

the sheet

News, Views & Culture of the Eastern Sierra



Hundro 'n Sons construction won High Country Lumber's inaugural "contractor classic" golf tourney on June 22. Pictured are Steve Omohundro, Ryan Lent, Troy Spoonhunter and Duane Summers. For more, see Gayla Wolf's photos on p. 17

Saturday, June 29, 2024

FREE

Vol. 22, No. 26



Bobby Tanner hauling Erick Schat's casket for Schat's procession a few years back.

AN ODE TO BOBBY TANNER

1959-2024

Bobby Tanner died last week. He was the owner of Red's Meadow Resort and Pack Station. The namesake of a local legend. But more important, a worthy successor on both scores.

He was smart as a whip, took you at your word, had no respect for you if your word was no good.

As for his words, they were often 'yes' or 'no' or some variation of one syllable.

Unless you got him talking about the management of the Red's Meadow valley. Or the ongoing road construction project. And then he'd talk a blue streak.

The last time I saw him, we sat at his living room. Late March. There were documents played all over it. Printed out email exchanges. Missives from the Inyo National Forest. Correspondence with the Town

of Mammoth. He would point out where one thing was said in one conversation, and then how it was forgotten and contradicted in the next. And he would look at me plaintively, as if to say, "Well, how can someone do that? That's ... wrong. That's unethical."

Bobby was a man of his word. So it was puzzling to him when people would lie to his face. Or could not be moved by logic or reason. There remained a purity there. Like he couldn't quite believe that little people and their little agendas could prevail over the right thing for the right reasons.

And for Tanner, the right thing was the preservation of Red's Meadow. As a throwback. As a quaint oasis.

So when the various planners came up with Plans A, B and C for the road reconstruction, the local bureaucrats were

more **TANNER**, pg. 2

McGUIRE RESIGNS AS FAIR CEO

By Lunch

Tri-County Fairgrounds CEO Jen McGuire has resigned her position, according to the CDFA (California Department of Food and Agriculture), which oversees County Fairs all over the state.

CDFA met with the Tri-County Fair Board and Ms. McGuire on Monday in Bishop. The meeting occurred in the Alta One conference room.

CDFA Deputy Secretary Michael Flores came from Sacramento to present the findings of a state audit.

As background, Flores previously served as Chairman of the state's Fish and Game Commission from 2000-2007.

According to multiple witnesses, Flores was escorted into

the meeting by two California Highway Patrol Officers. Like he thought he needed protection.

McGuire's resignation was not the only outcome of the meeting. The Tri-County Fair Board has also apparently been relieved of its duties - at least temporarily. Until fealty is pledged.

Reminds one of the old saying, "The beatings will continue until morale improves."

An interim Fair CEO has been appointed by the state.

Ms. McGuire had also served simultaneously as the Ventura County Fairgrounds CEO while she worked for Tri-County. She has also resigned that position.

What's ironic is that McGuire

replaced previous Ventura Fair CEO Stacy Rianda just a year ago.

Rianda retired amid controversy precipitated by ... an audit.

Board members The Sheet spoke to described the Monday meeting as a sort of "kangaroo court" where the state laid out its position in a one-sided discussion of its findings.

One Board member simply pointed to the bank account as the final arbiter of Ms. McGuire's effectiveness. "When she got here, we had \$5,000 in the bank." Now? There are a few more zeroes.

Stay tuned.

DEWEY DONE

And seeing red at The Parcel

By Lunch

It started innocently enough.

Wave Rave owner Steve Klassen called the Town on Monday to see if the job site (The Parcel) behind Wave Rave (particularly along the fence line behind his property) could be cleaned up before the 4th of July.

Parcel Superintendent Dewey Davis then dropped by to speak with Klassen.

Klassen made his ask.

Davis wouldn't commit to getting the clean up done in time for the 4th.

A standoff.

According to Klassen, Davis reeked of alcohol. Klassen told him as much. Davis marched off, which Klassen found interesting because he had arrived by car.

Members of Town Staff then decided to pay Dewey a visit. This was a few hours later.

According to Staff, Mr. Davis was still "housed."

The Parcel project was summarily "red-tagged."

When The Sheet spoke with



Project Manager Shellan Rodriguez on Tuesday morning, she said Mr. Davis had been "removed" from the site and that Pacific West builders was

reviewing the circumstances.

By Wednesday, he had been terminated.

Davis's removal was enough to get the red-tag rescinded.

Air service extended

Starman

A (not) hot mess

Micro-ticks

Oster column

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TANNER

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naturally excited by the biggest and most expensive option. Which Tanner also thought to be the most impactful and environmentally damaging.

He also thought it missed the point.

The accidents on Reds Meadows road, he said, occurred not in the upper one-lane sections where people were cautious, but in the lower two-lane sections where people were aggressive and would try to pass.

So what was the solution? The planners wanted to eviscerate the hillside and two-lane the upper portion of the road.

To make it easier for the locusts to descend.

Now you'd think Tanner would welcome that - feeding and housing and entertaining the locusts was his business.

But then, I look at the other photos of Tanner that Gayla Wolf dug out of her archives.

There's one in particular I love. It's a little out of focus. It's Bobby on his wagon with a parade of cars trailing as far as the eye can see. And as far as he's concerned, they can all wait. It's a gorgeous day. His eyes are fixed ahead. He's in his element - it's about the trip and not the destination. And maybe the idling cars behind him will recognize that, too.

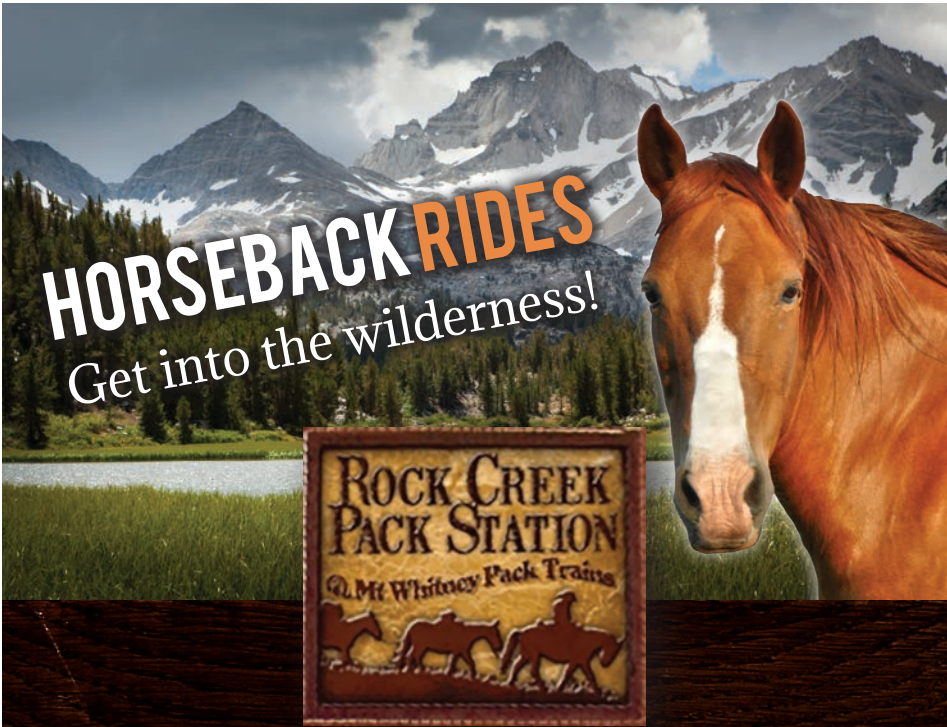
The other thing I was thinking about (I woke up Tuesday night at some ungodly hour and had this thought which was so clear I decided I didn't need to write it down and now it's not resonating) was this idea regarding the obsession with data and metrics. Trying to figure who's visiting where and why and for how long and why they made that decision. As if nothing anymore can be done without consultation of a small rectangular screen. As if impulse and whim are dead.

And then I thought about the applicability of data and metrics to individuals, and how we test kids all through childhood, and then when it finally comes time to apply for college, we've decided that testing is optional. That it's more important to base admission on one's character and academic performance versus a standardized test.

So character and individuality matter in one context while in another (marketing/quality of life) context, we're supposed to shut up and trust the numbers and goose the numbers and once the quantity is there, we focus on the quality of the experience almost as an afterthought.

I feel like Bobby Tanner was one of the last "Free Safeties" we had left protecting the endzone, one of the last defenders against the [population] bomb.

I mourn his loss.



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the sheet
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"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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Davis Pleads

Another Davis, former Mammoth Police Chief Al, was finally arraigned in Mono County Superior Court on Tuesday, June 18.

Davis pled guilty to Driving Under the Influence and Hit & Run for failing to stop after causing vehicular damage.

His sentencing is scheduled for July 9.

The anticipated sentence, according to the Mono County District Attorney's office, is three years probation, a mandatory driving class, restitution and 100 hours of community service.

The DUI was based on a combination of alcohol and prescription drugs found in Davis's system. He did not test for any illegal drugs. His blood alcohol level on the morning of the event in January, 2023 was just .01.

Friday Night Market returns

Bishop's popular Friday Night Market returns this week (June 28). The event starts 6 p.m.

Please note that there is a new location. The market will no longer take place just off Main Street at Church Street, but rather, has been moved "inland" one block on Church Street between Warren and Fowler behind City Hall.

At Bishop's regular council meeting on Monday, Councilman Stephen Muchovej asked about the rationale for the change of venue.

Community Services Manager Dan McElroy said the decision was made by the Friends of the Fair, because the new venue allows for more vendors and people. He said there was also concern that the Markets were negatively impacting surrounding Main Street businesses. Finally, there was a concern about safety. Mayor Garcia said he was nearly run over by a semi at a Market last year.

From Lunch's personal experience, he finds it hard to believe that any business peripheral to the former location did anything but profit from the Market's central presence.

In other Council news ... City Manager Deston Dishion said that United Airlines has agreed to extend its commercial air service via San Francisco for an additional five weeks this fall. Air service had been scheduled to end Labor Day weekend. It will now extend through October 6th.

And Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Tawni Thomson announced that the contract to host the California High School Rodeo Finals has been extended for another three years. Bishop has hosted the CHSRA finals since 2005. Of course, she made this announcement before the upheaval in Fairgrounds administration referenced above.





