DUGGAN THE GRAVE FOR DENNIS
Mono Supes deny Domaille’s Tioga Inn housing plan
By Page

After a year of deliberation, back and forth arguments for and against, and continuous postponements of a final decision, the Tioga Inn housing plan went out with a whimper at Tuesday’s Mono County Board of Supervisors meeting. The project amendment was denied via a 2-2 vote on a motion to approve. An earlier motion had been made to further continue the public hearing on the matter until an unspecified date but was rejected by the same margin.

Supervisors Jennifer Kreitz and John Peters voted in favor, Bob Gardner and Rhonda Duggan were opposed.

Supervisor Stacy Corless recused herself from the matter due to a conflict of interest. The outcome is a win for the Mono Lake Committee and the Mono Kutzadika’a tribe. The Committee has fought the issue since the outset and was continually well-represented at any and all public hearings regarding the housing amendment, while the tribe has repeatedly voiced concerns about their involvement in the process.

So, too, it was a victory for Supervisor Gardner, who had been the project’s most vocal opponent on the board for the duration of deliberations. Of people who spoke during the public comment portion of Tuesday’s hearing, the majority were in some ways affiliated with the Mono Lake Committee, an affiliation they opted not to mention during their 2-minute speaking time. Most of the other speakers were tribal representatives or supporters.

The decision came almost exactly four months, December 15, 2020, after the supervisors had previously opted to continue the hearing to a later occasion. The delay was made to allow time to address tribal concerns and an emergency egress road for the housing units.

Community Development Director Wendy Sugimura gave a presentation about progress made on those topics since December. LADWP had assented to Tioga Inn’s usage of the road, provided it could install a lock and retain the right to revoke access. Given that Domaille owns the majority of the land that the road is on, Sugimura said that it would be in the best interest of both parties to maintain a strong relationship.

see TIOGA TWO-STEP, p. 15

MULE DAYS IS ON!
Press Release

The Bishop Mule Days Board and staff, working together with the Tri-County Fair Board and staff, as well as Inyo County Public Health has determined that Mule Days 2021 is a go!

We are planning for a safe event that our fans and spectators will remember for years to come. In compliance with State guidelines, mandatory restrictions and capacity limits will apply to arena seating, so be sure to call now to get your reservations.

Some of our popular indoor events have been canceled due to these limits such as the Concert and Opening Night Supper. Despite restrictions, we are very confident that we can still put on a quality show. The Mule Days Parade is also a no-go.

We do recognize and stress that guidance from the State of California can change at any time between now and the end of May. That said, all of our events will take place on our beautiful Tri-County Fairgrounds in the fresh outdoor air of the Owens Valley and the majestic backdrop of the mighty Eastern High Sierra.

We have taken note of outdoor events across the country and will implement the newest and most effective Covid protocols.

It is time for Mule Days to return to our community, recognizing not only the vast economic impact for our area, but to be one of the first in California to say, “we are back”, better than ever and ready to welcome our visitors and guests to the Greatest Mule Show on Earth.

For further information, please visit our website: www.muledays.org to view an “FAQ” by 5 p.m. April 16th or call our office, 760.872.4263.

Mule Days will take place May 25-30.
IT’S A CONTACT SPORT
Mammoth Lakes Town Council held a strategic workshop last Friday.
They made some revealing statements. Probably because no one was on the call. They thought they were safe.

Thank God for replay.

What jumped out at me was the thin-skinnedness, the liberal orthodoxy, this naive belief that a bunch of enlightened souls should all be able to reach smart, reasonable consensus.

And that whatever that consensus is, we should all just jump in line with our pom-poms and celebrate it.

Politics is a contact sport. Period. And if you’re in it for the adulation, then get out. There is no adulation. It’s a thankless job, aside from the awesome health insurance package.

Even the great Skip Harvey, who was a close friend of mine (occasionally we journalists have our lapses and grow fond of a politician), got ripped in the paper now and then. I can’t remember the exact context, but I do remember the last time I ripped him, he was very sick and died two weeks after the issue came out and I felt bad about ripping him.

Though I know Skip wouldn’t have it any other way.

This was the same Skip Harvey who, when the tourism bureau screwed up and didn’t get the Crowley fireworks lined up in time, held an alternative streetfest event in front of Base Camp on July 4. In essence, he was out there for anyone to approach, owning the mistake, taking the political heat off town staff, trying to salvage it.

You think Mayor Sauser would stand out at Mammoth Creek Park next year asking visitors what they think of their groovy view of the Stay-Puft Marshmallow Tent? Don’t think so. He’ll be inside seeking affirmation.

The part of the workshop that was most entertaining started at about the 30-minute mark. They were talking about the election/education of Councilmembers, and John Wentworth kicked it off by saying that we ought to find a way to humanize the campaign process, which can often prove divisive and rude. He suggested the Town should perhaps play a part in facilitating intelligent and thoughtful political discourse.

Maybe the Town should be part of the “on-boarding” process he said. “On-boarding” is John’s newest slang term/political cliché. I guess he’s moving from land stewardship to flight stewardship.

Reaction: Of course, the Town should have nothing to do with it. Inserting the Town, and by proxy the Town Manager, into a contest which ultimately selects his bosses is entirely inappropriate.

But Mayor Pro-Milquetoast Lynda Salcido jumped right in after Wentworth, saying the goal of a debate shouldn’t be meaningfulness or rudeness to candidates. We need to encourage more civil discourse and non-partisan voices. “You don’t think you need a code of conduct,” she said, “Until you do.”

Like Mammoth Voices! piped up Sarah Rea, seeing as she took Mammoth Voices political bootcamp workshop prior to her election, currying favor and securing at least ten votes.

Mayor Sauser suggested that perhaps the Town hold a workshop after the candidate slate is finalized so that we can get people all on the same page and being nice to each other during the campaign season.

And then, once elected, Councilmembers had all sorts of ideas as to how their fellow Councilmembers should behave.

Saucer said that if one is on the losing end of an issue, that one must suck it up and get on board with the majority. Don’t keep beating the horse in the hopes of getting a shift in perspective, he said.

Funny, because Sauser didn’t keep beating the horse when the ice rink-to-Mammoth Creek Park was initially quashed back in 2005. And now we have an ice rink at Mammoth Creek Park.

Apparently, you only suck it up if your name isn’t Bill. Wentworth said all discussion and debate on issues should occur on the dais (er, via Zoom) and that Councilmembers shouldn’t be making end runs by arguing their case and writing letters to the editor in the half-evil local media.

Kirk Stapp was the only Councilmember who disagreed with coddling/brainwashing potential candidates. “There’s give-and-take and acrimony in every campaign season,” he said. “It’s a competitive process.”

He also saw no reason why people shouldn’t be able to battle for a position by writing a letter to the editor.

Salcido believes the Town has a responsibility to communicate what it’s doing in the local media via a weekly or bi-weekly column to counteract the one-sided monologue of the Publisher Who Shall Not Be Named.

Does this make me Voldemort? Margaux will not be pleased.

For a subscription, visit the website, make a donation and be added to the e-mail blast list.

Jack of all Lunches
760.957.4613 / lunch@thesheetnews.com

June Simpkins...Jack of everything else
760.957.3967 / juneatthesheet@gmail.com

Owen Page.................Writer
opagesheet@gmail.com

Clouds McCloud..........As-sultor

Spike Todd.............Reverie Consultant

P.O. Box 8008
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546
760.924.0048/jacklunch@yahoo.com

An adjudicated paper of general circulation. © 2021 The Sheet, all rights reserved.

Ted Carleton.......Jack of all Lunches
760.957.4613 / lunch@thesheetnews.com

Owen Page.................Writer
opagesheet@gmail.com

Clouds McCloud..........As-sultor

Spike Todd...........Reverie Consultant

P.O. Box 8008
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546
760.924.0048/jacklunch@yahoo.com

An adjudicated paper of general circulation. © 2021 The Sheet, all rights reserved.

Ted Carleton.......Jack of all Lunches
760.957.4613 / lunch@thesheetnews.com

June Simpkins...Jack of everything else
760.957.3967 / juneatthesheet@gmail.com

Owen Page.................Writer
opagesheet@gmail.com

Clouds McCloud..........As-sultor

Spike Todd.............Reverie Consultant

P.O. Box 8008
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546
760.924.0048/jacklunch@yahoo.com

An adjudicated paper of general circulation. © 2021 The Sheet, all rights reserved.

Ted Carleton.......Jack of all Lunches
760.957.4613 / lunch@thesheetnews.com

June Simpkins...Jack of everything else
760.957.3967 / juneatthesheet@gmail.com

Owen Page.................Writer
opagesheet@gmail.com

Clouds McCloud..........As-sultor

Spike Todd...........Reverie Consultant

P.O. Box 8008
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546
760.924.0048/jacklunch@yahoo.com

An adjudicated paper of general circulation. © 2021 The Sheet, all rights reserved.

Ted Carleton.......Jack of all Lunches
760.957.4613 / lunch@thesheetnews.com

June Simpkins...Jack of everything else
760.957.3967 / juneatthesheet@gmail.com

Owen Page.................Writer
opagesheet@gmail.com

Clouds McCloud..........As-sultor

Spike Todd.............Reverie Consultant

P.O. Box 8008
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546
760.924.0048/jacklunch@yahoo.com

An adjudicated paper of general circulation. © 2021 The Sheet, all rights reserved.
Dear Editor:

How many more times will the Town administration provide us with disingenuous information before our Town Council takes appropriate action?

I heard this week that the Town Manager appeared to have hired a friend as a Town consultant. Wouldn’t that be a severe conflict of interest when conducting public business? Was this report true?

*Editor’s interlude: I believe Ms. Clark is referring to a 2016 story regarding the Town’s recruitment of a Special Events Director. For Ms. Clark’s enlightenment and reading pleasure, that story is reprinted this week on page eight.

The Town instigated that our School District would not cooperate during negotiations in 2015 about buying the ice rink property. Nothing could have been further from the truth.

Our community was assured by Town Staff that it could build the all-in complete and now renamed (Multi-Use Facility) for $9.5 million. Then Staff said it could build the MUF further from the truth.

Nothing could have been negotiated in 2015 about buying the ice rink property. Therefore, why did we hear no more about the drainage easement. The Trails HOA issue was apparently settled in a side room October 2, 2019, with a $5,000 service agreement offered by the Town Manager. The Trails HOA has not received $5,000 nor heard from the Town Manager since.

I have witnessed just the tip of the Town’s misinformation iceberg. Are there more discrepancies? In a little Village in the Trees with 8000+ residents, is it too much to ask our Town Council for transparency, trust and honesty in our government?

