TWO DIE IN CLIMBING ACCIDENT

Press Release

Jennifer Shedd, 34, of Mammoth Lakes and Michelle Xu, 22, of Los Angeles died in a climbing accident on Red Slate Mountain last weekend.

According to the Mono County Sheriff’s office, the pair had set out from Convict Lake on Saturday, October 26 to climb a couloir on Red Slate Mountain with the intention of returning the following evening.

Mono County Search and Rescue personnel determined that the women, though well prepared and equipped, were struck by a large rock fall event at an unknown time on their route.

Search and Rescue was notified of the missing climbers on Monday, October 28. It deployed a team, as well as a California Highway Patrol Helicopter (H40), to the location. Both H40 and SAR members located the women midway down a steep couloir at approximately 12,400’ elevation.

Based on observations from H40 and SAR teams, their positioning and lack of response, they were presumed deceased.

Due to impending darkness, high winds and steep terrain, the recovery effort was postponed until the next day.

On the morning of Tuesday, October 29, a National Guard CH-47 Chinook Helicopter inserted a team of eight SAR members at the base of the couloir. With weather conditions continuing to hinder the recovery efforts, three experienced SAR climbers made their way up the couloir to the women, who were still anchored into the ice by their equipment. The SAR climbing team faced active rock fall from the terrain above, discharging rocks and material into the couloir. After an approximate 1100’ ascent on the ice, the SAR climbing team reached the women and confirmed they were deceased.

The SAR climbing team determined that based on the quickly fading daylight and current climbing conditions (active rock fall), they could not safely lower the women without further endangering themselves or the SAR members below. Using the information and observations from the SAR climbing team, and projected favorable wind/weather conditions, a plan was implemented for an additional short haul capable helicopter resource (Yosemite Search and Rescue Helicopter YOSAR 551) to be on station early the following morning.

On the morning of Wednesday, October 30, YOSAR 551 arrived on scene to assist with the recovery. YOSAR 551 was able to successfully short haul insert 2 rescuers onto the ice field where they extracted the two women. YOSAR 551 transported them both to Mammoth Airport, where both sets of parents and many friends had gathered.

Saturday, November 2, 2019

Vol. 17, No. 44

FREE
continued from page 1
He’s an unapologetic micromanager, for one, and when asked how Council and Staff might better communicate with and meet the expectations of the general public, Sauser growled that sometimes, you’ve just gotta tell ‘em what they’re getting.

His top priority: Getting the Multi-Use Facility [MUF] built specifically, and finishing already contemplated and planned projects generally. His second and third priorities were 2.) Status quo with marketing funding. Don’t contemplate anything which might jeopardize revenue. And 3.) Housing on the ground quickly, suggesting the Town buy short-term rental units and turn them into workforce housing.

Grossberg used the phrase “stay the course” to sum up Bill. Lynda Salcido’s top priority was preservation and improvement of existing physical assets. Second priority: Have people living in the first phase of The Parcel development within two years. Third priority: MUF by 2021.

John Wentworth’s top priority was classic Wentworth. His first priority is to have a workshop with fellow Councilmembers to talk about what the first priority should be. As Grossberg observed, if Wentworth found a genie’s lamp, his first wish would be for more wishes.

Wentworth’s first real wishes were for 1.) To invest in, develop and improve three existing points of recreational access, specifically the Horseshoe Lake trailhead, the new Sherwins trailhead and the Lake George trailhead. 2.) Expanded workforce housing by June, 2020, and to have a developer for The Parcel under contract by February, 2020.

Kirk Stapp’s first priority was a tax measure. If there’s one thing about Kirk, he loves a tax measure. He wishes to impose a lift tax on the ski area. His second priority is to fund development of The Parcel with his first priority. His third priority is to maintain/upgrade existing levels of service within the town, specifically mentioning a need to invest in new trolleys.

Cleland Hoff said her top priority is developing workforce housing in any and all forms, though The Parcel trumps other options. Her second priority is the solid waste program, given the imminent closure of Benton Crossing landfill. Her third priority is 24/7 police coverage.

One of the curveballs of the exercise was that each Councilmember had to name a few things they’d be willing to give up in order to get the things they wanted.

But quite honestly, Councilmembers were in no mood to swing at curve-balls. Hell, they can’t hit them anyway.

So I’ll only list those “sacrifices” suggested by two or more Councilmembers.

Hoff and Wentworth said they were willing to pass on the MAC (the proposed new arts and cultural facility). Salcido is also probably in this camp, as she said she is willing to give up “other new shiny things” to focus on housing and the MUF.

Salcido, Wentworth and Stapp are willing to spend less on marketing, shifting those dollars elsewhere to achieve their aims.

Sauser joked that he’s willing to give up consultants, but that just seems farfetched. This town loves consultants.

Chosen highlights of the day:
1. Police Chief Al Davis scolding Mayor Bill Sauser for his micromanagement. “When you’re Mayor, you have to recognize your position and know that people are uncomfortable calling you out.”

2. Town Clerk Jamie Gray, as Grossberg was drilling down for more detail on a Cleland Hoff priority and asking staff members if they were clear on it, blurting out, “This one we actually know what she means.”

Grossberg comparing Sauser to Wentworth: “Bill needs a story [or narrative] to go with a decision. John needs data.”

“Sunt multis in carmina scribere quam carmina sunt” -Gregg Allman
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NOISE SURROUNDING “THE LETTER” CONTINUES

BUSD Board seeks to address lackluster test scores

By James

The Bishop Teachers’ Association, in part threatened that technology might replace their jobs in the future (a sentiment shared by workers of all stripes), continues its attack on the Bishop Unified School District Board and Superintendent Jon Ray in public meetings. The association is upset with the manner in which we educate our students is increasing complicated - and controversial.

The most recent statement from BTA president, Stacy Van Nest, threatened yet another survey of its members to gauge the outcome would be.

