

the sheet

News, Views & Culture of the Eastern Sierra



Network (1976) has stood the test of time. In good ways, and bad. For Milender's take, see page 4.

Saturday, March 9, 2024

FREE

Vol. 22, No. 10

ADVANCE TO GOICO

By Milender

The Mammoth Lakes Chamber of Commerce has named Brianna Goico—currently serving as the Membership and Marketing Manager and Assistant Director of the chamber—as its new President and Chief Executive Officer. Goico will be taking over for Ken Brengle on June 1, 2024.

Originally from Redding, Calif., Goico holds a degree in International Relations from Oral Roberts University, in Tulsa, Okla. Notably, Goico's tenure includes a stint at the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), where she navigated the intricacies of bipartisan politics in Washington, D.C.

"But DC wasn't for me,"

says Goico. It was a realization she made, sitting at the Westin Monache Resort bar, after having just begun graduate school at George Washington University. It was her first trip to Mammoth, back in April of 2016.

"I had this dream of working in embassies in the Middle East," says Goico. "But then Mammoth completely changed my values—what I wanted out of my life."

Goico left grad school just a few weeks later.

She spent the next year, commuting back and forth between West Hollywood and Mammoth. She fell in love

see GOICO, page 8

A STICK IN THE 'I'

Mammoth school bond measure appears headed for defeat

By Lunch

When it comes to bond measures appearing on the November ballot, it's gonna be crowded.

In part because Measure I, the Mammoth Unified School District bond measure which appeared on the March 5 ballot, looks like it's headed for defeat.

The measure needed a 55% majority for passage. As of Wednesday's latest election update, the vote was 559-530, or 51.3% in support.

Statisticians among you will recognize odds are long that that number will suddenly push northward over 55%.

Mammoth Unified School District Superintendent Annie Rinaldi told The Sheet on Thursday morning that if Measure I fails, the District will try again in November.

Where it will find company.

Mammoth's Fire Protection District plans to float a bond in November. As does the Town of Mammoth Lakes, which plans to ask voters to approve a 2% increase in the Town's transient occupancy tax rate.

In response to The Sheet's snarky comment that perhaps Measure I would have performed better had there been a campaign behind

it, Rinaldi said she's been working two jobs (as Superintendent and Chief Business Officer) for this school year. She's hoping she can fill the Business Officer job soon and then "dedicate some time to finding a campaign manager [and stumping herself]" for a reintroduced bond measure this fall.

As she explains, approximately one-third of District teachers are set to retire within the next 5-10 years. "We need to build 10-12 units [of housing] for prospective staff." The idea being staff could lease inexpensive District housing for a few years with the idea they're saving

see ELECTION, page 6

EVERYONE KNOWS IT'S WINDY



Last weekend's windstorm downed several trees in Crowley, including these two at the park. The Mountain Meadows neighborhood was the hardest hit.

Play Ball

Neon Trees

Neko's Case

No Fun Anymore?

Saab Story

p. 14/

p. 15/

p. 3/

p. 9/

p. 6/

MORATORIUM LIFTED

At its meeting Wednesday, Mammoth Lakes Town Council voted unanimously to lift the Town’s moratorium on the issuance of nightly rental permits.

The moratorium is expected to be lifted April 22 in conjunction with new “Certified Property” legislation which increases STR permit fees and calls for regular inspections.

The vote was unanimous, but not without the requisite grumbling by Councilmember Rice during deliberations that the whole ordeal has amounted to a lost opportunity because new rules surrounding the certification of short-term rental [STR] properties “won’t stop long-term rentals from being converted into STRs.”

She also rehashed that the composition of the STR committee wasn’t representative of the town and that “I don’t think we’ll build our way out of the problem [housing shortage].”

Finally, she suggested that others already had their minds made up before the process had even started. She did not say whether or not she should be included in this group.

Councilmember Bubser then reminded that Council will put a measure on the November ballot calling for a 2% transient occupancy tax rate increase. Revenue from the rate increase is supposed to be dedicated to housing. She says this is critical because “we’ll need *a lot* of money for Phase III of The Parcel.”

Phase III is an ownership phase, so it won’t generate nearly the same state and federal subsidy that low-income projects generate

I say ‘supposed to’ because the tax will be on the ballot as a general tax, which only requires 50% for approval versus a dedicated tax which requires a 2/3 vote.

As Councilman Wentworth said in a text exchange post-meeting, voters “will have to trust a new council” on how the money is spent.

He says ‘new council’ because two seats (Rea, Sauser) are up for election this fall, and Rea has already said she will not seek reelection.

Councilmembers have suggested that if voters do not pass a TOT increase, they will revisit STR restrictions. The gun-to-head approach.

STR Committee Chair John Morris echoed this sentiment during public comment Wednesday. “If we can’t get this passed, we’ll have to break out some sticks.” Okay. I’ll rephrase. The stick-to-head approach.

As noted in the front page story, the Town’s bond measure will likely be one

the
sheet

News, Views & Culture of the Eastern Sierra

“These are people of the land. The common clay of the New West. You know ... morons.”

-The Waco Kid
from Blazing Saddles

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of three tax measures which appears on the ballot.

Offhand, I’d say I’m a ‘yes’ vote to support the Fire District and will need convincing to support an MUSD or TOML initiative.

In response to last week’s issue, I received the following note from Dr. Joseph Pawlick of Bethel, NY: “Participants [in the OCR - Obstacle Course Race championships] must pay \$325 for a three-day pass? Each event has an entry fee? Certainly, Mammoth Lakes Tourism or the Town of Mammoth Lakes is getting the gate \$\$\$ to offset the \$450,000 annual subsidy. Right? Does the Inyo National Forest Circus know that \$\$\$ is changing hands on its property? There should be a use-permit for the event.

Interestingly, when you Google the OCR world championships for 2024, it does not tell you the event will be held in Mammoth Lakes. Rather, it tells you the event will be held in TBD, California.

Last year, the excuse proffered by Mammoth Lakes Tourism for poor attendance was that the event wasn’t permitted by the Inyo Forest in a timely fashion. And five months after the previous event, it appears we’re headed down the same path.

more LUNCH, pg. 3

The

Minutes

An astonishing new comedy by Tracy Letts

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15, 16, 22, 23,

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28, 29, 30 at 7pm

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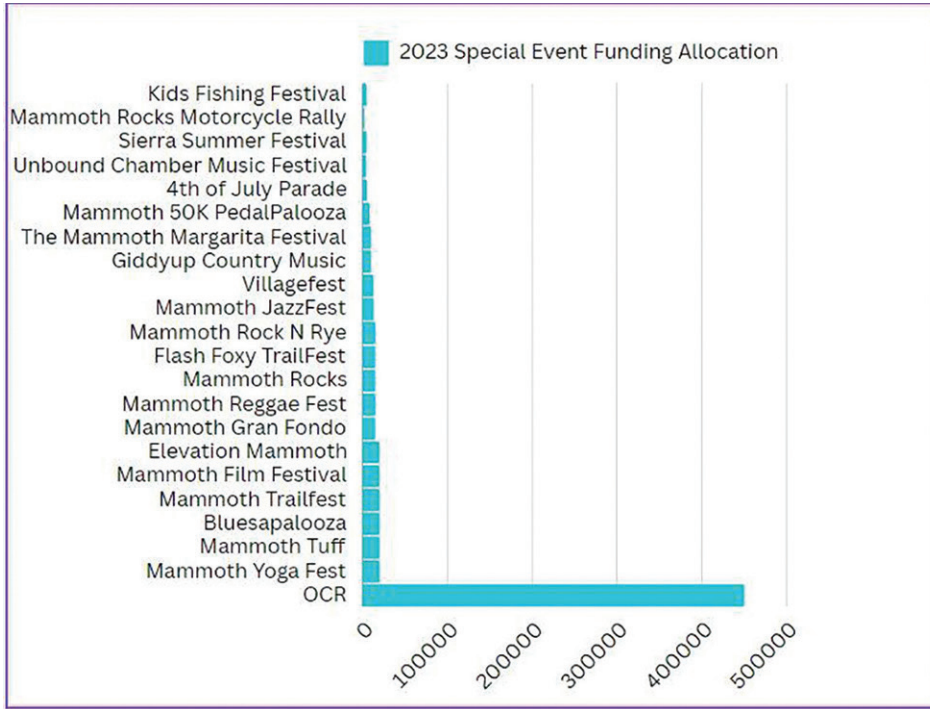
17&24 at 4pm

At Suite Z in the Town Offices!