“Whoever is careless with the truth in small matters cannot be trusted with important matters.” — Albert Einstein.

Sharon Raven Clark
Mammoth Lakes

Haycock calls bull

Owen,

Your opinion piece in the April 17th Sheet opened with the well-earned assertion that “The validity and credibility of the United States election system was challenged like never before in the 2020 General Election.”

That said, isn’t it logical that we seek to improve the system? Why refer to legislation that is meant to bring confidence to the process as a “guise of securing election integrity.” Your article said that 47 states (out of 50) are considering laws restricting voting provisions. Duh. Past forward to your closing paragraph, “Upshot: the legislation makes voting more difficult. It’s that simple.”

Which begs my next question: should the goal be to make voting easy or to make it credible?

A good analogy is the 2nd Amendment right “to keep and bear arms”; it’s a guaranteed right. Should we make that easier? How about not requiring an ID for gun ownership? Or what about getting a driver’s license ... if we made that easier, would the roads be safer? Maybe the value of a well-informed voter, one who is willing to make the effort, is being understated.

The focus of your article is the Georgia law (SB 202, which is, by the way, less restrictive than New York, Delaware, and the majority of other states), and while I won’t opine on whether it is a good law, I just don’t get the racial implication (other than the obvious fact that the left considers everything racial).

Making voter integrity laws akin to Jim Crow, is an affront to people of color. It is making light of the abhorrence of the Jim Crow segregation laws, it is a weak cliché, and it should offend anyone who cares about civil rights. The very assumption that the Black vote is Democratic (If you don’t vote for me, you ain’t Black), is by itself racist.

Finally, the last (sarcastic) sentence in your article ... it wasn’t an issue until the “wrong” side started winning ... explains quite a bit.

John Haycock
Mammoth Lakes

First things first MMMSA

Dear Editor,

Re: “Sexy Beach: Alterra pushes forward with Main Lodge redevelopment” (page 1, 10-11) April 10, 2021

Before Alterra gets all demolition-happy tearing down both the Main Lodge and Mammoth Mountain Inn, and supposedly spending nearly a billion dollars to put in a new hotel and another “Village” area, the company needs to FIRST turn its attention to replacing several chairlifts.

I’ve been skiing Mammoth annually since 1975. Despite the awesome terrain parks, the mountain is stale, and there have been no new chairlifts in decades. I believe the last chair lift upgrade was Chair 5 over ten years ago. Instead of adding new chairlifts or upgrading many others, several lifts have been removed over the years (18, 19, 24, 26, 27). Chairs 7, 8, 12, 13, 14, 20, 21, 22, 23 are way, way overdue to be replaced with high-speed quads. Chairs 12, 13, and 14 are each fifty years old and ridiculously slow. The back side has fun runs and great views, but skiers and boarders largely avoid that area.

Sharon Raven Clark
Mammoth Lakes

Haycock calls bull

Owen,

Your opinion piece in the April 17th Sheet opened with the well-earned assertion that “The validity and credibility of the United States election system was challenged like never before in the 2020 General Election.”

That said, isn’t it logical that we seek to improve the system? Why refer to legislation that is meant to bring confidence to the process as a “guise of securing election integrity.” Your article said that 47 states (out of 50) are considering laws restricting voting provisions. Duh. Past forward to your closing paragraph, “Upshot: the legislation makes voting more difficult. It’s that simple.”

Which begs my next question: should the goal be to make voting easy or to make it credible?

A good analogy is the 2nd Amendment right “to keep and bear arms”; it’s a guaranteed right. Should we make that easier? How about not requiring an ID for gun ownership? Or what about getting a driver’s license ... if we made that easier, would the roads be safer? Maybe the value of a well-informed voter, one who is willing to make the effort, is being understated.

The focus of your article is the Georgia law (SB 202, which is, by the way, less restrictive than New York, Delaware, and the majority of other states), and while I won’t opine on whether it is a good law, I just don’t get the racial implication (other than the obvious fact that the left considers everything racial).

Making voter integrity laws akin to Jim Crow, is an affront to people of color. It is making light of the abhorrence of the Jim Crow segregation laws, it is a weak cliché, and it should offend anyone who cares about civil rights. The very assumption that the Black vote is Democratic (If you don’t vote for me, you ain’t Black), is by itself racist.

Finally, the last (sarcastic) sentence in your article ... it wasn’t an issue until the “wrong” side started winning ... explains quite a bit.

John Haycock
Mammoth Lakes

Dear Editor,

Re: “Sexy Beach: Alterra pushes forward with Main Lodge redevelopment” (page 1, 10-11) April 10, 2021

Before Alterra gets all demolition-happy tearing down both the Main Lodge and Mammoth Mountain Inn, and supposedly spending nearly a billion dollars to put in a new hotel and another “Village” area, the company needs to FIRST turn its attention to replacing several chairlifts.

I’ve been skiing Mammoth annually since 1975. Despite the awesome terrain parks, the mountain is stale, and there have been no new chairlifts in decades. I believe the last chair lift upgrade was Chair 5 over ten years ago. Instead of adding new chairlifts or upgrading many others, several lifts have been removed over the years (18, 19, 24, 26, 27). Chairs 7, 8, 12, 13, 14, 20, 21, 22, 23 are way, way overdue to be replaced with high-speed quads. Chairs 12, 13, and 14 are each fifty years old and ridiculously slow. The back side has fun runs and great views, but skiers and boarders largely avoid that area.
I avoid it because it is extremely frustrating sitting on ancient, double chairs. It is also difficult trying to make your way back to the Main Lodge from the back side. Chairs 22 and 23 do not even feel safe to ride anymore, especially in the wind without a safety bar. Chair 25 must be one of the slowest chairlifts in California. There is also an awkward gap between Chair 21 and Chair 10 where the ghost of Chair 18 used to be. Many of us get stuck in the late afternoon in very long lines for Chair 10, trying to make our way back to Canyon Lodge.

If Mammoth wants to charge up to $208 per day for a lift ticket, and be considered a world-class resort, it is high time that upgrades be made to these decades’ old chairlifts BEFORE McCony’s beloved Main Lodge and Inn are torn down. And with gas now approaching $5 per gallon, where are the non-stop flights from San Diego?

Carla Mapes
San Diego

Wanted: More than lip service

Local attorney Timothy Sanford shared the following letter he sent to Altice/Suddenlink on April 15.

To: Brandi Castillo, Michael Horton
Steve Goodman, Altice USA
Re: Aspen Creek Homeowners Assn.

Please be advised this office represents the Board of Directors of the Aspen Creek Owners Association, Inc. in Mammoth Lakes, California.

The Board has asked me to write this letter to afford Altice/Suddenlink one last opportunity to remedy the significant issues with internet service that, as you are well aware, have been ongoing for years. Should this letter not result in your immediate attention to the complete resolution of these issues, the Board intends to pursue all of its available legal remedies, including, without limitation, a lawsuit for breach of contract and fraud, and formal complaints to the Public Utilities Commission, the Department of Consumer Affairs, the Federal Communication Commission, the Town of Mammoth Lakes and the County of Mono.

As you know, and have known for years, the internet service at Aspen Creek varies greatly from one condominium to another. In some condominiums, the service may be acceptable, at least on occasion, while in other condominiums it ranges from being weak and inconsistent to nonexistent. Suddenlink’s failure to remedy these issues, and its continuous breach of the contracted duties it owes to Aspen Creek, has caused both significant inconvenience and damage to Aspen Creek and its owners. Some owners have threatened to sue the Association because they cannot work remotely in their condominiums due to the inadequate internet. Some owners contend the Board should be held responsible for not taking a significantly more aggressive course of action against Suddenlink. Several owners have treated to stop paying their assessments to the Association. Many owners have had to deal with reduced rental income from their condominiums as a result of Suddenlink’s inability to provide adequate internet service.

Over the last several years various agents of Aspen Creek have spent countless volunteer hours trying to get Suddenlink representatives such as yourselves to work with Aspen Creek to resolve the problems. Yet there has been little response and no follow-through.

As just the most recent example of this, both Mr. Horton and Mr. Goodman have failed to return any of the phone calls or emails from the Board president, Alan Weiss, despite having initially assured Mr. Weiss that they would do whatever needed to be done to see that the problems are resolved.

Although much of Suddenlink’s contract with Aspen Creek constitutes an unenforceable “contract of adhesion,” even this one-sided contract requires Suddenlink to provide services in a “good, workmanlike manner in accordance with all applicable codes, regulations or laws.” Additionally, the law imposes a duty of good faith and fair dealing on parties in their performance of contracts.

The Aspen Creek Board of Directors has a fiduciary duty under the law to act in a businesslike manner to manage the Association for the best interests of its owners. It cannot and will not stand by any further while it received nothing but occasional “lip service” from Suddenlink. Unless Suddenlink immediately resolves the longstanding internet issues at Aspen Creek, the board will calendar an executive session meeting to set in motion all legal rights and remedies.

Timothy B. Sanford
Mammoth Lakes

Lauding Lambert

Dear Editor:

I have known Jim Lambert for years, enjoying his music, humor and kindness. More than once he helped me with troubleshooting my car, adjusting windshield wipers or checking tire pressure. When he left Napa, it was a true loss for Mammoth, but somehow, he still managed to be Mr. Fixit and help me, often running into me in the parking lot of some of his shows.

And what shows they were! Perhaps it will be history to say “I was there” at a Mobil Mart show with La Bamba, or Harvest Moon echoing in the pines.

Another great memory: the Cruiser car shows and the parking lot DJ time filled with all the oldies and car songs. The more I think of it, the more I realize what a loss this is to our area. I am sad to hear of his passing and glad that I was able to know this great man. RIP and condolences to his family.

Trish Connors
Mammoth Lakes

Give your home the protection it deserves.

Your home is where you make some of your best memories, and that’s worth protecting.

I’m here to help.

LET’S TALK TODAY.

*Newsflash! State Farm is now offering homeowners insurance in Mammoth Lakes and June Lake. Call today for a quote.

Shakespeare in the Woods

THE TAMING OF THE SHREW

April 26 & 28, 6-8pm
The Community Center
1000 Forest Trail

AUDITIONS!

