TALL IN THE SADDLE
Roxanne Tallman, 1946-2020
By Lunch

Horseman, philanthropist and steadfast friend Roxanne Tallman died September 25 after a long bough with cancer. She was 73.

Tallman was the owner of Hidden Creeks Ranch in Bishop, the boarding home for scores of area horses. Her eldest daughter Amanda will inherit the operation.

Tallman is also the namesake for the Tallman Pavillion at the Tri-County Fairgrounds.

Roxanne was adopted at birth by Martha and Jack Rosenberg of Beverly Hills. She was raised as an only child. Her father, a professional investor, had two children from a previous marriage. But Beverly Hills was not what shaped young Roxanne. Rather, she was shaped by Arcadia, where her family owned property, near Santa Anita racetrack. Her father owned racehorses.

As Roxanne explained in an interview conducted last June at her Bishop residence, “It was a different era. Kids had a lot of freedom and did a lot of growing up on their own.”

There were no such things as helicopter parents. Mom and Dad traveled and socialized frequently, so Roxanne spent a

see ROXANNE, page 11

CLEAR SKIES AHEAD?
Favorable wind patterns reduce smoke, danger from Creek Fire
By Page

While the Creek Fire continues to burn in the wilderness to the southeast of Mammoth Lakes, mitigation efforts and seasonal changes are turning the tide against it.

Conditions related to the Creek fire continued to improve throughout the week and Mono County has experienced an abundance of blue skies and sunshine for the first time since August.

Although smoke remains in the area and air quality still hasn’t fully returned to pre-fire levels, the clear skies were a welcome reprieve after nearly a month of being inundated by smoke and ash.

The National Weather Service in Reno reported last weekend that Mammoth Lakes had experienced the worst smoke conditions in the region for the majority of September.

As of Thursday, October 1, the fire was at 44% containment and had burned close to 310,000 acres of land. It remains the largest single wildfire in California history.

Although the fire has yet to burn into Mono or Inyo counties, it has progressed towards the northwest and further into the wilderness on the western side of the Sierra Nevada.

As some fires come under near-total containment, dangerous new fires ignited over the weekend as well.

The Zogg Fire in Shasta County, which began on September 27, has already burned 55,000 acres and caused four fatalities. In addition, the Glass Fire in Sonoma and Napa counties began the same day; it has burned 56,000 acres so far.

Smoke from both of those fires is expected to blanket much of Northern California and it’s likely that at least some of that will blow over the crest to the Eastside.

The third and final Mono County/Mammoth Lakes community briefing on the Creek Fire took place on the evening of Tuesday, September 29, this time with some new faces.

Great Basin Team 1 Deputy Commander Evans Kuo, who led the two prior community briefings, was cycled out after the last meeting on September 22. His replacements at the meeting were Incident Commander Rick see FIRES, page 13
THOUGHTS ON TUEZZDAY

I figure I’ve written too much of the paper already, so I asked reporters Hite and Page to give their takes on the first Presidential debate between Messrs. Trump and Biden held on Tuesday. What follows is their Gen Z angle.

From Hite: As CNN’s Chief Washington Correspondent Jake Tapper said, “That was a hot mess inside a dumpster fire inside a train wreck.”

Tapper said this immediately after the debate and this was certainly the nationwide sentiment among any of the poor souls who watched.

But does it matter at all?

I could undoubtedly say something that enrages the left, or even both. Cross a politically incorrect boundary or even question the Black Lives Matter movement and the left is out with pitchforks.

And the right is possibly worse. Somehow this orange-faced man is above any possible criticism. Hates veterans? Who cares. Doesn’t pay taxes? His team says he did. Ignored Covid? Oh, he shut down travel from China which saved the country.

Point is, everyone has already picked their side. If you think that you are one of the righteous few who claims to see both sides and is properly evaluating the pros and cons; shut the hell up. You’ve already picked your team - you know it - and will consistently refuse to listen to any of the rationale from the other side.

Both Trumpers and Liberals steadfastly believe this.

Trump has shown who he is and how he feels about who he is for not just four years, but more than 40 years. If you disagree, read my review of “The Art of the Deal” titled “A Wing and a Prayer” in the June 6, 2020 issue of The Sheet.

“The book was written in 1987.

None of this is new. No one needed more information than they already had.

How do I know? Because I scoured the gambling markets looking at props for the debate. There was an over-under on when Trump would mention Hunter Biden. An over-under.

Not a “Will Trump mention Hunter Biden?” but a “When will Trump mention Hunter Biden.”

An over-under on interruptions, on how many times Trump would say “Law and Order” mail-in ballots, corruption, China virus, Fake News - literally every single catch-phrase you can think of.

Trump was culpable for the absolute breakdown of rational discourse - no debating that. If you watched the debate and felt like “Sleepy Joe” was the one that broke down the debate into a rock fight then I can honestly say I do not know what you were watching.

Trump steered the debate towards emotional issues that polarize both sides.

For this reason, Trump likely won on Tuesday night. Because for some reason the left has time and again followed Trump into this ‘slander the other side’ that Trump dominates. He gets them to play his game.

And this is my final point. Maybe if we could a political incorrect boundary or even question the Black Lives Matter movement and the left is out with pitchforks. Cross a politically incorrect boundary or even question the Black Lives Matter movement and the left is out with pitchforks.

I didn’t even want to watch the debate. My mind already made up, I didn’t see the point. And I can’t stand listening to Trump. But I sat down on the couch after a good deal of mental steeling and let it rip.

To call it a debate is a misnomer; it was barely even a two-way conversation. The best moments of the night for each candidate came as they played to their strengths:

Trump was a strong-willed advocate for law and order in American cities who puts the country above all else; Biden engaged the camera directly and came across as a compassionate, caring individual.

Trump was smug, self-assured and every bit the petulant, volatile president he portrays himself to be on Twitter. He took shots at Biden’s education (calling him not smart), Biden’s family (because Eric and Don Jr. are so impressive), his age (three whole years older than Donald), and the “Radical Left” that he claims Biden represents. Biden opted to keep his jabs focused solely on the president.

If there is anyone to blame for the debate’s descent into chaos, it was Trump. One of the most frustrating things about his presidency has been his unwillingness to be civil, admit wrongs, or simply say the “right” thing. Given the opportunity to denounce white supremacists, he dodged the question when the seemingly obvious answer was abundantly clear. I have no doubt this is part of his appeal: he’s unashamed and lacks shame.

Biden didn’t have particularly a strong debate. I was looking for more policy and it wasn’t there. He did stay in the middle lane as opposed to drifting left where some more fervent Democrats want to see him go (Green New Deal, etc.). Trump’s unflinching assault on him, his policy, and his family clearly had an effect and he was lured into Trump’s tennis match on more than one occasion. Where Trump went low, Biden neglected to follow entirely, but still was pulled. He didn’t attack Trump for his lack of action on the Russian bounty program that targeted American soldiers, an issue he could’ve nailed Trump to the wall for. His best moments came when he looked straight at the camera, and spoke his truth. He accepted his son Hunter’s past addiction and expressed pride in Hunter’s ability to beat that addiction. He spoke on the holes left in everyone’s lives by Covid-19, the deaths and hospitalizations.

He cared, not just about Democrats but the whole country.

Biden’s achilles heel: He just didn’t do an excellent job of convincing people: vague plans aren’t exciting.

It ultimately felt like Trump’s debate to lose. He came across as more self-assured and powerful than Biden. But it felt like the same old Donald, whereas some change or stature or growth would’ve been refreshing. And it felt like a child throwing a tantrum. He argued with the moderator Chris Wallace repeatedly on topics he lobbed insults across the stage constantly. He even refused to say that he would concede the election (if he lost) and sought to degrade its legitimacy. His goal has always been to consolidate and appeal to his supporters, never to the opposition or moderate voters.