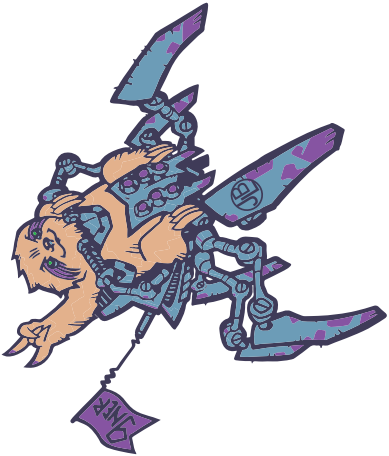
437 Old Mammoth Road, Suite 230

Tickets \$20 at bit.ly/the-minutes

QR CODE



Another way to visually represent special event funding allocations.



JUNE
LAKE
BREW
ING

LUNCH

continued from page 2

And from Millender's desk ...

Bricklayers Union

In a groundbreaking move out of Hanover, New Hampshire, the Dartmouth Men's Basketball team has voted to form a union. The vote marks a significant shift in the landscape of collegiate sports in that it challenges the long-standing notion that athletes are students, not employees.

Thirteen out of the team's 15 players voted in favor of joining the Service Employees International Union (SEIU)—a decision that came after legal interpretations by the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) recognized players as employees.

It will be the first time, in recent years, that Dartmouth ballers are making history. The team is 6-21 on the season, in slot 334/362 of the NCAA's D1 Net rankings, and haven't made an NCAA tournament appearance since 1959. As we like to say in The Sheet office: Go Big Green.

The NLRB's regional director, Laura Sacks, ordered the election, citing Dartmouth's control over the players' work and their compensation as key factors in considering them employees.

Dartmouth immediately contested Sacks, asserting that the players, despite their basketball activities, are not employed by the college. Dart-

mouth, and all universities within the Ivy League, does not offer athletic or merit-based scholarships. The NCAA followed suit with the following statement: "The NCAA is making changes to deliver more benefits to student-athletes, including guaranteed health care and guaranteed scholarships, but the NCAA and student-athlete leadership from all three divisions agree college athletes should not be forced into an employment model."

SEIU International President Mary Kay Henry hailed the players' decision, framing it as a pivotal moment in challenging the exploitative model of college sports. The unionization effort faces further challenges, including appeals by Dartmouth College and potential hearings in federal appellate courts and, potentially, the U.S. Supreme Court.

The NCAA, historically resistant to changes in the status quo, faces increasing pressure as more athletes advocate for recognition as employees. The Dartmouth basketball players' unionization follows a similar attempt by Northwestern University's football team in 2014, which ultimately stalled in legal proceedings.

**Lunch note: Given Dartmouth's basketball prowess, I believe the team should have joined either the Iron Workers or Bricklayers union.*

NEKO ON THE CASE



Neko, an Alaskan Malamute, was right at home during last weekend's blizzard. According to his owner, Ed Schuyler, he slept right through the storm.

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SCAN ME

OP/ED: MAD AS HELL

By Milender

"We know things are bad. Worse than bad. They're crazy. It's like everything everywhere is going crazy, so we don't go out anymore. We sit in the house, and slowly the world we're living in is getting smaller...."

...I don't know what to do about the depression, and the inflation, and the Russians, and the crime in the street.

All I know is that first, you've got to get mad...

So, I want you to get up now... I want you to get up right now and go to the window, open it, and stick your head out and yell, 'I'm as mad as hell, and I'm not going to take this anymore!'"

Believe it or not, that is not an incendiary call to action heard along the 2024 campaign trail, nor is it the cry of a contemporary late-night cable news politico.

It's from *Network*. Released almost 50 years ago, in 1976. Directed by Sidney Lumet, and written by Paddy Chayefsky. Won an Oscar, or four.

I had heard of *Network*, prior to its assigned screening by Lunch this past weekend. My mother is, like Faye Dunaway's unscrupulous character Diana Christensen in the film, a graduate of the Missouri School of Journalism. She recalled that during finals week of her freshman year, the same year that *Network* hit theaters, burnt out classmates had unfurled graffiti'd bedsheets from their dorm room windows that proclaimed, in jest: "I'm mad as hell, and

I'm not gonna take it anymore!" An ode to the film, and a poke at the industry to which they were about to enter.

But, recalls my mother, *Network* was parody back then.

If you haven't seen it, here's the bare bones: Anchorman, Howard Beale (who delivers the afore-quoted monologue, and is portrayed by Peter Finch), is being put out to pasture by his network, UBS—a fictional conglomerate in the same league as an ABC, NBC, or CBS but with poorer ratings. Old pal and news division president, Max Schumacher (William Holden) delivers the blow. So what does Beale do? He announces to the millions of Americans watching that he's gonna kill himself on a live broadcast, the following week.

Ratings skyrocket.

And despite Schumacher's dissent—good friend that he is—the network is convinced by Christensen, head of the entertainment division, to exploit Beale's traction for every cent and piece of market share it's worth. Turns out, viewers love Beale's rendition of populism—that all of life is "bullshit," that the news is nothing more than an illusion, and so on. Beale is a man unraveling, after all. And he's received by a country that, itself, has begun to fray.

Beale's evangelizing—in front of a stained glass set piece, a live studio audience, and without a teleprompter or fact-checker in sight—reminds of today's megachurches and moneyed, multi-hy-

phenate religious leaders and entertainers. Or, more accurately, it prophesizes them.

And all the while, protagonist, Schumacher, and femme fatale, Christensen, are involved in an illicit affair. It's a thinly-veiled but cunning mechanism by which to convey the film's central messaging. Christensen—young, heartless, and shrewd—represents the new generation in media. The one that combines "showmanship" with journalism. She's the foil to Schumacher—a devout yet corruptible American moralist. Their entanglement, tumultuous as it is, is Chayefsky's not-so-subtle way of adapting the generation war of 20th century American news to a 120-minute runtime.

In the name of good fun and viewing pleasure, I won't completely spoil the end. But suffice to say, when Beale takes one tirade too far and inflames Saudi interests backing UBS, it doesn't bode well for him, or the rest of the miscreant cast. And whether the American public knows it or not, it doesn't bode well for them either. By film's end, a God- and fact-fearing nation has given itself over to a conglomerate less concerned with the breadth of its own disseminated truth than the depth of its pockets.

My favorite image in the whole movie? *The Howard Beale Show* comes to a tragic, and violent end. The reel of it plays, over and over, spliced with advertisements for air travel, club soda, and Life Cereal.

America. The goddamn beautiful.

In 1976, *Network* was hyperbolic, worst-case-scenario stage traffic to entertain a country aware that it was slipping, but assured that it could right itself the moment its chips were really down. It was a nation theretofore confident in its institutions. Confident in the integrity that buoyed those institutions. Confident that the center would always hold.

But to understand how prescient *Network* really was, it's important to first understand the history that informed Chayefsky's screenplay. After two hours of rigorous Google searching, here's my expert brief:

Max Schumacher—the voice of reason in the film, and what we might consider a poor man's Walter Cronkite—is understood to have come of age during the early days of broadcast journalism.

Post-World War II, the fictional Schumacher and a very real American public was kept informed by the 3 major networks, previously mentioned and parodied by UBS. These networks, along with the nation's newspapers of equal stature, were monoliths and on the whole, nonpartisan.

Then came the Fairness Doctrine—a policy of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) initiated in 1949 which regarded TV networks as public trustees on behalf of the government.

"The policy had been intended to foster a full and fair debate," writes Kevin Kruse and Julian Zelizer in a perspective published by The Washington Post. "In practice, it led networks ... to play most issues down the middle."

Still, conservatives of the post-war generation believed that the standard of "objectivity" was a masqueraded privilege for the liberal establishment, given

that the major networks were mostly run and anchored by Democrats. In 1969, the constitutionality of the FCC's doctrine was upheld in the landmark case, *Red Lion Broadcasting Co. Inc. v. FCC*. The Supreme Court ruled that the First Amendment was 'the right of the viewers and listeners, not the broadcasters.'

But just over a decade later came the Reagan Administration and with it, the belief that the government should give more leeway in the regulation of political media. By 1987, the FCC had rolled back the Fairness Doctrine and the news landscape had been re-sodded. Enter the rise of cable news. The proliferation of talk radio. Here, MSNBC and Fox News slant left and right.

And in the past few years, especially, we've seen a media that is performing a metaphysical criticism upon itself. Op-ed sections and high-profile essays tout the belief that the major news outlets—paradoxically, the same news outlets that often publish these opinions—have become complacent with a low standard of ethics. Stumble upon a reporter that is dedicated to the antiquated system of journalistic integrity—to paraphrase Joan Didion in an essay she wrote at 22, what used to be called character—and I'd advise that you pinch yourself. You have reached an oasis in the desert.

(And I don't know. I'm all about calling a spade a spade—i.e., the news sucks, its audience prioritizes shock value over substance, etc. But what if we used that spade to actually dig ourselves out of the information hole; in other words, to stop lamenting and start reporting? Anyway ...)

