Gary Berger: 1940-2020

Gary Berger was a little bit like E.F. Hutton. When he spoke, people listened. Even Sam Walker.

As Tom Cage said this week with a laugh, "Gary was one of the few people where, when he started to talk, Sam Walker would shut up."

Gary Berger, who excelled at so many things - as a father, husband, ski instructor, restaurateur, soccer coach - passed away on July 24 at his home in Mammoth. He was 80 years old.

Berger was born in Los Angeles in 1940 and grew up in Venice Beach. In high school, sister Roberta said Gary was voted Student Body President. He was also a pole vaulter who competed in the city championship at the L.A. Coliseum.

His father did more than simply visit Mammoth - he also invested. The family owned the corner at Minaret and Main where The Eatery/Mammoth Brewing Company now stands. Gary’s father later traded that lot for one up the street, where Burgers and the Alpenhof are now.

Roberta says her parents built the original Alpenhof Lodge (the first eight units) back in 1961, and sold it to the Schaubmayer family in 1972.

But Gary’s first and greatest passion was always skiing. As a boy, the family would take trips every weekend to Holiday Hill (now known as Mountain High) in the San Gabriels.

Upon graduating from UCLA, where he studied business, Gary taught skiing in New Zealand as well as Sun Valley (where he also spent a memorable winter setting pins manually at the bowling alley)

The post-quarantine tourism rush has brought elevated levels of visitation to the Eastern Sierra this summer. Once town opened for business in mid-June, tourism went from 0 to 60 in about four seconds and local trails and infrastructure have been nearly overwhelmed.

Facebook groups such as the buy/sell/trade, camping or backpacking pages for the Eastern Sierra have the occasional picture of the overflowing trash can or litter where it isn’t supposed to be. There are many complaints regarding fires where they are not supposed to be. There is even the occasional, “look how they left this campsite!”

All it takes is one loop through the Lakes Basin, and the current logistical nightmare is in full view.

During conversations with different community leaders it does seem the volume of visitation has been foreshadowing a summer like this. Every summer we have gotten busier anyway. What we do see happening is there are more parking issues,” said Mammoth Lakes Police Chief Al Davis, whose car was broken into by a curious bear this week.

“[Tourism] follows spikes and changes but we are always busy in the summer,” said Mammoth Lakes Fire Chief and member of the Mono County Emergency Operations Command (EOC) team. Frievalt claimed calls were up but, again, this happens every year during the summer.

Mono County Sheriff/Coroner Ingrid Braun gave specific call volume data illustrating the numbers, “Just comparing this July to last July, total calls are up 5%. Within that, we have received twice as many calls that we classified as ‘Possible Hazard.’”

Braun added, “I do see many more calls for campfires, but I should also note that the Inyo National Forest didn’t implement fire restrictions last year.”

On Monday, the queue for the Starbucks drive-through spilled onto Highway 203. By Tuesday, Starbucks changed its drive-through access to take the line off Main. Takeaway: It’s time to get Stellar Brew back open!

Fatal crashes

p. 7/

Inside Straight

p. 2/

Battlefield Earth

p. 12/

Stop gorging

p. 4/

RKO’d

p. 10/
To the Mammoth Community:

This letter is offered on behalf of numerous Mammoth restaurant owners. We are business members, but also community members with the health and wellness of our community at the forefront of our actions. At the heart of our concerns are the recent shutdowns of restaurants, despite adherence to all Centers for Disease Control (CDC) protocols. Please reconsider the mass quarantines and subsequent closures of small businesses.

According to the CDC – The best way to protect yourself and others from COVID-19 is to cover your nose and mouth with a cloth face covering when in public, clean and disinfect frequently-used surfaces and wash hands often with soap and water for 20 seconds or use 60 percent alcohol sanitizer.

Having operated restaurants prior to COVID-19, we have all taken classes to be in compliance regarding proper ways to receive, prepare, store and produce product. Additionally, we have hygiene guidelines for all employees, regardless of position in the restaurant. When restaurants were allowed to reopen, part of the self-attestation included assurance that employees wear masks, distance six feet apart, encourage frequent hand washing and appropriate use of gloves. We offer guests sanitizer, require masks and mark on the floor six-foot spaces for them to socially distance. We have limited capacity, encouraged take-out or curbside service and made specific bar restrictions. We did this willingly, with the understanding that these guidelines would keep both our employees and guests safe.

According to the FDA, if we follow the four key steps of food safety (clean, separate, cook and chill), we are doing what we can to ensure guest safety in terms of the product we are serving. COVID-19 IS NOT a food-borne illness. COVID-19 is spread through respiratory droplets. While it may be possible for a person to get COVID-19 by touching an infected surface and then touching their eyes, nose or mouth, according to the CDC this is NOT thought of as the primary way the virus spreads. Additionally, disinfecting surfaces using an approved agent is an effective cleaning and sanitizing procedure and WILL kill the virus.

Throughout the restaurant industry, all employees are wearing masks, maintaining six feet of separation as possible, investing in physical barriers when distancing is not possible, adjusting seating areas to distance parties six feet apart, sanitizing frequently-used surfaces and reducing capacity significantly. Additionally, we have created new checklists, protocols and education for employees (temperature checks, cleaning agendas/schedules, new procedures). We are also required to educate our guests with signage, marks on the floor and explanations for why and where they must wear masks, why we are spacing people why they will experience longer waits. Some of us have gone even further by using only single-serve containers at the expense of the environment and the owner/operator.

When Governor Gavin Newsom mandated closing all indoor dining, our industry pivoted to the best of our ability to increase take-out capacity and offer outdoor dining. This was a stressful and expensive endeavor, but we did it because we need to operate; we need to keep our community employed, we need to feed our families and we need to serve our guests. If we invite them to come, then we must provide safe, accessible services. We support this – the CDC says the lowest risk of infection when dining out is with drive through, delivery and take-out and risk is very low with outdoor seating spaced six apart.

The CDC says that if you believe you have had close contact with an infected person, you should stay home and monitor your temperature twice a day, looking for symptoms. Close contact is described as within six feet of an infected person for 15 minutes or more (this does not take into account the use of PPE or face coverings during this interaction). All others that may have had an interaction not considered “close contact” should personal distance, wear a mask, wash hands and be on alert for symptoms. There is no mention of quarantine in this instance.

Mono County has seen a major uptick in COVID-19 positives since July 3. We knew this was inevitable and took all the mandates, precautions and guidelines to heart. When we were put on the state’s watch list, we were informed that we would need to have 30 percent of our staff tested for the virus. We submitted rosters and offered testing to willing employees. We paid our employees to stand in long lines, sent them away from busy restaurants to do so, missed work, opened later, etc. so that we could meet the requirements and attest that we did what we were told to do. This was only required for RESTAURANTS—not retail, grocers, hotels, etc. Why is this not being mandated for all businesses in Mono County? If random testing will reduce the incidence of COVID-19, all businesses must be included.

So, please explain to us why an asymptomatic positive (just one) is leading to a complete closure of a restaurant for 14 days. If we are following our protocols, doesn’t this protect others from the infected person? If a guest or fellow employee interacts with the infected employee for less than 15 minutes, both parties wearing masks, and distancing – according to the CDC it is not a “close contact” and the guest or co-worker does not need to quarantine. If FDA- and CDC-approved sanitizing solutions are used correctly and frequently, the surfaces touched by the infected employee should not transmit the virus to customers or co-workers.

Why close an entire business? We have been operating in a “work bubble.” The probability is very low that the asymptomatic employee that wore a mask, washed their hands, disinfected and practices distancing would make others sick.

Why not quarantine the infected employee while allowing others who tested negative to continue working? Why not alert staff to an infection and praise and promote the measures put in place that made those employees test negative? Why not use restaurants as an example of how these precautions are keeping our guests and our staff safe? Why not remove the stigma of a positive COVID-19 test and stop shaming small business? Our guests interact with us during take-out and outdoor dining; they interact more so when lingering and browsing a retail shop, grocery shopping in groups and camping or staying in a rental house or hotel. Why are they governed by a different standard?

The law says that if we test employees for anything (uniform, temperature, menu knowledge) we cannot discriminate – we must test everyone. We absolutely feel that the recent additional regulations focused only on restaurants are unfairly singling out and discriminating against us. We do not want to be targeted as an entire industry—please treat individual positive cases on a case-by-case basis (as promised) and heavily fine those who are grossly negligent.
Stop dodging

To: Mono Cty. Board of Supervisors
Mammoth Lakes Town Council

To say I was disappointed by the Zoom all-county meeting last Thursday evening would be quite the understate-ment. I worked in a management capac-ity in county government for 25 years, so I firmly believe in keeping a schlock apart from talking points. Of how to make it look like you’re saying something when, in fact, you’re dodging the major issues.