Seeking actors of all ages, genders, races

For audition material and information visit MammothLakesRep.org or SierraClassicTheatre.org

State Farm Fire and Casualty Company, State Farm General Insurance Company, Bloomington, IL
State Farm Florida Insurance Company, Winter Haven, FL
State Farm Lloyd’s, Richardson, TX

Dave R Easterby, Agent
Insurance Lic#: 0H65719
437 Old Mammoth Road Suite J
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546
Bus: 760-934-7575

1708136

State Farm®
GRADS, FAMILY, BUSINESS WEBSITE PORTRAITS

by the Honey Bee, Gayla Wolf
760-872-4015

Mammoth Lakes Repertory Theatre presents A Theatre for Young Audiences Play

HARE AND TORTOISE
BY BRENDAN MURRAY
DIRECTED BY DOUG OLIPHANT

STARRING
KATE AND SEAN FAYE
FRIDAY APRIL 30
06:00PM ON ZOOM
(with subtitles in Spanish)

For Free Tickets

24 HR STORAGE AVAILABLE NOW!!*
*May 1st Move-in Date

Units are filling up FAST!
RESERVE TODAY!

24 HOUR STORAGE
Available Now!!*
Call 760-274-0707 to RESERVE TODAY!
OR BOOK ONLINE AT
MOUNTAIN24HOURSTORAGE.COM

CONVENIENT LOCATION ACROSS HWY 395 FROM MAMMOTH YOSEMITE AIRPORT
471 INDUSTRIAL CIRCLE, MAMMOTH LAKES, CA 93546

BRAND NEW FACILITY
IN MAMMOTH LAKES, CA

- 24 HOUR Access, Reservation, & Self Move-in
- Free Wi-Fi for Customers
- Heated & Weather Protected Loading and Unloading Area
- Temperature-Controlled Units (from 50-85 degrees)
- Noke Bluetooth Smart Lock Entry System
- Drive-up units with large doors (up to 10ft wide x 14ft tall)
Roma Carriere McCoy passed away April 16, 2021, at the age of 100.

She was born August 12, 1920, in Bishop, California, where she lived most of her life, except for a few years at Crowley Lake Dam and McGee Mountain. Her husband left 75 years, Dave, sister, Francis and brother, Marshall all preceded Roma in death.

Roma loved dogs, horses, and horseback riding, biking and singing. As a young girl, she demonstrated her talent by twirling atop the concrete pillars on Elm Street; and, as a teen enjoyed a ‘full dance card’ at the weekly dances held at Keough and The Masonic Hall. Roma learned to play the piano from her father, who came to Bishop as a music teacher and piano tuner.

Roma first spotted the love of her life, Dave McCoy, at a soda fountain in Independence, California, in the fall of 1939 when she was 18 and Dave 23. Their first dates were in the High Sierras hiking to alpine lakes, fishing and skiing (once Dave taught Roma how). In exchange, Roma taught Dave to dance. The two also loved touring Highway 395 of water and power and then, building, operating (and endlessly fixing) ski tows at Mammoth.

When the couple had to begin charging skiers to ride their rope tows (to collect the coins in a cigar box or a fishing creel) she greeted every skier with a smile and joined him or her for a few runs at the end of the day. For years, the McCoy ‘bank’ was the top drawer of Roma’s dresser at the Crowley House. Every dollar went back into the growing McCoy ‘bank’ was the top drawer of Roma’s dresser at the Crowley House. Every dollar went back into the growing business, after Roma made sure bills were paid, school clothes mended and Christmas presents purchased. A lifelong accomplished and graceful skier, Roma earned numerous ski-racing trophies, often outpacing her rivals perfectly. While raising a growing family, she supported Dave’s dream of building Mammoth Ski Area, accepting the sacrifices required from Dave’s long days in the field, first as a Hydrographer for the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power and then, building, operating (and endlessly fixing) ski tows up and down Long Valley and eventually Mammoth.

When the couple had to begin charging skiers to ride their rope tows (to pay for gas) in the early 1940’s, Roma collected the coins in a cigar box or a fishing creel. She greeted every skier with a smile and joined him or her for a few runs at the end of the day. For years, the McCoy ‘bank’ was the top drawer of Roma’s dresser at the Crowley House. Every dollar went back into the growing business, after Roma made sure bills were paid, school clothes mended and Christmas presents purchased. A lifelong accomplished and graceful skier, Roma earned numerous ski-racing trophies, often outpacing her rivals as a new mother with a growing brood. But she always insisted that her greatest accomplishments were her six children. Roma did it all! She learned to cook almost everything Dave caught or shot to keep the freezer full. And, there was always enough of her inspired cooking for friends, helpers and young ski racers who might stop by, or overnight on the living room floor, eager to help the couple get the ski area up and running the next day. She loved to knit for her family and there are many photos of her and Dave in matching ‘Roma Original’ ski sweaters.

Throughout her long life, Roma retained a love of hiking, fishing, camping, riding bikes and skiing. An interest in tennis led to a court on their Rocking K Ranch, where some of her grand-children followed in her footsteps by learning to play. In later years, Roma and Dave took long rides on their ATVs through the high desert mountains they both loved.

Roma is survived by her six children: Gary (wife, Barb), Dennis ‘Poncho’ (wife, Beverly), Carl, Penny, Kandi (husband Rusty) and Randy, 19 grandchildren, 34 great-grandchildren and 1 great-great-grandchild.

No Celebration is planned at this time. Memorial donations may be sent to: Mammoth Lakes Foundation, P.O. Box 1815, Mammoth Lakes, California 93546.
Celebrating Mountain Culture & the Environment

ESMFF
Eastern Sierra Mountain Film Festival

April 23-25
A Virtual Event · All Films Screened Online
Register for free passes at EasternSierraArts.org

Full Earth Week event schedule
at highsierraenergy.org

In Partnership with
Tambour Foundation
CR2

MAMMOTH REAL ESTATE
Hometown Strength. National Clout.
MammothRealEstate.com

Contact our expert Team of Agents:
(760) 934-2562 local
(800) 266-6966 toll free
3293 Main Street
(Next to Schat’s Bakery)

Award Winning Office
Celebrating 43 Years of Real Estate Service
EACH OFFICE IS INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED
Mammoth Lakes Town Council approved a $150,000 consulting contract at its regular meeting on Wednesday without issuing a Request for Proposals (RFP). The contract was awarded to Darin Dinsmore, a longtime crony of Town Manager Dan Holler. The relationship between Holler and Dinsmore dates back at least 2000, when Holler served as County Manager of Douglas County, Nevada and Dinsmore was with the Sierra Business Council.

The contract with Dinsmore Sierra LLC is for the facilitation of a “public visioning/planning process for a revitalized downtown Mammoth Lakes.” As Mammoth’s Planning and Economic Development Commission Chair Madeleine “Mickey” Brown said at the meeting, “I’m shocked that Council would even consider a service agreement of this dollar amount without issuing a Request for Proposals first… I don’t know if ever there’s been a previous incident where we’ve issued something for $140,000 without issuing an RFP.”

Brown requested some clarification regarding Town guidelines for RFPs. In other words, what requires something to go out to bid, and when is the Town able (via its Town Manager) to simply issue a scope of work to any particular individual?

When Colin Fernie followed up by asking about the lack of an RFP directly, Holler replied, “If you put the RFP out it would be awarded in November or the first part of December or later so we would have lost a couple months doing that.”

Brown also questioned the wisdom of bringing someone in who isn’t familiar with the town or what’s been done to this point. “Why would we bring in a new consultant, not familiar with the community or previous work, to facilitate this implementation strategy [following through on the Hart-Howerton concept]? And pay that consultant to review the work of other qualified consultants?”

Town Manager Dan Holler said, “The goal of the work is really to come in and meet with property and business and homeowners in area.” Holler touted Dinsmore’s resume, particularly as it related to his familiar-ity with tax-increment finance districts. He’ll be bringing some of the financial tools to us so we can look through those [for] what make sense in Mammoth Lakes, said Holler.

Councilman John Wentworth attempted to soothe Brown by saying, “I appreciate your frustration.”

Brown retorted, “This is more than frustration.” But this was not the only contract that raised an eyebrow on Wednesday night. There’s another contract, an agreement with Sierra Nevada Destina-tion Services, to hire a Special Events Director to “implement the Town’s Special Events Strategy.”

The proposed agreement was a three-year deal worth $425,000. Sierra Nevada Destination Services principals are a husband-and-wife team, Robin Galvan-Davies and Keith Davies of Grass Valley.

After a mid-meeting recess, Mayor Shields Richardson announced that the agenda item was being pulled, so it never came up for discussion. But it’s worth discussing further for several reasons.

Like the above visioning/planning contract, this contract similarly did not go out for bid - or it did, according to Town Manager Dan Holler, but only informally (it was not published in a newspaper of record). The position was floated on the Town’s website and Holler reached out to various parties (including the Davies’) seeking interest.

There were ultimately two bidders. After interviews (Holler, Stuart Brown, John Morris and Brent Truax comprised the interview panel), the Davies were selected.

What the other three panelists may not have known at the time was the extent of the personal relationship between Holler and Davies, old pals from Grass Valley. Holler served as City Administrator of Grass Valley for approximately five years from 2008-2013. In fact, an online posting from The Union newspaper based in Grass Valley indicates that Davies and Holler both served and may continue to serve on the Board of Directors of Nevada County Television.

Further, the article states that Davies and Holler together loaned NCTV $10,000 in 2013. Davies and his wife Robin were named Co-CEOs of the Grass Valley Chamber of Commerce in 2013. The couple signed a three-year contract extension in 2015.

Under the general provisions section of the draft contract in Wednesday’s agenda packet, section 3.5.2, titled “Delivery of Notices,” states: “All notices permitted or required under this Agreement shall be given to the respective parties at the following address.”

For the consultant, the address is: 213 Scotia Pines Circle, Grass Valley, Calif. 95945 ATTN Keith Davies For the Town, its P.O. Box 1609 in Mammoth ATTN Daniel C. Holler. Turns out the Grass Valley address is Dan Holler’s, “That’s right. He is the owner of 213 Scotia Pines Circle, a fact verified by the Placer Title Company. So all information regarding this agreement is begin sent to Dan Holler … and Dan Holler?”

As Holler acknowledged Thursday, more BENEFITS, page 9

Kindergarten Round Up:

Learn how to enroll your child in Kindergarten and Transitional Kindergarten, meet the teacher, and sign up to get or pick up your Kindergarten Readiness Backpack.

Pending Health Department approval related to County COVID status, Health and Safety Fairs will be held at all events except Mammoth Elementary.

If your child will turn five on or before September 1st, 2021, he or she can attend Kindergarten in the fall of 2021. If your child will turn five between September 2nd and December 1st, 2021 he can attend transitional kindergarten during the fall of 2021.