BEN HAMANN
6 years at Footloose

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**NEW
SUMMER
ARRIVALS**



SEAN DUNCAN
7 years at Footloose



BRIANA THIBAUT
4 years at Footloose

FIRED UP OVER ALPINE STOVE

By Milender

The Mono County District Attorney's Office is investigating Alpine Stove—a local hearth business claiming over 35 years of experience in solid fuel and gas warm-air heating service and products—for suspected fraudulent practices.

According to Mono County Chief Investigator, Chris Callinan, "Consumers have alleged Alpine Stove has taken deposits for stoves that were never delivered, and no refunds have been issued."

To date, Callinan's office has already been in contact with approximately a dozen consumers who have lodged complaints of financial loss as a result of engaging with the business.

One of these customers is Greta Campbell, who says that the stove she ordered on August 3, 2023, still has yet to arrive.

Campbell shared her ordeal with The Sheet, stating that she had originally received a quote from Alpine Stove owner, Alex Solorio, for over \$9,000 to replace her old stove with a Regency pellet stove.

"Chris Morrison from Alpine Stove typed up the estimate and requested a 50% deposit," said Campbell. "We complied. Both Alex and Chris said it could take up to 3-4 months to get the stove, coming from Canada."

Campbell's initial interactions were promising. However, weeks turned into months with no updates on her order.

"After we initiated the purchase, we waited. I called about 10 weeks later for a status. Chris said he heard nothing. The

stove hadn't shipped. I called again probably a month or so later. Chris said it still hadn't shipped. He said the supply chain had slowed down production in Canada."

Repeated attempts to get answers led to more frustration.

"The next time I called (he never called me), he tried to talk me into switching my order to an Environ stove. He said Environ is manufactured by the same company that makes Regency, and said they could deliver sooner but couldn't give a firm answer on when that might be. He said Environ is a similar stove, like a knockoff, but wouldn't charge us anymore (really) if we wanted to change," said Campbell.

Campbell's daughter visited the store in person last spring, but was told that Morrison was having family trouble and was not working. Then, Campbell began noticing similar complaints on Yelp and Google, confirming her suspicion that the stove was never ordered.

"I have contacted them multiple times recently to cancel but have gotten no response. Then I get a call from Chris Callinan of Mono County DA investigating," she said.

Kelly L, another dissatisfied customer (who requested that her last name not be included) shared a similar experience to Campbell.

She placed an order in December 2023, paying a 50% deposit of \$8,770 in the promise that her new appliance would arrive in April for installation. However,

in the months that followed, her interactions with Alpine Stove were also marred by inconsistent communication and false promises.

Despite paying the hefty deposit up front, Kelly was left in the dark about the status of her December order.

And much like Campbell, she "started doing some investigating...you know, checking Yelp, checking Google, because they weren't calling me back."

There was Kirk W. from Crowley Lake, who, at 20 weeks past his stove's expected arrival, requested a refund. He was promised that an "accountant" would reach out regarding reimbursement, though he received no contact.

Kyle F. from Manhattan Beach said that 6 months after having paid his 50% deposit, he could not reach the company by phone despite leaving multiple messages. He described working with Alpine Stove as a "black hole."

Sarah T. of San Francisco said that the delays for her order were justified by "a family emergency, a flood, or the phone lines were down." She said she called Regency, the manufacturer of the pellet insert she had purchased, who's representative claimed that Alpine Stove was no longer a dealer.

"I actually called the company that was supposed to have the order for me in Canada, and I was told by that company that they've never had an order from Alpine Stove. Ever," Kelly said.

Kelly told The Sheet that, because she

paid for the deposit through American Express, she has since fully recouped her losses to the credit of fraud protection benefits.

But, says Kelly, the ordeal has been a violation of her trust as a consumer.

"I wanted to give my business to a local business," said Kelly. "I mean, we're trusting consumers. Probably a little too trusting. [Alpine Stove] shot themselves in the foot by doing this in a small town."

Alpine Stove was not reachable by phone. A visit to their storefront on Laurel Mountain Road revealed a storefront, shuttered, though online, Alpine Stove claims open business hours and a location in Mammoth Lakes.

Consumers can file a complaint with the California Attorney Generals office at <https://oag.ca.gov/contact/consumer-complaint-against-business-or-company> or, if they believe the business has committed a crime, they can contact their local law enforcement agency or District Attorney's Office.

The Mono County District Attorney's Office requests that anyone who believes they have been affected by Alpine Stove and Fireplace contacts Chief Investigation Chris Callinan at 760-932-5553 or ccallinan@mono.ca.gov. The office would also like to encourage anyone seeking contracting services to check the contractor's license status at <https://www.cslb.ca.gov/OnlineServices/CheckLicenseII/CheckLicense.aspx>.

*SUMMER AIR SERVICE EXTENDED THROUGH OCTOBER 6!



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Terms and conditions apply. Rates and dates subject to change without notice.



VisitMammoth.com/July4

By Carly Bell

Mono County has a higher risk than 92% of the counties in the U.S. for wildfire, and WRAFT (the Wildfire Resilience Action Finance Team) is working to promote sustainable funding and

According to their website, TFG is a group based in Washington D.C. that represents both public and private entities. They reported that out of 15 opportunities to submit requests on behalf of his entire district, Congressman Kevin Kiley (R) of California chose to advocate for Mono County's evacuation/emergency response route request. Additionally, senators Alex Padilla (D) and Laphonza Butler (D) submitted requests for EMS station improvements and funds to extend a waterline to the forest service compound in Bridgeport. TFG reps emphasized the positive impact delivered by the supervisors in

The Sierra Jobs First program finished their community and industry sector workshops and is currently in their strategic planning process with the main goal of “increas[ing] the number of quality jobs with equitable access and attract[ing] investment into divest-

At meeting's end, deed restrictions were passed for Bridgeport, Lee Vining, and Walker Parks to ensure they are not sold or leased after improvements are completed. In addition, the Mono County Code was amended to authorize county staff the ability to issue administrative subpoenas for county investigations.

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LOCAL BRIEFS

Yosemite practices crowd control

Nothing good in life ever comes free. Including a visit to Yosemite National Park.

Tawni Thomson, Executive Director at Bishop Area Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau, offered insights this week into planning and reserving trips into the Yosemite National Park for both visitors and locals to the area.

“It all depends on when they want to go and if they’re just driving through, or if they actually want to spend time in the valley and camp,” Thomson explained.

From now until June 30th, reservations are only needed on weekends and holidays from 5 a.m. to 4 p.m. From July 1st to August 16th, reservations are required every day from 5 a.m. to 4 p.m. After August 16th, the system reverts to weekends and holidays only.

All reservations require a non-refundable fee of \$2, which is separate from the \$35-per-car park entrance fee. According to the National Park Service website, each user can book up to two reservations within any three-day period, and the person holding the reservation must be present in the arriving vehicle and show a photo ID at the entrance station.

Most reservations for Yosemite National Park from April 13 through October 27, 2024, were released on January 5, 2024, via Recreation.gov. But additional reservations become available seven days before the intended arrival date, and are released daily at 8 a.m. Spots are snapped up almost instantly, so the site recommends visitors have a Recreation.gov account, be logged in, and be ready to make a reservation promptly at the release time.

Local residents with an eligible zip code on their driver’s license can pass through without a reservation for non-recreational purposes.

“But any day after 4 p.m. you can go in, and any time before 5 a.m.,” says Thomson.

Beyond entrance reservations, and for those interested in backcountry camping, wilderness permits are required and can be reserved online. These permits ensure that the backcountry remains pristine and not overburdened by visitors. Reservations for lodging within Yosemite—including the historic Ahwahnee Hotel, Yosemite Valley Lodge, and other accommodations—can also be made through the park’s official website.

Certain tours and activities, such as the popular Glacier Point Tour or guided ranger programs, also require advanced reservations.

For those planning a trip, reservations for camping and driving through the park during peak times should be made well in advance, especially around holidays.

According to the park’s website, Yosemite National Park has struggled with traffic congestion for decades, which park officials believe has had a significant and adverse impact on visitor experiences. “Managed access,” then, is essential in high-demand areas to ensure high-quality experiences, visitor safety, and both natural and cultural resource protection. The current peak-hours reservation system provides valuable data and serves as a trial for long-term solutions. Future strategies will incorporate

public and stakeholder input.

The system, simplified Thomson, was implemented to manage crowds and ensure a pleasant experience upon entrance to the park.

After all: “It’s not a pleasant experience if you get there and you’re in bumper-to-bumper traffic... so plan ahead.”

For the most current information and to make reservations, visitors should refer to the official Yosemite National Park website at nps.gov/yose.

Fire Restrictions in Inyo National Forest

Inyo National Forest will begin Stage I Fire Restrictions starting Monday, July 1 to protect natural resources and provide for public safety.

Dispersed campfires on the ground will no longer be permitted. However, campfires in designated developed recreation sites and portable stoves still be allowed with a California Campfire Permit.

The following acts are prohibited within Inyo National Forest:

1. Building, maintaining, attending, or using a fire, campfire, or stove fire except in Forest Service-provided campfire ring or in a standing grill within a Developed Recreation Site.
2. Smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle or building, within the Developed Recreation Sites or while stopped in an area at least three feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable material.
3. Welding, or operating an acetylene or other torch with an open flame.

Persons with a California Campfire

Permit are not exempt from the prohibitions above, however they may use a portable campfire ring/pit, stove, or lantern outside of a Developed Recreation Site, at least five feet from any flammable materials, provided that the portable campfire ring/pit, stove, or lantern only burns gas, kerosene, jellied petroleum, or pressurized liquid fuel, and has a shut-off valve.

Violation of these prohibitions is punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for an individual or \$10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment for not more than six months, or both.

For the official forest order including exhibits, visit the Forest Orders webpage on Inyo National Forest website under Alerts and Notices:www.fs.usda.gov/goto/Inyo/ForestOrders



Thursday July 4, 2024 @ 10:30am
Race Day Reg 8:00am-10:00am @ Mammoth Creek Park
Pre-Reg @ Footloose Sports in Mammoth Lakes
Start line - Snowcreek Driving Range - Old Mammoth Rd
Cost: \$25 Pre-Reg - \$30 Race Day



BISHOP TALKS MASTER PLAN FOR CITY PARK

By Charles James

On Wednesday night (June 26) the Parks and Recreation Committee held a workshop at City Hall to garner suggestions to improve and add to the already impressive Bishop City Park. About 16 residents took part in the workshop to discuss the Bishop Park Master Plan.

According to the City of Bishop website, the Bishop City Park covers 44 acres and offers a mix of passive and active areas along with stunning mountain views. It is an excellent place for recreation, exercise, or to simply relax. Yelp! Ratings give the park 4.4 stars, which is impressive considering the many thousands of tourists that pass through and visit the park.

Before sharing some of the ideas suggested by the workshop participants, here are activities and features already available at this park:

1. Pond and Gazebo with birds and ducks.
2. Walking Path through the park passing by the community pool and tennis courts.
3. Bike Path
4. Picnic Areas and Barbeque Grills for family time.
5. Child Playgrounds Areas are provided for children ages 3-5 and 5-10.
6. Dog Park: There's an "off-leash dog park" for large and small dogs.
7. Community Garden: Available to city residents to grow plants and vegetables
8. Arboretum

9. Outdoor Gym
10. Little League Ball fields
11. Adult Softball fields
12. Soccer fields for youth/adults
13. Tennis courts
14. Volleyball courts
15. Community Swimming Pool
16. RV parking available
17. Visitors center

What more could possibly be added? Well, those attending had a few ideas which included the following:

1. Overhead lighting to the tennis courts.
2. Tennis/Pickleball courts and Basketball courts potential site-east lot by Field 4
3. Additional restroom near soccer field.
4. A Splash Pool.
5. Asphalt pump track for bikes.
6. Improve bike path.
7. High nets around Soccer Field #6
8. Put Volleyball courts over in the Dog Park's parking lot.

If you were unable to attend Wednesday nights workshop, you can still offer your ideas or suggestions for park improvements, additional features or activities, contact Community Services Director Dan McElroy at (760) 873-5863 or send an email to recreation@cityofbishop.com.

PIE (AND MORE) FOR SALE



The June Lake Sierra Inn, which houses three businesses, including the Balanced Rock Cantina, June Pie and the T-Bar Social Club (with a 100-person music venue), is on the market. The 7,000-square foot building is located at the entrance to June Lake. Owner Jamie Schechtman says that more than \$2 million has been invested in the building, and that all three businesses have long-term leases. So if you love the Eastern Sierra, recognize June Lake for the gem it is, and perhaps have a personal interest in operating a live music venue, this could be your spot. Asking price: \$2.6 million.

LEACH EARNS BLACK BELT

Mono County has its first Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu Professor! On June 10th, at Mammoth Lakes Jiu-Jitsu's semi-annual Portion Ceremony, Eric Leach was awarded his Black Belt. Eric has run the very active Jiu-Jitsu program at Snowcreek Athletic Club since 2008.

The promotion was administered by Professor Grant Collins of Optimus Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, who has been the overseeing black belt authority of our local jiu-jitsu program since January of 2016.

Professor Eric was raised by his father to know the basics of boxing, and soon



thereafter found a passion for grappling with high school wrestling. He began his martial arts journey back in 1996 at Northern Arizona University where he was a collegiate competitor for the NAU Judo Club. Post college he trained MMA (mixed martial arts) out of Southern California. Upon relocating to Mammoth in 2003 he began learning the art of Karate and Kempo under a local sensei and was an assistant instructor for the kid's karate program.

After two years of training in garages and basements around town with a few others sharing the same passion, Eric approached the Snowcreek Athletic Club with an idea of creating a formal Martial Arts Program within the club. The program now has several adult classes throughout the week, as well as two age groups of kid classes: the Tiny Tigers (5-7 years old) and the Little Dragons (8+ years old).

UNFORTUNATE DETOUR

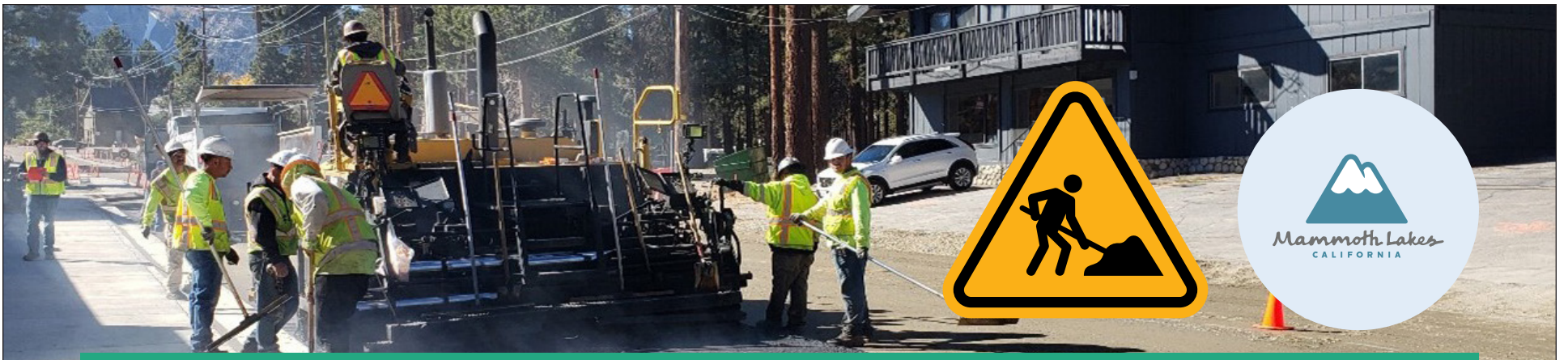


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SUMMER ROAD MAINTENANCE

The Town of Mammoth Lakes will have two major road maintenance projects under construction this summer. Both projects will require a variety of temporary lane or full road segment closures with detours and flaggers over multiple days at a time. Temporary impacts to motorists and pedestrians will be extensive and noticeable around town. Access to residences and businesses will be maintained although with varying degrees of delay. The Town's Contractors will notify residents, businesses, and property owners that are directly affected with more details prior to construction. The Town will also post updated schedules and new information on our website and social media (Facebook and Instagram).

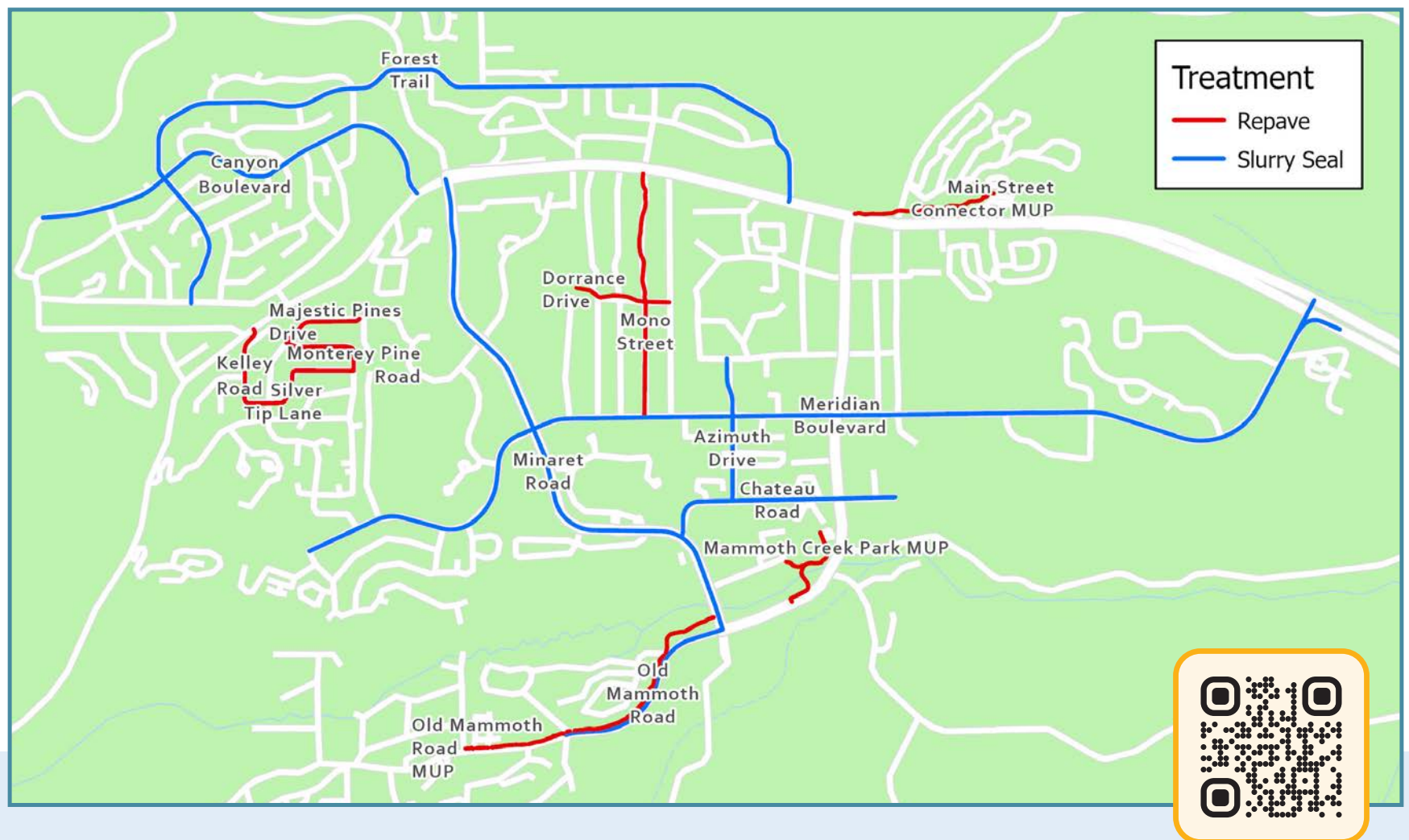
Please see below for project map.

Project Scope

1. The Road and Multi Use Path (MUP) Rehabilitation Project consists of the reconstruction of several roads and MUPs throughout Town. The project is currently expected to begin in mid-June and last for about 2 months through mid-August.

Note: The Town is evaluating possible additions to this scope. Check the QR link below for updates.

2. The Slurry Seal Project will include the application of a seal coat that must be allowed to dry without vehicular disturbance for up to five hours. The project is currently expected to begin in early June and last for about 2 weeks.



We appreciate everyone's patience while we work on these critical improvements to our roads and MUPs. For questions or additional information, please contact the Public Works Engineering Department:

Slurry Seal: Colin Brownlee, cbrownlee@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov

Road and MUP Rehabilitation: Matthew Freedman, mfreedman@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov

For up-to-date information on the Mammoth Lakes 2024 Road & MUP Rehabilitation Projects, please scan this QR code or visit arcg.is/1y9WD80.

the real sheet

Your Guide to Local Real Estate

UNDER ALL IS THE LAND

By Paul Oster

Q: We've been reading your columns for years and we're sure you have some interesting real estate stories to tell. What are your most interesting and memorable transactions, and why?

A: When I think back on my "stand out" transactions, or real estate experiences, most are centered on historic properties in the region that have some other sort of interesting significance, and of course, some likely controversy. The history of the owners, the land, and the developments that occurred on the land are enlightening about the history of the region. The owners, sellers and buyers also tend to be a different breed. There often tends to be some (crazy?) emotions amongst the parties too. These factors make for memorable real estate experiences. And most times, for better or for worse.

The most memorable is without question the sale of the infamous "Cunningham" property on the western shore of Mono Lake. This ~110 acre parcel had been in the family for nearly 80 years. The parcel sits adjacent to the historic

Tioga Lodge property that the family owned and operated during its heyday of the 1930s and 40s and beyond. The Lodge and resort were a large attraction in Mono County before Mammoth Mountain was ever established. There was a fancy white table cloth restaurant that interestingly featured an all Chinese staff. It was located on the lakeside property below the current Hwy. 395. There were also extensive rose gardens and trout ponds. The Lake was used for power boat races and there were other events like beauty pageants. All in an era of depression and war.

But the adjacent, upsloping 110 acres had been mostly unused over the years except for one house and a series of "spring boxes" for water capture. The family had purchased the property from the original homesteader. Southern California Edison has an access easement on a switchback road so they can service major power lines at the rear of the property. The view of the Lake at the upper benches is nothing but spectacular. Today, the property is deeded to the "United States of America" and all that remains on the lower portion is a historic

outhouse. And a commemorative plaque about the land exchange.

The demand for the property was driven by the fact that it was number one on the list of privately held parcels in the western United States that the Forest Service wanted to acquire and return to public ownership, and ultimately preserve the land from any further and future development. It became the primary acquisition target for anyone looking to do a Forest Service land exchange in the western United States and especially in the eastern Sierra.

In the early 2000s, the owners came to me to list the property for sale. Soon after there was an agreement to involve the property in an exchange for the "McFlex" property at the entrance to Mammoth that today includes the court building, police station, new County building and proposed Town civic center. But then the Ski Area stepped in. And that started a prolonged (almost five years) negotiation, re-negotiation and an almost all-out war between the buyer and seller. The buyer was adamant that they needed to be in the "good graces of the environmental movement", and was obsessed

with acquiring this property.

The transaction went off the rails so many times that it is amazing it ever closed. It became a battle of personalities, very opposite personalities. And I was in the middle of it the whole way. I often hear conjecture that real state transactions would go smoother if the buyer and seller could meet and "work things out." But this became a classic case of why a buyer (and his cohorts) and the seller should never meet. And to make matters worse, bureaucratic levels of the Forest Service and their "approved appraisers" (MAI—made as instructed) brought a massive level of distrust and delay to the entire process.

There were many lessons to be gleaned out of the entire mess and process. For one, in any negotiation, stick to issues and leave personalities out of it. I tried to remain focused on the issues, but the swirling, near-psychotic behavior and animosity became an impossible distraction. The buyer and seller egos almost made the transaction points secondary.

Another good lesson; once the parties have agreed to terms, keep your mouth

see OSTER, page 11



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OSTER

continued from page 10

shut as much as possible. Extraneous inputs are rarely helpful. There's an old saying, "More deals go down the drain going down the elevator." And maybe even more important in negotiation; have a clear understanding of who is in the position of strength.

Ultimately, the transaction was completed at a lower sales price than originally agreed upon. The irony is that the buyer had to purchase even more properties and also include a large amount of cash to finalize the Main Lodge property exchange. It all had to add up to the appraised value of the Main Lodge property, and pass approval in Washington DC. All of the nonsense delayed the process by another four+ years with no real economic gain. Through this last economic cycle, that delay could have been important to the project's future success. But only time will tell.

One interesting thing that happened in all of this; the Forest Service placed no value on the 10 acres between Highway 395 and the Lake. They referred to it as an “uneconomic remainder.” But our past, favorite local civil engineer came up with a great plan. The seller offered to donate the real estate under Highway 395 to Caltrans, and they accepted. They eagerly (and quickly) surveyed the land and created a new parcel map and the property was deeded to Caltrans. The process created a silent administrative lot split. Some 15 years later those 10 acres that were deemed worthless were sold for a tidy sum to preserve it from any future development.

All of the time spent in the Mono Basin led to other curious adventures. I worked with the Adam's family on the Mono Inn Property and had the opportunity to stand in Ansel's historic in-house darkroom in Carmel (how cool is that?). It also led to handling the recent estate-sale of the Tioga Lodge property, and the potentially gold-rich 880 acres in the Bodie Hills that is in the process of being returned to public ownership. Most people don't realize there is actually more land reverting to public ownership in Mono County than becoming privatized. Private land is becoming an even more rare commodity in Mono County.

The other very memorable real estate dealings have been right here in Mammoth in The Bluffs. But it has been hardly just one transaction. It has been an ongoing journey. It started in 1990 and for the next ten years I would be involved in the planning (and organizing) of the subdivision from the development side, approving the subdivision as a public official, and involved in brokering the bulk of the new subdivisions lots. All without violating any conflict of interest laws.

In 1990 a developer I worked with (and for) purchased the 70% of the lots in The Bluffs that were still owned by one person. At that time the subdivision was simply a “paper” subdivision that had been created in 1923 but never improved (streets, utilities, etc.). Over the decades, thirty percent of the lots had been sold off to random owners, or gifted to owners like the Catholic Archdiocese of Stockton. In order to finally construct the subdivision, the idea was to complete a huge (legal) lot line adjustment to make the subdivision buildable and conform to modern subdivision laws. And all of the various owners had to be in agreement with the plan. The process was

brought to public meetings, but I had to recuse myself at the Planning Commission meetings in the early 1990's. At the time, there was minor opposition to the project by those who believed the property should remain as open space even though it was private, subdivided land.

Between recession and drought, the project lost steam and the new owner and developer eventually left town. About five years later, the lots (70%) were acquired at a local sheriffs sale by a Temecula based rancher/developer. He brought the new proposal forward and had the support from the balance of the owners (they were ready) and the Town fathers. This time around I was clear to vote on the project with no conflicts. The proposal passed, and again with some minor opposition.

The new, modern subdivision was constructed shortly thereafter in the form it is today. In 1999 I was (thankfully) out of public office based on term limits. Shortly thereafter the Temecula rancher decided to list his lots with one of my associate brokers. The agents in my company at the time got to heavily participate in the sales of these spectacular lots. Since 2000 there has been an increasing number of outrageous homes built in the subdivision. There are no CC&Rs or architectural guidelines so anything can happen. If anyone has a lack of confidence in the Mammoth real estate market, just take drive through The Bluffs. And I expect that some of the early, “modest” homes in the subdivision may soon become “tear downs” or prime for significant additions and remodels.

But for me the saga continues. In the summer of 2024 I have the “Archdiocese lots” listed for sale. They were not included in the lot line adjustment redraw. They were the “uneconomic remainder” of the Bluffs. But today, there is a new potential. They offer a unique, private “estate” opportunity that the Mammoth market may very well be ready for. Privacy, view and surrounding open space are becoming the true luxury in the market.

There are plenty of other things that do stand out. The property where the Lime-light is being constructed was owned by one of my former associates. We talked for years about the potential of the property. We never thought it would look like it does today. And I currently have a home listed in Old Mammoth that the land has been in the family since 1926. And they even have the 98-year old grant deed. And now I am representing the historic motel property (36 acres) just up from Tom's Place. It too is a privacy/open space estate/ranch opportunity that rarely comes along.

Being involved with these properties and their history and significance has added a rewarding and intriguing layer to my real estate career. Perhaps, it could have been easier (and more lucrative) to sell a bunch of cookie-cutter condos. But it certainly wouldn't be more memorable.

Happy 4th of July!

Paul Oster is the Broker/Owner of RE/MAX of Mammoth (celebrating 34 years). For other timely real estate information you can go to www.MammothRealEstateBlog.com. For legal, accounting, or construction advice, please seek out the appropriate professional.



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SCIENCE

SMALL AGENTS OF BIG CHANGE

By Milender

"How lavish is Nature building, pulling down, creating, destroying, chasing every material particle from form to form, ever changing, ever beautiful."

- John Muir, My First Summer in the Sierra



Geomorphologist, Michal Ben-Israel, in the field at Lake Sabrina

It's happening right in our backyard.

Led by postdoctoral scholar and geomorphologist Michal Ben-Israel, a team of researchers out of Bishop Creek and both the Mammoth Lakes and South Lake Basins is working to deepen our understanding of how tiny microbes, imperceptible to the human eye, can influence geological processes and contribute to the evolution of those landscapes in which we live.

"The way we phrase it is that we're looking at the links between microbial weathering and large scale surface processes," said Ben-Israel, who is conducting her research at UC Merced's Surface Processes Lab under Principal Investigator (PI) and geomorphologist, Claire Lukens. Lukens similarly researches the interactions between life, climate, and the surfaces they touch.

Geomorphology, the study of

Earth's surface and the processes that form it, traditionally considers tectonics and climate as the primary forces driving landscape evolution. Tectonic activity (the movement of tectonic plates beneath us) creates mountains and other landforms. Climate-driven weathering and erosion break them down. Ben-Israel's research, though, introduces a new dimension to the field—the role of microorganisms in these transformative processes.

And according to Ben-Israel, her research is not targeting an "if," but a "how" in regard to how these microbes interact with their environment.

"Microbes—we know that there is microbial weathering," says Ben-Israel. "They break apart minerals, and they turn them into nutrients which go into the soil and make other microbes and plants. We know what they're doing, and we know that it's important for other living things. But is it important for how landscapes are formed? That's basically the main question I've been trying to answer."

But the answer to that question of scale, says Ben-Israel, is hard to pinpoint.

"[Microbes] are everywhere. They always have been," she explains. "With climate change, or glacier movement—those things move at a glacial pace. Literally. But when they do move, they move a lot of earth with them. They break apart rock, and they move sediment. They change the landscape and the time scales in which it happens is something we can observe."

Microbes, on the other hand, are not only invisible to the naked eye, but the time span of their life is short.

"It makes it hard for us to connect these longer processes of changing landscapes with whatever these microbes are doing on the surface."

Then, the question of whether microbial impact on landscape evolution is significant becomes a hypothesis difficult to prove.

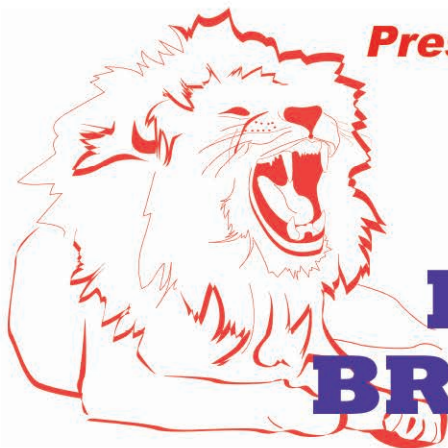
Ben-Israel is working to discern that impact by observing the link between

see MICROBES, page 13

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Mammoth Mall Parking lot

Collection of Used Eye Glasses
At The Breakfast

**BBQ Sauce
Brewed and Bottled
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Rock Creek Lakes Resort**

MICROBES

continued from page 12



Undergraduate assisting Ben-Israel in fieldwork. From left to right: Jazmin Nevarez Campos, Keith Buchignani, and Kolleen Peyakov.

microbial communities’ composition with DNA sequencing, and the subsequent rates of soil production and weathering through what is called cosmogenic nuclides dating of the rock—a methodology used not to age a rock surface, but to determine when that rock was first exposed to the atmosphere.

“It can tell us how quickly a landscape changes, how quickly something erodes, how quickly things move downhill.”

The lake basins of the Eastern Sierra

were chosen as sites for Ben-Israel’s research because they are what’s called “deglaciated areas”—somewhere that a glacier has been, and where a glacier has since retreated.

“This way, we can look at a surface and know it’s fresh,” says Ben-Israel, because as glaciers retreat, they expose rock surfaces that initially harbor few microbes. Over time, microbial colonization and activity can influence weathering processes and soil formation, potentially affecting the rate and nature of landscape evolu-

tion. And then there were the other constraints, necessary for effective field research. The small size of the basins ensure minimal variations in external factors—the rainfall, vegetation, and rock composition are consistent across the area. “And so, if everything’s the same, what would explain [landscape evolution] is microbes... let’s say, more microbes indicates faster signs of weathering and faster rates in which rock turns into soil,” she says. “That’s the ideal result.”

But, to use Ben-Israel’s terminology, there is yet to be a smoking gun. “The microbial communities across the basin are pretty similar, but the landscapes are different,” she says. “Our data doesn’t have the ideal result.”

Still, says the scientist, at this point in a research project any kind of positive link between the independent variable (microbes) and the dependent variable (landscapes) is promising.

When The Sheet asked Ben-Israel what the more recent successes in her research have been, the answer was not located on the surface of the rocks in the Eastern Sierra, but rather, the soil that lies beneath them.

What the researchers had initially hypothesized was that rock surfaces, being more exposed to harsh condi-

tions, would harbor more rock-weathering microbes. But when comparing the microbes on exposed rocks with those found in the soil, what Ben-Israel’s team discovered was that rock surfaces hosted microbes performing photosynthesis and nitrogen fixation, while the soil contained a higher diversity of microbes, including those capable of erosion. These microbes were more abundant in the soil where conditions were more favorable: less UV radiation, more moisture, more stable temperatures.

The presence of rock-weathering microbes in the soil, then, suggests a crucial role in the ongoing rock-to-soil conversion process. Over time, microbial activity continues to break down rock into soil—a process that has been happening since the glacier retreated—allowing initial microbial colonization. As more soil forms, it creates better conditions for a diverse range of microbes, which in turn accelerates weathering and soil production.

All of it, churning like a cycle. “These microbes live for 12 hours. These landscapes take thousands of years to form. And now we can say, ‘Look, there is this link,’ because whatever is going on in the rock-to-soil processes is helping the microbes, and the microbes help the processes,” says Ben-Israel. “We can say that we see a relationship—a reciprocal relationship.”



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Celebration of Life

Marilyn Hayden

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calendar of events

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The Mogul happy hour 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the bar. Food and drink specials.
Lakanuki happy hour 3-6 p.m. daily.
Main Street Pizza - See ad pg. 6 for details.

Fridays/
Check out Friday evening fun @ Bishop Country Club. Weekly entertainment. 4-8 p.m.

June 28-29/
Live music returns to Liberty with **Anthony Cullins** (blues rock) for two nights. *More info: See ad p. 2*
Consummate entertainer, pianist Joe Gray, plays Tamarack Lodge. Time: 5:30-8:30 p.m.
Mammoth "Feel Good" Festival @ the Village at Mammoth. How this is different from any other festival, Lunch has no idea. It's the recipe we do well around here. Live bands, beer, food in the Village over two days.

Saturday, June 29/
Live music @ Stellar Brew in Mammoth. Time: 2:30-5 p.m.

Wednesday, July 3/
Eddy Evans plays summer wine Wednesdays @ Liberty starting at 4 p.m. 1/2 off wine by the glass!

Friday, July 5/
Beans Souza (acoustic) plays the Liberty patio. Time: 4-7 p.m.
Andrew Webber Band follows @ Liberty starting at 9 p.m. with blues & rock.

Saturday, July 6/
The Felt Cutouts (Americana rock) play Liberty. Time: 9 p.m. **For full July schedule, see Liberty's ad p. 18.*

TOWN STUFF

June 28-30/
Mammoth Motocross continues for year ... well, it's been happening since 1968 so you do the math. *More info: mammothmountain.com.*

Friday, June 28/
Nature-Based Yoga led by FOI Lead Trail Ambassador Jean - every Friday this summer! Time: 8:30-10 a.m. Location: Pokonobe Marina, Lake Mary, Mammoth Lakes (No registration required). Free.
DOWNTOWN BISHOP MARKET returns this week. Time: @ 6-9:30 p.m. Free event features live music and lots of local craftspeople, artisans, products of the region, food booths, beer/cocktails, local produce, farmer's market and more. New Location - on Church Street, between Warren & Fowler. Behind City Hall.

Saturday, June 29/
Mammoth Lakes Friends of the Library is throwing itself a birthday party and you're invited. Time: 1-4 p.m. Come for games for children & adults and some cake!
Interpretive Hike led by a **Friends of the Inyo's Trail Ambassador.** Today,

TOWN STUFF

from 9 a.m. - noon, at McGee Creek: "Fire and Ice, A Land of Contrasts" led by Jean.
Bishop's Junior Livestock Show (June 25-29 @ the Fairgrounds) culminates with a live auction today starting at 1 p.m. Register to become a buyer at tricityfair.com

Sunday, June 30/
Half-Day Volunteering Event with Friends of the Inyo. Location: Mt. Whitney Ranger District Trail Day at Tuttle Creek. Time: 9 a.m. 'til 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday, July 3/
Pickup Ultimate Frisbee behind the Bishop Elementary School. Time: 7 p.m.
Mammoth Lakes Town Council meets. Time: 4 p.m. Location: Suite Z, Minaret Mall or online via townofmammothlakes.ca.gov.

July 3-6/
Bridgeport celebrates an old-fashioned 4th with greased pole



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TOWN STUFF

climbs, watermelon eating contest ... you get the drift. And a parade, live music, rodeo, fun. *For event schedule, visit bridgeportcalifornia.com*

Thursday, July 4/
Mammoth Lakes Lions Club Pancake Breakfast @ the Mammoth Mall (next to the old Charthouse & the current Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu Steakhouse). Time: 7-11 a.m. Cost: \$14 adults and \$8 for children buys 'cakes, sausage, OJ, coffee.
Mammoth's Annual Footloose Freedom Mile takes place @ 10:15 a.m. followed by **Mammoth's 4th of July Parade** at 11. **Pops in the Park** @ 2 and **Crowley Fireworks** at 9:15. See full schedule on ad p. 5.

Monday, July 8/
Celebration of Life for Marilyn Hayden at Bishop Country Club. *For more information, please see ad on p. 13.*

mammoth

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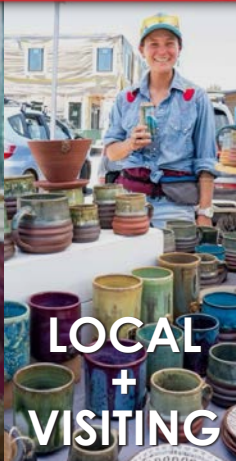
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- Journeyman Plumber(4 years experience)** - Mammoth
- Journeyman/Apprentice Carpenter** - Mammoth

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- Full time yearly positions



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- Physical Therapist Assistant (Bishop and Mammoth locations) – Starting wage \$30.87 to \$33.05 based on qualifications. \$3,500 Retention Bonus.
- Cook/Food Service Worker – Starting wage \$19.83 to \$21.23 based on qualifications.

\$2,200 Retention Bonus.
To view more open positions and apply, please visit our website at www.mammothhospital.org/jobs

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Mono County Office of Education openings

Office Assistant Full-Time
Salary: Classified Salary Schedule Range 42: \$20.50- \$26.26 per hour
Filing Deadline: July 12, 2024

Early Learning Associate Teacher (Infant Qualified) Full-Time
Salary: Classified Range 46: \$22.63-\$28.92 per hour
Filing Deadline: July 15, 2024

Early Learning Associate Teacher Full-Time
Salary: Classified Range 46: \$22.63-\$28.92 per hour
Filing Deadline: July 15, 2024

Early Learning Associate Teacher (PK-Child Development Associate Teacher Permit) Full-Time
Salary: Classified Range 46: \$22.63-\$28.92 per hour
Filing Deadline: July 15, 2024

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 asst. Great computer/communication skills essential. Please email interest to:weddingevents.doubleeagleresort@gmail.com

Creekside Spa and Fitness Desk at the Double Eagle Resort and Spa, immediate opening for enthusiast team member. Help in creating a wonderful experience for our spa and fitness center guests. Customer service, computer, cleaning, food service. Full or part time, health benefits, fitness membership and PTO. Great place to work! Email Lodging@doubleeagle.com

Restaurant Server for Eagles Landing Restaurant at the popular Double Eagle Resort and Spa in June Lake CA. Experience in restaurant service, computers and working as team member are essential. Full and part time available, health benefits, fitness membership and PTO. Great place to work. Email Lodging@doubleeagle.com

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

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

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The **Olancha Cartago Fire Department/ Olancha Community Services District** is now hiring for the position of:

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Mammoth Lakes, CA. 93546

This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name listed herein.
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File Number 24-038
2024-0093 (6/8, 6/15, 6/22, 6/29)

Early Learning Aide Full-Time
Salary: Classified Range 37: \$18.05-\$23.17 per hour
Filing Deadline: July 15, 2024

For more details and application log onto www.edjoin.org
Mono County Office of Education
Attn: Monica Hernandez, Human Resources
PO Box 477 Bridgeport, CA 93517-0477
(760) 932-7311

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2024-2025 ASES Aide at Lee Vining Elementary for 3 hours with 2024-2025 Classified Salary Schedule of \$16.00-\$22.51 per hour depending on experience.
For details/to apply, call Lisa Kelly @ 760.932.7443 or apply online via edjoin.org.



JOB OPENINGS

FULL-TIME POSITIONS

*Full-time positions include competitive benefits package

- **Airport Maintenance Coordinator**
\$58,704 – \$82,602
- **Payroll/Human Resources Specialist**
\$71,269 – \$100,282

TEMPORARY PART-TIME POSITIONS

- **Recreation Program Assistant – Summer Camps**
- **Recreation Instructor – Basketball**
\$18.50 – \$30.00/hr

For more information and to apply:
townofmammothlakes.ca.gov
(760) 965-3604

RESERVATIONS SPECIALIST \$22-25/HR

Answering calls, taking reservations, guest relations, dealing with guest issues, coordinating with other departments. Experience in customer service-based industries, proficient typing/computer skills, Excel. Must have reliable four-season transportation.

Full Time: \$22-25 depending on experience, PTO, Health, 401K, employee discounts. Send inquiry to jobs@convictlake.com or text to 951-757-0463.

STORE CLERKS \$22-\$26/HR + EMPLOYEE DISCOUNTS

Stocking, cleaning, customer service and sales counter/cashier for Convict Lake General Store and McGee Creek Lodge Store. Flexible hours, full or part time. Great workplace with great employee discounts and benefits. Send inquiry to jobs@convictlake.com or text to 951.757.0463.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice of Petition to Administer Estate

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF FRANCES E. YORK

MONO COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT CASE NO. 24PRB13

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of FRANCES E. YORK.

A Petition for Probate has been filed by MICHELE TILTON in the Superior Court of California, County of Mono. The Petition for Probate requests that MICHELE TILTON be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of decedent.

The petition requests the decedent’s will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the executor to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: July 11, 2024, 9:30 a.m., Mammoth Courthouse, Department 1, 100 Thompson Way, PO Box 1037, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546.

If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for Petitioner: Gian Carlo Simonetti, Esq. (SBN: 279468), Wood Law Group, 126 Old Mammoth Road, Suite 203, P.O. Box 3837, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546; (760) 934-5821.

TS # 2024-0095

Notice of Public Meeting

Notice if hereby given that the Mammoth Lakes Community Services District out in Old Mammoth will hold a public meeting on the 25th of July at 4 p.m.

The meeting is open to the public and is being held at Mammoth Lakes Fire Station #1, located at 3150 Main Street.

The agenda will be mailed out to each member of the district. Anyone else who might wish an agenda can email 19goliveira58@gmail.com.

TS #2024-0098

Notice of Public Hearing

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING - HILTON CREEK COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

A Public Hearing is set for Tuesday, July 9, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. at the Crowley Lake Community Center, South Landing Road, Crowley Lake, California, on the Delinquent Accounts Report as of June 30, 2024 for Sewer Use Fees and Juniper Drive Road Maintenance Fees. A copy of said report is included in this Notice.

At said public hearing, the Board of Directors will hear and consider all objections and protests to said written report. If the Board of Directors adopts said report, or revises, changes, reduces, or modifies any change thereon, the delinquent charges, together with penalties and interest thereon, as stated in the adopted report, shall constitute a lien against the respective parcels of real property described in the adopted report, and shall be included by the County tax collector bills for taxes levied against the respective parcels of real property and be collected in the same manner, at the same time, and by the same person as taxes for the Hilton Creek Community Services District.

The Secretary of the Board of Directors is directed to publish this Notice in a newspaper of general circulation within the boundaries of the District. Such publication shall be for not less than once a week for two weeks prior to the date set for the hearing. This Notice of Public Hearing shall be sent to each person listed on the Report.

HILTON CREEK COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT
By: Lorinda Beatty, Secretary of the Board

TS #2024-0099

Notice of Public Hearing

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING, GREAT BASIN UNIFIED AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT Air Toxics Hot Spots Program Annual Reports for 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023

Pursuant to Health & Safety Code Section 44363, on July 10, 2024 at 10:15 am, the Governing Board of the Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District will hold a public hearing to discuss the contents and significance of the Air Toxics Hot Spots Program Annual Reports for 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023.

This hearing will cover the annual reports for the years 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023.

These reports describe the priorities and categories designated pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 44360 and summarize the results and progress of the health risk assessment program undertaken pursuant to this part; rank and identify facilities within the District according to the degree of cancer risk posed both to individuals and to the exposed population; identify facilities which expose individuals or populations to any noncancer health risks; and describe the status of the development of control measures to reduce emissions of toxic air contaminants.

Any interested member of the public may participate in the public hearing by attending in person or virtually. Written comments may be submitted prior to the meeting. Comments should be addressed to Phillip L. Kiddoo, Air Pollution Control Officer, Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District, 157 Short Street, Bishop, California 93514 or may also be sent to permits@gbuapcd.org.

The full text of the reports will be available at the time of agenda publication for the July 10 meeting. To attend via zoom:Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85685997271?pwd=NGlnTzZ6dVZY24vc2JYaEQ5RVc5QT09
Passcode: 131401
Phone: +1 669 900 6833
Webinar ID: 856 8599 7271

This link will be available on the District website at www.gbuapcd.org at the time of the agenda publication. To attend in-person: Alpine County Administrative Center 99 Water Street (State Hwy 89), Markleeville, California 96120.

For further information, call the District’s Board Clerk, Tori DeHaven at (760) 872-8211.

TS #2024-0104

Fictitious Business Name Statement
The Following Entity
Is Doing Business As:

Mark of the Feral

Daniel Wiese
2204 Tam O Shanter Ave.
Bishop, Calif. 93514

This business is conducted by a Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein on June 3, 2024. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on June 6, 2024
File Number 24-052
2024-0097 (6/22, 6/29, 7/6, 7/13)

Notice of Public Hearing

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING - HILTON CREEK COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT.

A Public Hearing is set for Tuesday, July 9, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. at the Crowley Lake Community Center, South Landing Road, Crowley Lake, California, on the Standby Fees (Availability Fees) Report as of June 30, 2024 for Sewer Standby Fees (Availability Fees). A copy of said report is included in this Notice as “Exhibit A”

At said public hearing, the Board of Directors will hear and consider all objections and protests to said written report. If the Board of Directors adopts said report, or revises, changes, reduces, or modifies any change thereon, the delinquent charges, together with penalties and interest thereon, as stated in the adopted report, shall constitute a lien against the respective parcels of real property described in the adopted report, and shall be included by the County tax collector bills for taxes levied against the respective parcels of real property and be collected in the same manner, at the same time, and by the same person as taxes for the Hilton Creek Community Services District.

The Secretary of the Board of Directors is directed to publish this Notice in a newspaper of general circulation within the boundaries of the District. Such publication shall be for not less than once a week for two weeks prior to the date set for the hearing. This Notice of Public Hearing shall be sent to each person listed on the Report.

HILTON CREEK COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT
By: Lorinda Beatty, Secretary of the Board

TS # 2024-0101

HILTON CREEK COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT EXHIBIT A JUNE 30, 2024			
APN	UNITS	Acres	Balance
060-120-004-000	VACANT	0.32	10.00
060-120-010-000	VACANT	1.80	20.00
060-120-011-000	VACANT	1.82	40.00
060-120-012-000	VACANT	1.71	20.00
060-120-015-000	VACANT	5.02	60.00
060-120-017-000	VACANT	1.67	20.00
060-130-003-000	VACANT	0.46	10.00
060-130-013-000	VACANT	1.26	40.00
060-130-014-000	VACANT	1.74	20.00
060-130-015-000	VACANT	0.33	10.00
060-130-016-000	VACANT	0.22	10.00
060-130-018-000	VACANT	1.57	40.00
060-140-003-000	VACANT	0.15	0.00
060-140-004-000	VACANT	1.52	20.00
060-150-004-000	VACANT	1.04	40.00
060-150-005-000	VACANT	1.00	20.00
060-150-007-000	VACANT	0.94	10.00
060-150-008-000	VACANT	0.98	10.00
060-150-014-000	VACANT	0.17	10.00
060-150-021-000	VACANT	0.49	20.00
060-150-022-000	VACANT	0.32	20.00
060-150-024-000	VACANT	0.59	10.00
060-160-015-000	VACANT	0.69	10.00
060-170-001-000	VACANT	0.97	10.00
060-170-005-000	VACANT	0.69	10.00
060-170-012-000	VACANT	1.04	20.00
060-170-024-000	VACANT	1.03	20.00
060-170-025-000	VACANT	0.20	10.00
060-170-028-000	VACANT	0.32	10.00
060-170-031-000	VACANT	0.47	10.00
060-180-001-000	VACANT	1.09	20.00
060-180-005-000	VACANT	1.31	40.00
060-180-013-000	VACANT	1.09	20.00
060-180-022-000	VACANT	0.36	10.00
060-200-006-000	VACANT	1.85	20.00
060-200-016-000	VACANT	0.28	10.00
060-210-008-000	VACANT	1.31	40.00
060-210-025-000	VACANT	1.10	20.00
060-210-026-000	VACANT	0.91	10.00
060-210-027-000	VACANT	1.24	20.00
060-210-031-000	VACANT	8.95	0.00
060-210-043-000	VACANT	0.42	10.00
060-210-045-000	VACANT	0.43	20.00
060-210-052-000	VACANT	0.38	10.00
060-210-057-000	VACANT	2.11	30.00
060-210-058-000	VACANT	1.99	20.00
060-210-066-000	VACANT	0.82	10.00
060-220-006-000	VACANT	11.69	240.00
060-220-008-000	VACANT	59.42	1,200.00
060-230-033-000	VACANT	0.23	10.00
060-240-001-000	VACANT	1.96	40.00
060-250-012-000	VACANT	2.00	20.00
060-280-002-000	VACANT	2.64	30.00

Notice of Public Hearing/
Preliminary Budget Adoption

The Hilton Creek Community Services District Board of Directors has prepared a preliminary budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2024.

The proposed preliminary budget is available for inspection with the District Secretary at the District office located at the Sewer Treatment Plant on Crowley Lake Drive, Crowley Lake, California during normal business hours by appointment only (760) 965-9696 or on our website hiltoncreekcsd.com.

The Board of Directors will meet to adopt the preliminary budget on Tuesday, July 9, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. at the Crowley Lake Community Center, Crowley Lake, Calif. Any person may appear and be heard regarding any item in the budget or regarding the addition of other items.

TS # 2024-0100

Fictitious Business Name Statement
The Following Entity
Is Doing Business As:

BW Painting

Briant Wells
340 Chaparral Rd., P.O. Box 8054
Mammoth Lakes, Calif. 93546

This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant commenced to transact business in 2013 under the fictitious business name listed herein. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on June 13, 2024
File Number 24-054
2024-0096 (6/22, 6/29, 7/6, 7/13)

Fictitious Business Name Statement
The Following Entity
Is Doing Business As:

Five Star Cleaning

Araceli Reyes
451 Commerce Circle, Apt. 5
P.O. Box 7361
Mammoth Lakes, Calif. 93546

This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant commenced to transact business starting April 25, 2024 under the fictitious business name listed herein. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on April 26, 2024
File Number 24-034
2024-0102 (6/22, 6/29, 7/6, 7/13)

Notice of Vacancies

NOTICE OF EXTENSION OF VACANCIES FOR MAMMOTH’S PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that three terms of office will expire on the Mammoth Lakes Planning Commission. The terms are for four years and expire on July 31, 2028. The Planning Commission meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 9:00 a.m.

Interested parties should file an application with the Town Clerk on or before Monday, July 8, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. Application forms (“Application for Public Appointment”) may be obtained from the Town’s website, www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov; Town Clerk at the Town Offices, Minaret Village Shopping Center; by emailing jgray@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov or by phoning 965-3602.

Dated: June 25, 2024
Jamie Gray, Town Clerk
TS #2024-0103

Hilton Creek Community Services District Delinquency Report June 30, 2022 Updated: 6/30/2024 DELINQUENCY									
ACCT	NAME	Sewer	Late Fees	Total Sewer	Juniper	Late Fees	Total JD	Admin Costs	Grand Total
6014007	Lonsdale	1,209.66	476.81	1,686.47	1,771.56	737.80	2,509.36	50.00	4,245.83
6014012	Perry	438.90	43.90	482.80	590.52	59.04	649.56	50.00	1,182.36
6019006	McMillian	968.62	287.70	1,256.32	1,050.58	524.10	1,574.68	50.00	2,881.00
6023029	Cherry Moore	976.10	285.91	1,262.01	-	-	-	50.00	1,312.01
6023031	Yzaguirre	434.31	42.99	477.30	-	-	-	50.00	527.30
6032001	Ronci	534.88	72.70	607.58	-	-	-	50.00	657.58
6033009	Orozco	731.50	146.36	877.86	-	-	-	50.00	877.86
		5,293.97	1,356.37	6,650.34	3,412.66	1,320.94	4,733.60	350.00	11,683.94

*Administrative Costs subject to change dependent upon publishing costs



GAYLA'S GALLERY

On June 22nd, High County Lumber hosted its 1st Annual Contractor Classic Golf Tournament at the Bishop Country Club, partnering with Bishop's Chamber of Commerce to celebrate the contractors building our community. A total of 24 teams competed for the \$1000 grand prize—

By Gayla Wolf



The Eldridge Electric team, learning more about Boise Cascades from their reps



Aaron Berkovatz



Steve Shibley with Zach Butler



Scott Piercey, Bob Felkel, and Steve Felkel



Tristan Sielman, Kevin Baetge, Jeff Hall, and Sean Johnston representing Johnston Remodeling



Mike Riggs and Jeff Hall



High Country Lumber's team: Dan Katz, Marcos Hummes, Josh Rieche, and Raegan Warner

MAIN STREET PIZZA & TAP

Superlative East Coast, Thin-Crust Pizza

LUNCH SPECIALS

Monday-Thursday, 11am-2pm

- \$2 Off All 10" Pizzas
- 1/2 Off All Salads

HAPPY HOUR

Mon-Fri: 3:30-6:30 pm
Sat-Sun: 8pm-Close

- \$3 Cheese Slice \$4 Pepperoni Slice
- \$1 off all Pints & Tasting Flights
- \$1 off all Wines By the Glass

Happy Hour
Specials!

Lunch
Specials!

3399 Main Street, Mammoth Lakes, Family Friendly!
(760) 965-0321 | order online | mainstreetpizzaandtap.com

We will be closing our doors!

FASHION • CALIFORNIA STYLE

Thank you for helping us be
a part of Mammoth for over 23 years...
But it's time to move on...

EVERYTHING MUST GO!

Inventory | Furniture
Displays | Fixtures

Come and get it
while it lasts!

10:30am - 5:30pm Daily

LIQUIDATION SALE

40%-70% OFF
ENTIRE STORE

501 Old Mammoth Rd

ASTROPHYSICS AND SENTIMENTALITY FOR PEOPLE IN A HURRY

Milender paid visit by old friend, hiker, and scientist.

By Milender

Last week, I got a text from a central-north Tennessee area code. This is a part of that more ... umbilical part of our country which I do not associate with, nor frequent. I had thought, at first glance, it might be a solicitation from a debt collector or some crooked charity appeal—some worldly things of that sort.

Upon reading the message, though, I learned it was nothing of the kind.

It was a very non-worldly and very-serendipitous request from a well-acquainted college friend hiking the Pacific Crest Trail. He and I had gone to a small college, where former classmates came to know each other's various whereabouts and goings on post-graduation. Knowing mine were in Mammoth Lakes, Goodbred—that's his name—asked for use of my shower, to rest his head in the manger that is my half-comfortable rented address, and to borrow a rubber band to keep the lid of his camp cooking pot attached to its vessel.

PCT hikers, they may be weary. Oh, they do get weary.

Given that the recurring motifs of my year have been unfamiliar faces in unfamiliar landscapes, I jumped at the chance to remedy the former. And, given that the theme of my year, personally, has been flailing in the field of self-provision, I was excited at the idea of providing that which I could for another person. Rubber bands and hot water—these were small luxuries, to be exchanged (offered Goodbred) for some company and a home-cooked meal. It was to be the most action my kitchen would have seen in the past 10 months.

Matt Goodbred, to put a name to the face unseen, started at the Mexican border in April, and is on track to complete his hike in 3 months and change. For myself and my classmates, it came

as no surprise that Matt was doing this. Not only was he a well known outdoorsman while we were at school, but he had spent the time following our graduation and his summer research stint in the Upper Valley of New Hampshire in Telluride, CO. Tinkering, skiing, bumming. Tinkering about with skis and the bums that traverse them. And were you to poll the class of '23, the consensus would be that Goodbred was just, well, impressive. Widely acknowledged as such. He'll be continuing his work at Princeton next fall to study plasma astrophysics, and has already been the co-author of peer-reviewed work in his field (published in Physics of Plasmas and Physical Review Letters).

And oh yeah. He's a well-known, bonafide, nice guy.

So, anyway, when central Tennessee arrived at my California home after the paper went out last Thursday, I showed him some East Coast hospital-

ity. I cleaned the sheets on the twin mattress downstairs, gave him the nice towel with neither bleach stain nor torn hem, and splurged for Stella Artois over Keystone Light to stock the fridge (whether those Stellas were lifted from The Sheet office is profoundly unimportant). And when he put his pack down on my floor, we sat in these great, big, plush red chairs landlord Lunch has got in the living room and we got to talking. Didn't stop talking, really. We talked about our scattered friends—all doing impressive things, making impressive sums of money, or both. We talked about the ones we worried about. We talked about the precious few for which we didn't. Goodbred talked about his favorite things along the route—Idyllwild, Rae Lakes via Kearsarge Pass, and the hitches he'd scored in between



Matt Goodbred (left), and his foster "family" at the Mobil Mart two weeks ago.

them. I talked about my paper route, Sierra Nevada yellow legged frogs and the man that kept them, and my day with Troy Patton in Lone Pine. We compared, between Mammoth and Telluride, distances from airports, hospitals, and Trader Joe's. The last time each of us had seen our best friend. The days we'd logged on our respec-

tive mountains, and the issues that dogged the communities at their feet.

We took inventory, both of us, of all things had, and all things missed in a year. Neither category was a hill of beans.

And when first we realized that I didn't have a single damn can of

see GOODBRED, page 19



FREE

MAMMOTH'S PREMIER SPORTS BAR & COMMUNITY FREE LIVE MUSIC VENUE

7/5	BEANS SOUZA 4-7PM ACOUSTIC SINGER SONGWRITER
7/5	ANDREW WEBBER BAND BLUES/ ROCK & ROLL
7/6	FELT CUTOUTS ORIGINAL AMERICANA ROCK
7/13	JUNE LAKE JAME FEST PARTNERSHIP: THE ROAD TO JAM FEST! JOE MARCINEK & GROOVE SESSION
7/19 7/20	THE HINGES FUNK ROCK SOUL FROM THE BOYS FROM FISHBONE
7/26	CLAY COLTON BAND AMERICANA, COUNTRY, ROCK
7/27	MAMMOTH ALL STARS MOUNTAIN FUNK SOUL DANCE PARTY

WEEKLY KARAOKE W/MAURICE COOPER @ 9PM

WEEKLY WINE WEDNESDAY'S WITH JAZZ SAXOPHONIST EDDY EVANS ON THE PATIO 4-7 PM
WITH 1/2 OFF WINE BY THE GLASS



DID YOU KNOW?