Ray provided The Sheet with a copy of a message he sent out to district employees inviting them to sit down with him and talk through issues, but apparently no one has bothered or chosen to do so. Board members have been contrite in having made mistakes and have promised to “do better” communicating with teachers, students and the public. Yet, they were elected to their positions to provide broad oversight and direction on education policies, and to make changes to improve underperforming state ELA and Math scores.

Communication is rarely appreciated when you’re telling folks things they don’t want to hear. According to a preliminary BTA survey taken on September 26, 58 percent of teachers expressed no confidence in the school board and 84 percent had no confidence in the new superintendent who has only been on the job four months.

“The Letter”

Much continues to be made of what is commonly referred to as “The Letter,” released by School Board president, Taylor Ludwick a few days after the Sept. 19 board meeting. The letter was intended to express the board’s concerns and willingness to do better in the future.

Instead, it was clunky, misguided, poorly worded and offensive to anyone who had attended or taught at Bishop schools within the past half century.

Ludwick wrote that “The BUSD Board is not pointing blame, this is a collective effort (failure) between sharing the blame between generations of board members, administrators, teachers, parents and community members.” Rather than calm the waters, “The Letter” further distracting from the elemental question: How to improve the district’s SBAC scores?

SBAC

Based upon state testing results over several years, Bishop schools are not performing as well as they should as seen in the average statewide multi-year Smarter Balanced Scale Score (SBAC) in Math and the District Language Arts.

In SBAC, the ELA scores for White students attending BUSD are only slightly below the state average of “66” with a score of “61.” (Note: all numbers used are for the year 2019).

The ELA score for Hispanic or Latino students is “40” statewide and “26” for the school district. Math scores are “28” statewide and “20” in the district.

The ELA score for Native Indian and Native Alaskan ELA statewide is “38” and “24” in the district, while Math is “26” state-wide and “20” for the district.

For English Learners (EL) the SBAC scores for ELA and Math are appallingly low. The state average is “11.” BUSD was scored at “4,” which strongly supports the need for Dual Immersion (DI) language programs.

SBAC scores for Economically Disadvantaged students for ELA was “27” at state, and “24” in the district, while Math scores were “39” statewide and “28” at the district.

For All Students (grades 3-11), the 2019 SBAC scores for ELA that “Met or Exceeded” district-wide was only “39,” a drop of “10” since 2017. The statewide average was “51.” Math scored as “Met or Exceeded” was “34,” six points below state average.

Ray noted that board is looking for changes that will improve the SBAC scores in the Bishop Unified school district. “There was never intended to be any judgment or placing blame, only to look for a new direction as it was clear that previous approaches can be improved,” he said.

Teachers are on the front line of education. The new direction being proposed by the BUSD board is to hope for “buy-in” on new technology and software assessment tools that will help teachers continue to provide that elusive balance of providing all students with the best education, while still being able to assess each student individually.
FEELING LESS SECURE ...
By Nita

On a podcast with Joe Rogan, infamous NSA whistleblower Edward Snowden discussed 2007’s “Protect America Act” and said that (the name of the act) should have been our first indication this is a very bad thing, because they never named a law something like that unless it’s something terrible.

Poignant discourse providing a backdrop to the SECURE (Setting Every Community Up for Retirement Enhancement) act which the U.S. House passed in May, 2019 by a bipartisan 417-3 vote.

While the bill is currently stalled out on the Senate floor with Republican holds from Rob Portman (UT) and Pat Toomey (PA) preventing the SECURE act from passing.

Proponents of the bill believe the stall is more “logistical than substantial” and experts claim the bill has a good chance to pass early next year.

The SECURE act is advertised as a fix-all solution to messy 401(k)s and sticky rules regarding withdrawing money. It sets up more lenient “safe harbor” retirement plans for small businesses which grant flexibility for said businesses to open up their own retirement plans. It grants long term part-time workers eligibility for certain 401(k) plans. The act switches up the minimum-age distribution from 70.5 to 72 years old.

And changes the deadline for businesses to claim these programs allowing flexibility. All positive clauses according to Senior Financial Advisor of Mammoth Wealth Management, Eric Wasserman.

And then there is Section 401. Section 401 of the SECURE act is a provision that affects the distribution process for stretch IRAs.

A stretch IRA is an estate planning strategy where the deceased passes on the IRA to a non-spouse beneficiary. It allows the beneficiary to inherit an IRA that continues generating tax-deferred growth.

The current way a stretch IRA is distributed is one of two ways. The first is a five year liquidation of the IRA where a person takes out about 20% of the IRA every year until it is completely gone.

The second, and more commonly used, is a calculation based on how many years you are estimated to have in your life. Say you are 30 and inherit a $100,000 stretch IRA. Projecting a 50 year average life span, you’d be required at the outset to take out 1/50th, or $2,000, in year one. In succeeding years, you would gradually take out increasing sums until it is gone.

Under the SECURE act, the beneficiary will have one option: liquidate the IRA in 10 years. In addition, the SECURE act increases the monetary punishment for not complying with the withdrawal rules.

“It is overtly negative. There is no doubt about that,” said Wasserman.

Wasserman detailed that Stretch IRAs also have a third option currently that allows families to create a long-term deferred growth IRA that accumulates compound interest for a long period of time. In the example a 75 year old woman who dies with an IRA balance of around $103,000 and passes it on to her daughter who is 55. The SECURE act still allows the 55-year old woman does not need the retirement money she has a nine month window to disclaim her interest and would then pass it on to the contingent beneficiary, her 28-year old daughter.

Because the daughter can stretch the IRA to 55.3 years (IRS calculation) she would hypothetically receive $564,071, based upon an average investment return of 5% compounded annually, raising the ceiling of the IRA by a multiple of five.

The Sheet asked financial advisor Darin Kaylor, of Gram & Kaylor, how often he sees stretch IRAs. “I recommend them all the time but I don’t know how often people actually listen to me,” he joked.

And if it is not clear why changing the withdrawal rules matter, Kaylor explained, “Say someone is making $20,000 a year, well if they inherit a $200,000 IRA and they have to claim all that money in ten years then they will double their salary, possibly pushing them into a different tax bracket.”

