Great Depression and World War II.

The inevitable march of time has thinned the ranks of that generation, and it seems as if the noise of modern life tends to erase history - or at the very least obscure it.

But on Sunday afternoon in Bridgeport, a member of the Greatest Generation made a curtain call.

The place: The Burbine (pronounced Burr-byne) residence in Bridgeport.

The occasion: A commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the sinking of the S.S. Henry Bacon, the last ship sunk by the German Luftwaffe in World War II.

Dick Burbine, 94, is one of two remaining survivors from that day - a day where 22 Americans lost their lives.

When you meet Dick Burbine, the first thing that crosses your mind is, "This isn’t Dick Burbine.” Because there’s nothing about him that seems 94. He doesn’t look 94. He doesn’t move like 94. He’s in incredible shape. As his doc, James Witmer, at the V.A. hospital in Gardnerville joked after putting him through his last physical, "Get out of my office. You embarrass me."

When you walk in the house and he offers you a drink, the drinks he prefers tend to come in 1.5 oz. servings. And then he leaves the bottle on the table. And you’re always welcome to stay the night if you pour yourself one too many.

He hands me a bottle. Pusser’s Royal Navy Rum. “This is the reason I’m alive,” he says. And as I was soon to discover, he wasn’t kidding.

The S.S. Henry Bacon was a Merchant Marine ship. Burbine, who was born in 1926 in Melrose, Massachusetts, had applied to join the U.S. Marines at the age of 16 but made his name stuck.

In 1998, newsman Tom Brokaw published a book called “The Greatest Generation” to describe Americans who came of age during the Great Depression and World War II.

The inevitable march of time has thinned the ranks of that generation, and it seems as if the noise of modern life tends to erase history - or at the very least obscure it.
1995 IS CALLING …

I attended a Bishop City Council special meeting on Wednesday morning. “Strategic” planning – my favorite!
The new Bishop City Manager was there. His name is Ron Phillips. His previous stop before Bishop was Heber City, Utah. The internet says he’s 74 years old.

And you know what confirmed he’s 74 years old? When he broke out the sticky dots! I couldn’t help but think to myself. “Hey Bishop. 1995 is calling. It wants its Town Manager back!”

But I kept that to myself. Until now.

For those unfamiliar with the infamous sticky dot exercise, this is how it works. Each Councilmember is handed a few sheets of wax paper with colored dots on them. On the walls there are a bunch of policy questions/wants/directives. Councilmembers use their allotted dots to express their preferences.

And anyone invested in 3M stock is a big winner – or at least was, until this week.

*Before I go any further, I do wish to give Mr. Phillips credit in this crucial respect. He was confident enough to facilitate the meeting on his own. No third party consultant like Mammoth always leans on. Probably saved a few grand right there.

Housing received far and away the most sticky dots.

The top “project” priority is creating new facilities for police/fire/city. Hopefully in that order.

The topic that elicited the most animated discussion was the idea of taxing vacant property. As Councilman Stephen Muchovej pointed out, Vons leases the former, smaller office space behind Taco Bell for $25,000/month for competitive purpose – merely so someone else doesn’t move in and compete.

Muchovej says he wouldn’t view taxing vacancy as a source of income for the city so much as a potential incentive for the property owner to fill space versus let it sit.

But this is where it gets sticky (ha!). What’s the real fair market value of commercial property in Bishop? Should the city have the right to compel and/or punish private property owners for financial decisions which may be far more complex than a or b, occupied or not occupied. And honestly, how many government employees would it take to undertake such a program?

And as Karen Schwartz said, “It’s not the easiest thing to run a small business in Bishop. There are going to be vacancies.”

But the best part of the meeting – people got fired up about a whole bunch of stuff and then afterwards, there was almost this cautious, nervous energy in the room as if to say, “Did anyone get offended? Are we allowed to debate like this?” And the point is, damn, I sure hope so. Mammoth hasn’t had a decent public forum like that in a decade. And I loved Muchovej saying at one point something to the effect of, “I don’t know what will happen or what the consequences might be of trying this” but maybe it’s worth a shot.

A public official admitting he’s spittingballing ideas and may not have certitude? Extraordinary.

Rusty on Copeland

While we don’t have an official obituary for Jack Copeland this week, the outpouring of affection for him has certainly been extraordinary.

The Sheet spoke to Alterra Resorts CEO Rusty Gregory, who worked with Copeland for many years at Mammoth Mountain. The following is paraphrased.

From Rusty: I met Jack when he was a supervisor. I was a part-time ski instructor. What struck me was his warmth, friendliness, and most importantly, inclusiveness. There were always dividing lines between the old and new guard. He didn’t hold your “newness” against you.

More than any other person, he was the most inspiring and motivational friend I had, particularly during the tougher times. He’d remind me I had some redeeming qualities - would see things I didn’t necessarily see in myself and would express it to me. And he would literally do so out of the blue. He was with me all the time. And the encouragement was always there. Not just during the peaks and valleys, but always.

Another thing … during management retreats, sometimes we might get a little crazy. And he’d participate to a degree, but then, at a certain point, he’d make sure we all got home okay.

He wasn’t just popular. He was deeply well-liked, and touched people on a meaningful level.

Den of thieves

And finally, I can’t resist one observation about the nation’s Chief Executive. We have reached the point where you can pardon convicted white collar criminals like Blagojevich, DeBartolo and Milken with hardly a whimper. I never imagined the republic, rule of law, the office of the presidency … that it could all erode so quickly. And no matter who follows after Trump, precedent has been set. Doesn’t matter which political party.

Trump is the first president we’ve had in my lifetime where it’s unclear as to whether he’ll vacate office voluntarily if he loses/when his term limit expires.
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My Mentor: A Tribute to Jack Copeland

To say I was saddened by Jack’s untimely passing last week would be to repeat a hackneyed cliché. Yes, I was saddened, but I was also thankful. I was thankful for the hour I spent skiing with him 2 weeks ago, and for the heartfelt conversation we had during the New Year’s Eve celebration we both attended. And most of all I am thankful for the difference he made in my life over the 35 years I knew him.

When I started work as a ski instructor at Mammoth Mountain in 1984, I had 5 years of experience and a Level 2 (Associate, in those days) certification from PSIA (Professional Ski Instructors of America). I was quite full of myself and thought I was a pretty hot skier. Over time I realized that I had only started to learn to be an effective instructor, and that many aspects of ski technique were still foreign to me. Jack was instrumental in leading me to these realizations, and showing me the way forward.

He was a trainer and supervisor at the Canyon Lodge ski school (Warming Hut II, in those days). The group of trainees, to which I belonged, spent between 1 and 3 hours each day in clinics with Jack, and sometimes others. Jack had a handshake with each of our names in the vertical rows, and training topics heading the columns along the top, to ensure nothing would be missed by anyone. He made it his mission to ensure that each of us passed the Level 3 exam later that season. We skied the steep and gnarly, we did demos, we explored progressions, we did hop turns, leapers, railroad tracks, javelin turns, extension retraction, you name it, we did it. He would invite us over to his house for dinner after we skied while he was giving instruction.

Jack was fond of repeating pithy bits of advice, for example, regarding terrain selection: “Take them where what they can do works, or his advice for performing well in an exam, “The more structured the preparation, the more spontaneous the presentation.” He never claimed originality in any of this, always modestly giving credit to his mentors Andy Gillespie and Jim Northrup, saying he was just passing on to us what they had given him.

For some of us, he was more than a trainer however. Educator or mentor would be closer to the mark. He was someone we wanted to emulate. He inspired us to aim higher, to be better. His whole persona was inspiring. He inspired us to aim higher, to be better.

His public speaking was never tedious and always seemed to flow effortlessly. Most important, I think he understood the role he played in influencing people, and thereby shaping the world in which he moved. It was always a benign influence; he genuinely cared about people and wanted them to be successful. One evening at the apres ski bar, as he was leaving, he touched my shoulder and said very kindly, “Don’t drink too much.” Coming from someone else, I might have felt insulted, but from Jack, I accepted his words of wisdom gratefully.

I’m sure I will always be thankful for having known Jack. And in the most perfect world I can imagine, I might just be able to inspire someone the way he inspired me.

Postscript

I just have to share the last pithy bit of advice on being a good ski instructor, which Jack imparted to me during our ski outing two weeks ago. We were talking about how to train Marines to ski, and he told me of a conversation he had with one of the Sergeants. The Sergeant was telling Jack that unlike the skiing public, Marines don’t need to be coddled and don’t need to have their egos boosted with flattery. Jack’s reply was as usual spot on. He said, “You misunderstand what I do. I don’t hand out gratuitous compliments, but if someone does something well, I want them to know it.”

He will be missed!

Urmas Franosch
Mammoth Lakes

Beaten down by SCE

Dear Editor,

Let me start off by thanking The Sheet for having someone reporting on what’s going on at public meetings in Mono County. I just wanted to clarify what I said regarding the issue of SCE power outages. First of all, I have filed one claim to SCE for the loss of my well pump occurring from the power outage of September 16-17, 2019. When they turned the power back on, it destroyed my well pump. I had to have a new pump installed which cost me over $3,000. I filed a claim which SCE denied. My neighbor also lost her pump at the same time.

Two other times last year I had damage done when SCE brought the power back up. The first time was in the Spring when several of my surge protectors blew out when the power was restored, costing me several hundred dollars to replace. The second time was prior to Labor Day weekend where the Start Capacitor in the pump control box burned out when the power came back on. I didn’t file claims for either of those.

It is my belief SCE routinely denies these claims in the hopes customers will just give up and not take any further action. My comment to the SCE representatives was that I’m not going give up. I have the paperwork to file a Small Claims action if I have to.
Coronavirus, looming recession, drought, tours canceling on local lodging operators ... 

*Who thinks about raising taxes in such an uncertain environment?*
*The Town of Mammoth Lakes (of course).*

Vote **NO** on more taxes. 

Send a message of **YES** to responsible government.
also cited failed marketing, half-ass and non-committal route expansion efforts, and subsidy paid year after year with never a decrease. Lehman also wanted to see a plan. “So we will have a bunch of people in Bishop who need rides to Mammoth. Will a subsidy be needed to pay for that? What is the cost of the subsidy going to be (for everything)? I don’t think Mammoth’s tax dollars should be used for that.”

The Sheet asked both these questions to Clint Quilter, Inyo County Administrative Officer, and he said the shuttling options were being analyzed as part of the environmental assessment. In addition, The County is in talks with different agencies on who exactly will subsidize what.

The Sheet contacted Tawni Thomson, Director of the Bishop Chamber of Commerce, about Bishop businesses possibly coughing up money for the subsidies and she responded, “There has not been any official discussion of funds being used. I do think people are aware that at some point there might need to be some funds dedicated.” Thompson said it likely wouldn’t be coming from Bishop’s TBID as it generates less than $500,000 a year.