Trump doesn’t just ‘win’ the debate, he wins the ‘war of words’.

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I agreed with one take I read about the debate: Biden scored a passing C while Trump clocked in at an F.
UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct. 3
Mirage: Visions of Fleetwood Mac
LIVE on stage

Oct. 9
Queen Nation
LIVE on stage

Oct. 16
Bishop Sunrise Rotary Presents: Violin on Fire
LIVE on stage

Oct. 23
The Conjuring

Oct. 24
Beetlejuice

Oct. 30
Annabelle

Oct. 31
Drive-In Trick or Treat Event
& The Addams Family

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Dear Editor,

I have become aware that the MLF (Mammoth Lakes Foundation) board has decided to pull the two acre property that had been designated for the NWWC (National Wounded Warrior Center). That decision was based on their statement “that it was not meeting the criteria of educational purposes.” Let’s give some thought of what education is. There are many sources of education, not just listening to a lecture from a professor or reading a text book. It is life experiences from which we learn the most.

Robert F. Waggoner Col, USAF (Ret)  Bishop

Wounded Again II

Dear Editor,

These young veterans returning from war with physical and mental wounds need a different type of education and experience. They need to learn to live again. They need to learn what their abilities and opportunities are, to build a life. A life where they can reclaim their independence, self esteem and pursue a meaningful life on their own. A life where they can begin a path toward restoration.

Their statement “that it was not meeting the criteria of educational purposes” was the outcome of those policies directly contradict the recommendations of the State Water Board.

Lower Wilson Creek is still considered a type of habitat around the lakeshore. The DeChambeau Ponds have represented suitable living habitat to the Mono Lake’s north shore.

This spring and summer (in the middle of duck nesting season), most of the DeChambeau Ponds were dried out. Lower Wilson Creek is still completely dry. This sad situation was wholly avoidable and was the result of policies that directly contradict the recommendations of the State Water Board.

Robert F. Waggoner Col, USAF (Ret)  Bishop

THE SHEET  I Saturday, October 3, 2020
Meryl Picard

Meryl Picard’s story is of triumph over adversity and a hometown girl made good.

Meryl, a member of the Bishop Paiute tribe, is the first in her family to have graduated from college (she has a Bachelor’s degree in Social Work from the University of Montana).

And she literally accomplished that feat with one hand tied behind her back: It wasn’t until her senior year of college that she was diagnosed as being rather severely dyslexic.

“It always seemed like I had to work twice as hard [as my peers in school],” observed Picard. As it turned out, she was pretty much right.

When she was finally diagnosed with dyslexia, the specialist turned to her and said, “I’m shocked you made it this far.”

“That’s what determination will do for you. That and being the child of a single mother with six children. Meryl, who was the second eldest, said, “I wanted to set a good example [in school] for my younger siblings.”

What also pushed her was athletics. To play sports, you needed to be academically eligible. A carrot-stick equation if there ever was one.

This is what she brings to the table - not only the perspective of a Native American who’s been through the local school system, but also the perspective of a student who struggled, and the perspective as a mother of three children who attend/attend the Bishop schools.

Picard currently works in staff development at the Owens Valley Career Development Center (OVCDC). It’s a social service organization that was initially created by the local Paiute Tribe, and now serves 14 locations throughout central California. The OVCDC focuses on literacy, career education, language and early education.

She also has a side business as a health and wellness coach.

Prior to her current job with Owens Valley, she served as Director of the Bishop Paiute Tribe’s Education Center. In that capacity, she brought in Becky St. Marie (a local specialist) to help Tribal kids (and then adults) with learning disabilities.

“People have laughed at me for my spelling my whole life ... my passion, inspired by own experience, has always been working with youth.” She said if she’d known about all the resources that would have been available to her had she been diagnosed earlier, it would have made a huge difference in her life.

Steve Elia

Steve Elia is hoping that the yo-yo bounces back up.

He was on the BUSD board. Then had to step down when the District hired his wife. And now that his wife has been with the District for more than one year, he is no longer deemed to have a conflict of interest and is eligible to serve again.

And there’s a whole lot he wishes to accomplish.

Elia’s backstory: He moved to Bishop 25 years ago and got a job teaching at the high school, which he did for 15 years. He then transitioned to a job with the parent company of AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination), described by usnews.com as a “non-profit college readiness program.”

Many local districts use AVID for independent study.

Elia says his job takes him all over the country visiting schools, so he gets to see how other districts are implementing programs and closing educational gaps.

His three top priorities.

1. Focus on school improvement.

Steve Elia’s term in 2019.

Two weeks after she was appointed, the board ousted former Superintendent Jon Ray, who’d been on the job less than six months.

The board has since hired Katie Kolker as Superintendent.

Zack points out that a board has one employee, the Superintendent, and its number one job is to select the right person for that role. In her board tenure, she’s had the opportunity to hire two Superintendents: Barry Simpson in 2007 and now Kolker. “I’m two-for-two” she says.

Why is she running? Primarily to support Kolker, who is still relatively new on the job.

And Zack is in favor of getting the kids back in the classroom. “It’s a balance of risk and reward,” she said. “Doing the best for the most. We can’t just wait two years until it’s 100% safe. There are child care considerations. Family considerations. The faculty has been wonderful. We are committed to doing things right.
NEWCOMERS AND FAMILIAR FACES RUN FOR MUSD BOARD

By Page

Four candidates are vying for three spots in the upcoming election for Mammoth Unified School Board. Shana Stapp is the lone incumbent.

Shana Stapp

Fresh off a four-year term on the Mammoth Unified School District Board, and wrapping up a year as president of the board, Shana Stapp is hoping to get another four years. Stapp, the only incumbent running this year, has been on the board for more than 14 years in all, taking some time off between terms.

A United States Army veteran, Stapp moved to Mammoth with her family. Currently she serves as the Adult Education Coordinator for the Mono County Office of Education, a position she’s held for past five years; she worked as a community school teacher for sixteen years prior. She’s also spent time volunteering as a leader for AISYO and the Girl Scouts.

Stapp’s priorities

1. Construction projects: completing ongoing construction projects at all three campuses and managing that budget efficiently.
2. Latinx/Hispanic community engagement: “It’s always been a priority for me to get more involvement from the Hispanic community,” Stapp said, “60% of our students are Hispanic and it’s not always easy because oftentimes families are raising kids and parents have more than one job … and stepping out a comfort zone and getting involved in schools can be daunting.”
3. Closing education gaps: Stapp explained that there are large achievement gaps between students from lower socioeconomic households and their more affluent peers as well as between second language learners and native English speakers.

“The board is working with the superintendent (Jennifer Wildman) to make sure that it’s also a focus and high priority closing the gaps are for us,” said Stapp, “I truly understand the needs, the wants of not only our students but our parents and our teachers … so much is boiled up into what the administration wants and in what they believe the values are, but they fail to incorporate everyone else.”

Escobar’s priorities

1. Transparency: “We lack a lot of transparency. That comes form the board and the superintendent.” According to Escobar, there’s a lot of distrust among those who work as para professionals and classified staff. These staff members “always feel that they are out of the loop and a lot of the parents feel that, too.” He pointed to the District’s Covid-19 plan as a failed opportunity for increased transparency and communication with staff and families.
2. Lack of diversity in the school system: “Our community is almost half Hispanic but our parents and our teachers … so much is boiled up into what the administration wants and in what they believe the values are, but they fail to incorporate everyone else.”