On why the law might be passed, Kaylor believes the government senses it’s missing out on a revenue bonanza.

“I have people come into my office all the time who have not withdrawn from their inherited IRA and have no clue that that is what they should be doing.”

Kaylor continued to describe how the government could legally go after those people now, but if they pass a new bill then it brings the issue into the public sphere. “They could then collect their unearned tax revenue and penalties because the issue would be center stage.”

The SECURE act still allows the beneficiary to not going through depending on what 2020 brings but the Stretch IRA alteration alone would transfer a significant amount of wealth from normal people straight into the hands of the government.

 vendors saw a 30-40% increase, and overhead costs were reduced by 52% as “the fair primarily ran on volunteers this year,” said McGuire.

The goal was to give the community the回馈 for their dollar, and we did that with all of our free entertainment,” said McGuire.

Despite the attendance increase, exhibits received a 10% decrease with a total of 2,780 entries, compared to 2018. McGuire explained exhibits are currently going down and that is a trend in the fair entry, but she is hopeful to bring up the numbers, as they are currently working on new ideas, she said.

A few new things CEO McGuire hopes to bring to the 2020 Fair is:

- All things BBQ, as she is currently working with the Kansas City BBQ Society to sanction a BBQ contest, which “has such potential to grow and become something great.”
- Native American Village, similar to the New Mexico State Fair with crafts, food and educational displays.
- Redefining and giving a makeover to the exhibit department.
- Early booking online will be available in November or December.
- Looking to purchase billboards that say “Concert, Rodeo, Derby,” to advertise the fair, in an appealing way to travelers.

And from Tawni ...

“Tourism [is] very strong this fall,” Executive Director of the Bishop Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Bureau Tawni Thomson told Council.

McGuire published a recap of the fair’s statistics, which was a total of 38,000 in attendance for the duration of four days, this being an increase of 30% from 2018.

McGuire believes that the increase in attendance is due to the social media marketing, advertising, the branding of everything “all-new” and giving the public a lot of free entertainment, she said.

Another increase at this year’s fair compared to 2018 were the junior/open rodeo entries which increased 50%, sponsorships were up 52%, food
IN THE BUSINESS OF CREATING “RAVING FANS” 
Consultant alternately vexes, inspires Mammoth Council, staff

By Page M ammoth Lakes Town Council participated in a two day re-
treat/workshop on Monday and Tuesday focused on team building 
and group dynamics, with additional evaluation of current work processes 
and risk management. The workshop, led by attorney Scott Grossberg, was put 
together by the Town in conjunction with the California Joint Powers Insurance 
Authority, which provided the majority of the funding for the retreat.

Grossberg, whose practice is based in Upland, CA, has had an affiliation with 
the Town of Mammoth Lakes as both a litigation lawyer and employee trainer 
that stretches back thirty years, longer than most if not all town officials have 
been in their current positions.

Town Manager Dan Holler kicked 
off the retreat with a speech about the 
importance of local government and the 
passion of those in charge, while also in-
roducing key questions that the retreat 
would hopefully answer. “We’re really 
about facilitating success,” Holler said to 
the room, “How do we enhance our level of working togeth-
er?” asked Holler.

Holler concluded his introduction 
with a final question to the room, “How 
do we help each person in Mammoth … 
and the community we live and work 
“We do have an impact on each other 
and we should ask ourselves what 
we do we help each person in Mammoth … 
and the community we live and work 
“We do have an impact on each other 
and we should ask ourselves what 
With Grossberg’s speech concluded, 
handed the reins over to Grossberg who 
began his presentation with goals and a 
background on his own history.

As to his history with the town, “I’ve been training your folks for years,” said 
Grossberg, “I’m the one that listens to 
them.” He went on to detail his litigation 
work with the town, including handling 
some of the fallout from past financial 
issues.

As a means of highlighting the im-
portance of a decision making process, 
Grossberg walked up to Mayor Pro Tem 
Lynda Salcido and asked her about her 
strategy for the day. Salcido outlined 
his morning routine to Grossberg, who 
abruptly asked her why she chose to 
wear the sweater that she had on. “It 
was clean and it was warm,” responded 
Salcido.

Grossberg, taking a pause for effect, 
said in a low tone, “This is huge for me.” 
What Salcido had revealed in describ-
ing her morning process was, according 
to Grossberg, was her universal decision 
making process, something that he chal-
lenged his audience to dive deeply into.

He then asked the officials “what 
business are you in?”, eliciting responses 
such as public safety, public works, com-
munity services until Mayor Bill Sauser, 
who said that he’s in “the business of 
satisfaction, “ hit upon the answer that 
led closest to what Grossberg was 
really trying to get at. Using the example 
of companies that employ a high level of 
customer service, Grossberg urged the 
council and department heads to see 
their business as “creating raving fans.”

In order to do this, things would need 
to change. Grossberg insisted that his 
listeners “change agency culture” but 
cautions that “elected officials believe 
they need to get involved in the minute, 
the day-to-day … it doesn’t work.”

He then asked that each person finish 
the statement “I realize the town is not 
fully aligned with …”

Councilmember John Wentworth went with “understanding it’s future” while 
Town Attorney Andrew Morris sug-
gested focus. “I think that sometimes 
we suffer from trying to be all things 
to all people … we end up chasing so 
many worthy endeavors that there’s 
not enough time to do all of them really 
well.”

Community Development Director 
Sandra Moberly pointed to communica-
tions, including “helping the community 
understand why we make/made those 
decisions.”

David Lewis Jones was born August 
13, 1938 in Weirton, West Virginia and 
passed away peacefully at his home in 
Bishop, California on October 27, 2019 
after living with COPD and heart failure 
for a number of years.

David graduated from Chaffey Union 
High School in Ontario, California in 
1956 and enlisted in the Navy where he 
served as an Air Traffic Control Opera-
tor. In 1960 he married Paula and they 
toured Southern California Eden. David 
Enjoyed golf, fishing, playing bridge, 
and spending time with family. He and 
Paula also loved traveling to destina-
tions with beautiful golf courses.