“Mammoth’s generates 20 times $500,000.”

“The general feeling that I’m getting is people here believe tourists will have no problem flying into Bishop and then going to Mammoth,” said Thomson as she referenced people flying into Reno in order to go to Tahoe (45-60 minute drive from Reno to Tahoe).

But it isn’t just the subsidies people are worried about. Brent Truax, Managing Director at Sierra Nevada Resort, voiced his opinion at a public scoping meeting earlier this month and in a recent conversation with the Sheet Truax clarified further, “Things take time, especially when you are dealing with the FAA. NEPA/CEQA [environmental study] takes time and if anything gets appealed you have to go through an appeal process that takes more time.”

Truax gave The Sheet multiple documents related to the Mammoth Airport. One of them had a timeline of how long it took certain Airports to receive commercial air service. Mammoth-Yosemite took ten years, Stillwater Regional Airport took 15 years, Anniston (Alabama) Regional Airport took over 11 years, Rogers Executive Airport (Benton County, Arkansas) took over 10 years, and Las Cruces Airport took over 17 years.

Time was not Truax’s only concern, “The second part of this is why would people fly into Bishop? If you’re in LA and want to go to Mammoth, the amount of time it would take you to drive is almost the same as going to LAX, flying to Bishop, and getting shuttled to Mammoth.”

“Obviously, as a communter from points outside Southern California, the flight would continue to make sense. The year-round LA flight has been the closest thing to success for the Mammoth-Yosemite Airport. When the Bishop Airport opens in October, the LA flight will be the only commercial flight until December 15. If it Los Angeles natives opt for driving to Mammoth... Can Bishop draw enough of a crowd for this flight to be successful?

Shuttle Drivers Weigh In

The aforementioned shuttling from Bishop to Mammoth is brought up a lot when people are asking questions of the airport.

Robert Brence, owner/operator of Sierra Shuttle Services, told The Sheet, “It doesn’t seem like people have taken into account how people are going to get here.” Brence added, “Is ESTA (Eastern Sierra Transit Authority) going to shuttle people up here? Will there be a subsidy available to get people to Mammoth? It could be a good thing because the planes are supposed to be bigger and they could bring more people, but it will affect me regardless and I could lose some of my winter income.”

Brence estimated 60%-70% of his winter business involves shuttles to and from the Mammoth Airport. “I service the United flights almost every day,” said Brence.

“It seems like the people putting it together really have no plans as of right now,” said Brence, “and what happens if the road closes and I can’t get there or other drivers can’t get there.”

This is a valid concern as Highway 395 does close frequently during years with heavier snowfall.

Owner of MAWS transportation, Lucas Ropke, told the Sheet that he has offered solutions to MLT and Mammoth Mountain about how this transport system could look. MAWS markets itself towards higher-paying clientele so he wasn’t worried about the day-to-day operations but as of now Ropke told the Sheet he hasn’t seen anything concrete in terms of shuttling.

This could likely be a market solution that Quilter is not worried about or is looking into but as of right now it is up in the air.

Why move the Airport to Bishop?

The main answer is having a reliable air service in the Eastern Sierra. Mammoth-Yosemite Airport is often associated with planes not landing and or high speed cross winds. Raimondo disputed this point, “There are flights diverted to Bishop, and getting shuttled to Mammoth… This could likely be a market solution that Quilter is not worried about or is looking into but as of right now it is up in the air.”
Sierra Center Mall businesses face uncertain future

By Page Mono County announced on Monday that they’d extended their lease on space within the Sierra Center Mall, pushing back the presumed move out date of March 31 to May 31. The extended lease was the result of conflicts with the county’s civic center project. These delays have pushed back the project’s completion date to February 2020. Various county officials confirmed that they are projecting the civic center to be move-in ready by March 31, after which the businesses in the mall will be given two extra months as well as a “liquefied damage clause” that saddles the county with an additional $19,000 for each day they stay past May 31. Officials are confident that this clause will not be invoked.

The county’s offices occupy much of the third floor of the building, while the first and second floors are home to a variety of other businesses, including from restaurants like Delicious Kitchen, Samurai, and La Botega to a number of other businesses ranging from restaurants like Delicious Kitchen, Samurai, and La Botega to adventure sports outfitter Adventure Sports Outpost (ASO), a relocation would come a downsizing and the need to “do more with less.” He explained that ASO’s current space on the first floor had been a retail space under a number of different names since the 1980’s with a through-line of commitment to family and value. “Times a changin’,” Chop said while wondering aloud whether the hotel project would even be completed within the decade. “We’re along for the ride,” he said, “We ain’t giving up yet.”

Tuesdays, February 26, marked one of Reka Outdoors’ final days in the mall. Behind a large stack of inventory, owner Todd Wittenbrock sat at a table inside the fishing gear company’s showroom, taking stock of the situation. To the left of the entrance, a diorama evocative of Twin Lakes took up a corner of the room. Wittenbrock told The Sheet that the space was more of a showroom/warehouse/office combination than a storefront. Wittenbrock and his team had redone the entire interior of the space with wood paneling, floors, and a custom bar along the back wall of the showroom. According to Wittenbrock, the renovations took four months of work. He explained that Reka had intended to use the space for social events as well and have spent a significant amount of time building out the bar, whose fate, along with much of the installed paneling and fixtures, is unknown with the current move-out.

Wittenbrock expressed frustration with the notification process, noting that after signing a one-year lease in early 2019 and renovating the space, he was told that his lease would be up in two months. He was quick to dismiss claims from the landlord that they hadn’t known about the plans to develop the mall at the time that the lease was signed. As a result, Wittenbrock committed to leaving the space when he could as opposed to keep the lease for an extended period.

Next steps for Reka are storing inventory and building out the brand’s fishing schools but losing the showroom is bittersweet. “It’s a sad day for sure,” Wittenbrock said with a sigh.

The Sheet asked whether or not [the situation] is a bit fraught? “Taylor responded, “Definitely.” “I don’t know what they’re gonna do, I don’t know what I’m going to do,” Taylor said.

La Botega owner Marybel Castillo echoed much of what Taylor had said while noting that her restaurant plan did not include the need for extended utilities beyond water. “It’s been hard for me,” Castillo said, detailing her trials in finding a suitable space for an affordable price.

She noted that a lot of spaces were too large for her current restaurant capacity, with rent prices beyond what she could accommodate. “I just need the water, otherwise I’m going to have to leave town,” Castillo said, adding after a pause, “I’ve been here forever.

The Sheet ran into Bluebird Imaging co-owner Aaron Horowitz as he was closing up shop. Horowitz explained that Bluebird had been in the mall for seven years, operating with a month-to-month lease.

Like Taylor and Castillo, he spoke of an interest to stay in business elsewhere but hadn’t yet found the proper location. He said that he found out about the upcoming lease termination by reading about the hotel project online.

“We know something was gonna happen,” Horowitz said, “We just didn’t know when.” At Adventure Sports Outpost (ASO), manager [Pork] Chop noted that with a relocation would come a downsizing and the need to “do more with less.” He explained that ASO’s current space on the first floor had been a retail space under a number of different names since the 1980’s with a through-line of commitment to family and value. “Times a changin’,” Chop said while wondering aloud whether the hotel project would even be completed within the decade.

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By Hite

JUST MILLING ABOUT
Mill City cabin owners remain stuck in limbo

L ast November, The Sheet ran a story titled ‘Poison Pill for Cabin Owners’ which described the situation that cabin owners at the Mill City Tract were in.

The skinny: In 2014, the Forest Service began testing the soil in the area and found elevated levels of arsenic, lead and mercury in the area. They then told the cabin owners (14 of them) they had to vacate their property until further notice.

The cabin owners are still under further notice. At the November 16 meeting, there were not many answers presented to the cabin owners. The Forest Service told them they were doing more rounds of testing (3rd or 4th rounds depending on if you count a CallOut test) before they made a decision.

The key takeaway from the meeting was the victims could be the ‘poten-tial responsible party’ (or PRP) and an excerpt from the aforementioned article reads, “After rounds of questioning, (Dennis) Geiser finally admitted, ‘Any party that is deemed responsible could be held financially responsible.’” This incited one member of the audience to blurt out, “So we, the victims of this, could be forced to pay for the cleanup?” To which Geiser answered reluctantly, “Yes, it is possible.”

Geiser is a regional Environmental Engineer working on the project and Mark Carney, a local attorney representing some of the cabin owners, responded to Geiser’s claim with, “Good luck blaming the victims in court.” Carney offered solutions such as the Forest Service moving the cabins to another Forest Service site nearby or the Forest Service paying the cabin-owners the value of their cabins.

The Forest Service didn’t bite. Tammy Randall-Parker, the Inyo National Forest Supervisor, wrote an update letter on January 27 that reads “During the USDA Forest Service Informational Brief- ing regarding the Mill City Recreation Residence Tract, some of the cabin permit holders indicated a willingness to relinquish their respective permits and leave their improvements in place if the Forest Service could provide assurances that the permittee could do so without any future liability.” And then calls for action, “While the liability pro-visions of CERCLA and the contractual provisions of the Recreation Residence Permit impose potential legal require-ments on Permittees, the United States government may exercise enforcement discretion when doing so is in the interest of fundamental fairness and judicial economy, as we believe it may be in this case.”

Basically if the cabin owners want to relinquish responsibility for their cabins they will be safe from any legal respon-sibility... but that also means losing their investment. If they refuse they could potentially be held responsible if the government chooses to go that route.

The cabin-owners could be the PRP because of cabin improvements and other activities that sifted up dirt. Originally, the Forest Service was trying to hold Union Bank as the PRP as they were the heir of the loans that led to the Mill City mine.

“I told them to vacate,” said Gail Young, a cabin owner, in a conversation with the Sheet, “The Forest Service is attempting to use a scare tactic to get us to leave.”

Two cabin owners have expressed interest in the release but no one has signed... yet.

“We are sure the Forest Service will never let us back to our cabins. We have no hope that we will ever get our invest-ment back,” said Young.

Her husband Bob echoed Gail’s comments while telling the Sheet, “From the beginning it has been a series of miscommunications, misjudgements, and bad communication.” Bob cited the No-vember 16 meeting where the Agenda was released a day before the meeting, no minutes were taken, and the Forest Service representatives showed up with no solutions.

“They haven’t been ethical up front,” said Jeff Boucher, another cabin owner, “I’m happy if I got reimbursed for my purchase but instead they are using scare tactics and telling us you might be held responsible. Union Bank refuses to do anything about it.”

But the real issue might be that local Forest Service representatives really have no say in what happens. “They have no skin in the game,” said Boucher while Gail Young told the Sheet, “We all know the attorneys in Washington are the ones really driving the boat.”

