

the sheet

News, Views & Culture of the Eastern Sierra



Former Mammoth resident, Alan Jacoby, worked on Kevin Costner's most recent film. Milender's Horizon saga continues page 8.

Saturday, July 13, 2024

FREE

Vol. 22, No. 28

WE HEAR YOU ... SORTA

LADWP feigns interest in tribal water rights

By Jon Klusmire

“We appreciate your input and this presentation; we have listened to your concerns and ideas and we hear you. We can’t do anything right now, but we’ll get back to you to start the ‘conversation’ about what we can and can’t do about your issues. Thank you.”

That, in a paraphrased nutshell, was the gist of the response from the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power Board of Commissioners on July 9 after listening to public comments and a presentation by the Owens Valley Indian Water Commission outlining major issues between the tribes and LADWP and possible actions that could lead to renewed talks and possible solutions.

While members of the public asked the commission to essentially overhaul its entire approach to land and water management in the Owens Valley, the OVIWC’s Teri Red Owl’s presentation focused on restarting negotiations to transfer water rights that were promised to three Owens Valley tribes when their reservations were created in 1939. She also stressed the need for more adjoining LADWP land to be provided to each reservation.

Alluding to longstanding legal and political realities in Los Angeles that have vexed Owens Valley residents for decades, the commissioners made no promises past being willing to listen and restart a dialogue with each individual tribe.

The LADWP commissioners noted it was rare for them to host a presentation by an “outside group,” such as the OVIWC, so just being on the official agenda and in the commission meeting room could

be considered a success.

But the response from the commission fell far short of the more far-reaching demands, requests and pleas made by members of the public. Numerous speakers said the newly seated LADWP commissioners had a historic opportunity to reset the relationship between the Owens Valley tribes and LADWP. Indeed, several speakers said, the agency had a moral obligation to try and right historic wrongs created by its purchase of land and water rights in the Owens Valley, construction of the Los Angeles Aqueduct and continued export of the valley’s water to Los Angeles.

In broader terms, speakers said the LADWP should adopt

more sustainable environmental policies and procedures in the Owens Valley and eventually phase out water exports from the Owens Valley in favor of “local sources” of water in the LA region from groundwater basins, stricter conservation measures, recycling water and wastewater and other measures.

Many of those talking points were outlined in a fairly aggressive social media outreach effort by the OVIWC, the Friends of the Inyo and other environmental and tribal advocates and organizations. The PR campaign turned out a group of mostly Los Angeles and Southern California advocates

more LADWP, pg. 13

FEELIN' GIDDY



It was about the hats at last weekend's Giddy Up Festival at the Village at Mammoth.

A BOOM IN BLOOMS

By Paige Fisher

Just before the July 4 holiday, a group of recreationists went to the Bridgeport Reservoir to escape the sweltering heat – only to break out in rashes soon thereafter, Louis Molina, Mono County’s environmental health director, announced recently.

Now, cautionary signs at the shoreline warn beachgoers not to enter the water. The group’s ailments were presumably caused by a toxin released by a surplus of algae in freshwater lakes, he said.

Cyanobacteria, also known as blue-green algae, are a typical element of freshwater ecosystems, according to the EPA. However, with excess heat and nutrients, the microbes multiply rapidly and produce cyanotoxins, which are harmful to humans, pets and wildlife.

Exposure to cyanotoxins can cause gastrointestinal illness and skin infections in people, said Raymond Ho, Managing Director at the California Poison Control Systems in San Francisco.

“If you happen to be swimming in [the contaminated water] or even swallowing it, it can be quite irritating,” he says. “It’s sort of like an allergic reaction; people get hives and itching.”

Dogs and children, who are smaller and tend to ingest more water while submerged in water, are more vulnerable to these toxins than adults, Molina said.

In September, 2019, the state passed a bill requiring the State Water Board to develop a program to monitor and alert Californians of blooms.

That program reported sightings of algal blooms in Grant Lake, June Lake, Gull Lake, Silver Lake, Diaz Lake and Millpond last week, though no advisory has been made yet

to limit beach access for those locations.

The Marina and Hilton Bay areas of Crowley Lake have also habitually become inundated with algal blooms, Molina said.

“It happens pretty much every year,” he continued. “It’s just a matter of time until they identify the toxin level in those areas and then they’ll post those caution signs and maybe even go with high warning signs if we get high toxicity levels.”

The Sheet first reported on Crowley Lake’s harmful algal blooms in August 2021, just two years after the program was initially developed. The county strongly discouraged visitors from going in the water in any capacity after a person allegedly died from ingesting the contaminated water.

There are varying degrees of danger posed by cyanotoxins.

On one end of the spectrum, the county may advise swimmers to use their judgment and avoid suspicious water. On the opposite side, they may restrict all swimming, fishing and boating.

When sampling, scientists either scoop a water sample from clumps of algae in the water or scrape a sample from the green mats atop rocks, said Carly Nilson, Senior Environmental Scientist at the Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program.

Then they test to see what type of algae the sample is, whether it has produced toxins and the quantity of toxins.

Mammoth Lakes Tourism has not yet made changes or issued advisories in conjunction with their marketing but intends to monitor the situation, Executive Director John Urdi said.

see ALGAE, pg. 5

Book Fest

Chamber Fest

More Horizon saga

Beat the heat

Giant morons

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HOT ENOUGH FOR YA?

By Klusmire

Hundred degree plus for days on end. And what have we learned? Some survival tips and observations.

It's okay to unleash several waves of body odor anytime you go inside a store or restaurant. Everyone who has even trekked across a scorching hot parking lot smells emits an aroma akin to dirty socks and grandpa's underwear. No one will notice.

It's okay to walk into the grocery store ice cream aisle, open a freezer door and stick your head into the freezer and "ponder" which pint, half-gallon or gallon of the wonderous food to buy. Take all the time you need. There are at least three or four freezer doors with ice cream behind them. Look at them all. Look at the prices. Look at the price per ounce. Consider the art, typography and color of the cartons. Take your time. It's a big decision.

Do not be embarrassed when you purchase \$40 worth of food and \$150 dollars of fluid ranging from Gatorade to iced tea to water to juice to fizzy bubble water to milk to oat and soy milk (emergency use only) soda pop to cream to beer. Hydration is task #1, sustenance can come later.

Feel free to revisit your Covid quarantine maneuvers, practices and techniques. Stock up on food, fluids, Netflix, books, magazines, video games and only leave the house when it is absolutely necessary. Addendum: It's perfectly fine to sit in your underwear and drink ice coffee. The mail carrier will understand.

The first choice of a destination if you decide to leave your house is someplace in the Sierra at an elevation of at least 7,000 feet (Mammoth folks can quit gloating and laughing at us sizzling flatlanders in Bishop) with a creek, stream, pond or lake.

If cooking at home strains the swamp cooler, go ahead and eat at local restaurants. Take all the time you need to "study" the menu while basking in industrial-level air conditioning. Order and eat whatever you want regardless of the calorie load. Dancing across the parking lot to keep the red-hot asphalt from melting the soles of your shoes will burn, literally, all the calories you consume and then some.

Don't take your dog for a walk in town so he/she/it can poop. Concrete and asphalt are just too hot. He/she/it can poop on your lawn for the duration of the heat wave. Bonus: you won't have to lug around a little bag of poop in 100-degree weather which makes it, well, shall we say, extra aromatic?

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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Regardless of how hot it gets Crocs are still unacceptable footwear.

Jon Klusmire of Bishop is more than ready to slap anyone asking, "hot enough for ya?"

Thanks to Klusmire for filling in - I was back in New Hampshire gathering the kid from summer camp this past week.

On the trip, managed to attend a Sox game at Fenway. Which is always such a ... there's really no better description for it than a jarring experience for a Sox lifer. It's so different. So urbane.

