

the sheet

News, Views & Culture of the Eastern Sierra



PHOTO: GAYLA WOLF

American Legion post 118 hosted the Veteran's Day Ceremony at Pioneer Cemetery on Monday. For more pics, see page 13.

Saturday, November 16, 2024

FREE

Vol. 22, No. Stanley

PUT THAT IN YOUR PIPE AND ...

Mono County guarantees funds to replace pipes in Lee Vining

By Fisher

The Lee Vining Public Utility District (LVPUD), like many other Mono County Public Utility Districts (PUDs), is understaffed, underfunded, and underperforming. This has largely gone unnoticed by the county until now, when a proposed \$20 million Highway 395 rehabilitation project scheduled for Lee Vining exposed some serious inadequacies in the district's infrastructure.

"It has been determined that this infrastructure is leaking, which is causing damage to the highway and poses a risk for catastrophic failure of the public utility district's system," said Mary Snyder, Mono County Special Projects Staff, in a presentation to the Mono County Board of Supervisors on November 5.

What was once a long-term concern — replacing outdated infrastructure — has now become an immediate priority. However, LVPUD lacks the resources to make these critical upgrades, according to a staff report presented on November 5.

With only about 100 service connections, LVPUD has limited capacity to raise funds through rate increases. The report notes that as of June 30, 2024, the district's unrestricted fund balance stands at approximately \$725,000.

Early estimates for the infrastructure project suggest it will cost \$1.8 million. However, with a 30% contingency, the total cost could rise to \$2.4 million, considering construction won't begin for another two years.

Given these figures, the county will likely need to bear

the bulk of the cost. The Mono County Board of Supervisors ultimately voted to support and guarantee funds for the infrastructure replacement on November 5.

"I'm confident that we'll be able to identify funding for it," said Mono County Supervisor Bob Gardner at the meeting.

Supervisor Jennifer Kreitz was less optimistic.

"I think we, as the board, have to understand that if there isn't grant funding, what we're essentially saying is that the county will need to grant the funds," she said. "I don't think we can do that for all the PUDs in Mono County that are in similar situations."

Kreitz requested changes to the language of the document to limit the county's potential liability.

Paul McFarland, incoming District 3 Supervisor who serves on the Lee Vining PUD board, emphasized the urgent need for infrastructure improvement.

"We've replaced sections of pipe under the highway repeatedly over the years, and anyone who drives through town can see the patchwork from the work we've done," McFarland added. "What this project allows is for all that work to be done at once."

On November 5, Mono County Supervisors authorized staff to approve a cooperative agreement with Caltrans, under which Caltrans would include the infrastructure update as part of the Highway 395 rehabilitation project. This would require the county to make a financial commitment to guarantee the funds upfront.

more PIPES, pg. 7

McCOY HIGHWAY



The signage for the Dave McCoy Memorial Highway is now posted across from Mammoth-Yosemite Airport

CALIFORNIA HEADS TO FLORIDA

By Lunch

Caitlin Toups will soon be on her way to Disney-world!

But will be there for more than just a few laps on Space Mountain.

9-year old Caitlin will be in Orlando to compete for the National American Miss Jr. Pre-Teen title, representing California as a State Queen.

Caitlin was crowned Miss California Jr. Pre-teen at a State Pageant last July. In addition to winning the crown, she was also awarded Best Actress, 1st Runner Up in Talent, and Best Sportswear Model in optional competitions.

National American Miss puts a huge emphasis on who the girls are, not just what they look like, so a large portion of the competition for the crown



Caitlin Toups

revolves around interviewing and public speaking. To wit, girls under 12 are not allowed to wear makeup.

The Sheet met with Caitlin at Starbucks in Mammoth this week to ask Caitlin about how she got into pageants. She only started with it last summer.

She did it because she'd like to be an actor, and pageant competition not only develops poise but helps increase exposure to talent scouts.

And it really was pretty impressive.

She could be a typical, goofy, giggling kid one moment but when asked to deliver an acting monologue or a spokesmodel pitch she could flip it on a dime and deliver it flawlessly.

It feels like she could walk into a Disney Channel sitcom tomorrow and blend in seamlessly.

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Sore winners

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DOGE

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Heli good time?

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Chamber awards

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2x is greater than 3x?

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LIFE’S ON THE WIRE

I’ve been reading Al Pacino’s autobiography, entitled “Sonny Boy.” He includes the following vignette, which gives some insight as to what propelled him in his acting career.

“There was a group called the Flying Wallendas, a family of performers who would do amazing tightrope walks, way up there, without a net. And they would sit on each other’s shoulders while they walked across this high wire. Well, this one time they were doing it ... the whole group had been stacked on top of one another like a pyramid, and it collapsed. A couple of them fell from the high wire and died, and others were hurt or paralyzed.

When the rest of the family recovered from this tragedy, they went out and did the act again. They asked Wallenda, the father, the leader of the group, Why?

‘Because life’s on the wire,’ he said. ‘The rest is just waiting.’”

I think this is why I fell into doing this paper, and why I take an acting role every now and then (only three performances left of The Heiress - see below). Because every week, and every performance, one risks very public failure. And you’re only as good as what you did yesterday.

Same is true, I imagine, for anyone who runs a restaurant. Now I couldn’t do that - with a restaurant, you have to be good every meal, every dish, every day.

As of today, the only electoral drama which remains surrounds Mammoth’s Measure J (school bond), The vote currently sits at 55.04% approval, which is clear of passage by a whole two votes.

If the vote holds, the current schools levy of \$37 per \$100,000 in valuation would be retained.

Greg Rollison’s request to be let out of jail on house arrest was denied by Judge Mark Magit on Tuesday.

Rollison coverage first appeared on the front page of our Jan. 13, 2024 issue. He’s been in jail since November, 2023 on various charges stemming from a felony domestic violence incident which authorities said escalated into an assault upon peace officers, fleeing arrest and more.

Jenny Bowman would like Mr. Rollison released from jail while he is awaiting trial because she requires caregiving help.

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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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He would wear an ankle monitor and would be confined to his residence in Walker..

But Judge Magit rejected this plan, saying Rollison, according to probation, scores at the highest level of flight risk, has proven time and again that he won’t follow orders, and has a long, documented history of failing to appear in court.

Rollison said in coourt Tuesday that all his misbehavior is 35 years in the past.

Magit corrected him and said Rollison had been on probation for possession of illegal firearms and was arrested in November for possession of illegal firearms - and this was not 35 years ago. This was here and now. The leopard hadn’t changed his spots.

Kat Greenman also testified that Ms. Bowman had been living with her down in Bishop so Mr. Rollison was currently not needed as a caregiver.

Mr. Rollison will remain in the Bridgeport Jail until trial. He is currently being held without bail.

I thought this was funny. I occasionally get these press releases on all sorts of arcane stuff. This week I received one quoting data analysis experts at “Excel Champs” identifying which states have Intelligence Quotient (IQ) levels above or below the national average of 99.25.

The IQ estimates were based on exam scores from the Program for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC) for adults and the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) for fourth and eighth-grade students.