It’s lovely you’re stepping up restau-rant enforcement. They should never have opened in the first place, but it’s beside the point. It’s not the restaurant workers who are the problem, but the patrons. Outside dining is almost as big a recipe for disaster as remaining inside. I drove past one breakfast joint at 8:45 this morning. The tables were overwhelm- ing. Zero social distancing, and if all the patrons were part of the same family groups, I’ll eat my twenty-odd pairs of skis. Besides, it didn’t matter because the patrons were getting up, wandering around, talking, and basically acting as if there was no pandemic.

When I was in Vons at 6:30 last Tuesday morning, I saw two shoppers without masks and at least ten with masks that didn’t cover their noses. This observation is at the crack of dawn. Conditions deteriorate as the day wears on. Staff there are scared. They put their health on the line every single day. So do the other workers in town. You who are in leadership positions are failing in your mandate to keep the people who live in your jurisdictions safe. Other areas that have enforced masks and social distancing are doing reasonably well. There’s a zip code in Cupertino with 63,000 people that has 40 cases. They cater to tourists too, mostly from Asia.

Which brings me to my question, and your response is to test restaurant workers more fre-quently? You can do better than that. Actually, you have to do better than that.

If you cannot enforce measures to keep those who live here safe, your only other option is to shut Mammoth Lakes back down. To not do either of those things is not only socially irresponsible, but morally reprehensible. Lodging should be held at 50% max, counted daily, not a weekly aggregate. Camping is a disaster. The dispersed areas are full of human waste and garbage. The camp-grounds have people elbow to elbow. The upper part of the Scenic Loop Road is a disgrace. Camping isn’t dispersed, no matter how you spin the word. All those pretty signs about mandato-ry face coverings aren’t working. You’ve had a few weeks to figure that out. It’s the extreme minority who look at those signs and think, “Oh my yes, I need to mask up.”

I drove down to Devil’s Postpile Thurs-day afternoon to pick up my husband and shuttle him back to the car he’d left at Agnew Meadow. The Postpile was crowded with humanity. Zero parking places, so I had plenty of opportunity to circle the parking lot while waiting. The ONLY mask I saw down there (yup the only one) was on my husband as he walked out the wretchedly crowded trail on his way back from the loop he’d hiked.

Not much bothers him, but he was shaken by how little anyone else cared about whom they infected. He did men- tion running across a ranger-led hike around Ediza where everyone in the group had masks. Perhaps you could borrow a page from the Forest Service since they’re mandating masks to par-ticipate in activities.

And enforcing the mandate. In your haste to drag tourists in here, we’ve hit the governor’s county watch list, lost our ability to open the schools in the fall, and we may well lose the win-ter season. I heard the town manager and his assurances the mountain had measures in place to keep everyone safe for ski season. I heard the town manager and his assurances the mountain had measures in place to keep everyone safe for ski season.

That’s absurd. Those guests have to stay somewhere. They’ll want to eat, and we’ll have the same problems we have now compounded by the seasonal flu that will be back next winter. People can’t hang around outside once they’re done skiing when it’s 20 degrees outside. More people in enclosed places means more viral transmission.

Word on the street is the local police chief is “lukewarm” about enforcing mask-wearing. Thinks it’s a waste of time. If it’s true, are you really going to offer him that luxury?

Frankly, I don’t see how we can step up enforcement without hiring more bodies. Enforcement is a huge pain in the rear, but we can’t simply pretend the problem is going to go away unless/ until we face it squarely and address it appropriately. You have a lot of town and county staff who’ve been home for months. Maybe they could be pressed into enforcement service using the “other duties as assigned” category.

I am one voice, and not one I expect you to pay attention to. At the end of the day, you will have to live with the consequences of your decisions—or lack thereof. Like I said in my last letter, most of the businesses you’re trying so hard to save aren’t viable in a post-pandemic landscape. They’ll end up folding any-way, and then you’ll have sacrificed your community for no gain at all.

Denial is a river ...

Dear Editor:

I have to ask why certain Supervisors are in denial. We did not have a surge in cases of COVID-19 until we opened up. And by opening up, we saw a surge in tourists. Yes, a lot of local restaurant employees tested positive in the latest surge. Only makes sense, doesn’t it? Yes, these employees were “local.” Who do they think they were serving? Who do you think we are testing? Locals, I would venture to guess. We have all seen the town now teeming with tourists which we expected once we opened up.

Tourists are necessary for our lo-cal businesses to thrive. We all know that, but don’t say that our tourism is not the reason for our uptick in cases of COVID-19. Don’t blame the Health
LETTERS continued from page 3

Department or EOC for fear-mongering. They are just presenting the facts. If you had attended or Zoomed in to the EOC Community Meetings this last few months and listened to what was said by this team you would hear them say that when we opened up the cases would undoubtedly rise. I get the distinct feeling that these supervisors are afraid of scaring tourists off if they happen to read statistics on the County’s COVID-19 website. Okay, just how many tourists do you think read the County COVID-19 website? Just ask them. I would venture to guess very few if any. If it scared them off or made them feel unwelcome do you think we would see our town as busy as it is? The website is a good source for County residents and helps make us aware of the COVID situation as it develops. The website and its information is helpful. We who live here want to know where we are in this horrible pandemic. So be grateful we have these folks to help us through.

Janell Owens
Mammoth Lakes

Dear Editor:

Thanks a million for acknowledging John Walter & the longtime cry of the public that we are destroying Mammoth with overmarketing!

Jane Kenyon
Mammoth Lakes

RESTAURANTS continued from page 2

We appreciate the work the State of California and Mono County have done to keep both locals and our visitors safe. We agree with and will follow all guidelines and mandates – it is our job to be as safe as possible. However, these shutdowns are impacting us more than the original closing in March, and we do not feel that they are being handed down fairly.

These are the most difficult times most have ever operated under – we are working with skeleton staff, spending a great amount of money on mitigation, our dining areas are compromised and safe service takes twice as long as it did before this pandemic began. We are doing our absolute best to stay safe and stay open.

Several of us have talked to counterparts in other states including New York, Florida, Oregon, Washington & Nevada, as well as other places in California. These restaurant-specific mandates and closures are not happening anywhere else. This motive to target restaurants for tracing is a TOML directive; NOT directed by the state.

Moving forward we expect:

1. Review of each business in the TOML using a viable risk assessment (including ALL businesses); not an over-generalized one size fits all approach. This risk assessment should include:
   2. How many positive cases per restaurant/business? : Appreciating that 1 positive in 20, for example, is a representation that infection is present and has been since prior to March. And understand that 19 negatives must reinforce that infection is contained, with good practices, even in the workforce.
   3. How many hospitalizations? If less than 4, then no modifications to compromising this economy are necessary.
   4. That each business that has been ordered to close for 10-14 days, and yet met #1-4 qualify for the $10,000 TOML small business grant.
   How is the working relationship with this business? Are they compliant? As a collective, we are currently meeting state and local guidelines that were implemented by public health. Please review all references and guidelines by the CDC, FDA, etc.
   We are a part of this community—we are the community.

Jessica & Kerry Mechler – Mammoth Tavern
John & Victoria Farber – Giovanni’s & The Stove Restaurant
Alisa Mokker & Paul Harper – The Warming Hut
Andrea Walker – Stellar Brew
Brandon & Theresa Brocia – The Eatery & Bleu Market
Joanie & Dan Schaller, Roberto’s Cafe
Carey Sigmun – The Mogul
Ian Algeroen – Restaurant Skadi
Robert & Heather Schaumbayer – Peutra’s and Clocktower Cellar
Stuart Need – Lakanuki
Kirk Wallace – Distant Brewing
Stephanie Lemaire & Jamie Dudley – The Brasserie
Sue Ebersold – The Breakfast Club
Taylor & Pat Kumlue – Noodle-ly
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JUICED VULTURE
Hazy IPA IS COMING
TOURISM
continued from page 1
until mid-July. This year fire restrictions started in May. “Braun also had a theory as to why it seems like these issues are especially extreme this year, “There are more visitors. Many of these visitors are new to camping and to the Eastern Sierra in general. They don’t know what they can and cannot do, so they do what they want.” Additionally Braun claimed that the community is more “vigilant” this year and this could be related to COVID-19 making everyone a little more aware of what is happening on the ground. Chief Davis had similar thoughts. “A big part is, there are a whole lot of new campers. And for these new people that are camping, there is a steep learning curve.”