For the calendar events, go to: https://www.first5mono.org/calendar-of-events/
It’s not one battle to protect the fisheries in the Eastern Sierra, it’s something else. While I’m not the longest standing fly-fishing guide operating in the area, I’ve been doing this long enough now to have firsthand knowledge of the fights. It could be over water during drought years, battling bureaucracies with proposed regulation changes, or putting a spotlight on the destruction of dispersed camping.

Last summer at Hot Creek, I watched an angler fifty feet out to them. Opponents say that the drilling could be massively disruptive to the ecosystem in the area.

The site for a proposed drilling project near Hot Creek on the outskirts of Mammoth Lakes. Kore Mining, a Canadian-based operation, is looking to put in two 30’x50’ drilling pads with a two-track access road leading to them. Opponents say that the drilling could be massively disruptive to the ecosystem in the area.

Kore Mining proposing taking one giant doozy right next to my favorite fishery in the world: Hot Creek. Mining laws today date back 1872. The General Mining Act of 1872 was written when miners looked for metals with pack mules and handpicks. It’s an outdated set of laws that no mining company in the country wants to fix. Prospecting minerals on federal lands can pay big bucks. But mining is different today than it was in the past, and that begs consideration of every new mining proposal that comes up. Fortunately, common sense still dictates that companies don’t have complete carte blanche to dig up federal soil just anywhere. One of the most controversial mining proposals of current times is that of Pebble Mine which ended last November when the Trump Administration killed off hopes of digging up Bristol Bay, Alaska. Pebble Mine wanted to extract gold, copper, and molybdenum. Bristol Bay is also home of one of the largest salmon runs in the world, a money maker for both commercial fishers and its tourism-based economy. Every proposal faces a different set of environmental concerns, some benign, and some truly legitimate.

Kore Mining is interested in drilling the ground around Hot Creek to look for gold. Sitting on claims several decades old, and a budget of $8 million, it intends to disrupt about a five-acre region of pristine forest located directly behind Hot Creek. If gold is found, they’d bid the claim to a major company to open a heap leach pit gold mine in the region.

The USFS is still cleaning up pollutants from the Mill City pit gold mine which happened more than 100 years ago. Cabin owners have been kicked out of their cabins and denied rights to their property. We haven’t even resolved this mess, and yet mining is being proposed again?

What could possibly go wrong? Well, first of all, where does Kore Mining intend to get its water to drill? If they do drill and hit the water table, waste water will contain arsenic, boron, and chlorine. This is directly above one of the region’s best fisheries, Hot Creek.

I’ll also add in the fact that the water eventually flows into the Owens River, Crowley Lake, and then Los Angeles kitchen sinks. Kore Mining doesn’t use pack animals. Extensive truck traffic hauling water and waste in and out on roads that are now overgrown will create noise, light, and air pollution.

I don’t believe guests staying at Hot Creek Ranch envision a week of fly fishing accompanied with the sound of drilling. Athletes training at Whitmore would breathe air polluted. Let’s suppose gold is found. What do we have? One large open pit mine. How’s the air pollution working for people living near Owens Lake? The area being proposed to explore is wildlife habitat. Deer, sage grouse, etc.

Deer tags aren’t as easy to come by as they used to be, and the sage grouse is a protected bird. I can’t imagine mining that close to Hot Creek Hatchery would be good for an already embattled entity. Thousands and thousands of visitors walk Hot Creek each summer to see the geothermal area. I see them when I’m fishing and guiding. They end up with this magnificent view of the fields and Mammoth Mountain. Now substitute that with an open pit mine.

What can you do? Be vocal. Be loud. Be objective. This simply can’t happen. You can start by writing USFS Mineral Programs Manager Colleen Garcia (colleen.garcia@usda.gov) before the deadline of May 6, 2021. Please also contact Reid Dagul (Reid.Dagul@mail.house.gov) and express your objection. Share this information. Get in touch with organizations fighting this fight. Sierra Club and Trout Unlimited are just a couple of many. This is the biggest fight Hot Creek has seen yet, and it has to win.
IMMODERATE DISPERSAL
Illegal dispersed camping now a major issue

By Chris Leonard

I took these photos of dispersed campers along a two mile stretch of Owens River Road on Tuesday, April 20.

This stretch of national forest is located between US 395 and the Owens River Campground located down the road. The day before, on Monday, April 20, 2021, I counted ten dispersed campers in the forest. Monday afternoon, I brought this to the attention of Mono County Supervisor Stacy Corless, and she asked me to document the dispersed campers, and send you photographs.

This is a major issue. To assume that it is not, is to put one’s head in the sand, and hope for the best this summer. Last summer, we saw the Inyo National Forest completely overrun with dispersed campers. Dispersed campers spending the night on undeveloped land have the potential to leave behind trash, drive through areas not meant for vehicles, harm/ disrupt wildlife, and create major forest fires. The southern part of the Inyo National Forest already has experienced two wildfires the last couple of weeks from campers. The threat is huge. It is also very, very unsightly. This isn’t going to work. It didn’t last summer, and it’s not going to this summer nor future summers. Not if you care about the health of the forest.

The Town of Mammoth Lakes has outlawed overnight camping in parts of the town near wilderness. For example, there are signs posted along Mammoth Creek in town just east of the creek in the Hayden’s Cabin section that clearly state it is illegal to camp overnight. I have seen them in other places also. If we can do this for Mammoth Lakes, can we not do this for all of Mono County? If the campers don’t belong next to Mammoth Creek why do they belong next to the Owens River overnight? Last week, I saw a large RV parked 200 feet from the Owens River just past where it flows under the road next to the established campground. The campground was locked and closed.

When I want to overnight in the backcountry, I must legally possess a permit. I submit a small fee to USFS (U.S. Forest Service), and I am allowed the opportunity to experience USFS land overnight. Permits are restricted to ensure that it is not overrun with too many people. Likewise, someone using a developed campground must pay to play. Both these opportunities (not a right, an opportunity) are limited. Why?

Logically for the health of the forest. The message the USFS is sending to the public (intentionally or not) is that you no longer need to pay fees to use the forest overnight. It’s okay when it’s done legitimately, but also okay illegitimately? This is a very mixed message.
WE ARE PROUD TO START CONSTRUCTION ON THE CASA DIABLO IV PROJECT

This state-of-the-art project will provide 30MW of electricity for 22 thousand homes while offsetting 4 million tons of CO2, providing the highest level of efficiency and safety in the geothermal industry. It’s a project that we have planned slowly, methodically and with an abundance of caution. The result has been full approval from every regulatory and oversight body.

Casa Diablo IV will bring over $13,000,000 to the region. Casa Diablo IV will create over 180 construction jobs. Mammoth Pacific Geothermal currently employs 25 full-time people, a number that will grow as a result of the Casa Diablo IV project.
As part of the Eastern Sierra Earth Week Celebration, Mammoth Brewing Company hosted a virtual and in-person happy hour/speaker panel on Wednesday, April 21.

The event was organized and led by Pam Bold and Lia Webb of the High Sierra Energy Foundation, and Kendra Knight, recycling coordinator for Mammoth Disposal/Bishop Waste.

The first half of the evening consisted of local panelists, present at MBC, discussing the events that they would be hosting or had hosted during Earth Week.

In addition to Knight, Webb, and Bold, Shira Dubrovner spoke about the Eastern Sierra Mountain Film Festival and Desiree Romero talked about wokNnature, a “forest bathing” guide service before leading a brief meditation session.

Dubrovner said that she’d had the idea to organize a film festival devoted to the outdoors and conservancy while reviewing submissions for the Mammoth Lakes Film Festival.

Romero talked about the importance of being present when in nature and the restorative effects of getting out and about.

Following a quick break, the evening continued with a screening of a documentary about conservancy and clean-up efforts on the Kern River. The short film featured interviews with local activists and Forest Service staff. The featured individuals discussed the history of conservation on the Kern and current efforts to keep the river clean as tourism to the area spikes.

There was a definite parallel between the events described in the film, an ecosystem overrun by negligent tourists, and the issues faced locally in the summer of 2020.

Last year’s onslaught of tourism highlighted the local need for stewardship and accountability.

Rue McKenrick, creator of the American Perimeter Trail Project, talked about his efforts to connect the United States via trail systems.

McKenrick, who is a “professional backpacker,” has logged ten’s of thousands of miles on America’s trails.

The goal: a 12,000-mile long trail that runs the perimeter of the country and connects communities through a passion for the outdoors.

Annette Poliwiwa, Zero Waste Change Commissioner with the City of Berkeley, talked about her research work with particulate plastic in the ocean.

Her work with Berkeley is a multi-phase project to eliminate single-use plastics from local restaurants and drive composting efforts.

And a little closer to home, Truckee’s Erica Mertens talked about a similar effort in that town.

The gist: $5 gets you a reusable take-away container, good at participating restaurants. She estimated the program will save 75,000 single-use containers over the course of a year.
A few ideas and resources to help all of us lead a more sustainable lifestyle and reduce each of our personal carbon footprints, brought to you by your friends at INYO350.

Recycling seems so yesterday, right? We’ve been talking about it for decades. Is it doing any good? And it’s so hard to keep up with the changes!

The truth is, recycling is doing good things, and there’s much more to do! It’s important to see recycling as just one element—one “R”—in a host of related actions that can shrink what we each leave behind at the end of the day. As individuals and as a community, we can raise awareness about recycling and its benefits—and its limitations. Let’s broaden the conversation by including action on all eight of the “Rs”: Reduce, Refuse, Reuse, Re-Purpose, Repair, Recycle Right, Remove, And Rally!

REMAIN: This is one of the most meaningful and important things we can do—simply reducing the number of things that we buy that result in waste.

REDUCE: This is one of the most meaningful and important things we can do—simply reducing the number of things that we buy that result in waste. Buy in bulk with a minimum of packaging. Carry refillable water bottles, coffee cups, and drinking glasses with a reusable straw and carry your own reusable bags, including produce bags. Think about all the plastics we use once and then send straight to the landfill, such as plastic straws, utensils and containers for anything from shampoo to laundry soap to BBQ sauce. Be a conscious shopper. Choose the product with reduced packaging. Plastic packaging is simply pollution waiting to happen.

Tired of your daily delivery of junk mail? There are several ways to opt out. For more information try: www.calrecycle.ca.ca.gov/recusewaste/home/junkmail or www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0262-stopping-un solicit ed-mail-phone-calls-and-email. Send postcards to all the catalog companies and organizations sending you things and ask them to stop.

REFUSE: An offshoot of reducing is to refuse when offered. Just say no to plastic straws or utensils and other things on a fast-track for the landfill after your meal. Offer up your own refillable mug or cup and refuse things in single-use, throw-away plastic. This tactic is, of course, difficult during COVID days, when you’re not allowed to bring in your own reusable items for safety reasons. But things are starting to change back to pre-pandemic ways. If you have a choice, please patronize places that will let you use your own reusable items or buy in bulk and refill your own!