Escobar is one of the homegrown teachers that Shana Stapp referenced as a point of pride; he was born and raised in the area, left to study international relations at UCLA, and returned after graduation. Over the past ten years, Escobar has worked within Mammoth Unified in a number of roles across the district’s campuses, such as assistant teacher, bilingual special day class professional, ELL specialist, and tutor at both the middle and high schools.

As a result, Escobar said, “I truly understand the needs, the wants of not only our students but our parents and our teachers … so much is boiled up into what the administration wants and in what they believe the values are, but they fail to incorporate everyone else.”

Stewart’s priorities

1. School Budget: “The budget is always going to be a challenge for public schools and especially now because additional resources are needed to bring kids back safely, to bring teachers back safely during the pandemic,” said Stewart, pressing to make sure “those resources are allocated in a way that ensures quality education and also ensure that we have a safe environment.”
2. Mitigating learning loss (due to Covid interruption): “I think it’s going to impact a significant number of kids through the rest of their years in school … kids struggling to begin with but also high performing kids who feel as if they may not be able to adequately prepare for college.”
3. Flexible education: “We need to continue to develop flexible strategies for instruction that engage every student, no matter what the delivery system.” In addition: “I have seen teachers working very hard to find solutions, they’re not there yet. It’s complicated and it’s challenging and I think actually the pandemic has probably exacerbated the challenge.”

“The hallmark of my career is that I genuinely care about kids and their families and I also genuinely care about teachers because they are families too … I think bringing people together to collaboratively solve problems and listening to various perspectives is kind of my MO.”

Gregg Vane

Gregg Vane, father of former Sheet writer/editor Katie Vane and recently retired from his career at NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL), is running for a seat on the Mammoth Unified School Board.

Though his children have long left the nest, Vane said he is inspired to serve because a lot of his friends in the community have kids in the schools.

“I value education highly, and this is my chance to give back a little bit,” he said.

Vane has lived off-and-on in Mammoth over the past four decades, and full-time in Mammoth for the past five years or so. Among his principal concerns/objectives:

1. It’s critical that students get a better sense, appreciation and education in the scientific method. There’s an increasing amount of noise out there these days, and children need to become adept at restating hypotheses and separating fact from fiction.
2. Relating to the above, there also been a breakdown in civics and civic discourse. Citizenship, says Vane, isn’t just about freedom. There’s also a responsibility component. Vane grew up in a small town in Indiana. He remembers the value of civics classes, and believes that should be a course offering in Mammoth.
3. Budget. The school system has had chronic issues with budgetary shortfalls, and Vane believes the current crisis provides an opportunity for a macro sort of reset as a community.

A tourist-driven, boom-bust economy will generally lead us down the same road - begging nickels. However, if we improve the quality of education, we’ll attract young professionals working remotely, diversify the economic base, and ultimately make us healthier and raise the bar.

Vane’s wife Deb still works as a project manager at JPL. His son Wes lives locally and has spent several years working on Mammoth Mountain Ski Patrol. He is heading back to school to get a Nursing Degree. He wishes to remain in Mammoth.

Vane also has twin daughters Robin and Katie. Robin lives in Glendale and works as a graphic designer. Katie is currently working on a novel and works as a recruiter at a biotech firm in Boston, Mass. to pay the bills.
YOU CAN RUN AND HEIDI
Steenstra seeks seat on Mammoth Town Council
By Lunch

Over the years, as longtime Mammoth resident Heidi Steenstra has watched Mammoth Town Council meetings from home, she found herself talking to the television screen. Sometimes with raised voice. Oftentimes, her husband would eye her with that cautious look partners employ, and he’d say, “Why don’t you just do this?”

By do this, he suggested she run for a seat on the Mammoth Town Council dais.

Sheet (needling): Do you think your husband was just trying to get you out of the house?
Steenstra: There’s always that.

Heidi Steenstra, 46, who has managed the Sherwin Villas condominiums for 18 years with Dan, her husband of 24 years, is indeed running for Mammoth Lakes Town Council this election cycle.

Steenstra grew up in Michigan before first settling in Summit County, Colorado. And what she saw during her six years in Summit County amounted to a preview of coming attractions - particularly as it related to housing.

“By the end of our time in Summit, I had to commute over two, ten-thousand foot passes every day, and we watched people come and go.”

In fact, when she and Dan first moved to Mammoth, they moved here in a motor home, anticipating housing issues.

When asked about the current Council, Steenstra observed, “It’s not that they’ve done anything wrong, but … there’s not a lot of conversation about things. And the Covid response just seemed slow. I know people are concerned, but … there’s not a lot of conversation.”

Pet peeve - Entrance to town and Old Mammoth Road: The first vision of when you pull into town is dead grass and weeds. It’s never been inviting. I’ve seen them try on three different occasions to do some landscaping on Old Mammoth Road. It looks good for a month or two and then is forgotten. Steenstra feels it’s time the town demonstrate, at the very least, a little self-respect and make a better first impression to visitors.

Housing: Steenstra has two observations. 1. The town needs to give a weekly update and progress report. No matter how thin the update. Part of maintaining momentum is keeping housing in the public eye. 2. Steenstra doesn’t want to wait around endlessly for grants or handouts from outside entities. “How much can we afford to assist to make it move faster?”

In addition to her job as property manager, Steenstra has also worked part-time at Kittredge Sports for the past 16-17 years. She started as a retail associate. She is now the women’s clothing buyer.

While she has not held other civic positions in town or served on various commissions and committees, Steenstra does have board experience via her property management gig. “I have dealt with board dynamics,” she said. Ashe also added, as an observation to the current Council’s board dynamics, “I believe [Town Manager] Dan Holler gives more direction to Council than vice-versa.”

As to the immediate future, she thinks we’re all in for a bit of a surprise this winter. For those who’ve decided to make a pandemic move to Mammoth, “I’m not sure they’re prepared for a winter … and I’m not sure Mammoth Lakes is prepared for a different level of expectation.”

One thing Steenstra is sure of - that she’s up for the challenge: “I’m a quick learner, and I’m all in on something when I put my mind to it.”
**MYROLD-ING THE DICE**

Cyndi Myrold makes bid for Mammoth Council seat

By Hite

Cyndi Myrold, current Finance Manager for the Town of Mammoth Lakes, is tossing her hat into the ring for one of two open seats on Mammoth Lakes Town Council.

Myrold has worked in Finance for over 30 years, including 20 for the Town, and is hoping her finance background and intimate knowledge of the gears that turn local government will sway voters in the upcoming election.

Getting into politics is something Myrold has considered for the few years. “As [town] staff, you see things going on and I would have loved to give my opinion on those things, but as staff you really can’t. I want to serve in a different capacity,” said Myrold.

Myrold graduated from Cal State San Bernardino with a Bachelor’s Degree in Business Administration. She has lived locally just over twenty years and spent all of that time working for the Town. She has raised four daughters in Mammoth Lakes: Hollyanne, Christina, Meghan and Jessica. Myrold’s husband Frank is a Fire Captain for the Mammoth Lakes Fire Department and also works as a plumber for Dean’s Plumbing (in Bishop).

“I feel like a seat on council isn’t about politics, it is about policy decisions,” Myrold and grandson Nico

said Myrold, “I am not a politician. I don’t have a pet project. There is nothing specific that I am trying to bring to the table. I just want to help make decisions based on what is best for the community.”

But Myrold does have ideas for improvements. First and foremost, Myrold told The Sheet she wants to, “protect core services such as police, parks and recreation, community development, engineering, and public works.”

Myrold nixed the highly politicized ‘defund the police’ movement and from civil unrest, “I would not cut our police force at all. We finally got to 24/7 coverage.” Myrold mentioned that without the round-the-clock coverage, one disaster would prove why we needed officers 24/7, so why risk it?