Davis thought stationing someone in the Basin, whether it be an officer or a volunteer, could be a good idea to stop some of the issues at their source.

Deb Schweizer, Inyo National Forest Public Affairs Officer, told The Sheet, “We need to adapt to the change in use patterns—how many people, what they are bringing, and also their perception that they are [not] responsible for their trash.”

Schweizer mentioned the people coming up this year are bringing more trash than previous years. After talking to some camp hosts in the area, this could be due to this year’s visitors planting themselves here as long as they can. Multiple hosts, from both the Lakes Basin and the June Lake Loop, told The Sheet that when people get the first come, first served spots, they hold them between 10-14 days. “We need to deal with it. It is out of balance with tourism. COVID caused something,” said Mono County Board of Supervisor Stacy Corless, “Why can’t we have a physical presence in the Lake Basin? Why wouldn’t we have a Mammoth Lakes Police Officer or Mono County Officer up there.”

Corless wasn’t claiming this was the final solution, just that it could be a stopgap one. “We should be thinking along the lines of what one thing we can do to make it better.”

The Sheet then called Stuart Brown, Public Information Officer for the EOC and Mammoth’s Parks and Recreation Director to see what changes were currently being implemented. Brown mentioned that the changeable message sign (currently on Meridian at the entrance to Town) will be moved into the Lakes Basin displaying messages regarding enforcement of parking, fire restrictions and to watch for pedestrians. Chief Davis backed this up saying he will have an officer up there enforcing parking regulations on a more regular basis.

Brown also discussed the Mammoth Lakes Trail System (MLTS) Host Program. “The Lakes Basin is a specular natural resource that needs to be managed with people on the ground, particularly during our peak summer periods,” said Brown.

The MLTS Host Program, managed by Joel Rathje, Trails Manager for the Town of Mammoth Lakes was put in place to provide education and promote sustainable recreation to trail users (Leave No Trace), collect data, pick up litter, and work to improve trail facilities. Brown told the Sheet that if anyone is interested in joining the MLTS team, please send a resume via email to gretchenhaselbauer@mltpa.org. “During the summer months, the community can get involved and be a part of the solution,” said Brown. “Let’s not point fingers but work along side each other to educate our visitors on how to take care of the places we all love and cherish.”

Fire Chief Frievalt and Supervisor Corless told The Sheet that Madera County, which patrols Devil’s Postpile, has been stationing an officer there. “Like the Kevin Bacon character in the final scene of Animal House. “Remain calm! All is well!”

“This year’s do your part, recreate responsibly and the emphasis on Leave no Trace and pack it in, pack it out have played a key part in my messaging. How effective that is is the key question,” said Schweizer.

Supervisor Corless felt this was a good first step but also wanted more, “Bigger picture, we need to get all of the agencies to the table and discuss how we are going to handle this long term.”

The problem for now was best summarized by Sheriff Braun: “We do see this sort of behavior every year. People go on vacation and check their brains in Big Pine. We need to educate and enforce.”
DINING ESTABLISHMENTS IN THE CROSSHAIRS

600 restaurant employees tested

By Page n’ Hite

As of July 28, the current overall positivity rate in Mono County is 3.77%. For the week of 7/20-7/26, the County tested 522 people, with 35 positives for a rate of 6.7%. That was down from an 11.3% positive rate the week prior.

The total number of positive Covid cases in Mono County was 101 as of press time last week. It stands at 128 as of Thursday evening, July 30.

Last week also brought two new revelations: Mono County was placed on a State monitoring list with 65% of the new local cases having some relation to restaurants.

Regarding the monitoring list, a slide presented during Thursday’s Community Conversation read, "Once a county appears on the County Monitoring List for three consecutive days, indoor operations in the sectors listed in Section 3 of the Order must close. These indoor operations shall remain closed, even when a county is removed from the County Monitoring List, until the State Health Officer modifies the Order and authorizes re-opening."

Sector 3 operations include dine-in restaurants, movie theaters, gyms, and nail salons. These businesses were shut down since Saturday, not even the employee’s housemate.

When asked about the severity of the quarantine order, Brocia said, "I think they came down as hard as they deemed necessary. They’re taking everything case by case; we were just in a bigger environment than a typical restaurant. In order to comply with Covid-19 sanitizing regulations, the Eatery had an expanded staff with specialized roles for sanitization, take out, and dishwashing."

Brocia noted the two weekends that the restaurant will be closed for are the two of the largest weekends of the entire summer. "It’s just kind of the cost of being in business during Covid, it’s not something you can predict." Brocia stressed the fact that The Eatery has been consistently compliant with public health guidelines throughout the pandemic; as such, he had no reason to believe that there was any spread within between employees or guests. The real issue, he explained, is general community spread. "We can’t control what our teams do in their private time," he said. "We have landing zones on tables, everybody’s in masks, sanitization policies in place. All those measures are for naught when one person tests positive."

The county has opted to cancel its free testing clinics and divert personnel over to contact tracing. It begs the question: with testing not being as readily available, where is the EOC now directing its resources?

"Capacity is being added into the public health department to manage increasing calls on the 211 nurse hotline, the demand on the contact tracing team and into our Epi-team," said Brown.

The contact tracing team works backwards from a positive test result to ascertain where a COVID-positive person might have contracted the disease and where they might have spread it while also informing those who may have been exposed. The Epi-team handles the data and tries to understand how the disease is spreading and manifesting itself in our community.

Dining

Dining has become its own issue. 30% of restaurant employees were required to get a COVID test although it was suggested that all restaurant employees get tested. Brown told The Sheet that last week around 600 restaurant employees were tested.

“This is what the data tells us,” said Brown, “a data-driven approach allows us to be more surgical.”

Brown dismissed the possibility of shutting down all restaurants saying, “Would that have solved the problem? If we are seeing the cases come from restaurants we need to figure out why.”

Then employees began testing positive and restaurants started getting closure orders left and right. Even erroneous Facebook comments and a possible complaint to the County closed down Stellar Brew … which didn’t even have an employee test positive.

Some restaurants such as The Eatery at Mammoth Brewing Company were shut down whilst having a majority of their employees sent into quarantine.

“We’re closed for sure,” Eatery operator Brandon Brocia told The Sheet on Wednesday, explaining that the restaurant would be reopening on August 6.

“We didn’t get closed [by the county] but 90% of our staff got quarantined.” The quarantine order came on Saturday after a single employee tested positive; Brocia made the call to close down the same day. “The last thing we wanted to do was be open and pull people off the floor as the calls came in,” Brocia told The Sheet. He also reported that no one else at The Eatery has tested positive since Saturday, not even the employee’s housemate.

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“We didn’t get closed [by the county] but 90% of our staff got quarantined.” The quarantine order came on Saturday after a single employee tested positive; Brocia made the call to close down the same day. “The last thing we wanted to do was be open and pull people off the floor as the calls came in,” Brocia told The Sheet. He also reported that no one else at The Eatery has tested positive since Saturday, not even the employee’s housemate.

When asked about the severity of the quarantine order, Brocia said, “I think they came down as hard as they deemed necessary. They’re taking everything case by case; we were just in a bigger environment than a typical restaurant. In order to comply with Covid-19 sanitizing regulations, the Eatery had an expanded staff with specialized roles for sanitization, take out, and dishwashing."

Brocia noted the two weekends that the restaurant will be closed for are the two of the largest weekends of the entire summer. "It’s just kind of the cost of being in business during Covid, it’s not something you can predict.”

Brocia stressed the fact that The Eatery has been consistently compliant with public health guidelines throughout the pandemic; as such, he had no reason to believe that there was any spread within between employees or guests. The real issue, he explained, is general community spread. "We can’t control what our teams do in their private time," he said. "We have landing zones on tables, everybody’s in masks, sanitization policies in place. All those measures are for naught when one person tests positive.”
Fatal Collision at Benton Crossing

On July 25, 2020 at 8:55 pm, Mr. Josh Daugherty was driving a silver 2017 Toyota Tacoma crew cab, west on Benton Crossing Road at a stated speed of approximately 55-60 MPH just west of Pit Road. Mr. Daugherty made a series of turning movements that resulted in a loss of steering control which caused the Toyota to rotate in a counterclockwise direction across both lanes of Benton Crossing Road. Simultaneously, a white 2016 KIA Sorento Sport Utility Vehicle, driven by Mr. Richard Scott Holcomb, was traveling east in the same curved portion of Benton Crossing Road. The Toyota crossed into the eastbound lane, perpendicular to the roadway, and the front of the KIA impacted the passenger side of the Toyota. As a result of the collision the right rear passenger in the Toyota sustained fatal injuries.