Because when I first started attending Sox games in the '80s, the place was a dump. Chipped paint. \$6 bleacher seats. Beer mung mixed with human sweat, urine and vomit coating the concrete underneath the wooden seats. Some crazy dude calling out "Waaaaaaaaaaaaade" in inhuman 90-second bursts every time future hall-of-famer Wade Boggs came up to bat.

And now? They still play "Dirty Water" after every Sox win, even if the water isn't dirty in the Charles River anymore. They play Neil Diamond's "Sweet Caroline" in the bottom of the 8th and post the lyrics for the casual fan. The bleacher seats go for a huge multiple - almost \$100 for Yankee games. And the Green Monster is now just a giant billboard plastered with five large ads. And there are two massive scoreboards. And the place is painted. A hot dog will cost you \$9. A beer sets you back \$14. The only thing that feels like old times is the Sox record - good, not great.

They've got talent in the farm system but the wunderkind manager they lucked into hiring several years back, Alex Cora, is on the last year of his contract so it looks like he'll move on next year. Not a good sign. The Sox let another guy go a few years ago who will haunt 'em forever: Mookie Betts.

Oh, and back in the '80s they paid Jim Rice \$8.6 million for his final four-year contract. The highest-paid player on the current roster is Rafael Devers. He signed an 11-year deal beginning last year for \$331 million.

Not Your Grandma's

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LETTERS

Supremely disgusted

Dear Editor:

I wanted to follow up on Mr. Pawlick's letter this past week, concerning the U.S. Supreme Court's recent decision granting absolute immunity to Presidents for "official acts" while in office.

As a member of the California State Bar since 1989, I have never been so appalled, disgusted and disappointed with the Court's composition and many of its decisions.

My consternation began when the Court overruled *Roe vs. Wade* with its decision in *Dobbs*. The issue isn't necessarily whether one agrees with the private decision of a woman to choose or not, but with what these Justices said during their confirmation hearings. We watched live broadcasts of these Justices stating, under oath, that they believed in *stare decisis* ("To stand by things decided") and respect for judicial precedent) and that *Roe* was "settled law." That's what they stated under oath, under penalty of perjury.

What did these esteemed Justices in the highest court in the land do next? They overruled *Roe vs. Wade* at the first opportunity, completely and without exceptions. I wouldn't have as much of a problem with the decision if they had been honest at their confirmation hearings, saying something about legal disagreements with *Roe*, or had they been truly honest and testified under oath that it was simply wrongly decided. But they didn't; they said the opposite,

that *Roe* was "settled law."

Moreover, these same Justices have demonstrated an extraordinary hypocrisy in that they openly consider themselves "textualists" and "strict constructionists" as constitutional scholars and jurists. In theory, they decide matters based only on what the Constitution either says or does not say. Thus, because the Constitution does not explicitly provide for any right to an abortion, or even imply the same under any statutory analysis, there is therefore no such constitutional right.

This, however, brings us to the recent decision granting Presidents absolute immunity for official acts exercising constitutional powers. The Constitution says absolutely NOTHING about presidential immunity. There is no text in the constitution that even vaguely alludes to such immunity, which might be construed in some strained, contorted statutory analysis to provide immunity. The six Justices who agreed with the decision literally created the right to immunity out of thin air.

If anyone doubts this, look to what has been said by the truly esteemed and longtime conservative Federal jurist, John Michael Luttig, who agrees, as well as many other conservative legal analysts.

So much for "textualism" and "strict construction" in the majority's legal, constitutional analysis! It is all so hypocritical, so intellectually dishonest. And conservative legal scholars are equally critical, stunned actually, and very concerned about its future impact; es-

pecially so, because we are confronted with not a hypothetical future President who may break the law while in office, but with the very real prospect of one returning to office.

What's more? Justices Alito and Thomas accepting lucrative gifts from uber-wealthy donor "friends" whose conservative causes have business before the Court. Until they were caught with their hands in the cookie jar, they didn't even report these gifts, raising yet another issue of honesty and transparency.

Every third year law student takes a course in legal ethics. We learn that judges must not engage in improper or unlawful conduct, but also must "avoid even the appearance of impropriety." It's one of the easiest canons to remember for the exam. Everyone in the law knows the rule, and it can never be forgotten. The ethical canon is so simple, yet fundamental to our judicial system and the public's belief in it, but ignored by Alito and Thomas.

The valuable gifts provided to these two Justices were simply improper and should not have been accepted, period. But even if they were not fundamentally improper, they certainly create an "appearance of impropriety." And rather than showing any contrition or even openness to why people have been critical, Alito and Thomas have responded with righteous indignation that anyone would have the temerity to question their conduct.

Indeed, they have publicly expressed the position that they are not subject

to criticism or review by the legislative branch. That may be true with our narrowly but deeply divided Congress, but what has happened to the system of "checks and balances" in our tripartite government that we all studied in civics class? Their conduct should be subject to review and censure; they too are not above the law. Impeachment is the answer, but that will never happen.

As a final comment on this Court, the controlling block of Justices all come from legal circles that believe prior Courts were "activist" in nature. It is difficult to recall any recent Court compositions that have been more ideologically extreme and openly activist in its decisions. This Court rules the way it wishes regardless of precedent. Never before has the Court actually removed or taken away a formerly held Constitutional right, as it did in *Roe*. Not even with the infamous *Dred Scott* decision did the Court take a constitutional right away; there, it held that people of African descent didn't have rights or standing before the courts, abhorrent a concept as that is.

To emphasize the legally obnoxious and hypocritical nature of the current majority of this Court, it has ruled that President Biden does not have the executive power to forgive student loan debt (the powers of the purse residing with Congress), but the President does have the power to commit crimes and engage in corruption with absolute immunity.

Go figure.

see LETTERS, page 5

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LETTERS

continued from page 4

As an attorney who took an oath to uphold the Constitution, the laws of the state of California, and of the land, this is a depressing state of affairs. It's no surprise that the public's opinion of the Court is at an all-time nadir. Nothing will change, either, for years to come.

Daniel J. O'Connell
Mammoth Lakes

E-Bikes, E-Yikes

Dear Community Members and Town Council, (and The Sheet)

There is a new epidemic. It is that of the e-bikes. They are dangerous on the pedestrian walkways and there seems to be limited or absolutely NO rules for their recklessness, nor any consequences for accidents.

Recently there have been at least two incidents publicly posted, and who knows how many private ones not brought to media attention.

Could you look into this problem of reckless e-bikes? Could you adopt a rule with fines and consequences to those cluelessly riding on pedestrian paths at too high of a speed, without the awareness of other folks and pets (and children) on the path. This MUST be looked into to avoid a fatal collision. It is literally an accident waiting to happen.

Please do not ignore as the police department seems to shove this under the proverbial rug. Yes, there are more pressing issues. Until it happens to you. An acquaintance of mine was informed that

e-bikes are not considered motorized (really?) and that there are no consequence for operating them under the influence, nor is it an investigative problem if it becomes a hit and run.

I am fearful for our walkways, for the elderly, the runners, the casual walkers, the babies, the children, the pets, and myself. Aren't you concerned if it was/is YOU or one of your family members that gets clobbered?

Trish James
Mammoth Lakes

Milender's Farewell

Dear Editor,

I had just finished being wowed by Ms. Milender's story on her astrophysicist friend and thought, "Geesh, she has talent." Alas, shortly thereafter I picked up the subsequent issue and read she's moving on. Well, crud.

That particular piece was emblematic: While I can no longer empathize with the trials, tribulations and successes of 20-somethings, I can still very much appreciate a great story, beautifully told.

Ted, you've recruited and nurtured some fine talent over the years, much to our benefit. Ms. Milender is surely among the very best of those. All good wishes on her next steps.