Tammy Randall-Parker, Dennis Geiser, and Gordon Martin are a few of the local Forest Service employees on the project and are likely trying their hardest to find a solution but they have no ability to do so. When Carney finally got on the phone with the Forest Service to ask some questions about how this would be handled, there were six law-yers on the other end of the call.

The Forest Service has a fund of about $14 million that can be used for site cleanups or other issues similar to this but that hadn’t been offered to the cabin owners.

“This is happening to us now but it can happen to anyone. [Representatives in] Washington, DC are calling the shots without any recourse,” said Gail Young.

The precedent being set by the Mill City Cabin Tract situation is not a good one. Mammoth is surrounded by Forest Service land and old mining sites abound in the area. If the Forest Service tests the dirt in these places and finds more elevated toxins, will more people be forced to abandon their property?

VENUE, PLEASE!
John Rea brings country music artist Keller Williams to Snowcreek

D uring this year’s Mammoth Lakes Tourism special funding allocations process, the allocations committee gave high marks to events with ticketing options as well as ones that had the opportunity to bring visitors to town and can

One of the largest investments that the allocations committee made to an event that checked all those boxes was $15,000 to a concert featuring country music artist Keller Williams to be hosted in a parking lot at Snowcreek.

The event is an offshoot of John Rea’s Summer Jam music festival, hosted June 26-27 in the Village at Mammoth. The unusual venue, a private parking lot currently used for vehicles owned by Snowcreek, sits on Fairway Drive on the Snowcreek property, with views of the Sherwin and Mammoth Rock.

This venue choice was a significant factor in the allocations committee’s decision to support the project, as it provides the opportunity to test out a new venue space in an area with limited options. With the future of the Wood Site, home to Bluesapalooza, still murky, there’s a pressing need to find new places to host events.

“Certainly Snowcreek presented themselves as a partner for this event,” Special Events Director at MLL Caroline Casey, told the Sheet, adding “We’re deep into looking for event sites here in Mammoth.”

Casey expressed a desire to attract entre- tainment in Mammoth on the same level as places like Tahoe and Jackson Hole, who pull in big name artists and host larger-scale festivals than the ones currently running in Mammoth Lakes. Part of bringing that idea to fruition is identifying venues that could handle the crowd capacity that comes with well-
Local Briefs

Mammoth Lakes Recreation seeks to enhance education

In partnership with the Town of Mammoth Lakes and Inyo National Forest, Mammoth Lakes Recreation is seeking public comment on its application for funding from the California State Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division (OHMVR) to enhance Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) and Over-Snow Vehicle (OSV) Safety and Education in the Mammoth Lakes region. The desired outcomes of this proposal include: revision of existing OHV/OSV educational maps and brochures; inclusion of OHV/OSV specific criteria to the Town’s “Trail Host” Program and; providing funding for Trail Condition Reports updated regularly on the MammothTrails.org website. The Trail Host program is managed by the Town of Mammoth Lakes in partnership with Inyo National Forest to help monitor existing use and facilitate multiple usergroups accessing Public Lands at high-use staging areas throughout the Mammoth Lakes Trail System and OHV/OSV network. Trail Hosts provide on-the-ground visitor services and dispense U.S. Forest Service approved regulatory and etiquette information including “Leave No Trace” best-practices.

The School of Horrors needs a little help

“Little Shop of Horrors,” a musical theater production of Playhouse 395, needs a few more people to staff eight shows starting April 27. Volunteers are needed for ushers, ticket-takers, refreshment sales, green room, and sound, among other jobs, said Martha Reynolds, assistant director and Playhouse 395 board member. The show, a longtime favorite of community and school drama groups, is in rehearsals at Bishop Union High School. “We invite people to contact us about filling these important volunteer jobs. We will train our new volunteers. No experience necessary!” said Reynolds.

“Little Shop of Horrors,” takes place in a florist shop on an urban Skid Row in the early 1960s. Among its eccentric and unforgettable characters are a monstrous talking plant, a sadistic dentist and an all-girl trio of singers. The story was made into feature films in 1960 and 1986, and the musical production ran on Broadway for many seasons. “Little Shop of Horrors” will stage eight shows over three weekends from April 17 to May 2 at Bishop Union High School. Details and ticket sales will be announced in March. To apply for a volunteer position for “Little Shop of Horrors,” contact Reynolds at 760-873-8695 or ph395@gmail.com.

June Lake Loop reopens

Caltrans reopened North June Lake Loop/State Route 158 from its winter closure at 12:00 pm today, Wednesday, February 26th. North June Lake Loop is the third of the District 9 seasonal closures to reopen this year. While the road is open to motorists, Caltrans may close it once more should the area encounter future significant winter weather. For the most up-to-date information on road closures, chain controls, CHP incidents and more, please visit the Caltrans QuickMap site at quickmap.dot.ca.gov or call the Road Condition Hotline at 1-800-427-ROAD (7623).

Where there’s smoke...

Weather and air quality permitting, fire crews will be conducting the Antelope Prescribed Fire this week, starting Wednesday, and continuing throughout the week as conditions allow. This project is in Jeffrey pine forest and can be completed by smaller units if necessary, using the road system to define the unit parameter. Crews are targeting 100 to 200 acres per day but will work with the Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District to ensure they take advantage of good smoke dispersal windows.

This area has seen previous thinning and pile burning, so these prescribed fires are the next step in restoring the natural cycle in the Jeffrey pine forest, which historically had a frequent fire cycle (about every 5-15 years). This will encourage biodiversity as well as help make the forest more resistant to fires of unnatural size and intensity. Jeffrey pines have a fire resistant bark that helps them survive frequent fires and they thrive in open, sunny forests created by fire.

Smoke may be visible at times from Highways 395, 158, and 203, as well as the communities of June Lake, Lee Vining, Mammoth Lakes, and Crowley Lake.
South Lake Reconstruction

The South Lake Road Reconstruction is planned for the 2020 season under a funding request from Inyo County. The road will be re-paved and needs significant repairs for safety and includes a new bicycle staging area. The Inyo National Forest is also completing trailhead parking and campground improvements in conjunction with this project.

Many destinations along the South Lake Road are popular for boating, fishing, hiking and backpacking, and camping. The Bishop Pass Trailhead is a highly sought out trailhead that accesses the John Muir Trail, Pacific Crest Trail, and the North Lake/South Lake Loop through the Evolution Basin of Kings Canyon National Park.

During construction, roadside parking, day use parking, and the parking areas for South Lake will be significantly reduced, and at times, closed. Bishop Pass Trailhead Parking and Tyee Lakes Trailhead Parking will be closed at times this summer, although access to the trailheads will be maintained. Visitors should anticipate that there may not be parking available. The Forks, Four Jeffrey and Willow Campgrounds may also be closed at points this summer.

Local businesses and services along South Lake Road will remain open and accessible during construction.

“There is no way to complete this project without having a significant impact on visitors to the South Lake area,” said Philip DeSenze, White Mountain District Ranger. “The road has only one ingress/egress and the already limited parking will be much reduced. Accessing the area may be, at times, difficult and frustrating. Your planning and patience will help complete this much-needed project.”

Construction delays will typically be 30 minutes during the day. However, at points, closures will be up to three hours, twice a day. There will be no night work, weekend work, or work during holiday weekends, although traffic controls will still be in place. Visitors to South Lake Road destinations should consider carpooling, being dropped off by friends, or using shuttle services available from the Bishop area.

Once construction starts, visitors should check the construction schedule before heading to South Lake. This schedule will be posted on Inyo County and Inyo National Forest websites and social media sites. Careful planning will help alleviate, but not eliminate, construction delays.

Local Author’s Call to Action

Local author Ann Gimpel is spearheading a project to raise funds for wildfire relief in Australia. Rising From the Ashes is an anthology of 22 books written by 21 authors. The anthology clocks in at 3200 pages and only costs $3.99. According to Gimpel, nearly all of the authors involved are New York Times or USA Today bestselling authors; two of the stories are new while the rest have been published before.

The anthology features fantasy and romance of all genres, and will be available to buy online for three months, with the hope being to raise at least $10,000 that will be split between the State Emergency Relief Fund and WIRES, Australia’s oldest animal rescue organization.

None of the authors received compensation for their work and all proceeds will go to charity. Gimpel reported that the project has already raised over $2,000 towards their goal.


What’s next at Big K?

“The future of bringing a retailer into the Kmart building is still in the works, and a possible remodeling of the Bishop Joseph’s Market was two topics of discussion at the February 24th Bishop City Council meeting.

During the evening, Associate Planner/Economic Development Coordinator Elaine Kabala provided the council with an update on the now vacated Kmart building. “It is a very high priority for the City to get a retail tenant that sells the durable goods that our community needs,” said Kabala. Kabala is currently working with the stakeholders of Kmart and has been working with them since the day she found out about the closure.

At the same time, Kabala said the decision is largely outside of the City’s control, but Kabala does not want to sit back and see what happens, she said. Mayor Laura Smith told The Sheet in an email that one of worst rumors floating around is “that Vons will lease the newer empty Kmart and sit on it like they do the other one.”

“From what we know there is not any truth to that,” Smith said, “and [the] stakeholders that Elaine has talked with have assured her they do not intend to that happen.” Smith reported that she’d heard general interest in a Target occupying the vacant space.

According to Bishop’s newly appointed Public Works director for the City of Bishop, Deston Dishion, the owner’s of Joseph’s Market walked into his office and said they had plans to go to work.

Jack Elian of Joseph’s Market told the Sheet that they might sit on the project for a while. After the plans are approved with the County, they will decide if it is worth reopening or not, he said.

Although the plans for the Joseph’s Market in Bishop are undecided, Elian said the Joseph’s Market in Lone Pine will expand in a month’s time—as they have cleared a portion of the lot to the south of the market.
A replica of the life ring that Burbine and three shipmates hung onto for more than two hours prior to rescue.

As soon as we left the harbor, the Germans started sinking the ships. They sank three of them before we even got out.

The weather soon became another obstacle.

“We ran into one of the most severe storms ever recorded in the area. It was so strong it went right off the barometer - completely off the scale. Winds of over 130 miles per hour, 45 to 60 degrees below zero. We lost the convoy. The rough seas sheared the steel pins holding the main springs on the steering mechanism. We had no steering capacity.”

And it was in this compromised condition that the S.S. Henry Bacon was discovered by 23 JU-88 German planes.

Burbine said that the Bacon put up a fight. It shot down a confirmed six planes, and damaged another four before the ship was hit by a torpedo which blew a hole in its magazine near Hold #5. She sank in less than an hour.