*The cause of the collision is still under investigation.

**Toyota Tacoma:**
- Driver: Josh Daugherty of Mammoth Lakes CA, was not wearing a seatbelt and sustained major injuries. Transported to Northern Inyo Hospital.
- Right front passenger: Eduardo Navarro of Mammoth Lakes CA, was not wearing a seatbelt and sustained major injuries. Transported to Mammoth Hospital.
- Right rear passenger: Krystal Kazmark of Mammoth Lakes CA, was not wearing a seatbelt and sustained fatal injuries. KIA Sorento:
- Driver: Richard Holcomb of Hawthorne CA, was wearing a seatbelt and sustained major injuries. Transported by ambulance to Mammoth Hospital.
- Right front passenger: Lora Holcomb of Hawthorne CA, was wearing a seatbelt and sustained major injuries. Transported to Mammoth Hospital.
- Left rear passenger: "Minor", was wearing a seatbelt and sustained moderate injuries. Transported to Mammoth Hospital.

Seed-y mystery

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) has become aware of a number of reports regarding “mysterious and unsolicited seeds from China.” These seed packages are often labeled as jewelry, being shipped to homeowners throughout the US, including Inyo and Mono Counties. CDFA is communicating with the United States Department of Agriculture to determine any necessary actions for shipments received in California.

While awaiting further guidance from CDFA, the Inyo and Mono Counties Agriculture Department is instructing residents not to open, plant, or dispose of any unsolicited seed packets received, but to instead contact our office. There is concern that these seeds may be invasive species that could spread into our agriculture producing and wildland areas. According to Inyo and Mono Counties Agricultural Commissioner Nate Reade, “invasive plant species are a continual concern in our region because they threaten our local agriculture industry as well as our environment and native plant communities.” Invasive plant species, if allowed to proliferate, can also create significant costs associated with control and eradication.

If you have received packages from China that you have not ordered and that fit this description, the Inyo and Mono Counties Agriculture Department encourages you to contact them to arrange to have them picked up so that they can be safely transferred to the appropriate agency at a later date. If you have planted any of these seeds, please contact us so that we can discuss how best to isolate and remove the planting.

For more information contact the Inyo and Mono County Agricultural Commissioner’s Office at 760-673-7860 or inyomonag@gmail.com.
before arriving in Mammoth in 1964. 1964. Phil Kerridge was his first room-

mate. “Gary never tired of teaching people. He tried to teach me all the time. Pissed me off,” chuckled Kerridge.

Which was a theme with Gary Berger. There was his way of doing things ... and his way of doing things. “If I drove him somewhere,” said Sam Walker, a fellow Mammoth restaurateur, “he would always pick the route. And the route never changed. There were no alternatives. He never chose something different for a change of pace. What was right was what was right.”

“He was incredibly observant,” added Walker. “He saw nuance in everything.” This attention to detail manifested itself in everything Berger did, from teaching to business to even a choice of words.

Craig Albright, who now serves as Mammoth Mountain’s Vice-President of Skier Services, not only worked as a ski instructor under Berger, but also cooked for him at his restaurant.

“He would get ticked off at waitresses if they said we had run out of the spec-
cial. We never run out, he’d say. We sell out. There’s a big difference.”

As an instructor, former proteges Albright, Gary Posekian (four-year member of the PSIA - Professional Ski Instructors Assn. - Alpine Team), John Armstrong (former Race Dept. Director and Corporate Trainer) and Julie Brown (current Vice-President, June Mountain Operations) all touched upon similar themes when recalling “taskmaster” Gary Berger. An amalgam of their observations would read something like this:

“He had no patience for you if you weren’t striving to improve yourself. And he had a sixth sense for sniffing that out. His prickliness steered away the unworthy. But once you proved yourself to him, he was great.”

But even if he loved you, he was always sure to keep you humble.

Gary Posekian recalled a time he was ripping down Broadway and Gary had a group coming up the T-Bar with him. And as Posekian says, Broadway was showcase. You knew everyone on the T-Bar was watching you.

Berger literally flagged Posekian down and instructed his group to get off halfway. Posekian was swelling with pride. He thought Berger would hold him up as a paragon of skiing excel-
lence.

Berger, addressing Posekian: Gary, you stay here while we ski down a bit so we can observe you. I wanted to give my class an example of a truly dysfunc-
tional pole plant.

But don’t be fooled. Berger loved Posekian. As daughter Kinley said, “He could pick him out a half a mountain away just based on the turns.”

Armstrong: Gary had a fondness for saying any snow, any slope [That’s what a good instructor had to be able to do]. He would take us out in terrible condi-
tions, breakable crust in Gravy Chute. He’d flash that ironic, wry grin and off we’d go.

Brown: When I got here, I’d tell people I wanted to be the future director of ski school. My friends would laugh. Gary? He’d say okay, what’s the next task [to help make that happen].

And to echo what Armstrong said, “Gary would take you to terrain that would gut you. But it’s in that experi-
ence, in that situational learning, where you might fix a weakness.

Brown was also a fan of Berger’s “Mr. Miyagi” [Pat Morita’s character in the Karate Kid] teaching moments. As in, “teach this without speaking.” Wait, what? “It could be windy up there. They can’t hear you. Show them.”

Then, “Teach this as if they can’t see you ... it’s a whiteout. Poor visibility.” And sure enough, the next class, you’d have someone who might be vision impaired, and Gary had prepared you for it.

Berger was given an honorary life-
time membership in the PSIA (Profes-

sional Ski Instructors Assn.) last year.

The nomination, submitted by John Armstrong, Randy Short, Jack Copeland and Blaine Lomen, states:

He was directly involved in the preparation of 7 PSIA National Team Members. These individuals included: Gary Posekian, Dave Mannetter, Gordy see BERGER, page 9
BERGER
continued from page 8
Johnson, JP Chevalier, Tom Tuttle, Urmash Franosch and Carl Underkoffler

BERGERS AND BERGERS

But when you think about the accolades and the leadership skills Gary acquired in his ski career, it’s as if he were preparing himself for a deeper and more profound second act of life within his tight family circle.

The common thread between chapter one and chapter two: Bergers Restaurant, which Gary founded in 1971 and initially operated with former wife Sally (until she was bought out) and then ran with wife of 45 years (well, together 45 and married 38) Teri.

Imagine that start-up schedule while he worked at MMSA: Prep in the morning, work at the mountain and then back at the restaurant in the evening.

With Teri, she worked the front of the house while Gary took care of the kitchen. And not many couples could have pulled that off - working together that closely and raising a family together at the same time. But they did it.

Gary loved food. His wife and daughters said he would plan vacations around restaurants. In fact, laughs Teri, Gary spent countless hours at the restaurant while in high school and later.

One of the inside family jokes is about Gary’s driving. The girls say they would often wake up at 2 a.m. to see the speedometer needle from the passenger seat.

“Which suggests … it’s not just about the sport.”

But interestingly enough, he was less adept at driving backward versus forward. Teri lovingly pointed out several chinks in the garage door molding.

INSIGHT

Craig Albright recalls this pearl of wisdom from Gary on parenting: You’re not gonna win every battle. But you better win the first one. You don’t want a kid who’ll think they can go undefeated.

“Which is kind of funny coming from a guy whose daughters said he had a tough exterior and a marshmallow heart. One wonders how many battles he really won.”

Gary Posekian remembers Jack Cope- land asking Berger what motivated him/what did he admire?

Berger: Guys who went and figured it out by themselves.

Which suggests … it’s not just about taking classes or following instructions or doing what one is told. There has to be an innate curiosity and drive and passion for excellence.

And then there’s Jon Eisert’s story about a ski trip with Berger along with Tony Colasardo, Corty Lawrence and Craig Turner.

It was Berger’s first trip with this crew, so he got paired with Eisert as a roommate. Because the rest of them knew Eisert could snore like a freight train.

