IN FLAT LIGHT

MMSA’s Mark Brownlie addresses winter Covid-19 plans

By Page

After Mammoth and June Mountain shutdown in mid-March due to the Covid-19 pandemic, questions have continually circulated about how, or even if, the ski areas would open to the public again this year.

An August presentation from Craig Albright, VP of Skier Services, outlined some of the plans and changes that the mountain was considering for the coming winter. At the time, that included controlled access to lodges, mandatory masking, and expanded outdoor amenities and seating. At the time, Albright also noted, “We know that as we go into winter operations, it’s not a matter of if we have an outbreak, it’s when we have an outbreak,” while noting that Mammoth Mountain’s ability to control spread and conduct contract tracing would determine how the season unfolded.

On Monday, over two months after Albright’s presentation, MMSA CEO Mark Brownlie gave an updated presentation over Zoom and Facebook Live on how the mountain will attempt to navigate the pandemic.

Brownlie stated the mountain’s policies had been informed by guidance distributed by the National Ski Areas Association titled “Ski Well, Be Well” that highlighted the natural advantages for mitigating Covid-19 spread that ski areas have like consistent face masking, distancing on the slopes, touchless transactions at lifts, and more. The pamphlet also emphasized daily employee wellness checks as key to remaining open.

Brownlie referenced Mammoth’s founder, Dave McCoy, when looking for the words to best describe the situation, opining that McCoy would have used a skiing analogy to sum up the mountain’s approach to opening this winter. “I tend to think of it a little bit like skiing in flat light,” he said.

see MMSA, page 13

see COUNCIL, page 18

WE’RE NUMBER 1!!
COVID CASE AT BISHOP ELEMENTARY

Alright, I gotta turn off this Zoom meeting of the Mammoth Unified School Board and focus on writing editorial and getting out of here. Missed Biden-Trump II. Bummer.

The nuggets I took away from the MUSD meeting, where the Board was discussing School reopening plans.

Target dates for students’ return to the classroom are as follows.

- TK/K/Special Ed.: January 4
- Grades 1-2, 6, 12: January 11
- Grades 3-5, 7, 9: January 25
- Grades 8, 10-11: February 8

Talk about reopening plans was tempered by news that there had been a Bishop Elementary student who tested positive for Covid on Wednesday.

The student, according to sources, has not been in school all week.

Contact tracing has been initiated amongst the student’s classmates, who will quarantine until the 30th. The class will attend school remotely in the meantime.

Can’t imagine anyone’s too surprised with Covid surging around the country.

Perhaps the students are too busy trading on their Robinhood accounts.

The models should show potential for a huge spike in covid cases over the next few weeks.

MUSD Board member Tom Painter believes case numbers in Mono County haven’t been kept artificially low because of the smoke and forest closures. That obviously won’t last forever.

MUSD Superintendent Jennifer Wildman said of reopening, “If it’s not right, we’re not going to do it.” And she bristled at the notion that distance learning is the easy way out. Teachers are working hard, she said.

When the Town went through near bankruptcy and the airport lawsuits, a creative, brash guy like Michael Raimondo was exactly what the doctor ordered.

He didn’t care how it had been done in the past. He’s no fan of hand-holding, incremental change. He wasn’t afraid of blowing s&%t up.

Some candidates I like: Sarah Rea for Mammoth’s Town Council. Now Sarah worked for me, and that wasn’t easy. She’s a bit of a pain-in-the-ass and we didn’t agree on a whole lot. But she’s also got a pulse and drive and she’s gonna move things. She may drive Dan Holler crazy. And that’s not necessarily a bad thing.

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Kyle Wakamiya for Northern Inyo Hospital District board. We need a guy who speaks the same language as Vinay Behl, the sharpshooting bean counter whom the District brought in to help right the financial ship. I like his opponent, Jody Veenker, a whole lot, but Wakamiya’s skills are what that board needs right now.

Jennifer Roesser for Inyo Supervisor. This is another one where I like her opponent Don Bright a whole lot. Very personable guy. Very middle-of-the-road. And I probably agree with his politics more than I agree with Roesser’s. But she’s just ... Irrepressible, and is going to make things happen. And in the candidate’s forum held by the Big Pine Civic Club on Tuesday, she demonstrated a firm grasp and command of the issues. Imagine she and Kathy Copeland on the same team?

That National Wounded Warrior Center would get built.

Finally, a shout out to the two craziest Dodger fans I know: Sherry James and Krissy Tibblin. Pictured at left is Tibblin’s memorabilia wall. Go Blue!
29 September 2019, I wrote to complain about your accusing the President for phoning the then-new President of the Ukraine. You accused him of collusion with that foreign leader. I know you were only repeating what you heard. I told you flat out, it is the President’s job to be in contact with other leaders of the world.

I was reminded when it was recently stated - that phone call to the Ukraine was to congratulate the new president. So I would today ask you, have you done any research to find out how many other things you believed about President Trump were just as wrong?

You are in the newspaper business. Do you ever care if what you print is the truth or not?

It is a good thing your paper is free. I would never pay for a paper with such a total lack of truth as you sometimes show.

I only get your paper for the local news. And I have praised you in the past for only speaking the truth. I never have to read a correction to address this.

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Another case of lousy reporting ...

Dear Editor:

Thank you for your detailed article of the Lee Vining Elementary School community meeting. As a parent attendee (in person) to the meeting, I feel it was a pretty accurate summary of the event and conversations that occurred—with one major exception.

The writer of the article, Owen Page, gave a summary of the money spent out of the COVID-19 funding as outlined by Supervisor Torix in the meeting. The total as outlined in the article added up to $146,000. The total spent per Torix was quoted as $246,000, leaving $100,000 unaccounted for per the article.

However, this is in error, as the reporter left out the $100,000 spent on staffing to support additional tutoring hours and other interventions, needed in response to the deficits from online learning and other COVID factors. This is an unfortunate exemption in reporting, as one of the contention points of the teachers was the overspending of the COVID-19 grant.

Supervisor Torix actually started her summary outlining this large number, and its omission is misleading. Can you please print a correction to address this?

Melissa Larsen
June Lake

Editor’s note: The letter is accurate and Page acknowledges his error. I will have him read the Woodson letter as penance.

True + True = True, Mr. Page.

Dear Mr. Lunch,

29 September 2019, I wrote to complain about your accusing the President for phoning the then-new President of the Ukraine. You accused him of collusion with that foreign leader. I know you were only repeating what you heard. I told you flat out, it is the President’s job to be in contact with other leaders of the world.

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Lakes, the U.S. Forest Service and the proposal by the Town of Mammoth Preserve Solitude

Dear Editor:

I am writing to express dismay at the proposal by the Town of Mammoth Lakes, the U.S. Forest Service and the Mammoth Lakes Trails Committee regarding expansion of trails into the Sherwin area. Specifically, the area known as Solitude Canyon and the Lakes Basin in general. As lifelong Mono County business owners and residents of the Eastern Sierra since the 1950’s, my family is very familiar with this area. My husband grew up in the Lakes Basin, while I grew up down the road in McGee Canyon. Our family built the Sierra Meadows Equestrian Center in the 1960’s and recall the days when Mammoth meadow was the Arcularius Ranch. Stock people built the trails including the “Mammoth Rock” trail, transported numerous brides to “Kerry Meadow” via horse or mule drawn wagons and so on. It is disconcerting to say the least to see what has happened to the Sherwin area.