Immediately after the ship was struck, Burbine says “My Chief Engineer ordered me to cut loose one of the lifeboats with a fire axe because the cables were frozen. But the sea hit me and took me and the life boat right over the side. I came up under the life boat. It had hit me on the back of the neck and knocked me out. I had to kick off my sea boots in the tangle of lines in the water, and somehow I rolled the lifeboat upright. How I did it, I don’t know. Witnesses who saw me do it couldn’t say how I did it by myself… it saved some crew by doing that.”

Only two lifeboats were serviceable following the torpedo strike. In one boat were placed 20 Norwegian women and children, war refugees who had boarded the Henry Bacon in Murmansk.

The second lifeboat took as many crew members as it dared.

In an act of heroism that Dick Burbine alluded to again and again during our time together, the ship’s 50-year old Chief Engineer, Donald Haviland, gave up his seat on the lifeboat to one of his 18-year old sailors.

Haviland subsequently went down with the ship.

Ringleader

But what of Dick Burbine? He’s in the water, it’s cold and dark. You can’t see a thing. The waves are swelling 100 feet. A life ring floats by. Seriously. A little ring maybe a few feet in diameter. He’s able to grab it.

He hears a few friends close by. There’s Woodrow Wilson Pozon. They connect. Pozon hangs onto a piece of the ring. Then they hear William “Blackie” Willridge and swim toward him, connect. He grabs a piece of the ring. And finally, they also save Warren Bachelor, who is in and out of delirium. They put Warren’s head through the ring, and then wrap their legs around Bachelor’s to secure him.

And they wait, they hope, for a rescue. It’s somewhat ironic that being in the water may have improved their chances. The relatively warm sea current beat exposure to the arctic air. Tragically, some men who were able to access the
...damaged, the floating detritus from the ship, died because the sea spray literally froze them to the timbers.

Those in rafts were okay - so long as they stayed dry.

According to Burbine, he was conscious during the whole ordeal. In fact, at one point, amid the swells, he saw the "Christmas Tree."

Huh?

"The Christmas Tree is the top of the mast where the running lights are ... at one point, I saw it moving on the horizon and five minutes later I could make out the shape of the hull."

Meaning that they were floating in the first place a rescuer would look.

During the nearly three hour wait, there wasn’t a lot of talking. Nor a great deal of time devoted to existential thought.

“We were cold and hurting,” says Burbine. “You didn’t want to waste energy talking and letting heat out of your body. It was just all about survival. How to save our asses.”

When help finally arrived in the form of the H.M.S. Zambesi, a British Destroyer, the assumption was that it was a recovery mission as opposed to a rescue mission.

The typical survival rate for a person submerged in such frigid water temperatures is 10 to 15 minutes.

A sub-lieutenant on the Zambesi, Ian Rodney Bowen (later knighted), “tied a heaving line around his waist and jumped in to hook us up and take us aboard,” said Burbine. “At the time, they thought we were dead because we were covered with ice when they brought us on the deck - but when they dropped us on the deck my eyes opened and rolled back and they said, ‘My God, they’re still alive.’”

“What they did once they brought us aboard ... our clothes were frozen to our bodies. So they laid us on the mess hall tables, covered us with sheets and packed us in sea ice. They covered us with sea ice, let the sea ice melt room temperature as our bodies thawed out with it.”

But there was no medication. They’d picked up so many survivors there was none left. All they had left: Pusser’s Royal Navy Rum. They had barrels of it. So the doctor (who was actually not a medical doctor but a veterinary doctor) provided a steady supply over the next four days.

“He kept us on a mellow glow,” recalls Burbine.

And at the end of four days, the verdict: “I had frostbite but didn’t lose any extremities. The doctors checked us out and said we were fine.”

The immediate aftermath was pretty interesting. They took Burbine and some of his shipmates to a castle in Northern Ireland where they were interrogated by the FBI, Naval Intelligence, British Naval Intelligence, and SIS. Burbine was the last survivor, and they held him for 24 hours before releasing him.

The other remaining survivor circa 2020 is Campbell, 98.
Intelligence. “They thought we were German plants ... because nobody had ever survived over two hours in the water.”

And even Burbine admits today - if it had been even one or two minutes more, he wouldn’t have made it. “My blood [at rescue] was actually crystallizing in my veins and breaking through the skin.”

Of note: Five years after the sinking of the Henry Bacon, the body of Gunner Mason Burr washed up on a beach in Norway, perfectly preserved. Burr was subsequently buried at Arlington National Cemetery.

And Burbine, 47 years later, in 1992, was awarded the Mariner’s Medal for his heroism, the equivalent of a Purple Heart.

Burbine was ultimately shipped back to the States and given a 30-day leave. After which - yes, he got back on another boat. Several boats in fact.

He sandwiched two stints with the Merchant Marine around nine years in the Marine Corp (joining at the outbreak of the Korean War, the Marines having apparently changed their minds about his color-blindness).

He moved to California just before he got married, in 1961, to Rosemary Ruth Glennon, the younger sister of close friends from his hometown of Melrose.

Rosemary had been living in a convent and studying to be a nun. She left the convent to marry Dick.

They had one son, Joe, in 1962. Joe was a longtime member of the Mono County Sheriff’s Department and worked at the Bridgeport Jail before retiring a few years back.

He and Dad live together.

Rosemary died in 1997 following an eight-year struggle with Alzheimer’s. Dick fulfilled his promise to his wife during that time by taking care of her throughout the entire ordeal.

From 1966-1988, Dick went to work for the University of California, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory’s Police Department, retiring as a Sgt./Watch Commander in 1988.

From 1972-2004, Burbine lived in Tracy and worked the summers from 1988-1998 as a camp host for the United States Forest Service.

He retired to Bridgeport permanently in 2004.

He and his son remain very active. Their activity of choice: cutting wood. They like to cut down trees that the Forest Service deems hazardous, chop them up, and donate the firewood to locals who need it.

Dick is the son of a veteran, but never really knew his father, who died in 1928 when Dick was just two years old. His father died of complications related to exposure to mustard gas in World War I.

His keys to longevity
1. Pusser’s Rum
2. Own and use a chainsaw frequently. “Work gives us a reason for being,” is his takeaway message.
3. No rabbit food - Dick’s no fan of vegetables
4. Don’t use sugar and salt. Eat it how it comes. He prefers meat and potatoes.
On Thursday, February 20, at Cerro Coso College in Bishop, Superior Court Judge candidates and Inyo Second District supervisor candidates, Jeff Griffiths and Heather Lind appeared at a candidate forum. Judicial candidates appeared first:

**Q and A**

**How do you believe we should balance punishment and rehabilitation when sentencing criminal defendants?**

Lamb explained that his first purpose is to “hold the person’s convicted accountable for their actions and to gain some measure of justice for their victims and their victims’ families,” and to protect the public safety, he said.

Ashworth then told the audience, “I want to heal people, but I believe public safety is the number one priority and the cost of housing individuals is a secondary consideration,” he said. At the same time, Ashworth believes in fair and appropriate consequences by criminal violations if convicted. “If there’s laws, there needs to be consequences and those should be enforced,” he said.

Rizo held a different opinion, as she expressed that “a judge needs to treat each case individually and decide, on its merits, what the appropriate sense of things should be.” Rizo also mentioned that she would look at it the severity of the crime, the age and possibly the status of the victim, as well as whether it was the first offense and the family situation of the individual.

Please describe a situation, in which you took a controversial position that angered or offended people and explain how you handled it.

Rizo mentioned that as a department head she handles a lot of controversial issues. Rizo said she would listen to both parties, similar to mediation, and acknowledge the concerns or perceptions, and if they are still at odds, she would make the final decision.

“Every case you handle is controversial and you learn to expect 50% of the people that come before you are not going to be happy with your decision,” said Lamb.

He thought back to when he was on the Bishop School Board for the elementary school district, and the controversial proposal he was looking to pass in which they needed a two-thirds vote, he said.

Ashworth said he ends up in controversial positions with contractors and through working in Indian Country under federal regulations.

A question directed towards Lamb: You have been admonished for failing to keep up with your caseload and for signing false affidavits. How specifically have you altered your work process to correct this and adjudicate cases timely?

“I thought I was current, and I signed the affidavits, but I later found that they were incorrect because our bookkeeping didn’t keep me apprised of the matters that were pending, and how long they were pending. That’s my fault, and I was properly held accountable for it,” he said.

Lamb said he has directed the court administration, especially CEO Pam Foster, “to provide updated written reports to both judges on a periodic basis listing all the matters that are currently pending before them.

Ashworth advised the public to look up the judicial council website and to read the 6-page findings. He stated that in cases where there is no resolution, cases should not be paid if their cases are not decided within 90-days of submission. “I want to do a very good job, as a judge and I want people to have a choice and that is certainly one of the factors that I took into consideration when I wanted to run,” he said.

Rizo clarified this happened more than once and is most harmful to the judicial system.

The County population of Native Americans is 8-10%, but the inmate population of the County jail convicted through the court is a disproportionately high number of both Native and Mexican inmates. Can you explain why?

“I don’t know if anyone can explain why,” said Ashworth. He explained the bright side is the funding that will come to the tribes to set up juvenile diversionary courts. “I just believe all the resources that can be put into healing kids is most important,” he said.

“No, I can’t explain why. Would I want to look into it? Absolutely!” said Rizo. “One thing is ensuring the justice system is dispensing justice appropriately, and that would ‘harden’ back to the question, “how do we really ensure that those that need some other restorative justice get it?” said Rizo. She recently spoke with the tribal judge on possible collaboration, such as a dual court system.

Lamb said the people who are incarcerated in the jails or prisons “whether there are certain demographic groups that are overrepresented, that’s not an Inyo County specific issue [that] is something you see throughout the United States. Related not just to what happens in the courtroom, but relates to a lot of historic injustices and other issues that have plagued minority communities in our community and our nation,” he said.

Second district supervisor candidates, Jeff Griffiths and Heather Lind took over the last half of the candidate debate.

*Are there County services you would expand and how would you pay for them?*

Lind said that we could do more for vets and the elderly, but the problem is staffing issues as there is a hard time recruiting staff.

Griffiths said he has a lot of ideas, but since less than 2% of the land is private land, he said he would need to be creative on how to expand services. Through this, he has worked on creating partnerships with non-profit, regional, federal and the City to leverage more money, as well as through grants and advocating in Sacramento, he said. Griffiths’ other ideas include a veterans housing area in Bishop, sustainable recreation, a small business development center, and enhancing local campgrounds and parks.

*What is your proudest achievement, as a public servant?*

Lind said Jim Tatum’s influence made her interested in becoming a public servant and that that’s what she put in her application. Griffiths said his proudest achievement “is about to happen,” and that is bringing commercial air service to Bishop Airport.