The first night, Eisert passes out and Gary wakes up at 2 a.m. to see the other bed in the room has been stripped. Gary’s not there. And on his terms - to the very end.

“Jon, it doesn’t matter whether you snore or not. I still won’t be able to sleep. It’ll keep me up all night just anticipating that you might snore.”

Lesson: Know thyself.

Berger took the bedding and slept in Corty and Tony’s room that night.

COURAGE

By his very nature, Gary didn’t complain and didn’t draw attention to his declining health.

If Tom Cage asked him how he was feeling, Gary would reply, “I feel shitty. Let’s talk about soccer.”

There was nearly a decade of dialysis three days a week. There was the bad news.

“Where were days he could barely walk,” said Teri, “but his balance was so much better with skis and boots on.”

So as much as possible, he tried to keep those skis and boots on.

In his final years, there was a return to teaching skiing after a long absence. He could only do a half day, generally on non-dialysis days, but he loved it. His specialty: Middle-aged women inter- mediate skiers. Albright said it was the last demographic he would’ve imagined for Gary, but Gary just had a knack for inspiring these women to push themselves.

He fought for every minute. He fought to see his granddaughter Mollie (named after Gary’s mother, and now three months old). He fought for the opportunity to die at home surrounded by family, versus at some Reno health center locked down with Covid.

The ride home with Teri, with his several broken ribs from a recent fall, was agony.

But Gary Berger damn well did things his way, and on his terms - to the very end.

Snowcreek Golf Course is Now Open
Season Passes are available at the Pro Shop

• Twilight Rates
• Youth and Senior Rates
• Cart and Club Rentals

Snowcreek Golf Course
760 934-6633
www.livesnowcreek.com

2 Fairway Drive, Mammoth Lakes, CA

Bergers pre-Mollie: From back row left: Kinley, John, Mathew and Jessica with Gary and Teri (seated).

“Ok no. You don’t need to do that,” says Eisert. “I just happened to fall asleep on my back last night. If I’m on my side, I don’t snore, and if I do snore, just throw something at me and I’ll stop.”

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BIKING AT GREAT HITES
By Hite

This week I had some friends in Town who took me to the Mammoth Mountain Bike Park. It was my first time Mountain Biking and my first time paying to do something in the post-quarantine world.

As far as COVID-specific regulations, Mammoth Mountain did everything it possibly could. Masks were enforced by employees standing outside of every indoor facility, by bus drivers shuttling people from the Village and even by the employees running the Gondola.

When we signed the waiver to get our rental bikes, the Mammoth Mountain employee sprayed the pens before we used them. There were sanitation supplies everywhere you looked.

When we got our helmets and our bike, I had no doubt that they were safe to use. But there are things that are not possible to control.

For example, at the bottom of the hill, patrons are essentially corralled through gated lines to get to the actual gondola. There were signs asking people to respect the six feet social distancing guidelines. But everyone in line likely spent the last sixty minutes biking down the mountain not wearing a mask. When you get down and put on the mask, you are not thinking about COVID; you are thinking of getting back on the Mountain. And all of a sudden there are people nearly on top of each other waiting to get on the gondola.

It was clear that COVID was changing the operations of the Mountain. But when you are on the Mountain, COVID is the last thing on your mind. Groups are talking to each other, discussing the intricacies of the runs while concurrently asking advice on the best way down. No masks during these conversations as most people would have had to get them out of their bag. But, again, that is the last thing on your mind.

Trust me.

On the first run I hit the rear brake on a sharp turn, lost control, and RKO’d myself onto some rocks. I had cuts all over the right side of my body. A ten-year-old kid in front of me (remember I am not good) told me, “You should go to the ski patrol because they can help you. That is what they do. It is their job.”

I responded, “Yeah I will do that,” while I dusted off my embarrassing scrapes and moved on.

Later in the day I lost my right foot grip and my shin hit my pedal. About an hour after that I did the exact same thing on the same shin and in the same place. My friend said it looked like I had a dent in my leg.

Then on one of my last runs I went face-first over my handlebars because I decided to test out the front brakes. It didn’t work.

The point is, I was not thinking about the dangers of the Coronavirus. I was simply in pain. And I was focusing on not being in more pain. I imagine this is what every biker was doing as it seemed like no one else was falling ... so they must have been concentrating on the biking aspect.

The Biking

The actual mountain biking was really interesting. The bikes they make are technological wonders. You can ride over 1-2 foot rocks and the suspension eats the impact so long as you are prepared for it. But this also means that if there is a rock that leads to a drop off right after, you have to commit, otherwise you will crash. Trust me on this one.

It is a senders sport and you get punished for not doing so. Which brings me to my final point ... Mountain Biking is insane. At the end of the day the only thing I told my friends was, “I have taken thousands of falls while skiing. Even 10-foot falls off of a cliff, and I have never been in as much pain as I am now.”

Overall, the views are pristine (they are the same as skiing, but still gorgeous), the Mountain is a fascinating place to be in the summer, and there are world class trails within a gondola ride of everyone in the Town of Mammoth Lakes. It is something I am proud to have done but ... I may need a lesson before round two.

The gang showed up to mountain bike down Mammoth Mountain’s Bike Park. Pictured (L-R): Dylan Hite, Hunter Biskup, Brett Cahn, Cole Wolff

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THROWING HEAT
Pro lumberjack Nate Hodges brings axe-throwing to Mammoth
By Page

The sign over the entrance reads: “Yosemite Axe Throwing, Coming Soon”; inside, two men measure and saw down a plank, the thick scent of pine and cedar mingling in the afternoon.

Everything about the scene is consistent with the words “axe” and “throwing”; evoking a classical sense of the woods and the occupation of lumberjack.

Which makes sense, since the owner, Nate Hodges, has been a competitive lumberjack for over twenty years. Hodges is bringing the Yosemite Axe Throwing concept to Mammoth from Oakhurst, on the other side of the Sierra, where he’s been letting customers try their hand at their sport since the end of 2019. While on the west side of the Sierra, there’s no competition from another axe throwing business in Fresno, Hodges will own the lone axe-throwing business in the Eastern Sierra.

“I think it’s awesome here,” Hodges told The Sheet on Monday, noting the outdoor lifestyle of the Eastern Sierra and adding, “that’s what axe throwing is all about.”

The axe throwing trend has been rapidly growing since the mid-to-late 2000’s, with clubs popping up in cities across the country and even the world. The sport has even found its way onto some major television networks. Celebrities and professional athletes have posted videos of themselves trying out the sport with varying results.

Hodges was born in North Fork, Calif., a small logging town on the west side of the Sierra; the town plays host to the Loggers Jamboree, a lumberjack competition running well into its fifth decade. When he was about 18, Hodges decided to train to compete in the Jamboree, taking 3 months to hone his skills. He won it on his first try, beginning a two decade career as a professional lumberjack that led to placing second overall in the U.S. Sthi Timbersports Championship in 2019, winning the Loggers Jamboree numerous times along the way.

The business in Mammoth, once complete, will have seven 12-foot throwing lanes, one of which will have two targets for those who wish to throw head-to-head, for a total of eight people throwing at one time. Hodges told The Sheet that each of the lanes will be named after local outdoor spots like Twin Lakes and Mammoth Mountain, with an accompanying information plaque with information about the spots.

Hodges demonstrated the axe-throwing motion, standing at the end of the lane and lining up the target with his throwing hand in a stance similar to that of throwing a football with his chest towards the target. After a few steadying 10-2 motions with the hand holding the 2.5 lb axe, he brought his hand forward, releasing the axe when his elbow reached 45 degree angle. It flipped end-over-end twice and struck the target at the 3-inch bullseye in the center, sinking into the wood with a muffled thud.

“I could do this all day,” Hodges said with a laugh.

The targets, large Ponderosa Pine cross sections weighing between 200-300 lbs, are unique among axe-throwing businesses, Hodges explained. The vast majority of targets used by other ranges are cut wooden planks, which need to be replaced often and produce a loud noise when hit by an axe.

By contrast, the cross-section targets Hodges uses, harvested locally from dead trees, require a little bit of water to smooth the surface and can be repeatedly sanded down for resurfacing.

“The goal, Hodges explained, is to give people a true outdoor environment for axe throwing” at a place that’s “as woodsy as you can get indoors.”

