WHETHERING THE NUMBERS

By Hite

Part of Town Council’s meeting on Wednesday, November 20, was devoted to coming up with a possible solution to the massive funding gap related to development of The Parcel.

Town Manager Dan Holler laid out his idea for funding phase 1 of the Parcel, which would deliver 138 units by 2024.

“If we had to, could we fund this out of our current revenue streams?” he began rhetorically. “So we took a look at that, looking at a TOT commitment, and also a shared property tax that would require county participation,” said Holler. “I really wanted to look at the first phase of the potential phasing plan that would have an estimated public funding gap in the $7.5 million plus or minus range.”

For those unfamiliar with the situation, the estimated gap for phase one was initially pegged at around $60 million. With the assumption of grants, tax credits, and waived developer fees, Town staff believes it can whittle that $60 million by 85%. However... assumptions are just that. They’re not guarantees. But Holler believes that if developers see the town is serious about having skin in the game, it might make them more confident. “It would allow us to be able to commit to a development team,” said Holler, “and show that we are serious about willing to set money aside and meeting that first financial gap.”

Town staff’s plan is to commit $7.5 million within two years, with the hope of units being built and occupied by 2024.

The rationale behind using TOT is that it is an overperforming cash cow. The Town of Mammoth Lakes budgeted TOT revenue of $13.5 million for the fiscal year 2018-19. According to a presentation given by Rob Patterson, the Town’s finance director, the actual TOT revenue will be around $20.2 million.

Holler described how well TOT does year over year, saying, “If you look at the last four years, we’re generating about $18 million a year. The low was

STORMY WEATHER

Winter storms could impair holiday travel

By Hite

This week is shaping up to be hectic with holiday travel falling right in the middle of a three-day snowstorm and Monday’s wind event downing trees all over the region.

Per Caltrans on Monday: U.S Highway 6 closed at 5 Bridges Road, approximately 1.5 miles north of Bishop as a result of downed power lines, detouring traffic.

Caltrans enacted, lifted and then reenacted (as of Tuesday) high-profile vehicle (trucks, campers, large loads) prohibition for US 395 between Bishop and the Nevada state line, instructing high-profile vehicles headed north on 395 to detour to U.S Highway 6 in Bishop.

Caltrans also issued a high wind advisory between Olancha and Bishop and 395, with debris and sand blowing all over the road. They advise travelers to slow down, proceed with caution, and keep any eye out for Caltrans crew or other responders working in the area.

All RPAC subscribers received another Caltrans notice on Tuesday announcing the closure of Sierra Nevada Mountain Passes and the Crestview Safety Roadside Area.

With the storm expected to drop 1-3 feet in the Sierra, Sonora Pass (SR 108) closed at noon on Tuesday, November 26, with Monitor Pass (SR 89) closing an hour later at 1 p.m. Tioga Pass (SR120) has been closed since the last storm.

Caltrans is tracking the weather and may close SR 120 East and SR 180 West near Aspendell if conditions necessitate a closure. Factors such as storms, accumulation of snow, and general road conditions are taken into consideration when deciding to open or close passes.

Crestview Safety Roadside Area (approximately seven miles north of Mammoth) was closed at noon on November 26 for the entirety of the winter season due to impending winter weather. It will reopen in Spring 2020.

see PARCEL, page 9

Jamie Schectman and wife Alejandra celebrating the grand opening of June Pie on Monday.

I LOVE PIE!

By Hite

Jamie Schectman and wife Alejandra celebrating the grand opening of June Pie on Monday.

The Westin and Salvation Army teamed up this week to provide Thanksgiving dinners for fifty families. For more, see p. 7
BEMUSED AND BEWILDERED

We’re all sort of doomed to the world outlook that permeates our coming-of-age years.

Born in 1968, that makes those years, for me, the ’80s. Which were fairly benign. Political parties were essentially center-right and center-left. There wasn’t the massive wage disparity between labor and management like there is today. A bleacher seat at Fenway Park cost $6. My mom cut my hair because she didn’t feel like paying someone else to do it, and my friend Lars Richardson tagged me with the nickname “Bucky Bowl” to describe my teeth and haircut.

And I got over it without psychological counseling.

It was still an innocent time. Pre-internet. Post-Watergate. And if you lied or got caught doing something you weren’t supposed to be doing, you got punished for it. Cost Gary Hart a shot at the presidency. Cost Pete Rose the Hall of Fame.

And you think that this narrow window in this particular stage of one’s life somehow constitutes “normal.”

That this is the way it was and is supposed to be.

Until you realize … that your normal is absolutely abnormal. That the stitch in time that defines your upbringing was a total anomaly. That there was World War II and McCarthy and assassinations and Vietnam and Watergate before you and internet, income inequality, 9/11, mass shootings, the cult of celebrity and the Bully-In-Chief having overwhelmed us since.

And whatever “normalcy” I thought existed - whatever half-ass honesty, whatever minimal degree of pride and/or shame that I assumed had to accompany a person in public life - just doesn’t.

I was so naive. Still am.

In her column which appeared this past weekend in the Wall Street Journal, Peggy Noonan, best known as George H.W. Bush’s head speechwriter, basically said this about Trump and the impeachment process: That even his Republican allies know that he was absolutely blackmailing the Ukrainians. He’s an inveterate liar and schemer. Of course there was a quid pro quo.

In my naivete, I would like to believe that that’s enough. That there are consequences for such actions. I don’t know if that constitutes throwing him out of office or not, but in the world the rest of us live in, sometimes one mistake (if it’s big enough and profound enough) is all you get.

But … and back to my point. My worldview and values are no longer mainstream. And maybe the Constitution is passé and maybe people are more concerned with what someone does for them and less concerned with the means.

But it is with some bemusement that I read Page’s piece (which appears on page 18) about the “Ok, Boomer” spat going on between the millennials and their parents. Myself, I’m just happy to be a third party in that one, on page 18) about the “Ok, Boomer” spat going on between the millennials and their parents. Myself, I’m just happy to be a third party in that one, well … they’re going to be a powerful and insufferable political bloc for the next quarter century.

And from Hite’s desk …

Alexander Gladstone wrote an article in the Wall Street Journal, on November 21, titled, “Ride-Hailing App Enters Bankruptcy, Blaming Wage Law.”

Juno USA LP was launched in early 2016 and acquired by Israeli startup Gett in 2017. At its peak, the company (a ride-hailing app like Uber and Lyft) had 50,000 drivers in the New York City area. Gett claimed Juno USA LP is closing down due to “misguided regulations.”

In 2018, Juno generated $269 million of revenue which was an increase of 23% from 2017.

But then, the city instituted pay floor for Juno’s contracted workers and customer prices rose by nearly 20%. Juno’s rides per day crashed to 25,000. Juno claimed bigger companies could absorb the hits while they faced lawsuits against their drivers who were suing over employment insurance and stock incentives and claiming they were employees rather than independent contractors. Localy, I’ve talked to several employers, particularly in the restaurant business, who are thinking of changing their business models because...
Disabled Sports Eastern Sierra

Whiteout Extravaganza
Saturday, December 7 | Main Lodge | 6:00 PM

White attire encouraged

Live Music by Afterparty | Dinner | Dancing
Silent Auction | Wine Grab
Tickets $100 | VIP Table $1,500 (Seats 10)

Purchase tickets online at disabledsportseasternsierra.org, at the DSES office or Second Chance Thrift Shop. Call 760.934.0791 for tickets and information.

Liberty Sports Bar & Grill

It's Football Season!
Catch your favorite team at Mammoth's ONLY Sports Bar!
- 10 HDTV's with surround sound

Monday Night Football
1/2 off wing night!
Extended Happy Hour 3-8pm

Thursday Night Football
1/2 off wing night!
Extended Happy Hour 3-8pm

SUNDAY
Breakfast Served @ 9:45am-Noon
$5 Cocktails! Happy Hour 3-6pm

Open Daily at 11am
3399 Main St in the Main Street Promenade

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Mammoth Mountain Mountaineering

Preseason Sale Ends Dec 3

20% Off All Clothing
20% Off All Skis
20% Off All Ski Boots
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Icebreaker
The North Face
Black Diamond
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Scarpa
La Sportiva

Happening At All Our Stores

Mammoth
361 Old Mammoth Rd.
Mammoth Lakes

Alpine Approach
The Village
at Mammoth

Gear Exchange
106 S. Main St.
Bishop CA

Backcountry specialists. Large rentals department.
Hardgoods experts.
Clothing from the best brands
suited for the worst weather.

Shop Online At www.mammothgear.com
Hi Ted,

It’s a movie theater, not daycare. It’s not the theater, though. It’s the half dozen to dozen kids running around and talking and laughing, etc. Many parents seem to use the theater as cheap daycare. I don’t think anyone under 12 should be there unaccompanied by an adult. That doesn’t mean a five and seven year old with their 12 year old sister. I also thought you had to be 17 to go to an R-rated movie without an adult. I’ve seen boatloads of unaccompanied young kids in there for R-rated movies.

The last time I was there, the guy on my right was watching soccer on his phone because he didn’t like the movie, while his wife showed him multimedia messages on her phone. The couple on my left had basically well-behaved kids, but because they were too young to care about the movie, were constantly interacting with their parents, wanting attention. Also, because now there are fewer seats due to the remodel, there are only a few seats I’d want to use. I don’t like being on the sides or too close or too far away. We should be able to pick our seats online so that if we don’t like what’s available, we can go another night, or just be sure to buy our tickets early. I guess going on school nights, and trying to be the first one in the theater is my best bet. I like going to the movies because Mammoth didn’t get a movie theater until I was 13 and usually had movies [like] "Last Tango in Paris", "Fritz the Cat", and "A Clockwork Orange".

Kirk Shultz
Mammoth Lakes

Cutting remarks

Dear Editor:

Thank you Mr. Cole Hawkins for your second letter (Sheet, November 16 issue, p. 3) regarding Wilson Creek. It’s very unfortunate that the Mono Lake Committee’s attitude is such and it seems they feel they own every bit of water out of every single drainage along US 395. I find it outrageous they would drain an area of water and create a fish kill. It’s unconscionable. Wilson Creek was a habitat and the remaining water from Wilson goes right back into Mono Lake. Just Google “Mono Lake Plat map and ownership” and look at the north edge of the lake.

Lisa Cutting wrote an article in the Mono Lake Committee’s newsletter of 2003 stating, “At stake are many different interests and proposed uses for limited water including restoring Mill Creek, generating hydropower, irrigating meadows, grazing, fish rearing, and maintaining water in Wilson Creek. At first glance, the assumption might be that these goals are mutually exclusive and therefore a solution is impossible. But the Committee believes that it is possible for the parties to work together and ultimately arrive at a solution that meets most of each party’s needs. The Committee’s 25 years of experience in negotiating cooperative solutions has been helping guide us through this process.”