As lifelong advocates for public lands access and opportunities, we strongly believe that Americans have a right to use their public lands for enjoyment, recreation, escape from the everyday and freedom to visit the places they cherish most. However, that right comes with incredible responsibility. While not perfect, we have worked extremely hard for decades to live and work by that ethic.

Having been involved in GIS and clarification of the trails inventory for Sierra Meadows and the Sherwin area back in the early - mid 2000’s; weighing in consistently on the various iterations of trail planning, (how many acronyms are there?) I have watched as bikes have become a predominant use in the area. Further, as a wilderness outfitter and clarification of the trails inventory for Sierra Meadows and the Sherwin area back in the early - mid 2000’s; weighing in consistently on the various iterations of trail planning, (how many acronyms are there?) I have watched as bikes have become a predominant use in the area. Further, as a wilderness outfitter and further, as a wilderness outfitter and I spent many a night on McGee Mtn. with guide) watching as many as 250-300 deer in the bowls below Mts. Aggie and Morrison. For decades that number has dwindled for many reasons. Now we rarely see more than 25-40. Additionally, the Mammoth Airport wreaked havoc on one of the major migratory routes for the Casa Diablo herd (among others). Routing a bike trail through Solitude Canyon, then dropping into the Lakes Basin where equestrians and hikers already have tremendous safety issues with mixed use (bicycles), is one of the foolhardiest development attempts I’ve seen in my short 45 years here. The liability and risk to current users in the Lakes Basin, given the track record of bikes on steep mountain terrain, (dropping down into the basin) would be relentless. Further, this would be one more proverbial “straw that broke the camel’s back” for the already struggling deer herds.

Next, given the difficulty the Forest has in funding and staffing trail crews, why in the world would we be so imprudent as to think adding a trail such as this would be maintainable? Does the Forest expect to turn this over to another ‘non-profit’ to maintain? Does the Town of Mammoth plan to have excess revenues for maintenance over the coming years given their excessive debt (pension liability, airport litigation settlement, etc) and the effects of the recent pandemic on municipal jurisdiction coffers?

The scoping letter mentions a proliferation of hiking and riding trails. This is certainly one rationale for improving a trail system to increased classifications. In this particular case however, this is the incorrect rationale for a trail in Solitude, Signage, education, (print, digital, geo-tagging), recreation staff engagement – these are appropriate measures in this particular case. Dropping a trail in and over the ridge into the Lakes Basin would simply add to the proliferation of ‘off-trail’ use.

My last comment would be just to note the complete irony. As a permittee of the Forest Service I cannot even replace a hissing rain at our pack station without a NEPA analysis – probably at the level of an Environmental Assessment! Yet in this case the Forest believes no EA is necessary, but simply a single page Categorical Exclusion!

It seems a bit negligent and very concerning to realize this is the standard of clarity for the proponents and the Forest Service. Please re-think this proposal and leave Solitude Canyon to the deer. It’s just about all they have left.

Jennifer Roeser
Big Pine

Danielle Dublino
Mono City

Preserve Solitude

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Locals Save 20% on 2021 model ski boots this year. Loyal locals get 20% off our latest and greatest new models of boots, liners, and selected accessories which have just arrived in our stores. Whether you are an entry level skier, all mountain ripper, or a backcountry enthusiast, Surefoot boots, custom liners and insoles offer the comfort and performance you need.

Customers are encouraged to make appointments at surefoot.com.

New this year, the Surefoot Contoura liners offer a revolutionary internal heating system! Don’t miss our only sale on 2021 model ski boots this year. Loyal locals get 20% off our latest and greatest new models of boots, liners, and selected accessories which have just arrived in our stores. Whether you are an entry level skier, an all mountain ripper, or a backcountry enthusiast, Surefoot boots, custom liners and insoles offer the comfort and performance you need.

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October Madness Sale

Mammoth Lakes Trail Committee re-
Bobby Tanner, owner of Red's Meadow Resort, frames the issue this way.

“Should one agency be able to go grab a pile of money and then go do a project in someone else’s jurisdiction?”

What he’s referring to is the Town of Mammoth Lakes serving as the sponsoring local agency for the Red’s Meadow Road construction/rehabilitation project.

The $25 million project, to be funded by the Federal Highway Administration, is scheduled for 2023.

The project calls for two-laning the upper 2.5 miles of roadway and rehabilitating the lower 5.8 miles. After the project is completed, the Town of Mammoth Lakes would then take over maintenance of the road.

Maintenance will be funded via an agreement between the Town and ESTA (Eastern Sierra Transit Authority). $1 of every fare will go towards maintenance.

That agreement has already been in place for two years (but obviously not this year, when buses didn’t run). The fund already has $100,000 in it.

This year, when buses didn’t run (as Tanner points out), the Town took over. The project was completed in late October and the road is now open.

It actually lies in Madera County. And Madera County Supervisors Tom Wheeler is furious.

“I can’t believe what they [Mammoth] have done,” said Wheeler. “They’re flat-out liars … what makes you think you can take over a road [which sits within Madera’s boundaries] without talking to us? How’d you get a sphere of influence in our county? LAFCO [Local Agency Formation Commission] demands that you can’t just draw a line any old place without public notice. That City Manager [Mammoth Town Manager Dan Holler] can kiss my butt.”

Mammoth’s Public Works Director Haislip Hayes has a different take.

“This is not a town project,” he explained. “This is a federal project on federal land. It’s not a Madera County road even. Further, he said, this does not amount to a reinvention of the wheel. Rock Creek Road and Convict Lake Drive are just two local examples of the same type of deal, where a local agency (in these cases Mono County) became the local sponsor of a federal project. Hayes said that in the case of Red’s Meadow Road, he was simply following the Garrett Hig- gerd [former Mono County Public Works Director] playbook.

“We have a vested interest in the econ- omy and our tourists, added Hayes, and with Red’s Meadow Road falling apart, it was important the Town step in to get the project done. “I think it’s a benefit for the community. But you can never get through a project like this without someone telling you you suck.”

Mono County Supervisor Stacy Cor- less urged calm and collaboration. “If Madera wants to get involved,” she said, “We should welcome their input [as well as that of Tanner]. I’m no expert in road design, but … the person who’s worked down there [for decades] should have a hand in this needed.”

Both Tanner and Supervisor Wheeler think the design is excessive. If not flat out inappropriate.

Tanner said two-laning the top part of the road is almost self-defeating. “The accidents don’t occur up top where there are one-lane issues and turnouts. It’s a natural traffic calming. The acci- dents occur down below between Red’s and Agnew.”

“One time there’s a divider line, there’s entitlement,” added Tanner. “The top part of the road, as it stands, creates a ‘we’re in this together’ vibe.”

Sticking with a one-lane alternative up top would’ve shaved $10 million off the project, and been better for wildlife, contends Tanner.

Wheeler had this to say about the project: “They’re spending $25 million without fixing the turn into Devil’s Postpile. That’s crazy. I said, you people must be idiots. I could fix that turn with a grader for five grand.”

Is it a fait accompli?

To answer the above, it would seem to be - at least in regard to design.

As Tanner says, if you try to talk to Federal Highways, they claim their hands are tied and it’s the Town’s deal. The Town, meanwhile, claims it’s the Federal Highways deal. Both pass it off on the other.

The Forest Service and National Park Service appear split.

A Sheet public records request re- vealed this telling email sent by Mam- moth District Ranger Gordon Martin to Haislip Hayes on September 16, 2019:

“Unfortunately, Bobby and Deanne [Dulen, now retired Devil’s Postpile Superintendent] were there [at a stake- holders meeting] and brought up the improve the road without widening it option and the Madera County Board of Supervisors Rep. Tom Wheeler looked like he was buying it despite what Dan Holler and I had to say.”