The Mammoth location has been in the works for over a year, Hodges told The Sheet, with an initial opening date in March of this year. The Covid-19 pandemic forced Hodges to nix those plans and he still has no concrete opening date for the business. Hodges is putting the interior together and getting the range, which sits in the storefront formerly occupied by Bongo Froyo in the Mammoth Mall on Old Mammoth Road next to Good Life Cafe, ready for customers. Unlike other axe-throwing ranges that serve alcohol and food, Yosemite Axe Throwing is all about the axes and nothing else.

“It’s more or less my passion,” Hodges said, “Other people will enjoy this.” Gesturing to all the raw lumber decorating the interior, he added, “It’s the mountain vibe.”
Help Wanted

Sierra Employment Services, Inc. is hiring for the following positions:
- Bilingual Recruiter ML/B - SDOE Payroll Clerk B = $29.06
- $18 to 25
- Auto Mechanic B - $24
- Bilingual Clothing Sales B - $34
- FC Bookkeeper ML = $20-$25
- Cashier ML = $15-$20
- Staff Accountant B = $29.06
- General Laborers ML & B = $15-$20
- Tow Truck Driver ML & B

Call Us Today
760-924-0523 or 760-873-8599

www.SierraEmployment.com

Mammoth Spa Creations is looking for an additional member for its team. We currently have an opening for a Spa Maintenance Technician position, we are also looking for an Office Manager and Full-Time Positions (Monday through Friday).

These positions offer vacation accrual, beam-meetings, and paid holidays. Experience is preferred, but not required. Heavy lifting is required. Applicants must be available to work weekends and holidays. Housing available for the right individual. Please apply in person at 6800 Minaret Rd, Mammoth.

Convict Lake Resort has immediate job openings for maintenance personnel, groundskeeping crew, and store employees. Please email resumes to lcornwell@convictlakeresort.com or stop by for an application.

Snow Creek Athletic Club is hiring for a front desk manager. Previous experience, training available. Stop by or contact jgonzamart@gmail.com

Lundy Lake is seeking a full-time Junior for facilities cleaning and maintenance. $11/hour with some overtime. Benefits available. Please call 760-934-3800 ext 32 or email to lcornwell@convictlake.com

Motel 6 is seeking a full-time Campground Attendant. Everyone who works here is required to work weekends and holidays. No experience required. Stop by or contact jgonzamart@gmail.com

Laundry Attendants are needed at High Mountain Residences located in Mammoth Lakes, is seeking Full-Time laundry attendants. We offer flexible work hours, and will train the right candidate. Must be able to lift up to 50 lbs, maintain a fast pace while multi-tasking, follow instructions, be safety conscious, trustworthy, and work well in a team environment. You will be required to wear a face mask. Please reach out and send your resume. Job log email: mammothlares@gmail.com or contact (760) 790-8372 for an application.

Help wanted! Mammoth’s high volume fishing store is seeking full-time / part-time Retail Sales Consultant starting immediately. Candidates must possess strong customer service skills. If you have a passion for fishing, we would love to join our team. We are an equal opportunity employer, so we train the right personality please contact (760) 914-1476.

Mammoth Community Water District’s Maintenance Department is currently recruiting for one permanent Plant Maintenance Mechanical Technician position in the Plant Mechanical Maintenance Division. For Application Information/To Apply: Please visit the District website https://mcwd.dst.ca.us/employment/. Full-Time Maintenance Personnel Needed - Available for busy rental management company. Previous experience preferred, trained to work. Looking for reliable, responsible, hard working candidates with positive work ethic. Competitive pay. Email resume to sarah@mammothsierracomline.com, call 760-934-8372 or stop by 1914 Meridian Rd.

Obsidian Private Residence is seeking a responsible, outgoing Reservation & office administration employee!

Work independently to manage the front desk responsibilities. • Demonstrate excellent written and oral communication skills • Possess extremely strong organizational skills with the ability to focus • Previous reservation experience preferred

Contact: 760-934-8372 or email: yraps@obsidianrec.com

The Hilton Creek Community Services District is requesting proposals for snow removal services for the 2020/21 winter season in the Crowley Lake area.

Please contact the General Manager at (760) 935-4000 or districtmanager@hiltoncreekd.com for information on areas to be plowed, dates of service and specific services to be provided.

Proposal deadline: September 4, 2020

CPT UPDATE
By Jasper Page

The Mono County Collaborative Planning Team held its quarterly meeting on the morning of July 30. The Collaborative Planning Team is comprised of representatives from federal, state, local, and tribal authorities who meet to discuss current matters of regional interest. Frequent topics of discussion at the July 30 meeting were smaller scale sizes, tourism, and Covid-19 Response.

Patricia Robertson, executive director of Mammoth Lakes Housing, announced that MLH is operating an emergency rent relief program. The program is being funded by the town of Mammoth Lakes, Mono County, the California Coalition for Rural Housing, and the United States Department of Agriculture.

“People can pay up to $500 per household to help them alleviate some of their financial burden,” said Robertson.

Jeff Fitzsimmons and Ed Hancock from Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board said they are continuing to operate but are lightly staffed. “We’re doing our best to maintain the water in the environment,” said Fitzsimmons.

David Riley from the Humboldt-Toiyabe branch of the forest service reported that “Recreation has been super busy, much busier than a normal year.” Riley stated that The Humboldt-Toiyabe Fires is currently facing a number of issues, including fires to the south, full campgrounds, illegal campfires, trash, and fights.

Dennene Alcala from Caltrans District 9 noted that permit work on Highway 395 might mean 20-minute delays in certain sections of the highway. Alcala also explained that traffic numbers are “ceebbing back” to pre-Covid numbers.

Gordon Martin, Mammoth District Ranger, said visitation is “beyond anything anyone has seen before.” He reported that group campgrounds remain closed and staff is limiting visitors in Red’s Meadow. Martin noted that the recently passed Great American Outdoor Act will grant the forest service more money overall. Inyo National Forest will grab a portion of that.

Heidi Calvert from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife reminded the team that hatcheries are infected with a bacterial disease. “We can pay up to $500 per household to help them alleviate some of their financial burden,” said Robertson.

Sandra Moberly Community and Economic Development Director for the Town of Mammoth Lakes said, “It’s been interesting getting business owners to comply with [Covid regulations]!”

She also announced that Mammoth Mountain is moving forward with its Main Lodge project and hopes to start construction next year.

Bureau of Land Management’s Steve Nelson informed the team that the most planning is going into the Alabama Hills. But it also has a Wild Willy access project going with Mono County. The BLM is also looking into a staggered schedule for employees to get more people “off the computers and into the field.”

Last but not least, Sgt. Major Douglas Power, representing the Mountain Warfare Training Center in Bridgeport, assured the Planning Team that 100% of employees are wearing masks. In addition, Colonel Daniel Wittnam assumed the role of base commander from Colonel Kevin Hutchison two weeks prior. “As for the base itself,” said Power, “there’s not much that’s new.”

PERSONALS

I see...that August is National Breastfeeding Awareness Month. I was not breastfed as a child and have been trying to make up for it ever since.

I hope to see you...at the Tri-County Fairgrounds on Saturday for a drive-in show of Urban Cowboy. Maybe afterwards we can go back to my place for a bareback session on my mechanical bull.

I saw you...had a bear break into your car. It’s almost like they know there’s no one inside them.

I saw you...were interested in axe-throwing. Come over some time and I’ll show you how to properly grip a shaft.

I hope to see you...at the Tri-County Fairgrounds on Saturday for a drive-in show of Urban Cowboy. And I was hoping for a chance to meet Bucky. I see you...that August is National Breastfeeding Awareness Month. I was not breastfed as a child and have been trying to make up for it ever since.

I hope to see you...at the Tri-County Fairgrounds on Saturday for a drive-in show of Urban Cowboy. And I was hoping for a chance to meet Bucky. I see you...that August is National Breastfeeding Awareness Month. I was not breastfed as a child and have been trying to make up for it ever since.

I hope to see you...at the Tri-County Fairground...
**TOWN STUFF**

Friday, July 31/ Main Street Market @ Eastside Guesthouse and Bivy in Bishop (777 N Main). Bring a mask and come support local businesses. 5-8 p.m.

Saturday, August 1/ Reka Outdoors-sponsored Clean Up Day in the Lakes Basin. 3-6 p.m. Snacks, drinks, supplies provided. "Urban Cowboy" Drive-in Movie @ Tri-County Fairgrounds in Bishop. Gates open at 7 p.m. for food trucks, the movie begins at 9 p.m. Tickets are $20/car and can be purchased at www.TriCountyFair.com

Inyo County Health Parade to celebrate Breastfeeding Awareness Month with a driveby parade at Bishop WIC and Lone Pine Health and Human Services. Time: 10 a.m.-noon.