I think the reason *Network* resonates today is because it's a satire on the news system. And in criticizing the system, it implies the complicit attitudes of both the networks and their viewers. *Network*, while focused with the view behind the anchorman's desk, doesn't limit itself to calling out those tasked with producing the news. Nor does it assign blame, entirely, on the undue burden of commercial and corporate pressures in the industry. It doesn't pretend as though the laziness and corruption of journalists and writers and anchors and shareholders was/is an effect without cause.

Network, I think, is just as concerned with the laziness and corruption of the news's audience as it is with its arbiters. It's about an America that has made itself so susceptible to showmanship, so easily aroused by a half-decent homily, that those responsible for curating the news throw their hands up in the air and stuff full with opium pipes for the masses.

Because during any one of Beale's populist ramblings, the camera will pan to his captive audience—a bunch of gap-mouthed, bell bottom-clad yuppies. The only time they react to what Beale is saying is to chant how truly mad they are. And then, they're transfixed again. Buying into the system of pseudo-information hook, line, and sinker. Keeping it on the air.

What *Network* conceived as satire 50 years ago, and what has been received as truth in its wake, is that news has become entertainment—a glittering sieve by which we can filter out those

more NETWORK, page 13

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LOCAL NEWS

DAMN THE MOSQUITOES

By Milender

Residents of Owens Valley have found themselves swatting away more mosquitoes than usual this past February, a trend attributed to the uncharacteristically warm weather gripping the region. The Owens Valley Mosquito Abatement Program has reported a surge in sightings, particularly of the *Anopheles freeborni* species— also known as the Western malaria mosquito.

The Sheet spoke with Rob Miller, Lead Field Technician of the Owens Valley Mosquito Abatement Program (OVMAP), underscored the peculiar behavior of the *Anopheles freeborni* mosquito. Unlike most mosquitoes that “overwinter” as eggs or larvae in the soil, the *Anopheles freeborni* adult mosquito enters a state of diapause, or hibernation, during the winter months. With the arrival of warmer temperatures, these mosquitoes emerge in search of a blood meal to nourish their developing eggs.

“We start seeing them in mid-February through mid-March,” explained Miller. “They come out sluggish and slow-moving, looking for protein to lay their eggs. Then, they’ll die off.”

Despite their prevalence, the *Anopheles freeborni* mosquito poses a limited health threat to residents. While capable of transmitting malaria, its transmission cycle requires a human host infected

with malaria, unlike the West Nile virus which uses birds as a vector of disease.

Addressing concerns about the abundance of mosquitoes this year, Miller attributed the higher numbers to last year’s record mosquito season fueled by heavy water runoff. The lingering adults from the previous year’s breeding cycle contribute to the increased sightings this late winter and early spring.

Reflecting on historical data, Miller noted the correlation between water levels and mosquito activity. Prior seasons with significant water accumulation, such as 2016 and 2017, witnessed higher mosquito populations and increased risks of diseases like West Nile virus and St. Louis encephalitis.

The current year presents a different scenario. Though the *Anopheles freeborni* population may be larger heading into the spring, with an average snow-pack and milder winter conditions, the likelihood of alternative disease-carrying species this summer decreases.

“Looking down the pike, [the mosquitoes] should pose less of a health threat,” said Miller, “I wouldn’t expect to see any St. Louis encephalitis or West Nile virus prevalent.”

Despite the nuisance caused by the *Anopheles freeborni*, the Owens Valley Mosquito Abatement Program faces

limitations in controlling the population during the cooler months. Traditional methods such as fogging and larviciding are ineffective in winter and early spring due to temperature constraints and the mosquitoes’ hibernation habits.

Looking ahead, Miller emphasized the importance of community awareness and preventive measures to mitigate mosquito-related inconveniences, in general. Simple actions like repairing

screens, eliminating standing water, and using insect repellents can significantly reduce mosquito encounters and potential health risks.

The organization’s Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/OVMAP/>, posts the latest information about mosquito activity in the region.

Mosquito-related concerns can be reported to OVMAP by calling: (760) 873-7853.

Pet of the Week!!



Lee Lee

Lee Lee is eagerly waiting to become your loyal companion, ready to share in the simple joys of life, like snuggling, going on car rides, and just being with her people. Lee Lee is more than just a dog; she’s a true friend and a cherished member of the family. With her kind eyes and gentle demeanor, Lee Lee has a way of melting hearts and brightening even the darkest of days. Whether it’s curling up beside you on the couch for a cozy night in or accompanying you on a scenic drive through the countryside, Lee Lee is happiest when she’s by your side.

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Liberty Sports
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& Grill

MUSIC BEGINS AT 9:30PM

LIBERTY_SPORTS_BAR_AND_GRILL

3/1 & 3/2 EASY WIND
CLASSIC GRATEFUL DEAD

3/8 & 3/9 BEAUX CRIS CRIS AND THE APOCALYPSE
EXPLOSIVE ORIGINAL ROCK

3/15 & 3/16 COLD WITH OUT PANTS
HAWAII'S FAVORITE PARTY BAND

3/17 ST. PATRICK'S DAY
W/ DJ FRESH TRACKS 10PM - 1AM
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3/22 LOCAL ANTHOLOGY
PROG PUNK ROCK

3/23 RIDDER PADDER
POWER POP PUNK
SPLIFFRIFF
THRASH-CORE PUNK

3/24 CHUCK BRISENO 9PM
RED DIRT COUNTRY SOUL

3/29 & 3/30 PARDON THE INTERRUPTION
NEW WAVE WORLD BEATS

KARAOKE EVERY TUESDAY AT 9PM

SAAB STORY

By Lunch

It was a scene straight out of Arlo Guthrie’s “Alice’s Restaurant.”

In Guthrie’s signature song from 1970 about an arrest for littering in Stockbridge, Massachusetts, the prosecution produced “27 eight-by-ten color glossy photographs with circles and arrows and a paragraph on the back of each one.”

On Wednesday, in a small claims hearing in Mono County Superior Court Judge Mark Magit’s courtroom, the complainant Jordan Kosow similarly produced 27 exhibits.

Kosow, a Los Angeles resident, was parked in the Village parking lot in March, 2023 during a snowstorm. He left his car, a 2005 Saab, in the lot for three days. He returned to find the car damaged. He blamed the damage on Mammoth Rock ‘n Dirt - the subcontractor responsible for snow removal at the lot.

Kosow said he didn’t see the disclaimer on the back of his parking ticket which indemnifies the lot manager (in this case a national company called SP Plus) and surrogates from responsibility if a car is damaged until after he came back to his car.

At the time he parked, he said the signs posted at the lot which would have informed him of same were buried.

Kosow said his 2005 Saab is a collectible and he sued Rock ‘n Dirt for more than \$11,000 in damages plus he suggested a little pain and suffering money if the judge would acquiesce.

*Despite the car being a “collectible,” Mr. Kosow had somehow not insured it for property damage so his own insurance company had denied his claim.

Rock ‘n Dirt’s Darren Twilegar presented his defense in less than sixty seconds.

By the way the snow is piled on Mr. Kosow’s car in the photographs, Twilegar said it wasn’t something his loaders could have done; he attributed the damage to either Caltrans or Town of Mammoth snowblowers which had tossed snow towards the Village parking lot from Minaret Road.

Judge Magit did his best to let Mr. Kosow down easy before denying the complaint.

As Alberto Maldonado of SP Plus explained to The Sheet afterwards, that parking lot operators do not assume liability for damage incurred on-site is standard practice. If that weren’t the case, you wouldn’t have parking lots.

The only way a parking company assumes any liability is if they take your keys and valet your car.



ELECTION

continued from page 1

for a down payment on a place in town.

She reiterated the need to recruit and embrace and support a new crop of community members - not only teachers, but firefighters and police.

She also talked about the need to potentially add classrooms at the elementary school. Enrollment numbers have been growing at that site because TK is now universal so there’s a whole extra grade to account for.

Mono County Semi-Official Results as of March 6 @ 5 p.m.

Local races

Superior Court Judge	
Mohun	1,422
Ibrahim	335
2nd District Supervisor	
Duggan	399
Kitts	221
3rd District Supervisor	
McFarland	317
Walsh	147
4th District Supervisor	
Peters	169
Gottfried	137
Mammoth Unified Measure I Bond	
Yes	559
No	530
<i>*Needs 55% for passage. Current tally</i>	

stands at 51.3%

Statewide races

State Assembly District 8	
Helsel (D)	935
Radanovich (R)	530
Tangipa (R)	363
<i>*Districtwide, the tally as of March 7 was Radanovich 37.5%, Helsel 30%, Tangipa 29.4%</i>	

U.S. Representative District 3	
Morse (D)	1,029
Kiley (R)	876
<i>*Districtwide as of March 7 the tally was Kiley 55% to Morse’s 43%</i>	

U.S. Senate

The top vote-getters locally and statewide were Steve Garvey (R) and Adam Schiff (D) who will face off in the fall. Katie Porter (D) finished a distant third.

Proposition 1 (Mental Health)	
Yes	851
No	1,113
<i>*Statewide the Proposition currently holds a slight edge of 50.3% in favor and 49.7% opposed.</i>	

Inyo County Election Report as of 11 p.m. on March 5

Local Races

2nd District Supervisor	
Griffiths	301
Smith	208
4th District Supervisor	
Roeser	373
Jones	221
5th District Supervisor	
Berry	205
Wadelton	100
Blystone	84
Seiter	75
Cassell	68
McNeal	29

Statewide races

State Assembly District 8	
Helsel	1158
Radanovich	934
Tangipa	617
<i>*Districtwide the tally as of March 7 was Radanovich with 37.5%, Helsel 30% and Tangipa 29.4%</i>	

U.S. Representative District 3	
Kiley	1,562
Morse	1,249
<i>*Districtwide as of March 7 the tally was Kiley 55% to Morse 43%</i>	

U.S. Senate

The top vote-getters locally and statewide were Steve Garvey (R) and Adam Schiff (D) who will face off in the fall. Katie Porter (D) finished a distant third.

The key difference in Inyo County versus Mono County was that Garvey was dominant. His vote totals in the full-term and partial-term counts were more than Schiff and Porter combined.



WE'RE HIRING!

- Accountant I/II
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MAN DOWN

Water level drops at Death Valley lake; kayaking and other boating no longer allowed

Press Release

DEATH VALLEY, Calif. – Weather has created a new surprise in Death Valley National Park: a traveling lake. Sustained high winds blew Lake Manly about two miles north. The winds also sped up evaporation, lowering the water level. To protect natural resources, the National Park Service no longer allows people to boat on the shallow lake.

"It was amazing to see an entire lake migrate!" said Superintendent Mike Reynolds. "But now the water is drying up, leaving wide mudflats. People were walking a long way, sometimes dragging their boats. This leaves footprints and drag marks that will likely be visible for years. This left us with no choice but to curtail boating on historic Lake Manly at this time."

In normal years, people see miles of salt flats at Badwater Basin. In some areas, the salt is fractured and uplifted into photogenic polygon shapes.

Every few years there is enough rain to cover the salt flat and create a temporary lake, informally known as Lake Manly. Usually, it is only a couple inches deep. Lake Manly returned after the remnants of Hurricane Hilary brought 2.2 inches of rain in August. The lake slowly shrunk until an atmospheric river brought another 1.5 inches in early February. For almost a month, people had a rare opportunity to kayak on Lake Manly, which was six

miles long, three miles wide, and one foot deep.

Things changed February 29 through March 2. 40 mph winds pushed the water two miles to the north. The lake spread out to cover more area, but at a shallower depth. The winds and increased surface area increased evaporation.

When the winds stopped, the water slowly sloshed back to its original

lakebed. What is left is shallower and muddier than it was before.

Due to the changed conditions, the National Park Service no longer allows people to attempt to boat on Lake Manly. Doing so would involve walking through mud, leaving footprints in the mud flat. These footprints or boat drag marks will likely stay as scars on the landscape until the next time Lake Manly returns.

"Visitors for the next few years would prefer to see the natural polygon designs in the salt, rather than hard-crust-ed footprints and deep boat drag marks," said Reynolds.

People are encouraged to walk out into the lake (or onto the salt flat) from the Badwater Basin parking lot, staying on already-compacted surfaces. *More information is at [nps.gov/deva](https://www.nps.gov/deva).*



View of 'Lake Manly' from Dantes View on March 4. Winds had stopped and the lake moved back to its original location. However, now it is brown due to suspended mud.

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GOICO

continued from page 1

with it. Took a job, ironically, at the Westin as the resort’s event manager, where she worked from 2017-2020. In June of 2020, she started at the chamber.

And now, as Goico steps into her new role, she brings a nuanced perspective honed through years of navigating diverse viewpoints in the political arena.

“Working for a bipartisan political lobby for so many years really taught me how to toe the line and work with people that have very different politics, and very different [outlooks]” says Goico. “The people we work with are obviously business-minded, but they have different views on housing, tourism, and all of the different issues in our community. For me, respecting and wanting to hear all those voices is a skill I learned working for AIPAC, and I think will serve me well in this position.”

For Goico, the responsibility of the Chamber is to be deeply entrenched in community engagement, and to tailor its efforts to the evolving needs of its members—both longtime partners, and those who have just hung their shingle.

“Building strong relationships in our community is my main focus,” she says. “We see ourselves as connecting people, convening people.” The chamber’s priority, under Goico, will continue to be “allowing the old and new to connect, work together, and



Brianna Goico

learn from each other.”

Importantly, Goico emphasized her staying power. Her love for the community, and her commitment to fostering its success.

“I plan to be here for a long time,” says Goico. “I just had my first child. We have a house here. For me, having a strong business community and having a strong economy will only strengthen all the other part of the community. And that’s what I’m passionate about.”



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LOCAL BRIEFS

Library soaked

On Monday, March 4 th , a pipe of the fire suppression system on the second floor of Mammoth Lakes Library burst, causing extensive flooding on both floors of the building.

No one was injured and very few books or fixtures were damaged. Most of the damage is to the ceilings and flooring.

The library building itself will remain closed to the public until repairs are complete. In the meantime we will assess what services we may be able to continue by offering curbside pickup or offering programs at other locations. Our 24/7 ONLINE LIBRARY of ebooks, eaudiobooks, and emagazines is available via our website: www.monocolibraries.org. Also on the website are the hours and locations of the 6 other Mono County Library locations.

For information on MCOE’s Adult Education classes, please email Shana Stapp at ssapp@monocoe.org. For information on AARP Tax Prep, please call 760-914-4352. And for updates on the repair progress, please check the library’s website: www.monocolibraries.org and/or the library’s Instagram/facebook page: [@mammothlakeslibrary](https://www.instagram.com/mammothlakeslibrary).

Press inquiries: Christopher Platt, Library Director, 760-965-9126

Getting High in Walker

Walker Lake has reached an elevation of 3,923 feet—its highest level

since 2012 and a significant step in its historic recovery.

Last year’s record winter fueled a 16-foot rise in the Lake’s level and was supported by water rights owned by the Walker Basin Conservancy for the benefit of Walker Lake. According to Peter Stanton, CEO of the Walker Basin Conservancy, “Last year’s winter was a tremendous outcome and just what Walker Lake needs,” as the Conservancy focuses on restoring Walker Lake’s fishery for the benefit of communities in the Walker Basin.

In addition to increased snowfall, during the last irrigation season the Walker Basin Conservancy and Walker River Irrigation District sent a record amount of water to Walker Lake. Stanton credits their market-based approach in dealing with over-allocated water resources, citing successful collaborations with 156 ranchers and farmers in the Walker Basin.

These positive outcomes and the enhanced condition of the lake have given rise to the revival of community events at Walker Lake, such as the Walker Lake Rehydration Celebration. This year, a new event, Walker Lake Days, is scheduled for June 29th, and is set to feature boat races, kayaking events, and activities on the shore.

“We cannot be more excited about the prospects of reestablishing Walker Lake as a major fishery and the positive impacts that will have on the economies, culture, and recreation for local communities” says Stanton.



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KLUSMIRE

ELECTION DAY USED TO BE FUN

Before voting got easy and convenient in order to accommodate the lazy, election day was fun. Lots of people, lots of drama, lots of anticipation, lots of same-night winners and losers, lots of food, lots of giddy late-night jokes that fell flat as the candidates from the American Socialist Party.

All that happened in the hoary past, so excuse me if some of my memories are a bit fuzzy.

My first fun election nights happened when I was a scruffy pup of a reporter. I worked for a weekly paper in Colorado. Election night was a good deadline, adrenaline buzz since election day was Tuesday and the paper came out on Wednesday (little known tidbit: Weekly newspapers typically hit the streets on Wednesday because that's when grocery stores change their prices, so that's when they wanted their insert/ad in the paper. Newspapers were never pure, children).

After hanging out in the county clerk's office chatting with candidates and local political junkies, a big print out with results would be handed out. A few quick quotes and a dash back to the office to write up a results story that fit the space allotted – under pressure. It was great.

Fast forward to Inyo County in the days before mail-in ballots took over the voting process.

Election day meant roaming into the multiple polling places in Bishop – at City Hall, the Fairgrounds, the Paiute Professional building and probably a few more that I've forgotten. Chat with poll workers to get a sense of turnout, maybe ask some voters what was on their minds. Then it was an evening trek to the courthouse in Independence. The courthouse would be full of people. Candidates or their friends or family, stray souls trying to stay warm, Democrat and Republican party folks and a small army of election workers.