Christopher Meyers
Crowley

ALGAE

continued from page 1

"At this point we have not heard or seen any effect on visitation and imagine we won't move forward unless something happens to shine an even brighter light on it," he stated in an email. "I think people visiting may see it as an inconvenience"

The state does not have a long enough data record to assess whether the contamination has trended worse over the years because the program is so new, Nilson said.

Lots of things can affect the temperature or nutrient load of a lake, and consequently, it's susceptibility to algal blooms, she said. If a lake is proximate to cattle, for example, phosphorus and nitrogen from cow waste can trickle into the water source and fuel the blooms.

Alpine lakes, often more remote and

colder than lower altitude lakes, might be more protected from these environmental factors, she said. But even they have some evidence of toxic contamination.

The monitoring effort is reliant on both science and community partnership to develop an understanding of how these blooms may affect public health, said Nilson.

"The public really are our eyes and ears to kind of pinpoint where we should be focusing our energy," she said.

People can submit photos of potential algae blooms to the Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program to identify potential problem sites, she said. Community groups such as Friends of June lake also help crowdsource information.



XXX

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LOCAL NEWS

GO ASK ALES, I THINK HE'LL KNOW

By Carly Bell

A primary item of interest at the Mammoth Lakes Town Council meeting of July 3 was a presentation by Mammoth Lakes Fire Protection District Chief Ales Tomaier on the upcoming November 2024 ballot. This tax measure, created by the MLFPD Board of Commissioners, would tax homeowners \$98 per parcel, generating \$925,000 annually to support and stabilize the MLFPD's activities and operations.

This includes wildfire protection programs that focus on chipping, brush cutting, and fuel breaks, as well as increasing the summer firefighter staff during peak wildfire season. The MLFPD also hopes to assist residents and seniors in taking down problematic trees surrounding their homes (by licensed professionals!) and attending to dangerous heavy snowfall conditions. The funds from this measure would go solely to the MLFPD, administered by an independent citizens' oversight committee. None of the funds would be diverted to the State, Mono County, or the Town. There is an exemption from the tax for low income seniors 65+.

Chief Tomaier stressed the need for this ballot measure as regional wildfire risk is increasing whilst the regional capacity to deal with the risk is decreasing. He says the community is currently "underinsured" when it comes to Mammoth's unique vulnerability to wildfires, earthquakes, and propane explosions, and the MLFPD needs more funding and support. A main issue he identified is response time when it comes to unexpected fires that are wind-driven or in the middle of the night. The MLFPD is a "combination department," depending on part-time volunteer staff to respond to calls each hour and over 900 emergencies per year. Firefighters from other regions are oft-impressed by how the MLFPD balances such large responsibility with its limited resources. Chief Tomaier wants to increase public understanding of the operations of the MLFPD, including being the first line of defense for wildfires and the second ambulance available in town. He says 60% of what the department does is medical and responding to 9-1-1 emergencies. All in all, these are the reasons presented for the fire protections ballot measure in November 2024.

In other Council news ... July 2024 was proclaimed as Parks and Recreation Month. The department offers various summer programming including summer camps, community sport tournaments, swimming, and the Rec Zone. Mayor Sauser highlighted how these programs are necessary for the town's youth.

The Office of Outdoor Recreation provided an update on the SHARP (Sherwin's Area Recreation Plan) trails, saying after 10 years in the making, this plan has turned into a project in conjunction with the forest service. The SHARP trails plan entails the construction of

20 miles of single track trails spanning west to east, from the Lakes Basin to the Sherwin meadows and Sherwin campground. An interdisciplinary team made up of a grantee and specialists in archaeology, biology, hydrology, tribal relations, and recreation visited the site of the project on June 20 to identify potential roadblocks. Next steps include survey work, redesigning routes, vetting their proposed action, and implementing the plan as early as April 2025 and a trailhead in early September 2025.

Mayor Sauser and Councilmember John Wentworth stressed the need for the new trails to be recognized as U.S. forest system trails, otherwise the town is not allowed to maintain them and the Measure R funds available to support the project will not be triggered.

Council also passed a motion to amend the Community Development Block Grant Programs (CDBG) grant for the Access Apartments project on Sierra Manor Road. This amendment is to increase the CDBG award by \$4.1 million, totaling 7 million, in order to eliminate a second grant and therefore reduce the layering of funds required to get the project moving forward.

Eastern Sierra Community Housing (formerly Mammoth Lakes Housing) was named Nonprofit of the Year for California Senate District 4. California Senator Marie Alvarado-Gil made the final selection.

The Town's 40th anniversary celebration will be held Saturday, August 24th at Mammoth Creek Park from 12-4pm, hosted by Parks and Recreation with the motto, "Celebrate the past, build for the future." A new town seal will be unveiled at the celebration.



Patricia Robertson of Eastern Community Housing with Senator Alvarado-Gil (center) and Mono Supervisor Jennifer Kreitz (left)



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ARTS

ARE YOU UNBOUND BOUND?

Chamber music festival opens Wednesday
Press Release

For Cellist Brian Schuldt and Violinist Rebecca Hang, classical music is an ever-changing pop pourri of culture and thought. They are members of the locally-based Felici Trio and organizers of the 2024 Unbound Chamber Music Festival.

The pair have crafted a two-week set list that seeks to meld cultures, draw from obscure legends, and call on familiar anthems. They have enlisted a group of prestigious peers to perform alongside them at Cerro Coso College on Wednesday and Friday nights as well as Sunday afternoons from July 17 through July 28.

“We try to really combine the well-known and the well-loved with the unusual and the new,” Hang said. “We put together programs that relate in terms of musical content, but also in terms of outer musical content to one another.”

The festival highlights chamber music, a classical form which dates back to 1650 and involves small groups of players each assigned to a unique part. Chamber music can manifest as two people playing the same piano or take shape as a small, conductor-free orchestra.

The Festival is a perennial event, first held in 2001, and having survived a brief setback during the Covid pandemic.

The couple’s process for crafting a diverse program begins with compiling a list of their own favorite tunes and those favored by their colleagues.

Some of these songs are identifiable to the general public, such as pieces by Schubert, Bach or Mozart. Others, though, are artifacts of forgotten history.

For example, “Piano Quintet in A Minor” is a piece by Florence Price, an African-American composer, organist and pianist from Chicago whose repertoire was rediscovered in the last eight years. That piece, which is tinged with jazz and blues influences, is scheduled to play on July 19.

Another, which is scheduled to play July 26, is an uncharted work by British-

American composer Rebecca Clark.

The theory behind the program is aligned with Hang and Schuldt’s teaching pedagogy in that music can be an educational experience to understand one’s self and surroundings.

“Some of what inspired these composers to write the music in the first place needs to remain, we believe, in our societal conversation about how we live in the world,” Hang said.

The parent organization to the festival, Chamber Music Unbound, is invested in creating educational opportunities in schools in the Eastern Sierra.

They provide instruments, lessons and award scholarships.

Drawing big-name musicians to the Eastern Sierra is part of that scholastic mission, exposing new patrons to a type of music they may have never otherwise discovered, Hang said.

“If you open your heart and your

mind to this new experience, you’ll love it because it is music that is very communicative,” she said. “It wants to communicate and it seeks the connection with the listener.”

The musicians, who will arrive in Mammoth on July 15, hail from around the world. Clarinetist Ron Sekla plays in the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra and Cellist Mark Votapek is a principal player in the Hawaii Symphony.

Many of the players are returners, acquainted with Hang and Schuldt from their student days at Indiana University in Bloomington. A few of the musicians, though, are newcomers to the festival, experiencing the mountain landscape for the first time.

“It turned out to be a great combination because these are artists that are right now sweltering in southern California or on the east coast in the humidity,” Hang said. “It’s still warm of course, but to breathe cool mountain air and see the lakes, it’s been a really great getaway for our artists too.”

Tickets are available online at a range of prices. Seniors and students are eligible for discounts.