On the same topic, moderator Kristina Blum Justice asked: Do you think commercial air service at the Bishop Airport is a good thing? What opportunities or fallbacks do you envision? The opportunities that Griffiths envisions is the “quality of life issue to be able to get in and out with relative ease,” he said. The fallback that is clear is the concern for noise from citizens, but they are currently conducting a study on where planes will land, he said.

Lind believes the airport is going to open some doors, but she emphasized that she is weary about the subsides required to pay for the service.

The next question brought about concern for safety and traffic: Highway 395 traffic within the City of Bishop is a huge safety issue. What will you do to advocate for solving this issue?

Griffiths said he agreed there was truck traffic on Highway 395 and the other communities, and that it has become worse—there is concern for safety, appearance, the environment and walkability, he said. Griffiths is currently advocating with Caltrans for improvements of the crosswalks, with them adding pedestrian activated lights with another discussion on traffic flow on Bishop 305 and downtown. “We definitely have a homeless issue, ” said Griffiths. As he mentioned the service-based count at the Bishop Airport, he said that there was a count on January 1st with a low number of 0, as someone in the audience spoke up and said, “that’s not accurate.” She questioned the annual homeless count and if there is a count for those who choose to be transient or homeless, those that choose to live in their vans, etc. “We exercise care and compassion for our community,” she said and as a former probation officer for 12-years she has not experienced a plethora of homelessness, she said.

“We definitely have a homeless issue,” said Griffiths. As he mentioned the service-based count that he did at the soup kitchen. The numbers are shocking, he said as there are as many homeless people as those in LA county with homeless vets, and those living in cars with families, he said. At the same time, he is not totally sure that the parking lot plan would work.

Stop in and check out our Winter Golf Specials! Open to the Public!!

Newly renovated!!

Breakfast & Lunch served daily at the 19th Hole Bar & Grille

LOCAL NEWS  THE SHEET  Saturday, February 29, 2020
Satellite images of the snowpack level at this time last year versus this year. The average snow depth in 2020 (as of February 26) is 8.4” with a maximum snow depth of 73.4”. Last year, on February 26, the average snow depth was 38.9” with a maximum of 169.9”. 2019-2020 represents the lowest average snow depth since 2014-2015 when the average was 3.3”.
Setting the record straight

Dear Editor:

As I have connected with residents around town regarding Measure F, it’s been heartening to see the level of support for this critical measure. However, I have also been surprised by the misinformation being spread around—everything from the belief that the Mammoth Lakes Fire Protection District is funded from TOT and TBID funds, to the idea that the District is sitting on a huge cash reserve. It’s time to set the record straight.

The Mammoth Lakes Fire Protection District is independent from the Town of Mammoth Lakes, and therefore does not receive any funding from the Town, TBID, TOT or even sales tax. Instead, it receives a portion of property taxes—about 5 cents for every dollar collected. Most disturbing is this idea that we have a sizeable cash reserve squirreled away and that Measure F is just a big money grab.

Nothing could be further from the truth. We, along with the locals, envisioned explaining everything about Colitas Farms. I attended the last hearing with Ms. Jeni Pearsons, co-owner of Colitas Farms. I listened to her heartfelt story about her daughter and Colitas Farms. The last two hearings, she and her life and business partner Michael Storc had with the Mono County Board of Supervisors can only be described as devastating. After two-plus years of work and fulfilling every task, business model and fee payment required and with two years of encouragement by District Four Supervisor Peters, they had the door slammed in their faces. Every commission gave them a go-ahead recommendation that was sent to the supervisors. Every one.

They have been financially broken, but just as important, emotionally broken. Their dream was more than a farm; it was a way of life and a way to support their families. They, along with the locals, envisioned a new fire truck rolling down the streets of Walker, doing their part in getting more water towers for everyone’s benefit, etc. They were going to be a part of that town.

With the encouragement continuing up to the last minute by Mr. Peters, they were, to say the least, dumb-founded by the rejection, most hurtfully by Mr. Peters.

The reasoning does not add up: the final report is nothing more than revisionist history from the first rejection and the first... to me seems an obvious cave-in to powerful family wishes. I see it as “for your vote, you get mine.” Quid pro quo is alive and well in Mono County, it seems. Looking past my daughter’s devastating loss, Mono County will, in the long run, lose as well.

I hope that I am wrong but what has happened takes me back to the Ross MacDonald books, what PI Lew Archer called the “dirty underbelly” of local politics. Again for the good people of Walker and Mono County I hope I am wrong. I wish you all the best.

P.S. Many of Jeni’s friends and supporters want their voices heard. I hope they will be.

This injustice can’t be righted now, but at least it will be recognized for what it is.

Jim Henaghan
Los Angeles

see LETTERS, page 19
BERNIE DECLARES WAR
By Casselman

Bernie Sanders, some leading Democrats believe, is highjacking the national Democratic Party --- whose establishment has so far been locked into the political pilot’s cockpit while the plane has been commandeered in flight and ordered to land in hostile territory.

Senator Sanders’ supporters, of course, don’t agree, and see their quest as redemption for 2016 when traditional liberals gave the Democratic presidential nomination to Hillary Clinton --- who subsequently lost the November election to Donald Trump. Justified or not, most conservatives and Republicans are looking on at the growing civil war in the other party not only with some astonishment, but also with the optimism that it helps them in the imminent 2020 national elections.

Sanders’ outspoken socialist and fiscally controversial new entitlement policies, even more moderate Democrats and their strategists say, will not only cost them the presidential election, but could also cause them to lose control of the U.S. House and increase GOP control of the U.S. Senate.

The voters who will decide these questions are independents and the undecideds of both parties, but polling so far seems to indicate large numbers of Americans do not favor policies which cannot be paid for except by draconian confiscatory taxation that eliminates market choice and the private sector.

Sanders, a socialist Vermont city mayor in the 1980s, and subsequently a socialist U.S. senator who caucused with the Democrats, has declared war on liberals and progressives he feels don’t go far enough to combat the capitalist system and conservative policies.

The question of the hour is whether the Democratic Party establishment and his major presidential rivals have enough time, and votes to derail him after Sanders’ successes in Iowa, New Hampshire, Nevada, and possibly in upcoming South Carolina and Super Tuesday, to block his nomination at the party’s July convention in Milwaukee.

He already leads or is running strong in polls in several Super Tuesday states. The most likely alternatives to Sanders are Joe Biden, Mike Bloomberg, or Pete Buttigieg, but none of them have yet demonstrated any momentum among primary or caucus voters.

The longer the other candidates, especially those failing to win many delegates, remain in the race, it divides the anti-Sanders vote, and helps the Vermont senator accumulate an unbeatable lead, if not a majority, before July. (This is what happened in the Republican nomination contest in 2016).

Almost certainly, Sanders political ideology and policies will become the main issues of the 2020 cycle --- and not as much the controversies surrounding Donald Trump. At the outset of the 2020 cycle, Democratic strategists planned for the latter --- it was, after all, the primary reason for the partisan impeachment.

Democratic candidates for house and senate would now almost certainly be asked by their opponents in November if they support the views of their own candidate for president. How will this play out - not only in districts and states carried by Mr. Trump in 2016, but also in districts and states carried for Mrs. Clinton by moderate Democrats?

In the next several days, the national Democratic Party will come to a proverbial fork in the political road. Which direction its voters take will reveal a great deal about what will happen eight months from now when decisions are finally made.

Barry Casselman is a syndicated columnist who has been covering national politics since 1972. You can find more of his work at www.barrycasselman.com.
Caucus Day, February 22, Reno, Nevada. With a notebook and PB&J sandwich, I arrived at Reno High School at 10:30 a.m. for an expected noon start. Various Democratic presidential hopefuls had representatives or “whips,” such as California Congressman John Garamendi (D-District 3), who was stumping for Joe Biden, greeting voters and pitching their candidates. Ready for a long wait, I was through registration in less than 15 minutes, and soon inside the cafeteria, where my precinct, 5406, shared the room with 5405.

My precinct, 5406, had 40 people, and 5405 had only a few more than ours. Speaking to veteran caucus goers, I discovered this turnout wasn’t as heavy as in elections past, likely due to the 75,000 Nevada voters who cast early ballots February 15-18. Caucus goers also noted more civility and a lack of chair throwing and fist fights this time. A “vote blue no matter who” attitude kept things civil, even during some heated exchanges between moderates supporting Pete Buttigieg and Joe Biden and hard left progressives supporting Elizabeth Warren and Bernie Sanders.

At 12:15 p.m. we were given the go ahead to start. First up, approval of our Precinct Chair and the reading of the rules. We learned our precinct had 11 delegates and the Chair explained the math behind how it’s determined whether a candidate is viable (they met the minimum percentage of votes). This year, there was a new rule: if your candidate is determined to be viable after Round 1, you can’t lobby supporters from other viable candidates, only ones deemed non-viable. Our precinct’s 40 votes were added to 178 early votes from our precinct. With 218 possible votes, candidates needed at least 15% or 33 votes for viability.

After Round 1, it was Amy Klobuchar with 56, Buttigieg with 53 and Biden with 50. Warren had 29, Tom Steyer had 15 and Sanders had 14.

Round 2, or “Realign.” While the Round 1 count was being entered into the iPad and paper ledger, Klobuchar, Buttigieg and Biden’s tables lobbied Sanders, Steyer and Warren supporters, including a one-minute final pitch for siding with their candidate. A few Steyer supporters were swayed to Klobuchar, though most of those went to Warren. After the Round 2 tally is where the math got interesting. Having pulled in most of Steyer’s supporters and adding in the optional fourth through sixth choices on early vote ballots, Warren was now viable. At the end of Round 2, it was Klobuchar with 62, earning 3 delegates, Buttigieg and Biden tied for second with 56, earning 3 delegates each, and Warren with 40, earning 2 delegates. After a recount to verify the math, by 3 p.m., we were done. Was it interesting? Absolutely. Being in the room with other voters, it’s more hands-on and interactive, listening to supporters persuade you and argue merits about their candidate, as opposed to just casting a vote on a ballot.

On the other hand, caucus is a time commitment: our precinct took several hours, while others finished early. One precinct took 30 minutes, and one was done in mere minutes by drawing playing cards to break a tie between the only two 

candidates who pulled any votes in that precinct. (Yes, that’s legal.) Reality is a caucus could last for the greater part of a day and there’s no absentee voting. Though lower than in past caucuses, overall turnout was about 105,000 (about one-sixth of registered Nevada Democrats), easily surpassing the 84,000 who participated in the 2016 Caucus. Nevada didn’t repeat the Iowa caucus results debacle, but the caucus wasn’t without its issues. Roughly 1,700 early vote ballots were disregarded for not ranking choices, or missing signatures or other basic information.