→ Did you know that the Town facilitates numerous stewardship opportunities within Mammoth Lakes and adjacent public lands?

- Join our trails team the first Wednesday of each month (June - September) at 5pm for Wednesday Worknights, which will focus on trail work and trail maintenance. Help us maintain your favorite trail with food and drinks provided after each event.
- Help keep Mammoth Lakes clean by participating in Trashy Thursdays (June - September) each week at 5pm. Volunteers are provided trash bags and litter grabbers with the goal of keeping our community as clean as possible.
- In partnership with Mammoth Lakes Recreation, take your stewardship game to the next level by adopting one of your favorite soft surface trails or sections of the paved multi-use pathway through the Adopt-A-Trail program. Program sponsorships run for a year from the date of adoption and are a great way to care for our local trails, lakes, and trailheads.
- Participate in the Summer of Stewardship through the Office of Outdoor Recreation Trail Days program! Trail Days events will occur on July 27th and September 21st and focus on litter pick-up, trail work, landscape restoration, trailhead improvements, and more!
- Want to schedule your own group stewardship event? Reach out to Office of Outdoor Recreation staff at outdoorrecreation@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov

For more information scan QR code or visit:
townofmammothlakes.ca.gov/1214/Volunteer



 TownofMammothLakes.ca.gov
 Town of Mammoth Lakes

ASTRO

continued from page 18

beans, olive oil, rice, salt, or well, jack shit to fuse together the board he'd promised in exchange for room, the beer held us over just fine.

And so we kept on talking.

But as we got really hungry, and as I had increasingly little to offer (besides pantry staples) in terms of stories and beer, I remembered that Lunch—who had left earlier that day for his 35th reunion at his, mine, and Goodbred's alma mater—had suggested I make a stop at the Tioga Gas Mart's music event. At the time he had first suggested it, though, after having gone stag to, chili competitions, Monster truck showcases, film screenings, housing conversations, and more Town Council Meetings than I'd care to admit, I felt myself at a breaking point for that which I could endure sans booze or a or a familiar face to toast with. But with Goodbred in toe, and the pressure to show the kid a good time the one night he was in town, we decided to face the music.

(And, if nothing else, I'd heard that the fish tacos at Whoa Nellie Deli are absolutely delicious.)

And so we lumbered to Lee Vining—Goodbred marveling at the mountains outside his passenger window—and then drove a little further because there were cars and camper vans parked many lengths down on the shoulder of the road, past the gas mart.

Up the hill were the people that had filled all those cars—and man, they were something beautiful. Had the man

any sense for the ironic resurgence of work coveralls worn by real estate agents, or the innovation of ring tab Coca Colas, Norman Rockwell might have painted something like it—children blowing bubbles out of wands, and the smell of dish soap and corn syrup on hot pavement when one of them spilled the very elixir that so enchanted his wand; black tar-footed men in the grass and women, inside the deli, under the flourescent-light of antler-fitted chandeliers.

What surprised me was that I recognized many of these people on the hill. Theirs were faces I'd collected since moving to California—ones I'd interviewed, ones I'd photographed, ones I'd made coffees with and for. And there were faces that Matt recognized from his own adventures, about that long, strange road between here and Mexico. There was a girl who called herself Freebird with stencil tattoos on her shoulders, and a boy that had said he'd come from the Worcester Polytechnic Institute, though in talking to him I became unsure. The details of the rest elude me, but the mystic quality of their trail names seemed to beg as much, besides.

Goodbred and I spent the evening with these people, dancing to the band Tracorum who, I will say, are quite good. They had a great fiddler and kept the rhythm tight—neither of which are an easy thing to do.

And when it got dark, the people abandoned their seats in the grass, and the deli cleared out. The bubble-blow-

ing children were driven home. And those that remained swayed before the stage, and threw polyvinyl beach balls into the air, and the band played that similar refrain:

Don't tell me this town ain't got no heart,

Don't tell me this town ain't got no heart,

And the people swayed some more. Because of course it does. And of course they do.

The band played its encore. Then it played another. And then we went home.

On the way back to town, because there was time for it and because we had already talked at length about Mammoth and Telluride and Goodbred's hike along the trail, we talked about those things that would come after them. All those things we had planned.

I did not have much to report.

And so Goodbred talked about the plasma flow of the universe, and that stuff called dark matter (the proverbial "they" don't know what it is, but they know that it is). He said was excited to go back east—to go back home—and on that, we agreed. He explained why May's solar flares happened the way they did, and about the very impressive and very sudden explosions of magnetic energy that can happen when under the duress of extreme environments.

We laughed. It was on the nose.

I asked him if it ever got overwhelm-

ing—high-order thinking like that, all the time, about capital O capital T, Out There.

He said that it didn't. That there is comfort to be had in math working the same in Lee Vining as it does where the dark matter hides. That, for him, making sense out of life is also how life derives its meaning.

I asked him if it ever got lonely—studying something that we, on Planet Earth, have no intuition about. If it was frustrating, explaining to all the rest of us who cannot understand what, to him, is so apparent.

And he told me that was the point of it all. That to explain is to understand. And the capacity for those things leaves a lot less space for loneliness.

We turned into town, where they had not yet repainted the reflective lines on Meridian Boulevard. In the car, it had become very dark and very quiet. And neither of us were alone.



Por favor complete la encuesta de bienestar del Condado de Mono



Tómese unos minutos para compartir sus pensamientos sobre la salud y el bienestar. Su información ayudará a Salud Publica del Condado de Mono a comprender y atender mejor las necesidades de la comunidad.

¡Gracias!



Utilice el código QR o haga clic en este enlace para realizar la encuesta: <http://encuestadelcondadodemono.org>

Las encuestas en papel también están disponibles en las oficinas del condado.



Please Take Mono County Well-Being Survey



Please take a few minutes to share your thoughts on health and well-being. Your information will help Mono County Public Health better understand and meet community needs.

Thank you!



Please use the QR code or click on this link to take the survey: monocountysurvey.org

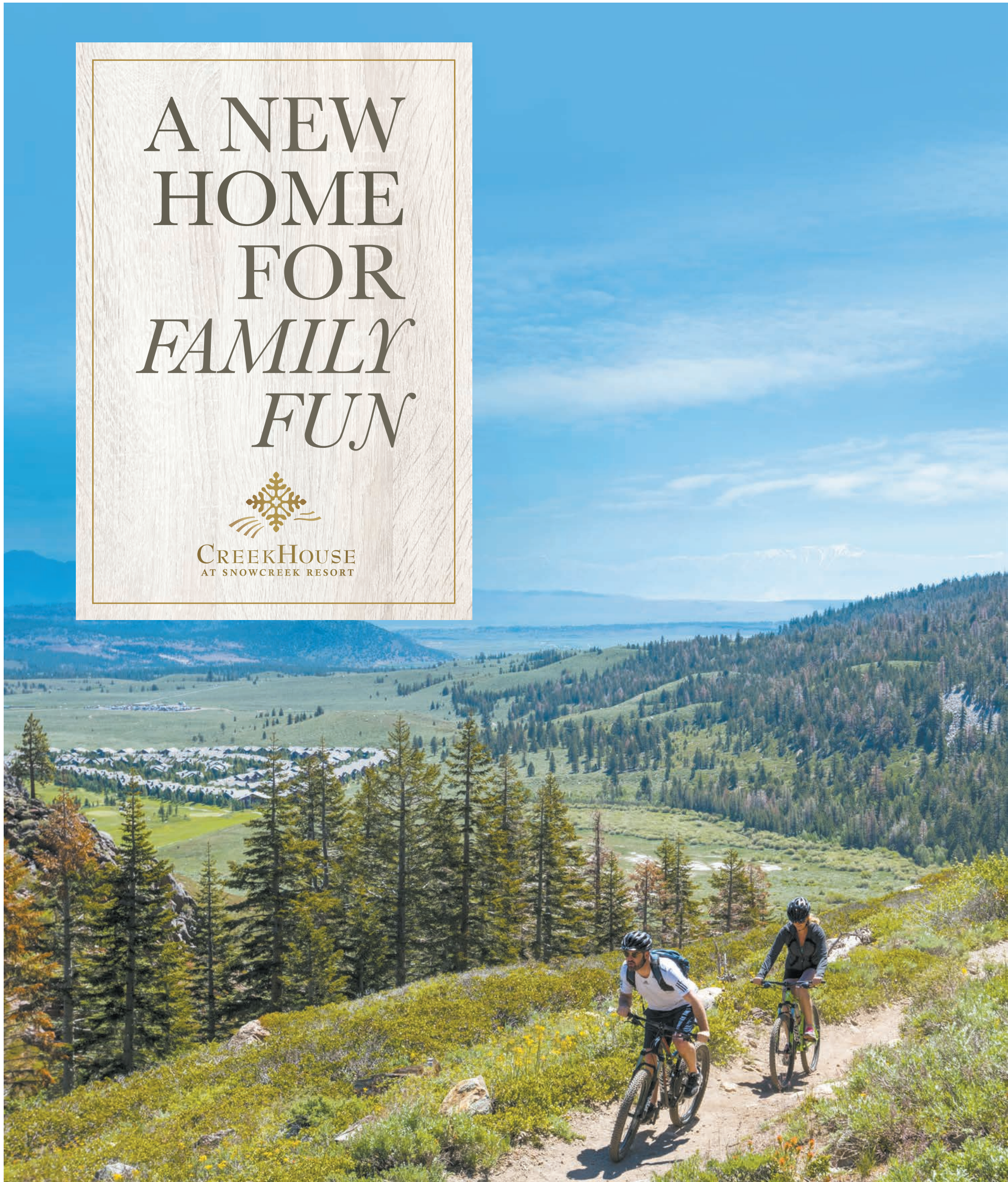
Printed surveys are also available at county offices.



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