*More info, see d p. 6

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”

-Rebecca Hang

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HORIZON: CHAPTER TWO

Catching up with former Mammoth resident Alan Jacoby

By Milender

Last week, The Sheet reviewed Kevin Costner's latest venture into the western genre—the first installment of a four-part saga, *Horizon: An American Saga - Chapter 1*.

And last week, the Mammoth Channel's Dan McConnell informed The Sheet that former Mammoth resident, Alan Jacoby, was the "A" camera operator of the film. That's industry lingo for the primary lens on a shot.

But long before Jacoby was working behind the scenes of big-budget Hollywood films—what he calls "pictures"—he was a newspaper man.

While studying at UC Santa Barbara (UCSB) as an undergrad, he started at the school paper as a photojournalist, covering news and sports.

"I realized I might want to do it," remembers Jacoby. "Photography, I mean."

After UCSB, he went onto what was formerly known as the Brooks Institute of Photography in Montecito. There, he started to entertain the idea of a career in entertainment, hoping to find work as "a stills guy"—the crew member on a film set responsible for capturing still photos to be used for

the publicity and marketing of the production.

And by the early aughts, Jacoby had landed on sets for such projects as *Baywatch*, the war drama *Windtalkers*, and *Star Trek: Nemesis*. But, his focus had changed. Literally.

"I enjoyed the cinematography," he says—the actual making of the movie more than the photographing of what the movie was doing. I fell in love with the opportunity to move the camera to help tell the story."

The next few years—"the olden days," says Jacoby—would be spent coming through the ranks as an equipment loader and assistant cameraman before cinching some of his own cinematography credits.

The Sheet asked Jacoby what lengths he had gone to in his career to move that camera more effectively as to tell the story at hand.

He recounted helicopter flights over Serbia. Rock climbing expeditions. "Underwater stuff." Going to jail for stuffing someone into a large, fake cake to crash the Playboy Mansion (beneath the frosting was not cake, however, but empty Gatorade bottles, in which the stow-away could relieve himself).

But what kept Jacoby in the industry, through all of it, was the camaraderie on set. What he calls "the family away from family aspect." There's great loyalty on the production side of Hollywood, says Jacoby. You stick with the same crew because you know each other's shorthand.

"On this picture, Costner urged Jacoby to include his actual family in production. The cinematographer's two daughters appear as extras in the film."

"It helps that I've had great mentors," says Jacoby. "I got introduced to a lot of great people early on."

One of those people was Jimmy Miro, who serves as the Director of Photography on Costner's saga.

According to Jacoby, Miro was one of the first Steadicam operators (a type of camera mount that allows enhanced stabilization for tracking shots) and has film credits on several Oscar-winning titles—*Titanic*, *Crash*, and *A Few Good Men* to name a few. Miro has also worked with Costner previously on *Dances with Wolves* and *Open Range*.

For Jacoby, it was the first time working with the Hollywood mainstay.

"It was a dream," he says. "Kevin's humble and soft spoken. A pleasure to be around. Never riled up, always even-keeled."

He's a gentleman, says Jacoby of Costner—who serves as the franchise's mustachioed star, as well as its director and bootstrapping producer.

He's a filmmaker, too, who sees the value in paying homage to the films of old.

According to Jacoby, much of the film's pre-production revolved around location scouting for those landscapes best suited to seat the action of its plot.

"One of the goals is that the landscapes and the locations are like a character," says Jacoby. "A lot of the picture is paying tribute to the John Wayne westerns; to Sergio Leone. Those classic 60s films."

Several locations in Moab and St. George, Utah, were chosen for *Horizon* because of their prior features in "quintessential Western" films.

Everything down to the cinematic ratio of the widescreen was considered. According to Jacoby, the modern standard in filmmaking is to use a 2:39:1 aspect ratio—a "skinnier" frame. *Horizon* uses a 1:85:1—a ratio more common to older films, and one that gets "more top and bottom... lets you see more of the world, out there."

And, says Jacoby, if you pay close enough attention to how the movie is shot, there's a stillness to it. An intentionality given to the changing movement of the camera. He says that Costner, as a director, prefers "quiet cameras." In other words, cinematic style in which movement is dictated by the story.

"We're not just moving the camera around because it looks cool," says Jacoby. "We want the camera in the right spot to tell the story the way it needs to be told... And we move it when a line is poignant. Or to help make a moment more impactful. Everything we do—everything—is story driven."

And what that kind of style requires, says Jacoby, is clear communication amongst himself, Miro, Costner, and the other crew. And then everything else has to go right. Actors have to nail their lines. Wardrobe can't malfunction. The familial level of camaraderie kicks in. Everyone has to work "on the same wavelength."

But for Jacoby, that's the very thing he likes about operating.

"It's how I get my kicks," he says. "To be there in the moment with everyone working. To be there in the moment with the actors... They're in the middle of a scene. They're delivering the performance of their life. And I'm right there, capturing it just five or six feet away."

When you cut, you just look at each other, and you both know 'Oh yeah, we got that. Yeah, we got that.'"

When The Sheet spoke to Alan Jacoby, the cast and crew had recently wrapped the first few weeks of filming for *Horizon: An American Saga - Chapter 3*. According to the cinematographer, they are set to return to filming at the end of August.

On Wednesday, it was announced that *Horizon: An American Saga - Chapter 2* would be pulled from its intended August 16 theatrical release.

Said a spokesperson from the film's studio, New Line Cinema, the decision was made, "in order to give audiences a greater opportunity to discover the first installment of *Horizon* over the coming weeks."

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WHISTLE WHILE YOU READ

Book Festival returns July 20

By Milender

On Saturday, July 20, the Southern Mono Historical Society and independent media outlet Whistling Rabbit Press will once again host the annual Eastern Sierra Book Festival. The festival, held at the Hayden Cabin Museum, will run all day with books for sale—new and used—a speaker series, book signings, vendor booths, and no shortage of local writing talent.

It's a project that, for the past 7 years, has championed regional writers and their readership. It's a project that, like any good invention, was borne out of necessity.

Jennifer Crittenden, founder of the festival, studied linguistics as an undergrad at Indiana University, but cut her teeth in finance for the better part of 25 years. It was at the tail end of that career—after, says her son, she “clawed her way to the top—that Crittenden got her start as an author. She began writing books about her experience as a woman in the industry.

Her earliest works, *The Discreet Guide for Executive Women: How to Work Well with Men (and Other Difficulties)*, *You, Not I: Exceptional Presence Through the Eyes of Others*, and *What's a Guy to Do?: How to Work with Women* are more or less field guides for how both and women can better navigate corporate America and the interpersonal dynamics that exist within it.

The Discreet Guide, as Crittenden's first foray into writing, was driven from what she saw as an overwhelming need to bolster women in business, especially those who had achieved higher echelon roles but were falling just short of the C-Suite.

There was misogyny. A lack of what Crittenden calls “soft skills” amongst her female colleagues for how to manage it. An illusory top wrung, for women, at the top of the ladder.

Ironically, when Crittenden went to find an agent to publish the guide in 2012, she encountered the heavy editorial hand of the large publishing houses. That, to sell her book may require selling some of her own agency as a writer along with it.

So, she went out on her own. Started Whistling Rabbit Press.

“Because I could, right?” said Crittenden. “After all, I knew something about business.”

It was in 2014 that the author and her family moved up to Mammoth, after having commuted from San Diego for some years.

“I was supposed to be writing a book about sports language in the workplace when I got [here]. I have a fascination with idioms and language because of my linguistics background” said Crittenden. “But instead, I started writing about moving to Mammoth and discovering the history of the place. The geology. The bears. The people. I started writing these letters home, and then was encouraged to turn those into a book. Which I did.”