California ranks 48th out of 50 states, trailing the intellectual meccas of Mississippi and Louisiana.

	State	State IQ	State IQ compared to the national average (99.25)
1	Mississippi	94.2	5.09% below
2	Louisiana	95.3	3.98% below
3	California	95.5	3.78% below
4	Hawaii	95.6	3.68% below
5	Alabama	95.7	3.58% below
6	New Mexico	95.7	3.58% below
7	Nevada	96.5	2.77% below
8	Arizona	97.4	1.86% below
9	Arkansas	97.5	1.76% below
10	Tennessee	97.7	1.56% below

The Original



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Jan 15, 2025 | 10:30am - 12:30pm
Feb 19, 2025 | 10:30am - 12:30pm
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UNITED



ADVANCED AIR



LETTERS

The only thing worse ...

Dear Editor,

As my Dad used to quote, "The only thing worse than a sore loser is a sore winner."

Sam Walker
Bishop

With that as prologue ...

Chowder Society Edition

Jack,

I'm writing this before the Trump Marching and Chowder Society Edition of The Sheet is published. Let's see how close it is to being the opposite of what I anticipate reading. If I'm right about that, you've got diversity of opinion! If I'm wrong - well, we'll cross that bridge if it comes to it.

One party, the one protecting democracy, ran a candidate who received zero primary votes. That candidate was outvoted in the general election both in the Electoral College and the popular vote. Democracy won.

One party, the one who warned us against authoritarianism, lost in part because it could not justify its mandates for compulsory vaccines that did not prevent Covid, lockdowns that did no good while its prominent party members were seen prancing through empty

hair salons and partying at the French Laundry, and the enforced physical invasion of women's sports by men. Authoritarianism was averted.

One party warned us of an erosion of rights. That same party closed churches but left marijuana dispensaries open during the pandemic, conspired with social media to censor what turned out to be the truth about the origin of Covid, the worth of the vaccines, and opinions with which it disagreed ("misinformation") as well as inconvenient information it admitted was true ("malinformation"). It engaged in one of most brazen and genuine propaganda operations of all time, the Russian Collusion hoax, which it knew to be false from the start. It even raided the home of a man who did nothing wrong except keep a pet squirrel; it killed the squirrel and interrogated the man's wife about her citizenship even though she lives in a sanctuary state. But freedom, if not poor P-Nut, prevailed.

One party warned of putting a misogynist in power. As his first act, that misogynist has elevated a woman to be his chief of staff, the first woman in history to hold that position. That same party warned that the same misogynist put justices on the Supreme Court to strip women of their right to an abortion, when what the Dobbs case really did was return the question to the states. Sure enough, on Tuesday, the misogynist's victory was accompanied by an expansion of abortion rights in

seven states, four of which voted for the misogynist.

One party warned of insurrection on January 6. That same party now openly promotes immediate and implacable "resistance" to the man who just won the popular vote for President and more electoral college votes than Joe Biden won in 2020.

One party is warning about a tyrant who is supposedly about to embark on vengeance using the Justice Department. But that tyrant will have to get the Justice Department to drop its many and sundry suits against him first, suits brought by the same party now fearing lawfare. Maybe the tyrant can get the FBI to return the personal effects they took during their raid on Mar-a-Lago.

I wonder how long that party thought it could keep accusing others of precisely that which it was doing itself, before America caught on? I wonder if even now that party has learned its lesson? I'll bet we can probably agree on the answer to that last question, so I'll end on that conciliatory note.

John Rogitz
San Diego

Dem votes vanished

Editor,

Some garbage guy votes in Mammoth last Tuesday? The election didn't go the way Dems expected?

Speaking strictly for myself, I wonder if anyone ever thought it might not be a good idea to call 65-something million people Marxists, Hitler, a threat to Democracy and garbage for months on end? Or maybe it didn't look good to stab your own candidate in the back after he won all your rigged primaries but suddenly revealed in a debate the lie all liberals had participated in for years - that lie being that he was sharp as a tack when he was obviously senile and just done.

It really didn't help to install a failed DEI hire of a VP that never received a single primary or presidential vote as your candidate when Dem leadership was trying to find a way to replace her only months before? That Kam couldn't tell you her name without a teleprompter didn't help either.

The crowning Dem miscalculation was to politically and legally persecute the Republican candidate with charges that NEVER would have been brought if he had chosen not to run for president. Convicted of some? Sure, I'm content to wait until all appeals are heard!

That was really smart to enrage Republicans. That rage caused conservatives to pay much more attention to the voting process this time around and imagine that? 15 million Dem votes from the 2020 election vanished into thin air. Gosh, what might that mean? It's like this, besides what I've mentioned above, Dems got their ass kicked because of the disaster they perpetrated on this country the last four years, never mind their own arrogance. It might be a good time to sit down and STFU. Best to all.

Allen Brown
Mammoth Lakes



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LOCAL NEWS

DAM NOISE

By Fisher

Joyce Kaufman moved to June Lake because it was a tranquil and quiet place, where cute A-frame houses are lined by pine trees and tucked into serene mountain vistas. But in the last decade, she's become familiar with something less tranquil - the constant noise of helicopters.

This noise stems from Southern California Edison's (SCE) ongoing operations associated with the Rush Creek Project, which includes dams on Agnew, Gem and Waugh Lakes. As the project enters its relicensing phase, community members like Kaufman are bracing for more disruptions from helicopter flights.

The operating license for the project is set to expire in 2027.

In anticipation, SCE has begun the relicensing process with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), which is required under the Federal Power Act. This process involves extensive environmental studies, documentation and public input.

SCE's most recent step in the process involved submitting a Draft Licensing Application (DLA) to FERC, with the final application due by the end of January, 2025. Last Thursday, SCE representatives provided an update at the June Lake Community Center on their studies for the application.

The meeting got pretty heated during the Q&A section, when community members had the opportunity to voice their concerns.

Historically, the three dams have provided water storage and recreational opportunities in the summer months and hydroelectric power generation during fall and winter.

But in 2007, a fault line was discovered near the facilities, raising concerns about the potential seismic hazard posed by the dams. FERC mandated that SCE take steps to ensure public safety by managing water levels and conducting structural modifications to the dams. This included implementing water storage restrictions at the reservoirs in 2012, followed by a series of structural upgrades between 2017-2018 and 2020-2021.

Throughout these upgrades, residents were subjected to frequent helicopter

flights. According to Kaufman, these disruptions were "constant," and the DLA suggests that more flights may occur in the future.

As part of the plan outlined in the DLA, SCE has decided the best path forward is to decommission two of the three dams and retrofit the remaining Gem Dam to meet seismic restrictions, including the construction of a new spillway and reducing the dam's height.

These operations would require extensive helicopter flights.

For much of this activity, SCE has identified the June Mountain parking lot as its primary base of operations. This proposed use of the parking lot has raised concerns within the community.

Julie Brown, Vice President of Operations at June Mountain, said she had not yet been contacted by SCE, but expressed she was open to working with the utility.

"We've had multiple projects in our parking lot in the past, and we've worked well with Edison for projects that benefit the community," she said.

June Mountain operates on a special use permit from the U.S. Forest Service. In order to use the parking lot for construction, SCE would need to apply for a second special use permit.

The operational space needed for SCE's decommissioning project could conflict with June Mountain's operations, but coordinating the details of that would mostly be between June Mountain and SCE, stated Lisa Cox, Inyo National Forest Public Affairs Officer in an email.

However, June Mountain does not have exclusive use of their permit area and the Inyo National Forest plans to work with SCE to determine the mini-

mum necessary use of their equipment.

Local officials, including Mono County representatives, voiced concerns about the noise and disruption caused by the helicopter activity.

Scott Burns, former Community Development Director and now a consultant, said that while the county does not have direct authority over SCE's activities, it can provide feedback and advocate on behalf of the community.

To address these concerns, the county has provided public comment three times and suggested alternative locations for the base of operations, including sites away from the community. Burns said SCE has yet to present a full analysis of the pros and cons of these alternatives, leaving the community feeling somewhat in the dark.

"We feel we are under attack, under assault," Kaufman said. "You provide all our electricity, but that doesn't mean you have the right to treat us like this."

Matt Woodhall, the SCE Project Lead, acknowledged the concerns and emphasized that the company is open to feedback.

"We understand there will be impacts," Woodhall said. "We'll do our best to minimize those, using varying flight paths and exploring opportunities to

reduce the number of flights."

SCE has made some efforts to reduce the number of flights over June so far.

For one thing, Woodhall said at the meeting they would try to use the flight path which least impacted the community as much as possible, when the wind patterns allow for a safe flight. And the number of flights altogether has lowered since their first project outline.

SCE initially planned to transport demolished materials down to June Lake via helicopter, June Lake resident Bob Marks said. However, after significant pressure from the community and comments from the county, SCE revised its plans. Instead of hauling all the debris down to the village, the company is now planning to process some of it on-site, which would reduce the number of helicopter flights.

As SCE moves forward with its relicensing application, the community has been given a window for public comment.

The comment period for the Draft Licensing Application is open until November 26, 2024, and residents are encouraged to voice their concerns. Following this period, SCE will review and address the comments before submitting the Final Licensing Application.

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RHIANNON’S KIDS: HONORING A BRIGHT LIGHT

By Sarah Rea

When Gabe and Amanda Taylor welcomed their daughter Rhiannon at Mammoth Hospital in October 2009, she was immediately flown to Renown Medical Center in Reno, Nevada, “and we basically got a crash course in nursing.” Rhiannon was diagnosed at Renown with a fatal genetic condition—trisomy 18. Most children with this disease don’t make it past their first month of life.

The year Rhiannon born was the first year that the Noninvasive Prenatal Testing (NIPT) was available to most pregnant women, and while false positives for genetic conditions are fairly common, false negatives are rare. Amanda, who worked at Mammoth Hospital at the time, had a false negative.

“My OB/GYN was devastated that we didn’t catch Rhiannon’s condition,” says Amanda, “But I said, ‘You weren’t meant to catch it. She was meant to be here. She defied every odd and was an absolute miracle for the 138 days she lived.’”

The Taylors’ community “stepped in and helped cover many of our expenses,” says Amanda. “Mammoth Hospital held a fundraiser to help with some of our medical bills and our electric bill, which increased drastically due to Rhiannon requiring oxygen 24 hours a day. Gary and Karilyn Myers [former CEO and Physical Therapy manager at Mammoth Hospital] would sit with Rhiannon so Gabe and I could go have dinner,” says Amanda. “We would not have dealt with our situation as gracefully as we did if it had not been for our village.”

When Rhiannon passed away from heart failure in March 2010, Amanda began brainstorming with pediatrician Amy Conrad about how to help other families in similar situations. “I wanted to find a way to give back to our community because they were there for us 100 percent. I prepared a presentation to the hospital board, and they approved it immediately.”

Rhiannon’s Kids was born.

The Rhiannon’s Kids program, administered by the Mammoth Hospital Foundation, reimburses families for travel expenses when they have to leave the Eastern Sierra for any type of care—from serious conditions like Rhiannon’s to specialty dental care. The program is funded entirely by donors and is available to any patient of Mammoth Hospital Pediatrics.

“This program has kept my family afloat,” says Allana Melander, whose son has been fighting Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (ALL) for several years and is now nearing the end of his treatment. “Other places don’t have programs like this,” says Allana. “I’ve seen the struggles that other families are going through, and I feel so blessed that

Mammoth Hospital and our community is here to help us.” Mammoth Disposal/Waste Connections has been one of the program’s strongest partners, and the program is also supported by generous individual donations, a summer pickleball tournament hosted by Mammoth Hospital, and an annual bingo fundraiser hosted by Volunteer Eastern



Gabe and Amanda Taylot with Rhiannon at Renown Medical Center when Rhiannon was about a week old.

Sierra. This year’s bingo night is Tuesday, November 19 at Lakanuki beginning at 5 p.m. The event almost always sells out, so coming early is recommended.

If you can’t make the bingo night, you can learn more about Rhiannon’s Kids and donate at www.mammothhospital-foundation.com/rhiannons-kids.

If a child in your family needs specialized medical care outside of the Eastern Sierra, contact your Mammoth Hospital pediatrician or visit www.mammothhospital.com/rhiannonskids for Rhiannon’s

Kids program information.

“We started this program to not only give back to the community, but because Rhiannon was strong, and she worked so hard to be here,” says Amanda. “I knew I had to do everything I could to honor her brief, but precious life, and keep her spirit alive.”



HUSKY OF THE WEEK

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



AVA HAWKINS

Introducing the Husky of the Week, Senior, Ava Hawkins. Ava is the MHS Senior Setter, Captain and the leader of the Varsity Volleyball team. Through her leadership the team won the High Desert League title and competed all the way to the CIF semi-finals. Ava was also named the High Desert League's MVP for 2024 and led the League in service aces. Ava's fierce competitive spirit and determination helped push her teammates to excel while also keeping the team calm and focused during intense competition. Ave plans to pursue volleyball in college and we wish her all the best!

Ava is also a part of the MHS Band. She plans on choosing a college that will allow her to further her education while still playing volleyball. **Congrats Ava, any school would be lucky to have a leader like you on their campus!**

NOMINATED BY JOHN MORRIS AND KEVIN GILFOY (MHS VARISTY VOLLEYBALL COACHES)

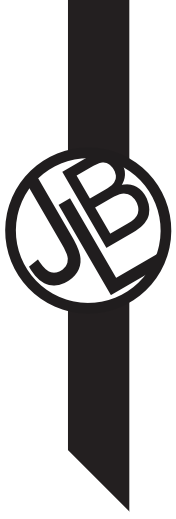
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JUNE LAKE BREWING



PIPES

continued from page 1

By incorporating the work into the Caltrans bid process, Caltrans will manage the bidding and contracting, which McFarland said will reduce costs for both LVPUD and the county.

The infrastructure work will not delay the highway project, and construction is still tentatively scheduled to begin in Summer 2026, said Michael Lingberg, Public Information Officer for Caltrans District 9.

In a follow-up action on November 12, Mono Supervisors authorized a separate agreement with LVPUD to cooperate in securing funding for the project.

This meeting comes about a month after the Mono County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) met to assess the Municipal Service Reviews (MSRs) for several public utility districts, including LVPUD.

Public Utility District MSRs are required to be conducted every ten years, but many districts in Mono County haven't had their reviews updated in more than 15 years.

And in that October 10 meeting, when LAFCO got the reports back, they were of mixed quality, ranging from adequate to extremely poor.

"I don't quite know where to start, other than I was shocked, appalled, and very disappointed in the reports," LAFCO Chair Tom Cage said at the meeting.

McFarland, who also serves on the LAFCO board, said in an interview that there were so many errors in the Lee Vining MSR that he had to stop trying to

edit it halfway through. Even more troubling were the findings in the reports: Lee Vining has only two water tanks (the report only mentioned one) and lacks a secondary water source, which could be catastrophic during a crisis.

"The storage capacity for the system provides less than two hours of 1,500 gallons per minute of fire flow during maximum-day demand," the report states. "All community water systems should have at least two sources of drinking water for system redundancy."

Simply put, a wildfire could drain LVPUD's water supply. But addressing these issues requires time, money, and staffing — resources that LVPUD evidently does not have.

"It took us six years to get approval for a groundwater characterization study [for a second water source]," McFarland said during the LAFCO meeting. "In that time, the cost of the study went from \$250,000 to \$1.5 million. And that's just for the study—the administrative hurdles and costs associated with getting these done for a special district with no staff are nearly impossible to overcome."

The Bridgeport and June Lake Public Utility Districts' MSRs were also reviewed in the October 10 meeting and revealed their own inefficiencies—both in the quality of their reports and their actual performance.

"All three of these agencies show deficiencies in different ways," Cage said. "But they were all consistent in having no long-term plans, finding it too

expensive to do small repairs, and being underfinanced."

The June Lake MSR, for example, used financial data from 2018. But aside from outdated reports, June Lake also has aging infrastructure, with many of its pipes dating back to the late 1930s.

"To re-plumb three miles of water line in June Lake would probably cost \$7M," Cage said in an interview. "It's not something that can be funded overnight."

The broader issue facing these Public Utility Districts is the declining availability of volunteers for public service roles, McFarland said.

He attributes this to the increasing

demands of modern life—people are busier, work longer hours, and have less time for community involvement.

As a result, the aging volunteer base is struggling to recruit new members, particularly for roles that now require more specialized skills and a greater time commitment.

The county has created a new staff position to support special districts and ensure they have the capacity to meet regulatory requirements and sustain services, which should help address this issue. That position has yet to be filled, though.

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Dr. Mitts will be seeing patients at Peak IV at the Minaret Shopping Center in Mammoth Lakes

PLEASE CALL 1-800-499-4234 FOR AN APPOINTMENT



DUELING DOCS AND TACO TIME

By Klusmire

The cures appear to be worse than the diseases.

That bromide popped to mind during the November 12 Inyo County Board of Supervisors meeting held in Independence which featured conflicting medical advice about mandatory mask requirements for those not getting a flu vaccine, with the unvaccinated potentially facing criminal penalties.

Then came the plan by the Inyo County Supervisors to shrink their meeting schedule to a mere two meetings a month which, if they take my suggestion, could result in a full Taco Bar and Portable Cocktail Cart showing up in the county administrative building.

Since flu is in season and flu shots are hitting arms, let's start with the dueling doctors.

Dr. Mark Robinson, a surgeon at Northern Inyo Hospital, took the almost unheard-of step of criticizing a fellow doctor. During public comment, Robinson said the county should withdraw a Public Health Order issue by Dr. Jim Richardson, the County Health Officer.

The order, issued on Sept. 5, said all Healthcare Personnel should get a flu shot, and those who don't must wear a high quality mask when working with patients. Any healthcare worker who didn't get a flu vaccine and doesn't wear a mask could be charged with a

criminal misdemeanor.

The order has upset employees at NIH, and "made our work more difficult and unpleasant," said Robinson, who noted that the hospital chief of staff knew he was going to address the issue. Robinson pointed out Richardson's order didn't mention Covid, which is still around, and for which NIH has a drive-up, in-person testing process, just like in the old days, or Covid vaccines, which are also being shot into arms this fall.

Richardson was the Health Officer during Covid and was vilified by the anti-mask, anti-shutdown, anti-vaccine-contingent. Robinson said he has tried to contact Richardson for two months with calls and letters but has received "no response."

The flu vaccine has an "efficacy of about 35%," he noted. Many people and workers don't take the shot for a variety of reasons that make sense for them. But to mandate a mask order combined with the threat a criminal citation is a tough pill to swallow, so to speak (blame me, not him for that one).

The order is "illogical, counter-productive and harmful," Robinson concluded. "It needs to be withdrawn."

The supervisors muttered a bit and quickly handed the whole thing off to Health and Human Services (HHS) Director Anna Scott.

The logic behind holding just two supervisor meetings a month was also a bit hard to swallow. Nate Greenberg, CAO, said the current mandate of a meeting every Tuesday unless there are five Tuesdays in month, can result in the board going up to three weeks without a meeting. That's because of holidays, travel to conferences and associations, meetings with LADWP, and meetings in Sacramento, for example.

So the answer to alleviating the horror of going three weeks without a meeting is to cut the number of meetings to two a month.

*I'll be eager to see a Harvard Business School Case Study on why that works.

The reduction in scheduled meetings comes after the board slyly moved to convene about three meetings a month last year instead of the traditional four, even after being lambasted about reducing citizen access to the full board and basically abandoning Independence, the county seat.

Tuesday's meeting featured about 40 agenda items spelled out in a 250-page agenda packet. At noon, the board had tackled three of the "discussion" items after rubber stamping dozens of "consent" items without discussion. So, fewer meetings, with the same amount of business to take care of means there could be anywhere from 60 to 80 agenda items to consider, with upwards of 500 pages of backup material. A long meeting, in other words.

This is where the Taco Bar enters the chat.

To make sure everyone stays sharp, I suggest a Taco Bar with all the fixings so staff, supervisors and the public can have a lovely lunch and not have to drive to Lone Pine or Independence gas stations for grub. Let's shoot down the idea of potluck right now. All potlucks always disappoint, with one or two homemade, edible entries and a couple unrecognizable tater-tot-tuna hot dish casseroles and some chili that's hot enough to melt paint.

When the sun starts setting on the crew, it's time to wheel out the Portable Cocktail Cart. Load everyone up with some booze and then take on the mushy agenda items, such as supervisor reports ("Oh my God the greatest thing ever happened in Wilkerson ..."), new staff introductions which typically include plenty of gushing about the employee joining the "county family," the staffer who hired the employee, the employee's cousin or uncle who used to work for the county, or the reason the employee landed the job. Toss in a little booze and that intro could become a group hug that borders on groping. On video. That, my friends, will go viral on the county Instagram. So a win-win.

Jon Klusmire of Bishop acknowledges that some folks think the fewer times elected officials meet to "do something" the better.

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CHAMBER HOLDS 2024 BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARDS CEREMONY

Press Release

The Mammoth Lakes Chamber of Commerce hosted its 8th Annual Business Excellence Awards Gala on November 7 at Canyon Lodge, celebrating the achievements of local businesses and individuals who contribute to our community. With a strong turnout of 175 attendees from the business sector, the night underscored the Chamber's role as a champion for business and community growth.

Months of preparation by the Chamber staff led to an unforgettable evening, highlighting their commitment to acting as a catalyst for success and delivering value to their members.

President & CEO Brianna Goico, in her inaugural Gala speech since stepping into her new role, noted, "The Business Excellence Awards Gala is a night of celebration for our business community, and this year's Gala did not disappoint!"

Recently appointed Chamber Board Chair Alisa Mokler Harper of The Warming Hut spoke on the Chamber's strategic vision, touching on the 2025-2028 Strategic Goals aimed at catalyzing community development and business success.

Emcee Jeremy Goico kept the energy high as finalists were recognized and winners celebrated, reflecting the Chamber's dedication to growing a thriving community.

Claudia and Ismael Gonzalez, owners of The Rolling Chef 395, the Business of the Year winner, expressed words of gratitude: "Thank you to everyone who supported The Rolling Chef 395. We are very grateful, and we had no idea we were going to win, thank you," Claudia remarked.

The Chamber congratulates all winners and finalists for their dedication and contributions to the Mammoth Lakes community. Appreciation is also extended to the sponsors and prize donors whose generosity made the evening possible.

2024 Winners

- Non-Profit of Year: Mono Arts Council
- New Business of Year: Mammoth Butcher Meat & Seafood
- Customer Service Person of Year: Sam Taylor, Mammoth Business Essentials
- Green Business of Year: Ridge Merino
- Business Front of Year: Roberto's Café
- Young Professional of Year: Jesus Leon, Shelter Distilling
- Business Person of Year: Dave East-erby, State Farm Insurance
- Business of Year: The Rolling Chef 395



From L-R, Claudia Gonzalez and Ismael Rivera, owners of The Rolling Chef 395 were crowned 2024 Business of the Year, and Brianna Goico, President & CEO of the Chamber.



Mono Arts Council. From L-R, Peggy Sage Armenta (Music Teacher), Kristin Reese (Executive Director), Annemarie Hall (Communications Coordinator/Artist Liaison)



Mammoth High School Jazz Band, who performed during cocktail hour, were presented with a \$500 check



From L-R, Karl Anderson (Co-Founder Shelter Distilling) together with Jesus Leon (General Manager Shelter Distilling) who was awarded 2024 Young Professional of the Year.

NOV 16TH

21+

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BARS & MUSIC

Happy Hour/
The Liberty Sports Bar and Grill
Pursuit of Happiness Hour Daily 3-6 p.m. extended to 8 p.m. for football on Mondays and Thursdays. Live Music. Best viewing spot in town for **live sports**, other than across the parking lot @ **Main Street Pizza and Tap**.
More Liberty info: See ad p. 8
Outlaw Saloon Happy Hour Monday through Friday from 4-6 p.m. *More info: See ad p. 19*
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 AND karaoke every Sunday, starting at 8:30 p.m.
Main Street Pizza - See ad this page for details.
Distant Brewing happy hour Monday-Thursday from 3-5pm. \$1/off beer/wine/cider/seltzer/kombucha

Friday, November 15/
Spliffriif & Deviates play Liberty to kick off the winter season.
Saturday, November 16/
Pay The Rent snowboarding premiere (film) and live music @ Liberty. Doors 9 p.m., and Video @ 10.

Sunday, November 17/
NFL Sunday Football @ the Bishop Elks Lodge, 151 E. Line St. Starts 9:30 a.m. Bar open! Public welcome!
Giacomo Timbrello plays **Distant Brewing**. Time: 7-9.

Monday, November 18/
Open mic night @ Distant Brewing. Time: 6-9 p.m.

Tuesday, November 19/
Taco Tuesdays @ John's Pizza Works. Time: 4-9 p.m. And a great place to watch the game. *More info, see ad p. 19.*
Weekly karaoke @ Liberty! Starts 9 p.m.

Wednesday, November 20/
Weekly Pool Tournament @ Distant Brewing. Hosted by Eastern Sierra Pool from 4:30-9:30 p.m.

TOWN STUFF

Friday, November 15/
Bishop Broncos football hosts **Santa Ynez** in a quarterfinal round playoff matchup at John Schwab Field. Time: 7 p.m.
MHS Football (#1 seeded and having received a first-round bye) hosts a CIF semifinal playoff game versus #4 Orcutt Academy. Time: 7 p.m.
Opening Day at Mammoth Mountain kicks off @ 7:30 a.m. First 100 people in the lifeline get a free beanie.
Turkey Bingo @ the June Lake Community Center. Win your Thanksgiving bird! Cash only. Games start 5:30 p.m.

November 15-16/
Bishop Holiday Mart hosted by Friends of the Fair. Time: 5-8 p.m. Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday. Location: Tri County Fair and Event Center @ 475 Sierra Street

Saturday, November 16/
Eastern Sierra Avalanche Center annual fundraiser @ Canyon Lodge. An evening hosted by Jim Zellers. Doors 5 p.m. Show 7 p.m. Cost: \$30.

TOWN STUFF

Lee Vining Schools fundraiser @ the Local Scoop. Time: 1-4 p.m. Eat ice cream and help raise money!

November 15-17/
Mammoth Lakes Repertory Theater's production of "The Heiress" continues (final weekend!) at Mammoth High School's MPR. Tix @ mammothlakesrep.org or at the door. *For more, see ad p. xxx.*
Bishop Union High School's production of "Silent But Deadly" also enters its final weekend at the BUHS Theater. Showtimes: 7 p.m. Friday through Sunday with an add'l Sunday matinee at 3 p.m.
Alabama Gates in Lone Pine. A series of free community events commemorating the centennial of the Alabama Gates Occupation. Community picnic, film screenings, food trucks and more. *Info: alabamagates2024.org*

Monday, November 18/
Inyo Associates meet in Lone Pine @ Boulder Creek RV Resort. Social 5:30 p.m. and dinner at 6. Cost: \$25. RSVP to the Lone Pine Chamber at 760.876.4444.

Tuesday, November 19/
Volunteer Eastern Sierra's monthly "Not Your Grandma's Bingo" takes place @ the Warming Hut. This week's charitable organization of choice: Rhiannon's Kids. *For more info: See ad*

UPCOMING

p. 3 or story p. 6
Wednesday, November 20/
Mammoth Lakes Town Council meets. Time: 4 p.m. Location: Suite Z, Minaret Mall or online via townofmammothlakes.ca.gov.
Thursday, November 21/
Art and Wine @ the Mono Arts Council Gallery. Printmaking & Mulled Wine with Michaela Teefy. Time: 5:30 p.m. Materials and refreshments provided. Fee \$55. Visit Monoarts.org for registration.

UPCOMING

November 28: 10th annual Footloose Sports Turkey Trot. Time: 9 a.m. Register online and save \$5 at www.mammothtrackclub.com.

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Help Wanted



Sierra Employment Services, Inc. is hiring for the following positions:

PT Front Desk Assoc.
-Mammoth \$20-22

FT/PT Maint. Tech
-Mammoth \$20-22

Housekeeper(s)
-Mammoth \$20

Journeyman Plumber
-Mammoth \$30-45

Community Integration Partner - Bishop/Mammoth \$20-25

Call or text 760-924-0523

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

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

FRONT DESK PERSON NEEDED FOR BOOKKEEPING OFFICE. Customer service, secretarial and computer skills necessary. Heavy phone duties. Competitive pay, 401(k) profit sharing, paid vacation, holidays. Please send resume to info@butnerhoaservices.com

The Alpenhof Lodge, Mammoth Lakes, has openings for customer service minded people and we are looking to add to our front desk team.

Both full-time year-round positions, as well as seasonal winter positions, are available. Applicant must be able to work evenings, weekends, and some holidays. We offer competitive wages, a 401(k) option and possible housing option, as well as many other perks. If interested, please apply in person at 6080 Minaret Road.

Maintenance Field Worker. Busy rental agency looking for field maintenance staff. Experience is not essential, a clean drivers license and vehicle will be required. Full-time or Part-time, day time hours weekdays and weekends available, bi-lingual or English speaking, competitive pay based on experience. To apply, stop by Mammoth Reservations, 1914 Meridian Blvd with your resume.



SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF MONO

The Superior Court of California for Mono County invites applications for the position of

Deputy Court Clerk

in the Mammoth Lakes Courthouse

Hourly Salary Range:
\$21.76 - \$34.66 DOE
with excellent benefits

Application and job description available at:
<https://mono.courts.ca.gov>
or call the court at (760) 923-2321 or email: hr@mono.courts.ca.gov

Open Until Filled

The Mono County Superior Court is an equal opportunity employer

Help Wanted



Elevate Your Career At Mammoth Hospital! We have an immediate need for the following positions:

Radiologic Technologist II - Starting wage \$44.42 to \$53.84 based on qualifications. \$5,000 Retention Bonus.

Landscape Maintenance Technician - Starting wage \$22.24 to \$23.81 based on qualification.

Physical Therapist - Starting wage \$48.72 to \$59.05 based on qualifications. \$5,000 Retention Bonus

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

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

U.S.P.S contractor needs a carrier trainee. \$33/hr., 5/6 days per week 6 hrs./day. Must pass FBI clearance & DMV. Contact

Help wanted PT/FT retail sporting goods and clothing sales. Housing may be available. Ski pass may be available. Apply by email, dave@mammothgear.com with resume if you have one.

Licensed T1 & D1 Water Operator wanted, part-time 5-10 hrs. monthly at Sierra Industrial Park. Monthly fee plus hourly, call Chip 951-323-5682



MAMMOTH COMMUNITY WATER DISTRICT Maintenance Dept. is currently recruiting for one permanent Line Maintenance Worker I/II/III (DOQ) position.

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



Mammoth Mountain Reservations is Looking for a part time office help in Mammoth. Must live in Mammoth. At least 20 hours/week. Please email resume/work experience to info@mammothres.com.



Black Tie Ski & Bike Rentals is now hiring for both FT/PT winter seasonal positions for the 2024-25 ski season. Seeking proactive and energetic individuals who share our love of the mountains and possess an entrepreneurial spirit. Ideal candidates enjoy working in a great team atmosphere and are passionate about providing impeccable customer service to our guests.

Flexible scheduling is available but MUST be able to work weekends & holidays. Competitive compensation includes; generous tips, ski pass, 401k, industry pricing equipment deals, personal use of shop equipment and tools and family & friend discounts.

If you're passionate about skiing and/or snowboarding and enjoy sharing that passion with guests of our mountain community, this could be a great opportunity for you. Please email a resume with references to mammoth@blacktiemammoth.com if you are interested in joining our team.

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

Ski tech at Mammoth Mountaineering Supply. Tech work for skis and snowboards, not backcountry specific. Pay dependent on experience. Housing/ski pass available. Please email dave@mammothgear.com



SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF MONO

The Superior Court of California for Mono County invites applications for the position of

Family Law Facilitator and Self-Help Center Program Coordinator

This is a part-time independent contractor position for a licensed attorney

Annual Salary:
\$89,243

A job description and application instructions may be obtained on the court's website, <https://www.mono.courts.ca.gov/generalinfo/employment.htm>, or contact the court at (760)923-2321

hr@mono.courts.ca.gov

Closing Date: Open until filled

EOE/AEE/AAE

PT job oppty. - Secretary to the Birchim Community Services District. Job duties include but are not limited to the following: preparing and posting monthly agenda, attending monthly night meetings in Sunny Slopes, preparing minutes, warrants and collecting mail. Familiarity with Brown Act helpful. HS diploma and computer skills req'd. Averages 30 hours/month. No benefits. Interested parties can mail a letter of introduction and resume to Birchim Community Services District, 636 Owens Gorge Rd, Toms Place, CA 93546. Application deadline: November 30.

PERSONAL

I saw you ... in The Heiress. Hey, maybe swing by my place after the show on Saturday and you can play some more doctor!

Help Wanted

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

For Rent

2 BDR/2 BA/2-CAR GARAGE unit in Lee Vining with woodstove & w/d. Cost: \$1,900/mo. Call Dennis @760.914.0492

Now Available! The Acorns village has a vacancy!! These brand new single-family homes are located across from Gull Lake. Walk to the town of June Lake, the Brewery and more. Minutes to June Mountain ski resort.

These units are 2BD/1.5BA with a large loft. Full-size W/D and all brand new appliances. Rent is \$2500 a month plus utilities. Text/call 760.807.8975.

For rent in June Lake Village. 3BDR/2BA apartment with lake views! \$3,000/mo plus utilities. Great option for a family or two couples. Well-behaved pets will be considered. Inquiries: 970.497.0609

Two bay shop space for rent. Approx. 1,800-sq. feet. No auto repair. Next to Starbucks. \$3,000/mo. 760.937.7569

Nomadness Rentals has three storage spaces for rent, sizes of 38-, 85-, and 130-sq. feet respectively. Location: 306 Laurel Mtn. Rd. For more info, call Michelle @ 970.837.6720

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

Patient Calculator

Kyle Lan Franco
609 Monterey Pine Rd.
PO Box 8928
Mammoth Lakes, Calif. 93546

This business is conducted by a general partnership. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein in January, 2024. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on October 3, 2024 File Number 24-087
2024-0152 (11/9, 11/16, 11/23, 11/30)

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

Mammoth Firewood

GC Forest Products Inc.
123 Commerce Dr. #E-19
PO Box 9062
Mammoth Lakes, Calif. 93546

This business is conducted by a corporation. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein in 1985. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on October 1, 2024 File Number 24-086
2024-0150 (10/26, 11/2, 11/9, 11/16)

PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice of Summary Financial Statements

SOUTHERN MONO HEALTHCARE DISTRICT SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS		
CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF NET POSITION As of June 30		
CONDENSED ASSETS	2024	2023
Total current assets	\$ 114,944,420	\$ 84,133,131
Noncurrent restricted cash	14,472,956	14,174,635
Long-term investments	47,504,600	59,033,370
Total capital assets, net	51,384,036	48,879,144
Investment in joint venture	3,230,000	3,230,000
Total assets	\$ 231,536,012	\$ 209,450,280
CONDENSED LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES, AND NET POSITION		
Total current liabilities	\$ 13,723,634	\$ 11,852,012
Total long-term liabilities	23,613,960	25,924,864
Total liabilities	37,337,594	37,776,876
Total deferred inflows of resources	196,299	223,070
Net position	194,002,119	171,450,334
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and net position	\$ 231,536,012	\$ 209,450,280
CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION Years ended June 30	2024	2023
Total operating revenues	\$ 111,487,565	\$ 104,999,613
Total operating expenses	100,006,003	94,013,495
Operating income	11,481,562	10,986,118
Total nonoperating revenues, net	8,424,461	5,206,916
Revenues in excess of expenses before capital contributions and tax revenues for debt principal payments	19,906,023	16,193,034
Contributions for capital assets	382,375	277,704
Tax revenues for debt principal payments	2,263,387	1,705,000
Change in net position	22,551,785	18,175,738
Net position, beginning of year	171,450,334	153,274,596
Net position, end of year	\$ 194,002,119	\$ 171,450,334
CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS Years ended June 30	2024	2023
Net cash from operating activities	\$ 12,640,227	\$ 14,771,488
Net cash from noncapital financing activities	3,131,320	3,100,715
Net cash used for capital and related financing activities	(8,506,372)	(12,102,653)
Net cash from (used for) investing activities	(8,962,925)	(61,354,872)
Net change in cash and cash equivalents	(1,697,750)	(55,585,322)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	76,333,789	131,919,111
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	\$ 74,636,039	\$ 76,333,789
Reconciliation of cash and cash equivalents to the statements of net position		
Cash and cash equivalents in current assets	\$ 60,163,083	\$ 62,159,154
Cash and cash equivalents in noncurrent cash	14,472,956	14,174,635
Total cash and cash equivalents	\$ 74,636,039	\$ 76,333,789
Reconciliation of operating income to net cash from operating activities		
Operating income	\$ 11,481,562	\$ 10,986,118
Adjustments to reconcile operating income to net cash from operating activities	1,158,665	3,785,370
Net cash from operating activities	\$ 12,640,227	\$ 14,771,488
TS #2024-0154		

Notice of Ordinance

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Mono County Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing on December 19, 2024 in the Board Chambers on the 2nd floor of the County Courthouse at 278 Main Street in Bridgeport, 93517.

The meeting will be accessible remotely by livestream at <https://monocounty.zoom.us/j/81696671357>, or via teleconference at the Dana Room on the 2nd floor of the Mono County Civic Center, 1290 Tavern Road in Mammoth Lakes, 93546, where members of the public shall have the right to observe and offer public comment and to consider the following: No earlier than 9:05 a.m.

Use Permit 24-009/Poe Vacation Home Rental.

The proposal is to create a vacation home rental of a newly constructed single-family residential unit located at 19 Willow Avenue, June Lake (APN 016-193-033-000).

The property is designated Commercial Lodging (CL-M) and is 1.12 acres. If permitted, the vacation home rental will have a maximum overnight occupancy of six persons and two vehicles.

The project qualifies for an exemption under CEQA §15301, Existing Facilities. Project materials are available for public review online at <https://monocounty.ca.gov/planning-commission> and hard copies are available for the cost of reproduction by calling 760-924-1800.

INTERESTED PERSONS are strongly encouraged to attend online or in person to comment, or to submit comments by mail or at the office to the Secretary of the Planning Commission, PO Box 347, 1290 Tavern Road STE 138, Mammoth Lakes, CA, 93546, by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, December 18, 2024, to ensure timely receipt, or by email at cddcomments@mono.ca.gov.

If you challenge the proposed action(s) in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered at or prior to the public hearing.

TS #2024-0155

PERSONALS

I hope to see you ... for Thanksgiving. Because I love your stuffing

I saw you ... in The Heiress. I loved it so much I'm thinking of seeing it again. Call me an Heirhead!

I saw you ... are still depressed about the election. I think the key to getting over it is to Kamalot, so come by my place for a spirited game of hide-the-ballot.

Fictitious Business Name Statement The Following Entity Is Doing Business As:	Fictitious Business Name Statement The Following Entity Is Doing Business As:
GC Construction	GC Firewood
GC Forest Products Inc. 123 Commerce Dr. #E-19 PO Box 9062 Mammoth Lakes, Calif. 93546	GC Forest Products Inc. 123 Commerce Dr. #E-19 PO Box 9062 Mammoth Lakes, Calif. 93546
This business is conducted by a corporation. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein in 1985. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on October 1, 2024 File Number 24-086 2024-0149 (10/26, 11/2, 11/9, 11/16)	This business is conducted by a corporation. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein in 1985. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on October 1, 2024 File Number 24-086 2024-0148 (10/26, 11/2, 11/9, 11/16)



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Openings at www.mammothhospital.com | [f](#) [i](#) [t](#) [v](#)

Hello, I'm TRISTAN!

He's a beautiful young boy who has lots of room to grow and learn. Came in recently with little or no training, but he's a natural! He loves people, playing with other dogs, calm, and obedient to see how to become your best friend. Please come and meet Tristan - and others like him that are in search of their forever home - at the Inyo County Animal Shelter, located at 1001 County Road in Big Pine. For more information, call (760) 938-2715. To see more dogs available for adoption, visit www.easternsierradogrescue.com



PAGEANT

continued from page 1

The whole family is heading to Orlando for the competition. Dad Brandon will even escort Caitlin for the formal wear competition. He had to buy a suit for it!

Caitlin will be one of 800 girls competing in six age categories. Most states will be represented, except for Lunch's home state of New Hampshire.

Figures.

Caitlin's favorite part of the event are event are the optional competitions which give her the opportunity to sing and dance and act.

At home, she participates in the Snowcreek Dance Academy led by Kelsey Spike and Bri Thibault.

She also takes Zoom acting classes and participates in local theater camps over the summer.



Caitlin volunteering at the Mammoth Hospital Cancer Outreach Golf Tournament

And she is a member of the Girl Scouts.

She is also an active volunteer in the community. She volunteered for the hospital at its annual Cancer Outreach golf tournament and volunteered with her fellow Scouts for the Mammoth Mountain Community Foundation at a Gran Fondo rest stop.

But her passion really lies in animal rescue. She likes volunteering at Whitmore Animal Shelter and walking/playing with the dogs. She recently created "Small Town Paws" to raise local awareness and created an Amazon wish list to try to get more donations for items they need. She hopes to get her local Girl Scouts more involved in the Shelter. Caitlin has plans to do a blanket drive in collaboration with Tailwaggers in December.

...

While in Orlando, Florida for Nationals, Caitlin will also be auditioning at a convention for casting directors and agencies in the areas of modeling, acting, and pop music.

Her mom is thankful for the sponsorships from Sierra Spine and Wellness and Blazing Shears Salon who are helping to send Caitlin on this adventure.

The competition takes place Nov. 23-29.

VETERANS DAY

PHOTOS: GAYLA WOLF



Ray White, recently awarded for 70 service years in American Legion



Carl Hoelscher (left) and David Stottlemire (right)



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HARTLEY

WRAP IT UP!

Daniel Jones. Please NY Giants for the love of football sit that dude on the bench. I believe if Jones doesn't pass a physical in March, they will owe him another \$25 million. You know what that means - wrap his ass in bubble wrap RIGHT NOW and glue him under the bench so no one can possibly run into him or step on a toe and break it. You gain NOTHING by playing him, except more debt.



Select picks:

Washington Trumps 3.5 dogs to the Eagles. O/U 48.5. Interesting game here. Eagles D is getting better and Daniels is still a rookie. But in simpler terms: Eagles are great at running the ball and

the Commanders not great at stopping the run. Eagles 27-23

Packers laying 5.5 to the Bears. O/U 40.5. Jordan Love is back which means he will throw 4 TD passes to his team and 2 to the other. If he could eliminate that ONE Jameis Winston throw a game he would be insanely elite. Packers off a bye week and the Bears off a week in which they played a game, which was like being on a bye because they were poorly coached and unprepared and got their asses whipped by the lowly Patriots. The Patriots were pissed off they beat the Bears because they are literally trying to tank and the Bears were so bad the Pats had no choice to beat them or be fined for point-shaving by Goodell. Packers 31-15.

Rams laying 4.5 to the Pats. O/U 43.5. Simple analysis: Rams are pretty good and pissed they lost last week because they need a win for the playoffs. The Patriots are a putrid football team trying to remove themselves from the stench of six super bowls earned by Bill Belichick. Rams 24-16.

Browns laying 1.5 to the Saints. O/U 44.5. Saints 16-12. Brown QB Jameis Winston gets hungry during a play and throws an interception to the popcorn vendor so he can go get a snack.

Raiders a 7.5 point dog to the Dol-

RIP MATT HESLEP



A memorial service for Matt Heslep is scheduled for Wednesday, November 20 at the Liberty Bar in Mammoth starting at 7 p.m. There will be photos, memorabilia, an open mic. Contact Justin with questions via Instagram @justininmammoth. It will also double as a fundraiser as the family hopes to ship his body home to his native Tennessee for burial. As his former boss, Chop, expressed, "This world has lost not just a great man but a better person. My heart and soul are crushed. One can only hope our paths will cross again. 'Til then keep the band going and keep riding towards the sunset."

phins. O/U 44.5 Tua is back. And I have come to realize something - he's just not that bright. I used to listen to him talk and think he just has that Hawaiian accent. Now I think he is just a little slow. And you can't just blame it on the concussions. He is just stupid. Too stupid to protect himself. Led with this head to try and make a tackle last week. Duh. Dolphins 30-15.

Ravens laying 3 to the Steelers. O/U 48.5. Oh brother. Russell Wilson has reverted to his old self. Do nothing, Do nothing, Do nothing, BOMB TD. I would think a defense would be smart enough to not play single high safety all day with Wilson throwing the ball. But the Ravens defense is pathetic as well. That said, the Ravens can score. 27-25.

see HARTLEY, next page

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HARTLEY

continued from page 14
Niners laying 6.5 to the Seachickens.
O/U 49.5. OVER is GENO. The emergence of Geno the Great QB is OVER. Niners 30-22.

Bills laying 2.5 to the Chiefs. O/U 46.5. The Bills need to prove they are a real team and they are home. Chiefs are starting to look better offensively, but they run into a hungry team this week. Bills 27-20.

Chargers laying 1.5 to the Bengals. O/U 46.5. Every week the Chargers play is more fuel to the fire that Brandon Staley will NEVER be an NFL head coach again. Chargers look really good against bad teams. They don't against good teams. Dilemma ... Cincy is both a good team and a bad team, depending on whether Jekyll or Hyde shows up. I'm guessing Dr. Jekyll. Bengals 27-21.

The JETS are pathetic. I make sure to keep their games in my multiview just to see Aaron Rodgers play like crap but still maintain his smug demeanor. He looks old. Just old. Every shot reminds me how they turned the entire franchise over to that jerk. Makes me happy. They are getting exactly what they deserve. The funny thing is he wanted to get rid of Mike Williams for Davante Adams. Since arriving Adams has more dropped passes than TD receptions. And he dropped a perfect TD pass last week. Adams is good but he is not NEAR the player he was 4 years ago. And I saw he has a commercial. Why does Davante Adams have a commercial? They let anyone have one now. Will Levis?



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WHIPKEY RECOVERING

Former Mammoth resident Riley Whipkey is recovering from a recent auto accident in Rudyard Township,



Michigan which took the life of his mother, Sherri.

Riley finished high school in Mammoth in the mid-2000s. He was a starter



and captain on Lunch's first varsity basketball team.

According to his LinkedIn profile, Riley graduated with an Associate's degree from Ventura College in 2012 and later with a Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Resources Engineering from Humboldt State University in 2020.

With a 3.8 GPA.

Riley is married and has two children.

The family bought a home in Michigan four years ago.

He has been employed for the past two years by WSP, an environmental consulting company, in Kalamazoo, Mich. A GoFundMe has been set up at <https://www.gofundme.com/f/support-riley-whipkeys-recovery-journey>

MONO COUNTY WINTER CLOTHING DRIVE

For the benefit of youth and elderly in our county, we are collecting cold weather clothing in children, youth, and adult sizes, all genders. Gently used or new items only please!

These items can be jackets, parkas, thermal layers, sweaters, hoodies, gloves, scarves, beanies, winter socks, boots, pants, etc...

Donations accepted Nov 4 thru Dec 2

Donation Locations:

- Bridgeport Library
- Coleville Library
- Mammoth Library
- Crowley Lake Library
- Lee Vining Library
- June Lake Library
- Benton Library
- Walker Senior Center

Pick up Locations:

- Bridgeport Memorial Hall
73 North School St.
December 9th, 2-6pm
- Mammoth Lakes Civic Center
1290 Tavern Rd.
December 11th, 2-6pm
- Walker Senior Center
399 Mule Deer Rd
December 12th, 2-5pm

Are you or your family in need of winter clothing?
Please use QR code to request items and sizes.
Supplies are limited to what has been donated.



Organized by Mono County Office of Education Homeless Children and Youth Program and Community Schools, Mono County Health and Human Services and Mono County Free Library.
Contact: Kevin Lian klian@monocoe.org.



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