

the sheet

News, Views & Culture of the Eastern Sierra



PHOTO LUNCH

I felt like when I took this photo the other day, that if I'd backtracked and went looking for the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow next to Mammoth Airport, I might find Terry Ballas there sipping on a fine bottle of Scotch.

Saturday, February 8, 2025

FREE

Vol. 23, No. Russell

WE'D REALLY LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU

But if you would just shut up ...

By Fisher

Mammoth Lakes Town Council held a session where the public could express their opinions on town amenities at Council's first meeting of the year. But at its most recent meeting on Wednesday, the Council came to a consensus that individual public comment time should be capped at three minutes instead of the current allotted five minutes.

Mayor Chris Bubser brought the issue of shortening the time forward as a "best practice." During the aforementioned request for public comment, Bubser had used her mayoral powers to shorten the allotted time to three minutes day-of. The public comment period lasted approximately 30 minutes within the six-hour meeting.

Other public comment sessions have run long as well; for instance, the comment period lasted nearly an hour in the wake of the euthanization of Victor the bear, and a public hearing on an appeal of a proposed cell tower on Old Mammoth exceeded three hours. In the Victor the bear session, there was no three-minute limit, but public comments were restricted during the cell tower hearing.

"The idea of cutting to three minutes is always ... attractive," said Councilmember Bill Sauser, who was Mayor during both of those events. "However, [speaking at a Council meeting] is a hard thing to do for someone who has not practiced in it, or is not particularly outgoing to get up to that podium and speak."

Three minutes is the typical amount of allotted time for individual public comment in the state, Town Attorney Andy Morris said. Though the council does have the ability to adopt its own reasonable limits under the Brown Act.

Earlier in the meeting, resident Sandy Hogan gave a presentation during public comment asking the Council to write a letter of concern on behalf of federal employees who may be phased out under the Trump Administration. She ran over the five-minute time period, and Sauser said people like Sandy deserve the full five minutes to share their thoughts, and that a few public comments don't typically add much time to the agenda.

"In our regular meetings, the five minutes really doesn't get in our way," he said. "I would like to see us come up with a way to limit [the time] when we're dealing with a Victor the bear scenario."

Councilmember Amanda Rice said operating that way would be a bad look, and advocated for the three-minute restriction across the board for uniformity.

"If we normally have it as five minutes and then, oh, it's a controversial topic, we're gonna cut it down to three minutes, I feel like you're taking the wind out of people's sails," she said.

Bubser backed her up, and said it's easier to allot people more time when the crowd is small than to restrict the time because the crowd is big.

"When people come in with

see **THREE MINUTES**, pg. 7



A snowy shot from Thursday designed to entice website readers to get off their asses and up to Mammoth!

RETURN OF THE HALL-OF-FAMER

By Lunch

You know they're serious when they bring a Hall of Famer out of retirement.

But if that's what it takes to kickstart some momentum for the Crowley Fish Foundation (CFF), Tim Alpers is all for it.

The Sheet caught up last week with Alpers, a name synonymous with trophy trout for nearly a half century.

Alpers, a two-term Mono County Supervisor before his retirement in 2016, now lives near Verdi outside Reno, Nevada.

And he was recently recruited as an advisor to the CFF in an effort to raise funds and awareness for the local fishery.

**He sounds great, by the way. Maybe that's what happens when you get a little rest!*

As Alpers said, "regulatory compliance drove me out of the fish business ... I killed myself for fifty years on the ranch ... the problem with aquacul-

ture these days is that the farms are so expensive to operate. There are probably only two or three left."

And expensive to operate means expensive to purchase.

As Joe Contaldi, CFF President, says, "\$3,000 only buys you 400 pounds of fish ... \$20,000 is a minimum for a decent fish stocking ... the Bridgeport Fish Enhancement Foundation (BFEF) easily spends twice that."

And the Crowley Lake fishery, which has been so good and so iconic for so long, does need a bit of love and attention.

Not that the state doesn't do its part - in 2023, it stocked 350,000 fish in Crowley.

But as Alpers observes, "Studies show manmade reservoirs [like Crowley] lose their vitality after 60-70 years. No one quite knows why ... and no two reservoirs are the same - there are geologic differences,

chemical differences, management differences."

So right now, it's CFF, working with California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), trying to figure out ways to keep Crowley vibrant.

Nick Buckmaster is the Inland Desert Fisheries Supervisor for CDFW. In regard to Alpers observation, he said yes, studies show that there's a nutrient boom when you flood a new habitat, and it "supercharges" the ecosystem for awhile. It's a boom-and-bust phenomenon.

In other states, Buckmaster said they've launched "lake renewal" projects as a result.

What's that mean? They kill everything in the lake and start over. It's like lake chemo. They poison it to save it.

But in California, we don't do that. It's a little more measured.

more **FISH**, pg. 2

The King of Bridgeport

p. 8/

Organizers organizing

p. 5/

No quid pro quo

p. 4/

Lotta talk

p. 15/

Missing Bobby Tanner

p. 15/

FISH

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And Crowley isn't a typical reservoir. The Crowley food web, says Buckmaster, is turbocharged by geothermal activity, "It's still productive," he said.

The bigger issues are disease, climate variables, reservoir logistics et. al One example he gave was the demise in the Kamloops trout - a species which stuck close to the shoreline, so it was great for shore fishermen.

But then drought sharply reduced and then eliminated Kamloops as a stocking option.

It was replaced by increased plantings of Eagle lake as well as other types of rainbow trout which tend to spend more time off-shore. If you're trolling behind a boat, you wouldn't notice an overall difference. But the shore fishermen notice, because they're getting skunked.

It's that balance, figuring out what you've stocked and what's getting caught - that Buckmaster is keenly interested in.

"It's about more monitoring, more data," said Buckmaster. "I need information on what people are catching. This is where CFF can really help."

While Rainbows have not reproduced very successfully at Crowley, Buckmaster said CDFW has been stocking a whirling disease-resistant strain the past few years in the hopes of returning some of that shoreline fishing component.

They'll also stock more Lahontan Cutthroat (which is what is stocked in Pyramid Lake). These are 5-10 lb. trophy fish.

The CDFW is certainly committed, said Alpers. The challenge is that we have a huge visiting population which puts a lot of pressure on the fishery.

Local guide Mark McKenzie teaching Turquoise Stone how to tie a dry fly at a recent CFF clinic.



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The CDFW is certainly committed, said Alpers. The challenge is that we have a huge visiting population which puts a lot of pressure on the fishery.

"The timing on the non-profit is really good," he said. "The community has demonstrated that it cares

the sheet

News, Views & Culture of the Eastern Sierra

"If you're playing poker and you look around the table and can't tell who the sucker is, it's you."

-Paul Newman

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... I know what people like and to keep the dreams going, we need a good product for people to open their wallets."

Board secretary Chris Leonard notes that CFF members range in experience and fishing background in everything from fish entrepreneurship (like Alpers) to recreational anglers. And the goal is tandem. Help the lake and grow the sport. "We are currently teamed up with the Bishop Paiute Tribe taking kids fishing and teaching fly tying. We have fished with various veteran groups, and will continue to do so. And we keep building relationships with people in the fishing world."

You can learn more at www.crowleyfishfoundation.org.

Now onto a few thoughts - the first regarding Fisher's story on page one regarding Mammoth Council limiting public comment time.

There was this great little piece in the Journal the other day on a new expression called "boomerasking."

"Like the looping arc of a boomerang, boomeraskers ask a question, let their counterpart answer and then immediately bring the focus of the conversation back to themselves. They try to achieve two conflicting goals at once: to show interest in their partner and to disclose something about themselves. But they fall short of achieving either goal ... among all the subtle and obvious ways we attempt to mask our self-centeredness, boomerasking might be the worst."

I bring this up because we currently find ourselves in a high-volume boomerask environment. There have been many occasions of late where I'll meet up with a Councilmember or Staffer and they'll boomerask a question about housing - not to have a discussion, but so they can pretend to solicit feedback before launching into monologues about why they have to do it the way they do it, and why there's no other way to do it.

And then give themselves credit afterward for "outreach."

It's this 'there there child, you just don't understand how government works' type of boomerasking which has destroyed public interest and enthusiasm.

You want to know why people drone on and on at the podium. For the same reason that people will drone on and on to their spouses, repeating the same points again and again.

They drone on because they are not being heard.

"Failing to follow up on your partner's answer, and answering the question yourself instead, makes others feel like you don't care about them - and probably didn't care about them when you asked the question to begin with."

And yes, the majority of Mammoth's Town Council are boomeraskers par excellence.

Speaking of tone deaf government, check out this Inyo National Forest press release, under the heading "Reds Meadow Road reconstruction update."

Mammoth Lakes, Calif., January 31, 2025 —Inyo National Forest, partner agencies and contractors responsible for the reconstruction of Reds Meadow Road, which leads to Devils Postpile National Monument, are ready to share the projected schedule for the summer 2025 season.

Significant changes include the road now being open on Thursdays with 1-hour delayed traffic control during the peak summer season.

"We are happy to announce that we will now be able to open the road for the public via bus shuttles for a fourth day of the week this summer instead of three," said Mammoth District Ranger Fred Wong. "However, there will still be construction occurring on Thursdays with alternating one-way

more LUNCH, page 15



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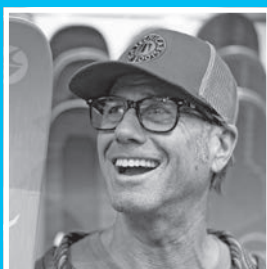
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LETTERS

No quid pro quo

Dear Editor,

I would like to remind Mr. Blazenski (letters section, Feb. 1 issue, p. 4) that unlike a family, the government of a well functioning democratic republic governs by consent of the governed.

We individuals, as well as local and regional governments, receive benefits from the federal government because the elected officials who represent us, have determined they are needed for a civic benefit. While we have appropriated these benefits for our cause, we retain the right to disagree with the government that has issued them, on other matters.

Only in an oligarchic state, or a crime syndicate, is there a quid pro quo, where benefits are contingent upon loyalty to those in power.

Most of us agree on the need for large scale assistance in fire prevention. However appropriating federal resources for this purpose does not obligate us to support federal policies many view as racist, anti-humanitarian, illegal and unconstitutional.

Urmass Franosch
Mammoth Lakes

I still CAREs

Dear Editor,

ICARE of the Eastern Sierra appreci-

ates the mention of our organization and services in your February 1, 2025 edition ("Shelter Population Surge," p. 2). As ICARE's President, I wanted to clarify and add to the information contained in your article.

ICARE has been helping the pets and people of the Eastern Sierra since 1997. Our primary mission is to provide spay and neuter assistance to pet owners in financial need. But, we have also committed to helping with the cost of spaying and neutering all pets adopted from the Inyo County Animal Shelter. In all, ICARE has helped to "fix" over 16,000 pets in Inyo and Mono Counties at a cost of about \$730,000. We believe that preventing the birth of unplanned cats and dogs is the humane answer to our country's ongoing pet overpopulation crisis. Since our founding 28 years ago, ICARE's approach to preventing litters has decreased the number of cats and dogs impounded at the Inyo County shelter by 45%; adoption rates have increased by 424%; and, most importantly, the number of Inyo County shelter animals euthanized has decreased an incredible 98%.

The article mentioned the fact that ICARE's founding members, Ted and Lisa Schade, no longer live in the Eastern Sierra. While this is true, my wife, Lisa, and I continue to run ICARE out of our home on the Central Coast. I am the president and Lisa is the CEO/Treasurer/Secretary. Even though we no longer live on the East Side, we remain

deeply committed to the welfare of Eastern Sierra pets and continue to help people and their pets every day. ICARE maintains its local Bishop phone number (760-872-3802), which rings in our home office. Lisa takes calls and helps pet owners arrange for their low-cost spay/neuter surgeries and works with local vets to assure that both pets and their people receive the financial help they need.

Additionally, ICARE has a Board of Directors made up of pet lovers from both Inyo and Mono County—it is still very much a local effort. The organization is much bigger than the two people leading it. The fact that we continue to help many hundreds of pets annually (528 in 2024 alone at a cost of \$30,500) shows that ICARE is still active and caring for local pets.

Thank you again for the mention and we would remind your readers that our success is due to the faithful support and generosity of our amazing donors. Please visit our website ICAREforPets.org for more information or to donate to our worthy cause.

Ted Schade
ICARE President

Two hours can save a life

Dear Editor,

Thank you to Paige Fisher for covering Guzel's inspiring story in last

week's cover story, "How to Save a Life." Though she suffered cardiac arrest while in the lift line with her family, she survived because of the incredible work of bystanders, Mammoth Mountain Ski Patrol, Mono County EMS, Mammoth Hospital, and Reach/Sierra LifeFlight. It was a rare privilege for us medical providers to hear a patient's story in her own words and to see someone who we battled to save ultimately emerge alive and well.

Dan Flynn, MMSP manager, Candace Kasulka RN, Mammoth Hospital Ski Patrol Liaison/emergency department nurse, and myself created the Eastside Winter Trauma Series with the goal of bringing our local agencies together to discuss cases, develop relationships, and improve patient care. In that vein, our presentation last week focused on the life-saving power of high quality CPR and early AED application and defibrillation. Without these interventions, Guzel would have died. CPR requires no equipment and minimal training. AEDs are widespread but have to be sought out. For those in our community that are not yet CPR trained, please consider taking Elevate Mammoth Hospital's Heartsaver First Aid CPR AED course. In two hours, anyone can learn the skills needed to save a life. Sign up at: <https://www.elevatemammoth.com/heartsaver-firstaid-cpr-aed>

Sierra Bourne MD
NIH and Mammoth Hospital

COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSESSMENT



Mammoth Hospital is committed to the health and well-being of our community. Every 3 years, we conduct a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) to evaluate the overall health needs of the area.

We are asking community members to participate in a survey that will help us complete this assessment. Through this survey, we hope to learn about the health status of the community, determine factors that contribute to health issues, and ultimately prioritize the health needs in our area.

This survey should take less than 10 minutes and is available through Feb. 28, 2025 by scanning the code.

This is very important in our commitment to our community, and we appreciate your time and assistance!

Paper survey available upon request. 760-965-9954



EVALUACIÓN DE NECESIDADES DE SALUD COMUNITARIA



Mammoth Hospital está realizando una Evaluación de Necesidades de Salud Comunitaria (CHNA, por sus siglas en inglés) para evaluar las necesidades generales de salud en la región.

La CHNA proporciona numerosos beneficios tanto para nuestra organización como para la comunidad, ya que nos ayuda a identificar necesidades de salud, disparidades en el acceso a la atención médica y brechas clave en la prestación de servicios.

Esta encuesta debería tomar menos de 10 minutos y estará disponible hasta el 28 de febrero de 2025 escaneando el código.

Este esfuerzo es fundamental en nuestro compromiso con la comunidad, y agradecemos su tiempo y colaboración mientras trabajamos para mejorar la salud de nuestra población. ¡Gracias por su participación!



KLUSMIRE

GETTING ORGANIZED

The organizers are organizing. Last December, the Inyo 350 activist group held a community meeting to give people a chance to ponder what might happen when Donald Trump took control of the presidency. It garnered a nice turnout, but nothing to write home about.

However, the first weeks of the Trump presidency jolted the somewhat sleepy local response to the stream of policies and pronouncements that have been pouring out of the Oval Office like lava spewing from a volcano. That has heated up the local Inyo 350 group, which is an admittedly progressive, left-of-center or, heaven forbid, liberal group.

On Sunday, Feb. 2, the contingent of Eastern Sierra residents who are markedly unhappy, upset and angry about Trump's initial presidential moves pretty much filled the large fellowship hall at the Bishop United Methodist Church. The organizers noted lots of new faces, a good contingent of younger people and plenty of pent up "I gotta do something" energy. A solid contingent of Mammoth Lakes and Mono County folks added some regional umph. More tables and chairs were hastily brought out of storage to accommodate the nearly 90 attendees.

While there was plenty of energy and angst, at this point uncertainty about the real impact of Trump's pronouncements on everything from immigration to federal hiring and spending freezes tempered the direct action, to-do lists generated on a variety of issues.

Nonetheless, plans were made and ideas presented on how to respond when a clear target arrived. The goal is to be like a cat hiding in the sagebrush and when a mouse appears, dash out and pounce.

Such planning will be needed, it was

noted, to counter the well-organized and active conservative groups, such as Free Eastside, and right-leaning conservative residents who will undoubtedly be energized and encouraged by the right turns being taken by Trump. That is not a small group. Inyo County has, at best, a 50-50 split between democrat/republican presidential voters. In November, Inyo voters went 50-47% in favor of Trump. Mono voters were 58-38% for Harris.

Some items presented in summary were a bit more direct then hiding in the bushes and waiting to strike.

The region's Republican US Representative Kevin Kiley was in the cross-hairs. The House has passed his Fix Our Forests Act, which was described as a way to get around national environmental laws to enable cutting timber from National Forests. His Freedom to Cooperate Act would allow local law enforcement "who wish to cooperate" to help Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents round up, arrest and detain immigrants. It would butt heads with the California "Sanctuary State" law that mandates local officers can't take part in or support ICE operations.

The action called for was an old school move: Call his office. On the phone. (Of course they had his number: 202-225-2523.) Those savvy to the ways of Washington said phone calls are counted and tracked by congressional and senate staff and reported to the electeds. Email and snail mail are mostly discarded.

More old-fashioned political advice was offered to impact local politicians. Residents were urged to attend county, school board and city council meetings and visibly support the stances or policies they agree with, and oppose the moves they don't. Bodies in the meeting

room, it was noted, have more impact then emails and chats at the post office with elected officials. An example of officials deserving a pat on the back: the Bishop, Mammoth Lakes police departments and Inyo and Mono Sheriff's offices, outlined how local LEOs will not take part in ICE operations because of the aforementioned state law.

Speaking of ICE, despite the online chatter and rumors, ICE has not arrived in the Eastern Sierra yet. If ICE arrives, people are planning to track and observe the officers and video their work. An ongoing effort to remind immigrants they have rights and particularly the right to remain silent (4th Amendment) and have a lawyer. It was noted the Trump "Border Czar" recently complained that immigrants knowing those rights had made it tougher to round them up during sweeps in Chicago.

Confusion and uncertainty are the order of the day for federal agencies. That's a problem in the Eastern Sierra where the Forest Service, BLM, and Park Service are the largest landowners and land managers. Until there's more clarity about the scope of announced/threatened/proposed hiring and spending freezes, those agencies will be pausing the hiring of hundreds of summer seasonal workers and waiting

for clearance before undertaking larger infrastructure or other projects.

On the medical front, the biggest threats are cuts to the Medicaid program, for low-income people, known as Medi-Cal in California, and Medicare, covering those over 65. Roughly half the patient revenue at Bishop's Northern Inyo Hospital and Mammoth Hospital and their clinics comes from those two programs. Any cuts in reimbursement rates or services would have significant impacts locally.

The most sobering report came from the LGBTQ+ group. A noticeable increase in straight-up hate speech, name-calling and "anti-queer" rhetoric has been observed and felt locally on social media and will likely start to show up during public meetings. Simply countering such "hateful" speech and supporting LGBTQ+ community members and their supporters was seen as a necessary first step.

Jon Klusmire of Bishop is close to drowning while trying to follow Trump's "Flood the Zone" tactics.

Meanwhile, Lunch looked at the first sentence and thought to himself, with a nod to Taylor Swift, the players gonna play and the haters gonna hate and the organizers gonna organize.

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(NR) 1h 31m SKI Tuesday - Wednesday 7:30pm	(PG13) 1h 58m CAPTAIN AMERICA Thursday 4:00pm 7:00pm	

LOCAL NEWS

KNOCK, KNOCK, ANYBODY HOME?

By Fisher

Last Thursday, Adylene Figueroa, a Mono County employee, noticed a light on in a van and mustered the courage to knock on the door to ask about the occupant's housing status.

After spending five minutes building up her nerve, she found the woman inside was just a tourist passing through. Figueroa continued onto the Mono County public library in search of other individuals experiencing homelessness.

This is all part of her job.

She, along with other county employees and volunteers, executed the Point-in-Time Count (PIT) last week, a survey which aims to get a snapshot of the number of people experiencing homelessness in Mono, Alpine and Inyo counties, which are all under the Eastern Sierra Continuum of Care (CoC) designation.

The count happens every January, and

the data is expected to be available by next week.

The Sheet met Figueroa when she arrived at the library. She was paired up with another Mono County employee, Sarah Eldridge.

In training, the survey takers are paired up and put into teams. If someone is surveying outside of Mammoth – Walker, Coleville, Benton, Chalfant, etc. – they're also paired with a deputy sheriff or police officer.

Eldridge and Figueroa were tasked with surveying within the town of Mammoth Lakes at places like coffee shops and laundromats.

At the same time, some of their colleagues were surveying parking areas like the scenic loop and the lots at Canyon and Eagle lodges. Organizers in Inyo county held spaghetti dinners in Bishop and Lone Pine to try to bring people experiencing homelessness together.

This was Figueroa's third year doing the PIT count, and in those years of experience, she's found, to her surprise, bars are the best place to find people to survey.

"I usually go to the employee, because I don't wanna go ask every person at the bar – that's a little too much," she said. "And they usually will be like, well, I know that person lives in their car."

Despite this massive effort, it's really hard to get a fully comprehensive count, and the PIT count has some flaws.

Last year, the Eastern Sierra Continuum of Care's 2024 Point-In-Time Count found 71 individuals experiencing homelessness in Inyo County and 35 in Mono County. Of those, 65% were unsheltered, while 34% were sheltered or living in transitional housing.

But there were potentially many more people experiencing homelessness than that data reflects. The Sheet interviewed Anna Scott, Inyo County's Human Services Director, in the January 11 issue (page 2) on why.

Scott said the definitions the PIT count uses don't always include people staying temporarily with friends or family, which means a lot of people aren't included in the data although they're part of the population being surveyed.

Second, because the count is always done in January, it's likely that the winter count of those experiencing homelessness is less than the area experiences in the summer months – especially in Mono and Alpine county. The PIT count is federally required to happen during this time, so the local CoC can't change this factor.

Still, this year, the weather during the count was significantly warmer than

previous years, which may change the outcome of the count, said Stephanie Rubio, Inyo County Housing Program Manager, in an interview Wednesday.

She also said – regardless of the year – some people are hesitant to give out their housing information because they're anxious about the government using it against them.

People also might lie about their housing status because they're embarrassed or ashamed, Eldridge told the Sheet. Figueroa added that doing the count at night also means people don't get counted because their jobs overlap with the survey time – bartenders and servers, for example, are usually working Thursday nights.

Despite the PIT's flaws, Rubio said the survey is ultimately a fair year-over-year comparison because it's consistent in its methods. The last two years, the parameters on what constitutes as unsheltered with the federal definition of homelessness is the same as what they surveyed on last year, which prevents inflated numbers based on definition changes.

The data is categorized by demographics like age and living situation; there are different surveys for different types of people: the survey form is different for a minor than an adult, and there are different questions for people who receive a hotel room or some type of shelter.

"We just kind of determine, based on the interview, what their needs are and what led to them experiencing homelessness and how long it's happened," Rubio said.

The CoC incentivizes people to take the survey by handing out backpacks, like goodie bags, to people who do fill it out, Figueroa said. The backpacks have things like a blanket, socks and a grocery outlet gift card in them.

If people don't want to do the survey or the surveyors don't feel comfortable surveying someone, the surveyor can fill out an "observation" form on the person instead, Rubio said.

The data determines the CoC's future programming and the federal government uses the data to determine how much funding the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development can allocate to certain areas.



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THREE MINUTES

continued from page 1

“When people come in with their passion plea, they have written their cards to be five minutes long, and it is much more challenging and disrespectful to have to cut that down,” she said. “That’s what’s really troubling to me, and I’ve never seen it anywhere else.”

Councilmember Brent Truax said he believed people should get the full five minutes, even in cases where there are a lot of speakers because allowing more time means the council will get higher quality responses from people. He also used Sandy Hogan’s comment as an example.

“It takes a little bit of time sometimes for people to compose their thoughts,” he said.

He added that he’d looked through the number of times that the Mayor has had to interrupt a speaker over the last six months, and that the number “wasn’t a whole lot.”

In response, