ALL THE WAY BACK
Bishop Football narrowly misses bid for state title
By Hitte

This season the Bishop Broncos football team cruised to an 8-2 regular season record and entered the playoffs as the #1 overall seed in the division 6 central playoffs. After beating 16-seed Boron 13-0 and 8-seed Foothill 34-14, Bishop was scheduled to play 5-seed Lindsay High Cardinals in the semifinals. Getting to the semifinals was an accomplishment by itself. The Broncos program has experienced success but only had two section titles to show for it. One was in 1957 and the next was in 2010 under Head Coach Bill Egan who coached the Broncos before Arine Palu and his brand new coach staff took over the team.

Palu told the Sheet that the Broncos were down 16-7 to Lindsay High but the fight wasn’t over. “I gave the boys a few words at halftime but then our defensive coordinator Rick Beall got up and said something like ‘every season has a life and at this point we are on life support.’” The speech was longer and more thought out but the point of the story is that it worked. The Broncos shut out the Cardinals in the second half securing a spot in the finals with a 22-16 victory.

Bishop then demolished Orosi in the finals by a score of 34-7. Palu and his team won Bishop’s third CIF section title. “We then had a chance to play in the state finals and we weren’t going to pass up on that,” said Palu.

The Broncos lost in the finals to Salesian College Preparatory 37-18, but this didn’t affect how Palu feels about the team, “Winning the CIF (section title) was always our goal and we accomplished that,” said Palu.

It was the culmination of a four-year climb. Palu took the reins of the program four years ago with offensive coordinator James Ferrell and defensive coordinator Rick Beall helping lead the program, “That first year we only had five coaches for the whole program, see FOOTBALL, page 10

WE NEED STU!
A Village original talks slush makers and keys to survival in Mammoth
By Lunch

You can really make a game of it. Think of all the businesses that have come and gone in the Village at Mammoth since it opened in May, 2003.

Hennessey’s, Restaurant Lulu, Munchkins, Gallerie Bar jur, Lingerie Lounge, Ben and Jerry’s, Dublin’s/Fever, Hyde … I could go on if my memory weren’t’s shot.

And then there’s that low-key Kiwi with the Tiki Bar at the far end of the boardwalk. His name is Stu Need. And in the Mammoth version of Survivor, he’s one of the last ones whose loincloth is still intact.

We caught up with Stu this week at his restaurant, Lakanuki, where we commiserated over Dakota Painkillers.

Sheet: What’s your current state of mind?

Stu: I’m excited at the current direction. We’ve got a great bar manager in jeremy and a great kitchen manager in Jehoshaphat. And the bar is becoming kitchy again. We’ve almost become … a Mammoth institution at this point.

Sheet: You ever think about what you’d be doing if you weren’t doing this?

Stu: I don’t know. I don’t have any other skills. When something breaks in the house, Lynn says hire someone to fix it before you hurt yourself. But seriously, if I ever walk in here and I hate it, it’s time to move on. But that hasn’t happened yet, and it’s not in my nature to hate things.

Sheet: Speaking of Lynn, what’s the key to a successful marriage?

Stu: Lynn’s the rock and the brains of the outfit. Just say yes and fall into line.

The couple has two children: Koa (14) and Lainie (17). Both work at the restaurant. Koa’s on the fryer; Lainie’s a food runner.

Sheet: The kids see a different side of me here. I’m not Dad. I’m the boss.

Speaking of which … the angry Stu part.

His daughter Lainie was late for work one day. Dad called home to figure out where she was. Still in bed.

She finally hustles in. There had been a heavy snow the night before. Stu didn’t let her clock in. Shovel the deck first, he said.

Lee and Shilo with Santa and the Mrs. at last Saturday’s Polar Express held at Laws Museum. For more photos from the event, see pages 14-15. For another photo of an unhappy kid on Santa’s lap, see page 5.

New Chief p. 8/
One-man show p. 12/
Van Life p. 13/
Exodus at NIHD p. 6/
No-host barred p. 6/
WE WON’T ALWAYS HAVE PARIS

Well, I’m already a crappy father given that I missed my daughter’s Christmas performance this evening at school, so, why not double down and be a crappy news editor as well and ditch out of this joint by leaving the white space to other people. My friend Chris Farrans is in town and he’s clearly bored, waiting for me to finish so we can hit this hoppin’ town.

Farrans is the one who told me that when Bend, Oregon (his hometown) finished its ice rink, it was an actual MUFF. Seriously. Someone didn’t measure the ice sheet properly and it turned out to be a few feet short of regulation. They figured it out when the figure skaters kept coming out of their jumps and hitting the walls.

They’ve fixed the problem since.

But let’s have Farrans tell us about the latest climate catastrophe news...

A recent study revealed that the North American ski industry faces serious threats from climate change, potentially causing a large number of mountains to go out of business.

The study, conducted by the University of Waterloo, University of Innsbruck and Sport University in Beijing, surveyed 171 ski areas in Quebec, Ontario, and Northeast U.S. to determine long-term viability in the face of climate change and found that only 66 would be able to remain open through the 2050s in a “high-emissions scenario” aka nothing being done.

“If we do not achieve the Paris Agreement, in the latter half of the century, only high-elevation areas of the Vermont and New Hampshire and select ski areas in Quebec will be able to maintain a 100-day season and open regularly over the Christmas-New Year holiday,” said Daniel Scott, study co-author and director of Waterloo’s Interdisciplinary Centre on Climate Change.

The current average season length for the ski season is 117 days in Ontario, 137 days in Quebec and 121 days in the Northeast U.S.

If the Paris agreement is met in full, a “low-emissions scenario”, resorts in the aforementioned areas would see a 12-13% reduction in snow days by the middle of the century and a 15-18% reduction closer to the end of the century.

A high-emissions scenario could see ski seasons reduced by about 20% across the board by the 2050’s, which would prevent a majority of lower-altitude ski areas from remaining economically sustainable. The study mea-

“A high-emissions scenario could see ski seasons reduced by about 20% across the board by the 2050’s, which would prevent a majority of lower-altitude ski areas from remaining economically sustainable. The study measured the potential impacts of climate change on ski resorts and concluded that the outlook is grim for many of the areas. Ski resorts in the Northeast U.S. and the middle of the century would face reductions in snow days of 12-13% and 15-18% respectively, compared to the current average of 117 days. Ontario ski areas would also be affected, with a 12-13% reduction in snow days by 2050. Ski resorts in Quebec would fare better, with only a 5-7% reduction in snow days by the same period.

The current average season length for ski areas in the Northeast U.S. is 117 days, which is expected to decrease to 95 days by 2050 in a high-emissions scenario. In Ontario, the current average season length is 137 days, which is expected to decrease to 115 days by 2050. In Quebec, the current average season length is 121 days, which is expected to decrease to 107 days by 2050.

The study also found that ski resorts in the Northeast U.S. and Ontario would face a greater risk of business failure due to climate change compared to resorts in Quebec. In Ontario, 40% of ski resorts would fail by 2050 in a high-emissions scenario, compared to 10% in Quebec. In the Northeast U.S., 30% of ski resorts would fail by 2050, compared to 15% in Quebec.

To compensate, ski resorts would have to significantly increase the amount of manmade snow, which becomes an issue when the time available to do so shrinks with the changing climate. Ontario ski areas would need to boost snow production by 179% or 256% by the 2050’s depending upon the emissions scenario. Per the report’s conclusion, “Ski area operators and communities in the most vulnerable areas need to begin to develop climate change adaptation strategies to diversify tourism and the local economy to cope with business and livelihood losses from the ski industry.”

In addition, “While the disclosure of physical climate risk is currently only recommended, it is likely to be required by major stock markets in the early 2020s. At that time all publicly traded ski companies or ski resorts owned by publicly traded companies will need to assess and disclose their physical climate risk.”

What does that mean for the Sierra? Here’s Gorman on the Fourth National Climate Assessment from a November 2018 issue of The Sheet: “Snowfall, in the worst case scenarios, will not last much longer in California. The report says that, “much of the mountain area in California with winters currently dominated by snow would begin to receive more precipitation as rain and then only rain by 2050.”

And below, that is about the best billboard ever. Fireball is the face of Ascent Cannabis as you drive north on Highway 395. Visit him this week at work and he’ll make your Christmas jolly. The modern world has definitely replaced mistletoe with weed.
SNOW SMART WAYS YOU CAN MAKE WINTER A SAFER SEASON

BE SNOW SMART BY OBSERVING A FEW SIMPLE RULES:

CHILD SAFETY while snow removal operations are under way:
- Keep children indoors.
- Children should not play in yards, build snow forts or dig caves near the road.

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY
- Don’t watch snow removal operations from the edge of the road.
- Don’t walk in front of snow removal equipment.

BACK OFF
- While driving, stay at least 50 feet behind snow removal equipment.
- Passing of a snowplow on the road should be done with extreme caution.

All Town Snow Removal Equipment Can Be Identified By The Town Logo Displayed On The Vehicle.

SLOW DOWN
- When chain control conditions are in effect, the maximum speed limit is 25 mph.
- Black ice frequently forms in shady areas and at night on roads.

LIGHT IT UP
- Leave the exterior lighting of your home on at night during winter storms.
- Identify the entrance to your driveway with reflective pōles.

SNOW STORAGE
- Do not place cleared snow in the roadway.
- All snow must be stored on your property.

PROTECT YOUR VEHICLE
- It is a violation to park on any roadway from November 1 through April 30.
- Park all vehicles/trailers away from roads and inside the orange snow stakes.
- Identify your vehicles/trailers location with pōles for snow removal operators.

PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY
- In order to reduce stress on a structure, clear snow off your roof regularly.
- It is recommended that homeowners contact a local snow removal company.
- Removing at least the top 1/2 to 2/3 of roof snow pack is very beneficial.
- In general, most roof structures in Town can tolerate up to four feet of snow.
- Be aware of shedding snow & ice at building entry ways where ice dams will form over time, and will end up breaking loose from the roof and falling.
- These areas are serious life-safety hazards and should be monitored, and if possible kept clear/removed at all times.
- Large propane/gas tanks, along with the supply yard pipe where the gas pipe enters a structure and the meter is located, should also be kept clear of all snow and ice.

FOR CURRENT CHAIN-CONTROL RESTRICTIONS:
Call (800)427-ROAD •
Listen to KMKT 106.5 •
Listen to ALT 92.5 •
Look for chain control signs • throughout town

The penalty for failure to observe the posted chain controls may include a citation and a severe fine. Remember to always carry chains and use them when required to do so.

Visit www.dot.ca.gov/cgi-bin/roads.cgi or scan this QR CODE.

PUBLIC SERVICE INFORMATION PAID FOR BY THE TOWN OF MAMMOTH LAKES. WWW.TOWNOFMAMMOTHLAKES.CA.GOV.
Dear Editor:

We need leadership

This letter is written in the aftermath of the workshop held to discuss planning of The Parcel on December 11. Participants included Mammoth Town Council, Mammoth Planning and Economic Development Commission and housing consultants.

After 3+ hours in the above meeting, I came away with more frustration than I entered with - or put another way, with less hope than I wanted to have.

It is true the Council agreed to push forward with option 2 of the consultants’ plan for the Parcel. This was good news and I believe fit with the majority of the meetings and input the community weighed in with over the last year. So why should I not leave the meeting with joy in my heart and hope for the future?

Here are my concerns and observations. Instead of a unified Council that should have been ready to push forward with clear direction and set deadlines and establish the needs to be done, we received continuing comments from Council members on transportation issues, trail coordination, parking issues and finance issues. At least we are not talking about the color of the buildings. You, the Council, have had this plan for months and have known about this meeting for months.

We have known there was a need for additional funds and the only thing done was to propose a 1% TOT tax. What about bonding, what about EIFD (Enhanced Infrastructure Financing District), what about a lift tax, what about a rework on the budget, what about marketing $$$, what about approaching the Hospital, Water District or MMSA and asking for input, help, ideas or flat out beg for a loan before going to lodging yet again?

You have seen the proposed parking numbers. Take a stand and hammer out a best approach. Instead, you have punted this to staff to figure out without clear direction and this will be debated further.

Here is what I had hoped would come out of this meeting.

LEADERSHIP: Yes, a unified Council accepting input from the planning commission and consultants at what was scheduled to be the last meeting before the beginning of implementation of Parcel Plan Option #2. We don’t have that LEADERSHIP and I must say I am worried if we ever will.

We needed the Council to stand up and say:

• Yes to this plan. Instruct Staff to move as fast as possible in hiring a builder/developer that will advise on best next steps which will help us get a clear picture of financial needs so we can proceed to find the money.

• Then have a public meeting for input from all parties as to options to address the financial needs.

• While waiting for the builder, what can staff do at this time to expedite the needs of this project? Then do it!

• Agree to and set an aggressive schedule that is realistic and can be accomplished

• Currently, two schedules exist, one by the consultants and one by the town manager. They vary by a year.

• Start any of the process that can be started. Begin the EIR and/or CEQA analysis or both

• Openly share with each other your concerns and assign working groups and/or staff to address with clear objectives and begin the process so it does not hold up the development of the Parcel (You have been looking at this for over a year. To bring up transportation and trails at this time can only be viewed as obstructionism.)

• Instruct Staff to solve the parking issue with at least the current town minimum (which barely works now in other projects) or we proclaim; WE WILL CHANGE THE FUTURE BY ENCOURAGING TRANSPORTATION BY OTHER MEANS. These are 2 choices and can the second really be achieved? Once you decide this, then you will have direction to solve.

• And finally, Council needs to be unified in its purpose to address the number #1 issue that faces this community and its future needs and well being. Once there is leadership you can organize consensus and find solutions, and once you do that you will be taken seriously by all parties and trusted that the job will get done.

Tom Cage
Mammoth Lakes

Shrink-wrapped for Christmas

Dear Editor:

Jack, congrats on the front page story about a clinical psychologist being paid to find problems with the Mono County workforce – and then, oddly enough, finding problems. This scoop is akin to headline news that Lassie was sent on a search mission and came back with a piece of bacon.

Well maybe not everything is a problem, because the article reports that an overwhelming majority of County workers love Mono County. I would bet all the money in my pocket that 80% of workers who love their location is higher than any other precinct in California, with the possible exception of Brentwood pool boys who work for rich actresses. Hang on a sec...

OK, just sent in my application for Pool Boy. Where was it?

Oh yeah, Mono staff also are quite pleased with their own staff commitment, and the customer service they perceive themselves to deliver. Funny, I feel the exact same way about my job. So where’s the bad news? Well it boils down to two things. County staff feel overworked. And tired. This is a surprisingly unique situation in the workforce to be sure, as everyone else I know feels the need more work and less rest to displace the gentle ennui filling their desperately push lives.

see LETTERS, page 5

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see LETTERS, page 5

Tom Cage
Mammoth Lakes
NO WONDER WE NEED MORE PARKING

School is a small, rural school located at the base of the Eastern Sierra Nevada Mountains. Established in 1871, the school enjoys a rich history with many traditions including stellar academic achievement. Recognized as a California Distinguished School, Round Valley School focuses on the whole child by valuing personal achievement both in and outside the classroom. Because of its high standards, exceptional teaching staff and small class sizes, Round Valley is a “School of Choice” with one third of our students coming from outside our district’s boundaries.

The Round Valley Student Enrichment Program (STEP) Foundation - a 501c3 non-profit - is dedicated to improving our students’ education through fundraising to strengthen the educational process. Over the years STEP foundation has been able to fund Chromebook computers, engineering materials (Legos, building blocks, etc.), music teacher twice a month, shared assemblies with PTO, granted teacher requests, including Battle of the Books, garden supplies, history presentations, rocket engines, math manipulatives, butterfly release, Trout in the Classroom, donation to school to support iPod technology, heart dissection project, librarian position for many school years, fish tank hatchery field trip, and classroom technology and much more. Now we need your support to help STEP continue our work ...

Please take a moment to go online at www.roundvalleystepfoundation.com and use the donate button to make a difference for our kids. Thank you ... 100% of your donation goes directly to the school to support these important programs!

Sincerely,
Round Valley School
STEP Foundation

PROVIDING FINANCIAL SOLUTIONS FOR ALL ASPECTS OF YOUR LIFE.

Eric P. Wasserman
Senior Financial Advisor
549 Old Mammoth Rd. Ste 12
P.O. Box 1917
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546
760-924-2600
www.wfainc.net

WELLS FARGO ADVISORS
FINANCIAL NETWORK
Wells Fargo Advisors Financial Network, LLC, Member SIPC
INYO COUNTY MOVES CLOSER TO NON-HOSTED RENTAL BAN
By Lunch

It pays to be an early adopter. The Inyo County Board of Supervisors signaled its plan to ban non-hosted short term property rentals at its meeting on Tuesday.

It held a public workshop to solicit additional comment for changes to County Code section 18.73 being assembled by Inyo County Planning Director Catheen Richards.

Those who currently hold condition- al-use permits which allow for non- hosted rentals will be grandfathered in.

This assuaged many local residents who currently operate non-hosted rentals and made the meeting non- contentious. Even bland.

Four applications in process which will be heard by Inyo County’s Planning Commission in January will be similarly grandfathered.

Further, conditional-use permits are attached to the property, not the property owner. As long as these rentals are operated within the guidelines, they’re kinda, well, permanent.

The only folks likely to be irritated by a future ban are real estate investors/ speculators who don’t know about it yet.

This is what the future will look like. All short-term rentals must be hosted - under the same roof. Or at least, under a roof (say, in an accesso- ry dwelling unit) on the same parcel.

Only accessory dwelling units which currently exist will be eligible.

Moving forward, a person can’t have short-term rentals on multiple parcels, because, by definition, a host can’t be two places at once.

The draft language states: “Owner- ship of more than one parcel on which short-term rentals are permitted shall in itself be an automatic revocation of all of the owner’s short-term permits, except for the permit(s) originally granted.”

You can’t build an accessory dwell- ing unit after January 1, 2020 and make it a short-term rental.

Grandfathered, non-hosted rent- als will be subject to annual review to make sure they’re compliant.

12 people spoke during public com- ment. None expressed opposition at the Supervisors’ direction. Southern Inyo resident Russ Monroe said, “I appreciate your going after this issue and trying to meet it head-on.”

But as Darwin’s Larry Crouse observed, “The issue of preserving neighborhoods [in the Airbnb era] is a world issue.”

And regardless of the laws in place, enforcement will be a challenge. Next up: Richards will incorporate comments and bring draft changes to the Inyo County Planning Commiss- ion next year.

EXODUS: MOVEMENT OF JAH PHYSICIANS
By Charles James

Does NIHD have a staff retention problem?

A Wedneday night’s Northern Inyo Healthcare District board meeting, two speakers brought up concerns over the hospital’s loss of several doctors and other medical staff. Both issues brought forth questions as to whether the hospital’s administration and board can be trusted to “act in good faith.”

Because the comments were made during the Public Comments, the board was unable to respond.

The Sheet will follow up on this story with NIHD for its side of the story, and with doctors and other medical staff who may wish to comment.

The next speaker was Denny Renick, a resident of Starlight Estates. He touched on the concern of doctor retention, medical/tech staff and other issues regarding a new MRI machine, technology software, the purchase of the housing that is rumored to be only for doctors’ use, but not nurses.

Renick also expressed concern over the ongoing deficit spending by the hospital district, wondering just how long that can go on.

Asking the question, “Why are so many doctors leaving?”, Renick read off a list of doctors that NIHD has lost or will be losing:

• Dr. Allison Robinson, MD, Colorectal Surgeon and Robotic Surgeon.
• Dr. Stuart Souders, MD, Radiology.
• Dr. Joy Enghlade, MD, Internal Medicine/Hospitalist (Now working in Kentucky as a Hospitalist and teaching at the hospital)
• Dr. Matthew Wise, MD, OB
• Dr. Jim Englesby, MD (retired year early)

It is difficult to get doctors to move to rural areas and the Eastern Sierra is no exception. Getting exceptional doctors and specialists is even more difficult.

The Sheet will be following up on this story in the interests of our reader- ers and our communities that rely on quality health care.
INYO TO CONSIDER NEW NAME FOR PORTAGEE JOE CAMPGROUND

At its regular meeting December 10, the Inyo County Board of Supervisors gave the green light to acting County Parks and Recreation Director Leslie Chapman to bring an item back to the Board recommending a new name for Portagee Joe Campground, a county campground just west of Lone Pine.

“We will recommend naming it Jose Pires Campground” Chapman said, referring to the real name of the “town character” after whom the campground was named.

Bishop resident Allen Berrey had long complained to the Board that “Portagee Joe,” the name of the campground, was named referring to the real name of the “town character” Chapman said, referring to the real name of the “town character” after whom the campground was named.

“I just thought the County should show the man and his Portuguese heritage some respect by calling him “Portuguese Joe,” said Berrey, noting that “Portuguese Joe” – not the derogatory “Portagee Joe” - is the nickname that appears on Mr. Pires’s gravestone at the Mt. Whitney Cemetery.

The Inyo Supervisors will consider whether to rename the campground and, if so, what the new name should be, at a public hearing to be held in the spring of 2020.

-Oneandahalflanes

During the most recent snowstorm, Main Street in Mammoth was reduced to 1-1.5 lanes on the south side of the street. It wasn’t a major snowstorm. Not at all. Which left The Sheet to wonder - are the new sidewalks on both sides of Highway 203 creating a logistical puzzle for snow removal?

By clearing a sidewalk, do you impact snow removal on the highway? Do you impact parking spaces? By clearing the highway, do you effectively fill the sidewalk? What’s the strategy?

The answer seems to be: We’re working on it.

The Sheet reached out to the Town of Mammoth Lakes to see why this was happening. The Town cited Caltrans as being responsible for snow removal on Main Street.

Christine Knadler, Caltrans District 9 Public Information Officer responded by saying, “Caltrans and the Town of Mammoth Lakes (TOML) have always worked cooperatively on snow removal operations. When Caltrans removes the snow from the town, it is typically taken to the shoulder near Minaret and SR 203 and blown off to the side.”

In regard to lane closures and/or encroachment on Main Street, Knadler said, “a new maintenance agreement is being drafted that will address issues such as the impact of the new Main Street sidewalks on snow storage.”

After reaching out to Knadler it appears that this issue happens on a case-by-case basis depending on the type of storms the Town gets. She did say crews work 24/7 during a storm and that the current policy for snow removal “is to clear the road as quickly as possible, moving snow to the downhill side of Main Street, followed by clearing of the snow by TOML.”

Grady Dutton, the Town’s public works director, told the Sheet, “We handle a majority of the public streets as well as some parking lots. There are a lot of private operators that deal with the snow on private streets. Our main goal (in removing snow) is public safety.”

“This is a major project for the Town,” Stapp told the Sheet that his only concern was that priorities further down the list such as road improvement projects might be ignored due to this large funding commitment to The Parcel.

Councillman John Wentworth was proud of the work staff had completed, “I think we should reflect back on the significant progress we have made. There was no expectation that we would have $7.5 million for the Parcel. At this moment, at this hour, we are in very good shape.”

Mayor Pro-Tem Lynda Salcido agreed, “This is a cause for celebration. It is amazing where we are today and I believe this will bring confidence to any developer looking to work on the project. This will provide about 136 homes and it is a great way to end the year.”

Council’s approval was unanimous.

-WHITE

53 KITCHEN & COCKTAILS
3-9pm 3-course prix fixe menu / $75 adults / $40 children
JIMMY’S TAVERNA
5-9pm 4-course prix fixe dinner / $45 / $85 wine pairing option
LAKEFRONT RESTAURANT
3pm, 5:30pm, 8pm 4-course prix fixe menu / $125 adults / $50 children
MAMMOTH ROCK BRASSERIE
5-9pm 5-course prix fixe dinner / $78 adults / $34 children
RAFTER’S RESTAURANT & LOUNGE
5-9pm 4-course prix fixe dinner / $45 / $65 wine pairing option

Christmas Day
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WHITBARK RESTAURANT
5-10pm $30 adults
His last position was the Chief of Police role at the Ely Shoshone Tribe. He worked for 8 years as a police officer and later moved onto Ely, NV (Shoshone Reservation) in Wells, NV. He moved onto the Wells Band Council where he was an officer for one year, then he went to the Duckwater Reservation where he had a background in Tribal Law Enforcement. He stated, “I’ve worked with non-Native backgrounds that I’ve worked with in my career that have been equally good and had positive impact in Native America,” he said.

Thus far, in Bishop, he is a band of one. There’s Blackeye, Chief of Police, and one dispatcher. The ideal plan is to have three federally certified officers by June of 2020. Currently, Blackeye is interviewing candidates. The two officers will be experienced sworn officers, and one will be a recruit. Through a grant from the Department of Justice, the Tribe will send the rookie to the Bureau of Indian Affairs Indian Police Academy, which is a federal law enforcement training center.

A key reason for having a Tribal police force, according to Blackeye, is because “the Tribe has inherent sovereignty, and an extension of your sovereignty is your criminal justice system … it’s probably the ultimate show of sovereignty.”

At the same time, Blackeye said the department will not be in danger of over-policing with one cop or even three. He believes that as a tribal police force “you’ll see more cooperation from the community, more buy-in to things, to the efforts of law enforcement out here, when it’s your agency doing it, your community—it’s your police department and not somebody else’s. There is more accountability there … we’re the police, we’re more accountable to the Tribe and the people,” he said.

The jurisdiction for the Bishop Paiute Police Department is the Reservation, as it currently does not have any mutual aid agreements with other agencies, but we “envision ourselves being a partner in the Owens Valley, not just on the Reservation,” said Blackeye.

The Sheet asked Blackeye what the protocol would be if a crime took place on the Reservation, who would be called first—the Bishop Paiute Tribal Police, the Bishop Police or the Highway Patrol. Blackeye referred to Public Law 280, which is where the State takes the place of the Federal jurisdiction, he said. He explained the BIA (Bureau of Indian Affairs), deputizes officers to enforce Federal law on Reservations.

“We would be the primary responding agency in the jurisdiction. We wouldn’t be making the arrest, we would only be detaining suspects for violations of State law,” he said.

Blackeye said California is different from Nevada when applying Tribal law, as he was able to enforce state, federal and tribal laws when he was an officer in Nevada, as tribal officers were also State Peace Officers, he said.

Snow does not burn.

The prospect of PSPS events continues to vex local politics

By Hite

A t an Eastern Sierra California of Governments (ESCOG) meeting on Friday, December 13, members of the board discussed updates on the impacts related to Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) events. Town of Mammoth Lakes Councilmember John Wentworth started the discussion. “Our frustration with Edison (Southern California Edison) continues. Recently, our Town Council passed an agenda item that urged Edison to give us some type of protocols around shut-offs in snow country. If we have 6-12 inches of snow on the ground, why would you be cutting off our power?”

Wentworth referenced an SCE truck that was stuck at a “significant trail head,” and will remain there all winter as anecdotal evidence that “their [SCE] interface with us has been less than optimal.”

Mono County Supervisor Bob Gardner, was next up. “I think they are making progress and they are responding to our efforts to get good information. I tell people to go to the county website because that is usually the best information as to what is going on.” Wentworth responded, “I think the point of concern that we have is say, over the Christmas holidays, there’s 40,000 people in town and there is a big storm and they shut the power off. Then you have a bunch of visitors who are not prepared for this environment who say ‘well, this is kind of stupid, let’s go back to LA.’ They then drive out of town in a horrendous blizzard that is going to be life-threatening.”

Gardner then interrupted Wentworth, noting that “Snow does not burn.” Wentworth: “That is my understanding of it.” Gardner: “I’ve demonstrated that.”

“Snow does not burn.”

Wentworth responded, “I think the point of concern that we have is say, over the Christmas holidays, there’s 40,000 people in town and there is a big storm and they shut the power off. Then you have a bunch of visitors who are not prepared for this environment who say ‘well, this is kind of stupid, let’s go back to LA.’ They then drive out of town in a horrendous blizzard that is going to be life-threatening.”

Jeff Griffiths, Inyo County Supervisor ESCOG Chair, responded, “I can’t imagine they would shut off the power ...” Wentworth responded, “We’ve asked and we just don’t have any certainty ...”

The conversation is ongoing and a winter PSPS event would be a stress-test to see how prepared the Eastern Sierra is.

But snow doesn’t burn. At least we learned that much.
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Happy Holidays – from our family to yours!
FOOTBALL

continued from page 1

varsity and junior varsity," Palu said. While discussing that first year as the Broncos head coach Palu reminisced, "I'm looking at a picture of our team from 2016 and we only had 16 kids on that team. You can even run a full football practice with 16 kids."

But Palu was trying to establish a foundation for his new program, "I felt there was a big need for the kids to care more. We wanted a unified program. Every year we have a theme for our team and that year's theme was 'team first,'" said Palu.

In the end, the team went 7-3 in the regular season. They made the playoffs and lost in the first round, ending the season 7-4. That was in division five. Bishop Union got moved down to division six this year, but that just means the bar rises. "We feel like we have a chance to win the state championship, and that is what we are aiming for." said Palu.

Palu called his shot. Now that Palu, Ferrell, and Beall have established their program with the third CIF title in school history, The Sheet asked what was next for Broncos football and Palu responded, "We have momentum and we have buy-in. Next year we have the potential to be even better. It's lining up that we will have a bunch of great classes coming up. We are stoked."

And now, a few words from three senior leaders: Jayden Braithwaite, Tristan Valle and Luke McClean.

Sheet: What do you remember most from your freshman season?
Jaydan Braithwaite: I remember getting moved up to varsity and starting by the end of freshman season.

Tristan Valle: In a back and forth battle with California City, I remember Luke asking us if we were the hammer or the nail? We then went all the way down the field and punched in a touchdown to win the game.

Luke McClean: The thing I remember most about freshman year were the bus trips. The memories we made were some of the times of my life. We would sit for hours talking to each other just enjoying being able to play the game of football with lifelong friends.

Sheet: How has the program changed in the four years you’ve been there?
Braithwaite: Training starts earlier and we get to the weight room earlier. It is also more organized.

Valle: Over the four years there have been many players coming in and helping our team tremendously. We worked hard to become the best.

McClean: There have been a lot of changes. My freshman year was the first year of a new conglomerate of football coaches. The changes have been different every year, and this year specifically, it felt like our identity had finally ‘clicked’, and our game flowed seamlessly.

Sheet: What has the Bishop football coaching staff taught you?
Braithwaite: The coaching staff taught me how to be a man on and off the field.

Valle: Football turns us from boys into men. It’s not always about winning, it’s about how you win. And Coach Palu has taught us boys do what they want to do and men do what they have to do.’

McClean: The Bishop Union High School coaching staff include some of the most important men I have in my life. The bond and love I share with every one of them is truly special to me, the relationships I’ve built with them will last an eternity, and the lessons they taught me about being a man and taking responsibility have been engrained into me.

Sheet: When you think of high school football, what do you think of?
Braithwaite: I think of the CIF championship we won this year.

Valle: I think of the brotherhood we have and the families it brings together.

McClean: When I think of high school football I think about the people. The people make up a team, the people of the town coached, taught, and raised every single one of the athletes. High School sports gave us an opportunity to give back.

Sheet: What did winning the section finals mean to you?
Braithwaite: It meant the world to me. Ever since the team won in 2010, I have wanted to be in this position.

Valle: Winning the finals with my brothers showed me that all the hard work wasn’t for nothing.

McClean: Winning the CIF Championship was easily the greatest accomplishment I have achieved in my life. It felt as if everything from my childhood led to that moment, the pressure was immense, but the joy of winning, for Bishop, was a feeling that will rarely be repeated in my life.

Sheet: What would you say to the residents of Bishop?
Braithwaite: Thank you for supporting us and keeping a positive vibe throughout the year.

Valle: The residents constantly support our program made us who we are. The team dinners, parades, and support at the games makes us want to play and make Bishop proud.

McClean: I would like to thank every single person from this Bishop community. Bishop has been the greatest hometown I could ever ask for. The chance to represent Bishop, and this amazing place we call home is a dream come true. All I can do is appreciate how special a place Bishop truly is.

Sheet: What is next for you?
Braithwaite: I will like to attend University of Nevada, Reno and possibly walk on to the football team.

Valle: I am either going to go into the navy or try and play college ball. I haven’t decided yet.

McClean: The next step for me after is college. I am completely certain, however, I do plan on attending a university. As for athletics I have been contacting coaches throughout the country and might play college ball. Sports is not my main concern and I wish to major in either Finance or Law.

Coach Palu (center) celebrating the win over Oroz. Don’t forget to shop green this holiday season.

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By Gus Kreiger

Gus Kreiger is just a single person but starting this coming weekend, he’ll transform into a full ensemble of more than twenty distinct characters over the course of his performance of A Christmas Carol: The One-Man Play, directed by Drina Durazo.

The process of creating the show began when Kreiger, now based in Los Angeles, performed in the ensemble of The Hartford Stage’s production of A Christmas Carol in Hartford, Conn. According to Kreiger, “That was when I sort of got interested in the pageantry of what you could do onstage” and he came to see the show as a strong candidate for the one-man treatment.

This is by no means Kreiger’s or director Durazo’s first time at the Edison. Theatregoers may remember their work on Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery in February 2017.

Kreiger sees the one-man show as a rite of passage for stage actors, “the flaming hoop you have to drop through … to get the official stamp.”

He didn’t immediately jump into the process of creating the show but kept it in the back of his mind for several years while working as an actor in Los Angeles. It came to the surface as he was “on track to being married” when he suggested to Durazo that they consider making that dream project a reality.

“A couple of years came and went,” said Kreiger, “The year that we ended up getting married was the year I reached out to Shira [Dubrovner] and the Group Company”.

Dubrovner told him that Mammoth was booked for the season, but put forth the possibility of performing in Bishop, where Kreiger performed the show in late 2018. Since then, he’s performed A Christmas Carol at The Group Repertory Theater and The Whitmore Theater, both in North Hollywood.

“I always love it when an actor takes on the challenge of how to transition from character to character in these plays,” says Dubrovner. “It’s almost in the vein of clowning.”

Dubrovner called Kreiger’s interpretation “creative and innovative,” noting that it’s really lovely to be able to have a play that can appeal to adults but also be just as entertaining for young kids.”

In terms of actually creating the one-man play, “it started very mathematical,” says Kreiger. He began by researching the run times of unabridged A Christmas Carol audiobooks, knowing that about half the text would have to be cut because “unless you’re doing something truly unique, most [one-man shows] are in that 70-90 minute range.”

He then made “pruning passes” through the book to whittle down the word count in different sections, often reading portions out loud to Durazo to check time and obtain feedback.

The original draft, Kreiger says, was heavy on the narration, “but we realized as we went along that the more we could put [the show] in the mouths of the characters … the more involving it would inherently be.”

In a one-man show, the characters are purposefully created to be distinguishable from one another as costumes can be extremely limited. “We made sure that everybody kind of had their own vocal inflection and pitch … but we absolutely do play with hats and scarves,” says Kreiger, “It’s just enough of a suggestion from scene to scene. The same goes for the set, which by the same logic as costumes can be very minimal.

Kreiger noted that the show “is very much written to exist in this fluid suggestion of space.”

For Kreiger, the one-man aspect fits well with the source material, as it “still very much about the transformation of this one guy … When we have a single performer relaying the whole thing, it becomes much more intuitive.”

“I like to think there’s that potential for redemption or change in all of us the way that there is for Scrooge,” said Kreiger.

Kreiger explained that his inspiration for playing Scrooge comes from a number of different sources, including Alastair Sim’s 1951 turn as the miser and the more modern performances of Michael Caine and Jim Carrey. Bill Murray’s interpretation in 1988’s Scrooged? “Not so much,” Kreiger said with a laugh.

Christmas Carol: The One-Man Play opens Friday, December 20 and continues until December 29. Performances are at 7 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, and 4 p.m. on Sundays. Tickets are available at www.edisontheatre.org.

By Page
Van Osgood may be a self-described “lifelong ski bum,” but as a bootfitter he’s the quintessential professional. He doesn’t just know what he’s doing; he knows why.

Raised in Arcadia (near Pasadena), he grew up skiing at Mt. Waterman. Osgood began a career in ski shops at Alta Sports in San Gabriel in 1980, learning how to tune skis under the tutelage of the aptly named Bob Snow. Van’s destiny may have been set even before that—he recalls that as a child, “Boots used to break all the time and my dad taught me how to re-rivet a broken ski boot cuff in the garage. I’m still doing that in the boot room today.”

Like many SoCal skiers, Van began making the trek to Mammoth in the ‘80s, and moved up in ‘91. “Opening day that season there were about ten people in line, and half of them were the crew you’d see on Powder mornings at Chair 22 – Christian Pondella, Dan Molnar, John Wentworth …” Pondella, Molnar, and Wentworth are still here, as a world-class ski photographer, proprietor of the First Chair food truck in front of Footloose, and a two-term Town Council member, respectively. They, and Van, can still be found in line at Chair 22 on powder mornings.

Van began working at the ski shop in Warming Hut II (now Canyon Lodge), but he knew where he wanted to be: “I had known Corty and Sven (Footloose’s founders) since 1982, and always wanted to work with them. They were not just the best at bootfitting, but they were the coolest people.” It’s no coincidence that the first time Van got his own boot situation dialed in, “It was a Nordica 982 boot with a Superfeet cork footbed and a custom foam injected liner. The was the first time I could ever ski all day without unbuckling.”

“That was a Sven-designed boot, a Sven-originated liner, and a Sven footbed. And to be able to do that for people—get their boots sorted so they can get to the point of not needing to unbuckle every run—is to this day one of the best achievements for me as a bootfitter.”

Another formative experience came from none other than Jerry Seinfeld in 1984. Van worked on the then-rising comedian’s boots and Seinfeld apparently had such a good ski day that he made a point of tipping Van fifty dollars. “That was the first time I was ever able to really help someone. And fifty dollars meant something then. I figured if I could help people, make ‘em happy, and get fifty dollar tips, this was the job for me.”

Van began working at Footloose in the early 90’s, and then went walkabout, exploring other ski towns and settling for a while near Sun Valley, Idaho. But he was missing the Mammoth windbuff: “We live here because of what the wind does to the snow. We don’t need constant snowfall to keep the skiing good. We don’t get that ice that’s barely edgeable. And people that experience one of those true windbuff days … tend to stay here after that.”

After a stint bootfitting at Kittredge Sports across the street, Van returned to Footloose in 2004 to take his skills to the next level by working again under Corty Lawrence. Fifteen years later, he says that he considers himself “a ski bum that works in the industry. I might be one of the last. You don’t meet that many career bootfitters.”

We don’t need constant snowfall to keep the skiing good. We don’t get that ice that’s barely edgeable. And people that experience one of those true windbuff days … tend to stay here after that.”

If Van isn’t grinding shells in the boot room or making a footbed, you can find him in line on Chair 22, or skiing powder in the Mammoth backcountry.
ALL ABOARD
Photographs from last weekend’s “Polar Express” at Laws Museum
By Gayla Wolf

Clockwise from top left: Conductor (and Bishop City Councilmember) Stephen Mushovej leads the waves as the train departs; train elves Claire, Grace and Addie, Jackie, Lori and Henry think they can; Mia Harrison in Frozen sweatshirt; Museum Manager Robert De La Riva and top assistant Alessia Paradea.

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Clockwise from top left: Santa and Mrs. Claus with the Brown family children; Fiddlin’ Pete, with Tyler and Craig from Rock Creek Pack Station; Bishop Chamber volunteers Joyce Walker, Derek Gibbs, Tammy Mandrell, April Leeson, Cheryl Underhill and Joe Pollin; Great Dane Francis and Bulldog Fancy entertaining the crowds; Elle Wisner; Nora shares a candy cane with Dad.

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THE LUCKY (AND UNLUCKY) PROPOSITION 13

By Paul Oster

Q: Simple question; we hear so much back-and-forth about Prop. 13. Is it fair or not? Should it remain?? What do your think?

A: Taxes are such a fun subject. Really. We all grew up with Benjamin Franklin’s two certainties of life; death and taxes. But we must defer to the notorious comedian and social commentator George Carlin, who was known for “dirty” words, to determine the ultimate dirty word; taxes. Carlin neglected to pay income taxes for many years and ended up paying millions in back taxes and fines for over two decades. Before he died he credited the tax debt with keeping him motivated as a comedian and entertainer for the balance of his life.

With that in mind, should we all look at paying taxes for life-long motivation? And as an aside, the Town of Mammoth Lakes now thinks our visitors should adopt a similar motivation (how many taxes can they come up with?).

The debate over the validity of Prop. 13 can start with the inherent stability of the current annual property tax bill. I find many who believe Prop. 13 is unfair don’t even own property and many have never even paid property tax. Go to other states that reassess properties on an annual basis and you will hear the horror stories. Owners literally fear receiving their new property tax bill in the mail. Their new reassessment may be based on some exorbitant price a “fool” paid for the house down the street. The uncertainty is nerve wracking. The large increase may seriously compromise the family budget. Those two negatives alone can often dissuade people from becoming homeowners. This is the way California property taxes were prior to 1978 when Prop. 13 was passed. My father and uncle were both long-time real estate brokers in California (one starting in 1937). They both believed Prop. 13 “stabilized” the real estate market. Many people think the state’s real estate is far from stable. But without Prop. 13, imagine how crazy it might be?

Prop. 60 and 90 “portability” of property taxes has somewhat alleviated this incentive for older owners to stay put. It allows the transfer of a low property tax basis from one property to another (if lesser or equal value). But right now not all counties in California are “reciprocal” to it. Mono County (Mammoth) currently is not. Most rural counties don’t allow the portability of a low tax basis. Counties like Los Angeles and Orange do. The California Association of Realtors is currently working (collecting signatures) to place a proposition on the 2020 ballot to make the transfer apply to all counties.

The Prop. 60 and 90 “portability” of property taxes has somewhat alleviated this incentive for older owners to stay put. It allows the transfer of a low property tax basis from one property to another (if lesser or equal value). But it can be argued that these older owners have been paying property taxes for 30 or 40 years that paid for the existing schools, hospitals, fire stations, and the like that the new owners are utilizing.

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Conversely, they believe that newer owners are paying excessive taxes to make it up for it. But it can be argued that these older owners have been paying property taxes for 30 or 40 years that paid for the existing schools, hospitals, fire stations, and the like that the new owners are utilizing.

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**Mammoth Rock ’N Bowl**

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

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**Friday, December 20/  
Grammy-nominated Shari Puerto plays blues & rock @ Liberty. See ad p. 13.**

DJs spin @ Rafter’s. 10 p.m. ‘til close.

**Saturday, December 21/  
Valley Sons** play Rafter’s. Southern and Classic Rock. Time: 10 p.m.-close.

**Jonathan Scales Fourchestra** plays the T-Bar. Time: 8 p.m.

**Sunday, December 22/  
Catch all the NFL action @ Liberty, Clocktower, Gomez in Mammoth and the Palate Palace in Bishop. Open Mic Night @ T-Bar. Time: 7 p.m. Karaoke @ Lakanuki with host Jesse Szeele. Time: 9 p.m.**

**Tuesday, December 24/  
County Music Hall-Off Farmer Lacy J. Dalton plays the T-Bar. Time: 7 p.m. Tix: $25. Info and tix: https://balancedrocksaloon.com.**

**Lakanuki** has your back when it comes to handling the holidays. Open late night Xmas Eve and at noon Xmas day. Karaoke @ Public House. 8 p.m.

**MAMMOTH LIQUOR**

Beer lovers’ candy store Selection of more than 300 beers MESSAGE FROM YOUR FRIDGE: DON’T IMPEACH BEER

**MAMMOTH TOWN STUFF**

**Friday, December 20/  
Free Friday Skate Nights @ Mammoth Ice Rink. Time: 8-10 p.m.**

**December 20-22/  
Cardinal Village Tree Sale and Christmas Fun @ Cardinal Village Resort. Stop by to pick up a freshly cut pine tree for Christmas, with free ice-skating and a visit from Santa. 10 a.m. ‘til 6 p.m.**

**December 20-23/  
Santville @ Mammoth Sports in the Village. Pictures with Santa and Wooly. Time: 3:30-5:30 p.m. every day.**

**December 20-29/  
A Christmas Carol: The One Man Play opens @ Mammoth Lakes Repertory Theatre. More info: see sidebar page 15.**

**December 20-31/  
Mono Arts Council Holiday Marketplace @ Minaret Village Shopping Center. Time: 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. every day. More info: see sidebar page 15.**

**December 21-22/  
Unbound Series #3: Slopestyle @ Mammoth Mountain Main Park. Spend the day as a spectator or sign-up to compete, with a chance to qualify for USA Ski Slopestyle championships. Head down to the Village afterwards for an appearance from Santa and Wooly. Time: 7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Registration/info: https://www.mammothmountain.com/**

**Saturday, December 21/  
Wooly’s Saturday Parade @ the Village Time: 3:45-4:30 p.m. Face painting. Dance Party. Parade. All ages welcome. Art & Wine: Acrylic Series @ MA Gallery & Art Center with local artist Miguel Flores. $45 a person, includes all materials & a glass of wine. More info: call 760.935.4089/isbxoxo@gmail.com. Cookies and Cocoa with Bucky @ June Mountain. Join Bucky, June Mountain’s mascot, for cookies, cocoa, and a dance party around the bonfire. Time: 2 p.m.**

**Winter’s Wonderland Clock Drawings A Winter-Themed Drawing Workshop for ages 7-14 with Naomi Hart Johnson @ CS Studios in Bishop. Time: 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. More info: Call 760.935.4089/isbxoxo@gmail.com.**

**Sunday, December 22/  
Catch all the NFL action @ Liberty, Clocktower. Gomez in Mammoth and the Palate Palace in Bishop. Open Mic Night @ T-Bar. Time: 7 p.m. Karaoke @ Lakanuki with host Jesse Szeele. Time: 9 p.m.**

**Monday, December 23/  
Unbound Series #3: Slopestyle @ Mammoth Mountain Main Park. Spend the day as a spectator or sign-up to compete, with a chance to qualify for USA Ski Slopestyle championships. Head down to the Village afterwards for an appearance from Santa and Wooly. Time: 3:30-5:30 p.m.**

**Monday, December 24/  
County Music Hall-Off Farmer Lacy J. Dalton plays the T-Bar. Time: 7 p.m. Tix: $25. Info and tix: https://balancedrocksaloon.com.**

**Tuesday, December 25/  
Unbound Series #3: Slopestyle @ Mammoth Mountain Main Park. Spend the day as a spectator or sign-up to compete, with a chance to qualify for USA Ski Slopestyle championships. Head down to the Village afterwards for an appearance from Santa and Wooly. Time: 3:30-5:30 p.m.**

**Tuesday, December 26/  
Open Mic Night @ Public House. 8 p.m. Jam Sessions w/ Boys2Vhatwoodz. Hip-hop and funk hybrid. 10 p.m. close.**

**Wednesday, December 27/  
Winter’s Wonderland Clock Drawings A Winter-Themed Drawing Workshop for ages 7-14 with Naomi Hart Johnson @ CS Studios in Bishop. Time: 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. More info: Call 760.935.4089/isbxoxo@gmail.com.**

**Wednesday, December 28/  
Unbound Series #3: Slopestyle @ Mammoth Mountain Main Park. Spend the day as a spectator or sign-up to compete, with a chance to qualify for USA Ski Slopestyle championships. Head down to the Village afterwards for an appearance from Santa and Wooly. Time: 3:30-5:30 p.m.**

**Wednesday, December 29/  
Unbound Series #3: Slopestyle @ Mammoth Mountain Main Park. Spend the day as a spectator or sign-up to compete, with a chance to qualify for USA Ski Slopestyle championships. Head down to the Village afterwards for an appearance from Santa and Wooly. Time: 3:30-5:30 p.m.**

**Thursday, December 30/  
Unbound Series #3: Slopestyle @ Mammoth Mountain Main Park. Spend the day as a spectator or sign-up to compete, with a chance to qualify for USA Ski Slopestyle championships. Head down to the Village afterwards for an appearance from Santa and Wooly. Time: 3:30-5:30 p.m.**

**Friday, December 31/  
Unbound Series #3: Slopestyle @ Mammoth Mountain Main Park. Spend the day as a spectator or sign-up to compete, with a chance to qualify for USA Ski Slopestyle championships. Head down to the Village afterwards for an appearance from Santa and Wooly. Time: 3:30-5:30 p.m.**

**Saturday, December 31/  
Unbound Series #3: Slopestyle @ Mammoth Mountain Main Park. Spend the day as a spectator or sign-up to compete, with a chance to qualify for USA Ski Slopestyle championships. Head down to the Village afterwards for an appearance from Santa and Wooly. Time: 3:30-5:30 p.m.**

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**Monday, January 1/  
Unbound Series #3: Slopestyle @ Mammoth Mountain Main Park. Spend the day as a spectator or sign-up to compete, with a chance to qualify for USA Ski Slopestyle championships. Head down to the Village afterwards for an appearance from Santa and Wooly. Time: 3:30-5:30 p.m.**
**Cardinal Village Christmas Festival**

Cardinal Village is hosting its 5th annual Christmas Festival this holiday season. The festival kicks off on Thanksgiving and ends the next day at 10 a.m.–6 p.m. every Friday through Sunday until December 22. The festival features freshly cut Christmas trees, sledding, a snow maze, carousel 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!

**Champagne and Classics**

The Felici Piano Trio’s annual fund-rais ing party, Champagne & Classics, will take place this year on Saturday, December 28th.

Always a treat, Champagne & Classics will be extra special this year as violinist Tereza Stanislav and violinist Robert Brophy of the L.A. Chamber Orchestra are joining us for some enchanting string quartets. There will also be a new format - a 6 p.m. concert at Mammoth Lakes Lutheran Church, followed by a champagne reception with jazzy piano tunes, courtesy of Ari Schultd at the Schultd residence. We will have plenty of fine finger foods, buckets of bubbly beverages, charming company, and of course, marvelous music!

To make your reservation, please visit: https://felicitrio.com/concert-calendar.html

Cost is $125 for concert & reception, $75 at the door.

**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 Future.

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 yours ASAP to catch this special holiday show.

For more information, see ad on page

**MAC Holiday Marketplace**

The Holiday Marketplace has been a Mammoth Lakes tradition for over 20 years. Located in the Mammoth Village Shopping Center by our Mono Arts Council Gallery & Art Center and Vons, this indoor art festival is the perfect place to find that one-of-a-kind work of art you have been looking for. Featuring 10-15 local and regional artists, the festival is small enough that you will have the perfect opportunity to get to know the artists and large enough that you want to come back day after day to continue shopping. The show spans the Christmas and New Years holidays with enough time to shop for gifts and for yourself.

**New Years Eve Fireworks**

The Village at Mammoth’s New Years Eve celebration kicks off at 5 p.m. with a performance by Stilt Cirq, a theatrical circus show. At 3:30 p.m., followed by a DJ at 4 p.m.

Shake Your Peace takes the stage at 8:15 p.m. Hailing from Utah, the band plays a “rock and roll hybridization” that folds in rhythms and musical styles from around the world.

The grand finale of the night, a fireworks display, takes place at 9 p.m. to celebrate the New Year with life music to continue afterwards!

**New voter registration deadline**

BRIDGEPORT, California - Pursuant to California Election Code, voters have an extra day to register to vote! The last day to register to vote is usually the day before Election Day, but because of President’s Day, the last day will be pushed forward by one day!

The new deadline to register to vote is now February 18, 2020 at midnight. The Mono County Elections office will close at 5 p.m. that day, but registrations can still be completed online at www.registertovote.ca.gov.

If voters would like to receive a registration card, they can call but keep in mind that they may take some time to come through the mail. Please contact Mono County Elections with any questions as well. Our phone number is (760) 932-5537.

**Scotty’s Castle Tours**

On October 18, 2015, over a three hour period, almost 3 inches of rain fell on the Scotty’s Castle area in Grapevine Canyon, causing a massive flash flood that dramatically changed the landscape. Roads and utilities were destroyed, some buildings damaged, and access to this historic area was closed.

The new hand how the power of water shapes the landscape of Death Valley. Participants will walk the grounds of Scotty’s Castle with a ranger to learn about the damage sustained and the repairs in progress. Come listen to the stories of this unique palace in the desert, the people who called it home, and the projects underway to reopen this unique historic district.

Walking tours are scheduled most Sundays at 9:30 am and 1:00 pm, December 8, 2019 - April 12, 2020. $25 per person, plus ticketing fee. Space is limited to 25 participants per tour. Tickets must be purchased online in advance.

The afternoon tours on January 12 and March 22 (booked) are reserved for bus tours. For more information/reservations visit www.dvnha.org.

**AT THE MOVIES**

**TOWN STUFF**

**TOWN STUFF**

**Hills Are Alive** Meet at Eastern Sierra Visitor Center. Explore the mysteries hidden within the Hills. Moderately strenuous hike with occasional steep sections of trail. Time: 10 a.m.–1 p.m.

Info: call Dave Kirk at 760.672.5000 or Ron Kelly at 760.672.1220

**Woolly’s Saturday Parade @ The Village**


Chris Bulser for Congress meet/ greet/fundraiser at the Main Street Promenade (Mammoth Luxury Outlets).

6 p.m. RSVP: Lindsay@chrisbulser.com

**December 28-29/ Silent DJs in the Plaza @ The Village at Mammoth. Choose between three different live DJ stations and dance the night away. Time: 5 p.m.**

**Tuesday, December 31/ NOTE: WE’LL HAVE COMPLETE NYE LISTINGS IN THE DEC. 28 ISSUE.**

**New Years Eve Fireworks @ The Village at Mammoth.A day of festivities capped off by fireworks. Info: see sidebar column above.**

**New Years Eve at Canyon Lodge. Ring in the New Year with a slope-side party at Canyon. Doors open at 9 p.m. with Youth Fables kicking the music off at 9:30 p.m. DJ WLDCT takes over at 11:30 p.m. and spins into the early hours of 2020, with a countdown at midnight. Must be 21+ to attend. Text info: www.mammothmountain.com/New-Years-Eve-Dance-Party@ Bishop Senior Center. A social with punch, hors d'oeuvres free swing dance lessons and live music from Eddy Dubs. Tickets available for $15 at Inyo Council for the Arts and Booky Joint in Mammoth, $20 at the door.**
TS #2019-0237

**Notice of Ordinance**

ORDER No. 049-09

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MONO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AMENDING CHAPTER 15-40.17 OF THE MONO COUNTY CODE ENACTING UPDATED HOUSING MITIGATION REQUIREMENTS.

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors finds that the County of Mono has a shortage of housing that is afforded and accessible to residents who work and reside in Mono County; and

WHEREAS, requiring developers of land to mitigate the impact of their development projects on the availability of workforce and affordable housing and address the housing shortages in the County; and

WHEREAS, the development projects that result in a decrease of land available for residential development or an increase in the cost of such land by an amount that is economically prohibitive to the development which has resulted in a decrease of land available for residential development or an increase of the cost of such land by an amount that is economically prohibitive to lower and moderate levels of income, a demonstrative increase in the cost of housing, and a demonstrative decrease in the need for workers within the county; and

WHEREAS, the applied mitigation requirements will not reduce the need for housing or impose a barrier that will prevent persons with lower and moderate levels of income from renting or purchasing housing; and

WHEREAS, the proposed exemptions will limit barriers to providing housing to the lower and moderate income level.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED that the Mono County Board of Supervisors hereby finds as follows:

SECTION ONE: That Chapter 15-40 of the Mono County Code entitled “Housing Mitigation Requirements” is amended in its entirety to read as Exhibit A attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.

SECTION TWO: This ordinance shall become effective 60 days from the date of its adoption and final passage. The Clerk of the Board of Supervisors shall post this ordinance and also publish the ordinance in the manner prescribed by Government Code section 25124 no later than 15 days after the date of this ordinance’s adoption and final passage. If the Clerk fails to publish this ordinance in the manner prescribed by this section, then the ordinance shall not take effect until 60 days after the date of publication.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 10th day of December, 2019, by the following vote:

AYES: Supervisors Stump, Kreitz, Peters, and Corless

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

John Peters, Chair
Mono County Board of Supervisors

ATTORNEYS:

LINDA D. HESS, ATTORNEY FOR JAMES RANDALL TODD, Trustee of the Trust is set forth below:

1. The name, mailing address, and telephone number of the Trustee of the Trust is set forth below:

JAMES RANDALL TODD, Trustee of the TODD FAMILY TRUST on January 26, 2015 in his capacity as one of the beneficiaries of the Trust.

PURSUANT TO PROBATE CODE SECTION 16061.7, the Trustee provides the following Notification:

The Trustee has been appointed to serve as the Trustee of the TODD FAMILY TRUST becoming irrevocable.

To Creditors

NOTIFICATION TO CREDITORS BY JAMES RANDALL TODD, Trustee of the TODD FAMILY TRUST on January 26, 2015 in his capacity as one of the beneficiaries of the Trust.

Pursuant to Probate Code Section 16087, the Trustee provides the following Notification:

The proposition’s rewrite is suppos-edly a put threshold on smaller and less valuable commercial properties to in-clude them. And there is no doubt that closing those loopholes is prob-ably a good thing. But the unintended consequences could be devastating to many property owners and businesses. That includes businesses that both own and lease their space. And if a commer-cial tenant has the burden of paying a pro-rata share of the landlord’s prop-erty tax bill (often referred to as a triple- net lease), the monthly lease obligation could skyrocket. Or larger single-tenant owner-occupied buildings could see their property taxes grow in multiples. It is especially critical to put most people out of business.

The State Board of Equalization and the County Assessors also see a national trend reappraising and reassess-ing commercial properties every year would be a massive work load and the appeals will be automatic and expen-sive to process. It is estimated that more than 1,000 new commercial appraisers would have to be hired by the counties.

In the meantime, appreciate the stabilty and benefit of the current tax structure. And stay motivated and keep paying your taxes. Good things are bound to happen.

Happy New Year!

-Paul Oster

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.
You hopefully don’t know her professionally - at least until now. Dr. Jennie Walker opened her “Functional Medicine” practice last year. Recently, she welcomed Dr. Kim Escudero to the team. They operate out of a small office in the Mammoth Mall. Walker is better known as an E.R. doc, and she still practices full-time. In fact, I saw her just this summer in the Mammoth E.R., when she jammed a big needle into my septic elbow. I don’t hold it against her.

So what is functional medicine? As Dr. Walker describes it in the simplest terms, “Functional medicine tries to uncover the root cause of what ails you … we try to answer the question, for example, of why do you have high blood pressure versus ‘You have high blood pressure. Here’s a pill.’”

So functional medicine is a lot about detective work. While Dr. Walker acknowledges that the vast majority of functional medicine (at least the remedy part) can be done with diet and lifestyle, but Mammoth can be a tricky population because, “Here, my patients are generally healthy, so it’s a little different.”

“You’ve got to peel back the layers of the onion,” she says, “and diet and lifestyle are just the first, big layer.”

There are lots of other factors that most folks don’t think about - like toxin exposures, or having micro-biomes out of balance, a function of the antibiotics we might take. There are nutritional deficiencies based upon the food supply, gut inflammation … anxiety and stress is bio-chemically based.

“We do a lot of testing,” she says. She then took a small detour to talk about S.A.D., or, the Standard American Diet - highly processed foods, grains, not a lot of vegetables.

“That’s what got me into this initial- ly,” she says. By adopting a paleo diet and feeling better and recognizing the connection and asking questions.
HOROSCOPES
By Clouds McCloud

Capricorn: This next year is all about change. That’s what the start of any new decade is all about anyway. So expect to see some strange behavior and the dawn of some odd trends like the return of ‘80s fads like oversized jackets and trickle-down economics. You should also expect to have some new opportunities and challenges—since they go together like 6 and 9. To help, remember this ‘80s icon’s line: “The future doesn’t belong to the fainthearted. It belongs to the brave.” —Ronald Reagan

Aquarius: Money and adventure are what the Stars are highlighting for your ride around the sun in 2020. While this may sound like a wild, let-your-hair-down type of year, the Stars are actually advising you wear a hat or helmet since they go together like 6 and 9. But you only deal with a-holes on the outside than you think it is. The great news is that it’s much nicer and friendlier than you think you are. Of course, this study is not foolproof, so it doesn’t apply to people like the Kardashians or Commander Trump. Clouds would like you to keep this in mind all year and never forget that the difference between “Try” and “Triumph” is really just that little umph!

Taurus: Many financial astrologers believe that we will continue to enjoy positive market conditions until 2022. That’s why this year will be a good one to really get your finances in order. So get out of debt, make that big investment, plan for your financial future and never forget that the difference between “Try” and “Triumph” is really just that little umph!

Gemini: 2020 is going to take you deeper into your connection with those you love in your life. It will also deepen your own sense of spirituality. While this may all sound like some kind of hippy lettuce, mumbo gumbo, the truth is that a good gumbo is tough to top. The only thing you’ll need to watch for this year is letting all the kumbaya-ing, group hugging and sweat lodging get you into debt. So please adopt a “Pay as You Play” motto and don’t be surprised if you already booked up.

Aries: Studies have shown that other people find you 20% more attractive than you think you are. Of course, this study is not foolproof, so it doesn’t apply to people like the Kardashians or Commander Trump. Clouds would like you to keep this in mind all year and never forget that the difference between “Try” and “Triumph” is really just that little umph!

Virgo: Money and adventure are what the Stars are highlighting for your ride around the sun in 2020. While this may sound like a wild, let-your-hair-down type of year, the Stars are actually advising you wear a hat or helmet since they go together like 6 and 9. Be careful if someone else likes you, first of all, make sure that you’re not being a speed bump in life. Also, be careful crossing any kind of road this year so you don’t become a speed bump yourself.

Scorpio: The Stars are reporting that 2020 will be a very beneficial year for you financially and in your career. Of course, there will be some challenges, but as you well know (but won’t always accept), nothing good comes fast or easy. That’s why your keys for the new year will be to stay clam, positive and to keep moving forward during any speed bumps in life. Also, be careful crossing any kind of road this year so you don’t become a speed bump yourself.

Leo: Saturn and Pluto will be in opposition this year. The last time this happened was in 2001, and we all remember how that one went—it started the damn Patriots Dynasty. That’s why your words of wisdom for the new year will involve fellow Leo, Tom Brady. 1) Courtesy of Wes Mantooth, “I pure, straight hate you, but damn I do respect you.” 2) From the GOAT himself, “I think sometimes in life the biggest challenges end up being the best things that happen in your life.”

Virgo: Here are three hopes for you and the damn Patriots Dynasty. That’s why your words of wisdom for the new year will involve fellow Leo, Tom Brady. 1) Courtesy of Wes Mantooth, “I pure, straight hate you, but damn I do respect you.” 2) From the GOAT himself, “I think sometimes in life the biggest challenges end up being the best things that happen in your life.” 3) From Christopher Reeve, “Once you choose hope, anything is possible.” And one for good luck from Clouds, “Here’s hoping your year is as sweet as your booty.”

Libra: In numerology, 2020 is considered both a 22 and a 4 (2+2) year. These are both promising numbers. 22 is the number of mastery, so expect to help make some of your dreams as well as the dreams of others come true. And 4 is the number of spirituality, harvest and Bobby Orr. So expect to score lots of goals, both on and off the ice, this year.

Cancer: The kickoff of a new decade will be very empowering for you. Expect to see partnerships in your life expand and new relationships blossoms. In fact, this is the perfect time for new, well-balanced relationships to come into your life. Here a couple of lines that might help get things started: 1) “If I were a gardener I’d put our tulips together.” 2) “I may be dyslexic, but I think happiness starts with U.”

Sagittarius: As 2019 bids farewell here are a few things to keep in mind. A) The world is a magical place full of people waiting to complain about something. B) Before you ever ask yourself if someone else likes you, first ask yourself why you should give a crap. C) Sure, therapy is nice, but it’s often not as effective as spending time in nature or screaming an f-bomb at the top of your lungs before getting back on with your day.

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The wind was blowing. Shoveling the deck was a Sisyphean task. Thirty minutes pass. Forty minutes. Finally, a fellow employee goes out to the deck to help. Eventually she gets to clock in.

And of course, you can’t do this with a normal staffer. You’d probably get sued for a labor violation. But for Stu, being family means expectations are even higher.

She hasn’t been late since.

The Dakota Painkiller is named after an Air Force pilot who lives in Bishop. “His son used to work for us,” says Stu.

It’s part of the new drink menu. And it just makes you appreciate a good cocktail.

“Rum is just a wonderful drink for someone out to have a good time,” says Stu. “We serve happiness with an umbrella.” And they are served in a portion size which Stu would describe as “amorous.”

Stu is such a fan of Jeremy’s and the new menu that he even went out and got a $2,000 slush maker.

“Who else has a slush maker?” he asks with a rhetorical grin. “A slush maker is a key indicator of a bar owner who is truly committed to his customers.”

About the name. It’s pretty self-explanatory. In World War II, “Lakanuki” was a “disease” servicemen experienced as they trained in Hawaii before being shipped out to the Pacific theater, and is an apt name for a ski town with its horrible male-female ratio.

And, Stu notes with a laugh, “A lot of wives like to get our shirts for their husbands.”

Stu’s favorite Tiki bars not named Lakanuki:

Try Frankie’s in Las Vegas. (Stu’s taken me there once). It’s a windowless dive on West Charleston and an easy find off the I-15.

Or, if you’re in southern California, try the Purple Orchid in El Segundo.

Sheet: Any final words on Lakanuki’s longevity? On your longevity?

Stu (laughing): I’ve aged. The Village has matured.
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