David leaves behind his wife Paula, 
daughter Janell (Scott) Cote, son Brian 
(Cleland) Jones, four grandchildren, 
Jenna, Allison, Emily, and Blaise, two 
great-grandchildren Peyton and Con-
nor, sisters Sally Bruhn and Jackie 
(Dave) Zweck, sister-in-law Dixie (Pat 
Dooley, and many other family mem-
bbers. David’s kindness and gentle nature 
will be missed by all who knew and 
loved him. At his request there will be 
no services. A private family interment 
will be held at a later date. 

David leaves behind his wife Paula, 
daughter Janell (Scott) Cote, son Brian 
(Cleland) Jones, four grandchildren, 
Jenna, Allison, Emily, and Blaise, two 
great-grandchildren Peyton and Con-
nor, sisters Sally Bruhn and Jackie 
(Dave) Zweck, sister-in-law Dixie (Pat 

IT'S A CRAZY GOOD SKI BOOT SALE!

Surefoot’s annual October Madness Sale is so crazy that we’re holding it in November this year! Stop by the store November 1-3 to find the perfect boot for you and your skiing ability. New this year, the Surefoot Contoura liners offer a revolutionary internal heating system! Don’t miss our only sale on 2020 model ski boots this year. Loyal locals get 20% off our latest and greatest new models of boots, liners, and selected accessories which have just arrived in our stores.

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O

On July 12, 2019, the Sheet posted a story titled ‘County Lays Up’ which detailed the polarization in Lee Vining when it came to the opening of cannabis dispensary Tioga Green on Highway 395 just south of town. The dispensary opened last Saturday, October 26.

The polarization remains.

The story gave a backdrop of the history between the two sides as proponents for Tioga Green claimed “Tioga Green is the best possible location for a cannabis retailer—adequately distant from both Lee Vining schools, and far enough out of town so as to not affect traffic or parking” in addition to providing economic stimulus to Lee Vining through their workers.

Opponents countered, “Although it’s well outside of the 600-foot radius from schools that the Mono Basin RPAC requires of cannabis dispensaries, it’s still too close, and cannabis products could end up in the hands of kids. Also, being right outside of town has a downside. “It’s the first thing that you see when you leave Lee Vining,” said Stephanie Banta, speaking against the proposal. Her point: in a town reliant on tourism, image matters, and does a cannabis dispensary create the image that Lee Vining wants?”

The updated paint and lack of signage according to Sugimura, Tioga Green received a conditional use permit that had extra clauses, “The use permit we gave to them (Tioga Green) has all of this in it.”

The use permit was modified to make it (the dispensary) less visible. “What’s that old saying? Any publicity is good publicity?” Sugimura understands the frustration, “They are toeing the line we created and if they step one toe over the line, people are watching what they do carefully and then they report it.”

Even though Tioga Green is experiencing pointed backlash, Zila says his business is well thus far, “We have all this negativity coming at us but we have managed to make it a positive thing and business is great.”

“The communities [sic] solution as we would any other project, both in terms of trying to be helpful and in enforcing the rules and regulations the project needs to follow,” said Sugimura in an email to the Sheet.

Tioga Green security guard Albert Garnica Jr. sent the Sheet an ‘uninformed guest log’ that keeps track of these random civilians who unknowingly wander into Tioga Green.

The Sheet received the log on October 30.

In the four-day span between October 26-30, the log suggests there have been 15 groups that came to Tioga Green looking for something other than Marijuana.

11 of the 15 groups thought it was a visitor center or wanted directions. Four of the 15 believed it was a Ranger Station.

Almost half, seven out of 15, of the groups had children in tow. Seven out of the 15 groups also happened to be foreign with more than half (four) having kids with them.

“People are treating us like a visitor center or wanted directions. They are toeing the line we created and if they step one toe over the line, people are watching what they do carefully and then they report it.”

Garnica, 38, believes it is a loudly minor that is creating the issue, “It is the same couple families that are creating this issue. We see them pass our place 20-30 times a day. It is ridiculous. They even sit up the road and watch us with binoculars.”

“Owners of Tioga Green are treating us like a visitor center or wanted directions. They are toeing the line we created and if they step one toe over the line, people are watching what they do carefully and then they report it.”

Zila continued, “What’s that old saying? Any publicity is good publicity?” Yep, that’s the one.
The ballot of Death
Written by Airen Chaconas
Directed by Leslie Redman
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Nov. 11  DOS ALAS

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RODNEY O REMAINS POSITIVE IN CANCER BATTLE

D

Rodney O has stage four pancreatic cancer. And as he told me at Rafters (he was in Mammoth this week for a quick hello) on Wednesday afternoon, he shouldn’t have even been there to speak with me.

“They tell me my immune system is depleted,” said Rodney. “That I shouldn’t be around people. That I should be resting. But laying in bed drives me nuts. So I’m booking events and running nightclubs.”

“My wife, my mom, my doc ... they say no. I say go.”

By Monday, he’ll be in for his next round of chemotherapy.
And in a month-and-a-half, he’ll have another MRI to determine if the tumor has shrunk and if there’s reason for optimism.

His original doctor’s diagnosis: One year to live.

Rodney’s take: Of course, I’m freaked out. I’d like another ten years, fifteen years. But ... I’ve also lived one of the best lives anyone can live. I got to be a professional DJ. I surfed around the world. I’ve lived 100 years in 50.

And I just want to be lucky for a little bit longer.

It all started about four-and-a-half months ago. Rodney said he suffered from a sideache. The pain was a 10. He was dropping weight precipitously (forty pounds). But pancreatic cancer is difficult to diagnose. The pain finally got so bad that he checked into UCLA Medical Center six weeks ago looking for answers.

Though it was certainly not the answer he was looking for.

Rodney in his prime hosting Whiskey Creek’s 2010 Jello Wrestling event.