“Dulen’s successor is Kevin Killian. The Sheet was unable to reach him for com- ment on the NPS position regarding this issue and whether it has changed.”

On January 15, 2020, Nora Gamino of the USFS sent this email to Hayes:

“Has there been any more involve- ment from Madera County? Or has that been put to rest? Pushing back one more year just allows one more year of end-runs by those who oppose the project.”

Two weeks later, the Project Engineer sent out information regarding the project schedule and proposed closures and hours, both daily and seasonally, to facilitate future construction.

Gamino asked Hayes if he’d respond- ed to the Engineer or engaged with taking the road the contents of the Engineer’s email.

Hayes: “I don’t have an issue with it. Have not engaged our partners since.”

And here lies the rub. As Stacy Corless observed gently, “Public relations is not Hayes’s strong suit. He wants to do what he wants to do.”

Tanner’s livelihood depends on the road getting open each June. He becomes captive to Town whims if the Town controls the road. It makes him nervous. The Town and Forest Service have shown little urgency in this regard of late.

Madera County filed a Freedom of In- formation Act request in October, 2019 just to figure out what was going on.

But Phil Moores, Executive Director of ESTA, says the Town deserves some credit. “I was in some of these meetings. I never witnessed any subversion or any efforts to get around Madera County. Town officials have always displayed a high integrity with me. The Town has been a great partner and is generous with its time and resources. Hayes has always being willing to help if a request is doable and within reason.”

Moores’ opinion seems unlikely to sway Madera’s Wheeler. He feels disrespected. He also doesn’t seem like someone you’d want to trifle with.

“The Town said if you raise a fuss, we’ll back off. But … they didn’t back off. Moving forward, Wheeler promised, “We’re slickers over here. Not rich a-holes from L.A. We don’t give up easy.”
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NEW ARTS ALLIANCE DEBUTS

Press Release

Shira Dubrovner, is excited to announce the formation of the Eastern Sierra Arts Alliance (ESAA), the new umbrella organization for Mammoth Lakes Repertory Theater and Mammoth Lakes Film Festival (MLFF). Eastern Sierra Arts Alliance was born in June of 2020 “to develop, produce and nurture performing and visual arts in the Eastern Sierra by providing year-round programming and creative support of the highest caliber, equal to any in the state, that inspires, educates, entertains, and provokes thought while also making a vital contribution to the community’s economy, culture and spirit.”

Dubrovner re-acquired MLRT, which she started in 2009, and MLFF after its previous umbrella organization relinquished its interest.

MLRT and Dubrovner didn’t miss a beat, hosting the Children’s Shakespeare Camp at Sam’s Wood Site in July following mandated Covid-19 rules. That was followed by a Shakespeare Intensive for Adults in late August.

What’s next for MLRT? “I’m incredibly excited to announce that one of Dubrovner’s first initiative and our third such event with Phil Olson on October 24 at 7 p.m. (we will have a very special live read of Shakespeare’s ‘Hamlet’ hosted by our own Sam Wood.) followed by a feedback/Q& A session with Phil, “ stated Dubrovner.

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“Phil Olson’s “Don’t Hug Me a Christmas Carol.”

MLRT also produced staged readings of two more of his original plays “Don’t Hug Me We’re Married,” and “Mom’s Gift.”

MLRT has more productions planned for its 2020-2021 season, although live on-stage performances will have to wait until, hopefully, 2021. Planned productions and events this season will include another on-line live reading later this year, the annual ‘Theatre for Young Audiences production, Tahoe Adventure Film Festival, the annual Poetry Out Loud high school competition, and more.

TAX DODGERS, BEWARE!

Mammoth Lakes Finance Director Rob Patterson reports $51k in TOT fines last quarter, collecting $50,420. Patterson reported that they expect to complete 50 audits during FY2020-21. July and August both set new records for TOT collection. Patterson noted that the threshold collections target set for January, $3.4 million, has already been exceeded by $200,000.

Creek becoming more navigable

The Creek Fire has subjected Mammoth Lakes to the worst air quality in the country in recent weeks. With that being said, the risk of the fire actually reaching town has diminished in the same timeframe.

Looking forward: Patterson reported that while TOT is relatively slow for short-term rentals safely, educating STR operators on proper protocols heading into winter, preparing for Business Certificate renewals, monthly TOT collections, and cannabis audit programs.

Patterson explained that beyond TOT enforcement, the Finance Department has a number of other focuses, namely restarting short-term rentals safely, educating STR operators on proper protocols heading into winter, preparing for Business Certificate renewals, monthly TOT collections, and cannabis audit programs.

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FORECAST: UNKNOWN

With the Creek Fire burning through the Sierra Nevada wilderness, ash falling from the sky in towns on the Eastside, and sub-freezing nightly temperatures, it feels like snow can’t come soon enough. So it was with some anticipation on Tuesday that the Mono County Board of Supervisors received a presentation from Chris Smallcomb of the National Weather Service in Reno on snow projections for the 2020-21 winter season.

The conclusion: Hard to say. It’s the weather.

Smallcomb began his presentation by noting that the danger from wildfires doesn’t simply go away when they are extinguished; fires dry out and loosen soils, making slopes much more prone to mudslides. He pointed to burn scars up Walker Canyon that would be “a reason to be worried if we do get some heavy rainfall this winter.”

In describing conditions up to this point, Smallcomb explained “it’s really hard to encapsulate what the summer has been, especially since August 15, it’s hard to come up with a series of ‘This is how bad it was’.”

Peak PM 2.5 AQI in Mammoth Lakes, he reported was 1,297; the threshold for hazardous conditions is 300.

August and September 2020 were the warmest in history for Bishop, with high temperatures accompanied by instances of smoke so thick that it would actually lower the temperature during the day. Bishop also set a September record temperature - 107 degrees achieved on September 4.

And to cap off the weirdness: Bodie State Park had its 11th wettest summer since 1963 with 3.65 inches of rain.

“Drought is back in the picture,” Smallcomb said, explaining the combination of a dryer-than-normal winter and excessive summer heat make the current scenario an entry level drought with the potential to increase in severity if the region experiences another dry winter.

He noted that Reno experienced its 9th driest water year from October 2019 to September 2020, with Bishop experiencing its 10th driest water year in the same period. He also displayed a graphic that showed Sierra Nevada snowfall dating back to 2015 that indicated that last year’s snowfall, while minimal for most of the season, was bolstered by heavy snow in March.

Drought, he explained, was part of what has made this year’s wildfire season so extreme: the severe drought period in the early 2010s killed off a lot of trees, creating a veritable tinderbox in the mountains.

Looking ahead, Smallcomb stated that pressure patterns indicate a weak La Nina system in the future, created by colder water temperatures over a large swath of ocean.

What does that mean for our winter? “Very very little,” Smallcomb explained, adding that the Eastern Sierra has seen very dry La Ninas as well as fairly wet La Ninas. For example, 2017, when the snowpack was the biggest it’s been in over 20 years, was a weak La Nina year.

In addition to La Nina, Smallcomb indicated that “The Blob,” a pocket of warm Pacific water that can push jet streams north, has returned, although he added that the presence of the warm water doesn’t mean anything conclusive.

After modeling multiple scenarios for the Eastern Sierra, Smallcomb reported that “anything is on the table when it comes to this coming winter.” His models estimated both below and above average precipitation for the year.