And there was food. This was a serious potluck. Homemade lasagna, fried chicken, soups, all manner of casseroles usually only seen at grandma's Thanksgiving dinner, crockpots full of mystery meat, cookies, veggie platters, chips and dips. The food table looked like the "before" photo in a Weight Watchers ad.

At that time the county was still using punch card ballots, of hanging chad fame. There was no vote counting until after the polls closed at 8 p.m. The Independence votes came first, since they just had to be transported from the polling station downstairs in the courthouse. And "transported" is the right word. Every bag of ballots, blank ballots, voter rolls, etc., was transported by two people, and they both had to sign in and swear they hadn't messed around with anything when handing off the stuff to two more people at the check-in table. It was like passing Top Secret info around the Pentagon. (The same verification process is still used.)

Big machines actually counted the card ballots. I'm fuzzy on the details. But I do remember when the machine would spit out a ballot because the punch/hole didn't align, or there were "unvoted" areas or some other irregularity. A yell would go out and a "ballot panel" of three or four folks would ponder the ballot in question and decide to count it, toss it or just laugh. It was excruciating to watch a five minute debate over a single vote. But it was also reassuring.

As the night went on, ballot bags arrived from all the county polling places.

The most dramatic delivering revolved around a sheriff's deputy driving hell-bent through Death Valley carrying the ballots from Tecopa, Shoshone and Furnace Creek. The courthouse crew had been timing this race for decades. A cheer went up when the deputy arrived and delivered the desert ballots. Then the clock was checked and the deputy was informed of how well he performed against the historical record. Then he sat down and ate.

Pages of printed out results were posted by taping them to the wall. Every update attracted a cluster of folks watching for the results of local races for county supervisor or Bishop City Council. It was always a mixed moment when it became clear who the winners and losers were, mostly because both were standing there looking at the results on the wall. In-person political reality. Good stuff.

Virtually all the local votes were counted on election night, a job which could drag on past midnight. There was same-day certainty and finality. Mail-in ballots were limited to what used to be called "absentee ballots," which a voter had to ask for and explain why they couldn't vote in person – lots of military folks, mostly. They were counted later, but rarely changed results because there just weren't enough of them.

Slowly, the state of California drained the drama out of election day. First came the famous touch-screen voting machines. A memory card (if memory serves) was delivered and stabbed into a computer and, bingo, immediate results. No clanking machinery or yipping poll workers.

Then it was back to paper ballots as the mail-in surge began, first as an option and in recent elections as a state mandate – everyone gets a mail in ballot. In the mail, of course. That has made voting extremely fast, convenient and easy. And it has increased local turnout. In 2022, Inyo County saw an



eye-popping 70% turnout rate, the highest in the state.

But the fun is gone.

Now there are only two polling places in Bishop. And just one each in Big Pine, Independence and Lone Pine. The drama of the desert ballot race is history, since it's all mail in, with no polling places in Tecopa, Shoshone or Furnace Creek.

Mail in ballots, whether mailed or dropped off in person, outnumber the

ballots cast by voters in a polling place. A handy, state-mandated "digital poll book" showed that only about 800 people in Inyo County voted in person on election day. In contrast, the clerk's office had 2,200 mail-in ballots in the office before election day.

The vote counting operation is quick and only requires a minimum of staff and poll workers. The ballots are fed into a stand-alone scanner and a report spits out almost instantaneously. Then as more drop-off and mail in ballots arrive, the counting drags on for days. The final tally is little more than a quickly forgotten sigh of relief, uttered in private by candidates or partisans.

The drama and excitement has been spread out and drained away in the name of convenience and digital efficiency. That has diminished the communal experience and human touch that gave energy and life to Election Day and Election Night.

Jon Klusmire of Bishop votes by mail and then complains about it.



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June Lake Brewing Winter hours 12-7, Sundays 11-7 Happy Tuesday (every Tues.) \$6 Pints, \$10 for 3 Tacos from Parilla, Wed. Trivia @ 5 p.m.
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Roberto's Happy Hour: 2-5 p.m. daily.
The Mogul happy hour 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the bar with food and drink specials.
Lakanuki happy hour 3-6 p.m. daily.
Main Street Pizza -happy hour 8-close (\$5 cheese slice & domestic draft combo, dine in only, \$1 off all beer & wine). Trivia Night, every Wednesday. 6:30pm *More info: see ad p. 4*

March 8-9/ Beaux Gris and the Apocalypse (original rock) plays Liberty. Time: 9:30 p.m. No cover.
Weekend Apres Party @ Canyon Lodge. DJ spins from elevated gondola car. Time: 2-5 p.m.

Sunday, March 10/ Cassie Dunn plays Distant Brewing. Free, Show starts 6 p.m. Or maybe 7.

Tuesday, March 12/ Open Mic Night @ C5 Studios in Bishop. Open to musicians, poets, and vocalists of all ages. Sign up between 6:30-7:00 p.m. Mic is hot from 7:00-9:00 p.m.

TOWN STUFF

Saturday, March 9/ Sage to Summit winter race series final 5K. Location: Millpond Recreation Area. 8 a.m. registration and 9 a.m. start. Suggested \$10 donation. Info: sagetosummit.com
Join Eastern Sierra Audubon for a bird walk at the COSA. Meet in the USFS parking lot at 351 Pacu Ln. Starts 8:30 a.m.
Bucky's Saturday Bonfire in front of the Chalet at June Mountain, starting at 2:00 p.m. The festivities kick off with fun, lively music from the Chalet deck and a bonfire, followed by an appearance from the Buckster.
Woolly's Dance Party in the Village, from 3:45-4:30 p.m. Join Woolly and friends from Ski & Snowboard School for music and dancing in the village. A must-attend event for kids of all ages.
Alabama Hills Ranger Program. Ranger on-site to talk history, geology and more. Location: Mobius Arch. Time: 11 a.m. 'til 3 p.m. Sponsored by Eastern Sierra Interpretive Assn.

Starting March 11/ Spring Community Classes. Everything from Yoga to Photography. All classes are free at the Crowley Lake Community Center. More info. Contact Isabel (760)935-04089 or isbxoxo@gmail.com

Tuesday, March 12/ Mono County Supervisors meet. Time: 9 a.m. Location: Bridgeport

TOWN STUFF

Tuesday, March 12 (cont.)/ Courthouse. Or attend online via monocounty.ca.gov.
Inyo County Supervisors meet. Time: 10 a.m. Location: Board Chambers, 224 N. Edwards St. in Indy. Or attend online via inyocounty.us.
BUHS Girls Softball hosts Lone Pine. Time: 3:15 p.m. Location: Bishop City Park.

March 13-17/ Elevation Mammoth. Gay ski week with a whole slew of activities. Info/register: mammothgayskiweek.com.

Thursday, March 14/ White Mountain Research Center lecture: "How to see Auroras from the Eastern Sierra" with Dr. Tony Phillips, a local professional astronomer and science writer. Time: 6-7:30 p.m. Check it out in-person at Owens Valley Station, 3000 E. Line St. in Bishop. Note: Tony will also discuss his solar storm research and how it ties into aurora. This event is free & open to the public.
No Man's Land Film Fest screens @ Bishop Twin Theatre. Time: 6:15-9 p.m. Cost: \$18.
Owens Valley Groundwater Authority Board meets. Time: 2 p.m. Location: Inyo Cty. Water Dept. at 135 S. Jackson in Indy.

Friday, March 15/ Opening Night of Sierra Classic Theater's *The Minutes*—a comedy about a small town with big secrets. The show goes on at Suite Z in the Minaret Mall - right where Mammoth's Town Council meets. Visit brownpapertickets.com for tickets.

Saturday, March 16/ Planting workshop @ Chalfant Big Trees Farm. Address: 395 Hunter Ave. in Chalfant. Time: 10 a.m. A UC Ag and Natural Resources Co-op program. Info: Melissa Yeager @ 760.873.7854.

Monday, March 18/ Inyo Associates meet. Time: 5:30 p.m. Location: Bernasconi Center in Big Pine. Rub elbows with community leaders.. All welcome. RSVP by 03/11 to kcash@inyocoe.org. Menu: Corned Beef and Cabbage.

Thursday, March 21/ Senior Crafting in the Makerspace, located on the second floor of the Mammoth Library. Sewing machines, art supplies, treats, tea, and more! Drop in 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., the third Thursday of every month.

Saturday, March 23/ The Annual Blake Jones Trout Derby in Bishop. Visit <https://bishopvisitor.com/blake-jones-trout-derby/> for details.