The primary question

First time Precinct Chair and caucus goer Matt Mulder had several takeaways from his experience. “The advantage of a primary is you vote or send in a ballot ... it’s simple,” Mulder said. “The disadvantage is you don’t get to see as much of the candidates. They wouldn’t spend as much time courting us. We’d lose that.” Mulder related feedback from one of his neighbors, who balked at long wait times during early voting, but loved the caucus experience, especially the interaction with other voters and discussing the candidates. “There’s no real debate in a primary [with early voting] will work,” Mulder opined. “We just need more early voting volunteers.”

That said, Mulder favors a primary, provided Nevada votes first, instead of Iowa. “Nevada has much more diverse demographics than Iowa,” he said. “You have to look at overall voter participation. If we go first, then a primary makes sense.” (Entrance polls showed more than one-third of Nevada caucus voters were non-white.)

Alice Wagner, a former precinct coordinator in previous caucuses, waited 4.5 hours to early vote at the Reno Northwest Library location, and echoed Mulder’s note for more volunteers. She’d like to see a primary in Nevada but is more concerned with the general election in November. “Moderate votes are being diluted and the other votes are coalescing around Sanders,” she said. “If he

doesn’t make it, my fear is his supporters won’t support whoever is the nominee.” In 2016, disgruntled Sanders supporters charged the DNC stole his nomination, and largely withheld votes to support then Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton.

So where to from here? Nevada State Democratic Party Chair William McCurdy II praised caucus staff and volunteers for the party’s “most transparent and accessible caucus ever.” He went on to say the time has come to “start having a serious conversation ... about the limitations of the caucus process and the rules around it” and “look at shifting it to a primary process moving forward.”

Nevada’s legislature will have to take up the move to a primary sometime in the future. For now, all eyes are on South Carolina’s primary on February 29, and even more on Super Tuesday, March 3, in which more than 1,300 delegates are up for grabs in a dozen states, approximately one-third of those in delegate-rich California alone.

Sources: State of Nevada, Nevada Democratic Party, CBS, Reno Gazette-Journal
Dear Editor,

I have recently had the pleasure of coming into contact with Inyo County Sheriff’s deputies on three separate occasions, each almost more courteous and professional than the next. Almost.

In the first incident, I placed a 911 call asking for a deputy to respond to a traffic altercation. The deputy did arrive. Eventually. Little tip: Don’t reach out to the Sheriff’s Office if you don’t literally have two spare hours burning a hole in your pocket. No explanation.

In the second incident, I was engaged in a pleasant chat with the Sheriff’s office receptionist when in strode perhaps the most impressive man I have encountered to date. Tall, chiseled. Of course, he clearly had some sort of ophthalmological condition that required him to wear sunglasses indoors while addressing a member of the public. Like an idiot, I reached out to shake his hand. His hands remained firmly tucked into his vest. Silly me. But The Vest! Have you seen The Vest?! Absolutely bristling with weapons and comms. Of course, some might see it as a symbol of our increasingly militarized law enforcement, but I’ve been led to believe that it’s all that stands between us and Shariah law.

And on to the third. I had just driven through a public campground and was stepping out of the car to do a little fishing when I was accosted by three drunk and professional than the next. Almost.

Out of course none of this reflects poorly on the current Inyo County Sheriff. Besides, funding a campaign to replace him would almost be expensive. Almost.

Jamie Stewart

Enough already

Dear Editor,

In response to the Measure F impassioned pleas of Messrs. Curry and Easterby, I humbly offer some clarity for the constituents.

It would appear that the authors have chosen to mislead the readers by basing their argument(s) on 12-year old statistics when they proclaim “... During the last recession, as property values fell and… “

The deputies on three separate occasions were apparently located, he passed the incident off to law enforcement, barely explained to me that there would be no point in responding because they would simply have their own version of events. I explained the reasons why I would be happy to put my credibility up against theirs. He was most assuredly not interested.

Of course none of this reflects poorly on the current Inyo County Sheriff. Besides, funding a campaign to replace him would almost be expensive. Almost.

Keith Williams

Mammoth Lakes

Jack Copeland’s World of Skiing

Jack Copeland has left us much, much too soon. We wanted to have more of Jack and sadly we are not going to have more. However, he left us plenty and we have all been enriched and gladly had by meeting him, worked with and for him. We somehow enjoyed the Eastern Sierra a lot more when we were around him. He knew things about this place, and indeed, about us, and when he pointed those things out we grew just a little bit more and had fun along the way. Jack was an inspired leader of the Ski School, Human Resources, and as a Senior Manager of the mountain he was a gentleman who stayed true to his principles. Jack was a kind and generous person. He was funny and warm and had a great smile. He was intelligent, sensitive, and had a talent for patience and for supporting those who needed a bit of a hand up. We always felt welcomed around Jack and enjoyed playing and learning with him. He enjoyed life, (that was pretty obvious), and he lived it to the fullest.

Jack was one of perhaps only a dozen people in the 30,000 members of Professional Ski Instructors of America who was Level Three Certified in Alpine, Nordic and Snowboard. He also had accreditations in Children’s, Seniors and Adaptive teaching. He held a ski instructor certification in Canada along with a coach’s certification with the Canadian Ski Coaches Federation. Jack directed

see LETTERS, page 24
### BARS & MUSIC

**Happy Hour**

- **At the Liberty Sports Bar and Grill.**
  - Happy hour 3-6 p.m. Sundays – Locals cocktails and all night happy hour.
  - More info: See ad p. 17

- **Austria Hof Happy Hour**
  - 4-6:30 p.m. Sat-Thurs 4-6 p.m. Friday and Saturday.
  - See ad p. 10

- **Outlaw Saloon Happy Hour**
  - Mon-Fri., Happy Hour from 4-6 p.m.
  - More info: See ad p. 7

- **Morrison’s Happy Hour**
  - 5-6 p.m. Monday through Thursday in the bar.

- **Mammoth Rock ’N Bowl**
  - Mon. 12-2 p.m., Thurs. DJ 10 p.m.

- **Clockwork Cellar Happy Hour**
  - 4 p.m. daily.

- **Petra’s Happy hour**
  - 5-6 p.m. Signature cocktails, special menu. More info: See ad p. 12

- **Roberto’s Happy Hour**
  - 4-6 p.m. daily.

- **The Public House Local Mondays**
  - All local beers $5 a pint.

- **Famous Slocums Happy Hour**
  - Weekdays: 4-6:30 p.m. Saturday 4-5:30 p.m.

- **More info:** See ad p. 7

- **T-Bar Social Club**
  - In June Lake.

- **Mammoth Beer & Wine Bar**
  - Happy Hour: 3:30-6:30 p.m. daily.
  - $20 beers every hour.

- **Bleu Handcrafted Foods**
  - Happy Hour: 5-6 p.m. $5 Beer, Wine and Small Plates.

- **Devils Creek Distillery**
  - Tasting room hours.

- **The Mogul Happy Hour**
  - 3-6 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays.
  - Daily Happy Hour on Thursday.

- **Bleu Handcrafted Foods**
  - Happy Hour: 3-6 p.m. daily.

- **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**

**Time:** 6-8 p.m. Info: 760.934.5200.

### TOWN STUFF

- **Saturday, February 29**
  - **Woolly’s Saturday Parade** @ the Village
  - Time: 3:45-4:30 p.m. Face painting.

- **Friday, February 28**
  - **Pretty Strong** Film Screening @ Inyo Council for the Arts.

- **March 7-8**
  - **June Lake Winter Jam** @ T-Bar Social Club in June Lake.

### MAMMOTH LIQUOR

**Beer lovers’ candy store**

- Selection of more than 300 beers
- **LEAP YEARS ARE AWESOME**
  - **ONE EXTRA DAY TO BUY BEER**

**Main St. Next to Rick’s**

**More info:** See ad p. 12

**Dine in Take out Delivery**

- **934.7353**
  - Located in the Vons Shopping Plaza
calendrier d'événements

Mule Deer Migration Corridor Field Trip
Eastern Sierra Land Trust hosts its annual Mule Deer Migration Corridor Field Trip on Saturday, March 7th from 2-4 p.m. Hear updates on the herd from wildlife biologist and mule deer expert Tim Taylor of California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Enjoy scenic valley views as we watch the deer on their bi-annual journey.

Bring your whole family - kids love this outing! Please leave pets at home. For meeting location and to RSVP, contact Marie at marie@eslt.org or 760-873-4554

JLA Banked Slalom
The Banked Slalom returns February 28-March 1, taking over Lower Dry Creek on Mammoth Mountain for a weekend of snowboard-only shenanigans - with plenty of apres following the action.

The JLA Project was founded 15 years ago after the passing of snowboarder Jeff Anderson. The original goal of the foundation was to build a skate park in Mammoth Lakes, now the renowned Volcom Brothers Skate Park. The next goal, or Phase 2 of the Foundation, is maintaining and improving the Skate Park each year, as well taking on a larger basis on a world renowned nurturing support of the sport of snowboarding from a grassroots level. The JLA Project is a movement to remind the community that snowboarding is an entire lifestyle. All proceeds from entry fees benefit the JLA Project.

Blue Ribbon Walk/Run
NHI will host the 3rd annual Blue Ribbon Walk and Run on March 7 in support of the Eastern Sierra Cancer Alliance.

Time: Registration 8 a.m., 3K, 5K, 10K walk/run start 9 a.m.
Location: Brown’s Town campground at 395/Schober Ln.
More info: Rosie @ 760.873.2023 or see ad p. 6

June Lake Winter Jam
... Takes place March 6-7 @ the T-Bar Saloon in June Lake and features a different band each night. Hemstreet Orchestra plays on the 6th and Groove Sessions plays the 7th. Tickets: $20 donation which goes to the Mono Arts Council to help support this year’s June Lake Jam, which takes place in September, as well as local school music programs. Your donation will also get you some free swag.
Info: 760.914.42909/see ad p. 3

Eastern Sierra Cancer Alliance Walk-Run Fundraiser
The third annual Walk-Run fundraiser will take place on Saturday, March 7th at 9 a.m. at Brown’s Town Campground in Bishop.

The event begins at 9 a.m. with a pre-event continental breakfast.
Advance: $30 Adults, $10 Kids 12 & under;
Day Of: $35 Adults, $15 Kids 12 & under.

TOWN STUFF

Monday, March 2 (cont.)
Mammoth Lakes Housing Board meets 6 p.m. Suite Z. Minaret Mall.

Tuesday, March 3
Recreation Commission meets 1:30 p.m. Suite Z. Minaret Mall.

Wednesday, March 4
Mammoth Lakes Town Council meets 1 p.m. Suite Z. Minaret Mall.