His Dad died of a similar issue in his 70s. His mother is a cancer survivor.

When asked what music he’s been listening to lately, Rodney first said that he’s been on hiatus from music since the diagnosis, but then relented. “I’ve been listening to some bands like ‘Stick Figure.’”

He was also wearing a ballcap from the punk band “Strung Out.”

Both Rafters in Mammoth and Rusty’s in Bishop have held fundraisers during the past six weeks to support Rodney.

The Rafters fundraiser netted $10,000.
Sheet: What was your reaction?
Rodney: Tears. I just busted out. I was choked up. Brent [Truax, Sierra Nevada Resort G.M., who had called to give him the news] was choked up ...

Rodney O, as a matter of Sheet trivia, is one of only four people ever to be named The Sheet’s “Person of the Year.” We did it from 2004-2007 and then I realized it probably shouldn’t continue because over time it would become forced. But Rodney’s honor was legit. The article is gone now - the archives from that era destroyed by the Round Fire - but I remember the rationale behind his selection. Rodney O, hands down, has entertained more people and been part of more people’s special life moments than anyone in the Eastern Sierra.

As he said during the interview, “Just two days ago, a guy came up to me and said he met his wife at [Whiskey Creek’s] Wild Wednesday. I still get that. All the time.”

Rodney’s been married four-and-a-half years now. His wife Colleen works I.T. at Mammoth Mountain, which has graciously allowed her to work remotely these past few months.

Sheet: So Rodney ... as a guy who’s DJ’d so many weddings (including my own), who was the DJ at yours.

Rodney: We flew in the best DJ in L.A., DJ Cool Whip, because all my friends at the wedding were DJs.

And finally, a vow. No matter what else happens or how the chemo unfolds or what the prognosis is, Rodney says, “I’ll be at Red Lantern for New Year’s Eve. No matter what.”
THE BOOK ON THE JUNGLE

General public has just one chance to see this show: Nov. 2 @ 4 p.m.

By Page Book

Although Mammoth Repertory Theater’s production of The Jungle Book is promoted as “theatre for young audiences,” that shouldn’t deter anyone worried about their own enjoyment of the show when bringing the young ones along.

On Thursday morning, I found myself taking in the show with about sixty kindergarten students and their teachers, all of whom were considerably more bright and chipper than I at 8:30 a.m.

The show began with the sounds of a storm, the actors slithering and crawling onto the stage from the audience and the wings while imitating bird calls, the screeching of monkeys, and throaty growls evocative of the big cats. It’s an atmospheric opening, one that dually sets the scene and establishes the rules of the production: the audience is a part of the show while the actors themselves shift seamlessly between roles, taking on the characteristics of each jungle animal in both body and voice.

The talent for imitation with this five-person LA-based crew is impressive; the small cast size means quick changes and the actors to make each of their characters distinct from one another - even when stationary, they take on the mannerisms of the animals they portray. It’s an exhaustive exercise to behold, a feat made even more impressive with the fact that they’re doing all this at altitude while wearing minimal costumes, placing the onus on the actors that they don’t need song-and-dance numbers to carry the show.

Director Doug Oliphant is no stranger to Mammoth Repertory Theater, having directed, performed, and choreographed shows at the Edison including Romeo and Juliet and serving as the fight choreographer in The Fantasticks. His direction for this production definitely deserves kudos, making the most of the small space and crew to put together a veritable jungle in Mammoth Lakes.

Speaking with Oliphant after the Thursday morning debut performance, he spoke to the wide appeal of the show’s physical nature, explaining that different age groups find different aspects of the show appealing.

Is there a lesson tucked away in here for the young, impressionable theatergoers? Definitely. Mowgli struggles to find where he fits in with the jungle world, pushing back against the strict rules imposed by Bagheera and searching for belonging, not always in the right places. The monkeys may be the most cautionary group of the tales, a group who take advantage of Mowgli’s desire to fit in and end up his tormenters. Their defining characteristic is a chaotic apathy towards others; they bait him into joining them with false promises and have a good deal of fun at his expense before throwing him down a space. And just maybe, you can kick up the humor in the show. My fellow audience members were thoroughly entertained by sights like Baloo falling flat on his face, asleep, and the scenes where Bagheera and Baloo searched for Mowgli with comical ignorance of where the actor was sequestered.

Mowgli, the “man-cub” at the center of the tale, is the only truly constant character throughout the show. Where the other actors shift between animals, Mowgli’s shifts come as time passes within the world of the play. She starts an infant, gazing in wonder at the world she’s come to inhabit without speaking, and ends as a pre-teen, walking upright and arguing with her animal friends, all the while attempting to fit in with them by imitating their movements.

Greg Hardy’s adaptation comes from Rudyard Kipling’s 1894 text, not the 1967 Disney musical version, meaning that those expecting to hear some classic Disney songs may be disappointed to find out this is strictly a play. Truth is, there’s enough range and fluidness from the actors that they don’t need song-and-dance numbers to carry the show.

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MHS CRUISES PAST TRONA

By Lunch

The MHS Girls Volleyball team advanced to the quarterfinals of the division 5 playoffs in the Central Section by beating Trona High in straight sets, 25-10, 25-7, 25-5.

The Huskies were led by Senior Ella Thompson’s 15 kills. Erica Lynch led the defensive effort with 6 digs in the backcourt. Setter Sam Jones had 18 assists.

And Drew Presson, Catherine Gacho and Makenna Kumluue were flawless from the service line. Kumluue closed the match out with 16 straight serves to put an end to Trona’s season.

Mammoth is the tournament’s top seed, and its next match be against the winner of #9 Lone Pine and #8 Fowler, currently scheduled for November 5 at 7 p.m.

The semifinals will be on November 7 and the finals are set to take place next Saturday, November 9.

Top: Senior Kendall Lach shows her hops on this hit. Above: Sam Jones sets for Sara Mueller.
BISHOP BLASTS BORON; PLAYS FOR LEAGUE TITLE

The Bishop Bronco football team celebrated last Friday night with a 56-6 homecoming win over Boron.