Protecting core services was first on her list. Second? “Addressing debt. We are spending in excess of $1 million every year on an unfunded liability (pension debt) of over $20 million,” said Myrold.

A lot of this is payments to CALPERS, a retirement fund that manages pensions for California State employees.

Myrold said there are multiple ways to do this, including funding a specific dollar amount every year or issuing bonds to lower the interest rate, “The problem is if [our debt payments] increase because we are not meeting the 7% interest rate (set by CALPERS).”

Myrold was keenly aware of the financial bells and whistles our local government can utilize to mitigate some of the stress.

On the Community Recreation Center (CRC), previously MUF), Myrold is positive, “I support the CRC. The current ice rink [behind the library] has outlived its useful life and we don’t own the land. I don’t think the community realizes how expensive it could cost. But I would’ve liked to see no hard cap on the MUF. Figure out what it is going to cost and wait until we have the money to make it right.”

Myrold was speaking on the $13 million hard cap that Council put on the CRC. This cap forced the design team to take out the second story amenities and reduce it to just the rink component. “Do I think we need an Olympic-sized ice rink? Maybe not. But if we are going to do it we should do it right,” said Myrold.

Myrold was speaking on the $13 million hard cap that Council put on the CRC. This cap forced the design team to take out the second story amenities and reduce it to just the rink component. “Do I think we need an Olympic-sized ice rink? Maybe not. But if we are going to do it we should do it right,” said Myrold.

Myrold does have some criticism of how Mammoth’s current Council operates. It started with her explaining her work in Bishop this year, “I worked in Bishop this past year while they were in transition and I sat through several of their Council meetings and I was impressed with how they executed their meetings.”

Sheet: What was different than Mammoth Lakes Town Council?

“I will give an example. If the item you are voting on is X. Make a decision based on how you feel. If the Council decision is Y, move forward with the Council decision and not your own. I think this council has struggled with a decision being made and getting on board with that decision,” said Myrold.

Myrold said Bishop Council would bring the item back until all members were happy with how they were moving forward.

So what has this Council done well? “I think all of the Council members truly care about our community and act on that.”

**More Policy**

Sheet: What do you want the TOML/Council to continue doing?

Myrold: Continue our conservative debt policies. We did pretty good considering we took a hit in revenues and we weathered it pretty well. I have been here long enough that I worked through the Towns bankruptcy and through the financial crisis and there are going to be bad years so I would like to see us continue our conservative projections.

Sheet: What is your opinion on housing and the Parcel?

Myrold: Housing is absolutely a priority. People can’t even find a place to rent. I think the Parcel will address some of these issues. But I am not sure what the answers are to fix the whole problem.

Sheet: What about the airport?

Myrold: I support quality air service in our region. I don’t know what the best version is but I do know that running an airport is expensive. I am not sure Inyo County has looked into how expensive it truly is.

Sheet: Your finance background likely helps, but any hesitation taking over a council seat amidst the Covid-related financial turmoil?

Myrold: I think that I have the budget under my belt. I understand it fully. I understand what funds we have out there and what they can be used for. We budgeted so conservative last year that our original budget was $13.5 and we came in just shy of $16 million.

“Myrold didn’t answer this but the answer is no … no hesitation in taking over a council position.”

Sheet: What have you learned, in working for the Town, that you feel will lend itself to making council decisions?

Myrold: I have been here long enough and attended enough council meetings to know the processes and what the rules are. I know when and why you take things to council and vote. I feel like I understand municipal government.

Myrold will be running against Sarah Rea, Heidi Stretenstra, and incumbent Bill Sauser for two available seats in the upcoming Mammoth Lakes Town Council elections.
**VEENKER V. WAKAMIYA FOR NIHD SEAT**

By Lunch

The NIHD District 1 race pits appointee Jody Veenker against whiz bang newcomer Kyle Wakamiya.

**Veenker**

Jody Veenker has served on the Northern Inyo Hospital District board since June 2019. She is an appointed incumbent seeking election for the first time.

Veenker currently serves District One, which includes Mustang Mesa, Aspendell, Starlite and Round Valley.

She is a social worker who has spent 13 years working for Inyo County Health and Human Services. For ten of those years, she served as Director of the First Five program.

Veenker, 47, grew up in Bishop and graduated from BUHS. She has a Bachelor’s degree from Sarah Lawrence College and a Masters in Journalism from Northwestern University.

She wrote for several publications in the Midwest before moving back home. Her parents, brothers, nieces and nephews all live locally.

Veenker acknowledges that it has been a tumultuous past year at NIHD. There has been the dismissal of former CEO Dr. Kevin Flanigan, Covid-impacts and associated financial stress. However, she believes that the District is on the right track under Interim CEO Kelly Davis.

She anticipates the board will enter a cycle of strategic planning post-election.

"Rural hospitals have been under a lot of pressure [of late]," she says. "NIHD serves as a safety net for many. It’s a treasure, a critical juncture, and the lack of transparency [which ultimately led to former CEO Dr. Kevin Flanigan’s ouster], in my opinion, continues to this day. There’s not enough transparent discussion at the board level, he said, and the majority of decisions are made by 5-0 votes with little deliberation.

He believes his skill set - data-driven analysis and forecasting economic outcomes - would prove beneficial to NIHD at this time.

He does have board experience, having previously served on the board of a non-profit, the Sacramento Philharmonic and Opera. During his tenure, the Philharmonic and Opera, which had been separate entities, were successfully merged.

Wakamiya graduated from the University of California-Irvine with a degree in Economics. He was profiled in the 2017 Sacramento Business Journal as CFO [Chief Financial Officer] of the Year. Origin Materials CEO John Bissell is quoted in the story as saying, "Not many people can grow with a startup," Bissell said. "They can get lost without hand-holding, so you have to have a lot of ability, especially in a chaotic environment, to find it all on your own. Kyle has done that extremely well.

**Wakamiya**

Kyle Wakamiya (pronounced Wa-kame-ya) will challenge Veenker for her NIHD board seat.

Wakamiya, 35, has been a Bishop resident for the past two years. He has an extensive finance and accounting background. For the past decade, he was worked in the chemical technology industry at Origin Materials, based in Sacramento. He was one of the company’s first employees, which was founded by a childhood friend.

By 2017, the manufacturer of bio-sourced plastic water bottles had 45 employees.

He says he’s worn several hats during his tenure with Origin: accounting, finance, legal, human resources. His current work is in strategic analytics.

He works remotely for the firm out of Bishop, because his wife is a doctor who’s specialty is internal medicine. She’s affiliated with the Kamei and Hathaway medical group in town.

Wakamiya says he’s gained insight into NIHD via his wife and her colleagues, as well as from attending board meetings these past several months.

"It’s difficult as an outsider to say whether we’re on the right or wrong track," he said, when asked about the current board’s performance, "but we are at a critical juncture, and the lack of transparency [which ultimately led to former CEO Dr. Kevin Flanigan’s ouster], in my opinion, continues to this day. There’s not enough transparent discussion at the board level, he said, and the majority of
Attempted Homicide in Bishop

On Saturday, September 26 at approximately 6 pm, Inyo County Sheriff deputies responded to a residence on Payahampoo Way in Bishop for a report of a stabbing. California Highway Patrol, Bishop Police Department, and Bishop Paiute Tribal Police responded to assist. Upon arrival, a male victim was outside of the residence bleeding from his face and torso area. Depu-

ties rendered first aid until Symon’s Ambulance arrived. The victim was transported for treatment of multiple stab wounds.

Gordon Medicinechips

MINT investigators were called out to assist, along with an Inyo County Sheriff’s Office Evidence Techni-
cian. Based on statements provided, 39-year-old Bishop resident, Gordon Medicinechips, was allegedly respon-
sible for the stabbed victim.

