work in Mammoth. Paid time-off, flexible hours and work truck included. Landscaping experience, handyman skills and/or snow removal skills preferred. Bilingual a plus. Please email info@absentehomew

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**The Alpenhof Lodge is looking to add to its team!**

- We are looking for self-motivated and experienced individuals who want to work for an established, family-run hotel. Full and part-time, year-round positions are available at our front desk and with our housekeeping department. Starting wages and benefits DOE - experience preferred but not required.
- Please apply in person at 6900 Minaret Rd.
- Reliable transportation is required for all positions and a great attitude is a must. Some heavy lifting, a clean background and a clean criminal record required.
- Please call 760-924-3889 or stop by the store at 1401 Tavern Rd. in Mammoth lakes.

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**Black Velvet Coffee. Barista, Bar Back, Logistics and Shipping positions available now:**

- PT & FT/AM & PM. Experience a plus. Email your resume to info@blackvelvetcoffee.com or drop one off at the shop today.
- Mammoth Chevron Seeking Cashier/customer service representative. Must be honest, fun loving, personable, a multi-tasker and enjoy making customers smile. Day and evening shifts available.
- Great pay. Please call 760-924-3889.
- Experienced server needed. Apply in person at the Breakfast Club. No phone calls please.
- Lake Mary Marina is now hiring for various positions. Please call and pick up applications at the marina, after 10 am. We are closed on Sundays.

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**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 organized, 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 loyal locals and adventurous travelers.

Now Hiring Cafe Team Member: Join us at Great Basin Bakery is seeking energetic, out-going people for part- or full time cafe shifts. Excellent customer service, strong work ethic and enjoyment of a fun, fast-paced environment required. Duties include basic food/beverage prep, POS operation, and cleaning/stocking the Cafe. Both early and afternoon shifts are available and you can work weekends 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.

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**LUNCH**

continued from page 15

It was 2006. The Town said it was building. I didn’t need a place to live, I just needed a job. I went to work for an insurance company where I was able to make enough money to buy a house on my own.

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**NO CLASSIFIEDS/LUNCH**

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**Restaurant**

**Footloose Sports**

**Creating an amazing and wholesome eating experience for our loyal locals and adventurous travelers.**

Now Hiring Cafe Team Member: Join us at Great Basin Bakery is seeking energetic, out-going people for part- or full time cafe shifts. Excellent customer service, strong work ethic and enjoyment of a fun, fast-paced environment required. Duties include basic food/beverage prep, POS operation, and cleaning/stocking the Cafe. Both early and afternoon shifts are available and you can work weekends 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.

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**PERSONALS**

I saw you ... at the Independence Day Parade. And by the end of the night, you were right at the June 26 workshop.

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**For Rent**

**Cozy Home in Old Mammoth 2 + 1, 1 Yr Lease, Unit, Updated Kit. Bth. & 1100 sq ft house on lot. Wood burning stove. Parking and parking. Avail. June 1, $1750 Mo., 818 421-6339**

**Vacation Home in Mammoth Lakes & Bishop. Bright & Cheery, mountain view. 2 bed 2 bath, hot tub. Availability is next step in your planning career! Visit www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov for more info. App. deadline: July 15, 2019.**
Notice of Filing Amendment

Notice of Filing Amendment with Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Application for Permit

Mammoth Lakes, California

This application has been filed with FERC on June 25, 2019. The application requests the issuance of a license to construct and operate a geothermal power plant.

The proposed project is located near the town of Mammoth Lakes, California, and would involve the development of geothermal resources within the Casa Diablo Known Geothermal Resource Area.

The application includes detailed information about the project, including site plans, engineering studies, and environmental impact assessments.

If you have any comments or questions, please contact the applicant, Premium Energy, at 355 S. Lemon Ave., Suite 203, P.O. Box 3837, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546, or by email at info@premiumenergyco.com.
By Ella Boehme

Buford’s ears went from rabbit-like and generally vertical to low and horizontal, like helicopter blades.

-Boehme

CLOSE ENCOUNTER OF A RURAL MAIL CARRIER

Yesterday I went on a trip. I met an old man named Buford. He’s a really interesting guy. He’s been working as a rural mail carrier for over twenty years. I asked him if he had any stories to share, and he did.

He said he had encountered a deer named Buford in the Swall Meadows area. He had been delivering mail to a mailbox set back from the road when he spotted Buford nearby. He decided to just give him a little pet, drop the mail off, and go on his way.

They approached each other, and he imagined the viewpoint from each. His grandmother was just thinking to pet Buford. Buford, it turned out, was not in the mood. Maybe deer are like people in that they have good days and bad days. He probably had The Imperial March playing in his head, and was imagining her not as his grandmother, but as his cyborg father with breathing problems. He had to bring her down in order to save the galaxy.

The music must have been reaching a crescendo, because when they approached each other, Buford’s ears went from rabbit-like and generally vertical to low and horizontal, like helicopter blades. When recounting this story to me, my grandmother passed along these valuable words of wisdom: “When the ears lay low, it’s time to go.”