“Going into this winter, be ready for anything,” he said, “There is no clear indication of a particularly scenario being favored over the other.” He also stated that the region’s first rains, typically expected in early October, have yet to fall.

Talk about stating the obvious.

Smallcomb returned to the topic of wildfires and mudslides towards the end of his presentation, stating that extreme wind events are still not out of the question for fire activity and that convincing the public that fires are still a threat will be a challenge. While wind events can be easier to detect and predict, Smallcomb explained that mudslides are much harder to pinpoint and can occur with little warning.

Despite the fact that mud and landslides would require fairly substantial rain, narrow cold frontal rainbands can occur in the winter (skin to squalls in the Northeast) that can drop heavy rains very quickly. The Creek Fire, he added, is a perfect candidate for mud and landslides as it has been burning extremely hot and emitting smoke plumes. While the western side of the Sierras is at greater risk from that particular fire, old fire scars in Mono County (including this year’s Slink Fire) increase the potential for local landslides.

Last Six Winters on April 1st - NASA Satellite View

![NASA Satellite View of April 1st in the Eastern Sierra](image)

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RAMIREZ STEPS OFF ESCA BOARD

P

at Ramirez, founder of the Eastern Sierra Cancer Alliance and President for the first 19 years of its existence, has passed the torch and stepped down from the board.

Ramirez was inspired to found a cancer support organization in 1999. She was working as an R.N. at Northern Inyo Hospital when she signed up for a three-day walk for cancer event put on by Avon. It was a 60-mile supported walk from Santa Barbara to Malibu. You brought a sleeping bag and the event organizers did the rest.

At home, her cancer patients had expressed their insecurities to her. About travel and cost and the unknowns associated with battling disease.

In 2001, Ramirez placed an ad in the Register about doing a cancer event. The community service section of the Inyo Sierras Cancer Alliance and President for the first 19 years of its existence, has passed the torch and stepped down from the board.

10 strong board members, she’s got the organization is in good shape, with administrative costs are minimal. ESCA also sponsors a cancer support group and mentorship program, pairing someone who’s received a new diagnosis with someone who’s been through the process.

Ramirez is stepping aside because the organization is in good shape, with 11 strong board members, she’s got two grandchildren and ... it’s just time. Ramirez, who retired from NIH six years ago, will continue to volunteer for ESCA.

9/11. 100 people participated, including volunteers. The event raised $800. From that modest beginning, there’s been incremental positive growth, and ESCA has become more of a regional phenomenon. “Clubs now approach ESCA saying they want to do an event for us,” says Ramirez.

ESCA now raises between $50,000 to $55,000 annually. More than 90% of that money goes to financial aid, says Ramirez, as administrative costs are minimal. ESCA also sponsors a cancer support group and mentorship program, pairing someone who’s received a new diagnosis with someone who’s been through the process.

Ramirez is stepping aside because the organization is in good shape, with 11 strong board members, she’s got two grandchildren and ... it’s just time. Ramirez, who retired from NIH six years ago, will continue to volunteer for ESCA.

Macey draws right card

Jim Macey was appointed to a vacant position on the Keeler Community Services District on Tuesday in a most unusual manner. By a draw of the cards.

Inyo County Supervisors chose not to choose between Macey and Alice Roberts, resorting to a card draw as opposed to a coin flip. Because, well, they must’ve thought it was more dramatic that way.

Inyo District Five Supervisor Matt Kingsley described Macey and Roberts as being candidates from two rival factions in the Keeler community, and more or less said he didn’t want to get in the middle of a family argument. The Sheet later learned that Inyo County Sheriff’s deputies have been called out to Keeler CSD meetings on multiple occasions.

Inyo County Clerk-Recorder Kammi Foote broke out a deck of cards and started dealing cards out until each candidate for the position told her to stop. Then she’d flip the next card over and that was their card.

Roberts went first and drew a seven. Macey followed by drawing a king.

NIH reports strong turnaround

At its board meeting Wednesday, Northern Inyo Hospital District’s Fiscal Consultant Vinay Behl reported a healthy rebound in NIH’s financial outlook over the July-September time period.

Beli said patient visits have stabilized following the steep Covid-related dip in the spring. Gross margins have improved in the post-Kevin Flanagan era from 17.9% in FY 2018-2019 to approximately 26% during the July-September timeframe. Net margins have similarly improved from 1-2% to above 8%.

While Beli said this doesn’t necessarily mean these margins are sustainable, they are good strong numbers at a time the District could use good strong numbers.

Upon probing by NIH board candidate Kyle Wakamiya, Beli did acknowledge that he has discovered some accounting inconsistencies, possibly attributable to Athena, the Hospital’s former EHR (Electronic Health Record) provider.

The Board quickly squashed further conversation between Wakamiya and Beli, who said he didn’t want to question the credibility of the hospital’s last audit. At least not yet.

NIH also received a presentation from CHC Supply Trust, which estimates that it can save the District 23% off what it currently spends on medical supplies. This equates to approximately $2.4 million per year in savings.

The deal comes with a one-year out clause, so if NIH is dissatisfied with CHC’s performance, it can cut ties after one year without penalty.

In personnel news, Dr. Charlotte Helvie has replaced Dr. Stacey Brown as Medical Director. Dr. Charlotte Helvie has replaced Dr. Stacey Brown as Medical Director. Dr. Charlotte Helvie has replaced Dr. Stacey Brown as Medical Director.

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VOTE =
Heidi Steenstra
Mammoth Lakes Town Council

“"In her role of property manager, I have seen Heidi handle issues with care and compassion. Conversely, Heidi can be tenacious in pursuit of what she believes to be right. Heidi’s word is her bond.”

- DENNIS J. DOWNS
Board Member/ Sherwin Villas HOA
Retired Pasadena Fire Chief

“I need to work with Heidi, she’s easy to communicate with and committed to completing projects. Heidi is a hard worker and says what she is going to do”

- GREG JENNISON
Contractor
Member, Lions Club

hcsteenstra@gmail.com • 760-709-1051
Paid for by Heidi Steenstra

SCHOOL DISTRICT TRUSTEE

RE-ELECT!
Vote Jimmy Little for Eastern Sierra Unified School District Trustee Area 3
PAID FOR BY JIMMY LITTLE
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

FOR SHOW TIMES & TICKET PRICES
VISIT TRICOUNTYFAIR.COM
I couldn’t help but watch.

I had dropped off my daughter for violin class at the Tri-County Fairgrounds and in the field behind the Home Ec building, there were various dog owners taking turns leading their charges through a variety of obstacles. What particularly grabbed my attention: the excitement of the dogs. They were absolutely thrilled by the task at hand.

A closer look revealed the identity of the dog owners: Lynne Almeida, Raven Angeles, Pam Barker, Johnny Williams and Sherry Dodson. They are among 16 members of the Eastern Sierra Agility Group, a club that trains dogs and travels to competitions in Reno, Sacramento and Southern California.

The club’s been going for about 15 years now.

Almeida said she initially got into dog training when she lived in the Bay Area, and she purchased some of the obstacles/equipment when she got here. She then decided to host an agility day with local dog trainer Angie Tapley. Raven Angeles saw an advertisement at Spellbinder Books for the workshop. That’s what got her attention initially.

Sherry Dodson recalled that 60 people signed up for the class, which had to be broken into three sections just to accommodate demand.

As Dodson says, she had this little black dog Whitney whom she called “a snot.”

But by the third time on the course, Whitney was like, ‘Hey, I’m into this.’

Dodson was, too.