A Ramey Warrant* was issued for the arrest of Medicinechips for at-
tempted homicide and assault with a deadly weapon.

The Inyo National Forest’s Office of Public Information Officer, noti-
fied the attendees that it is unlikely that Mono County will be upgrade into the Minimal Covid-19 designa-
tion tier in the near future. The key to that change in designa-
tion is minimal for most local busi-

nesses: no more 200 person limit on


dining. Hospitals: *​*

ed TBID would clock in at around 60% of the 2019’s number. If particular months

down about $30,000 in TOT revenue. August came in 3% above the previous

to $10,000 for business costs includ-
ing rent or mortgage, payroll, utilities, insurance, loan payments related to


ment, the Inyo National Forest remains closed to visitors for at least another week.

**Business Grants Go To Round 3**

The Town of Mammoth Lakes established a Business Assistance Program to help small business owners impact-
ed by COVID-19 stay afloat during this unprecedented time. The Town has completed two rounds of funding for

the Program which has resulted in a total program award of over $200,000. Qualified small businesses can ap-

form other information or to submit

a one-time grants in amounts up to


Projecting ahead, Stacy Schaub-
mayer, General Manager of Alpenhof Lodge indicated that while the first

weekend of October showed low numbers, the following weekend is looking great, presumably due to the

holidays weekend.

Despite the recent blue skies and against Morris’ hopes, the Inyo Na-

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-Page

Restaurants: “We are hoping that as of Thursday, we will see the Inyo Forest open up and that will help
drive some traffic,” said Ken Brengle, Executive Director of Mammoth Lakes Chamber of Commerce, open-
ing Monday September 28th restaurant roundtable meeting.

*Update: the Inyo National Forest will remain closed and will be reevaluated daily.

Mammoth Lakes Tourism Execu-
tive Director John Urdi gave an update on the TOT revenue over the last
couple of months. September has consistently seen about $1 million in

revenue over the last four years and Urdi mentioned that the month of July surpassed expectations by $600,000

(over budget). Even a steep drop off in September revenue could mean the TOML is meeting its benchmark.

Restaurant owners are not meeting their benchmark. ‘It is slow’ was the common sentiment when the camera

quickly panned to different restaura-
teers.

Not much was discussed besides a long-winded, poetical comparison of

Mammoth Lakes to legends that never die and something in there about fire

being the beginning of new life. This was courtesy of Andrea Walker. “I just want to continue to push that opti-
mistic message and to be kind to one another,” said Walker.

The Chamber is running low on PPE materials and will be getting more

soon. Give the Chamber a call to see the status of PPE supplies available for businesses.

-Hite

LOCAL BRIEFS

Town Public Information Officer, noti-
fied the attendees that it is unlikely that Mono County will be upgrade into the Minimal Covid-19 designa-
tion tier in the near future. The key to that change in designa-
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dining. Hospitals: *

Mammoth Mountain Ski Area’s indoor dining.

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lot of time on her own. And as she said, “The barn was my refuge... Horses are the best therapy you can ask for as a child. Every child should have a pony - if you can afford it. Because when you teach riding, you teach responsibility.” And riding is just part of it. “Horsemanship is learning about the animal. When you get on a horse, you should be able to feel what’s going on.”

At Eaton Canyon, which had a riding stable, in Altadena, she met her lifelong friend Marilyn Durazzo. And as Marilyn said this week, “I was closer with Roxanne than my two sisters. She had a generous, loving heart. So full of fun. So iron-willed. And she just knew how to do things. All kinds of stuff. And she knew how to do it all correctly.

The running joke between mom and dad, recalls youngest daughter Kristen, was that anything could be fixed with duct tape and zip ties. “A problem was never a problem,” added Kristen. Mom believed it’s all solvable. There’s always a way to get things done, and giving up was never an option. She had no patience for quitters. And “If you’re stuck, ask” was one of her mantras. “I may not be an A student,” Roxanne herself said, “but I’m a MacGyver.”

*Unstated: She didn’t suffer fools who didn’t ask and did things incorrectly.

There was great freedom in Roxanne’s adolescence. She often spent entire summers at Eaton Canyon while her parents traveled. And so much of it was... free riding. “In the old days, you took care of your horses,” recalled Roxanne. “You didn’t have grooms. There weren’t specific arenas and jumps. You’d invent your own obstacles. Whatever was around, we would jump it, so long as there was a half-decent landing.”

In her 20s, Roxanne started her own business training show horses and running events. That was also when she met her husband Chuck. She had gone on a ski club trip to June Mountain and broken a ski. Back home, she wandered into the Holiday House, a ski shop in Pasadena, to get it fixed. The owner was named Chuck Tallman. And he fit the description. He was 6’5’’. The couple had an almost perfectly integrated lifestyle, as the timing of their interests made their marriage successful. He had the freedom to help Roxanne during the summers with her horse schedule, and she had the opportunity to help him in the winters with his ski business.

In the spring, they’d rent a house in Indio for two months for the horse shows, which were a scheduling Rubik’s Cube. It was generally planned a year out. You had to be organized. “I very much believe in structure,” said Roxanne.

In the winters, Chuck would bring a team from Mt. Waterman up to race in Mammoth, and his mother had a house here. That’s how Roxanne grew to know the area.

One thing about Chuck and Roxanne - they were indefatigable. There was always something going on. The shows. The skiing. Summer trips to the river (in Blythe) house for waterskiing. They had fun. And Roxanne just loved a party. Whether she was throwing it or attending it.

Fiddlin’ Pete Watercott recalls that their friendship developed when Pete and Neil Gelvin were having their regular Pokonobe concerts at Lake Mary. Roxanne would always have a full table with her. “She liked to get people together,” said Watercott. Whether it was a spontaneous camp out at Bishop Creek, or putting up a tent at Millpond Music Festival every year so that the Altrusa volunteers who worked the gate would have a place to relax. Or her annual spring parties for the Mammoth Mountain host program.

Speaking of bringing people together, she had a hand in putting together a few marriages - including that of the Durazzo twins Marilyn and Margaret. Marilyn met her future husband on a ski outing with Roxanne, and Margaret met her future husband while on vacation with Chuck and Roxanne.

She brought people together.

What does Mule days do? Millpond? Why would she decide to sponsor the new building that then-Tri-County Fairgrounds CEO Jim Tatum had proposed? see ROXANNE, page 17.
OBITUARY
TOM STEHLIK 1955-2020

Longtime Mammoth resident Tom Stehlik died at his home on September 21 following a battle with cancer. He was 65.

Stehlik was universally admired as one of the good guys, a hail fellow well met. As his wife Teri explained, “He made friends everywhere he went.” Whenever they went on a trip, he’d make a new best friend.

Or best friends. Daughter Brie mentioned one memorable cruise in Mexico where the entire family parted late into the night after a Village People show. With the band.

“He was gregarious,” recalls Teri. She says if she left him alone for a minute, he’d make a new best friend. Daughter Brie mentioned that she was home visiting college, so she initially put him off. But as Tom said, “I’m not the abandoning type.”

They celebrated their 40th anniversary in June.

The couple had two children, Dustin, 38, lives with his partner Om Rishikesh in Marina Del Rey. He was a motocross racer in his youth and even had two hours of perfect health to revisit before his death.

As a father, Brie said her dad was the type of guy who could fit in seamlessly anywhere in the world.

Teri acquired rental and vacation property management, while Tom eventually chose work and money in the bank over continuing his education.

Teri’s family wasn’t completely on board and felt she was too young and the marriage wouldn’t last. But as Tom said, “I’m not the abandoning type.”

They made a new best friend.

Teri’s family wasn’t completely on board and felt she was too young and the marriage wouldn’t last. But as Tom said, “I’m not the abandoning type.”