REUSE and REPURPOSE: Better than recycling is to repurpose an item. With a little pre-planning you can figure out how to repurpose a whole variety of items, rather than putting them into recycling or the landfill. Sometimes it’s simple—rinse and dry the inevitable plastic bags for as many uses as possible. Or get creative! Before tossing, ask yourself if you or someone else could put something to use. Look around and notice just how much waste could be avoided if you think beyond an item’s original purpose.

REPAIR: What a concept! How often do we just toss something and go buy a replacement? Obviously, not all things can be repaired, especially these days with planned obsolescence, but why not take a moment to ask, “Can I repair this?” Repairing will most likely take less fossil fuel than to produce and transport a new product. It’s all about making wise choices.

Most of us have been trained to just use and dispose. Reducing, reusing, repurposing and repairing—that’s a new way of thinking for many of us. But this critical way of thinking is part of the really big picture solution that we need to find—and soon! If we reduce what we purchase, we reduce the number of new items that must be manufactured. This reduces the fossil fuels and carbon emissions necessary to make them. And not only will we reduce the amount of trash that goes to landfills, but you get to put that money saved into your bank account! If you must buy a replacement, find one with as much recycled content as possible.

RECYCLE RIGHT: After you’ve reduced, reused, repurposed and repaired everything you can is it time to look at what you can recycle. But recycle the right way! Markets change and waste management companies have to adapt, so the rules of recycling often change. Stay abreast of what is recyclable where you live. Today at local county landfills, the rules for what can be recycled are basically the same as Bishop Waste curbside recycling—and they are much more

---

**SCHEDULE of events**

**FRIDAY 4/23/21 Virtual**

*Drive Electric Earth Day and Owners Panel (Virtual)*
From 4-5 pm. Register (enter zip code 93541): xyzzy.com
https://driveelectricday.org/events-search

*Eastern Sierra Mountain Film Festival Kickoff! (Virtual)*
From 7-9 pm. Fri, Sat, and Sun. Celebrating mountain culture and environmentalism. Free registration at: easternsierraarts.org

**SATURDAY 4/24/21**

*Bishop Trash Cleanup @ Corner of Church & Fowler St.*
From 9 am – 1 pm. More info & food options: https://fb.me/e/LqTz79y

*Happy Fishmas and Trash Upcycling @ Distant Brewery*
From 11 am - 5 pm

*Inyo Beyond Re-use Fashion & Variety Show (Virtual)*
From 6-8:15 pm. Sign up: https://www.goodent.org/inyobeyond.html

**SUNDAY 4/25/21**

*Eastern Sierra Mountain Film Festival Finale! (Virtual)*
Celebrating mountain culture and environmentalism, films available for 5 days.

wôkNnature Presents a Forest Bathing Walk (In-Person)
From 10-12:30 pm. www.ForestBathingFinder.com/woknnature “my walks.”
Hobby or transportation to avoid public transit (we’ll see if that takes the path of most New Year’s Resolutions). But there’s no question that some changes have not been helpful, and we must look at how to move past them.

Companies of all types, but primarily food-service businesses, have made major adjustments in how their products are served – and more importantly what they are served in. In keeping their businesses alive and to give their customers what they crave, those that had typically served on reusable plates, glasses and silverware were suddenly forced to provide all these things in single-use (read: “landfill destined”) containers. Unfortunately, the cheapest and most readily available material for this is plastic or even worse for the environment, polystyrene (Styrofoam). Even when served on-site outside, most food was in disposable products for our “safety.” And businesses whose service was “to-go” or for delivery site outside, most food was in disposable (Styrofoam). Even when served on-site outside, most food was in disposable plates, paper napkins, plastic/foil packs of sauces. And when in doubt, always err on quantity! None of those items are recyclable in today’s recycling world, so it’s on a downhill race straight to the dump! Or worse, dispersed across our lands and into lakes and oceans.

Ironically, in the years leading up to the 2020 pandemic, California and other states had started to make progress on reducing single-use plastics – and many conscientious businesses had gone further, encouraging customers to bring reusable containers and cups and, of course, bags. Stores had bulk dispensers for many products. COVID basically gave the okay to forget about the regulations and the massive uptick in plastic trash. Reusable bags were prohibited; your personal travel mug no longer refillable.

Seizing an opportunity in a clearly self-serving move, the Plastics Industry Association (PIA) jumped on uncertainty to further scare consumers (and thus businesses), by referencing in misleading ways studies from non-COVID or non-SARS research about surface transmission to justify the use of more disposables. They lobbied the CDC and administration to recommend single-use plastics and to bypass laws intended to reduce their use (an ongoing mission of the PIA). Though there was no way to be certain at the time, multiple studies have since found that the likelihood of transmitting COVID-19 through surfaces such as shopping bags and reusable cups during incidental contact was basically zero … especially if other precautions were being followed, such as handwashing and keeping things clean. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration recently stated: “Currently there is no evidence of food, food containers, or food packaging being associated with transmission of COVID-19.”

Even prior to the pandemic, consumption of single-use products—plastic and other materials with their own different environmental costs—was staggering. Though, difficult to quantify at this time, it’s estimated that consumption of single-use plastics increased 5-10% during the pandemic. Try to get your head around these numbers:

- Globally, about 400 million tons of plastic are produced every year.
- Roughly half of that is for single-use purposes. (The average single-use plastic is used for 12 minutes, but lasts for centuries).
- We use 500 million plastic straws and 100 million plastic utensils every day!
- Over 500 billion single-use cups and 25 billion Styrofoam cups are used globally each year.
- Over a trillion plastic bags (some estimates are as high as five trillion) are used globally (100 billion in the US alone) each year.
- That’s 32,000 every second. Or 131,000,000 per hour!

Ten million tons of plastic ends up in dumps! Or worse, dispersed across our lands and into lakes and oceans.
SINGLE USE continued from page 6

the ocean each year. One million birds and at least 100,000 marine animals are killed by plastics each year. During the pandemic, 129 billion masks and 65 billion disposable gloves are used every month. In total, there are 8.5 billion tons of plastic on Earth right now (that’s the same weight as 55 million jumbo jets!) 75% of that has become trash. So, where do we go from here? As the vaccines take effect and restrictions are eased, we may head toward pre-pandemic routines. It may take awhile to ramp down our single-use habits, just as it will for our eating and drinking habits. And the first step is always to admit we have a problem … "Hi, my name is Earthling, and I’m a plastiholic". But we can get on the wagon now … break the habit and turn it around. Many “to-go” delivery orders end up being eaten at home or somewhere with utensils, bowls, cups, sauces, etc. Businesses can implement policies to ask whether customers want all those disposables, napkins, sauce packets, etc - or the disposable bags they stuff them in. When ordering on the phone or in-person, ask that no extra items/utensils are added to your order. You can bring your own clean reusable bags, and refuse any unnecessary future trash a restaurant offers. Some businesses are starting to go back to filling your reusable cups, bowls and plates. Keep a bag in your car with some reusable items, plates (or sealable glass container), utensils and cloth napkins. Make it a habit to ask if the business will fill your reusable when you order. We cannot rid the earth of the 8.5 billion tons of plastic already created, most of which is now trash in our rivers and oceans, along our roads, and jamming our landfills. But we can choose to not add to this immense pile. Each of us can commit to do a little better. Better for the environment, for ourselves and community, and for the future generations who are yet to order their first takeout meal. INYO350 is a local volunteer organization, focused on reducing our individual, local, and global carbon footprint, and on other environmental and social justice issues. Learn more about us at www.inyos350action.org

8 R’S continued from page 5

restrictive than they’ve been in recent years.

- Paper: clean office or copy paper with no staples, envelopes with the plastic windows and adhesive removed, junk mail paper and color newspaper if the paper is NOT GLOSSY. Small paper pieces, but NOT shredded.

- Glossy paper of any kind including from magazines, catalogs, or shiny mailings, and envelopes with plastic windows

- Non-corrugated paperboard such as cereal boxes, egg cartons, waxed cardboard, anything shiny.

- Paper masks

- Plastic: only clean #1 PETE and #2 HDPE. Please remove all bottle caps and the ring on plastic bottles, if you can! It’s very important that everything you recycle be as clean and dry as possible. If not, your dirty recyclables could contaminate an entire load, sending it all straight to the landfill!

- Styrofoam

- Foods: clean, all colors

- Metals: clean aluminum and tin cans and put them in the appropriate bins

- Glass: clean, all colors

- Nylon and other hard plastic, such as #3-7 and plastic bags

- COVID-19 waste such as gloves or paper masks

A note on “Wishcycling”: It’s understandable to wish that something just might be recyclable and err toward putting it in the recycle bin. But this well-intentioned effort may actually contaminate the entire lot, causing it all to be tossed into the landfill. For more info, please check out calrecycle.ca.gov, inyocountysolidwaste.com, bishopwaste.com/services/residential-trash/

REMOVE Sometimes it’s just trash! And it’s ugly! It’s amazing what a difference picking up a little trash in our neighborhoods and “Big Back Yard” can make. Bring a bag (and gloves) when out walking and collect what’s been blown or thrown there. Join efforts with friends or local groups like Sierra Trash Eliminators or coordinated community cleanups, such as the Earth Day celebration and cleanup on April 24th. Go to www.INYOS350action.org for more info!

RALLY Last, but not least, rally your neighbors, your friends, your family. Offer to help them know what and how they can recycle. Talk to them about all the “R’s” in waste reduction and help them to understand that they can be part of the solution, instead of the problem!

We hope that being exposed to the issues. Learn more about us at www.terracycle.com, www.earthday.org/plastic-pollution-calculator-2

Earth Day Youth Art Contest

Earth Day Youth Art Contest

20,000 Acres Protected in 20 Years!

Register for free: ESLT.org/events
(760) 873-4554

If you would like to help with this task, there are even tools like plastic pollution calculators to help you track how much waste you generate and then come up with a personal plastic reduction plan! It’s worth looking into these sources: www.terracycle.com, www.breakfreefromplastic.org, www.earthday.org/plastic-pollution-calculator-2

Eastern Sierra Pollinator Garden Workshops

Let’s grow together this spring season!

Gather virtually with ESLT throughout April & May by attending one or all of these conversations, and help your garden thrive. Learn from these amazing community members.