In addition, she wrote, “The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission’s (FERC) requisite 50-year review of Southern California Edison’s Lundy power plant license began nearly two decades ago. A FERC decision was released in April 2000 (see Winter 2000 Newsletter) that pleased no one. The Committee’s primary concern and motivation for joining the appeal process was FERC’s failure to address the issue of the Mill Creek return ditch—the mechanism for returning Mill Creek water to Mill Creek after its passage through the power plant. Other parties in addition to the Mono Lake Committee—the USFS, California Trout, and American Rivers—called the decision of FERC’s failure to uphold the USFS 4(e) conditions (a federal rule that requires the USFS to determine instream flows for streams they manage) this prompted the water rights holders and the parties involved with the FERC rehearing—and other interested parties—to get together and try to work things out rather than accept (or not accept) a future mandated FERC decision that would presumably still not please any party. For the Committee, the key question throughout the process has been how to balance competing water uses while returning Mill Creek to health after decades of damage caused by neglect and improper water management.”

There are legal issues with the water dating back to the 1914 decree (a long document) and again in 2003 above statement. The information that was sent to FERC for the settlement was provided by Forest Service and this information was outdated at the time it was submitted as told to me by a few people in the Mono Basin. Mono Lake Committee has never wanted any water going to the Conway Ranch via the Wilson Creek, which they claim is a ditch. Maybe it is and maybe it isn’t and it’s been in existence for a long time and they destroyed it. Many people did damage to the ranch when it had fish, including poaching from the ponds, destroying or removing the night cameras, truck damage etc.

Tim Alpers told me that Lisa Cutting was hired to be the “fishing point person” for the Committee. She wrote an article for the California Fly Fishers magazine (latest issue) about building bamboo fly rods. Why would she even care about fly fishing and let a fish kill occur? Seems like a bit of hypocrisy to me.

Carolyn Webb
Bridgeport
NOT A TRUCK STOP
Bishop Paiute Tribe plans gas station/car wash on Line next to DMV
By Maddux

Just when you thought one more gas station/convenience store couldn’t be squeezed into the city of Bishop, the Bishop Paiute Development Corp. has come forward to prove you wrong. All that earth-moving being done next to the DMV on Line Street? This is what’s going in.

“There will be a gas station and car wash—no truck stop. However, we will have a high-speed diesel pump with a tall canopy to accommodate RVs, heavy equipment and large trucks. We do not anticipate a large influx of semi-trucks; however, this location will provide more than adequate space to get in and out of the property (over 3 acres),” said Beau Romero, Assistant Economic Development Director of the Bishop Paiute Development Corporation. “A second gas station has always been an idea stemming from the immediate success of the existing gas station,” said Romero.

Construction for the project began on October 7, 2019, and each phase of the project will be completed at different times, with the gas station opening in the summer of 2020, the retail center in the fall of 2021 and the car wash in the winter of 2021—the contractor for the

infrastructure improvement is Kendall Engineering, Inc, said Romero.

The tribe was awarded a grant by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration in the amount of $2.1 million “for the infrastructure improvements of the retail center—the tribe is funding the remainder of the project,” said Romero.

According to the Tribe, the scope of the project when completed, will contain:

- Standard 4-pump canopy and 2-pump diesel fuel canopy
- 6,000-square foot convenience store with deli and indoor and outdoor seating
- 6 retail spaces comprising a total of 7,800- square feet to be used for tribal member businesses
- Car wash with 2 self-service bays and one automatic wash
- 79 parking stalls

Before construction began, and after knowing the direction the Tribe wanted to take, “we proceeded with the environmental study, biology study, traffic study, community hearings, design, etc.,” said Romero.

Caltrans District 9 Public Information Officer (PIO), Florene Trainor said the “Tribe’s consultant firm produced the Bishop Paiute Commercial Development Traffic Study.”

According to the study, which was completed in 2016, “there will be an increase in traffic flow, but that is to be expected and actually a positive for business.”

“Caltrans and the Bishop Tribe (including the Tribes’ Development Corporation) have a good working relationship; consulting often regarding development and transportation projects, and other related issues,” said Trainor. Chris Cash of Inyo County Public Works told The Sheet through an email, “the County Road Department did two traffic counts at the north end of See Vee Lane, one in September of 2016, and another in March of 2017. Those were for the traffic signal that is now installed on North Sierra Highway (US 395). We have no record of a traffic

**LOCAL NEWS**
Duggan in Her Heels

Rhonda Duggan, of Crowley, is currently the only announced candidate running for Mono County’s District 2 Supervisor seat

By Page

With District 2 Supervisor Fred Stump choosing not to seek reelection, his seat is now up for grabs in 2020. The first day when candidates for office in Mono County could file their nomination papers and submit a formal declaration of candidacy to run for office was November 11. Rhonda Duggan is thus far the only candidate who has declared in District 2. Stump has served as District 2 Supervisor since January 2013.

Duggan, a resident of Mono County for nearly thirty years, now lives in the Crowley area and started out working for Mammoth Mountain’s Sales and Marketing department before moving to the Sierra Nevada Resort for seven years to serve as General Manager and later, director of Sales and Marketing.

Her work in public service includes time with the Mammoth Planning Commission and the Mammoth Lakes Tourism Commission when it was still a part of town government. Currently, she’s a few months into a two year term as an at-large member on the Mammoth Lakes Tourism Board, holding the position of board treasurer. Duggan is also in her second year as a member of the Mono County Grand Jury.

Duggan’s decision to run for the District 2 seat was influenced by the opportunity presented by Stump’s retirement. She explained that with Stump’s departure, a “wealth of knowledge” about District 2 goes with him, and Duggan saw that as, “an opportunity to apply some of the things about living in Crowley as well as the information I’ve received working in Mammoth.”

In engaging with the election process, Duggan has tapped into that “wealth of knowledge” by speaking with Supervisor Stump. “He’s been extremely generous with his time and his knowledge,” said Duggan, who stated a goal to continue giving as much time and energy to the job as Stump has done.

Duggan also explained that her various work past and present has brought her into contact with agencies and representatives from all over Mono County, enhancing her understanding of Mono County’s diversity and how areas of the county may perceive their differences.

Once Duggan made the decision to throw her hat into the ring, she hit the road “meeting the constituency and getting up to speed on a lot of the issues.” She estimated that she’d attended more than 45 hours of public meetings since deciding to run for the Supervisor’s seat. One group that she saw as a source of interest and inspiration was the Wheeler Crest Fire Safety Council and its efforts to take action for themselves.

“As a representative of the people, you need to hear what’s important to them,” said Duggan, “number one on everybody’s mind is increasing public safety and effective communications.” Duggan stressed a need for preparedness in the case of both natural and man-made problems, noting in particular that, “Things are taking quite a different turn when somebody is quite literally flipping a switch on us.” (A reference to SCE power outages)

Duggan also listed sustainability as a top priority of hers, explaining that the issue does not fall under one agency or governing bodies jurisdiction. “We all have areas here where want to preserve what we have,” said Duggan, “but it takes a lot of cooperation.”

Given Duggan’s experience running businesses and serving MLT as treasurer, it should come as no surprise that Duggan considers fiscal responsibility her forte. She referenced the ongoing budget issues that the county has been experiencing, pointing to emergency services funding as a prominent problem to solve.

“There’s never enough,” said Duggan, “How do I fight for another upgrade to equipment in Wheeler when someone’s fighting for the same thing in Antelope Valley and there’s no funds?”

The solution? “Fight for grants and working together with agencies... explore every option available.” Duggan referred to the process of coming up with creative solutions as “putting on a tourism hat,” spinning negatives into positives to take advantage of every possible opportunity.

As for how the process has gone so far, “The support has been very heart-warming... not just my neighbors but throughout the rest of the areas I’ve been able to visit,” said Duggan, who noted that she’d heard a general worry that the next supervisor “isn’t going to do their homework.”

“Well,” said Duggan, “Class has started and I’m already on it.”

Duggan outside her Crowley home

Sierra Star

Holiday Hole-In-One

Score extra savings on all golf gear during the Holiday Sale this weekend at Sierra Star. We’ve got everything you need for the golfer on your list with discounts of up to 50% off apparel, shoes, clubs and more. Spend over $200 and receive a free Sierra Star t-shirt.

50% Off All Apparel & Shoes
Up to 30% Off Drivers, Fairway Woods, Wedges & Putters
30% Off Everything Else

FRIDAY, NOV 29 – SUNDAY, DEC 1 • 11AM–5PM
Stop by the Pro Shop or call 760.924.GOLF
WEATHER continued from page 1

The National Weather Service (NWS) has issued a winter storm warning for Mono County from 7 p.m. Tuesday through 7 p.m. Thursday, with the worst conditions from late Tuesday through midday Wednesday.

NWS expects total accumulation of snow between five and ten inches, with 10-24 inches west of 395 and localized peaks of nearly three feet along the Sierra Crest; winds could gust as high as 55 mph.

The Owens Valley has also had a winter storm warning issued, remaining in effect from 5 p.m. Tuesday through 7 a.m. Friday, with total snow accumulation around six inches in the valley and between one and three feet in the mountains.

NWS recommended actions: Avoid travel if possible, you could be stuck in your vehicle for many hours. If you must travel, prepare for long delays and carry tire chains, an emergency kit with extra food, water and proper clothing. If you stay home, have a backup plan in case of power outages. The latest road conditions can be obtained by calling 5-1-1.

In terms of preparations and staying safe, NWS recommends staying indoors if possible and if you need to go out, take extreme caution whether walking or driving and let someone know the details of your trip before you leave. If you’re shoveling, take breaks and lift lighter loads; working too hard can lead to heart attacks. Finally, stay dry to prevent hypothermia.

Caltrans has a map with consistently updated road conditions on its website. https://dot.ca.gov.

Southern California Edison is also tracking the winter storm; Mono County’s Public Safety Power Shutoff portal has information about potential safety shutoffs and SCE’s website tracks ongoing outages in the event that they occur.

Local weather guru Howard Scheckter’s take:
“The Village at Mammoth still looks to receive over 2 feet of snow and the upper mountain about 3 feet by Thursday. It will be cold in town with highs upper teens Thursday and Friday. Loves well down to the single digits.”

“There will be a break in the weather Friday afternoon and night with a wetter storm moving in Saturday. This system has a narrow AR connected to it. It will begin as snow over the lowest elevations of the county then the snow level will come up Sunday and Monday. The big questions is, how much snow will the Owens Valley get on Saturday from this small AR? The Snow is likely to change to rain later in the morning Sunday”

“For the Mammoth Area, another 2 to 3 feet is certainly possible for the Saturday through Tuesday System.”

Howard’s website: www.mammoth-weather.com

WESTIN, SALVATION ARMY SERVE DINNER FOR FIFTY FAMILIES

Fifty local families will have their Thanksgiving dinners taken care of courtesy of the Westin Monache Mammoth Lakes and Salvation army. The Westin delivered 50 turkeys and 50 boxes of Thanksgiving dinner essentials to the Salvation Army on Sierra Manor Road in Mammoth on Monday afternoon to be distributed to families that same day.

The Westin’s Thanksgiving donation program, now in its sixth year, began in 2014 as a part of a larger sustainability program at the Westin, overseen by Sean Somers. The hotel collects recycling from all of its rooms and tasks the engineering department with taking it to the local transfer station to be recycled. Once everything has been processed, they use the money generated by that recycling effort to purchase Thanksgiving supplies.

Somers explained that the recycling program generated about $750 in total, with all additional costs covered by the Westin to facilitate the purchase of the required 50 turkeys and dinners.