They decided to buy out her parents’ rental agency in Mammoth, which handles the Seasons Four complex. The Association also hired Tom as Property Manager.

In the two decades since, Tom and Teri acquired rental and vacation properties. He said humbly, “I was more successful than I thought I’d be!”

As a father, Brie said her dad was the type of guy who could fit in seamlessly in a gathering with her friends, and that he was not the lecturing type. “He gave no lectures about how I should live my life,” said Brie. “He would only give advice if prompted.”

And he was the type of dad who attended all the school functions and all the games.

When asked before his death if he had any regrets, Tom said no. Nor did he fear death. “I’m not scared to die,” he said. “I’m just very disappointed I didn’t make it to 80.”

Tom was named Mammoth Lakes Lions Club Lion of the Year for 2019-2020. When asked what he would do if he had two hours of perfect health to revisit any activity (and Tom was a renowned motocross racer in his youth and even had a few races as a pro), Tom replied, “I thought about that but then said to myself, ‘Nah, too dangerous.’”

Tom is survived by his wife Teri, children Dustin (son-in-law Om) and Brianna (fiancé Jesse Levalley), father George (who lives in Bishop) and stepmother Joan Columbo, stepbrothers Christian and sister-in-law Barilee, in-laws Mary and Bob Kermode, brother-in-law Kevin Kermode, stepbrothers Christian and Jordy Stehlik, nephew Scott, niece Whitney Scott, her husband Derek and their children Lindsay, Braydon and Alivia, and nephew Brandon Stehlik.

He was preceded in death by his mother Joan Columbo and step-father Gordon Columbus.

A celebration of life has been postponed, likely until next summer due to COVID. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations in Tom’s name be made to the Mammoth Lakes Lions Club or Mammoth Hospital’s Cancer Outreach program.
The summer. “From a temperature focus, we’re still in winter is going to look like,” he said. “It’s not uncommon for fires of this size to have smokes come back in the following spring.”

As has been the case at previous meetings, Eastside residents were curious to know what steps, if any, are being taken to prevent the fire from spreading to the north and northeast (towards Mammoth Lakes).

The answer: none beyond the work in Devil’s Postpile. Pargman rehashed Kuo’s points from earlier meetings that the wilderness areas in question do not have a high number of values to protect and thus priorities continue to lie elsewhere.

As a follow up, another viewer asked why crews were deployed to the Lions Fire in 2018 and not now for the Creek Fire.

Per Gordon Martin, Inyo National Forest Mammoth District Ranger: resources were available at that time that aren’t available now due to more dangerous fires.

Acting Inyo National Forest Supervisor Pancho reported that while the Inyo will remain closed until October 8 (subject to change), forest staff is working to open access to some services on forest lands. Smith noted that some locations, like Tom’s Place are still open to serve food and host guests, and added that forest staff is working to open similar businesses in the Lakes Basin.

Mono County Sheriff Ingrid Braun delivered arguably the best news of the night when asked about the likelihood of an evacuation warning.

“I can say that two weeks ago, I was sure that we should have our bags packed and ready to go,” she said, “but for this fire right now, I’m confident that we are not issuing an evacuation warning or order absent a mindblowing hurricane-force wind.”

“You’re okay, unpack your car for the weekend.”
TOWN STUFF
Saturday, October 3/
Tailgate concert series continues
at the Tri-County Fairgrounds.
Fleetwood Mac cover band Mirage
takes the stage at 7:30 p.m.,
gates open at 6 p.m. 
For more information/tickets, visit www.tricountyfair.com, or see ad page three.

Sukkot holiday services. 10 a.m. 57
Larkspur Lane in Mammoth. Also,
10/4 at 10 a.m. and 10/6 in Bishop.
Email Info@chabadmammoth.com.

Monday, October 5/
Virtual Workshop – Speak the
Speech: Elocution, Diction and
Projection. 3:30 pm - Zoom
Part of Mono County Libraries’
Evolution of Storytelling Project
for Teens. Join local actress Marcy
Murray, MFA and learn techniques
for delivering your voice in ways that
resonate. Great for public speaking,
acting and life in general! Register
online at Monocolibraries.org
Mammoth Lakes Housing Board
Meeting. Start: 6 a.m. Viewing
available through Granicus
Mono County Flu Clinic @
Bridgeport Health Department. Flu
shots provided at no cost to Mono
County Residents. Shots available via
drive thru or walk up options. Time:
2-5 p.m.
Mammoth Lakes Chamber of
Commerce Lodging Round Table
Meeting. Start: 10 a.m. Viewing
available at https://us02web.zoom.
us/j/8670501007

Tuesday, October 6/
Inyo County Board of Supervisors
Meeting. Start: 8:30 a.m. Viewing
available at https://zoom.
us/j/668254781.
Mono County Board of Supervisors
Meeting. Start: 9 a.m. Viewings for
the meetings are available at:
https://monoCounty.zoom.
us/j/93052472341
Mammoth Lakes Chamber of
Commerce Lunch/Town Council
Candidate Forum. Start: noon.
Viewing available at https://
us02web.zoom.us/j/84496110841?pwd=UjVuRzBqejllbTFZbU1sNDhmW
Xbaz09
SCE will hold two virtual open
houses from 9-11 a.m. and 6-8
p.m. to talk about the upcoming
relicensing of the Lee Vining Creek
Hydroelectric Project. SCE is
applying for a new 40-year license.
The meetings will be hosted using
Microsoft Teams and require an
internet connection. A link to the
meetings, materials and information
about the project may be accessed at
www.sce.com/leevining.

Wednesday, October 7/
Mono County Public Health Covid-19
Testing @ Mammoth Lakes Community
Center, 1000 Forest Trail. Time: 10 a.m.
-1 p.m. Testing is limited to 75 tests per
day, arrive no later than 12:45 p.m.
Mammoth Lakes Tourism Board
Meeting. Start: 1 p.m. Viewing
available through Granicus.
Mono County Board of Supervisors
Meeting. Start: 9 a.m. Viewing:
https://monoCounty.zoom.
us/j/93052472341
Mammoth Lakes Chamber of
Commerce PPE Distribution @
2520 Main Street, Mammoth Lakes.
Time: 10 a.m.-noon
Thursday, October 8/
Mammoth Trails Committee Board
Meeting. Start: 3 p.m. Viewing
available through Granicus.
Covid-19 Community Conversation
hosted by Mono and Mammoth
officials. English: 5:30 p.m., Spanish:
6:30 p.m. Visit https://coronavirus.
monoCounty.ca.gov for the Zoom
link.

Friday, October 9/
Mono County Public Health Covid-19
Testing @ Mammoth Lakes Community
Center, 1000 Forest Trail. Time: 10 a.m.
-1 p.m. Testing is limited to 75 tests per
day, arrive no later than 12:45 p.m.
Tailgate concert series continues at
the Tri-County Fairground.
Queen cover band Queen Nation takes the
stage at 7:30 p.m., gates open at 6
p.m. For more information/tickets,
visit www.tricountyfair.com, or see ad page three.
Art and Wine with Miguel Flores:
Pet Portraits. Join local artist Miguel
Flores for an evening of sipping and
painting. For more information/
tickets, visit www.monoarts.org
Ongoing:
The Cast Off is open on Tuesday and
Saturdays only due to Covid-19
restrictions.
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
up for library materials. www.
monocolibraries.org.

Saturday, October 3/
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Fleetwood Mac cover band Mirage
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TOWN STUFF
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Sukkot holiday services. 10 a.m. 57
Larkspur Lane in Mammoth. Also,
10/4 at 10 a.m. and 10/6 in Bishop.
Email Info@chabadmammoth.com.