Monday, April 26th from 12pm-1pm
"Drip Irrigation How-To’s & Virtual Q&A Session" with Roberta Lagomarsini, Inyo/Mono Master Gardener

Monday, May 3rd from 12pm-1pm
"Gardening with Native Plants in the Eastern Sierra" with Katie Quinlan, California Native Plant Society, Bristlecone Chapter

Friday, May 7th from 12pm-1pm
"Gardening for Pollinators" with Pete Pumphrey, Eastern Sierra Audubon’s Past-President

Friday, May 14th from 12pm-1pm
"Cultivating Creativity and Design in Your Garden" with Roberta Lagomarsini, Inyo/Mono Master Gardener

Eastern Sierra Land Trust

Together, Protecting our Wild and Working Lands

INYO350 is a local volunteer organization, focused on reducing our individual, local, and global carbon footprint, and on other environmental and social justice issues. Learn more about us at www.inyos350action.org

See full workshop calendar and recordings at eslt.org/events

THE GREEN SHEET | SPRING 2021 | 7
Earth Day
Trash Cleanup
Saturday, April 24

Meeting Time: 9:00 AM
Please be prompt!

Meeting Location: Parking lot, corner of Fowler and Church Streets in Bishop

Trash pickup locations: To be announced at the parking lot - or pick your own.

Food: Free donuts, pastries, and coffee at 9AM. Rolling Chef will serve lunch from 11AM to 1PM. Special lunch discounts from 11AM to 1PM for all participants!

Supplies: Trash bags and grabbers will be available at the parking lot. Wear hats, sturdy shoes, and work gloves.

BENEFITS
continued from page 8

the Davies’ rent Holler’s home from him. The Davies’ and Hollers’ also socialize together. Holler said that as of Thursday morning, based on various conflicts of interest between he and Davies, that Davies had verbally withdrawn his name from consideration as Special Events Director.

The Sheet noted that Holler is Facebook friends with Darin Dinsmore, and asked if that personal relationship should have been disqualifying as well. Holler said he has hundreds and hundreds of Facebook friends and that his personal relationship with Dinsmore is more related to crossing paths professionally over the years and is not at the same level as that which he shares with the Davies.

But the story does not quite end there. Not yet.

What were Keith Davies professional qualifications, anyway? They certainly weren’t included in Wednesday’s agenda packet. Davies’ company, Sierra Nevada Destination Services basis no website, and doesn’t appear to have any clients - or at least clients who post things on the internet.

Holler later stated that Davies has a long history of event planning and management (he apparently met his wife when he was a manager and she a performer with the Ice Capades) and that he and his wife have been very successful in revitalizing the Grass Valley Chamber of Commerce.

Sheet: Why doesn’t he have a web presence?

Holler: He doesn’t need it.

Now onto the agreement itself. There are a few unusual parts to it, some of which were pointed out by Sandra DiDomizio, who owns Green Fox Events, the locally-based events marketing firm.

Specifically, DiDomizio pointed to Exhibit B, which states, “Nothing herein prevents the Consultant from partnering with local businesses, non-profits, civic organizations or other agencies in the promotion, production and funding of special events … Unless otherwise directed under separate specific agreements funds raised through special events by the consultant may be retained by the consultant.”

What? So the Town dumps $425,000 in this guy’s lap to develop a Special Events Strategy and if the events make money, he gets a cut of that as well?

As Holler explained, the money in the contract includes the money which is already dedicated to special events. So while $125,000 seems like a big number, $100,000 of it is already dedicated to various events, meaning there are only $25,000 on the table in the first year which would be discretionary, and $50,000/year thereafter.

The idea behind Exhibit B is that Davies could augment his salary by having a private stake in new events. In effect, Holler said we should “reward entrepreneurialism.”

So what happens from here? Holler said the town will either fly another RFP completely or it can approach the other people/firms which previously expressed interest and either did/did not make a formal proposal last time around.

/From The Sheet Oct. 22, 2016/

---

**CHILDBE ABUSE PREVENTION**

April was first declared Child Abuse Prevention Month by presidential proclamation in 1983. Since, then April has been a time to acknowledge the importance of families and communities working together to prevent child abuse, and to promote the social and emotional well-being of children and families.

During the month of April and throughout the year communities are encouraged to share child abuse and neglect prevention awareness strategies and activities to promote prevention across the county. Blue Pinwheels are the national symbol for child abuse and neglect prevention. Shining in the sun, the pinwheel is reflective of the bright future ALL children deserve!

Keep an eye out for Blue Pinwheel Displays in Mono County. The Mono County Child Abuse Prevention Council (CAPC) and other agencies have planned activities for the month of April to spread awareness about Child Abuse and Neglect in Mono County.

**Activities:**

- **April 2nd = WEAR BLUE:** Friday April 2, post a photo of you and your colleagues, friends or family wearing blue and what prevention means to you! For example, you can say “We wear blue to raise awareness for Child Abuse Prevention Month, #WeWearBlue4Kids and #WeWearBlue4KidsMono.

- **PASS THE PINWHEEL:** For #PassThePinwheel, post a photo or photos throughout April of you and your colleagues. Friends or family with pinwheels with a brief explanation of what they mean (the national symbol of child abuse prevention) and challenge others to plant pinwheels, too!

- **April 23rd = HONOR YOUNG LIVES LOST:** Share #FlagsHonoringYoungLivesLost on April 23 for Children’s Memorial Flag Day will be raised at the Mammoth Lakes Fire Station #1 to raise awareness for the children who lost their lives to abuse and neglect.

We encourage you to look for the Facebook Live Event on the Mono Strengthening Families Facebook Page.

To learn more about the Mono County Child Abuse Prevention Council (CAPC) & how you can become involved, please call (760) 934-0031 or visit our website at: monoco.gov/capc or visit facebook.com/Mono-Strengthening-Families-715026581957919/.

To report suspected abuse or neglect in Mono County: 1-800-340-5411

---

**PREVENCIÓN DEL ABUSO INFANTIL**

El mes de Abril fue declarado como el mes nacional de prevención del abuso infantil por una proclamación presidencial en el 1983. Desde entonces el mes de Abril ha sido un tiempo para reconocer la importancia de que las familias y comunidades trabajen juntos para prevenir el abuso infantil, y para promover el bienestar social y emocional de los niños y familias.

Durante el mes de Abril y todo el año comunidades son alentadas a compartir estrategias y actividades para prevenir el abuso y negligencia infantil a través del condado.

Los Molinillos Azules son el símbolo nacional para la prevención del abuso y la negligencia infantil. Brillando en el sol, el molinillo es un reflejo del futuro. Todos los niños merecen y nuestra creencia de que prevenir el abuso infantil temprano es menos costoso que reparar vidas rotas.

El consejo de la prevención del abuso infantil del condado de Mono y otras agencias tienen planificadas actividades para el mes de Abril. Estas actividades son para ayudar a difundir el conocimiento sobre el abuso infantil y negligencia en el condado de Mono.

**Actividad:**

- **2 de Abril- VISTE DE AZUL: para #VisteDeAzul2022. El día viernes 2 de Abril. Publica una foto de tí y tus colegas, amigos y familiares usando ropa azul y describe qué significa la prevención para tí. Por ejemplo puedes decir nosotros usamos azul para aumentar el conocimiento sobre la prevención del abuso infantil durante el mes de Abril.**

- **PASAR EL MOLINILLO:** Para #Pasamolinillo publica una foto o fotos durante el mes de Abril de tí y tus colegas, amistades y familiares con molinillos y una breve explicación de lo que significa, también reta a otros a plantar molinillos.

- **23 de Abril: HONOR A VIDAS PERDIDAS:** #Vanderesenhonorandovidasperdidas el 23 de Abril para el día de la bandera conmemorativa de los niños que será elevada en la estación de bomberos#1 de Mammoth Lakes para aumentar el conocimiento sobre los niños que han perdido sus vidas a causa del maltrato y negligencia infantil. Invitamos a que busquen el evento en vivo que estará en nuestra página deMono Strengthening Families Facebook.
Sierra Employment Services, Inc. is hiring for the following positions:

Caregiver/Med Tech – B - $15-$17
Housekeeping Sup – ML - $DOE
Janitor – B - $15
Medical Assistant – ML - $DOE
Project Mgmt Clerk – B - $17 - $24
Retail Clerk – B - $14

Housekeepers Wanted in Mammoth Lakes
Flexible hours, $23/hour from 11/29-4/1) Drive time paid & mileage reimbursed. Benefits depend on hours worked, sick time and PTO! To apply please go to www.vacasa.com/careers!

Alpenhof Lodge is accepting applications for maintenance, housekeeping, front desk and night audit positions. We are looking for full and/or part time team members to fill year round and seasonal positions. Applicants must be able to work weekends and holidays. Please apply in-person to 6080 Minaret Rd, Mammoth

Houseskeeper Wanted in Mammoth Lakes!
Flexible hours, $23/hour from 11/29-4/1) Drive time paid & mileage reimbursed. Benefits depend on hours worked, sick time and PTO! To apply please go to www.vacasa.com/careers!

Help Wanted

Assisted Living Home is currently looking for a Housekeeper.

Hired to work with residents to complete household chores, clean bathrooms, clean and organize the house, and any other housekeeping duties assigned to you.

To apply, call the office at 760-642-1600.

We’re looking for experienced professionals to join our dedicated Team. 2.5% increase to base salary July 2021, plus a competitive benefits package. Must be committed to serving our local community!

Human Resources Manager
$93k - $114,441
Parks Maintenance Worker
$37,632 - $52,954
Pool Maintenance Worker
$44,336 - $62,386

The Town offers an excellent benefits package and is a Drug-Free Workplace. Eligibility for CalPERS retirement

Contact

3050

80/50 Private Residence Club is hiring for Full-Time, Year-Round Housekeepers.

Homeowners have a desire to truly help people. Employees must be capable of working alone and in a team environment. A positive can-do attitude is a must.

Prior experience a plus, AM/PM shifts available.

Starting pay is $15-$17 per hour plus tips, dependent on experience.

Also looking for a Full-Time, Year-Round Guest Service Agent

Qualified applicants will have basic computer skills, are 100% reliable, must be capable of working alone and in a team environment, and have good customer service skills. A positive can-do attitude is a must.

Prior experience a plus, AM/PM shift available. Starting pay $15-$17 per hour plus tips dependent on experience.

All Full Time Positions Include Full Medical Benefits, 401K with Employer Match, Ski Pass, Paid Time Off. Please stop by 80/50 Pine Ave or call 760-965-6237.

June Pic seeks hard working Pizza Sales Attendants and Pizza Makers to join our team.
$15/hour plus tips (average $10+/per hour).
Benefits include free pizza and entry to T-Bar Social Club concerts. Send resume to info@balancedecksaloon.com.