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Sweetwater Plumbing Inc. Full time position for Journeyman Plumber and/or Apprentice Plumber. Full Benefits. Job is located in Mammoth Lakes. Contact 760-914-1266 info@sweetwaterplumbing.com

Eastern Sierra Community Chorus seeks an accompanist, as the current accompanist is retiring at the end of our Spring Concert in May. A new accompnist would play for rehearsals on Thursday evenings and for concerts in the fall. Pay commensurate with experience. Contact nholland22@gmail.com for details.

East Side Bake Shop is looking for a long term part-time baker. Some baking experience is required as well as experience with customer service experience and the food/bev industry. Email inquiries to eastsidebakeshop@gmail.com

Staff Accountant – Part-Time \$30-33/hour + benefits including medical, 401(k), PTO, and employee discounts. 16-30 hours/week. Compile, reconcile and record financial POS activity, inventory counts, banking, mail processing, etc. Send resume to jobs@convictlake.com.



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Mammoth Creek Inn is looking to hire a cool, calm and collected individual for our hotel front desk. Are you on adventure mode all day? Our evening and weekend shifts will be perfect for you. Competitive wages based on experience. Please stop by the hotel to fill out an application at 663 Old Mammoth Road. You can also email your resume to elsa@mammothcreekinn.com



Mammoth Community Water District's Maintenance Department Is Currently Recruiting For One Permanent **Instrumentation Technician Position**. For Application Information/To Apply: Please See The District Website <https://Mcwd.dst.ca.us/Employment>.

Office Staff: Full Time Or Part Time Office Assistant Needed. Duties include assisting sales manager & owner with client phone calls/ emails; filing & showroom organization. QuickBooks, Work and/or Excel experience a plus, but not required - we will train! Family friendly company with semi-flexible days/ hours. Pay DOE. Contact Michele at 760.914.9090

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- Cook/Food Service Worker – Starting wage \$19.83 to \$21.23 based on qualifications.

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To view more open positions and apply, please visit our website at www.mammothhospital.org/jobs

PT Maintenance Asst. Position. Flex schedule 20 hours/week. Hard-working, self-motivated individuals looking for a part-time opportunity, please submit your resume and references to francisco@bliz-zardpm.com

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Shilo Inn is accepting applications for FT housekeepers, FT maintenance worker and Front desk/night auditor. Immediate Front Desk opportunity starting at \$18/hour. Please call Human Resources (Sarina Quintero) at 925.813.2331 or email your resume to squintero@marquishotelsgroup.com.



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Cooks and Dishwasher jobs available at the famous Eagles Landing Restaurant in June Lake. We offer health benefits, fitness membership and PTO. A great place to work! Email lodging@doubleeagle.com

Help Wanted



Reservations Desk Clerk immediate opening at the Double Eagle Resort and Spa in June Lake CA (20 min from mammoth). Must have excellent customer service and computer skills. Full or part time, health benefits, fitness membership and PTO. Great place to work! Email Lodging@doubleeagle.com

P/T Wedding Coordinator assistant. Great computer/communication skills essential. Please email interest to: weddingevents.doubleeagleresort@gmail.com

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Maintenance Supervisor needed to manage a small maintenance team at the Double Eagle Resort & Spa in June Lake. You will be responsible for ensuring the smooth running of upkeep and repair. Must be reliable, have technical skills and knowledge of various crafts such as carpentry, plumbing etc. Leadership and knowledge of administrative tasks such as scheduling are also essential. The goal is to ensure that facilities are in good condition at all times. Compensation based on experience and references. We offer health benefits, fitness membership and PTO. A great place to work! Email Lodging@doubleeagle.com



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For Rent

Commercial space avail. in the Nomadness building at the corner of Laurel Mountain and Sierra Nevada Rds. Call Whitney @ 970.837.6720 for more info.

New Office Co Working Space Available- Six private offices with month to month & daily rental options. All newly furnished, copy and coffee station included.

Visit SierraSummitWorkspace.com for more details or call Mike at 626-484-3646

Help Wanted



We're hiring! U.S. Bank is seeking a Client Relationship Consultant with customer service and sales experience in Mammoth Lakes, CA. In this role, you'll build relationships with customers, address their banking needs, and recommend financial solutions based on their unique goals.

Apply at usbank.com/careers and search job number 2024-0000595.

An equal opportunity employer/disability/veteran.

John's Pizza Works seeks energetic, motivated, reliable individuals, to work in the FOH or cashier position. Oppty. for year-round employment. PT/FT positions. Experience preferred. Come in for an application.



Crowley Lake Fish Camp is hiring!

We have part-time positions available at our Front Gate, and on our Docks. We are looking for team oriented individuals with positive attitudes. This is the perfect summer job! Starting Pay is \$18 per hour.

We are also looking for quality cleaners for our nightly rentals! Pay can be hourly or contracted, references required and compensation is competitive.

To learn more or send your resume, please email crowleylakefishcamp@gmail.com

Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District /Administrative Services Officer

FLSA Classification Exempt Salary Range Range 82 (\$9,523-\$12,156/month DOE)

Bargaining Unit Non-Represented, Confidential

Under administrative direction of the Air Pollution Control Officer (APCO), plans, organizes, and manages the administrative services for the District, including contract management, budgeting, accounting, purchasing, risk management, safety, legal compliance, accounting, human resources, benefit administration; performs related work as required. This is a management classification responsible for the District's budget, accounting, human resources, benefit administration, risk management, and facilities management services. This position aids the Air Pollution Control Officer (APCO) in a variety of administrative, coordinative, analytical, and liaison capacities.

Successful performance of the work requires knowledge of public policy, all District functions and activities, including the role of the Governing Board, and the ability to develop, oversee, and implement projects and programs in a variety of areas. Responsibilities include coordinating the activities of the division with those of other divisions and outside agencies and managing and overseeing the complex and varied functions of the division. The incumbent is accountable for accomplishing divisional planning, operational goals, and objectives and for furthering District goals and objectives within general policy guidelines.

For a complete job description and instructions on how to apply, please visit www.gbuapcd.org/employment or <https://gbuapcd.bamboohr.com/careers>. Application, resume, and cover letter must be received by 4 pm Friday, March 15, 2024.

Anticipated start date for the position is May 1, 2024.

Laundry Manager

Convict Lake Resort, Inc. is hiring a full-time person to process laundry on-site and assist with other housekeeping duties \$23.00-\$27.00/HR + benefits + employee discounts. Call 760.934.3800 ext. 29 or email to jobs@convictlake.com.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice Inviting Bids

**Town Of Mammoth Lakes, Ca
Notice Inviting Bids
Aip No. 3-06-0146-__-2024
Mammoth Yosemite Airport
Reconstruct General Aviation And Terminal Parking Lot**

Sealed proposals for the work shown on the plans entitled: Construction Plans for Mammoth Yosemite Airport Reconstruct General Aviation and Terminal Parking Lot in The Town of Mammoth Lakes, California

Bids will be received through the Town's eProcurement Portal at: Online Bid Portal
https://www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov/1016/Bids until 3:00 PM on Wednesday, March 20, 2024, at which time they will be publicly opened and read. Contractors can attend the bid opening by Zoom (information will be posted on the Online Bid Portal page).

Proposal forms for this work are included in a separate book entitled: Contract and Bid Documents for Mammoth Yosemite Airport Reconstruct General Aviation and Terminal Parking Lot In The Town of Mammoth Lakes, California Each bidder must supply all the information required by the bid documents and specifications.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:
The project generally consists of the following work: Reconstruct General Aviation and Terminal Parking Lot (65,000 sq. ft.) and airport entrance road (8,000 sq. ft.), including grading, drainage, paving, marking, and floodlighting.

This project will be partially funded by the Airport Infrastructure Grant (AIG) Program of the Federal Aviation Administration (F.A.A.).

The estimated range for the construction cost of the project is \$1,600,000 to \$1,700,000.
The Engineer's Estimate will be made public at the Bid Opening.

Obtaining Plans And Specifications:
Plans and specifications can be obtained from the Online Bid Portal. Questions or requests for clarifications should be submitted through the Online Bid Portal under the project's Question and Answer section. The contact is Sierra Shultz, Deputy Airport Manager, Mammoth Yosemite Airport, via email sshultz@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov or 760-965-3654. Oral clarifications are non-binding and any changes shall be issued by written addenda only.

Contract Time:
This work shall be constructed in accordance with details as shown on the plans and described in the specifications for this project. The contractor will be allowed thirty five (35) working days to complete the project.

Bidder's Bond:
Each bid must be accompanied by a certified or cashier's check payable to the order of the Town of Mammoth Lakes, or by a bid bond executed by a corporate surety authorized to do business in the State of California in the sum of not less than 10% of the total amount of the bid, as a guarantee that the bidder will enter into the proposed contract if it be awarded him/her.

Contractor Qualifications:
The contractor shall have a valid Class A Contractor's license, a current Town of Mammoth Lakes Business Tax Certificate, and shall maintain all required licenses throughout the duration of the Contract. The contractor shall demonstrate their qualifications by having adequate equipment in good working order, experience, and ability to perform the work.