But after that initial class, that was kind of it. Tapley is a traditional dog trainer - not an agility trainer - and Dodson think much more of it until she heard of two people working dogs at the Whitmore ballfields off of Benton Crossing Road: Linda Fuller and Bobbie Eddy.

The core of Almeida, Dodson and Eddy has been together ever since.

Currently, the group meets Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays at the Fairgrounds. The meetings of late have been Covid-sensitive and smoke-dependent. As Lynne says, there’s no particular breed or type of dog that’s perfect. A number of the dogs are mutts and come from the Shelter. What it’s really about, and what really makes a good competition dog, is the will and the drive.

Almeida explained that there are four competition levels. The hardest level features up to 20 obstacles on a course.

At the highest level, trainers can earn extra points if they direct their dogs from a specified area vs. being on-course with the animal.

That’s what I saw this week when Bobbie Eddy was on-course with her dog Crius.

Crius, a Belgian Malinois, was adopted by Eddy after he was passed over by the military.

It usually takes a beginning trainer a few years to get their first dog up to speed.

Lynne said her last dog probably peaked at age nine and competed until age 12.

Dogs have to be 18 months old to compete.

The group typically hosts a home event in Bishop - the High Sierra Challenge held each August. Though the event wasn’t held this year.
MMSA continued from page 1

Brownlie said, “You’re at the top of the run, the horizon’s very murky and it’s difficult to see, and during those vague times, when it’s hard to have confidence, it’s very easy to move to the heels of your feet.”

“When you’re on the heels of your feet,” he continued, “you feel every single tremor through your heels and it’s very rattling to your confidence. If you can get more towards the balls of your feet in a ready position, it’s much easier to navigate to the bottom of the ski run safely and with confidence.”

And so, as he described, the staff at Mammoth and June will be on the balls of their feet and ready for the coming winter.

MMSA’s key focuses as outlined by Brownlie include 100% mask compliance at both Mammoth and June, cleanliness and sanitation, social distancing both on and off the slopes, and prioritizing Ikon passholders as well as local passholders.

He also acknowledged that there would still be busy days at the mountains this season, but noted that while maximum lift capacity hovers around 60,000 people up the lifts in a given hour, this year’s maximums are estimated to be closer to 15,000/hour.

On peak days, daily tickets will be restricted in order to prevent overcrowding, with walk-up tickets eliminated entirely for the foreseeable future. “We will operate very safely,” Brownlie added, “and we’re not going to open the floodgates too quickly on the horizon’s very murky and there are no guarantees.”

Woolly’s Parade and Night of Lights will not be happening this year, although MMSA is exploring options to engage with guests.

The final question of the night: “Do you think there will be a big financial impact for Mammoth with new protocols this season?”

“Definitely … yes is the answer,” Brownlie answered. Referring to enhanced protocols, different staffing levels, and lower capacities, he continued, “It’s a sign of Alterra, Rusty, and our commitment to our Ikon Pass holders and making sure that that part of our global mountain community is looked after to the highest level possible.”

In addition, employees will have formalized testing protocols that were fine-tuned over the course of Mammoth Mountain’s summer operations.

One viewer asked how MMSA will handle upper mountain closures and the subsequent increase in skiers and snowboarders on the lower mountain. “We have real mountains and we have weather that’s very serious,” conceded Brownlie, adding that the marketing department would push notifications of severe conditions early on so that people could decide to take the day off from skiing.

More information gleaned from questions: lift tickets will be on sale in the next two weeks with no reservation system in place to restrict visitors, parking will look very similar to how it has in previous years, lift lines will be dedicated to space people out (no single line this year). Bars will be open in lodges but drinks are strictly to-go; employees will be able to ride on off-days like normal. Ski rentals will be pre-sized, fitted, and ready to go at a locker with minimal face-to-face interactions.

And a general suggestion that you’re better off lining up your tickets first and then your lodging, because there are no guarantees.

Brownlie included 100% mask compliance at both Mammoth and June, cleanliness and sanitation, social distancing both on and off the slopes, and prioritizing Ikon passholders as well as local passholders.

The remaining 45 minutes or so of the presentation were devoted to a question and answer session. Regarding questions about masks, Brownlie stated that all mountain employees will enforce compliance, with the minimum standard for a mask as a double buff. Riders will most likely carry a mask with them to wear in line and on the lifts, and will be allowed to remove the mask once they get off the lift.
Sierra Employment Services, Inc.
760-924-0523 or 760-873-8599

Mammoth Taxi is accepting resumes for experienced drivers with great customer service and clean driving records. We are also looking for office staff, receptionists, and customer service. Please inquire with Scottie at 760-914-7433. www.mammoth-taxi.com.

**Help Wanted**

**Mammoth Taxi**

14 I NO CLASS-IFIEDS/NOTICES I THE SHEET I Saturday, October 24, 2020

Sierra Employment Services, Inc.
760-924-0523 or 760-873-8599

**Help Wanted**

The Alpenglow Lodge is accepting applications to fill full-time & part-time, year round (and seasonal) positions. Flexible hours and competitive wages for front desk, night audit and housekeeping positions. Applicants must be available to work week ends and holidays. Housing available for the right individual. Please apply in person at 6800 Minaret Rd., Mammoth Lakes.

**Town of Mammoth Lakes Open Positions**

The Town is looking for dedicated people with experience in snow removal, street maintenance, and/or construction to join Public Works Department. Permanent and temporary positions available.

**Public Works Maintenance Worker**

$43,250 - $60,780 | competitive benefits
Temporary Snow Removal Operators

Temporary Airport Maintenance Worker

$24.54 - $28.41/hr - CDL required.
Temporary Airport Maintenance Worker

Pay starts at $24.54 - $28.41/hr. CDL preferable, but not required.

Position will be filled asap. For more information and to apply, visit www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov, or call (760) 995-4321.

**Convict Lake Resort**

Main Office or Court is hiring this is a part-time, seasonal job. We are looking for a cook to help with the food service, including prep work and cleaning. We are also hiring a full-time Janitor for facilities cleaning and maintenance. Call Karen at 760-934-2475 or e-mail kmclaw@convictlake.com to apply.

**Laundry Attendant at High Mountain Lodging**

Mammoth Spa is looking for a full-time person to work in the spa. Responsibilities include cleaning, preparing, and stocking spa supplies. Must be able to lift up to 50 lbs, maintain high standards of cleanliness, and have the ability to work in a fast-paced environment. Please call mammoth@blacktieskis.com if you are interested.

**Children’s Bedtime Program**

Mammoth Lakes is looking for a full-time staff member to work with children in the children’s bedtime program. The position includes assisting with the bedtime routine, helping with reading, and ensuring children are settled for bed. Experience with children is preferred, but not required. Heavy lifting is required. These positions offers vacation accrual, a $50 weekly stipend, benefits, family & friend discounts and end of year bonus based on hours worked and season completion. We take COVID precautions very seriously. We’ve worked with our local health department to ensure maximum safety for our employees and guests. We comply with all California/Mono County directives for COVID-19 including: cleaning, distancing, capacity, hand washing and face covering. If you’re passionate about snow or snowboarding and/or sharing that passion with guests of all ages in our community, this could be a great opportunity for you. Please e-mail a resume to reservations@mammoth@blacktieskis.com if you are interested in joining our team.

**Black Tie Ski Rentals**

Is looking for a full-time employee to join our team. As a part of the Title IV-D child support enforcement program. For additional information about the program, please contact the Missouri Department of Social Services, 210 N. Broadway, Jefferson City, MO 65101. For more information, please call 1-800-377-4325.