Senior Luke McClean accounted for 6 touchdowns, rushing for 4 scores and throwing 2 touchdown passes and was the team’s offensive player of the game.

Both McClean and Steven Paco rushed for more than 100 yards as the team rushed for more than 300 yards total.

Joe Weaver scored two TDs. Kennedy Batchelder made a team high 9 solo tackles and played great on the offensive line, earning the overall player of the game award.

Jaydan Braithwaite picked off two passes and made 5 solo tackles including a tackle for a loss. JB was named defensive player of the game.

Zach Mojarro came up from the JV team and played great on special teams. earning special teams player of the game honors.

Every Bronco got playing time including the JV players who moved up this week. A big credit to Coach Rich Miears and the JV staff for doing a great job developing their athletes.

This week the Broncos travel to California City for the High Desert League Championship game. Both teams are 4-0 in HDL play. The winner has the inside track to the #1 seed in the CIF central section division 6 playoffs.

-Coach Palu

THE SHEET I Saturday, November 2, 2019
www.thesheetnews.com

SPORTS I 13

MHS @ MT. SAC
Press Release

The Mammoth High School cross country team made the annual trek to one of the nation’s largest cross country meets held at Mt. Sac on Friday, October 25.

With more than 450 teams and 12,000 athletes competing on a 2.93 mile course, this meet is daunting in terms of numbers, as well as terrain. It features an extreme course with switchbacks and torturous hills with names such as, “Poop-Out Hill.” Throw in 90-degree plus heat and you’ve got a serious test.

A test the Mammoth Varsity teams passed.

Girls’ Varsity team captain Jordyn Harper took SECOND place out of 99 runners in the team’s heat with a time of 19:50.3! Teammate Rhona McChesney came in 7th place with a 21:14.5. Twin sisters Lizette & Emma Dardenne-Ankrin snagged the 9th and 16th place spots, respectively.

The Girls’ Varsity Team took home the second place trophy out of the ten teams competing in their heat.

The Boys’ Varsity team competed against 123 runners and 17 teams.

Cardiff Smith was Mammoth’s top finisher in 13th place with a time of 17:37.7. Ryan Furness came in next for Mammoth with a time of 17:59.2, good for 20th place. On his heels was Kazuki Okamoto in 23rd place with an 18:08.7. Devan Tenedora pulled off 27th place for the team with an 18:18.2 while Aidan LeFrancois was the teams fifth runner in placing 35th.

The Boys’ Varsity Team placed fourth in their heat.
Up next for the cross country team are the CIF Finals, to be held in Clovis, Calif. on November 21.

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-Coach Palu

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**TOWN STUFF**

**November 1-2/**
Playhouse 395 Youth Production of “How to Eat Like a Child.” Location: Bishop Playhouse at 301 N. Foote. Time: 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday evening with a 2 p.m. Saturday matinee. Cost: $8 for adults; $5 & under free.

**November 1-3/**
Bishop Fall Highball Craggin’ Classic @ various locations. This three-day climbing festival is a true celebration of climbing and community in the Eastern Sierra. This year’s Classic features films, climbing clinics, games, gear and local beer. More info at https://americanalpineclub.org/bishop-ce

**November 2/**

**Saturday, November 2/**
NIH Auxiliary Boutique Fundraiser @NIHD Birch Street Annex. Boutique items, baked goods, See’s Candy, door prizes. Time: 8 a.m.- 1 p.m. For info, call Sharon Moore at 760-872-4198.

Elvis Tribute Concert @ the Tri-County Fairgrounds, Bishop. Bring a blanket, chairs, picnic, and friends! Featuring Raymond Michael, selected by Dick Clark as one of the best Elvis Tribute acts in the world. Time: 3-6 p.m. Info at www.tricountyfair.com/see-ad pg. 9

14th Annual Wild Spirits @ Tri-County Fairground. A celebration of Eastern Sierra wildlife with free food and wine, a silent auction and animal ambassadors. More info: see ad pg. 19, sidebar pg. 15


**Sunday, November 3/**
NIH Auxiliary Boutique Fundraiser @ Millpond Recreation Area. Featuring 1k, 5k and 10k races. All proceeds go to ESLT’s section of 395. More info at 760-873-4554/marie@eslt.org

38th Annual Toiyabe Road Run @ various locations. This three-day full-day celebration with tri-tip dinner, music, and local beer . More info: https://www.eslt.org/38th-annual-toiyabe-road-run

**November 3-4/**
Battle of the Bands @ Rafters featuring Piddler Padder (Mammoth) vs. Barnsmoke (Tahoe). Doors open 10 p.m. Cost: $14 adults; 5 & under free.

**Sunday, November 3/**
The Bishop Area Climbings Coalition hosts Photographer Jim Herrington @ the Inyo Council for the Arts. 1:30, Main St. in Bishop. Event starts 5:30 p.m. Tix: $10 at the door. Herrington will give a slideshow presentation in support of his new book, “The Climbers.”

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

**Mammoth Rock ‘N Bowl**
Open Mic Night @ Public House. 8 p.m. 1/2 off wing night and extended happy hour for Thursday Night Football @ Liberty.

**Saturday, November 9/**
Battle of the Bands @ Rafters featuring Piddler Padder (Mammoth) vs. Barnsmoke (Tahoe). Doors open 10 p.m. Sara McConnell plays Side Door. 6-9 p.m.

Opening day apres ski party @ 53 in the Village. More info: See sidebar next
14th Annual Wild Spirits
When: Saturday, November 2
Where: Tri-County Fairgrounds
Time: 6:30 p.m.

Join Wildcare Eastern Sierra for a fun evening to support the organization that rescues injured Golden Eagles and raises baby ducks. The 14th Annual Wild Spirits fundraiser will have free food and wine, a silent auction, prizes at the door, and even appearances by the wildcare wildlife ambassadors, Razzle the Raven, Spirit the Red-tailed hawk, Half-Z the California Ground Squirrel, and Bumpy the Golden-man- cled Ground Squirrel.
Suggested Donation: $15 and kids under 12 get in free.