Award Of Contract:
The contract will be awarded on the basis of UNIT BID price and will provide for progressive payments and liquidated damages as fixed in the specifications. All proposals must be made on the forms as contained in the specifications for the previously described project and shall in all respects comply with the Instructions to Bidders and Contract Documents. Bids must be in writing and signed by or on behalf of the bidder.

The award of this project is contingent upon a grant offer from the Federal Aviation Administration and acceptance of the grant offer by the Town of Mammoth Lakes. The bidder shall guarantee the total bid price for a period of one hundred eighty (180) days from the date of the bid opening.

Bonding Requirements:
The successful bidder shall furnish a payment bond and a performance bond for 100 percent of the contract price to secure fulfillment of all the bidder's obligations under such contract and to assure payment as required by law of all persons supplying labor and material in the execution of the work provided for in the contract. All bonds shall be executed by an admitted surety insurer meeting the requirements of California Code of Civil Procedure Section 995.120.

Federal Provisions:
The work to be done is being financed in whole or in part by means of a grant made by the United States acting through the Federal Aviation Administration of the Department of Transportation. This project is subject to the Federal provisions, statutes and regulations as set forth in the project specifications.

This project is under and subject to the Equal Opportunity Clause, the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act, and Wage Rate Decision contained in the contract documents.

The Town of Mammoth Lakes hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full and fair opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award.

Mammoth Yosemite Airport has established a DBE contract goal of 12.63% for the utilization of firms owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged persons for this project.

The Owner's award of this contract is conditioned upon Bidder or Offeror satisfying the good faith effort requirements of 49 CFR § 26.53.

Title IV – Civil Rights Act:
The Town of Mammoth Lakes, in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252, 42 USC §§ 2000d to 2000d-4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all bidders or offerors that it will affirmatively ensure that for any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full and fair opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and no businesses will be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, national origin (including limited English proficiency), creed, sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity), age, or disability in consideration for an award.

Carb Contracting Requirements:
The California Air Resources Board ("CARB") implemented amendments to the In-Use Off-Road Diesel-Fueled Fleets Regulations ("Regulation") which are effective on January 1, 2024 and apply broadly to all self-propelled off road diesel vehicles 25 horsepower or greater and other forms of equipment used in California. A copy of the Regulation is available at https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/sites/default/files/barcu/regact/2022/off-roaddiesel/appa-1.pdf. Bidders are required to comply with all CARB and Regulation requirements, including, without limitation, all applicable sections of the Regulation, as codified in Title 13 of the California Code of Regulations section 2449 et seq. throughout the duration of the Project. Bidders must provide, with their Bid, copies of Bidder's and all listed subcontractors' most recent, valid Certificate of Reported Compliance ("CRC") issued by CARB. Failure to provide valid CRCs as required herein may render the Bid non-responsive.

Wage Requirements:
Pursuant to Section 1770, and following, of the California Labor Code, the Contractor shall pay not less than the prevailing rate of per diem wages as determined by the Director of the California Department of Industrial Relations. Copies of such prevailing rate of per diem wages are on file at the Town of Mammoth Lakes Public Works Department, which copies shall be made available to any interested party on request.

All labor on the project shall be paid the higher of the minimum wage rates as established by the U.S. Secretary of Labor, or the California Director of Industrial Relations. If a discrepancy exists between these two determinations, then all labor on the project shall be paid the higher of the two minimum wage rates.

DIR Registration: In accordance with Senate Bill 854 (SB 854) and Labor Code sections 1725.5 and 1771.1, all contractors and subcontractors that wish to bid on, be listed in a bid proposal, or enter into a contract to perform public work must be registered with the Department of Industrial Relations. No bid will be accepted nor any contract entered into without proof of the contractor's and subcontractors' current registration with the Department of Industrial Relations to perform public work. If awarded a Contract, the Bidder and its subcontractors, of any tier, shall maintain active registration with the Department of Industrial Relations for the duration of the Project.

Pre-Bid Conference:
A non-mandatory pre-bid meeting will be held in the Airport Manager's Office at the Mammoth Yosemite Airport, 1300 Airport Road, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546 on Wednesday, March 6, 2024, at 1:00 P.M. Contractors may attend in person or may participate via Zoom. Information will be posted on the Online Bid Portal page. For those who can attend in person, a site walk will be conducted after the pre-bid meeting.

Retainage From Payments:
Monthly progress payments shall be made to the Contractor for the value of the work completed during the preceding month, less a five percent (5%) security withhold pursuant to Public Contract Code Section 7201.

Pursuant to Government Code Section 4590, at the request and expense of the Contractor, securities equivalent to the amount withheld shall be deposited with the Town or with a state or federally chartered bank as the escrow agent, who shall pay such monies to the Contractor upon satisfactory completion of the contract. Securities eligible for investment under this section shall include those listed in Government Code Section 16430 or bank or savings and loan certificates of deposit. The Contractor shall be the beneficial owner of any securities substituted for monies withheld and shall receive any interest thereon.

The Town of Mammoth Lakes reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids or to utilize any alternative procedures authorized by the Public Contracts Codes Sections 20166 and 20167 and accept such bids as are to the best interest of the Town. The Town reserves the right to waive any informality, or irregularity in a bid.

TOWN OF MAMMOTH LAKES, CALIFORNIA
TOWN CLERK: Jamie Gray
DATED: February 23, 2024

TS #2024-0023

Notice of Public Hearing

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE MAMMOTH LAKES RECREATION BOARD will hold a PUBLIC HEARING on Tuesday, March 12, 2024, beginning at 5:00 p.m. and continuing until finished, at the Mammoth Lakes Town Council Chamber, Suite Z within the Minaret Village Shopping Center, 437 Old Mammoth Road to consider the following:

Allocation of Measure U Funding Recommendations for Fiscal Year 2024/25.

(Per Municipal Code: Section 3.44.210: The tourism and recreation commission, or such other commission or committee as is hereafter designated by the Town Council, shall annually conduct at least one public hearing where it takes public testimony as to how tax revenues collected under the Mammoth Lakes Mobility, Recreation, and Arts and Culture Utility Users Tax Ordinance (Measure U) should be expended.)

All persons having an interest in the proposed resolution request may appear before The Mammoth Lakes Recreation Board either in person or represented by counsel and present testimony or may, prior to said hearing, file with the Program Director for Mammoth Lakes Recreation written correspondence pertaining thereto.

Pursuant to Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice or in written correspondence delivered to Mammoth Lakes Recreation at, or prior to, the public hearing. For additional information, please contact Kim Anaclerio, Program Director by telephone at (760) 660-4948 or email at kim@mammothlakesrecreation.org.

PUBLIC HEARING ZOOM INFORMATION
Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone or Android device:
https://monocounty.zoom.us/j/95249139779
Or join by phone: Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):
US: +1 669 900 6833 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 646 876 9923 or +1 301 715 8592
Webinar ID: 952 4913 9779
Callers: To Raise your hand Press *9, to Unmute/Mute Press *6
International numbers available: https://monocounty.zoom.us/u/abpQMqQPY
Public comments can also be given through Zoom by logging in and raising your hand.

BY ORDER OF THE MAMMOTH LAKES RECREATION BOARD
Dated: February 27, 2024
Kim Anaclerio, Program Director 760-872-1529.

TS #2024-0027

Notice of Vacancy

**Notice Of Vacancies
Building Advisory Committee/Board Of Appeals**

Notice Is Hereby Given that four terms of office will become vacant on the Building Advisory Committee/Board of Appeals. The terms of this office are four (4) years, expiring on April 1, 2028. The Building Advisory Committee/Board of Appeals meets quarterly.

Interested parties should file an application with the Town Clerk on or before Monday, March 25, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. Application forms may be obtained at the Town Offices, Minaret Village Shopping Center; or by writing to P.O. Box 1609, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546; or by phoning 9343602; or by visiting the Town's website at www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov.

Dated: February 20, 2024
Jamie Gray, Town Clerk

TS #2024-0022

Notice of Public Hearing

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to \$99238.5 of the Transportation Development Act, the Mono County Local Transportation Commission (LTC) will conduct a Public Hearing on unmet transit needs on April 8, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.

The meeting will be accessible remotely by live cast at: https://monocounty.zoom.us/j/89940069828 and by telephone at: 669-900-6833 (Webinar ID # 899 4006 9828) where members of the public shall have the right to observe and offer public comment. The LTC will consider public input on all transportation matters and the transit needs of transit-dependent and transit-disadvantaged persons, including the elderly, disabled, and persons of limited means. The LTC will also receive comments from interested citizens and the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) on unmet transit needs that may exist within Mono County, and that might be reasonable to meet by establishing or contracting for new public transportation or specialized transportation services or by expanding existing services. The LTC will identify unmet needs within Mono County prior to considering requests by claimants for allocations of Transportation Development Act Funds for FY 2025-26.