TOWN STUFF

the Elks Lodge in Bishop. All veterans are welcome. Time: 6 p.m. Info: call Ray White at 760.873.6690

Thursday, March 5
Northern Mono County Hospice Meeting @ Walker Community Center. Time: 5-6 p.m.

March 4-5
Art & Wine: Acrylic series with Kristen Shipke - Mosaic Shapes. Day 1 is decorating shapes with mosaic pieces. The second day you will grout your work. Time: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. both days. Tickets: $75, includes materials and a glass of wine. Info: monoarts.org

Saturday, March 7
Full Moon Snowshoe Tour @ Tamarack. Take in the moonlit scenic beauty on this after-dark snowshoe excursion. Depart the Ski Center at 7PM for a 1.5-hour guided tour, then gather for dessert and hot drinks in front of the fireplace back at Tamarack Lodge. Rentals are included. Space is limited. For reservations, call 800.626.6684.

Tahoe Film Festival Road Tour
Two screenings at the Edison in Mammoth at 5 and 7:30 p.m. More info: see ad p. 3

Bob Todd Celebration of Life @ the Tri-County Fairgrounds in Bishop. Starts 1 p.m.

American Legion, Post 118 meets at American Legion, Post 118
Inyo National Forest Hiring For Summer Positions
The Inyo National Forest has approximately twenty seasonal job openings for the summer of 2020. There are positions open in Lone Pine and Bishop.

The fundraiser also features a prize drawing with an array of prizes from supportive local businesses. Be sure to patronize these giving neighbors. Tickets: $1 a piece, six for $5, 25 for $20
Questions and info: contact Rosie at 760.873.2023

Inyo National Forest Hosts Spring Job Open House
The Inyo National Forest has approximately twenty seasonal job openings for the summer of 2020. There are positions open in Lone Pine and Bishop.

For information on all available positions, go to the Western Sierra Employment Outreach Website at fsoutreach.gdcii.com/outreach and search for positions on the Inyo National Forest by inputting the appropriate state and city.

All applications must be submitted online at usajobs.gov during the application periods above. Applicant should create a profile on the USAJOBS website in advance to save time once the hiring process begins.

Info: MaryJane Spinar, Civil Rights Officer; 510.989.2477/maryjane.spinar@usda.gov

Search & Rescue Recruitment
The team that searches for lost hikers and rescue trapped climbers in Mono County is looking for volunteers willing to help them accomplish their mission.

“The team is seeking members who want to be a part of a dynamic team, who want to get out there and help people, and who have the time and dedication it takes for trainings and field operations,” team member Eric Kaufman said.

The SAR team is the local search and rescue team comprised of all volunteer members. The team averages approximately 50 operations per year, with 2019 being its busiest so far.

“If this is a great chance to meet current team members, tour the SAR building, see what equipment is available in the building, and join the team,” Kaufman said.

The SAR team’s annual recruitment drive is on March 19, 2020, at 7 p.m. Wednesday in Mammoth Lakes. The drive will be held at the SAR building located at 1315 Meridian Blvd, behind the Mammoth Community Water District’s building.

Info: visit http://www.monoarts.org or call 619.752.0976.
Hiring F/T, PT shop operators with Grade III certificate or Grade II with maintenance experience. Must have own living accommodations. $20-25/hr. For more information and to fill out application email info@hiltoncreekcsd.com to apply.

Help Wanted.

We are looking for a full-time, hard-working, detail-oriented individual with the ability to follow instructions as well as work independently. Duties include but are not limited to maintaining and cleaning restrooms, bedrooms, and public areas, including the front desk and check-in area. Candidates should have a good understanding of hotel operations and customer service. This position offers excellent benefits, including health insurance, paid time off, and retirement plans. Please email resume to: info@mammothres.com or call (760) 934-5412

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. If you are interested in applying, please 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 mammontospa@aol.com.

Vacation Rental company seeks FT (w/benefits) or PT local maintenance techs ($20/h) and housekeepers (great piece rate, we love your input to do heavy lifting). Must be a team player and have great attitude. Email recruiting@livelovestaging.com to apply.

Manager Trainee, La Residence condos. Available 8am-9pm. 32hrs/week. Snow removal, maintenance, Jacuzzi, etc. Must have own living accommodations. Responsible, capable candidates call Scott at (760) 934-3839 or Wayne at (760) 934-4990

Secretary of the Board/Bookkeeper. Needed for small community services in Crowley Lake. Part-time position. Pay range $20-25/hr. For more information and to fill out application email info@hiltoncreekcsd.com to apply.

Toni is seeking FT/PT help. Fun place to work, especially if you’re into clothes and fashion. Stop by the store on Old Mammoth Road for an interview. 760.924.7727

Mammoth Rocks Motorcycle Rally

The Following Person Is Doing Business As:

Station 81

Station 81, LLC

587 S. Main St

Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

This business is conducted by a limited liability co. 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 January 27, 2020. This statement is filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on February 12, 2020. RS 17-2020-0023

TS #2020-0025 (2/22, 2/29, 3/7, 3/14)

Fictitious Business Name Statement

Name of Business: Station 81

Is Doing Business As: Station 81

Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District Field Services Technician (Fst) I or II

Keeler Office (Full-Time, with benefits) Under general supervision, assist in the collection of information on the location, frequency, and intensity of dust storms from the Owens and Mono Lakes and the identity dust sources using scientific methods and instrumentation such as sand flux monitors, video surveillance, air monitoring equipment, observation mapping, and GPS surveying; and perform related duties as required.

Education and Experience:

Field Services Technician I ($4,806-$5,951 per month, DOQ): The fully experienced, journey-level class of the series.

1) Four years of experience in the operation and maintenance of scientific or mechanical instrumentation, machinery, or equipment, experience in Information Technology (IT) including network communication, programming, data storage systems or experience as a Field Services Technician I or equivalent; or
2) Graduation from a college with a Bachelor's degree in an environmental science or electronics and/or two years of experience as an Field Services Technician I or equivalent; or
3) Any combination of training and/or experience that could likely provide the desired knowledge and abilities.

Field Services Technician II ($5,408-$6,577 per month, DOQ): The fully experienced, journey-level class of the series.

1) Four years of experience in the operation and maintenance of scientific or mechanical instrumentation, machinery, or equipment, experience in Information Technology (IT) including network communications, programming, data storage systems or experience as a Field Services Technician I or equivalent; or
2) Graduation from a college with a Bachelor's degree in an environmental science or electronics and/or two years of experience as an Field Services Technician I or equivalent; or
3) Any combination of training and/or experience that could likely provide the desired knowledge and abilities.

For more information and job application please visit: http://www.gbuapcd.org/em- ployment or gbuapcd.bamboohr.com/jobs

DEPUTY CLERK

MAMMOTH ROCKS MOTORCYCLE RALLY 93546

This business is conducted by a limited liability co. 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 January 27, 2020.

File Number: 2020-0262

2020-0018 (2/8, 2/15, 2/22, 2/29)

Fictitious Business Name Statement

Name of Business: Mammoth Rocks Motorcycle Rally

Is Doing Business As: Mammoth Rocks Motorcycle Rally

Thomas E. Parker

1935 Meridian Blvd., P.O. Box 343

Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

This business is conducted by a individual. The registered owner 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 January 27, 2020.

File Number: 2020-0262

2020-0018 (2/8, 2/15, 2/22, 2/29)

www.monocounty.ca.gov, email hr@mono.ca.gov or telephone 760-924-3091 or stop by the office. www.monocounty.ca.gov/generalinfo/employment.htm for more information.

We are currently hiring for multiple positions. Please call 760-933-2252 or email info@hiltoncreekcsd.com to apply.

2107 Main St., Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

Closing Date: Open until filled.

www.mono.courts.ca.gov

www.monocourts.ca.gov

www.mono.courts.ca.gov

www.mono.courts.ca.gov

www.mono.courts.ca.gov

www.mono.courts.ca.gov

www.mono.courts.ca.gov
Notice of Preparation of Supplemental Environmental Impact Report for the Casa Diablo IV Geothermal Power Plant

The Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District will be the Lead Agency pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the preparation of a Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) for the proposed Casa Diablo IV Geothermal Power Plant Project [proposed Project].

The District is preparing the SEIR in response to the 2019 appeal by Ms. Lucy Duarte in Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District (2019) 45 Cal. App. 5th at 867, which resolved a CEQA challenge to the 2013 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)/SEIR for the proposed Project.

In response to the decision made by the Court of Appeals, the SEIR will focus exclusively on the feasibility of additional mitigation measures proposed in comments presented on the 2013 Draft EIS/EIR to limit the fugitive emissions of reactive organic gas (ROG).

If it is determined that the additional mitigation measures are feasible, then the SEIR will evaluate the potential measures under the CEQA Guidelines, including Section 15120, 4, and the environmental impacts that could result from implementing them. Consistent with CEQA Guidelines Section 15262.6(b), which defines what a Lead Agency must consider in the event of a remand, the SEIR will not focus topics broader than those identified by the Court as deserving additional attention.

Copies of the Notice of Preparation will be available for review at the Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District office, located at 137 Short Street, Bishop, CA. A copy of the Notice will be posted online at http://www.gbuapcd.org under What’s New, or by contacting the District by email at permits@gbuapcd.org.

Comments will be accepted during the 30-day scoping period which will continue from February 26, 2020, and ending at 5:00 p.m. on March 26, 2020.

Comments may be submitted by contacting the District by email at permits@gbuapcd.org or by mail or hand delivery to the District’s office at 137 Short Street, Bishop, CA. 93514. A mandatory pre-bid meeting will be held on Thursday, March 5th, 2020, at 10 AM, at the Town Council conference room at the office, located at 147 Old Mammoth Road, Suite 210, Mammoth Lakes, California, by telephone (760) 965-3657.

The Contractor shall have a valid Class C or C-4 Contractor license and a current Town of Mammoth Lakes Business Tax Certificate and all other necessary permits and approvals.

The Contractor shall demonstrate their qualifications by having performed similar work in the past, including experience, and ability to perform work. The Town will be the sole judge as to the qualifications of each bidder.

This Project is subject to compliance monitoring and enforcement by the Department of Industrial Relations. In building on this project, it shall be the乙方’s sole responsibility to evaluate and comply with all labor compliance requirements under the contract and applicable law by providing copies of all labor compliance contracts and all notifications to the Town of Mammoth Lakes, or by a labor and materials bond in the sum of not less than $50,000.00. This successfull bidder may substitute certain factors for the Town to ensure performance under the Contract.

Fictionitious Business Name Statement

Fictionitious Business Name Statement

Bevi Bene

Bevi Bene, LLC
587 Old Mammoth Rd., #9, P.O. Box 5032
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

This business is conducted by a limited liability company. The agent for service of process for the Tenant and landlord in this business is William A. Bene, DUX LLC, 735 Old Mammoth Road, Mammoth Lakes, California, 93546.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on January 22, 2020, File Number 2020-0023 (2/15, 2/22, 2/29, 3/7)
KELLER continued from page 8

known artists. “We can’t wait for the perfect venue,” Casey said. “John Rea really presented a passionate idea that was different. It gives him the ability to ticket and that’s a huge thing.”