**Job Position**

In the majestic pines area, partially or unfurnished ML apt. Wood stove, propane furnace upstairs, 1 car garage. Year lease only $1,900 299 manzanita. Call 760-937-7569.

4 BDR / 3 BA home for rent in The majestic pines area, partially or unfurnished Call Karen 760-937-6332

**Fictitious Business Name Statement**

The Following Person is Doing Business As: Boooky Joint

For Rent

2 BDR/1BA unfurnished ML apt, Wood stove, propane furnace upstairs, 1 car garage. Year lease only $1,900 299 manzanita. Call 760-937-7569.

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**Calendar of Events**

**Saturday, October 24/ 5th Annual Eastern Sierra History Conference.** This year the conference will be a one-day virtual historical experience featuring live speaker presentations and panel discussions in the morning from 9-12, followed by an afternoon of virtual historical tours. Info: Sierraforever.org

**Roxanne Tallman Memorial celebration.** 12-6 p.m. Mono County Free Flu Clinic @ the Mono County Civic Center in Mammoth Lakes. Time: 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

**Friends of the Inyo invites you to join a rally in support of public land protection and against a mining project at Conglomerate Mesa.** 12-2 p.m. Downtown Lone Pine. Posters/masks will be available to Spahnower Park Mammoth Lakes Repertory Theater presents a special live reading of a new play - BIRTHDAY CLUB, by playwright Phil Olson, followed by a Q&A session with the author. This special FREE event will be on-line: Join the zoom performance: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86378078028?pwd=T0lMdlVDb2JrUXd4b2FicWltQ2RrZz09 Meeting ID: 847 1212 2492 Passcode: 019399

**Monday, October 26/ Bishop City Council meets 6 p.m.** Go to https://www.cityofbishop.com/government/city-council/ for agendas and viewing Mono County Free Flu Clinic @ the June Lake Community Center. Time: 2-5 p.m.

**Tuesday, October 27/ Inyo County Board of Supervisors meets @ 5 p.m.** Go to https://www.inyocounty.us/government/meets @ 8:30 a.m.

**Wednesday, October 28/ The New Normal: Coping in a Covid World.** Join Mono County Public Health for a weekly seminar focused on addressing community well-being and stress. Time: 5:30-6:30 p.m. Viewing at https://monocounty.zoom.us/j/95312636380

**Thursday, October 29/ Mammoth Lakes Tourism Community Coffee.** Time: 8-9 a.m. Join at https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86378078028

**October 26-30/ Mono Makes Arts: Theater with Deja Series.** The Mono Arts Council is hosting three virtual theater classes for children ages K-12, with a focus on Latinx-themed movies, plays and/or musicals. Time: 4-5 p.m. Free. Info and registration: visit https://www.monoarts.org/events

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**Mammoth Lakes Recreation / Board meets @ 5 p.m.** Viewing available online through Granicus Mono Arts Council Sterling Silver Pendants with Danielle Dublino, Join local Danielle Dublino for an instructional in-person class on making your own silver pendant. Time: 5:30-8:30 p.m. @ the Mono Arts Council building in Mammoth Lakes. Cost: $45. Info and registration: visit https://www.monoarts.org/events

**Ongoing/ Evolution of Storytelling Project: Illustrated Stories Series.** Join local artist and Mono County Library Makerspace Coordinator Lori Michelon for one or more interactive, virtual workshops in illustrated storytelling. For scheduling details and free registration, visit monocolibraries.org --> Programs --> Programs --> Evolution of Storytelling Project See Ad Page 2
Notice of Ordinance

ORDINANCE NO. 03-19
AN ORDINANCE OF THE MONO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ADOPTING CHAP. 5.70 TO THE Mono County Code Pertaining to the Local Regulation and Permitting of Industrial Hemp Operations Within the Unincorporated Area of the County.

WHEREAS, the Agricultural Improvement Act of 2018 (the “2018 Farm Bill”) effectively legalized industrial hemp cultivation on federal level by removing it from the Controlled Substances Act; placed regulatory authority with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), and allowed state departments of agriculture to develop and implement programs to regulate hemp cultivation per their state-specific programs; and

WHEREAS, the 2018 Farm Bill legalized the cultivation of industrial hemp in the California Industrial Hemp Act of 2017, and the state of California has yet to adopt a regulatory framework for hemp cultivation within the unincorporated areas of the County; the challenges posed by its similarities to commercial cannabis (e.g., color, security, public safety, etc.); and concerns over cross-pollination; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, the Board adopted a moratorium on any approval for hemp cultivation within the unincorporated areas of the County through 2021, allowing the Board to review and adopt rules and regulations that would provide for the time for the State to adopt permanent rules and regulations within the state; and

WHEREAS, the Mono County Community Development Department (the “Department”) prepared a report containing four concerns throughout the County on potential land use restrictions for hemp cultivation; and

WHEREAS, the Board held a second workshop in 2020 on industrial hemp cultivation to consider community feedback provided for the Department’s report and the four concerns identified in the County on potential land use restrictions for hemp cultivation; and

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF MONO ORDAINS that:

SECTION I: Chapter 5.70 is hereby added to the Mono County Code, to read as follows:

Chapter 5.70

INFERNO

SECTIONS: 5.70.010 Purpose. 5.70.020 Definitions. 5.70.030 Prohibitions.

5.70.010 Purpose. The purpose of this Ordinance is to establish local regulations and permitting processes for industrial Hemp operations within the unincorporated area of Mono County.

5.70.020 Definitions. Industrial hemp is defined as a fiber or oilseed crop, or both, derived from the Cannabis sativa L. having no more than three-tenths of 1 percent (.3%) tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) in its dried flowering tops, whether growing or not; the seeds of the plant; the leaves, stems, and roots of the plant; and every compound, manufacturer, sad, derivative, mixture, or preparation of the plants, its seeds or resin produced therefrom.

5.70.030 Prohibition. No industrial hemp cultivation within the unincorporated area of Mono County is strictly prohibited.

SECTION TWO: The ordinance is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15061.03(c) (the act will not result in a direct or indirect increase in emissions) and Section 15061.031(c)(5) (the activity is not a new construction project); and the ordinance is not a new construction project as defined by the CEQA guidelines, because it has no potential for resulting in physical environmental change, directly or indirectly.

SECTION THREE: Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective 30 days after the date of its adoption and final passage, which appears immediately below. The Clerk of the Board of Supervisors shall post this ordinance and also publish it in the manner prescribed by Government Code section 25234 to 25241 to 15 days after the date of its adoption and final passage. If the Clerk of the Board fails to post this ordinance or publish it by the 15-day period, then the ordinance shall not take effect until 15 days after the date of publication.

PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED this 13th day of October, 2020, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES: Supervisors Corless, Gardiner, Kreutz, Peters, and Stump.
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

Stacy Corless, Chair
Mono County Board of Supervisors
ATTEST: Quamee Barrand
Chief of Clerks

Notice of Ordinance

ORDINANCE NO. 02-19
AN URGENT ORDINANCE OF THE MONO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CONTINUING PROHIBITION OF OPEN FIRES FROM PRIVATE PROPERTY WITHIN UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF MONO COUNTY PROVINCING DIRECTIONS FOR THE OPENING OF LUNDY CAMPGROUND, AND SUPERSEADING AND REPEATING MONO COUNTY ORDINANCE ORD20-06

WHEREAS, on June 27, 2020, citing ongoing drought conditions, well below average rain and snowfall, and extreme dry conditions, the Mono- Inyo National Forest and Bureau of Land Management Bishop Office issued restrictions on open fires on federal lands in the Eastern Sierras, which restrictions remain in effect; and

WHEREAS, therefor, on September 7th, California’s Governor Gavin Newsom declared a state of emergency in Mono and Inyo Counties due to extreme dry conditions, which includes the Lundy Inyo National Forest, and the Forest Service has closed all National Forests in California due to extreme fire conditions, this closure included the Inyo National Forest which encompasses portions of both Mono and Inyo Counties; and

WHEREAS, the Lundy Fire, which was first reported on August 29, 2020, continues to grow north of the Mono County area, and has now impacted more than 26,000 acres while the Creek Fire to the west of Mammoth Lakes has burned more than 30,000 acres; and

WHEREAS, in light of the extreme fire danger facing both the State of California, and Mono County specifically, the Mono County Board of Supervisors adopted an urgency ordinance on September 4, 2020 (ORD20-06) prohibiting the maintenance of open fires on private lands within the County, without a permit, to close the County-operated campground at Lundy Lake; and

WHEREAS, on September 17th, the Board of Supervisors adopted an urgency ordinance that had open fires for Lundy Campground closed; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors reviewed at every subsequent meeting of the Board to determine and adopt reasonable restrictions on outdoor fires, and

WHEREAS, the Board has now determined that Lundy Campground should reopen at such time as the US Forest Service reopens its campgrounds within the Inyo National Forest, and

WHEREAS, this ordinance supersedes and replaces urgency ordinance ORD20-06 and is therefore adopted on an emergency basis due to the extreme conditions to act in the public interest, public safety, and welfare of the citizens and natural environment of the County from further harm and risk due to extreme wildfire and fire hazard conditions, that not complies with the requirements and align the state hemp program with federal law; and

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF MONO ORDAINS that:

SECTION ONE: The above restrictions are adopted as findings of the Board of Supervisors.

SECTION TWO: The closure of Lundy Campground shall remain in effect only until such time as the US Forest Service reopens its campgrounds within the Inyo National Forest. The Board reserves the right to modify or extend this Ordinance if conditions change. However, the Board has determined the closure of Lundy Campground is due for the Inyo National Forest, or if conditions otherwise so warrant.

SECTION THREE: Outdoor fires, including campfires, barbecues, or any other open flame fire (but excluding barbecues used for cooking) shall continue to be prohibited on all private lands within the unincorporated area of Mono County. This prohibition shall be reviewed by the Board at each regular meeting of the Board, until terminated by action of the Board.

SECTION FOUR: This ordinance supersedes and replaces an emergency ordinance adopted on May 6, 2020, and shall become effective immediately upon adoption as an urgency measure pursuant to Government Code sections 25331 and 25333. This ordinance continues any existing state or local prohibitions and also publishes it or a summary thereof in the manner prescribed by Government Code section 25242 no later than 15 days after the date of its adoption.

PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED this 6th day of October, 2020, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES: Supervisors Corless, Gardiner, Kreutz, Peters, and Stump.
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

Stacy Corless, Chair
Mono County Board of Supervisors
ATTEST: Quamee Barrand
Chief of Clerks

Notice of Sale of Surplus Goods

MAMMOTH COMMUNITY WATER DISTRICT
SALE OF SURPLUS GOODS

Notice is hereby given that Mammoth Community Water District (MCWD) will sell the following surplus items:

Ford Econoline Van, Model: Club Wagon, VIN: 1FBHS1VN8X0693444
Minimum Bid: $2,000.00 (two thousand dollars)

Odometer Reading: 230,143 miles

Ison Number: 072055

1991 Supero Runner Air Compressor, Model: P18930ID, S/N: CZ7091P172
Minimum Bid: $20,000.00 (fifty dollars)

Public Notice

Surplus Vehicle Auction

In accordance with District Purchasing Policy #2.7, the Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District will be disposing of three surplus vehicles. The vehicles have reached maximum bid amounts and will be accepted sealing bids for each vehicle at 157 Short Street, Bishop, CA until November 12, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. Bids will be opened by the District at 4:00 p.m. and each vehicle will be sold to the highest bidder.

For Bid Forms and details, please visit: www.dbapocd.org/vehicleauction

Contact Susan Cash at (760) 872-8211 or SCash@dbapocd.com for more information.

Fictitious Business Name Statement

The following Person Is Doing Business As:

Mammoth Business Essentials
Samuel Taylor
P.O. Box 100
Mammoth Lakes, Ca. 93546

This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on January 1, 2019. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on September 17, 2020. Notice of Ordinance No. 2-20 bid form number in 2017-0171 (10/3/10, 10/17/10, 10/24/10)

Fictitious Business Name Statement

The following Person Is Doing Business As:

Ricky Kochloz
2289 Sierra Nevada Road, P.O. Box 238
Mammoth Lakes, Ca. 93546

This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on September 7, 2020. Notice of Ordinance No. 2-20 bid form number in 2020-0171 (10/3/10, 10/17/10, 10/24/10)

Notice of Local Ordinance

CENTRAL LOCATION FOR COUNTING "VOTE-BY-MAIL" BALLOTS CAST DURING THE PRESIDENTIAL GENERAL ELECTION 2020

Will be at the following location:
Mono County Clerk, Recorder/Register of Deeds
74 School Street, Amador, I Library Building
SHANNON KENDALL
MONO COUNTY CLERK/RECORDER/REGISTRAR
TS #2020-0188

PUBLIC NOTICES
NOTICES

ELECTION DAY IS TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2020

- Have you returned your mailed ballot to the Elections Office? If not, do so immediately!
  They must be postmarked by Election Day:
  1. You can take your ballot to the post office, any polling location, one of our secure ballot drop boxes, or our Bridgeport Office.
  2. Please make sure to sign the outside of your envelope.

YOU CAN STILL VOTE IN PERSON IF YOU CHOOSE!
All six polling locations are open on Election Day from 7 A.M. – 8 P.M.

01 Antelope: Walker Community Center
442 Mule Deer Dr, Walker, CA 96107

03 Bridgeport: Bridgeport Memorial Hall
73 No. School St, Bridgeport, CA 93517

04 Tri-Valley: Chalfant Community Center
123 Valley Rd, Chalfant Valley, CA 93514

05 June Lake: June Lake Community Center
90 W. Granite St, June Lake, CA 93529

07 Long Valley: Crowley Lakes Community Center
58 Pearson Rd, Crowley Lake, CA 93546
365 Sierra Park, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

08 Mammoth Meadow
09 Mammoth Minaret
10 Mammoth Pinecrest
12 Mammoth View
13 Old Mammoth
Mammoth Lakes High School
Multipurpose Room
365 Sierra Park, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

Please bring your unvoted mail ballot to the polling place so you can vote a regular ballot!
All locations will be adhering to state and local COVID-19 guidelines!

Notice of Public Hearing
Zoning Code Amendment (ZCA) 20-002 and 20-003
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Wednesday, November 4, 2020, beginning at 5:00 p.m. and continuing until finished at the Town Council Chambers, Suite 2, within the Minaret Village Shopping Center, 437 Old Mammoth Road, or by teleconference due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Mammoth Lakes Town Council will hear a request for the following:

Application Request: Zoning Code Amendment 20-002 — Cleanup of Municipal Code cannabis Chapter 5.58 and Section 17.140.085 to make organizational changes and allow cannabis delivery in accordance with State law.