INTERESTED PERSONS are strongly encouraged to attend the zoom meeting by phone or online. Written comments for inclusion in the record must be received on or before 5 p.m. on April 5, 2024. Comments may be sent to Secretary of the LTC, PO Box 347, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546 or by email to cddcomments@mono.ca.gov. For information, call 760.924.1800.

TS #2024-0029

Notice of Right to Claim Excess Proceeds From The Sale of Tax-Defaulted Property

Made pursuant to Section 4676, Revenue and Taxation Code

Excess proceeds have resulted from the sale of tax-defaulted property on February 7, 2024, listed below. Parties of interest, as defined by California Revenue and Taxation Code Section 4675, are entitled to claim the excess proceeds.

All claims must be in writing and must contain sufficient information and proof to establish a claimant's right to all or any part of the excess proceeds. Claims filed with the county more than one year after recordation of the tax collector's deed to the purchaser listed below for each parcel, cannot be considered.

Assessor's Parcel Number	Property Address	Parties of Interest	Date Deeded
010-383-002-000		Pritchett Barbara Jean	2/22/2024

For your convenience, claim forms and information regarding filing procedures may be obtained at the Mono County Tax Collector's Office, 25 Bryant Street, Bridgeport, Ca. 93517, or by calling (760) 932-5480 between 8:00am and 5:00pm, Monday through Friday, except holidays.

I certify or (declare), under penalty of perjury, that the foregoing is true and correct.
Janet Dutcher Mono County Director of Finance
Executed at Bridgeport, Mono County, California, on February 28, 2024

TS #2024-0028



JOB OPENINGS

**TEMPORARY
PART-TIME POSITIONS**

**Parks & Recreation
\$18.50-\$30.00**

**Outdoor Recreation
\$25.91-\$30.00**

For more information and to apply:
**[townofmammothlakes.ca.gov](https://www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov)
(760) 965-3604**

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www.TheSheetNews.com

PERSONALS

I saw you ... lost some shrubs last weekend. That's what happens when it blows really hard.
I saw you ... had a few trees go down around you last weekend. Which is why I never go shot-for-shot with you.
I know you ... are mad as hell and tend to get a little bit manic when it comes to politics. But now I have a new term to describe this condition. Network-ing.

NATIONAL

AFTER SUPER TUESDAY

By Casselman

With the results of the Super Tuesday primaries known, and the subsequent withdrawals of Nikki Haley and Dean Phillips from their presidential races, the nominees of the two major parties, as selected by the voters, are now known.

The unanimous decision of the U.S. Supreme Court preventing any nominee from being excluded from a state ballot, means that both the major parties/ tickets will appear on all state ballots.

But three major questions remain.

First, the Supreme Court has agreed to hear former President Donald Trump's appeal claiming immunity from prosecution on April 25. Other appeals on specific indictments of Trump are pending. Should the Court agree to the immunity claim, most prosecutions of Trump would cease. if the Court denies immunity, the trials would proceed, but even if they do, it is uncertain if they can occur or be concluded before election day in November.

The second question is whether or not President Joe Biden will withdraw before or during the Democrat's convention. He is under major pres-

sure to so because of persisting low favorability in almost all polling, and the desire of a great many Democratic voters for a younger nominee.

The third question is what many unhappy Democrats, Republicans and independents will do if the ballot in November is Biden vs. Trump. Will they vote for third party candidates? Will they stay home, or vote only in down-ballot races?

The past week has answered some major questions, but as noted previously, key questions remain.

Several House and Senate primaries were also held on Super Tuesday. The one Senate primary that attracted much attention was in California where two separate races for the same seat were on the ballot. The first was to fill the seat of the late Dianne Feinstein from the election to January, 2025; and the second was for the full six-year term beginning in 2025. (A gubernatorial appointee currently holds the seat.)

Because there are many more registered Democrats than Republicans in California, it has been widely assumed to be a safe liberal seat in November, and three major Demo-

crats announced they were running. California has so-called "jungle primaries" in which the two top vote-getters, even if in the same party, are on the ballot in November.

Initially it was thought no Republican would make it to the November ballot, but retired major league baseball star Steve Garvey entered the race late, and without political advertising, surged to tie frontrunner Congressman Adam Schiff on one ballot and beat him by 200,000 votes on the other ballot.

Political experts have been writing that Garvey's primary success doesn't matter because there will be many more Democrats voting in California in November. But celebrity Garvey will have millions to spend now to November, and Schiff cannot take this race for granted. Like recent developments in Maryland and New Mexico Senate races, California is a previously a safe seat, Democrats will now have to take seriously.

Barry Casselman is a syndicated columnist who has been covering national politics since 1972. Find more of his work at barrycasselman.com

NETWORK

continued from page 4

facts we do not like, and cling to the ones we do in pursuit of catharsis. As predicted by the film, the news is no longer a sound stage for objectivity, but rather, an echo chamber for emotionally motivated diatribes.

The characters in Network are deplorable. Most news outlets today are deplorable in their biases and bifurcated lenses. But theirs has been an evolution precipitated out of positive reinforcement by we, the consumer. That makes us deplorable, too.

One last thing. Toward film's end, Schumacher and Christensen's relationship takes a nosedive at around the same time the network does. Schumacher spends a good 5 minutes of screentime chastising his mistress, a shaking tea saucer in her hand. He pins all the ills and evils of modern television on Christensen. Calls her a humanoid. Devoid of human decency, and strangely at home outside the nucleus. But still, he admits to loving her—this summation of everything he hates. Everything he stands against.

And so, in the film's final minutes is an unhappy prophecy: We will love the thing that kills us. And then, a question. Might we love it, because it keeps from us all those straight-edged and inconvenient truths?

The Oscars award ceremony takes place this Sunday evening. Probably can't name a single film nominated, can you? In 1976, the nominees were Taxi Driver, Network, Rocky, Bound for Glory and All The President's Men.



HUSKY OF THE WEEK

LET'S CELEBRATE THE HARD WORK & DEDICATION OF OUR LOCAL YOUTH



NICK YANEZ

PHOTO OF NICK & MR HAMMERS

Introducing the Husky of the Week, Senior, Nick Yanez. It is my pleasure to nominate senior saxophonist, Nick Yanez for Husky Of The Week. Nick is a long time member of our Music Programs. He has been involved since his middle school, working his way through our many performance ensembles. This year he holds section leader positions in Symphonic Band where he plays the bari sax, and also in Jazz Band where he is our lead alto. A true multi-instrumentalist. In addition, Nick was nominated by is peers to serve as our Vice President of bands, filling a much needed leadership role and helping us succeed. You will not find another student here at the MHS more valuable and committed to learning about music, ultimately pushing the level of performance in himself and in those around him! Another true Mammoth Music MVP.

Nick works hard for his community. He has served various roles in a handful of small jobs, and also volunteers his time and musical expertise at his church as musical member of their worship team. **Nick, you are a rock star in our eyes, congratulations!**

NOMINATED BY BAND TEACHER MR. HAMMERS

Husky of the Week is brought to you by High Country Lumber



Step inside the brand new Patty Shack and savor our mouthwatering smash burgers, crispy hot fries, and signature boozy milkshakes.

NOW OPEN!



The Village at Mammoth • ThePattyShackMammoth.com

By Lunch

The team's next home games are March 21 versus Trona and March 22 versus Frazier Mountain.



Clockwise from left: Talavera makes the turn at second; Kemp blasts a double to center in his first at-bat; Wolfe applies the tag at third to complete the relay; Talavera gets back to beat the tag.



NEON TREES



Did the band inspire the Bishop motel at the intersection of Line and Sunland or vice versa? Milender tells me the band's biggest hit is called "Everybody Talks," which includes the refrain, "Hey baby, won't you look my way?" Very apropos.

AIR SERVICE HAS LANDED IN THE EASTERN SIERRA



Fly to Mammoth Yosemite Airport from Carlsbad and Hawthorne-LAX

FLY TO MAMMOTH (MMH) ON THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SUNDAY, MONDAY FROM HAWTHORNE-LAX (HHR) AND CARLSBAD (CLD) 11/22/23 TO 4/29/24
Advanced Airlines offers a FREE shuttle service between Hawthorne-LAX (HHR) and LAX with advance reservations: bookings@flyadvancedair.com
TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY. RATES AND DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE.



Daily flights to Bishop from Denver and San Francisco

DAILY FLIGHTS TO BISHOP (BIH):
FROM SAN FRANCISCO (SFO) 12/14/23 TO 3/30/24
FROM DENVER (DEN) 12/21/23 TO 3/30/24
TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY.
RATES AND DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE.



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