What came out of those discoveries was Crittenden's epistolary work, *Mammoth Letters: Running Away to a Mountain Town*—winner of The National

Indie Excellence Award in Regional Non-Fiction (West) in 2018.

What soon followed was the first iteration of the Eastern Sierra Book Festival.

The year *Mammoth Letters* hit shelves, Crittenden had made a donation to the Southern Mono Historical Society. The size of that contribution granted her an event at the society's location at Hayden Cabin.

“So my thought was to do a book launch at the cabin, under the tent, under the Temple of Folly,” she says. “But the more I thought about it, the less I wanted to have this sad, little event with 3 people. And then, the more I thought about it, the more I wanted to have an event open to all of the local authors. I wanted to just get everybody together, and celebrate books, and writing, and publishing. All of it.”

So she reached out to Robert Joki. President of the Southern Mono Historical Society, and described by Crittenden as her “partner in crime.” Joki, on behalf of SMHS, donates the Hayden Cabin property as the space for the festival, each year. Whistling Rabbit Press pays for what happens on top of it.

“It's really important to me that the event be free for authors who can get taken advantage of in the spaces of non-traditional and self publishing” says Crittenden, who promotes local writers through social media exposure prior to the festival, and hosts an “Author Variety Show” the day of the event to showcase individual work on the festival stage.

According to Crittenden, for the first time in the festival's history, this year's schedule will include a “Meet the Author” event where writers can engage with readers about their process, and sign copies of their work for sale.

This year will also feature a panel on



Jennifer K. Crittenden.

recently published, *The Pupfish Hero*—a children's book and true story of the scientist that saved the species with a five-gallon bucket in nearby Death Valley.

In addition to newly-minted works, Crittenden promises “a whole basement full of used books for sale—either very cheap, or to be given away.”

A percentage of books sold gets kicked back to the Historical Society, as a way to support the organization and its museum.

But the chief ambition for this year, says Crittenden, is to draw more young readers and writers to the festival; to encourage them to read about their home, and to tell those stories that come from within it.

Crittenden and The Sheet talked at

length about the need for a writing community in Mammoth. The current lack of it. How that might be remedied.

“Writing, well, I guess it's just a part of being human. And the thing about people is that people often have fascinating lives, and a story to tell. I don't think that's something that's appreciated by today's publishing industry,” said Crittenden.

She considered works like Steve Searles' *What the Bears Know* and Claude Fiddler's *Inside the High Sierra*. There's what Robin Morning did with *Tracks of Passion*.

“Publishing [houses] want to publish famous people, or MFAs,” said Crittenden. “That's not necessarily the people here. But we do, still, have a community with stories to tell, and stories that count.”

This year, says Crittenden, the festival will host a literary agent for the first time in its 7 years. There will also be writing sources available for those storytellers that are new to the craft.

Writing, says Crittenden, is a practiced skill. The finding and telling of compelling narratives, sometimes, is not easy.

“But this festival,” she says “it's not a lofty thing. First, it's about the books, right? Next, it's about the authors. Then the third thing is, well, supporting people who are interested in having those books; in becoming those authors.”



Mammoth Community Water District

Level 0

2024 WATERING SCHEDULE

SPRINKLER TIMES: 1 a.m. - 11 a.m. & 4 p.m. - 11 p.m.

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EVEN Address		X		X	X		X
ODD Address	X		X		X	X	

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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.

Friday, July 12/ Fiddlin' Pete at the Twin Lakes Gallery outdoor stage. Fiddlin' Pete will be fiddlin' from 6-8:30 p.m.

July 12-13/ Mammoth Jazzfest for two nights @ the Village at Mammoth. Info: mammothmountain.com
June Lake Jam Fest Artists Preshow. Joe Marcinek with Groove Sessions's Sanchez Brothers play Liberty in Mammoth. For more info on Preshows and the Jam Fest itself, see ad p. 13

Saturday, July 13/ Party on the Mountain in June Lake. Music, BBQ and beer. Starts 2:30 p.m. Info: mammothmountain.com
Live music & food @ Twin Lakes Resort. Josh Budro goes on at 3:00 p.m.

Tuesday, July 16/ Rockin' Rocky's All Star Jam Sessions @ The Gallery at Twin Lakes, recurring weekly on Tuesdays. Time: 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Wednesday, July 17/ Trivia @ Main Street Pizza. Starts 6:30 p.m.
Eddy Evans plays the Liberty patio starting 4 p.m.

July 19-July 21/ Mammoth Reggae Festival 2024 @ The Village. Live reggae, art vendors, shopping, food & drink. Free for all ages. No tix necessary. Starts 6:00 p.m.

TOWN STUFF

Friday, July 12/ Friday Night Fun @ Bishop Country Club Golf Course. Every Friday thro

Saturday, July 13/ Stories Set in Stone Interpretive Hike in Lee Vining's Bennetville mine. Explore the historic mine and get an up-close and personal view into the geology of the Eastern Sierra. 2-3 miles round trip. Meet at Junction Campground day use lot. Time: 9:00 a.m. to noon.
Artists and Ice Cream Fundraiser in Lee Vining's Solar Pavilion and Hess Park. Painting, pottery, leather work, beading, and a whole lot of ice cream. For more details, and to register as an artist, visit <https://www.monobasinhistory.org>

Sunday, July 14/ Celebration of Life for Robin Thompson @ Hayden Cabin in Mammoth. Time: 2-6 p.m.
Mono Lake County Park Bird Tour @ 8:00 a.m. Join a naturalist-guided tour through wetlands, willows, and sagebrush. The 1.5-2 hour tour is appropriate for all age groups. Meet at

TOWN STUFF

the Lundy Lake Boat Ramp.
Paddling at June with Disabled Sports Eastern Sierra. Join DSES on June Lake Beach for a variety of adaptive water activities to enjoy the sunshine. Visit <https://disablesportseasternsierra.org/upcoming-events/for details>.

Monday, July 15/ Special Southern Mono Hospital Board meeting as the new construction project is discussed in detail. Time: Noon. Location: Mammoth Hospital conference room.

Tuesday, July 16/ Volunteer Eastern Sierra's "Not Your Grandma's Bingo" moves to Lakanuki this month. Registration starts at 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, July 17/ Mammoth's Town Council meets. Time: 4 p.m. Location:

TOWN STUFF

Suite Z, Minaret Mall or online via townofmammothlakes.ca.gov.

July 17-28/ Chamber Music Unbound Festival kicks off and runs through the 28th. First week features Debussy, Bach, Mozart & more. Location: Cerro Coso College. For more details and tix visit chambermusicunbound.org. See page 6 for story.

Friday, July 19/ Artist reception at C5 Studios. Fiber Artist Roberta Lagomarsini presents work. Time: 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, July 20/ Eastern Sierra Book Festival will be at the Hayden Cabin all day with books, new and used, speakers, games, drinks, music, vendor booths, the Author Variety Show, and more!