This, however, was a lesson learned by experience. At the time, she saw the lowering of the ears as a gesture that indicated he wanted to be pet.

She was talking to him in that way you only talk to animals and very small children, reaching out a hand to give his little antler-nubs a pet, when things went south very quickly.

She described the deer as something that leaped. One moment she was giving him pets, and the next, she was fend-off a barrage of deer hooves heading straight at her face. Her glasses flew one way, and the mail went straight up as she flailed her arms in a desperate attempt to ward off the deer, who was either having a psychotic break or was having a very good time playing out the epic battle going on in his head. Letters and postcards rained around them as she did the only thing she could think of: she grabbed one of Buford’s legs to knock him off.
ENCOUNTER
continued from page 24

balance and somehow get away. The whole time, she couldn’t help thinking how angry everyone in the neighborhood would be if she broke his leg, but when a deer is attacking you, it is best to worry about your own welfare first, reputation second.

The leg did not get broken, but Buford did get knocked off balance and was finally pushed off my grandmother. He started towards her again, to finish off the fight, but she was having none of it.

To be one of the neighbors and look out the window to this scene would be odd, but even more so if they looked closer and saw that she was now puffed up, as if facing off against a grizzly bear, and yelling at the top of her lungs while waving her arms like a windmill, if windmills could suffer deer attacks.

Buford, ever the master at pretending embarrassing moments had never happened, turned and trit-trotted away like the most innocent animal you’ve ever seen.

My grandmother was able to find her glasses after some searching, and then the mail, which was safely delivered,

and that just serves as an example of how dedicated mail carriers can be. She got back in her car, scratched up and seething, and in fact, never saw Buford again. Where he went, she doesn’t know. Perhaps he exiled himself in shame, after losing a battle he had started for no reason whatsoever. Perhaps he started another battle with the wrong person and lost in a far worse way. Or maybe, he just did what deer do and wandered off into the woods to look for something to eat.

Whatever the case, Buford the deer will not soon be forgotten, and we have the phone call to prove it.

Remember, when the ears lay low, it’s probably time to go.

This is Ella Boehme’s first published work. She lives in Bishop.

MADE IN MAMMOTH LAKES, CA
Summer Specials: Taco Tuesdays $2 Tacos // New Cocktail & Food Menu Available Now
Free Spirit Tasting 2-3 & Happy Hour 3-5 Sunday - Thursday // Open 11am - 11pm Every Day
100 Canyon Blvd In The Village At Mammoth // SHELTERDISTILLING.COM

Mammoth Hospital invites you to meet our newest orthopedic surgeon,
Stephen Knecht, MD!

When: Wednesday, July 10th
5:00 - 7:00 PM

Where: Mammoth Hospital’s Physical Therapy Department
85 Sierra Park Road

Light refreshments will be served.

Dr. Knecht is a board certified orthopedic surgeon with fellowship specialty training in foot and ankle disorders and orthopedic trauma. His conservative approach to treatment of musculoskeletal issues prioritizes patient education and collaborative decision making. He utilizes a holistic approach in treating patients of all ages that includes physical therapy and strengthening modalities, orthotics and bracing, nutritional optimization, and when necessary, surgical solutions.

Currently accepting patients in both Mammoth and Bishop locations as part of our team of comprehensive orthopedic specialists.

(888) 204-4692
www.mammothres.com

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HOROSCOPES

By Clouds McCloud

Cancer: Despite the fact that many of you will be celebrating your birthday while Mercury is retrograde, that doesn’t mean that it will be a challenging year. In fact, it means just the opposite. To make sure it’s special, all you have to do is accept that it will be a great year, no matter what. Making this your new slogan should help.

“Patience is the ability to let your light shine even after your butt is down.”

Leo: Lots of Leos have been struggling for far too long. That’s why it’s vital that you remember that we never get the fruit the day we plant the seeds. Thankfully, your season of harvest and miracles has finally arrived. It’s time for you to rise up, to embrace opportunities, to inspire others and to sit back and kick your feet up for a while. If you can find someone to feed you grapes while you’re lounging in nothing but a fig leaf, great. If that person is wearing nothing more than a fig leaf, even better.

Virgo: Your words of wisdom for the week come from motivational speaker, Les Brown, “You must tell yourself, ‘No matter how tired or frustrated we get each with each other, we’re gonna make it—and hopefully a couple of times before breakfast.’”

Libra: One of the challenges for most Libras is not seeing the signs that the Stars are giving you. Most of the time those signs include asking you to be less judgmental of others and to step out of the muck of negativity. That’s why they’ve asked Clouds to pass along advice that even a blind person can see. From Helen Keller, “Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement.”

Scorpio: There’s an old saying that goes, “A person who feels appreciated will always do more than expected.” This line is very helpful for people in positions of management. But it’s also important that Scorpios appreciate this line. That’s why your new assignment is to work on appreciating when people appreciate you, even if it’s not in ways that you want to be appreciated. If you can do this, you’ll have a lot more to appreciate in life—including people who use the same words too much.