** pie is looking for full time, experienced Pizza Makers to join our team. The successful candidate will have experience working in a fast-paced environment and possess strong customer service skills. Must be able to work nights, weekends, and holidays. Starting salary will depend on experience.

** is currently seeking a full time, experienced Housekeeper to join our team. The successful candidate will have experience working in a fast-paced environment and possess strong customer service skills. Must be able to work nights, weekends, and holidays. Starting salary will depend on experience.

We're seeking a dynamic and experienced Building Maintenance Worker to join our team. The successful candidate will have experience working in a fast-paced environment and possess strong customer service skills. Must be able to work nights, weekends, and holidays. Starting salary will depend on experience.

** is seeking a part-time, experienced Housekeeper to join our team. The successful candidate will have experience working in a fast-paced environment and possess strong customer service skills. Must be able to work nights, weekends, and holidays. Starting salary will depend on experience.

We're seeking a full-time, experienced Housekeeper to join our team. The successful candidate will have experience working in a fast-paced environment and possess strong customer service skills. Must be able to work nights, weekends, and holidays. Starting salary will depend on experience.

** is seeking a part-time, experienced Housekeeper to join our team. The successful candidate will have experience working in a fast-paced environment and possess strong customer service skills. Must be able to work nights, weekends, and holidays. Starting salary will depend on experience.

We're seeking a full-time, experienced Housekeeper to join our team. The successful candidate will have experience working in a fast-paced environment and possess strong customer service skills. Must be able to work nights, weekends, and holidays. Starting salary will depend on experience.

** is seeking a part-time, experienced Housekeeper to join our team. The successful candidate will have experience working in a fast-paced environment and possess strong customer service skills. Must be able to work nights, weekends, and holidays. Starting salary will depend on experience.

We're seeking a full-time, experienced Housekeeper to join our team. The successful candidate will have experience working in a fast-paced environment and possess strong customer service skills. Must be able to work nights, weekends, and holidays. Starting salary will depend on experience.

** is seeking a part-time, experienced Housekeeper to join our team. The successful candidate will have experience working in a fast-paced environment and possess strong customer service skills. Must be able to work nights, weekends, and holidays. Starting salary will depend on experience.

We're seeking a full-time, experienced Housekeeper to join our team. The successful candidate will have experience working in a fast-paced environment and possess strong customer service skills. Must be able to work nights, weekends, and holidays. Starting salary will depend on experience.

** is seeking a part-time, experienced Housekeeper to join our team. The successful candidate will have experience working in a fast-paced environment and possess strong customer service skills. Must be able to work nights, weekends, and holidays. Starting salary will depend on experience.

We're seeking a full-time, experienced Housekeeper to join our team. The successful candidate will have experience working in a fast-paced environment and possess strong customer service skills. Must be able to work nights, weekends, and holidays. Starting salary will depend on experience.

** is seeking a part-time, experienced Housekeeper to join our team. The successful candidate will have experience working in a fast-paced environment and possess strong customer service skills. Must be able to work nights, weekends, and holidays. Starting salary will depend on experience.

We're seeking a full-time, experienced Housekeeper to join our team. The successful candidate will have experience working in a fast-paced environment and possess strong customer service skills. Must be able to work nights, weekends, and holidays. Starting salary will depend on experience.

** is seeking a part-time, experienced Housekeeper to join our team. The successful candidate will have experience working in a fast-paced environment and possess strong customer service skills. Must be able to work nights, weekends, and holidays. Starting salary will depend on experience.
TOWN STUFF

4/24-4/25
Inyo County Vaccination Clinic at the Tri-County Fairgrounds in Bishop. All individuals 16+ regardless of where you live (Inyo, Mono, L.A., etc.) are invited to register at myturn.ca.gov and entering zip code 93514.

Saturday, April 24/
2021 Online Manzanar Pilgrimage. 12-6 p.m. "Upholding Democracy and Constitutional Rights for All: No More Concentration Camps" is this year’s pilgrimage theme. Bonba Stories and UCLA Kyodo Taiko will also perform. Join via the Manzanar Committee’s YouTube channel, https://www.youtube.com/manzanarcommittee.

Earth Day/Fishmas celebration in Mammoth. 11-5 p.m. Location Distant Brewing parking lot on Old Mammoth Road. Info: www.highsierraenergy.org

Inyo County Sheriff’s Prescription Drug Takeback in Bishop. Big Pine, Lone Pine, and Tecopa. Anyone wishing to get rid of expired, unused, or unwanted prescription drugs can drop them at one of four locations, no questions asked. Bishop Vons, Big Pine Fire Department, Lone Pine McDonalds, and Tecopa Community Center. Time: 8 a.m.-noon.

Monday, April 26/
Bishop City Council meets via Zoom. Meeting begins at 8 a.m., viewable through the City of Bishop Youtube page.

Eastern Sierra Land Trust’s Garden Workshop Series: “Drip Irrigation.” Roberta Lagomarsini hosts. Time: 12-1 p.m. Register online at eslt.org.

First of two audition nights for SCT’s “The Taming of the Shrew.” More info: See ad p. 4.

Tuesday, April 27/
Mammoth Lakes Chamber of Commerce Pandemic Champions Awards Gala. Time: 5:30-6:30 p.m. RSVP at www.mammothlakeschamber.org.

Wednesday, April 28/
The Inyo County Planning Department has prepared a Public Review Draft of the 2021 General Plan Housing Element. Staff will present the Draft at today’s Planning Commission meeting. Time: 10 a.m. You can view the document on the Planning Department Website under Inyo County General Plan – 2021 Housing Element. Update Comments can be submitted to: inyoplan@inyocounty.us.

Friday, April 30/
Mammoth Lakes Repertory Theatre presents its annual Theatre for Young Audiences production via Zoom. This year: Hare and Tortoise. Time: 6 p.m. More info: See ad page 5.

Mammoth Lakes Town Council meets. 1 p.m. Viewing is available through Zoom or through Granicus on the town website. Mono County Vaccine Clinic at the Benton Community Center in Benton. 4-6 p.m. by appointment or walk-in.

Earth Day Youth Art Contest Final Day for Submissions. Co-hosted by Eastern Sierra Land Trust and CS Studios in Bishop, the event is open to students in grades 5-12 from Mono and Inyo counties. Three winners will be chosen to receive prizes. Visit esl.org to learn more.

Saturday, May 1/
Owens River Annual Clean up at the Pleasant Valley Campground in Bishop. Meet up at 8 a.m. for coffee and baked goods, then clean the Owens throughout the day. Lunch provided at 12 p.m. All participants should wear a mask and practice social distancing.

Ongoing
Laws Museum is “Back on Track!” and FULLY OPEN. Indoor and Outdoor exhibits are now open to the public. Visitors welcome EVERY DAY from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Info: 760.873.7850/ lawsrailroadmuseum@gmail.com

The UCCE Inyo and Mono Counties Master Gardeners are looking for people who are interested in taking our virtual training course. Apps. due April 30. Classes will be held May-August 2021. Info: Melissa 760.873.7854/ melyeager@ucanr.edu

FREE Digital Arts Workshops for Teens. Learn more and sign-up at monocolibraries.org. Info: Email the Youth Librarian at cdevine@monocoe.org.

Covid testing/
Bishop Tri-County Fairgrounds, Tallman Pavilion on Monday and Thursday - participants must be in a vehicle to get tested. And at Statham Hall in Lone Pine on Tuesday and Friday. Time: 8-4.

Mammoth Lakes testing Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays at the Mammoth Lakes Foundation, 100 College Pkwy. 11 a.m. ’til 7 p.m. No appt. necessary. See ad p. 5

Walker/Coleville testing Fridays at Walker Community Center 9 a.m-12-4:55 p.m.

Covid Vaccination Pre-register for your COVID-19 vaccine registration can be accessed via the county website www.inyocounty.us.
NOTICE INVITING BIDS
CAP 2-104
The Town of Mammoth Lakes will receive sealed bids for the removal of the existing 5' warning track at Whitmore Field.

Sierra Business Park
The Town of Mammoth Lakes for Tent 11.

In this Contract, responsibility to evaluate and include the cost of complying with all labor compliance requirements under Public Contract Code Sections 20166 and 20167. Submission of a bid will be deemed conclusive evidence that the bidder has thoroughly understood all the requirements described in this notice and in written correspondence or special requests which may appear before The Mammoth Lakes Recreation Board. Pursuant to Government Code Sections 65450, the decision to sustain or overrule and any presentation of the听证官 or the board for purposes of the hearing. The decision in this challenging or to reconsider the written presentation described in this notice or in written correspondence or special requests which may appear before The Mammoth Lakes Recreation Board. Pursuant to Government Code Sections 65450, the decision to sustain or overrule this written presentation corresponds to the listening and corresponding law in the bid.

The Town of Mammoth Lakes will receive sealed bids for the removal of the existing 5' warning track at Whitmore Field.

Sierra Business Park
The Town of Mammoth Lakes for Tent 11.

In this Contract, responsibility to evaluate and include the cost of complying with all labor compliance requirements under Public Contract Code Sections 20166 and 20167. Submission of a bid will be deemed conclusive evidence that the bidder has thoroughly understood all the requirements described in this notice and in written correspondence or special requests which may appear before The Mammoth Lakes Recreation Board. Pursuant to Government Code Sections 65450, the decision to sustain or overrule this written presentation corresponds to the listening and corresponding law in the bid.

The Town of Mammoth Lakes will receive sealed bids for the removal of the existing 5' warning track at Whitmore Field.

Sierra Business Park
The Town of Mammoth Lakes for Tent 11.

In this Contract, responsibility to evaluate and include the cost of complying with all labor compliance requirements under Public Contract Code Sections 20166 and 20167. Submission of a bid will be deemed conclusive evidence that the bidder has thoroughly understood all the requirements described in this notice and in written correspondence or special requests which may appear before The Mammoth Lakes Recreation Board. Pursuant to Government Code Sections 65450, the decision to sustain or overrule this written presentation corresponds to the listening and corresponding law in the bid.
**ORANGE COUNTY**

By Page

On Tuesday, April 20, Mono County moved into the orange tier of California’s Blueprint for a Safe Economy. The change went into effect the following day, April 21.

The county was able to remain below the 5.9 new cases per 100,000 residents per day and 4.9% positivity rate needed to change tiers.

Entering the orange tier allows for increase in capacity for businesses across many industries, with restaurants, movie theaters, and museums able to open to 50% indoor seating capacity, and gyms/fitness centers and entertainment centers at 25% indoor capacity.