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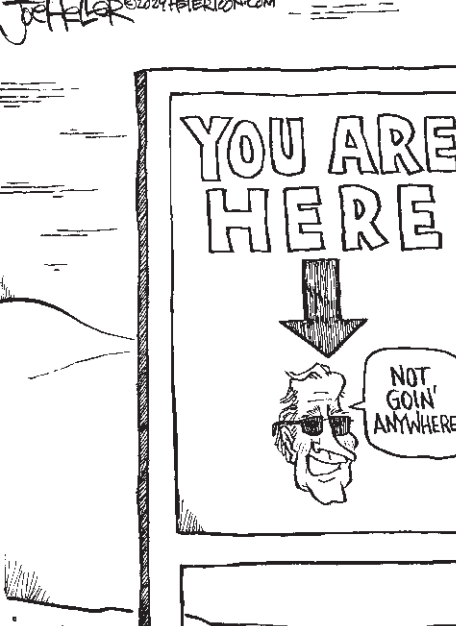
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Maintenance Supervisor needed to manage a small maintenance team at the Double Eagle Resort & Spa in June Lake. You will be responsible for ensuring the smooth running of upkeep and repair. Must be reliable, have technical skills and knowledge of various 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

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

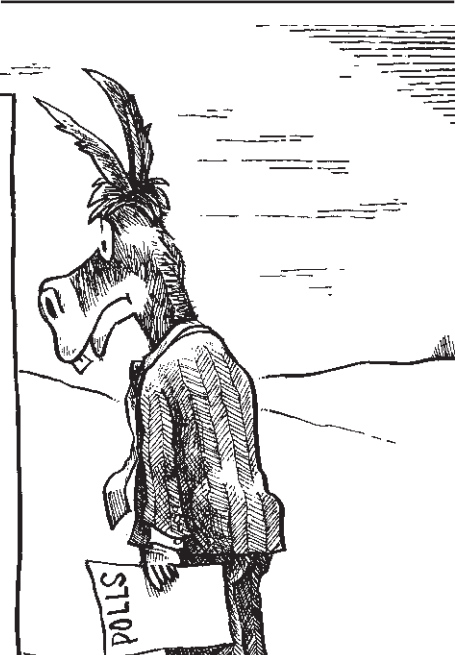
techniques. The job includes desk work and fieldwork. Responsibilities include supervising Air Monitoring Technicians and overseeing the complex and varied functions of the monitoring division, as well as coordinating the activities of the division with other divisions and outside agencies. The incumbent is accountable for accomplishing divisional planning, successful operations, and working towards District goals and objectives within general policy guidelines.

For a complete job description, including required qualifications, and instructions on how to apply, please visit www.gbuapcd.org/employment or <https://gbuapcd.bamboohr.com/careers>. Applications must be received by 3 pm on Wednesday, July 17, 2024.



MAMMOTH COMMUNITY WATER DISTRICT Operations Department is currently recruiting for one permanent **Wastewater Treatment Plant Chief Operator** position.

FOR APPLICATION INFORMATION/ TO APPLY: Please see the District website <https://mcwd.dst.ca.us/employment/>.



PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice of Ordinance

ORD 24-006. ORDINANCE OF THE MONO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ADDING CHAPTER 1.14 (ADMINISTRATIVE SUBPOENAS) TO THE MONO COUNTY CODE.

WHEREAS, administrative subpoenas would be an effective means for the county to obtain testimony, documents and other items relevant to determining whether a county regulation has been violated;

WHEREAS, the Mono County Code does not currently authorize the use of administrative subpoenas in connection with the county's investigations of alleged violations of county regulations;

WHEREAS, Mono County desires to amend Title 1 (General Provisions) of the Mono County Code to add a new chapter under which the County Administrative Officer, or his or her designee, may direct that administrative subpoenas be issued requiring the production of records, items and/or testimony pertinent to investigations of alleged violation of county regulations under the Mono County Code.

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

SECTION ONE: Title 1 of the Mono County Code is hereby amended to add Chapter 1.14 which reads as set forth in Exhibit "A" attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.

SECTION TWO: The Board of Supervisors finds, pursuant to Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, Section 15378(b)(5), that this ordinance is exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in that it is a governmental, organizational or administrative activity that will not result in direct or indirect changes in the environment.

SECTION THREE: If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid, such decision or decisions shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance. The Board of Supervisors hereby declares that it would have passed this ordinance, and each section, subsection, sentence, clause and phrase thereof irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses or phrases be declared invalid.

SECTION FOUR: This ordinance shall become effective 30 days from the date of its adoption and final passage, which appears immediately below. The Clerk of the

Notice of Ordinance

Board of Supervisors shall post this ordinance and also publish the ordinance in the manner prescribed by Government Code section 625124 no later than 15 days after the date of its adoption and final passage. If the Clerk fails to publish this ordinance within said 15-day period, then the ordinance shall not take effect until 30 days after the date of publication.

PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED this 2nd day of July 2024, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES: Supervisors Duggan, Gardner, Kreitz, Peters, and Salcido.
NOES: None.
ABSENT: None.
ABSTAIN: None.

John Peters Chair, Mono County Board of Supervisors
ATTEST: Clerk of the Board, Danielle Patrick
APPROVED AS TO FORM: County Counsel Chris Beck

Appendix "A"

Chapter 1.14 ADMINISTRATIVE SUBPOENAS

Administrative Subpoena. The CAO, or his or her designee, shall have the authority to request that county counsel subpoena persons to require the production of books, papers, records or other relevant items and to compel their attendance and testimony at hearings.

Any administrative subpoena issued pursuant to this section shall be submitted in writing by the county attesting that the county has reasonable belief of a violation of a county regulation as defined in Section 1.12.010(b) and must be related to a specific investigation by the county alleging specific violation of a county regulation.

The response must be received within 15 days, or a longer period upon mutual agreement of the parties. Failure to comply with such subpoena shall be punishable as a misdemeanor pursuant to Section 1.04.060, and enforceable by any means authorized by law.

TS #2024-0110

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Wednesday, July 24, 2024, beginning at 9:00 a.m. and continuing until finished, at the Town Council Chambers, Suite Z within the Minaret Village Shopping Center, 437 Old Mammoth Road, the Mammoth Lakes Planning & Economic Development Commission will hear an application request for the following:

Application Request: The 'Snowcreek VIII – Phase I' development application includes a Tentative Tract Map (TTM) 23-002 and Use Permit (UPA) 23-003 for a proposed residential condominium subdivision comprised of 159 condominium units within 41 buildings.

The proposed development will be broken into three sub-phases (Snowcreek VIII - Phase(s) 1A, 1B, & 1C). The Phase 1 tentative map area has a total size of 107.06 acres consisting of 15.42-acres of Residential area (TM 09-02 Lots 1, 2, & 3) and 91.63-acres of Recreation area intended for the future expansion of the Snowcreek golf course (TM 09-02 Lots 17 & 18). Development of the Residential area will include: (1) subdivision of Lots 1, 2, and 3 of TM 09-02 for residential condominium purposes; (2) construction of the road and multi-use path network for Phase I; (3) completion of all required subdivision improvements (i.e., utilities, stormwater management, etc.).

Construction of the actual residential units will require approval of a subsequent use permit and design review application prior to the commencement of construction. Development of the Recreation area is limited to the installation of stormwater retention basins and recycled water pond(s) for landscape irrigation purposes. No additional development of the Recreation area is proposed as a part of this application.

CEQA Determination: The proposed action is within the scope of the project analyzed in the previously certified Snowcreek VIII, Snowcreek Master Plan Update 2007 Environmental Impact Report (EIR) (SCH #2006112015). No additional CEQA review is required.

Location: Lots 1, 2, 3, 17, and 18 and Lots A – G of Tract Map 2009-002 (Snowcreek VIII). Located south of Old Mammoth Road between Fairway Drive and Sherwin Creek Road
Zoning: Resort (R) – Snowcreek Master Plan Update (2007)

Proponent: Snowcreek Investment Company II LLC (Applicant / Property Owner)
Project Information Webpage: <https://www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov/1236/Snowcreek-VIII>

All persons having an interest in the proposed application request may appear before the Planning & Economic Development Commission either in person or represented by counsel and present testimony or may, prior to said hearing, file with the Executive Secretary 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 the Town of Mammoth Lakes at, or prior to, the public hearing. For additional information, or to obtain a copy of the staff report which will be published no later than July 19, 2024, contact Nolan Bobbroff, Community and Economic Development Director, at (760) 965-3631 or email: nbobbroff@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov.