For more, see ad p. 19.

TOWN STUFF
Sunday, November 3 / Winter Holiday Decoration @ Tri-County Fairground. Master Gardener Bobbie Stysfjeld will te...
Help Wanted

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Housekeeping Jobs (ML) / Hotel Maid / Cleaning Jobs (ML) / SDOE Laundry Attendant ML / $15-$17

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Mammoth Rock N Bowl has immediate openings for 2 Assistant Pinsetter Mechanic/techs, who will perform maintenance and repairs of Qubica/AMF Bowling Equipment. Help Wanted

Call 760-914-1045 or stop by and see us in person.

Mammoth Spas Creations is looking for an additional member for its team. We currently have an immediate opening for a spa maintenance/technical position. This is a Full Time Position (Monday through Friday). This position offers vacation accrual, benefits and paid holidays. This position is preferred, but not required. No heavy lifting is required. Please call 760-914-3091 or stop by the spa located at 101110 Tavon Road, Mammoth Lakes for more information and to pick up an application. Resumes can be e-mailed to mammothspa@aol.com.

Surefoot Mammoth is hiring for the upcoming winter season. We are looking for passionate, detail oriented, customer service oriented skiers to fill multiple full time bootfitter and seasonal sales positions. We are looking for someone who has a passion for the outdoors and is interested in providing a quality product to snowboarders and skiers. If you have great organizational skills, multiple concurrent task abilities and a strong desire to learn, Surefoot Mammoth is that company for you. Our team is the greatest in the industry. Email resume to surefoot.com or stop by the store to fill out an application.

Vacasa is hiring full and part time housekeepers in June Lake with pay starting at $18 per hour. Apply online at vacasa.com, call or email allison.bowers@vacasa.com, or Black Tie Ski Rentals is now hiring for both Full Time and Part Time winter seasonal positions for the 2019-2020 ski season. Seeking proactive and energetic individuals who share our love of the mountains and possess an entrepreneurial spirit. Ideal candidates enjoy working in a great team atmosphere and are passionate about providing impeccable service to our guests. Flexible scheduling is available but MUST be able to work weekends and holidays. Competitive hourly wages plus additional compensation which includes: Sales Commission, Profit Sharing, Employee Recognition Program, Industry Pricing Equipment Deals, Personal use of Equipment and Tools, Family & Friend Discounts and End of Year Bonus. Contact 760-914-0081 for more information.

Real Estate

Now Hiring

Founded by local skiers in 1979, Footloose is the premier place to shop for gear and is the biggest sport shop in Mammoth Lakes.

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Seeking responsible, reliable personnel for busy rental management company. Excellent phone/customer service skills, attention to detail required. Some general maintenance or administration experience required. Full-time 32-40 hours per week, year-round starting at $15-$20/hr. Competitive pay and package. Please email resume to sarah@mammoth-skiroo.com

For Rent

Holiday season rental in West Bishop. 2 BD, 2 BA house furnished with every kitchen appliance, washer & dryer, internet, pool table, air condition and a one car garage. Please contact 760-914-0081 for more information and to book your stay or email vacation@mammothlakes.com. $2,000.00

For Sale

Commercial use only. Please call Sarah at 760-914-0081 for more information.

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June Lake, Ca 93529

This business is conducted by a individual. The registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name listed here.

Fictitious Business Name Statement

The Following Person Is Doing Business As:

Eastern Sierra Security

CortAn, LLC

203 Alpine Circle, P.O. Box 3203 Mammoth Lakes, Ca. 93546

This business is conducted by a limited liability company. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on August 1, 2018. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on October 2, 2019.

File Number 19-191
2019-0191(10/12, 10/19, 10/26, 11/2)

Fictitious Business Name Statement

The Following Person Is Doing Business As:

CortAn Collection

CortAn, LLC
203 Alpine Circle, P.O. Box 3203 Mammoth Lakes, Ca. 93546

This business is conducted by a limited liability company. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on August 1, 2018. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on October 2, 2019.

File Number 19-191
2019-0192(10/12, 10/19, 10/26, 11/2)

Fictitious Business Name Statement

The Following Person Is Doing Business As:

Bodeley Botanicals

CortAn, LLC
203 Alpine Circle, P.O. Box 3203 Mammoth Lakes, Ca. 93546

This business is conducted by a limited liability company. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on August 1, 2018. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on October 2, 2019.

File Number 19-191
2019-0193(10/12, 10/19, 10/26, 11/2)

Fictitious Business Name Statement

The Following Person Is Doing Business As:

Sierra Generators, LLC

Sierra Generators, LLC
P.O. Box 3575, 110 Pinecrest Ave.
Mammoth Lakes, Ca. 93546

This business is conducted by a limited liability company. The registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name listed here.

Fictitious Business Name Statement

The Following Person Is Doing Business As:

Highland Property Management & Consulting Services

Elizabeth Rodriguez

203 Alpine Circle, P.O. Box 3575
Mammoth Lakes, Ca. 93546

This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on, September 23, 2019. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on September 23, 2019.

Fileno: 19-200
2019-0200(10/12, 10/19, 10/26, 11/2)
PUBLIC NOTICES

IF THIS IS A BUSINESS ... By Hart and Mary

First, two picks each from Hartley and Big Mary.

Mary: Somehow the Titans think Ryan Tannehill is the answer. Stupid.

How the Panthers think Kyle Allen is better than Cam Newton. Stupider. (Forgive me if that’s not a word.) If it weren’t for Panther RB Christian McCaffrey (my #1 overall fantasy draft pick), I wouldn’t watch this game. BORING. Nevertheless, the Titans will prevail, 17-13.