Monday, October 5/
Virtual Workshop – Speak the
Speech: Elocution, Diction and
Projection. 3:30 pm - Zoom
Part of Mono County Libraries’
Evolution of Storytelling Project
for Teens. Join local actress Marcy
Murray, MFA and learn techniques
for delivering your voice in ways that
resonate. Great for public speaking,
acting and life in general! Register
online at Monocolibraries.org
Mammoth Lakes Housing Board
Meeting. Start: 6 a.m. Viewing
available through Granicus
Mono County Flu Clinic @
Bridgeport Health Department. Flu
shots provided at no cost to Mono
County Residents. Shots available via
drive thru or walk up options. Time:
2-5 p.m.
Mammoth Lakes Chamber of
Commerce Lodging Round Table
Meeting. Start: 10 a.m. Viewing
available at https://us02web.zoom.
us/j/8670501007

Tuesday, October 6/
Inyo County Board of Supervisors
Meeting. Start: 8:30 a.m. Viewing
available at https://zoom.
us/j/668254781.
Mono County Board of Supervisors
Meeting. Start: 9 a.m. Viewings for
the meetings are available at:
https://monoCounty.zoom.
us/j/93052472341
Mammoth Lakes Chamber of
Commerce Lunch/Town Council
Candidate Forum. Start: noon.
Viewing available at https://
us02web.zoom.us/j/84496110841?pwd=UjVuRzBqejllbTFZbU1sNDhmW
Xbaz09
SCE will hold two virtual open
houses from 9-11 a.m. and 6-8
p.m. to talk about the upcoming
relicensing of the Lee Vining Creek
Hydroelectric Project. SCE is
applying for a new 40-year license.
The meetings will be hosted using
Microsoft Teams and require an
internet connection. A link to the
meetings, materials and information
about the project may be accessed at
www.sce.com/leevining.

Wednesday, October 7/
Mono County Public Health Covid-19
Testing @ Mammoth Lakes Community
Center, 1000 Forest Trail. Time: 10 a.m.
-1 p.m. Testing is limited to 75 tests per
day, arrive no later than 12:45 p.m.
Mammoth Lakes Tourism Board
Meeting. Start: 1 p.m. Viewing
available through Granicus.
Mammoth Lakes Chamber of
Commerce PPE Distribution @
2520 Main Street, Mammoth Lakes.
Time: 10 a.m.-noon

Thursday, October 8/
Mammoth Trails Committee Board
Meeting. Start: 3 p.m. Viewing
available through Granicus.
Covid-19 Community Conversation
hosted by Mono and Mammoth
officials. English: 5:30 p.m., Spanish:
6:30 p.m. Visit https://coronavirus.
monoCounty.ca.gov for the Zoom
link.

Friday, October 9/
Mono County Public Health Covid-19
Testing @ Mammoth Lakes Community
Center, 1000 Forest Trail. Time: 10 a.m.
-1 p.m. Testing is limited to 75 tests per
day, arrive no later than 12:45 p.m.
Tailgate concert series continues at
the Tri-County Fairground.
Queen cover band Queen Nation takes the
stage at 7:30 p.m., gates open at 6
p.m. For more information/tickets,
visit www.tricountyfair.com, or see ad page three.
Art and Wine with Miguel Flores:
Pet Portraits. Join local artist Miguel
Flores for an evening of sipping and
painting. For more information/
tickets, visit www.monoarts.org
Ongoing:
The Cast Off is open on Tuesday and
Saturdays only due to Covid-19
restrictions.
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
up for library materials. www.
monocolibraries.org.
Notice of Board Vacancy


The ballot is to be held at the Mammoth Lakes Town Offices on October 19, 2020 at 11:00 AM, located at 427 Old Mammoth Road, Suite 224, Mammoth Lakes, California.

Proposed forms and Contract Documents for this work are all included in the specifications.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Project involves shoring and operation of a crane at locations throughout the contract area. The crane will be an electric-powered mobile crane on tracks and will be on a steel foundation. The crane shall be able to lift loads of maximum 20 tons.

For the Town of Mammoth Lakes, California

Bids will be received at the Office of the Town Clerk of the Town of Mammoth Lakes, located at 427 Old Mammoth Road, Suite 224, Mammoth Lakes, California 93546, and will be publicly opened at 2:00 PM, on October 20, 2020 at the Town of Mammoth Lakes, Mammoth Lakes Business Tax Certificate and shall maintain all required licenses throughout the duration of the Contract. The Contractor shall demonstrate their qualifications by submitting a 'Statement of Qualifications' and a references. If awarded the Contract, all bids shall be executed by an admitted surety insurance which meets the requirements of the California Code of Civil Procedure Section 995.120.

The Town of Mammoth Lakes hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively seek to ensure that minority business enterprises, disadvantaged business enterprises, and small business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this request and will not discriminate against the grounds of race, color, or national origin in connection with the solicitation.

The Director of Industrial Relations has determined the general prevailing rate of per diem wages in the locality and applicable to work and the current Town of Mammoth Lakes Business Tax Certificate and shall maintain all required licenses throughout the duration of the Contract. The Contractor shall demonstrate their qualifications by submitting a 'Statement of Qualifications' and a references. If awarded the Contract, all bids shall be executed by an admitted surety insurance which meets the requirements of the California Code of Civil Procedure Section 995.120.

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Each bid must be accompanied by a certified or cashier's check payable to the order of the Town of Mammoth Lakes, Calif. 93546, in the sum of ten percent (10%) of the full contract price, as a guarantee that the bidder will enter into the proposed contract if it be accepted. A non-mandatory pre-bid meeting will be held at the Town Offices on October 19, 2020 at 11:00 AM.

Plans and specifications may be obtained, for a NONREFUNDABLE FEE as listed below:

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ROXANNE
continued from page 11

Same idea. Bringing people together. “She loved giving back to the community. She figured she was able to, and she wanted to,” said daughter Kristen.

Roxanne was also the 2014 Mammoth Lakes Foundation “Founder of Year” and has been a Diamond Partner since 2001

Eldest daughter Amanda is a bit of a chip off the old block. Like her mother, she has a passion for coaching and helping others. When reached this week, she was in Colorado a teaching trip.

“It’s hard to be out of town right now,” she admitted, “but this is where mom would want me to be.”

Of Amanda, Roxanne said she spends most of her time on the road buying and selling horses. “And whenever she sells a horse, it’s perfect.” Amanda will take over the ranch and legacy, though she’s not quite the party animal mom was. Amanda went to culinary school, and describes herself as “more of a back-of-the-house type.” “I need to find someone for the front-of-the-house,” she said with laugh.

Amanda says she feels blessed by the outpouring of love and support from the Bishop community.

Youngest daughter Kristen Martucci lives with her husband Mark and two girls Charlie (13) and Morgan (11) on a ranch in Prescott, Ariz. The whole family rides.

Roxanne and her husband bought Hidden Creeks Ranch in 2003. After Chuck sold his ski shop in the early ’90s, he worked for the E-Z Up (they’re ubiquitous now) corporation. He retired in 2004. Four months later, he died of a massive coronary at the age of 60.

But Roxanne was never alone in Bishop. In fact, it turns out she had family here. Chuck Tallman shares the same ancestor who first came to the United States with Vivian Patterson. Small world.

Vivian and Dave Patterson shared dinner with Roxanne and Amanda just three days before she passed.

*Per Amanda, a celebration of life will take place on October 24 at the ranch from 12-6 p.m. It’ll be a Covid-aware gathering. Fortunately, there’s a lot of space. Call/text Amanda’s phone at 619.726.9046 if you’d like to contribute a memory via a recording. There will also be a slideshow.

Q: If 2020 were a drink, what would it be?