Mammoth Lakes Planning & Economic Development Commission
PO Box 1609
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

TS #2024-0111

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:

Mammoth Mobile Bars

Konzen LLC
P.O. Box 416
Mammoth Lakes, Calif. 93546

This business is conducted by a limited liability co. The registrant has yet to commence to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on June 28, 2024
File Number 24-059
2024-0112 (7/13, 7/20, 7/27, 8/3)

Notice of Public Meeting

Notice is 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

Statement Of Abandonment Of Use of Fictitious Business Name Statement:

Mike Kenney Roofing

The following persons have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name:

Mike Kenney Roofing Inc.
P.O. Box 7840, 420 Commerce Circ.
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

This business is conducted by a Corporation. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on January June 13, 2024.
File Number 24-050
2024-0105 (7/6, 7/13, 7/20, 7/27)

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)

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

Black Velvet Coffee Village

Timbercreek Hospitality Group LLC
9201 Minaret Rd. W2-24
PO Box 7404
Mammoth Lakes, Calif. 93546

This business is conducted by a limited partnership. The registrant has yet to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on June 24, 2024
File Number 24-057
2024-0109 (7/6, 7/13, 7/20, 7/27)



- **Animal Services Officer I/II**
- **Appraiser I/II**
- **Appraiser Aide**
- **Correctional Deputy I/II**
- **Court Screener**
- **Deputy District Attorney I/II/III**
- **Deputy Probation Officer I/II/III**
- **Deputy Sheriff I/II**
- **Emergency Medical Technician - Reserve**
- **Equipment Mechanic I/III (Temporary)**
- **Maintenance Worker I/II/III (Roads)**
- **Paramedic I/II**
- **Social Worker Supervisor I/II (Adult Services)**
- **Solid Waste Maintenance Worker**
- **Wellness Center Associate (Benton & Mammoth Lakes)**

To apply:

<https://www.monocounty.ca.gov/jobs>

LADWP
continued from page 1

backing the OVIWC. There were three Ph.D. candidates, representatives of SoCal tribes, speakers from such groups as Heal the Bay, LA Water Keepers, and two documentary filmmakers whose work includes Owens Valley water issues, among others. Additional comments were submitted digitally, but not read at the meeting.

None of the speakers, however, mentioned how to implement any of those goals by changing or altering court approved, legally binding Long Term Water Agreement and its various environmental documents and mitigation measures. Nor did anyone mention how to bring the groups with a legal “voice” in the agreement, Inyo County, the Sierra Club and the Owens Valley Committee (MOU members), into any revamp of the agreement.

Red Owl did provide a history lesson on why the local tribes (as government entities) did not obtain legal standing to continue to participate on the ongoing implementation of the water agreement or changes to the agreement on the same legal footing as those three “MOU members.” During the protracted legal battle over the LTWA in the 1980s and 1990s, the Owens Valley tribes dropped their stance opposing LADWP and siding with the county in lawsuits as “friends of the court.” In return LADWP promised to reopen negotiations about providing legal water rights for the tribes as promised when the three reservations were created in 1939. Thus, the tribes did not have “a seat at the table” during the finalization of the water agreement or in the resulting monitoring and negotiations between LADWP and the county.

Red Owl asked the commission to, once again, restart talks to fulfill the promised transfer of water rights. That promise was made in 1939 when Congress approved a land swap that sent 3,000 acres of federal land in the Owens Valley to LADWP in return for LADWP providing land for three tribal reservations: 875 acres for Bishop; 279 acres for Big Pine; and 237 acres for Lone Pine.

As part of that deal, the federal water rights in various ditch companies serving the federal land were supposed to be transferred to the tribes. The land transfer occurred first, but since the LA City Charter makes it virtually impossible to transfer city water rights, that never happened, Red Owl said. Water was delivered to the “edges” of the reservations and is still used for irrigation and other needs, she added.

In the 1990s, the tribes and LADWP tried again. But the “deal” offered by LADWP would have the tribes going to the former federal land to tap the water rights, with no money or approvals for moving the water. It was unworkable, and Red Owl said it was obvious that LADWP did not want to accomplish the transfer.

Now, Red Owl said the tribes want to, once again, “re-engage in good faith” with LADWP and undertake “meaningful negotiations” about how the tribes can secure the long-promised water rights.

The same approach to negotiations is also called for to address the tribes’ need for more land to be added to the reservations, Red Owl said. The tribes are “land poor,” and don’t have the land to even accommodate the existing numbers of tribal members. She noted that such land

deals would fit with the current “land back” movement that seeks to have tribal lands and especially sacred sites returned to tribes.

LADWP Commissioner Wilma Pinder summed up the political roadblocks faced by the tribes and LADWP when it comes to transferring any land or water from the city to the tribes. “Los Angeles is two hands clapping,” she said in reference to the need for both the LA City Council and the LADWP commission to work together and eventually agree to any land and water deals.

Noting the past unpleasant history between LADWP and the tribes, Pinder said, “we are here today,” of the current board members. “We hear you.”

Commission Vice Chair George McGraw said it was important for the board to understand “the painful but important histories” involving LADWP, the Owens Valley and the tribes. The commission has a “Tribal Engagement Committee,” he noted, and just brought on board a “tribal liaison” who will be working with SoCal and Owens Valley tribes. The commission will be working in good faith to improve the “government to government” relationship with each of the valley’s tribes, he added.

However, McGraw included a word of caution when he noted there are state and federal laws and the city charter that “govern and limit” the LADWP board’s actions.

However, new LADWP General Manager Janisse Quinones, who has already toured the Owens Valley with commissioner McGraw, said she believed “the right people are at the table” in both the mayor’s office and LADWP to make progress on the tribes’ issues.

Red Owl asked that the commission and LADWP staff inform the city council and LA Mayor’s office of the concerns raised during the meeting. Several com-

missioners said they would be sending council members and the mayor’s office information regarding the tribes’ concerns and issues. Red Owl asked if there was a time line for more communication or maybe a plan to form a “water rights task force.”

Commission chair Richard Katz replied: “We’ll get back to you, and quicker than in the past. Which I know is a low bar.”

Jon Klusmire of Bishop hopes no one is sitting by the phone waiting for the call from LADWP.

Commission chair Richard Katz re-

THOMPSON SERVICE

The celebration of life for Robin Thompson takes place this Sunday from 2-6 p.m. at Hayden Cabin in Mammoth.

LOCAL BRIEFS

Motorcyclist Dies in Death Valley

A park visitor died in Death Valley National Park on July 6, from heat exposure near Badwater Basin. Another visitor was treated for severe heat illness and transported to advanced medical care in Las Vegas, four others were treated onsite and released. All 6 motorcyclists were members of the same party. Due to the high temperatures, emergency medical flight helicopters were unable to respond, as they cannot generally fly safely over 120 degrees.

Preliminary data recorded 128F (53.3C) as the high temperature on July 6. This surpassed the official daily record for

Death Valley, 127F (52.8C) recorded in 2007.

“High heat like this can pose real threats to your health,” said Superintendent Mike Reynolds. “While this is a very exciting time to experience potential world record setting temperatures in Death Valley, we encourage visitors to choose their activities carefully, avoiding prolonged periods of time outside of an air-conditioned vehicle or building when temperatures are this high.”

The group of visitors was traveling by motorcycle. Once heat index of 99F (37.2C) is exceeded, ambient air no longer helps provide relief. Heat illness and injury are cumulative and can build over the course of a day or days. Besides not being able to cool down while riding due to high ambient air temperatures, experiencing Death Valley by motorcycle when it is this hot is further challenged by the necessary heavy safety gear worn to reduce injuries during an accident.

During this heatwave, it is not recommended to go hiking, especially at lower elevations. Extreme heat can be dangerous, and visitor safety is a priority. Avoid the sun and seek shade or air-conditioning during the hottest part of the day. Wear loose fitting lightweight clothing, sunscreen, hat and consider carrying a sun umbrella. Drink plenty of water and eat salty snack.