The idea of hosting a concert at Snowcreek began as an entirely different proposition. John Rea, owner of Mammoth Media Productions and the driving force behind Summer Jam, reached out to John Morris, Director of Operations at Snowcreek and MLT Board Chair, to gauge the possibility of hosting a Backcountry Games event on the golf course during the winter. While that initial proposition fell through, Rea later proposed hosting a concert at Snowcreek and Morris agreed to donate the space.

Morris called the event a “tester” in terms of assessing Snowcreek’s viability as a concert venue, noting “For mammoth in general, it nice to have some different venues that you try.” He explained that Snowcreek would not be receiving any of the revenue generated by ticket, merchandise, or bar sales from the concert, instead viewing the event as “exposure, marketing, name recognition” with the opportunity of “getting people out to golf course and the property, getting more rooms filled.”

As part of their hosting duties, Snowcreek is offering a package deal for the Summer Jam weekend that includes discounted tickets for the Keller Williams show.

For John Rea, bringing a bigger name like Keller Williams to Mammoth Lakes is part of a longer-term plan to revamp the town’s music. “I always wanted to bring bigger names to town,” Rea said, “Mammoth’s not really known for its live music.” While Summer Jam is a part of Rea’s vision, bringing in bigger names like Keller Williams is a key step in moving that vision forward.

An event like this requires a lot of town to be involved, but it’s not something that I feel like we are inappropriately benefitting from. I didn’t vote specifically because I didn’t want people to think that there was any sort of impropriety there,” Rea told the Sheet. He explained that breaking barriers in this instance referred to getting everyone on the same page and working hard to pull off the concert.

While Rea has assumed a good deal of financial risk in putting on the concert, he said, “Mammoth behind it all was not profits. “That’s not really this is about or what it’s ever been about,” Rea explained, “If you have good reasons for doing it and passion, that’s going to make money.” A portion of the proceeds from the concert will go to the Mono Arts Council, something Rea stressed as important in his own commitment to original music and art.

If the concert proves to be a success, Rea already has plans for next year; if not, “Back to the drawing board,” he said. His position as MLT Board Chair has drawn some scrutiny over the allocations committee’s decision to give money to the concert. “[Morris] is making a great business decision,” Rea said, noting that in a town the size of Mammoth, there was always bound to be scrutiny.

Rea defined success in this case as 1,000 attendees at the concert. “An event like this requires a lot of town to be involved, that requires breaking some barriers,” Rea told the Sheet. He explained that breaking barriers in this instance referred to getting everyone on the same page and working hard to pull off the concert.

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LETTERS
continued from page 20

the Ski School at Diamond Peak and he
worked at Mount Hutt in New Zealand
as well as a season in Australia. Jack
was the chairman of the national PSIA
Education Steering Committee which
influenced the direction of ski teaching
in the entire nation for several decades
since his contribution. He also found
in the entire nation for several decades
influenced the direction of ski teaching
Education Steering Committee which
was the chairman of the national PSIA
as well as a season in Australia. Jack
worked at Mount Hutt in New Zealand
the Ski School at Diamond Peak and he
continued from page 20

In recent times Jack worked with
Disabled Sports Eastern Sierra to train
volunteers in teaching methodology
and to work on their personal skiing
and demonstrations. He regularly took
groups out for Operation Mountain
Freedom during Wounded Warriors Ski
Week.
Public service was a natural outlet for
Jack Copeland. He served and enriched
many non-profit groups including the
Mammoth Hospital Board, Mammoth
Lakes Foundation, Mammoth Chamber
of Commerce and the PSIA Western Di-
vision Education Foundation. His ability
to understand the needs of groups
such as these was impressive, and his
contributions were always valuable and
useful.
Most of all, in the world of skiing Jack
Copeland was a man of infinite curios-
ity and of continual learning. He was
widely read and enjoyed discovering
new ideas about teaching, learning and
ski technique. He was always working
on his own skiing and loved nothing
more than to make high speed GS turns
on firm snow and feel the ski arcing
beneath him. Kind of like flying.
Jack Copeland was a wonderful man
and a class act. We miss him immensely
and will forever cherish the gifts he gave
us all. And, Kathy, we love you very
much and we will continue our adven-
ture with you here in Mammoth.
John Armstrong
Mammoth Lakes

Mammoth Lakes Repertory The-
atre (MLRT) Artistic Director
Shira Dubrovner, can’t wait to
catch up with Todd Offenbacher when
he returns to Mammoth on March 7
to present his Film Festival Road Tour.
There are two screenings – one at 5:00
PM and the other at 7:30 PM, with Todd
introducing each film and sharing
insights into the compendium of ultra-
exciting adventure films:
“Todd always has a wide range of
sports/adventure films that defy gravity
and reason,” stated Dubrovner. “Todd
has been bringing his Road Tour to
Mammoth for nine years and he never
fails to get the audience pumped.”
“Lots of the films this year have not
been seen anywhere else before,” added
Offenbacher, who bills his festival as “the
next best thing to doin’ it.”
The list of films this year includes the
following:
Wizard - Ming Poon, snowboarder - a
TAFF Premiere
UnReal- Brandon Seminik – “If you
haven’t seen it yet, stop what you’re
doing and watch it now! This may be
the single best video segment in the World.
Brandon Semenik is flawless and this
might just leave you speechless.” Intern-
ational Mountain Bike Magazine
Originate- Michelle Park skiing - a
TAFF Premiere - Follow Michelle Parker
and crew of like-minded athletes in
their pursuit of the best snow and steep-
est lines in the world.
For the Love of Mary - “This film tells
the story of 97-year-old George Etzwie-
ler’s race up Mount Washington, the
northeast’s tallest peak, where he’s set
the record for oldest finisher for nearly
10 years. The 7.6-mile race climbs nearly
4,700 ft in elevation and gets more dif-
ficult for George every year. Still, he
continues to complete it with the sup-
port of friends and his late wife Mary,
who he knows is by his side.” Trailrunner
Magazine
Scott Gaffney - a profile of the snow
sports filmmaker - a TAFF Premiere
Up to Speed - experience the extremes
of speed climbing
Street Surfers - Watch as surfer and
ocean activist Frank Solomon highlights
the importance of two street surfers
and waste collectors in Johannesburg in a
new documentary.
Scratching the Surface - featuring
High Sierra skiing - a TAFF Premiere
For more information and/or to pur-
buy tickets visit us at MammothLakes-
RepertoryTheatre.org.
WHERE: Saturday March 7 at either
5:00PM or 7:30PM
WHERE: Edison Theatre, 100 College
Parkway, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546
COST: Tickets online: $12; Tickets at
the door $15 - No discounts
RESERVE TICKETS: www.Mam-
thoLakesRepertoryTheatre.org

TAHOE ADVENTURE FILM FEST
Press Release

Todd Offenbacher

SUNDAY BRUNCH
10am-2pm
BLOODY MARY BAR

BY THE LIGHT
OF THE MOON
FULL MOON SNOWSHOE TOURS
Take in the moon-lit scenic beauty on this after-dark snowshoe
excursion. Depart the Ski Center at 7PM for a 1.5-hour guided tour,
then gather for dessert and hot drinks in front of the fireplace back
at Tamarack Lodge. The tour is $65 and includes snowshoe rentals.

JANUARY 8 & 9, FEBRUARY 7 & 8, MARCH 7
Space is limited – reservations required.
SHEET SURVEY

In anticipation of Leap Day (February 29), the Sheet asked folks around town: What will you do with your extra day?

By Page & Hite

“Going to a party”
-Kristin Boehm, Atlanta, GA

“Skiing Mammoth”
-Jane Bieneman, New York City

“Skiing”
-BJ Gray, California

“Lobbying New York’s Governor for legal weed”
-Liz Wald, New York City

“JLA Banked Slalom”
-Molly Denson, Mammoth Lakes

“I’ll be at the bar.”
-Kelsey Whittet & Maverick, Auburn

“Going to a party”

“Skiing Mammoth”

“Skiing”

“Lobbying New York’s Governor for legal weed”

“JLA Banked Slalom”

“I’ll be at the bar.”

SHELTER DISTILLING

Small Batch Craft Distillery, Brewery & Kitchen

MADE IN MAMMOTH LAKES, CA

Happy Hour 2-4pm Monday - Thursday // Taco Tuesday 1/2 Off Agave Cocktails // $5 Street Tacos Wednesday Live Music With 50% Off Cocktails, $5 Beers // Open 11am - 11pm Every Day

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CHECK OUT OUR GRATITUDE ON-THE-GO READY-MADE ITEMS

FRESH-MADE BURRITOS, WRAPS, SALADS, SOUPS & MORE!
— READY WHEN YOU ARE —
MADE-TO-ORDER BREAKFAST & LUNCH ITEMS ALSO AVAILABLE 6AM-1PM

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- WARM COFFEE & TEA
- FRESH BAKED GOODS
- SMOOTHIES & PROTEIN SHAKES
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MADE IN MAMMOTH LAKES, CA

Maple Whiskey Sour / Featuring High Sierra Whiskey

Vegan & Gluten-Free Items • Sustainable Products & Practices • Locally Owned & Operated
PROPOSITION 13

WHY VOTE NO?
✓ Current taxes are already allocated for schools... Don't let Government use schools and our children to get taxes passed!
✓ Don't be fooled that these funds will benefit our kids, government rarely sends funds to schools as promised!
✓ Someone has to pay for increased Government spending... You the Tax Payer will financially support their spending!

MEASURE F

WHY VOTE NO?
✓ Another vote to increase taxes!
✓ Another tax increase that will lead to higher rents!
✓ Our fire districts are already funded, government needs to budget better!
✓ Tell Government to use the funds already allocated for fire protection!

1% TOT TAX INCREASE

WHY VOTE NO?
✓ A potential tax being discussed to increase TOT Tax to 15%.
✓ This Tax will put added stress on Mammoth guests and businesses.
✓ This Tax will increase all of our costs (not just the tourists costs)!
✓ Tell your Town Council to pay for housing NOW with Measure A funds currently allocated to Mammoth Lakes Tourism. (Roughly an $8,000,000 + Marketing budget)
✓ Proposed tax would have no sunset after housing is built!

Citizens for Responsible Government.
Tell Government to control their spending!!
NEW CREEKHOUSE RESIDENCES ARE AVAILABLE!
Luxury Mountain Retreats with Alpine Golf Course and Athletic Club at Mammoth Mountain.

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