In what cash in hand, Somers gets a grocery list from Salvation Army Coordinator Roger Barker and takes care of the grocery shopping for things like stuffing, fruit juice, and canned goods. Meanwhile, the Food and Beverage department at the Westin handles the purchase of all the perishables including turkeys, which

After the Salvation Army finished distributing dinners to families in Mammoth, they packed up and drove the remaining food out to Benton out for the remaining families on their list.

Aside from distributing the Thanksgiving dinners, the Salvation Army Food Bank is open every Monday and Wednesday from 2-4 pm each day.

Thursday, Nov 28
MAMMOTH LAKES TURKEY Trot
Start your Thanksgiving morning with a two-mile run through town and post-race hot cocoa! This event is family-friendly and costumes are encouraged. Now for 2019: a road course, signature Turkey Trot beanie and indoor packet pick-up and registration.
LOCATION: Sierra Center Mall (452 Old Mammoth Road)
TIME: 8-8:45 am registration and bib pick-up; 9 am race
PRICE: $25 at Vons or Grocery Outlet on November 27 from 3-7 pm or $35 at the registration table on November 28
REGISTER: www.MammothTrotClub.com

Friday, Nov 29 – Sunday, Dec 1
MADE IN MAMMOTH MAKERS MARKET
Mono Arts Council presents: The Made in Mammoth Makers Market at the Minaret Village Shopping Center. Find the perfect holiday gifts made by local artists and entrepreneurs.
LOCATION: Minaret Village Shopping Center
TIME: Friday & Saturday 11 am-7 pm; Sunday 11 am-3 pm

Friday, Nov 29
TAMARACK WHITE FRIDAY USED EQUIPMENT SALE
Get great deals on gently-used cross-country ski equipment. Be sure to line up early for the best selection.
LOCATION: Tamarack Cross Country Ski Center
TIME: 8 am

HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING
Kick off the Christmas season with live music and the town’s official tree lighting. After the tree is lit, Santa and Woolly will be available for pictures at McCoy Sports, and Hugs Ice Cream will be offering free ice cream from 6:30 to 7:30 pm.
LOCATION: The Village at Mammoth (620 Minaret Road)
TIME: 5:30-8:30 pm; 6:30 pm tree lighting

ART & WINE: ACRYLIC SERIES
Local artist Miguel Flores provides step-by-step instruction for an evening of acrylic painting and sipping wine. The class is $45 per person and includes all materials and a glass of wine.
LOCATION: MAC Gallery and Art Center (437 Old Mammoth Road)
TIME: 5:30-8:30 pm
REGISTER: www.MonoArts.org

MAMMOTH ICE RINK OPENING NIGHT*
Free admission and rentals while supplies last.
LOCATION: 456 Sierra Park Road (adjacent to Library)
TIME: 7 pm
*Weather permitting

Saturday, Nov 30
SANTAVILLE
Visit Santa for photos and holiday wishes at McCoy Sports
LOCATION: The Village at Mammoth (620 Minaret Road)
TIME: 3:30-5:30 pm

AVALANCHE DYNAMICS EXHIBITION
The Forest Island Project; third session artists Alice Köntz, Brian O’Connell and Nina Waisman show work developed during their summer residency session in collaboration with UC Santa Barbara’s Sierra Nevada Aquatic Research Laboratory.
LOCATION: Main Street Promenade
TIME: 12:2 pm
MAMMOTH COUNCIL NARROWS ITS FOCUS

...19 priorities at a time; Ice project reinforced by 3-2 vote

By Hite

Mammoth Lakes Town Council capped off its November 20 meeting in Suite Z with a conversation aimed at prioritizing different capital improvement projects, housing, and items associated with the Parcel.

“This is a summary of 19 different projects that have been discussed,” said Dan Holler as he explained that town staff has been working on prioritizing these projects in a way that would give council direction as to which projects are more important than others. He also wanted Council to note whether there were any items missing from the report.

That summary covered possible funding sources, timeline, and priority level. Items like street maintenance, airport, and community recreation center were listed as ‘high priority’ while a civic center for town offices and a new aquatic facility received the moniker of ‘low priority.’ Holler broke the summary down into four sections: town government core services, major capital maintenance programs, town and partner housing programs and funding options for the parcel.

“At the conclusion of each of these sections there will be either a conclusion statement, basically to support what we think the focus was, or there will be a decision point,” said Rob Patterson, Finance Director for the Town of Mammoth Lakes.

Patterson preached “fiscal responsibility”, citing the town “living within its means” over the last couple of years. His conclusion: “Town staff believes the current practice of fiscal responsibility on our budget, as well as continued monitoring of service levels, identifying needs and prioritizing policy questions for Council consideration, is an effective approach.”

A good ol’ pat-yourself-on-the-back.

The next section was capital and major maintenance projects. Holler started by highlighting the solid waste program: “This is a substantial capital investment that is more on the private sector, doing business with Mammoth Disposal. We are looking at a full service waste disposal, we are looking at alternatives to disposal of waste with the closure of Benton Crossing.” Then he touched on Mono County’s solution before explaining that this project is already receiving “dedicated revenues,” and the Town should continue to make this a priority.

Haslip Hayes, Town engineering manager, was next up, talking through “ongoing maintenance work” being done on Mammoth Lakes streets. The current annual budget for street maintenance is $580,000. Although this was listed as a high priority item, no extra funding was needed.

Council then reached consensus on additional funding to deferred maintenance projects, with $100,000 in additional funding for parks maintenance specifically. The total deferred maintenance came out to $1.135 million. This includes previously approved items like $75,000 for Town offices, $330,000 for transit buildings stops, $350,000 for transit buildings, $280,000 for power backup, and a future agenda item of fuel tanks replacement worth $150,000.

The next section was housing. Housing will receive $600,000.

This project remains the highest priority for the [rec] commission. It has been for several years now.

- Betsy Truax on the CRC (aka MUF)
the idea but added his own asterisk, “As Councilman John Wentworth praised complicated than cocktail napkin math. Translation: Stapp thinks this is more ing out the budget is another question. “

Moving forward, yes, but figurative, we need to move forward, housing is began the discussion, stating, “I think the Council discussion.

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Moving forward, yes, but figurative, we need to move forward, housing is began the discussion, stating, “I think the Council discussion.
In the spirit of Thanksgiving it would appear that Mammoth has plenty to be thankful for. What specifically are you seeing as 2019 comes to a close? Including on the real estate side? And what do you think we need to be cautious of?

Mammoth has plenty to be thankful for in 2019. But we’ve been here before and we should stop to appreciate where we are. It reminds me of my favorite fishing captain’s saying, “nothing good lasts forever.” Good times are to be taken advantage of and should be cherished. Two of the last three winters have been banner winters for snow, skier/snowboarder numbers, and overall tourism. We’ve had almost too much snow, but that is far better than the alternative.

Although summer business and activities are as successful as ever, snow is still the critical component to prosperity in Mammoth Lakes. Wouldn’t it be wonderful if we could even it all out and avoid the wild swings. But moderation isn’t the answer if we could even it all out and avoid the wild swings. Mammoth way.

Realizing that being thankful and optimistic is my nature, yet a skeptic too, let’s look to appreciate where we are. It reminds me of my favorite fishing captain’s saying, “nothing good lasts forever.” Good times are to be taken advantage of and should be cherished. Two of the last three winters have been banner winters for snow, skier/snowboarder numbers, and overall tourism. We’ve had almost too much snow, but that is far better than the alternative.

The new Ski Area management style is new to Mammoth, especially in the manner in which they communicate their plans to the community. What they say today might not happen tomorrow. Things change. They admit that. But at least they aren’t stuck on past ideas that no longer make sense. Or that somebody “owns.”

Thankfully, we’ve already seen that the new Ski Area ownership is going to do things, including spending money. Much of it will emuluate what has been successful at other resorts. But my guess is they will ultimately create all sorts of new things, even if it isn’t calculated to go directly to the bottom line. This is much like Intrawest did in the decade from 1997 to 2007. In 2019, this change alone is profound.

The in-between decade from Intrawest to now has been marked by general economic stress, drought and ultimately disinterest. It did little good except create the opportunity to ultimately be part of the Alterra game plan. As a result Mammoth Mountain is no longer an isolated enterprise at the mercy of nature’s feast and famine and narrowly focused management.

The Alterra association is certainly something to be thankful for. And if the first year is any indication, the IKON Pass has forever changed the skiing and riding on Mammoth Mountain. Maybe for the good, maybe for the bad. But for those who own businesses, or who own rental condos, or who want to make Mammoth their home resort but want to try other resorts, the IKON Pass is a godsend.

The Town coffers won’t be empty, either. The resort and community now have the best shot at the “stability” that Mammoth has yearned for since the age of incorporation. Beyond the impact of the IKON Pass, the Alterra association brings other incredible benefits. The information sharing alone between these major resorts is significant. That runs the gamut from access to massive user data to management practices and beyond. The conglomeration has the financial capacity to not only raise capital but to hire the best consultants and industry experts. We’ve seen this already. The broad base of geographic locations insulates the company against the dreaded drought years in specific resorts. Whether the inevitable “going public” will be something to be thankful for is yet to be seen.

Of course, there is bound to be some downside. The ski runs will be busier. Someone will unfortunately be laid off (as always). Beers will be more expensive. But life in Mammoth has always been about adapting. We’ll have to adapt. Odds are, however, that the stream of reliable and experienced people having to leave town when things get tough will be reduced. And that is a good thing.

The great snow and IKON Pass have brought extreme levels of tourism in the past three years. Along with it is record levels of transient occupancy tax (TOT) for the Town. The Town is flush with cash. Quite the change from being “bankrupt” earlier in the decade. The Airbnb/VRBO phenomenon combined with low interest rates for both borrowers and savers have driven many “investors” into owning second homes and short term rental (STR) properties. These owners have aggressively provided many quality accommodations for our visitors. That was and is desperately needed.

In an era of stagnated hotel or condo hotel development in Mammoth, the See Thanks, page 11
THANKS continued from page 10

increasing inventory of these quality lodging units has been another godsend. And the dynamic pricing algorithms have helped fill the properties at maximum rental value and occupancy. The community should be thankful for these investors/second homeowners who take the risk and put forth the effort. Thankfully we have the workforce behind them to handle all of the working parts.

But the past decades have shown that these occupancy and revenue numbers can ebb and flow.

Mammoth’s summer tourism has grown substantially. And Alterra is on board trying to pump up summer activities at the Ski Area (they “get it”). But the real money is still made in the winter. Marketing is great, but it is still about snow.

With the windfall of cash comes responsibility. It is human nature to forget about the last 10 years. Or the droughts and recessions before that. The Town and local business people should be prudent. But they won’t be. Mammoth is a fascinating place to observe the cycles of weather and the economy.

Mammoth Lakes proper can be thankful that we have been spared the ravages of fire. And for most of 2019 that includes the smoke from distant fires. Power outages are one thing, fire is another.

Mammoth is fortunate in that more than 15 years ago there was a concerted effort to begin protecting the town from fire. There have been fire breaks created and massive clearing on the periphery of town. The very latest has been in the Lakes Basin. The local agencies have been diligent about clearing out dead trees and other fire hazards in and around town. All to protect the asset that is Mammoth Lakes.