Glacier Lodge Road Fire Suspect in Custody

Inyo County Sheriff’s Office officials announced that on Thursday, July 4, 2024, at approximately 11:30 a.m., an arrest was made regarding the Glacier Lodge Road fire. As a result of the investigation, 37-year-old Jesse Cordova was arrested for 452(C) PC: causing fire of structure/ forest land (F).

Earlier that day, a vegetation fire was reported in the area of Glacier Lodge Road in Big Pine, CA. Emergency response was mobilized by both Caltrans District 9 and the U.S. Forest Service - Inyo National Forest.

By 2:03 p.m., fire had been successfully extinguished.



SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF MONO

IMPROVE MONO COUNTY GOVERNMENT!

APPLY FOR THE 2024-2025 GRAND JURY TODAY

The Superior Court of California, County of Mono, is recruiting applicants interested in serving on the Grand Jury. The Grand Jury is composed of citizens from Mono County seated from July thru June, annually. Grand Jurors are charged with local government oversight through investigations, addressing concerns, and making suggestions for improvements.

Mono County needs your participation.

Members are reimbursed for trainings, meetings, and travel. The group decides amongst itself the best meeting times and locations. Committees operate the same way. The Court is equipped to facilitate virtual meetings.

“The honor of being selected and serving on the Mono County Grand Jury has been just that, an honor,” stated Richard Sanfillippo, former Mono County Grand Jury member. “Step up and say yes to serving on our Grand Jury! You have my word you will see it as an honor too!”

For more information on the Mono County Civil Grand Jury, including past final reports, and an application to serve, please visit

<http://www.mono.courts.ca.gov/generalinfo/jury-grandjury.htm>

or

Contact: Nancy Licari, Deputy Jury Commissioner at , GJ@mono.courts.ca.gov

Submit your application today!

HARTLEY

THE UNQUIET PLACE

The NFL quiet period is upon us. But the NFL in its usual fashion has found a way to make noise during the quiet period.

First up. The NFL lost a lawsuit over Sunday Ticket and has to pay out \$4 billion. What?!? That's a ton of beer and wing money for those of us who have bitched about Sunday Ticket but paid anyway. But will they ever pay? That will be in appeals courts for years. I ain't holding my breath for a check. Speaking of which, I gotta renew my Sunday Ticket! I have gone years here and there without it. I mainly ditched it because I got sick of paying for DirectTV. But when they slapped it on YouTube TV, I got it back. Being up here in Seattle, I don't wanna watch the Seahawks and one other boring game all day. The Steelers have pissed me off so much I might buy a package that DOES NOT include Steelers games.

Second ... HARD KNOCKS. I love how the NFL has these guidelines for what teams can be on the show. If you made the playoffs in the last two years, have a rookie head coach or have been on the show in the last 10 years, you can opt out. Otherwise, the NFL can force you to be on the show. The Giants met the criteria to NOT be on the show but chose to be anyway. Meaning, they actually volunteered to showcase their ineptitude to the whole damn world from the INSIDE.

And they are not disappointing people. The show is all about reinforcing the perceptions. I get the feeling they volunteered because the GM is an egomaniac. That has dominated the show so far. And he seems like an arrogant little bastard.

And clueless. He has said some stupid stuff for the cameras and he isn't trying to be anything but himself. That isn't good. Why the Giants are stupid:

1. They paid Daniel Jones \$40 million a year after he sucked for 3 years. They actually paid his ass and let RB Saquan Barkley go instead of giving him \$13 million a year. Barkley was the whole offense.
2. Some other coach or scout asked the GM "who they are without Barkley on offense" and who would make up for the explosive plays Barkley gives them. That guy asked the best question I heard in two episodes. The GM said he isn't paying Daniel Jones \$40 million a year to hand off to a \$12 million running back. Huh? He basically said Daniel Jones has to carry the offense. And he KNOWS Jones cannot do that. He can't.
3. He asked Barkley to PROMISE to give them a chance to sign him back after testing Free Agency. What is he a spoiled country club kid - PINKY SWEAR you will come back to us if no one else pays you even though we DON'T want to pay you.
4. He said even Patrick Mahomes couldn't win behind the offensive line the Giants had last year. Then he drafted a WR at pick number 6 when there were a ton of offensive and defensive linemen available at that pick.
5. Dumbass GM didn't draft a QB at

all. It would have been worth it to move up and get a QB if you are the Giants and really liked one.

6. The GM quoted some old saying about the best predictor of the future is looking at past results with regards to Daniel Jones while doing their research on QBs before the draft. He was worried about Jones' history. So why the fuck did y'all pay him in the first place when Jones was already a mediocre, injury-prone QB? Why? You should have moved on.

7. Giants got rid of Wink Martindale as Defensive Coordinator because the head coach is apparently an asshole who can't get along with anyone. They subsequently hire a DC from the Tennessee Titans. They justify the hire by quoting Titan stats defending the run during his tenure there. But stats aren't transferable. You need PLAYERS for that. You don't stop the run by scheming it.

On the show, the new DC is telling the team what kind of players he needs to run the scheme. He is basically schooling the Giants coaches, GM and OWNER about the type of players he is going to get. In football, successful franchises usually have an identity and a philosophy about how their team is constructed, what they want at positions as far as types of players.

Far as I can tell, the Giants let this guy walk in the room and tell THEM what kind of players they will have. So if this guy leaves, now what have you got? The Giants should have identified in an interview THIS IS WHAT WE WANT on our team and it's your job to work within our philosophy. No, they're sitting there getting lectured like children by someone who walked in the building five minutes ago.

Watching the Giants is a comedy, not a reality show.

Bobby Bonilla day was celebrated recently. He collected another \$1.9 million from the NY Mets on July 1st. He last played for the Mets in 1999 and hasn't played in then major leagues since 2001. Incredible. Basically, they gave him a deferred contract that most definitely did not work in their favor.

The funniest part is the METS OWNER at the time counted on his investments with Bernie Madoff to cover the contract. I laugh every year when this comes up. He still gets paid for another 11 years.

Steelers. They used to have an identity. Now they are a mess. I saw a report that the Steelers were DRAMATICALLY better at QB this year. Well, that ain't saying much. They would be better at QB if I came in after Kenny Pickett. Setting a low bar there. That's like pole-vaulting over an anthill. But we all know Wilson and Fields are too gun-shy to throw the ball in the middle of the field between the hashes. Turnover averse because they don't really see the field. So how is the offense going to work? They're gonna run the ball 90 times a game? I don't see them having a winning record.

Harold Hartley lives outside Seattle and cares way too much about the NFL.

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& Grill

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7/5

BEANS SOUZA

4-7PM

ON THE PATIO

ACOUSTIC SINGER SONGWRITER

7/5

ANDREW WEBBER BAND

BLUES/ ROCK & ROLL

FELT CUTOUTS

ORIGINAL AMERICANA ROCK

7/12

JUNE LAKE JAM FEST PARTNERSHIP: THE ROAD TO JAM FEST!

7/13

JOE MARCINEK & GROOVE SESSION

7/19

THE HINGES

7/20

FUNK ROCK SOUL FROM THE BOYS FROM FISHBONE

7/26

CLAY COLTON BAND

AMERICANA, COUNTRY, ROCK

WEEKLY KARAOKE EVERY TUESDAY 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

10 YEARS

JUNE LAKE

BREWING

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- Full time yearly positions

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GAYLA'S GALLERY

Photographer Gayla Wolf captured July 4 festivities in Bishop City Park. Check out bishopcommunityevents.com for more of Gayla's work and to purchase files.
*The two shots from Mammoth's parade are from Milender.



Progress Your Career at Mammoth Hospital!

We're currently looking for:

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- **Patient Access Representative**
- **RN Case Manager**



- Success Sharing Incentive Program
- Staff Development Programs
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5:30am-6pm daily

www.Stellarbrew.life | [@stellar_brew](#)

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