A: Colonoscopy Prep.

... in all seriousness:

• Regular screening, beginning at age 50, is the key to preventing colorectal cancer.

• Among cancers that affect both men and women, colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer deaths in the United States.

• Every year, about 140,000 people in the United States get colorectal cancer, and more than 50,000 people die of it.

• Risk increases with age. More than 90% of colorectal cancers occur in people who are 50 years old or older.

• Precancerous polyps and colorectal cancer don’t always cause symptoms, especially at first. If you have symptoms, they may include blood in or on the stool, stomach pain that doesn’t go away, or losing weight and you don’t know why. If you have any of these symptoms, see your doctor.

• There are several screening test options. Talk with your doctor about which is right for you.

• Only about two-thirds of adults in the United States are up-to-date with colorectal cancer screening.

If you are over 50, it’s time to get your preventative colonoscopy screening!

Call to schedule an appointment
760.924.4014
www.mammothhospital.com
BELLIS-IMO!
There's a new bear-iff in town

By Hite

“...the first time I came up here was 1981 and I was 16 years old,” said Rick Bellis, the Town of Mammoth Lakes recently hired Code Enforcement Officer, “I fell in love with the Eastern Sierra then.”

Bellis, as Code Enforcement Officer, will be taking on the responsibilities left over from previous wildlife consultant Steve Searles, who vacated the position in July after a contract dispute. So Bellis is the new bear guy.

Bellis graduated from Cal State Fullerton with a bachelor’s degree and spent some time as a technical writer, mostly writing proprietary software for different clients, “It was 2006. I was on a camping trip with my dog. I remember thinking to myself ‘there is no way I can go back and sit at a desk anymore.’ ”

Bellis entered the Fish and Game Academy and graduated in 2008. Then Bellis became a California Game Warden serving an area that included Big Bear and Rancho Cucamonga. “In Big Bear, I would get calls at least once a week for bears in the trash or someone's house,” said Bellis.

“Never gets old. If you see a bear walking in town, it is such a unique thing to see you have to stare. When my friends are walking in town, it is such a unique thing to view within 15 minutes of your area,” said Bellis, “There are so many unique things to view within 15 minutes of my house, I want to make sure they are the right thing.”

Bellis got the job two months ago. Last week Bellis got “called to a lady living in The Trails who had a bear in her garage the night before. I went in and looked around, saw what was going on, and offered some advice on why the bear was attracted to her garage.”

Then two weeks ago, “I responded to a couple of dog bites,” said Bellis, “Any time you have an issue with an animal, give me a call. If I am not on duty, all of the police officers are trained to deal with those types of calls as well!”

Also during his short tenure as a code enforcement officer, Bellis got a call for a bear that was in someone’s house. By the time he got there, the bear was leaving but he still had to shoot it with some bean bags to get it out of the area.

What happens when the bears are hibernating? “The two previous winters were such heavy winters. I spent a lot of time just digging people out of their cars. Another thing is that because of my police background I can transport prisoners to Bridgeport and save another officer two and a half hours,” said Bellis.

Bellis also mentioned that every winter there are cars left stranded all over town. Bellis goes through the abatement process to help get rid of these cars. “I have a diverse background where I kind of fill a lot of different holes.”

Bellis sees the position as temporary, “I would like to see, eventually, no need for my position because people are doing the right thing.”

Right now the position is necessary, “When I was in Big Bear I had this lady call me asking if there were mountain lions in the area when I told her yes, she was surprised,” said Bellis.

The wisdom Bellis was imparting was that people are simply uneducated. This is something he wants to change, “There are good wildlife laws. But there is also the educational aspect for the community. I would really like to stress that it is their responsibility to keep bears away.”

“...anybody who lives up here likely came up here because they love the outdoors. Seeing wildlife is a unique experience and we are pretty privileged. The whole ‘don’t feed our bears’ thing is something I take to heart. We need to treat them like they are our bears,” said Bellis.

How is this accomplished? “I checked the Town website, the Mountain, the County, and none of them have readily available information on how to deal with wildlife. If you are a visitor there should be information for you,” said Bellis.

Bellis mentioned the influx of inexperienced campers that likely didn’t even know they needed a bear canister. Over the summer he got some pamphlets from the Department of Fish and Wildlife. Bellis handed out the pamphlets to camp hosts in the area as well as posting them on different bulletin boards.

“Bear proofing your houses is something you can look up online. It is important and if someone wants me to come take a look at their house and remove any attractions for wildlife, I can do that as well,” said Bellis.

“The idea is education can reduce the volume of wildlife related calls to the police department. “I believe in the concept of public lands and we live in such a beautiful area,” said Bellis, “There are so many unique things to view within 15 minutes of my house. I want to make sure they are here for a long time.”

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LÁS CLÍNICAS DE GRIPE
2020 DE SALUD PÚBLICA
DEL CONDADO DE MONO

Este año no hay ningún costo a las vacunas contra la gripe a los residentes del condado de Mono. Este año, debido al COVID-19 (Coronavirus), las vacunas contra la gripe estarán disponibles en estilo de drive-thru (se quedan en carro) o walk-up (a pie) en todas las clínicas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lunes</th>
<th>28 de Septiembre</th>
<th>Sierra Nevada Resort &amp; Spa (Mammoth Lakes)</th>
<th>2 pm a 6 pm</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jueves</td>
<td>1 de Octubre</td>
<td>Walker Community Center</td>
<td>2 pm a 5 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lunes</td>
<td>5 de Octubre</td>
<td>Bridgeport Public Health Department</td>
<td>2 pm a 5 pm</td>
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<td>Sabado</td>
<td>10 de Octubre</td>
<td>Coleville High School</td>
<td>10 am a 2 pm</td>
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<td>Lunes</td>
<td>12 de Octubre</td>
<td>Chalfant Community Center</td>
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<td>Jueves</td>
<td>15 de Octubre</td>
<td>Crowley Lake Community Center</td>
<td>2 pm a 5 pm</td>
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<td>Sabado</td>
<td>17 de Octubre</td>
<td>Edna Beaman Elementary school (Benton)</td>
<td>10 am a 2 pm</td>
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<td>Lunes</td>
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<td>Wheeler Crest Fire station</td>
<td>2 pm a 5 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jueves</td>
<td>22 de Octubre</td>
<td>Lee Vining Community Center</td>
<td>2 pm a 5 pm</td>
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<td>Sabado</td>
<td>24 de Octubre</td>
<td>Mono County Civic Center (Mammoth Lakes)</td>
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<td>Lunes</td>
<td>26 de Octubre</td>
<td>June Lake Community Center</td>
<td>2 pm a 5 pm</td>
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<td>Sabado</td>
<td>31 de Octubre</td>
<td>Bridgeport Public Health Department</td>
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Para más información llame al (760) 924-1830 o visita https://monohealth.com/public-health

MONO COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH 2020 FLU CLINIC SCHEDULE

Flu shots are provided at no cost to Mono County residents. This year due to COVID-19 (Coronavirus), flu shots will be available by drive-thru or walk-up option at all clinics.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
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<td>Monday</td>
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<td>Bridgeport Public Health Department</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>October 10</td>
<td>Coleville High School</td>
<td>10 am to 2 pm</td>
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<td>October 12</td>
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<td>Crowley Lake Community Center</td>
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<td>October 17</td>
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<td>October 22</td>
<td>Lee Vining Community Center</td>
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<td>June Lake Community Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>October 31</td>
<td>Bridgeport Public Health Department</td>
<td>10 am to 2 pm</td>
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For more information call (760) 924-1830 or visit our website https://monohealth.com/public-health
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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A NEW HOME FOR FAMILY FUN
CALL TO SCHEDULE A PRIVATE TOUR.

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