Application Request: Zoning Code Amendment 20-003 — Amend various sections of the Town of Mammoth Lakes Zoning Code to: (1) Amend Section 17.140.03 to clarify the timing of appeals; (2) Amend Section 17.140.03 to clarify the time limit for permits; conditions of approval or notice where the test of the specified number of days falls on a weekend or holiday; (3) Amend Section 17.35.050 to change the Director’s pronoun; (4) Amend Table 17.20.030 to specify a density of 273.37363636 units in the RMF 1 and RMF 2 zones for group living quarters; (5) Amend Table 17.76.020 to clarify that lot coverage adjustments are permitted a five percentage point increase; (6) Amend Section 17.140.020 to allow propane tank and generator pads to be excluded from lot coverage calculations; (7) Amend Section 17.08.030 to clarify portable spas, hot tubs, and fish ponds must comply with side and rear setback requirements; and (8) Amend Section 17.04.020 to remove the use permit requirement for destroyed nonconforming multi-family structures.

PECD Determination: The Planning and Economic Development Commission (PEDC) considered Zoning Code Amendments (ZCA) 20-002 and 20-003 at a noticed public hearing on October 14, 2020, and recommended that the Town Council adopt ZCA 20-002 and 20-003 as recommended by staff.

CEQA Determination: Exempt pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21063.3 and State CEQA Guidelines section 15163.

Location: Town-wide
Zoning: All Zoning Districts
Proponent: Town of Mammoth Lakes

All persons having an interest in the proposed application request may appear before the Planning & Economic Development Commission either in person or represented by counsel and present testimony or, prior to said hearing, file with the Executive Secretary written correspondence pertaining thereto. Pursuant to Government Code Section 65022(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice or in written correspondence delivered to the Town of Mammoth Lakes at, or prior to, the public hearing. For additional information, or to obtain a copy of the staff report which will be published no later than October 9, 2020, contact Michael Petek, Assistant Planner, at (760) 934-7400, or visit http://mammothlakes.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view=cd R to review the agenda and staff report for the meeting. Facsimiles may be sent to (760) 934-7405, or email at mpetek@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov.

Planning & Economic Development Commission (P.O. Box 1699) Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

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In The Village

TS #2020-0184
“Having the level of position in town that understands this, that believes in this, that can engage at this level with our federal partners, I think, will carry us a long way,” he concluded.

The cap hit: between $92,085 and $119,710 in base salary plus benefits. The funding would be allocated from the General Fund and Measures P and U, although the amounts are not yet finalized. Hiring would begin after January 1, 2021.

Holler repeatedly emphasized that the position would consolidate work already being done in multiple town departments and free up staff time to devote to other issues.

Despite Holler’s passion, Councilmember Cleland Hoff wasn’t having it. She prefaced her comments by saying, “I only have two more meetings after this so I can be a little more candid about this.”

“Position,” Hoff said, “is not only unnecessary, I do not see any need for it, but I feel as though that money can be better spent in other ways.”

“Everything that we have to deal with is just getting tighter and tighter and tighter. We’re not going to find that ‘blue unicorn’ and if we do find that ‘blue unicorn’, you can guarantee he is going to cost so much more than you are giving me credit for, “ she said, “Do not say that my thoughts on this matter are [what they are] because I do not understand you. So I’m sorry if I interrupted you.”

Holler explained that the vote would not commit the town to funding the position yet, calling the current item “more of a discussion.”

Prior to voting, Hoff got in a closing statement: “Again, it’s almost a motion that we’re going to think about thinking about a position and I seriously do not understand where this is coming from and why this is coming up at this point.”

The motion passed by a vote of 3-2: Stapp and Hoff voted no; Sauser, Wentworth, and Salcido voted yes.

This discussion came after a previous motion passed that authorized an agreement between Mammoth Lakes and Mono county to establish the position of Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Coordinator, a role to be filled by Matt Paruolo.

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

### A:
Colonoscopy Prep.

“Everything that we have to deal with is just getting tighter and tighter and tighter. We’re not going to find that ‘blue unicorn’ and if we do find that ‘blue unicorn’, you can guarantee he is going to cost so much more than you are giving me credit for, “ she said, “Do not say that my thoughts on this matter are [what they are] because I do not understand you. So I’m sorry if I interrupted you.”

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A LEGACY OF TRASH
Nancy Isenberg’s White Trash explores class, race, and how we arrived at today

By Nancy Isenberg

White Trash
By Nancy Isenberg
Penguin Books
462 p. (2016)

“This book tells many stories,” Nancy Isenberg writes in the preface of White Trash, “One is the importance of America’s rural past. Another, and arguably the most important, is the one we as a people have trouble embracing: the pervasiveness of a class hierarchy in the United States. It begins and ends with the concepts of land and property ownership: class identity and the material and metaphoric meaning of land are closely connected.”

Isenberg’s book came out in the midst of the 2016 election season and the paperback edition provides an update on Donald Trump’s victory that year.

Isenberg theorized, based on Trump’s win, that the nature of Trump’s win in 2016 is precisely what Isenberg’s book provides context for; classist explanations for the outcome spoke to America’s struggle with class and wealth.

“Terms like “cracker,” "redneck," “hillbilly,” and “mudsill” are dissected, their class-based origins revealed and discussed.”

Isenberg’s tale starts at the outset of American colonization by the British, with Roanoke and Jamestown.

Sixteenth-century British settlements in the New World were not necessarily designed to flourish; often they served a function of removing those deemed undesirable by English society, most often the poor.

These undesirables were sent or enticed to a new life in the colonies where the risk of death was incredible high and the opportunity for reward extremely low. Promoters of the New World saw it as a “giant workhouse.”

As the “waste firm of America” was settled, it would become a place where the surplus poor, the waste people of England, could be converted into economic assets,” Isenberg writes. “The land and the poor could be harvested together, to add to—rather than continue to subtract from—the nation’s wealth.”

By design, America was a place where the poor were sent to die or be productive. And the story that Isenberg tells continues that line through the generations of American history.

The end line is such: since America’s inception as a colony, it has had an underclass of poor white folks. And rather than be uplifted and encouraged, the upper classes have consistently denigrated and looked upon them, writing them off as hopeless causes destined to forever be destitute.

Isenberg traces this line, and the popular thought that agreed. While much of the early chapters are devoted to colonial and post-revolution theories of governance/class, the book takes off as the story progresses into the mid-nineteenth century and the Civil War.

Terms like “cracker,” "redneck," “hillbilly,” and “mudsill” are dissected, their class-based origins revealed and discussed.

Pro-slavery Southerners at the time, like Daniel Hundley, insisted that “poor whites suffered from a corrupt pedigree and cursed lineage. Class was congenital ... For Hundley and many others, it was bloodline that made poor whites ‘a notorious race.’ Bad blood and vulgar breeding told the real story of white trash,” Isenberg writes.

She discusses how the Civil War, fought over slavery, was a prime of example of exploitation on the part of the wealthy in the South. Service exemptions were granted to rich, land (and slave) owning Southerners while poor farmers and sharecroppers were pressed into service, forced to fight the rich’s battle themselves.

Isenberg likewise discusses eugenics, the theory that undesirable traits could be bred out of the population, as another excuse used by the wealthy to dismiss the needs of the poor.

It wasn’t until FDR’s presidency during the Great Depression that the aims of government turned to uplifting and assisting working-class and poor whites who had been decimated by the economic downturn.

White Trash is a particularly poignant read in light of the election in two weeks, given the prominent issues of the year. It contextualizes mindsets, theories, and language that have been pervasive in American politics, and urges a deeper examination of the realities of today.
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