Pats v. Ravens - The Pats defense is overrated. Seriously. Until you’ve played someone, you don’t get to have an identity. Stopping the likes of Josh Allen, Sam Darnold, Case Keenum, Daniel Jones and Josh Rosen means NOTHING. But now, they get the Ravens, who possess a physical running game and a QB that can beat you with his legs. Normally, I would pick out our opponents in these games but Lamar Jackson will take over and run every single time he has a chance and then Marquise Brown is a long one in a good game. Ravens, 27-24.

Hart: Eagles laying 5 to Chicago. Look, Bear QB Trubisky sucks. Lay the points.

The Bears talked all offseason about their kicking problems. And then talked their way out of a win last week when the new kicker missed a 41 yard field goal at the goal.

The dumbass coach (Matt Nagy) had a chance to move the team closer to the FG but decided to take kicks of running plays. Then after the game, he was defiant about his decision, stubborn and condescending. Everyone loved Nagy last year, but he is showing signs of falling apart.

That was an awful briefly Bear resurgence.

Jets laying 3 to the Dolphins. The Jets have what must be the smallest point spread against the Dolphins all year and are in full meltdown mode, looking to trade RB Le’Veon Bell before the 2019 NFL Draft and contract dries. The head coach is a clown. Now their safety Jamal Adams was reportedly shopped for a trade. And he didn’t like it. He said a team wouldn’t look to trade Aaron Donald or Tom Brady. He’s on that level.

How many people had heard the name Jamal Adams before they read it here?

As for Miami, the Dolphins should face NFL investigation. Every time they threaten to win, the front office ra-
dovery down to the sideline to cut it out. Against the Steelers on Monday night they were up 14-3 with 2 minutes left in the first half and the Steelers had a 3rd and 23. The Dolphins run a full jailbreak blitz and put a TD drive together. The receiver was more than open as Janet Jackson did during a Super Bowl halftime show. Jets could keep the Dolphins from making sure of it.

Maryv Mary Awards

Mary’s midseason awards: MVP - Patrick Mahomes. His second half will be awesome. Honorable Mention - Dak Prescott. He has the “IT” factor. Stop laughing. Trust me.

“I Told You So” Award

Philip Mayfield - I told you he was overrated. He has thrown for 1,390 yards. 6 TDs and 12 Ints. For his career, 21 games played with 26 Ints. Recommendation: More film, less film

Cleveland Browns - Paper champions. You can assemble all the talent you want, but you then have to go out and play the games.

Warm Seat Award. Warm but getting hotter every day...

John Elway - Since Payton Manning retired, here’s a list of the Bronco starting QBs - Brock Osweiler, Trevor Siemian, Paxton Lynch, Case Keenum and Joe Flacco. John Elway has no clue on how to build a team. He fired Vance Joseph after one year as head coach and hired Vic Fangio. They are still losing. Is he going to fire him too?

Jason Garrett - Can a Cowboy team with so much young talent be coached any worse? I call Jason, Coach CAP (Conservative and Predictable). He must have pics of Jerry Jones going into that massage parlor with Robert Kraft.

Matty Nagy (Bears) - 2 weeks ago, he ran 3 TD times for a whole game. Which is one thing if your QB is Aaron Rodgers. And quite another if your QB is Mitch Trubisky. If I were the owner, Nagy would have coal with a match nearby under it.

No More Sloppy Seconds Award (Time to Move On)

Marcus Mariota

James Wiltson

Andy Dalton

Joe Flacco

Jason Garrett

“If This Is a Business” Award

If you are a business and it’s time to trade JJ Watt. Okay, stop calling me stupid. Check this out. In 2019, JJ is only going to play 8 games because of an injury. In 2017, he played just 5 games because of an injury. In 26 days he only played 3 games. So he will miss 36 games over 4 years. If this is a business, trade him and get something for while he can. He has been in the league 8 years. How many more years does he have?

The Texans have traded away so many picks in an effort to win now. With Watt, it’s time to go the other direction and restock the draft shelf. Some team will overpay for him, mainly for reputation and jersey ticket sales. Like the Jets.

And from Hartley...

On why some bosses suck

If you ever wonder why some people HATE their jobs and their bosses, sometimes just take a look at what you see out there in the world.

I was at McDonalds the other day. No, not to eat. I despise McDonalds - bad food and they eat Mrs. Bibbs so I stopped to get them a gift card for that disgusting treat.

But this ain’t about the McRib.

I walk in and there is a little Latina lady in the parking lot. It’s freezing cold and she is visibly irritated. I just shake it off and roll on.

She is gathering up gear and I am like ..., are they really eating burgers outdoors today? Maybe I will eat a grill... nah. Their food sucks. I go inside and get my gift card. I am rolling out and I see why she is pissed. She is in the parking lot with a broma. Not a utility broma or big push broma. She has a Dollar Store broma - one of the cheap-ass small ones that are angled so deep you have to lean to get it to lay flat on the floor. And I am shocked. What the hell? She is using this 99-cent broma to SWEEP THE LEAVES OUT OF THE PARKING LOT.

Who sends an employee outside to SWEEP leaves out of a parking lot? And the parking lot is covered. She sweeps a few leaves; the broma is so small she could only get 4 leaves at a time. Then she picks that up while more leaves are blowing in on her. I couldn’t believe it. The owner must have been inside filming her for Ridiculousness. Who wants to work for this guy? He couldn’t provide a blower or a massive rake?

And who worries about the leaves when you are serving extraterrestrial meat and calling it a McRib? This McDonald’s should have everyone go on strike. So if you are the owner or as a manager why do you hate you? Think about this.

And just make sure you’re not doing something just like it.
HAPPY HALLOWEEN!

The Robertson family: Marty, Koa, Ashley and Sage at the Rafters Howl’oween on 10/30.

Clockwise from left: Haelyn Nash, Sandra Pearce, Alien Banana Rider Pearce, Rylen Nash, Chelsea Nash, Bexton Nash, Malia Pearce

Kendra, Jezebel and Jeremy Johansen heading out in The Trails

Hector Villalpando and Sam Strazdin with their Cowboy dog Charlie at Rafters.

Skateboarding Daddy Shark Tim Flynn.

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