Sunday, August 2/ Bill Shuck Quartet plays the First United Methodist Church in Bishop, hosted by the Eastern Sierra Land Trust. Time: 2-5:30 p.m. Note: due to Covid-19, performance schedule is subject to change.

Monday, August 3/ Mammoth Lakes Housing Board meets by Zoom. Public viewing available through Granicus. Time: 6 p.m.

Tuesday, August 4/ Inyo County Board of Supervisors meets via Zoom. Public session starts 8:30 a.m. https://zoom.us/j/6862547871. Mono County Board of Supervisors meets via Zoom. Public session at 9 a.m. https://monocounty.zoom.us/j/99209619057

PPE Business Distribution @ the Welcome Center in Mammoth Lakes. 10 a.m. - noon. Get supplies to keep workers safe, with face shields and N-95’s available for restaurants and cleaning crews.

Mammoth Lakes Recreation Commission meets via Zoom. Public viewing available through Granicus. Time: 1:30 p.m.

Wednesday, August 5/ The New Normal: Coping With A Covid World. Seminar conducted by Mono County Behavioral Health. 5-6:30 p.m. Visit https://mammothlakes.com

Mammoth Lakes Tourism Board meets via Zoom. Public viewing available through Granicus. Time: 1 p.m.

Mammoth Lakes Town Council meets via Zoom. Public viewing available through Granicus. Time: 4 p.m.

Thursday, August 6/ Mono County Board of Supervisors Special Meeting via Zoom @ 10 a.m. https://monocounty.zoom.us/j/92884120013

Covid-19 Community Conversation hosted by County and Town officials. English: 5:30 p.m., Spanish: 6:30 p.m. Visit https://coronavirus.monocounty.ca.gov for the Zoom link.

Friday, August 7/ Final day to submit papers to run for Mammoth Lakes Town Council.

August 7/ 33rd Annual Friends of Bodie Day hosted by the Bodie Foundation. Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, this year’s festivities will be held online. Visit www.bodiefoundation.org for more information and the link to the celebration.

August 7/ YogaLab Mammoth’s SUP Yoga Weekend. Join Yoga Lab Mammoth and guest instructor Erin O’Malley for a weekend of yoga on the lakes. Limited space available so register in advance. Schedule and tickets: https://www.yogalabmammoth.com

Ongoing:

The Cast Off is open on Tuesday and Saturdays only due to Covid-19 restrictions. No book drop offs when closed.

Vons offers two hours of shopping Monday-Friday from 7-9 a.m. for those shoppers who may be virus-vulnerable.

Mono County Library locations will offer pre-arranged pick-ups for library materials. www.monocolibraries.org

Devil’s Creek Distillery in Mammoth Lakes is offering tastings by appointment only. Call 760-279-3670 to schedule your tasting.

CS Studios in Bishop is open. New hours are: Wednesday - Friday from 3-6 p.m. Saturday from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. www.CSstudios.org.

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Wells Fargo Advisors Financial Network, LLC. Member SIPC
Notice of Vacancies

MAMMOTH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Notice is hereby given that the Mammoth Unified School District currently has three Board of Education vacancies. Candidates must be a registered voter in the school district. Criteria for candidacy forms are available at the Mammoth Unified School District office at 461 Sierra Park Road, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546 or on County Electronics at 208-924-4114. The deadline for submittal shall be October 13, 2020. The filing period is July 13, 2020 through August 7, 2020.

Notice of Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given that on the 13th day of September, 2020, at 4:00 p.m. and continuing until 5:00 p.m., the Mammoth Lakes Town Council will hold a public hearing at Town Hall located at 500 Minaret, Mammoth Lakes, California to consider the following:

The Town of Mammoth Lakes will hold a public hearing to consider the final report of the Water and Resource Management Advisory Committee. The public will be notified via the Town’s website mammothlakes.ca.gov.

Notice of Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 07-16-20-08
A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MILAN VILLAGE SHOPPING CENTER SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE REPORT OF DELINQUENT WATER AND SEWER CHARGES

AS OF JULY 30, 2020

WHEREAS, staff of the Mammoth Water District (“District”) has prepared the Report on Delinquent Water and Sewer Charges for the Milan Village Shopping Center, containing a description of each parcel of real property to which the report pertains, and data indicating the amount of delinquent charges, along with the amount of such delinquent charges, together with interest and penalties thereon; and,

WHEREAS, the Report on Delinquent Water and Sewer Charges for the Milan Village Shopping Center was mailed to the property owners on July 15, 2020, at 5:30 p.m. Depending on the status of the COVID-19 emergency, there will be a public hearing on this matter either in person or virtually at the District office located at 1353 Mono Boulevard, Mammoth Lakes, California. At the public hearing, the Board of Directors will hear the public objections and present to said written report. If the Board of Directors adopts said report, or re-enters, changes, reduces, or modifies any charges thereon, the delinquent charges, together with penalties and interest, shall be submitted to the Mono County Tax Collector for payment and assessment as delinquent water and sewer charges according to law. Staff recommends that the public be given an opportunity to file written comments with the District prior to the hearing and that the District provide a public hearing on the Milan Village Shopping Center Report. Staff recommends that the Board of Directors adopt the Resolution.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Mammoth Community Water District at its regular meeting held on July 20, 2020.

AYES: Doris Reaves, Cabrera, Damaschi, Smith, Thompson

ABSENT: None

ABSENT: None

MAMMOTH COMMUNITY WATER DISTRICT

Dr. Ed Martin, Board of Directors

MAMMOTH COMMUNITY WATER DISTRICT

DEBENTURE AND SEWER ACCOUNTS RESOLUTION

ASSESSMENT NUMBER

DEBENTURE AMOUNT

Hanson Trust

Real No. 147-010-002-000

$438,785.77

$438,785.77

031-146-042-000 M & L Educational Trust

$411.44

031-146-042-000 M & L Educational Trust

$411.44

031-150-031-000 C. Samuels

$255.81

031-150-031-000 C. Samuels

$255.81

040-013-525-000 C. Robinson

$528.90

The above resolution is a true copy of the resolution passed by the Board of Directors of the Mammoth Community Water District night of the 20th day of July, 2020.

MAMMOTH COMMUNITY WATER DISTRICT

P.O. BOX 520

Mammoth Lakes, California

Phone: 760-924-1555

MILAN VILLAGE SHOPPING CENTER

Plumbing Maintenance

500 Minaret, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

Phone: 760-924-1555

Notice of Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given that on the 23rd day of September, 2020, at 4:00 p.m. and continuing until 5:00 p.m., the Mammoth Lakes Town Council will meet at Town Hall located at 500 Minaret, Mammoth Lakes, California to consider the following:

The Town of Mammoth Lakes will hold a public hearing to consider the final report of the Water and Resource Management Advisory Committee. The public will be notified via the Town’s website mammothlakes.ca.gov.

Notice of Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 07-16-20-08
A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MILAN VILLAGE SHOPPING CENTER SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE REPORT OF DELINQUENT WATER AND SEWER CHARGES

AS OF JULY 30, 2020

WHEREAS, staff of the Mammoth Water District (“District”) has prepared the Report on Delinquent Water and Sewer Charges for the Milan Village Shopping Center, containing a description of each parcel of real property to which the report pertains, and data indicating the amount of delinquent charges, along with the amount of such delinquent charges, together with interest and penalties thereon; and,

WHEREAS, the Report on Delinquent Water and Sewer Charges for the Milan Village Shopping Center was mailed to the property owners on July 15, 2020, at 5:30 p.m. Depending on the status of the COVID-19 emergency, there will be a public hearing on this matter either in person or virtually at the District office located at 1353 Mono Boulevard, Mammoth Lakes, California. At the public hearing, the Board of Directors will hear the public objections and present to said written report. If the Board of Directors adopts said report, or re-enters, changes, reduces, or modifies any charges thereon, the delinquent charges, together with penalties and interest, shall be submitted to the Mono County Tax Collector for payment and assessment as delinquent water and sewer charges according to law. Staff recommends that the public be given an opportunity to file written comments with the District prior to the hearing and that the District provide a public hearing on the Milan Village Shopping Center Report. Staff recommends that the Board of Directors adopt the Resolution.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Mammoth Community Water District at its regular meeting held on July 20, 2020.