Sagittarius: Your new hero is fellow Fire sign J.K Rowling. The once poor author of the Harry Potter series has given away so much money to charities that she is no longer on the Forbes billionaire list. When asked about this, she responded, “You have a moral responsibility when you have been given far more than you need to do wise things with it and give intelligently.”

Capricorn: The last living prosecutor from the Nuremberg Trials, Ben Ferencz, is now 99 years old. The World War II vet who took Nazis to court for their crimes has a simple message that you feisty and grudge-holding Caps could use: “War makes murderers out of otherwise decent people. All wars, and all decent people.” Therefore, make sure the only WAR you get involved in is Wins Above Replacement. That’s a baseball stat. Look it up.

Aquarius: To help celebrate the Fourth of July in style, perhaps you should make an English musician your next role model. Therefore, try to be more like Rick Astley. 1) Never give you up. 2) Never let you down. 3) Never make you cry. 4) Never tell a lie. 5) Never hurt you.

Pisces: A recent Gallup Poll showed that less than half of all Americans are really proud of our country right now. There are two things we can do when we’re not proud of something: we can repress and ignore it or we can change it. While repression can work, it tends to run up your bar tab. Therefore, now is the perfect time to put on some red, white and blue and celebrate your birth—whatever this line. That’s why your new assignment is to work on appreciating when people appreciate you, even if it’s not in ways that you want to be appreciated. If you can do this, you’ll have a lot more to appreciate in life—including people who use the same words too much.

Aries: To make the most out of this time of small struggles and frustrations that lead to miracles, please heed the words credited to fellow Aries, Albert Einstein, “Everybody is a genius. But if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree it will live its life believing that it is stupid.” If that one doesn’t work, this one should, “Weak people revenge. Strong people forgive. Intelligent people ignore.”

Taurus: Since this Mercury retrograde period we’re in will cause some people to be more argumentative and since you Taureans are known to get into unnecessary arguments, please be sure to think twice before you say something you’ll regret. Following this advice should help, too: “It’s important in life to know when to stop arguing with someone and just let that person be wrong.”

Gemini: If you’ve been feeling off in any way, shape or form recently have no fear, for Dr. Clouds is here. After Googling your systems it’s obvious that you need to do three things. 1) Go camping. 2) Decide to be enough for yourself first, because the rest of the world can wait. 3) Always remember that life is easy. It’s people who make it tough.

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REVOLUTIONS AND OTHER NATURAL DISASTERS

By Barry Casselman

The activity of the earth's outer crust is curiously similar to a lot of human activity - both have often unexpected bursts which accumulate under their surfaces and suddenly appear. Volcanoes, in nature and in civilization, take a long time to form, but in an instant can dramatically change their environments.

There is always some geological activity, and always a dynamic to human civilizations, but there are moments in each when there is an intensification of forces which can signal coming drama and change.

There, of course, major differences between geology and humanity. Perhaps most notably, there is a distinction in duration. The earth's crust has existed for millions of years following the planet's birth as a roving fireball. The earth is a very tiny entity not only in its solar system, but even more so in our own galaxy and the seemingly endless number of galaxies in what is so vaguely verbalized as "the universe." The numbers involved quickly go beyond any true human understanding.

Humanity has been accumulating some interesting numbers of its own - particularly in the numbers of world population and in the numbers of generations since "history" began about 10,000 years ago, and even more since our humanoid forbears appeared so much longer before settlement and language created what we call "civilization." Much has been made recently about unusual activity above ground in the atmosphere where hurricanes, floods, droughts, extreme heat and cold, and all the dynamics of climate occur. A debate rages about what are their causes, whether they are inevitable and natural or human-made, and what (if anything) can be done about them.

But what about bursts of earthquakes, moving geological fault lines, erupting volcanos and other activities from the earth's core? And what about bursts of revolutionary human activity, intensification of technological change, and altered generational perception? The former is way above my intellectual pay scale, so I can only note the phenomena - and leave meaningful understanding (if any is possible) to our best scientific minds and imaginations. The latter might also be beyond our understanding, but at least it can be discussed in a language we all try to speak.

In recent times, every 40-50 years has brought some kind of intense global human change in the form of notable national revolutions, major and widespread wars, and extreme economic cycles.

Just as we have seen large clusters of tornadoes in certain regions, melting ice at one pole and freezing at the other, unusual activity in the earth's geological plates both on land and beneath the oceans, etc., so there seems a cluster of extraordinary human activity all over the globe.

Those with an ideological "axe to grind" suggest, of course, a self-serving meaning to these phenomena. For example, those opposed to democratic capitalism assert history is on their side. (They, of course, pretend the collapse of Soviet communism, the failure of socialist states, and just recently, the rebuke to a would-be dictator by the voters in Turkey, didn't happen.) Those opposed to totalitarianism, on the other hand, try to ignore the reappearance of dictators, violent suppression, intolerance and terrorism.

Just as in the decades after the turn to the 20th century, the 1930's and the 1960s and 70s, signals and omens are everywhere seen.

Alas, we do no have a Richter Scale, or any other device, to reliably tell us what will happen next.
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