We can be thankful that the air service solution for the Eastern Sierra may finally be at hand. The focus of commercial air service in Bishop only makes sense. It always has. The decision 20 years ago to focus on the Mammoth Airport changed Mammoth’s current fate. But here we are. That decision can be argued back and forth. What is important now is that the Bishop Airport (aka Inyo County Airport or Eastern Sierra Regional Airport) is the right place, and the communities of Mammoth Lakes and Bishop, Alterra and the airlines all want it there. Another profound change.

Meanwhile, the Mammoth Airport has all of the improvements to maintain it as a fine general aviation airport. It will survive. And Bishop will thrive. And the ugly uncertainty of regular air service will go with it.

The almost absurd stock market highs are something we can be thankful for. The concurrent “wealth effect” and high levels of discretionary income drive real estate and tourism in our area. There has always been a correlation between a strong stock market and a stable Mammoth real estate market. Stock liquidation or margin borrowing flows right into town like creeks flow down from the mountaintops. And it often flows into the luxury end of the market including the construction of high-end homes. And major remodeling. And it all drives tourism too. The higher occupancy rates in the local commercial real estate is corollary evidence.

We should also be thankful there are local people who are willing to live in their cars. They may be “homeless” but they don’t really fit the homeless stereotype. Whether they realize it or not, they are the next generation of people who sacrifice and seriously compromise their lives to live and get a foothold in this wonderful place. Mammoth’s history is full of resilient people like this. Some may eventually own businesses and raise families here. And then they will really know that it was worth it. But in the meantime, they are helping alleviate the labor shortage in Mammoth caused by the housing quandary here in Mammoth.

And we can be thankful for all of the new “Wayfinding” signs around town. Hopefully it will alleviate all of the visitors driving around aimlessly wondering where things are. Or staring at their phones. Can’t wait to see how these signs get “punked.” It is inevitable. And thanks for all of the new sidewalks on Main Street to keep the pedestrians separated from vehicles both winter and summer.

Sure, there are threats too like minimum wage increases and government regulation, the overall economy, the weather, and so on. But for now Mammoth can enjoy a day in the sun. Happy Thanksgiving!

Paul Oster is the Broker/Owner of RE/MAX of Mammoth. For other timely real estate information you can go to www.MammothRealEstateBlog.com. For legal, accounting, or construction advice, please seek out the appropriate professional.
Robert Rodgers was coming down from Mammoth Rock about five years ago, looping back towards Snowcreek when he saw the open lot at 62 Woodcrest Trail in Snowcreek Ranch. And a dilapidated “for sale” sign lying in the weeds.

He called the agent. The property owner was dead but the agent called the kids and the kids sold the lot.

And upon that lot, Rodgers, a custom home builder by trade, built, according to his wife Elizabeth, “the coolest house you’ve ever built.”

The 3,100-square foot home (see opposite page), was designed by John Neubauer. Mark Wilbur served as the General Contractor.

As Rodgers says, “It’s not your typical mountain home ... it’s more industrial-looking. Artzy. Funky. It’s got intricate lighting and ceiling detail. It features huge fixtures in small places. It has his mother’s artwork (Rodgers’ mother was a professional artist). And it’s/there’s ... light.

“I’m not a fan of that dark, traditional mountain home look,” says Rodgers. “Let’s be a little more cheery!”

In his youth, Rodgers was a pro motocross racer. And also one of nine children (seven brothers and one sister. Robert was the 7th child).

This was his introduction to Mammoth.

At 19 years old, his eldest brother brought him to Mammoth, rented him equipment, dropped him at the summit and said, “See you at 3:30. You’ll figure it out.”

Three hours later, he’d finished his first run to the bottom.

The goal for his last run of the day: Don’t eat it.

By the end of the day; His brother was right. He had figured enough out to start what is now a 40-year ongoing romance with Mammoth.

Fortunately for his children, they didn’t have to wait until 19 to learn to ski. His twin boys were on skis by age three.

Rodgers bought his first condo here in 2013. It was a Sunrise condo he purchased in foreclosure for $220,000.

He then renovated it into a beach cottage inside ... and sold it two years ago (in one day) for $400,000.

The nearest comp at that time was $320,000.

He sold the condo to finish the home. And chose Tammy Hooper to do it.

Why? Because there had been a few occasions where Rodgers had been sniffing out possible building opportunities and on each occasion, John Hooper was the name that would pop up as having gotten there first. So he said to himself, “I feel like I’m following his stuff, so ... why not hire someone who’s in the know”

Never mind that Rodgers’ wife Elizabeth and Tammy became fast friends. ‘They’re peas in a pod,’ he says.

The Rodgers family currently resides in San Clemente. Home Builder Digest recently listed the firm led by Rodgers, Anthony Everett Development, as the top custom home builder in Mission Viejo.

They’ve enjoyed the Mammoth home for the past 18 months, visiting every other weekend, and will also spend Thanksgiving here. While Elizabeth often predicts her husband will have seller’s remorse (particularly in parting with this house, because it is so reflective of his personality), Robert says that’s not who he is. “I never have regrets.”

He certainly has no regrets in his marriage, and there’s a good story in their meeting.

He met his wife in an elevator at work. He (along with five brothers) were all working at the same mortgage company on the 6th floor. And they all decided to go have lunch together.

Elevator stops at the 4th floor and a beautiful girl steps in. Some bantering ensues.

All of Robert’s brothers are married or in relationships. He’s not. Stops at the 4th floor on his way back from lunch.

Inquires about the girl. Funny, says the receptionist, because she was inquiring about you.

He gets the office number, walks in and asks her out.

That was 24 years ago.

All the information you need about 62 Woodcrest Trail is on the facing page.
SNOWCREEK RANCH IN MAMMOTH LAKES  | 62 WOODCREST TRAIL  | $2,445,000
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FEATURING 2 MASTER ENSUITE BEDROOMS + QUEEN ENSUITE BUNKROOM + QUEEN ENSUITE DEN/FAMILY ROOM

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MAMMOTH MARKET REPORT
By Matthew Lehman

Overall, the real estate market in Mammoth Lakes remains strong year to date 2019. While market pricing did show lulls for a few months in late summer, recent months indicate a slight resurgence. Much of this resurgence is attributed to very attractive interest rates.

Single Family Homes: The median price for a single-family home is down 14% year to date, but there has been a 2% improvement over prices noted just a month ago.

A contributor to the drop in the median price for 2019, vs. 2018, is the fact there were a significant number of new home sales in 2017 and 2018 built by John Hooper. These new home sales drove the median prices higher in 2017-2018 and fulfilled pent up demand for homes in the $1,000,000+ sector of the market. Sales volume in Mammoth Lakes is trending up about 15% over 2018.

Condominiums: The condominium market is the most active sub-market in Mammoth Lakes. Year to date, median condominium prices are up 16% over 2018. The condominium market remains attractive due to rentability on a short-term basis (less than 30 days). Additionally, condominiums are more affordable to most buyers. Sales volume for condominiums is pacing approximately 5% above 2018.

Land Sales: Residential land sales volume is currently trending 31% above 2018 figures with about half of the sales in 2019 having taken place in the past two and a half months. The median price per square foot for a single-family home lot is $25, which is 25% greater than seen in 2018.

A few details provided when the Sheet called Lehman to follow up:

*The Berner Street property on the back side of the Village at Mammoth parking lot has been purchased by the Green Group, a hotel developer and operator. Leases for current tenants, who include Restaurant Skadi, will extend out at least another 18 months.
*The general theme here is that “pure” hotel product is back in vogue because the financing rates are very attractive right now and hotels are about cash flow and occupancy, and not as vulnerable to the fickle state of the real estate market.
My Secondary Life as a Degenerate Gambler

By Hite

Listen to 3-4 gambling podcasts a week, study line movements, fade the public, bet the under, and the only thing I took from my economics degree was regression analysis so I could build prediction models. Now, I’m a writer. So here is the intersection between my job and my secondary life as a degenerate gambler.

Gambling may not be the world’s oldest profession (I’ll leave that to your imagination), but it’s been around as long as there’s been a guy who’s looking for an easier way to get fed than actually going out to hunt.

In a Freakonomics episode titled “The Economics of Sports Gambling” released on September 4, 2019, host Steven Dubner asked Victor Matheson, “So sports go back pretty much to the beginning of human civilization. What about sports gambling?” And Matheson responded, “Yeah, so the oldest organized sports that we have a good date on is the Olympics. The Olympics came about in 776 B.C. We have good evidence of that. We have fairly good evidence that the first gambling on the line for a variety of college football games, someone started gambling on the Olympics. The Olympics occurred in about 775 B.C. So as soon as they started playing games, someone started gambling on it.”

For me, gambling has been around since I was 5 years old. At that age I told my mother, “I think there is a 60% chance Santa is real and 40% chance he is not.” Which can be translated to odds usually is a -150 on Santa being real and a +150 on not.

Let’s break that down. If a Vegas odds has a -then it is a favorite and that is how much you have to bet to win $100. In this case, -150 on Santa being real means if you bet $150 and Santa is real then you win $100. On the other side, a + bet means it is an underdog if you bet $100, you get what the number is. A +150 bet on Santa isn’t real means if you bet $100 and Santa isn’t real then you win $150.

Got it? Good.

Gambling in the early 1900s featured all moneyline bets. A moneyline bet is a bet on a team to win a game. If the Lakers were supposed to beat the Celtics and bookmakers figured they had a 90% chance of doing so, bookmakers would give a -900 moneyline option on the Lakers. A gambler might stay away from taking that bet because he knows for every $9 he spends he only gets $1 of winnings making it a low risk/low reward situation.

In the 1940’s a mathematician named Charles McNeil invented the point spread and opened a sportsbook with his new invention. A point spread is the most common form of gambling today. Instead of the Lakers being -900, the spread would be listed as -12.5 meaning the Lakers would need to win by more than 12.5 points for the bet to hit because - means a favorite and + means an underdog. As the underdog, the Celtics would be listed at +12.5 and they would have to lose by less than 12.5 for the bet to hit.

A sportsbook would use this strategy and attempt to get 50% of the money on both sides of the action and they would collect the associated vig. A vig is what you pay to bet a spread and most are between -105 and -115. -110 leads to a $110 bet to win $100 and people on both sides of the spread would pay the same vig of $10 (most of the time). Bookmakers used the vig as a tool for setting the line. If they set a line that lead to a 50-50 split of action, by the end of the game they make money no matter who wins.

A person paying the spread -110 vig would have to be correct more than 52.4% of the time to break even.

Which is why most people lose. And why gambling is big business.

Predicting what will happen next is an innate human perception that everyone has and gambling allows this perception to become a measurable statistic. This is the appeal to confirm your own biases.

I got my first taste of confirmation bias when I was 12-years old and entered a March Madness bracket challenge with my mother’s corporate co-workers. The buy-in was $20 and I took home $300. The other 14 participants believed it was my mother who won the pool and they asked her how she picked her games as she knew nothing about sports. I can’t imagine their faces when she told them that it was her seventh-grade son who made the picks for her.

Yet something as easy and simple as that has become a controversial topic in America and in 1992 the Professional and Amateur Sports Protection Act (PASPA) was passed by the Supreme Court which effectively made sports betting illegal throughout the United States. Certain states (such as Nevada) were grandfathered in.