AYES: Doris Reaves, Cabrera, Damaschi, Smith, Thompson

ABSENT: None

ABSENT: None

MAMMOTH COMMUNITY WATER DISTRICT

Dr. Ed Martin, Board of Directors

MAMMOTH COMMUNITY WATER DISTRICT

DEBENTURE AND SEWER ACCOUNTS RESOLUTION

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$255.81

040-013-525-000 C. Robinson

$528.90

The above resolution is a true copy of the resolution passed by the Board of Directors of the Mammoth Community Water District night of the 20th day of July, 2020.

MAMMOTH COMMUNITY WATER DISTRICT

P.O. BOX 520

Mammoth Lakes, California

Phone: 760-924-1555

Statement of Abandonment

Of Use of Fictitious Business Name

Mammoth Lakes Film Festival

The following persons have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name.

Mammoth Lakes Foundation

100 College Parkway, P.O. Box 1815
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

This business is conducted by a Corporation.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on June 29, 2020.

File No.: 2020-0111

Address sealed quotations to: Great Basin Unified Air Control District, 157 Short Street, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546.

Please see the District's website for the complete Request for Quotations.

Subcontracted: Quotations are due to the District Offices no later than 10:00 AM, August 17, 2020. Sealed bids are due, with their requisite submittal forms, to the District Offices or sent by U.S.P.S. Postmarks are not acceptable. All bids will be publicly opened at the District Offices at 1:00 PM on August 17, 2020. The selected Contractor shall enter into a contract within 30 days of the date bid is accepted. The District Offices in order to achieve comfortable operating temperatures in each of the building’s sixteen (16) office spaces.

Address sealed quotations to: Great Basin Unified Air Control District, 157 Short Street, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546.
Notice of General Election

NOTICE BY MONO COUNTY REGISTRAR OF VOTERS
OFFICES FOR WHICH CANDIDATES ARE TO BE ELECTED AT THE GENERAL ELECTION NOVEMBER 3, 2020
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that offices for which candidates are to be elected at the Presidential General Election to be held on the 3rd day of November, 2020 are as follows: MONO COUNTY SUPERVISOR, DISTRICT 2 (RUN-OFF)
Candidates:
Rhonda Dagian
Joshua Rhodes
TOWN OF MAMMOTH LAKES
Council Members - 2 Seats (4-year term)

SCHOOL DISTRICTS
Qualification: Must be a registered voter residing in the district or trustee area as applicable.

BISHOP UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
2 Seats (4-year term)

EASTERN SIERRA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
1 Seat - Trustee Area #1 Bridgeport (4-year term)
1 Seat - Trustee Area #3 Lee Vining (4-year term)

KEARN COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
1 Seat - Trustee Area #2 (4-year term)

MAMMOTH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
3 Seats (4-year term)

MONO COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION BOARD
1 Seat - Trustee Area #1 Bridgeport/Walker/Coleville (4-year term)
1 Seat - Trustee Area #3 Long Valley/Mammoth Lakes (4-year term)

ROUND VALLEY JOINT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT
1 Seat (4-year term)

HOSPITAL DISTRICT
Qualification: Must be a registered voter residing in the district.

SOUTHERN MONO HEALTHCARE DISTRICT
3 Seats (4-year term)

SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Qualification: Resident landowner of the district, or a designated agent of a landowner who resides within the district.
INYO-MONO RESOURCE CONSERVATION BOARD
2 Seats (4-year term)

MONO COUNTY SPECIAL DISTRICTS
Qualification: Must be a registered voter residing in the district. The available seats listed below are based on information received from the Special Districts:

Anselmo Valley Fire Protection District
3 Seats

Antelope Valley Water District
2 Seats

Birchim Community Services District
3 Seats

Bridgeport Fire Protection District
2 Seats

Bridgeport Public Utility District
1 Seat

Challant Valley Fire Protection District/CSD
3 Seats

Hilton Creek Community Services District
2 Seats

June Lake Fire Protection District
3 Seats

June Lake Public Utility District
3 Seats

Lee Vining Fire Protection District
1 Seat

Lee Vining Public Utility District
3 Seats

Long Valley Fire Protection District
3 Seats

Mammoth Community Water District
3 Seats

Mammoth Lakes Community Services District
3 Seats

Mammoth Lakes Fire Protection District
3 Seats

Mono City Fire Protection District
3 Seats

Paradise Fire Protection District
2 Seats

Tri-Valley Groundwater Management District
4 Seats

Wheeler Crest Fire Protection District
3 Seats

Wheeler Crest Community Services District
3 Seats

White Mountain Fire Protection District
2 Seats

Candidate forms will be available from July 13, 2020, to August 7, 2020, and may be obtained from the Mono County Clerk’s Office at 74 N. School Street in Bridgeport or at the Special/School District Offices.
If an incumbent has not filed by August 7, 2020, any qualified person, other than the incumbent, may file by no later than 5:00 p.m. on August 12, 2020.
If by 5:00 p.m. on August 12, 2020, an insufficient number of persons have filed for the Hospital District, Special Districts or Soil Conservation District office, and a petition for an election has not been filed, appointment to each elective office will be made as prescribed by Education Code §5326, §5328, §5328.5.

Dated: July 27, 2020
SHANNON KENDALL
MONO COUNTY CLERK/REGISTER OF VOTERS
TS #2020-0127

Notice of Proposed Resolution

PROPOSED RESOLUTION 2020-07-HILTON CREEK COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT
NOTICE, a Public Hearing was held on Tuesday, August 11, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. at the Crowley Lake Community Center, located at 12127 Crowley Lake Drive, California 91344, by telephone pursuant to COVID-19 pandemic, on a proposed resolution

June Lake Fire Protection District
- Economic Development
- Capital Improvement
- Reimbursement

BE IT RESOLVED, that said Public Hearing, the Board of Directors board all objections and protests to said written report. The Board of Directors reviewed said report, and the delinquent charges, together with penalties and interest thereon, as stated in the attached adopted report, shall constitute a lien against the respective parcels of real property described in the adopted report, and shall be included by the County Tax Collector for taxes levied against the respective parcels of real property and be collected in the same manner, at the same time, and by the same persons as taxes for the Hilton Creek Community Services District.

The Secretary of the Board of Directors is directed to convey this Resolution and the attached report to the County Tax Collector

Adopted this 11th day of August, 2020

HILTON CREEK COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT
By:
Steven Shapley, President of the Board

HILTON CREEK COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT
By:

TS #2020-0126

Notice of Public Hearing

RECESSION OF GREAT BASIN UNIFIED AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT RULE 1102 (GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERSHIP, FUNDING AND VOTING PROCEDURES)
The Governing Board of the Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District will consider rescission of Rule 1102 at a public hearing which will be held on September 3, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.
There is no physical location of the meeting open to the public, due to COVID-19 considerations. The meeting is accessible to the public via telephone, tablet or computer at https://us02web.zoom.us/j/98652852922. You can also dial in using your phone at (702) 643-2855 and enter ID 986 5285 2922. Rule 1102 is known as the “Governing Board Membership, Funding and Voting Procedures” Rule. The District proposes to rescind Rule 1102.1, the District has prepared an alternative writing, an analysis of the proposal, and a copy of the proposed rule amendments as authorized by California Health and Safety Code Section 42772.7.
Copies of the proposed rule revisions and of the alternate written analysis of the proposed rule revisions proposed pursuant to California Health and Safety Code Section 42772.7 are available for public review by appointment at the Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District office at 157 Short Street, Bishop, California and copies may be requested by contacting Susan Cash, Administrative Projects Manager, at (760) 972-8211.
Written comments on this rule revision should be sent to Phillip L. Kilday, Air Pollution Control Officer, Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District, 157 Short Street, Bishop Ca 93514.
Commentary may also be submitted by email to pkilday@gbuapcd.org. Written comments received by 5:00 pm on Monday, August 24, 2020 will be included in the staff report sent to the Governing Board Members. Written or verbal comments may also be submitted at the public hearing.
TS #2020-0133
A NEW HOME FOR FAMILY FUN

CALL TO SCHEDULE A PRIVATE TOUR.

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HIGHLY ANTICIPATED NEW FLOORPLANS & ARCHITECTURAL STYLES NOW AVAILABLE!
Luxury Mountain Retreats With Miles of Trails, Open Space & Room To Breathe Near Mammoth Mountain.

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