At Tuesday’s Mono County Board of Supervisors meeting, Mono County Public Health Director Bryan Wheeler said that the state is also in the process of updating the small county framework for tier movement.

When that update goes into effect, small counties like Mono and Inyo would need to keep new cases per 100,000 residents per day under 7 a week. Mono County’s current numbers fall under that metric, with Inyo’s sitting exactly at 7.

If Mono’s numbers hold, the county should reach the yellow tier by mid-May, with Inyo following only a week or two behind.

38 California counties are in the orange tier, with 17 in the red, 3 in the yellow, and zero remaining in the purple.

This tracks with recent news that California has the lowest Covid-19 case rates in the country.

The state reports that nearly 10.8 million (33.9% of the population) Californians are fully vaccinated, with another 6.5 million (20.5%) partially vaccinated. Last week, vaccination appointments were opened to all residents ages 16 and up.

Wheeler reported on Tuesday that the county had over 1,000 doses each of both Pfizer and Moderna vaccines, with more expected to arrive in the coming weeks.

The county is holding Johnson & Johnson vaccines, he said, until issues related to that vaccine can be resolved. Nearly 8,000 first doses of vaccine have been administered within the county with just over 7,000 people fully vaccinated.

Wheeler said that the state estimates about 10,000 Mono County residents are eligible for the vaccine; the actual percentage of county residents who are fully vaccinated is skewed by people who work in Mono but are residents of other counties.

Projecting outward, Pfizer is working to get its vaccine approved for 12-15 year olds. If approved, that may be an option by mid-May.

---

**CLEAR CUT AT CASA DIABLO**

The Sheet received an inquiry this week about a project taking place in the forest near the Ormat Geothermal Plant.

The above photo was taken on Monday afternoon and shows what appears to be a substantial clear cut in the area.

Reaching out to Mono County Supervisor Stacy Corless, The Sheet learned that the forest work was related to an expansion of the existing geothermal power plant, titled Casa Diablo IV.

As outlined in a 2013 Record of Decision, Ormat will construct a new 33 megawatt power generating facility on the land.

The clear-cut and grading is the initial phase. At some point, Ormat will begin the well drilling process and subsequent pipeline work needed to run the plant.

Up to 16 wells could be drilled to achieve the power output goals.

The Mammoth Community Water District has opposed the project, arguing that it could contaminate shallow groundwater resources.

Ormat argues that aquifers used by MCWD are separated from the hotter geothermal system by a low-permeability rhyolite layer.

---

The Sheet received an inquiry this week about a project taking place in the forest near the Ormat Geothermal Plant.

The above photo was taken on Monday afternoon and shows what appears to be a substantial clear cut in the area.

Reaching out to Mono County Supervisor Stacy Corless, The Sheet learned that the forest work was related to an expansion of the existing geothermal power plant, titled Casa Diablo IV.

As outlined in a 2013 Record of Decision, Ormat will construct a new 33 megawatt power generating facility on the land.

The clear-cut and grading is the initial phase. At some point, Ormat will begin the well drilling process and subsequent pipeline work needed to run the plant.

Up to 16 wells could be drilled to achieve the power output goals.

The Mammoth Community Water District has opposed the project, arguing that it could contaminate shallow groundwater resources.

Ormat argues that aquifers used by MCWD are separated from the hotter geothermal system by a low-permeability rhyolite layer.
CURRENT FISSHUES

By Page

In anticipation of the fishing season opener on April 24, the Bishop Chamber of Commerce hosted a panel of local experts and authorities this past Wednesday via Zoom to explain how this year’s season will look different from years past.

First up was California Department of Fish and Wildlife’s (CDFW) Matt Norris, who oversees local fish hatcheries.

A lactococcus garvieae outbreak at the Fish Springs and Black Rock hatcheries in June 2020 led to euthanization of all fish at those facilities.

Norris explained that both last year’s (2020) and this year’s (2021) crop had to be culled from the hatcheries before the facilities were fully cleaned and disinfected.

“We have fish on board for next year but for this year there are no fish on board,” Norris said.

While Hot Creek Hatchery is fully functional and stocking at full capacity, Norris said that there is an invasive species issue at that location, which limits the locations where those fish can be stocked.

Norris said that CDFW is bringing in fish from other areas of the state to ensure that there will still be plenty to catch, with 18,000 lbs of fish already stocked and a similar number expected every month.

“We’re hamstrung [sic] on lack of inventory but hopefully things are looking better for this year and by next year we’re back up to full production,” Norris said.

CDFW Lieutenant William Dailey spoke about how changes to fishing regulations would look for the new season.

The aim of the new regulations, he said, was to simplify trout fishing statewide.

To try to keep it simple: all inland lakes, reservoirs, ponds etc. are open year round with a five trout daily limit and 10 trout possession limit EXCEPT those listed in section 7.50 of the new regulations.

While that list is too long to reprint here, Dailey advised checking it prior to fishing any Eastern Sierra location, given that many are listed in the subsection, so as to ensure the new regulations are properly followed.

Streams, rivers, creeks, etc. are also open year round; outside of normal fishing season, anglers must use barbless lures with no scented products or bait, and the protocol is strictly catch-and-release.

A general rule of thumb, Dailey said, was that any lake with a concessionaire or resort on it can only be fished during the regular season. Lakes lacking in such businesses (i.e. Lundy Lake, North Lake, high country lakes) can be fished year round.

The other big rule: certain lakes listed under 7.50 now have a five trout daily limit and five trout possession limit. If an angler catches five at Crowley and keeps them all, he/she cannot catch another fish until they have eaten or disposed of at least one.

One notable expansion of the rules: lakes not listed under 7.50 will permit catching up to 10 additional brook trout that will not count towards the 5 bag limit as long as the brook trout in question are under 10 inches.

Jared Smith of Parcher’s Resort, located near South Lake, said that he’d had conversations with LADWP and Southern California Edison about drainage and water levels for the area.

He said that the snowpack was about 50% of the average, but that it was better than expected. All in all, Smith explained, there are the makings of a pretty good season out there but some factors (stretches of hot dry weather, seasonal storms) could impact the outcomes.

“I’m optimistic that this season is going to feel a lot more like we’re used to. We’ve got a lot of people that are starved for the outdoors … and we have a real massive opportunity to show them a good time.”

Michelle Gastelum

Michelle is a 2020 graduate of Mammoth High School currently attending Cerro Coso Community College. Upon completion of her AA degree, the scholarship will provide tuition up to $10,000 for each of two years to complete her undergraduate degree. Michelle’s goal is to become a veterinarian and work with exotic animals.
As for tribal concerns, that was more complicated. The issues from December: the tribe wanted more consultation, more time to meet with the applicant, and there was an ask that the California Attorney General look into project compliance.

Sugimura gave a full rundown of the Tribe’s concerns, recognition and respect beyond that required by the process even if the Tribe is not receiving the answer it wants. Options have been offered to the Tribe to address concerns,” Sugimura read aloud from the slides, followed by “Respecting diversity and equity does not mean all parties agree, or that any party is unilaterally granted their request. The Tribe’s concerns have been taken seriously and elevated above the typical process, and significant effort has been dedicated to trying to meet and resolve them within the legal framework by which the County is bound. This effort is consistent with the County’s commitment to diversity and equity.”

Sugimura provided conditional language that, should the project amendment be approved, it would feature an invitation for Domaille, the tribe, and the county to meet and come to an agreement or agree to disagree within six months.

She also addressed concerns surrounding an access path between the project site and Lee Vining. Because the issue is considered pre-existing, there would be a funding gap that would make the path infeasible, she explained, if made a condition for beginning construction.

In addition, alignment studies would be necessary for any work, SCE (Southern California Edison) would need to approve the project, and constructing the pathway as an underpass created a significant barrier.

In spite of staff findings and assuranc- es that the work done was “above and beyond,” it wasn’t good enough. Part of the issue lies in how much the Mono Lake Committee and Kutzadika tribe controlled the process. With a significant amount riding on the consultation and meeting process, the actual meeting was of the utmost importance. And it never materialized for one reason or another and there’s no reason to believe that it ever would have happened without some sort of legal mandate.

Regarding the necessity of the access trail, the Committee argued that it was in fact feasible and that the county was engaging in a form of doublespeak to avoid the issue.

In the end, controlling the process resulted in a victory for their side. When you send in your complaints and comments at the last minute, you can always argue that they won’t be properly addressed.

All the Committee and Tribe had to do was convince one supervisor, given the smaller board for the meeting and Gardner’s opposition from the outset.

Duggan asked questions about the height of the project and location of the buildings for clarity, claiming that she was still new to the process and the project itself.

She argued that she didn’t see the need for the housing portion of the project, given that it wouldn’t be made available to the Lee Vining community initially.

An initial motion to continue the hearing failed 2-2, then a motion to approve failed by the same margin. By law, that meant a denial. As County Counsel Stacy Simon explained, a supervisor who voted in opposition had the right to propose an amendment or revision to make forward progress possible.

And when asked if they would, Gardner and Duggan said nothing and only shook their heads.

With that, the housing project was denied and the meeting was adjourned.

Domaille has indicated that he plans to sell the project to developers. Some of the buyers, he said, have no qualms about continuing without the rejected housing component.

Of note: Supervisor Gardner has a history of involvement with the Mono Lake Committee. He is listed as a donor and volunteer in their yearly newsletters and his wife Karen trains volunteers with the non-profit, although she receives no financial compensation for that role.

A call to the Mono Lake Committee confirmed that she still holds that role. Supervisor Duggan had a potential conflict of interest regarding family in the area but resolved the issue with Fair Practices Commission. She told The Sheet that she has no financial interest or stake in the area, as the "conflict" was related to familial relations.

A relative of Duggan’s is an owner of a hotel in Lee Vining.
A NEW HOME FOR FAMILY FUN

OVER 17 NEW CREEKHOUSE RESIDENCES SOLD THIS PAST SUMMER AND FALL.

A NEW HOME FOR FAMILY FUN

OVER 17 NEW CREEKHOUSE RESIDENCES SOLD THIS PAST SUMMER AND FALL.

LUXURY MOUNTAIN RETREATS WITH MILES OF TRAILS, OPEN SPACE & ROOM TO BREATHE NEAR MAMMOTH MOUNTAIN. Up to 3 Beds & Flex Room, Up to 2,152 sq. ft.

CONTACT OUR SALES TEAM TODAY TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR HIGHLY ANTICIPATED WINTER RELEASE OF HOMES

877-766-9275 • LIVECREEKHOUSE.COM

2021. All rights reserved.

All information subject to change. The Snowcreek Property Company. CalDRE #01812140.