The gambling ban led to one of the biggest black markets in America. The estimated amount varies; Wikipedia says it is $150 billion while Dubner in his Freakonomics episode claims it is $300 billion. In a 2014 op-ed written for the New York Times by Adam Silver, the commissioner of the NBA, titled “Legalize and Regulate Sports Betting,” Silver states the amount exceeds $400 billion.

If the number is $300 billion, that means the average American spends $1,000 on gambling every year. If you don’t gamble, don’t worry, I can assure you that I am helping maintain this black market average.

Just this past weekend I had $300 on the line for a variety of college football
and NFL games. After a rollercoaster of a weekend, I had to pay my bookie $9. In the black market calculations, it is hard to say whether my weekend contributed $300 to the total or $9. Regardless, it made my weekend a lot more fun.

In the May 2018 decision of Murphy vs. the NCAA, the Supreme Court ruled that the 1992 PASPA was unconstitutional as it conflicted with the tenth amendment because the federal law was commandeering power from the states.

Since then, many states have rushed to legalize betting, particularly sports betting.

New Jersey was the first state to legalize sports gambling and as of today there are 13 states (including NJ) that have legalized this form of gambling.

The legalization of sports gambling represents a great revenue opportunity for states. New Jersey has an 8.5% tax rate for casino transactions and a 13% tax rate for online bookies. If the tax rate for casino transactions and a 13% tax rate for online bookies are required to move the line to attract bets on the opposition.

In an article written by Matthew Trenhalle titled “How Bookmakers Create their Odds, from a Former Odds Compiler,” Trenhale explains the trends he has seen, “Odds compiling has steadily become more and more about databases, statistics and mathematical models and less about personal experience, intuition and feel.” He then goes into the effect on the amount of people employed, “Within 6 years we used our Betfair API to price up all our horse racing products with a human simply to oversee the process. Contrast this to when I started and we had a trader for each horse racing meeting and a room of 40 traders at a time.

That could fix the Parcel’s funding gap real quick.

Today, sports gambling is likely as sophisticated as it will ever be with statistical analysis leading to lines set as perfectly as they can be. Sharps, bettors who use their own models to predict a spread, are some of the only entities that can change the line. The other way a line changes is an overwhelming flood of public money on one side of the bet and bookmakers are required to move the line to attract bets on the opposition.

An excerpt from an article from the Ringer titled “Requiem for a Sports Bettor” written by David Hill provides proper insight. Hill interviewed legendary sharp bettor Gadoon “Spanky” Kyrollos, who had just won a few wagers. “This is why I do this,” said Kyrollos. “It feels so f*cking good, even after all these years. I don’t need the money anymore. I love the challenge. It’s a game. And when you beat the line, that means you won. That’s better than winning money. That’s better than sex.”

Robert Shaw as Doyle Lonnegan at the betting window in “The Sting.” Hite did not address in his piece the possibility/likelihood of “insider trading,” which has been a risk in sports gambling.

So if the lines are becoming more and more perfect and the money is going to greedy corporations and not actual people, why would anyone put money into this lose-lose situation?

From Bovada, some actual things you can bet on – and not just sports:

Which streaming platform will have the most subscribers by 2022?

Disney+ -400
Apple+ +350
HBO Now +500

First organization to charter a human to Mars?

Space X -360
Blue Origin -415
Boeing +650
Space Force +1200
Will a human set foot on Mars by 2022?
Yes +500
No -900

Odds to win 2020 presidential election:
Democrats -115
Republicans -115

From the last Super Bowl:
If there’s a streaker during the game, who touches/tackles the streaker first?
Security +200
Player +175
Coach +500
Ref +300
Other +400

Color of liquid dumped on winning coach:
Clear/Water +250
Yellow +300
Red +600
Blue +400
Purple +900
Green/Lime +700
Orange +400

And finally, from “Against All Odds” hosted by Cousin Sal in his “Captain Morgan’s riverboat casino,” he asks: “What was the most famous use of sports equipment as a weapon?”

- Myles Garret recent helmet swing on Mason Rudolph 3-1
- Albert Haynesworth using cleats to step on Andre Gurode’s head 9-2
- Negan, from The Walking Dead, using his bat to kill zombies 8-1
- Daniel Day-Lewis beats Paul Daniel with the bowling pin in There Will Be Blood. 15-1
- Elin Nordegren beating Tiger Woods car with a golf club 50-1
- Field 7-2

And you beat the line... that’s better than sex.

- “Spanky” Kyrollos

This is why I do this, “ said Kyrollos. “It feels so f**cking good, even after all these years. I don’t need the money anymore. I love the challenge. It’s a game. And when you beat the line, that means you won. That’s better than winning money. That’s better than sex.”

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OKAY, BOOMER

Okay, Boomer - at least the sentiment - is not going away

Every November, news outlets offer up guides to tackling controversial or sensitive topics with family members (“How to talk to your family about politics,” Harper’sBAZZAR, “Here’s how to fact-check your family at the Thanksgiving dinner table,” Politifact). Even The Sheet ran a piece last week about how to talk climate change over Thanksgiving dinner. Given the events of recent years and the polarizing nature of politics, it should come as no surprise that people are looking for a way to navigate sticky family situations.

This year, it would be safe to say that generational differences will come up at least once. With the advent of the “OK, Boomer” meme, the differences in generational experience and expectations came to the forefront of pop culture, igniting a furious debate about “ageism,” respect, and perception of the modern world.

For the uninitiated: “OK, Boomer” rose to public prominence with a video rant by a man who calls out Generation Z for, among other things, an inability to grow up, obsession with participation trophies. All are familiar social media app, responded with “OK, you’re younger than we are.”

The phrase gained further visibility of recent years and the polarizing nature of politics, it should come as no surprise of social or sensitive topics with family members.

For years, articles that place the blame of killing industries have knocked the generation’s tendencies towards saving money and building towards the future as opposed to spending in the present. A Business Insider article from 2017 compiled a list of 19 industries that millennials are in the process of gleefully stooping into the ground, including cereal, golf, bars of soap, oil, diamonds, and home improvement stores.

Boomers have taken the phrase as an expression of ageism, rejection of authority, lack of respect for elders, and selective memory of history (Civil Rights, etc.).

Bob Lonsberry, a talk radio host, took it even further, calling boomer the “n-word of ageism.” John Mulaney has a great bit about making comparisons like, “contestants boil down to this: do you claim if you say one and don’t say the other? Dictionary.com editorial staff even took time out of its day to tweet about Lonsberry’s assessment of the situation is tone-deaf.

To the point so far: it’s an issue that’s gone so far as to inspire claims of “generational warfare”; no one likes being shoehorned into generations that may cut close to the truth.

For the record: Capturing the clear lines that define a generation can be immensely tough; as such, I could fall at the very taint end of Millennials or at the forefront on Generation Z. I personally feel a bit more in common with Millennials but would count more friends in the very tail end of Millennials or at the Generation Z corner.

To pull all of that together: an example of something that would and already has elicited an “OK, Boomer.”

The College myth

“I worked my way through college, you can too,” was once a line shouted by college or high-school aged kids, you know this isn’t true anymore. The price of one year of tuition at a public college jumped 145% from 1972-2018 while the average family income has increased 67% in the same period same time, minimum wage value has decreased when adjusted for inflation.

The Atlantic reported in 2014 that a student would have to work for 48 hours a week at a minimum wage job to make enough to pay for one year of tuition at a public college or university. Community college remains a cheaper option, but cost still plays a factor in how much time an individual can spend taking classes.

Loans are a remarkably tricky business that can take over a decade (or more) to pay off in full, assuming constant employment. If you default on those loans, you can be taken to court, your wages can be garnished, your credit will plummet, and federal payments can be withheld.

And that’s a surface-level explanation of just one issue.

The Climate Change disconnect

How about another one? Climate change. To generally sum it up: A GlobalPoll from 2018 revealed that 70% of adults aged 18-34 are worried “a great deal/fair amount” about climate change; for 53%, it was 56%.

“According to the President of AARP stated in an interview, “OK, Millennials. But we’re the people that actually have the money.” That’s definitely true; Boomers are on average twelve times wealthier than millennials. But as Aja Romano at Vox says, “[Blyth’s] statement highlights the problem of Boomers failing to realize that the perceived agism of the meme, even as a joke, is a stand-in for rational economic anxieties.”

Part of the reason why the phrase saw a meteoric rise in the public is the response from non-millennial Generations. In an interview in Bloomberg Opinion writes, “My biggest worry about “OK, Boomer” is the generational stereotyping it embodies. It would be quite possibly the oldest generation to criticize other people for being old. So why is it OK to use a Circumlocution that does the same thing?”

Also Tyler Cowen in a podcast interview was talking about millennials: “They’re the nicest, most tolerant generation we’ve had, but I don’t think that’s an entirely good thing. And so far they are also a reasonably complacent generation. Maybe somewhat less ambitious, taking fewer chances, wanting safe spaces, which makes sense given the constraints they’ve faced. But I worry that they’re not replenishing America’s cultural capital for generations to follow.”

Is someone like Cowen a hypocrite for being upset about “generational stereotyping? It’s hard to say. Who knows if the past? Or does “OK, Boomer” feel a bit too much like a quick insult?

In response to the whole phenomenon, some day-to-day people have represented themselves from each group a platform to air out their grievances and hash things out, tapping Jill Filippovic, a millennial journalist, and Paul Callan, a Boomer-age legal analyst and lawyer, as each group’s reps.

“Paul, generational warfare is nothing new. Remember when today’s Boomers were warning each other not to trust anyone over thirty? Because they were following it up with “You were born into post-war prosperity, enjoyed the riches of government hand-outs and affordable education, then moved into your subsidized suburban homes and pulled up the ladder behind you.”

She discusses the anxiety of having children, noting that even if she decided to do so, “Their futures seem so tenuous on a flooding, burning earth that I’m not sure having them would be ethical.”

Callan responds: “Jill, our CNN editor instructed us to submit: “100 words or less.” Your submission: 355 words. Following instructions is a Millennial problem.” He goes on, stating “This precision calculation, incidentally, was generated by Boomer-invented word processing using a PC, also invented by a Boomer while you were getting a “participation trophy” for just showing up to play soccer and not missing a single practice, your doting Boomer parents watched.”

Case in point on why younger people may feel frustrated when talking to members of older generations: Callan is dismissive of the younger generation, actively engaging Filippovic’s arguments.

I won’t go through the whole thing here but Filippovic’s closing statement serves as an accurate, if not hopeful, assessment of the whole thing:

While I am worried about the future, all I’m hearing is scolding about my generation not being as great as yours was in the past. Perhaps the deeper issue is that the dynamic between experienced, obstinate (and cranky) older people and malcontented, forward-looking (and irrelevant) younger ones is the same as it ever was…and that the “generational warfare” frame makes us talk past each other and puts us all on the defensive.直播
There is perhaps nothing so seemingly inconsequential in our daily social and commercial activity than the giving and/or receiving of business cards.

But I have come to regard them in a way that goes beyond their immediate utility.

In the 19th century, these cards became increasingly used for trade purposes --- and by many other persons --- especially after the 1840s when lithography was invented and was used to make them.

By the 20th century they had become ubiquitous in social and commercial use, and today, almost every adult has a personal or business card of their own (some very creative) --- and receives many over the course of a work week.

As the internet and social media have transformed our daily communications rituals and practices, the business card --- these small pieces of paper --- are easily available in stores.

As I have become older, and have no other simple tool of recalling persons I met years ago, I turned to my boxes of stored old business cards --- and much to my delight, rediscovered many names and places from my past now mostly forgotten.

I realize that this might be particularly useful for a writer, but I suspect, a similar delight in reawakened memory could be experienced by anyone. So I write this mainly for my younger readers, those who might especially be inclined to eschew the use of a small printed business card. I wonder aloud if the internet, computers and social media will be able to provide the stimulation of memory of names and places after years of so much electronic data --- as do these little pieces of paper.

Like me, many friends and acquaintances have done a variety of work in one or more industries. As I review and organize the literally thousands of cards I have, I am also now returning cards to those who gave them to me --- as souvenirs, especially if they did not think to save them.

My readers know I usually write about much bigger subjects, including the politics, economics and technologies of our time.

But a life is not only filled with big events --- it also includes the total experience of what we do each day --- meet all kinds of persons, buy groceries and eat in restaurants, do errands, shop in stores, use transport, attend sports and entertainments --- and so many other interactive events of various kinds.

I think it’s worth mentioning that a small piece of paper can connect us to much of it --- not only in the present, but also to savor what memory can bring back to us.

- Barry Casselman

A small piece of paper can [help] us ... savor what memory can bring back to us.

-Barry Casselman

THE JOY OF REDISCOVERY

Casselman celebrates the nostalgia of business cards

By Barry Casselman
calendar of events

BARS & MUSIC

Happy Hour / The Liberty Sports Bar and Grill. Happy hour 3-6 p.m. 1/2 off wings on Monday. More info: See ad p. 3.

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

Mammoth’s Happy Hour 5-7 p.m. all summer Sunday through Thursday in the bar. More info: See ad p. 2.

Mammoth Rock ‘N Bowl Mon. DJ 9:30 p.m. Thurs. DJ 10 p.m.

Clocktower Cellar Happy Hour: 4-7 p.m. daily. $6 dollar menu items, drink specials. Info: See ad p. 5.

Petra’s happy hour. 5-7 p.m. Signature cocktails, special menu. See ad p. 3.

Roberto’s Happy Hour: 4-6 p.m. daily. The Public House Local Mondays (all local beers $5 a pint). Karaoke Tuesdays @ 8. ¼ Priced Wine Wednesdays, Open Mic Thursdays.

Famous Slocums Happy Hour Weekdays: 4-6 p.m. Saturday 4:30-5:30 p.m More info: See ad p. 7.


Giovanni’s Happy Hour daily 4-6 p.m. E.g. pizza & pitcher of beer = free drinks.

Shelter Distilling Open 11am -11pm Daily Happy Hour: 3-5 p.m. Sunday through Thursday/Half Off All Drinks Info: See ad p. 25.

The Mogul happy hour 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the bar with food and drink specials.

Brew Daily Happy Hour 5-6 p.m. $5 Beer, Wine and Small Plates.

Devils Creek Distillery tasting room hours: 3-6 p.m. Nov. 25-30 (closed) Monday, December 2/ Holiday Hours 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Covers an area of 11/28. Location: Industrial Park, 123 Commerce Dr. Info: See ad page 6.

53 Kitchen & Cocktails happy hour Friday-Sunday. Time: 2-4 p.m.

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

Bafflers daily happy hour 4-6 p.m. All night happy hour on Thursday.

Jimmy’s Taverna 1/2 off select bottles on Wine Wednesday. 4-6 p.m. Happy hour every day 4-6 p.m. with special menu at the bar.

Lakanuki happy hour 3-6 p.m. daily.

Mammoth Tavern Happy hour 4-5:30 p.m. Half off draft beer, well drinks and wine. App specials

November 29-30/ DJ Kally plays Rafters in Mammoth, with featured guest DJs 10 p.m. - close.

Saturday, November 30/ Live Gong Karaoke @ T-Bar Social Club in June Lake. Time: 8 p.m.

Sunday, December 1/ Catch all the NFL action @ Liberty, Clocktower, Gomez in Mammoth and the Palate Palace in Bishop

Monday, December 2/ Monday Night Football @ Liberty Bar. 1/2 off wings and extended happy hour 3-8 p.m.

Tuesday, December 3/ Team trivia at Mammoth Brewing Co. Time: 7 p.m. Free.

Karaoke @ Public House. 8 p.m.

Wednesday, December 4/ In the Biz Wednesdays @ Mammoth Rock ‘N Bowl. $1 games and $1 shoes after 9 p.m.

Thursday, December 5/ Open Mic Night @ Public House. 8 p.m. 1/2 off wing night and extended happy hour for TNF @ Liberty.

TOWN STUFF

Thursday, November 28/ Mammoth Lakes Turkey Trot More info: see sidebar pg.21

November 29-30/ Train Rides at the Laws Museum Ride the historic Diehl Valley Railroad Brill Car. Tickets available at the train station for the day of the $5/person and children ride free with adults. Time: 11 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Info: https://lawsmuseum.org

November 29-December 1/ #MadelnMammoth Makers Market @ Minaret Village Shopping Center. Hosted by the Mono Arts Council. Info: see sidebar pg. 21

Friday, November 29/ Art and Wine: Acrylic Series @ Mono Arts Council Gallery. Join local artists Miguel Flores for step-by-step instruction in acrylics. Time: 5:30-8:30 p.m. Info and tix: https://monoarts.org/

Mammoth Ice Rink Opening Night @ Mammoth Ice Rink. Celebrate the opening of the rink for 19/20 season with free admission and rentals following the Tree Lighting Ceremony. Time: 7 p.m.

Village At Mammoth Holiday Tree Lighting. Kick off the holiday season with free fun for the whole family. Live music starts at 5:45 p.m., with the lighting at 6:45 p.m. and appearances throughout by both Santa and Woolly.

Used Equipment Cross Country Ski Sale @ Tamarack XC Ski Center. Snag gently-used XC ski equipment for a fraction of the price. Doors open at 8 a.m. - first come, first served.

Social Ballroom Dance @ Bishop Senior Center. Non-formal, all are welcome. Time: 7-9 p.m. Info: call Donovon and Theresa Otto at 760-872-2172

Black Friday Ladies Night @ Cardinal Village Resort. Wine, cheese, prizes, and discounts on holiday gifts. Time: 7-9 pm Bishop Football CIF Final vs. Orosi @ John Schwab Field. 7 p.m.

November 30-December 1/ Cardinal Village Tree Sale and Christmas Fun @ Cardinal Village Resort. Stop by to pick up a freshly cut tree for Christmas, with ice-skating and a visit from Santa (Saturday: 11-1 a.m.- 3 p.m., Sunday: 2-5 p.m.) Info: see sidebar pg. 21

Unbound Series #1: Slalom/Giant Slalom @ Mammoth Mountain Main Park. Catch the first Unbound event of the 19/20 season at Mammoth. Spend the day as a spectator or sign-up to compete, with a chance to qualify for USASA championships. Head down to the Village afterwards for an appearance from Santa and Woolly. Note: must be a USASA member to compete. Time: 7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Registration info: https://www.mammothmountain.com/

Saturday, November 30/ Film History in The Alabama Hills @ Eastern Sierra Visitor Center. Presented by ESIA. Walk lasts from 10 a.m.- 12 p.m. Covers an area of Movie Flat that includes locations from memorable films such as Gunga Din, Tremors, and Django Unchained. A relatively easy walk on existing roads and trails covering less than one mile. Wear layers clothing for a range of conditions, study footwear and bring plenty of water. Info: call Dave Kirk at 760.872.5000 or Molly Trauscht at 760.872.1200
Thanksgiving Day Turkey Trot
Join Mammoth Track Club, The Town of Mammoth Lakes, and Visit Mammoth for the 5th Annual Mammoth Turkey Trot! Start your Thanksgiving morning out right and come out for a two mile run on a brand new course on the streets of Mammoth Lakes. This is a fun, family friendly event! Costumes and fun are encouraged. Packet pick up at 7:30 a.m. race starts 9 a.m.

All Participants Receive:
- Complimentary Hot Chocolate
- Signature Mammoth Lakes Turkey Trot Beanie

White Friday XC ski sale
Purchase a set of gently used cross-country ski gear for a fraction of the price and you’ll be sliding in style all winter. Come by the Tamarack Cross-Country Ski Center early on Friday, Nov 29 (doors open 8 a.m.) for the best selection from last year’s demo equipment. Inventory is limited and sells out fast.

MLBOR Holiday Food Drive
Please drop off any non-perishable food item at any Mammoth Lakes real estate office between now and December 4. Info: 760.934.4637/info@mlbor.com

Makers Market
Mono Arts Council hosts the eMadelnMammoth Makers Market in the Minaret Mall just after Thanksgiving! Be sure to put it on your calendars: November 29th, 30th, and December 1st. Vern Clevenger will be there with his amazing photographs along with other artists selling all things handmade in Mammoth! Start your holiday shopping and support our talented local artists. As always, you can support MAC by becoming a member here. And don’t forget to stop by our art gallery! We’re adding new items all the time.

Avalanche Dynamics Art Project
When: Through November 30
Where: Forest Island Studios at the Main Street Promenade (Mammoth Luxury Outlet Mall).

The Forest Island Project third session artists – Alice Könitz, Brian O’Connell and Nina Waisman – are session artists – Alice Könitz, Brian O’Connell and Nina Waisman – are session artists – Alice Könitz, Brian O’Connell and Nina Waisman – are session artists – Alice Könitz, Brian O’Connell and Nina Waisman – are session artists – Alice Könitz, Brian O’Connell and Nina Waisman – are session artists – Alice Könitz, Brian O’Connell and Nina Waisman – are session artists – Alice Könitz, Brian O’Connell and Nina Waisman – are session artists – Alice Könitz, Brian O’Connell and Nina Waisman – are session artists – Alice Könitz, Brian O’Connell and Nina Waisman – are session artists – Alice Könitz, Brian O’Connell and Nina Waisman – are session artists – Alice Könitz, Brian O’Connell and Nina Waisman – are session artists – Alice Könitz, Brian O’Connell and Nina Waisman – are session artists – Alice Könitz, Brian O’Connell and Nina Waisman – are session artists – Alice Könitz, Brian O’Connell and Nina Waisman – are session artists – Alice Könitz, Brian O’Connell and Nina Waisman – are session artists – Alice Könitz, Brian O’Connell and Nina Waisman – are session artists – Alice Könitz, Brian O’Connell and Nina Waisman – are session artists – Alice Könitz, Brian O’Connell and Nina Waisman – are session artists – Alice Könitz, Brian O’Connell and Nina Waisman – are session artists – Alice Könitz, Brian O’Connell and Nina Waisman – are session artists – Alice Kö

AT THE MOVIES

Mammoth Lakes Repertory Theatre presents: ‘A Christmas Carol: The One Man Play’, adapted by Gus Kreiger and running from December 20 to 29. Watch one actor perform every role from this beloved holiday classic, from Tiny Tim to the Ghost of Christmas Yet To Come. Performances are Fridays and Saturdays at 7 p.m. and Sundays at 4 p.m. Tickets are available online or at the box office and are sure to go quickly, so get your Ticket to catch this special holiday show.

One Man Christmas Carol
Mammoth Lakes Repertory Theatre presents: ‘A Christmas Carol: The One Man Play’, adapted by Gus Kreiger and running from December 20 to 29. Watch one actor perform every role from this beloved holiday classic, from Tiny Tim to the Ghost of Christmas Yet To Come. Performances are Fridays and Saturdays at 7 p.m. and Sundays at 4 p.m. Tickets are available online or at the box office and are sure to go quickly, so get your Ticket to catch this special holiday show.

Coffee with a Doc!
“Mammoth Hospital is pleased to announce the arrival of two new pediatrics: Sarah Ruberman, MD, Mary Bissell, MD as well as new Women’s health Physician, Christopher Winkle, OB/GYN. Meet them for coffee at Starbucks (2935 Main St.) Wednesday December 4th from 8:00 to 10:00am for a coffee on us! More info. See ad page 19

MMSA Thanksgiving Weekend
Mammoth Mountain kicks off the holiday season with a weekend of activities. From Thanksgiving Dinner in the Village to the first Unbound event of the season, there’s plenty of action to catch. Santa and Woolly will be making appearances all weekend so be sure to get your photos in! The highlight of the weekend is the Holiday Tree Lighting on Friday night, with live music starting at 5:45 p.m. and the lighting taking place at 6:45 p.m. More info. See ad page 5

Cardinal Village Christmas Festival
Cardinal Village is hosting its 5th annual Christmas Festival this holiday season. The festival kicks off Thanksgiving Weekend and is open 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday until December 22. The festival features freshly cut Christmas trees, sledding, a snow maze, caroling and plenty of holiday shopping. The Gingerbread Cafe will have hot drinks and snacks for all ages. This is one holiday celebration you should be sure not to miss!
Sierra Employment Services, Inc. is hiring PT & FT for:  

- MCWD Asst Engineer $32.10- 42.62FC  
- Bookkeeper Bishop $DOE  
- Tow Truck Driver ML $16-18  
- Ice Cream Staff $12.60 - $14.59/Hour  
- Assistant Site Coordinator – Ice Rink $13/Hour  

Full-time and part-time hours available for the winter months. For more information, please visit www.cityofbishop.com or call 760-873-5863 Ext. 22. Applications will be accepted until 4 p.m. on Friday, January 10, 2020. EOE.

The City of Bishop is accepting applications for a full-time Deputy Clerk in the Accounting Department. The salary is currently fixed at $7,389 per month. Must be comfortable using a computer, website & office skills. Must be a team player and have great organizational skills. To join our team, please apply on Edjoin. For a job description and application go to the Court website at www.mono.courts.ca.gov. For more information, please contact the Superior Court at (760) 937-0212. Fax: 760-937-0212. E-mail to rfflynn@monocourts.ca.gov. The City of Bishop is an Equal Opportunity Employer. TDD: 760-937-4933.

Alpenhof Lodge is accepting applications for winter employment. We are looking for full and part-time team members for year-round and seasonal positions. Applicants must be able to work weekends and holidays. Day and evening front desk shifts, housekeeping and maintenance shifts are available. Please apply in person at 6080 Minaret Rd, Mammoth Lakes.  

Hot Creek Aviation is located at the Mammoth Lakes Airport. We are accepting applications for a full-time Customer Service position and part-time seasonal positions. We are looking for friendly, service-oriented people to join our team. Please apply in person or email your resume to customer@hotcreek.com. We encourage diversity and do not discriminate on the basis of race, age, gender, sexual orientation or any other protected characteristic. 

Footloose Sports has grown into the biggest sport shop in Mammoth Lakes. We are looking for a family-like atmosphere, this is the job for you! Must have a positive attitude, willingness to learn and enjoy working with people. Come enjoy a fun working environment, opportunity to learn an important skill in the ski industry. Email resume to footloose@footloose.com. Sierratel: 760-937-4613. 

Mammoth Rock N Bowl has immediate openings for 2 Assistant Pinsetter Mechanic, who will perform maintenance and repairs of Qubica/AMF Bowling Equipment. We also have a variety of other duties include Facility Maintenance Projects. This is a part-time, hourly position with flexible hours. Starting salary is $16.00-18.00/Hour.  

Mammoth Spa Creations is looking for an additional member for its team. We currently have an immediate opening for a spa maintenance / technician position. This is a Full-Time Position (Monday through Friday). This position offers vacation accrual, benefits and paid holidays. Experience is preferred, but not required. Heavy lifting is required. Please call Scottie at 978-433-3091 or stop by the store located at 1401 Tavern Road Mammoth Lakes for more information and to pick up an application. Resumes can be e-mailed to mammoplast@aol.com. 

Surefoot Mammoth is hiring for the upcoming winter season! Seeking passionate skiers to ski full time in Mammoth, CA. A perfect mix of people with a passion for skiing, working in a fun environment, great products. Perks including ski pass. We are looking for experienced drivers with great customer and clean driving records. We are an equal opportunity employer. Please email resume to sarah@mammothspa.com to apply. 

Restaurant Skadi seeks to hire bussers. Skadi offers a competitive wage, a nightly family meal, and a positive work environment. Apply in person or email resume to ts@kittredge.net. 

Mammoth Rock n Bowl is looking for an Office Manager - who represents the initial point of contact for communications into or out of the Mammoth Rock n Bowl Foundation, with primary responsibility for guest service, and a broad range of operational & managerial duties. For more information, please visit www.mammothrocknball.com or click on APPX. 

Vacasa is hiring full and part-time housekeepers in June Lake with pay starting at $18/Hr. Please email your resume to vacasa.com/careers. 

Tonik is seeking PT/FT help. Fun place to work! Earn from $9 an hour to $15 an hour. Job is flexible. Stop by the store on Old Mammoth Road for an application. 760-924-7727. 

City of Bishop Asst. Finance Director. The City of Bishop is accepting applications for the position of Assistant Finance Director, a mid-management position reporting to the City Administrator that will assist in the administration, technical accounting and budget work in the preparation of the City’s annual financial statements, preparation of the City’s financial statements and audits; and perform a wide variety of responsible work in benefits administration and other related duties as required. Prior experience with public agency documents is desirable. Generous benefit package includes health, dental, vision, vacation and retirement benefits. Salary is currently fixed at $7,389 per month. A detailed job description and application forms are available at City Hall, 377 West Line Street, Bishop, CA 93514 or at www.cityofbishop.com. Tel. 760-873-5863 Ext. 22. Applications will be accepted until 4 p.m. on Friday, January 10, 2020. EOE. 

“Come work where you play, in the beautiful Mammoth Lakes Valley!” Good work environment, with primary responsibility for guest service, and a broad range of operational & managerial duties. Contact Person: Maura. Phone: 760-2,872 to $4,575 DOE with excellent benefits. For a job description and application go to the Court website at www.mono.courts.ca.gov/generalinfo/employment.htm. You may also contact the Superior Court at (760) 923-2321 or pick up an application at the Mammoth Lakes Branch of the Court at 100 Thompsons Way. Accepting applications until 4:00 p.m. Friday, December 6, 2019. Postmarks allowed. EOE/AA/EAD/EADE.
Notice of Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Government Code Sections 65061, that at the regular meeting of the Mono County Board of Supervisors to be held in the Board Chambers, 2nd Floor, County Courthouse, at 278 Main Street, Bridgeport, CA 93517, on Tuesday, December 10, 2019, at 9:30 a.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, the Board of Supervisors will conduct a public hearing on the Community Development Department’s request to develop and adopt new fee schedules. The Planning Commission adopted Resolution R19-02 making the findings as proposed and recommending that the Board of Supervisors certify the Addendum and adopt GPA 19-04 as amended. An Addendum in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) is proposed for the project. Public materials and meeting minutes are available for public review at the Community Development Department offices in Bridgeport and Mammoth Lakes.

INTERESTED PERSONS may appear before the Board to present testimony or, prior to or at the hearing, file written correspondence with: Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, PO Box 715, Bridgeport, CA 93517. If you challenge the proposed action(s) in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to Clerk of the Board of Supervisors at, or prior to, the public hearing.

TS 2019-0223

Notice Inviting Bids

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Government Code Sections 65061, that at the regular meeting of the Mono County Board of Supervisors to be held in the Board Chambers, 2nd Floor, County Courthouse, at 278 Main Street, Bridgeport, CA 93517, on Tuesday, December 10, 2019, at 9:30 a.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, the Board of Supervisors will conduct a public hearing on the Community Development Department’s request to develop and adopt new fee schedules. The Planning Commission adopted Resolution R19-02 making the findings as proposed and recommending that the Board of Supervisors certify the Addendum and adopt GPA 19-04 as amended. An Addendum in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) is proposed for the project. Public materials and meeting minutes are available for public review at the Community Development Department offices in Bridgeport and Mammoth Lakes.

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TS 2019-0223

Notice of Ordinance

TS 2019-0224

Fictitious Business Name Statement

The Following Person Is Doing Business As:

Eastern Sierras Farms

Erik Moonen
312 Commerce Drive, Unit C
P.O. Box 8931
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 herein. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on November 14, 2019. File Number 19-258

9-2019-0218 (11/23, 11/30, 12/7, 12/14)

Fictitious Business Name Statement

The Following Person Is Doing Business As:

Tangled Yard by Allie

Allie Handley
1877 Gulfhollow Rd – P.O. Box 8504
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on November 5, 2019. File Number 19-213

9-2019-0224

Fictitious Business Name Statement

The Following Person Is Doing Business As:

The Cast Off

Mammoth Hospital Auxiliary, Inc.
P.O. Box 1399, 3059 Chateau Road
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

This business is conducted by Corporation. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above in 1979. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on November 19, 2019. File Number 19-210

9-2019-0218 (11/23, 11/30, 12/7, 12/14)
of the impact of minimum wage laws, which promise to have the ultimate effect of bringing higher wages to some, and no wages to others.

It’s cheaper to buff one really good worker out at $25/hour than carry two mediocre ones at $15 (plus all the other accompanying taxes).

And finally, speaking of battles between Boomers and Millennials...

Mammoth Councilmember Kirk Stapp recently submitted a letter to the editor on vaping.

Editing it down to the heart of the matter:

"On November 6, the Town Council considered and adopted an ordinance titled: “Development of proposed Ordinance banning the sale of flavored tobacco and vaping products in the Town of Mammoth Lakes.”

For those of us over 60: “Vaping” or “Juuling” is inhaling aerosol from an e-cigarette (usually battery-operated) or other vaping device that heats a small reservoir of a liquid solution into a toxic mist that can contain nicotine, marijuana (THC), cannabidiol (CBD), and other substances. The shapes and sizes of these devices vary and include colorful vape pens, modified tank systems, and new pod-based devices that can look like USB flash drives, cell phones, credit card holders, and highlighter. These devices are frequently referred to as e-cigarettes, e-cigs, vapes, vape pens, electronic vaporizers, pod mods, or pod systems.

A Juul starter kit sells for somewhere between $29 and $50. The users of these colorful devices can be as young as 10 years old. Nothing like a hit of addictive nicotine to start the morning at elementary school.

Included in the Town’s agenda bill was “Background Information” that acknowledged that the banning of “flavored tobacco and vaping products” was supported by the Mammoth Unified School District, Mono County Office of Education, the Mono County Health Department and the Police Department.

Attached to the Town’s draft ordinance was Mono County’s adopted ordinance. The Town’s agenda bill gave the council four options. “Option 1” was to authorize staff to develop an ordinance banning the sale of flavored tobacco and vaping products in a form similar to the Mono County Ordinance or with Council’s “directed limited modification.”

Stapp thought Council should’ve perhaps gone with an even more restrictive ordinance, citing a national increase in youth usage of e-cigarettes.

He finished with an analysis of the individual freedom versus social responsibility question. “On the side, supporting individual freedom, is Fox’s News’ Judge Napolitano who has declared that the war on vaping is an “affront to personal freedom and responsibility.” He has called the ban on flavored e-cigarettes “intrusive government intervention,” and labels it a “violation of Freedom of Choice.”

Hello Judge Napolitano: A single Juul pod can contain as much nicotine as a pack of 20 regular cigarettes. Whose responsibility is it to heal the corrupted lungs of 10-year-old vapers? And if the parents can’t afford the hospital bills - who pays the bill? And what’s a Town Council’s responsibility when kids are Juul’s target marketing audience? Who is responsible to educate the kids? What’s the point of having helmet laws if vaping turns a kid’s brain to mush?”

Hite (23) responded as follows.

“He calls the product of vaping a “toxic mist” and defines nicotine as “brain poison for kids that can cause/exacerbate anxiety, depression, and inhibit learning.” Additionally, Stapp claims that because a juul pod contains a pack of cigarettes worth of nicotine it will “turn a kid’s brain to mush.”

To start, the definition of nicotine is not “brain poison for kids” although if used by kids it can cause the symptoms Stapp referenced. In regards to “toxic mist” and “turning kids brains to mush”

Fred health officials reported that tests conducted on the lung fluid of 29 sick patients revealed the presence of Vitamin E acetate, an additive in some THC-containing products. Then the article states, “the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said no other potential toxins were detected in the tests.”

And to this day, no hospitalizations have officially been linked to any other vaping products than Vitamin E acetate, and those THC-related products were often bought on the black market.

Ironically, a ban of these products creates a black market.

And I don’t know if I have ever agreed with a pundit from Fox News but I do believe Stapp completely ignored the point of what Politano was saying.

The entire point of Stapp’s letter was to stop kids from using it but not once did he mention users over 21. The Sheet talked to the owner of the only vape shop in town, Rami Akary, who estimated that 70% of his business was from out of town. Akary also claimed he has worked with local police officers to stop underage users from getting the product. I was at the Shell station this morning and a 50-year old woman was buying flavored vape products. What about her and every other person who legally buys these products?

I am not saying that it isn’t a problem for today’s youth, but what about the estimated 30% of high schoolers who claim to have drank in the last 30-days? (from the CDC). That’s 5.1 million high schoolers.

Stapp claims 5.3 million high schoolers vape.

But drinking is also associated with 119,000 hospitalizations of kids aged 12-20 in 2013 (CDC). And also 4,300 deaths among underaged youth each year (also CDC). As of Nov. 20, the CDC says 47 deaths related to vaping have been confirmed. Most of these deaths were from consumers over 21. Compare that to 4,300 deaths related to alcohol among underaged youth every year. Yet, I have never seen an alcohol ordinance discussed in my entire life.
Bishop Football beats Lindsay high 22-16 to earn a spot in the CIF finals

The Broncos overcame a 16-7 halftime deficit punching their ticket to the CIF championship game. Bishop outscored Lindsay 15-0 in the second half behind a tremendous defensive effort. Sophomore Kennedy Batchelder made 10 solo tackles including a quarterback sack and a tackle for a loss while fellow sophomore defensive back Luis Cruz made 7 solo tackles including a tackle for a loss and Junior Steven Paco contributed an interception for the Broncos defense. Senior Luke McLean, who threw for 124 yards on 5 completions with 13 attempts, connected with Jaydan Braithwaite on a 56 yard scoring strike in the first half and connected with Jon Torres for a pair of second half touchdowns. McLean was the Broncos lead rusher on the day, putting up 54 yards on 18 attempts while Braithwaite contributed 30 yards on 3 rushes. Next up, the Broncos host Orosi in the CIF central Section Division 6 championship game. The game will be played the day on Friday, November 29, at Bishop High. Orosi defeated California City in the other semifinal game. You can catch the game in person or via a live broadcast online at nfhs.com
MAMMOTH XC HEADS TO STATES

The Mammoth Huskies Cross Country team made history on Thursday, November 21.

The varsity girls and boys teams each became the Division 5, Central Section CIF Champions, both coming in first place as a team.

This is the first team championship for the boys in Mammoth High School history, and the first time both teams qualified.

Individually, Jordyn Harper and Ryan Furness each came in first place as the D5, Central Section CIF Champions.

The kids and coaches, Coach Anna Strathman & Coach Erin Le Francois) start training early each summer.

The Boys Varsity team were the first of the Mammoth kids to run at CIF Finals, held at Woodward Park in Fresno, Ca.

All seven runners placed in the top 20 out of a pool of 120 runners.

Ryan Furness flew across the finish line in first place. Iain Ferguson had a strong finish in second place with a PR time of 17:21.74. Aidan Le Francois, Cardiff Smith & Kazuki Okamoto rounded off our top five finishers placing 7th, 8th & 11th, respectively. Devan Tenedora and Petr Zastoupil placed 15th & 19th. Petr also had a PR with a time of 18:47.41.

The boys team ended with a score of 29 points, while second place took 30 more points for a score of 59 (low scores are better in Cross Country).

CIF posts the top 10 teams in each division and currently the boys team is ranked 8th out of 24 teams statewide.

Next up was the Girls Varsity team.

Jordyn Harper had yet another amazing finish in first place out of 79 runners. This will be her fourth year making it to state championships but the first year the whole team qualified.

Lizetta Dardenne Ankringa ran across the finish line in 3rd place with a PR time of 20:46.49. Right behind her in 4th place was Rhona McChesney with a PR time of 20:51.68. Emma Dardenne Ankringa pulled into a 9th place finish with a time of 21:43.06. Laurel Wight was our girls fifth runner in, placing 33rd. Overall, the girls team took 41 points with while the second place team had 60.

The team travels to Fresno, Ca to run their final CIF race at Woodward Park on Saturday, November 30th.

An Open Letter to the Mammoth Lakes Community

The Mammoth Lakes Tourism board of directors recognizes the importance of our workforce and the critical need for housing in our community. With this community need in mind, the MLT board of directors felt that tourism dollars can and should do more. Therefore, on Monday, November 25, 2019, the MLT board of directors voted to approve a motion to double the commitment to “The Parcel” from the tourism reserve from two years to four years. This could add $4-6 million to “The Parcel” budget over the next four years.

The MLT board of directors is proud to stand behind this commitment because focusing on this critical need is the right thing for the future of the Mammoth Lakes community.

Sincerely,
The MLT Board of Directors

John Morris
Director, Snowcreek Resort (Board Chair)

Scott McGuire
President, The Mountain Lab (Board Vice-Chair)

Rhonda Duggan
Owner, Sierra Hospitality Consultants (Board Treasurer)

Jeremy Goico
Owner, Black Tie Ski Rental / Cycle Works (Board Secretary)

Eric Clark
COO, Mammoth Mountain Ski Area

Michael Ledesma
Owner, Gamez’ / Hugs Ice Cream

Matt Hammer
Owner, Shelter Distillery / Black Velvet Coffee

Lynda Salcido
Councilmember, Mammoth Lakes Town Council
Horoscopes

By clouds Mccloud

Sagittarius: This next year of your life promises to be a good one, especially if you can clean up or fix up anything that has been a problem in the past. Sometimes this will include forgiveness. Sometimes it means you should follow the words of author Catherine Pulsifer, "One of the best lessons you can learn in life is to master how to remain calm.” And sometimes it means you should follow this motto: “Don’t tease me unless you’re going to please me!”

Capricorn: The Stars are saying that the key to enjoying the holiday season will be to regularly do things that relieve stress and get you physically active. If you’re looking for better news than that you should probably seek therapy. If so, your words of wisdom come from legendary sci-fi novelist, Phillip K. Dick, “Sometimes the appropriate response to reality is to go insane.”

Aquarius: There is said to be a Church of Adonitology that worships women with big butts and this is not a lie. The only halls of worship for this congregation, however, appear to be found on social media channels. The constituency also, apparently, usually involves lots of booty shorts and spandex. The point here is that it’s okay to love what you love and worship whatever makes you happy, so long as you’re not hurting anyone or breaking any laws outside of Alabama.

Pisces: One of the toughest parts about being from this sign is that you can see things that others can’t. And what makes this tough is that most of it looks like a kaleidoscope of happiness, sadness, confusion, hopelessness and hopefulness. To help you stay focused on the last element, remember that love is most powerful tool on earth and that, as usual, Mark Twain was right, “When we remember we are all mad, the mysteries disappear and life stands explained.”

Aries: To help keep you calm, relaxed and even downright giddy during the holiday onslaught please do these things: 1) Get exercise. 2) Get outside 3) Check out “Line Riders” on the DoodleChaos Youtube page. 5) Do more doodling chaos yourself.

Taurus: Some people will only like you if you fit inside their prescribed boxes. That’s why it’s okay if you tell these people they can shove their boxes where the sun don’t shine. Unless, of course, it’s a box of rain, in which case you just found your new theme song, “Walk out of any doorway. Feel your way, feel your way like the day before. Maybe you’ll find direction around some corner where it’s been waiting to meet you.”

Gemini: Since you are the most naturally balanced sign, your words of wisdom for the week shall include some ying, and some yang. One side comes from Rodney Dangerfield, “I told my psychiatrist that everyone hates me. He said I was being ridiculous—everyone hasn’t met me yet.” And the other side from Buddha, “You yourself, as much as anybody in the entire universe, deserve your love and affection.”

Cancer: Although the fall is a good time for rest, you’re at your happiest when you’re getting out and about. To help get you get motivated in between naps, snuggling sessions and munchy time, remember this line from Yoda, “Do or do not. There is no try.”

Leo: Dear Leos, although good times are here and more are coming. So stay the positive course. Whenever offered to do something cool say, of course. Believe in yourself. Believe in yourself. And never forget that if you think you’re too small to make an impact, you’ve obviously never been in bed with a mosquito.

Virgo: Since Virgos are naturally good at just about everything, winning usually comes pretty easy to you. While it’s okay to win and to want to win, it’s also important to remember that winning is best when you can share it with others, especially if you win the lottery and share it with Clouds. To help, try numbers like 42 and lines like this, Don’t aspire to be the best on the team. Aspire to be the best for the team.

Libra: This much we know is true: You should never put the keys to your own happiness in someone else’s pocket. Pocket pool should be played in appropriate settings only, especially when playing doubles. And never forget this line “Keep all your troubles in your own pocket, just make sure that the pocket has a hole.”

Scorpio: The only thing that ever holds Scorpions back is fear. While it’s natural to occasionally be afraid of failure or rejection or spiders or large hairy dudes in Speedos who like to hug, you can never let fear win, because you never know what you will lose. To help, remember this line from a real President, FDR, “Courage is the absence of fear, but rather the assessment that something else is more important than fear.”

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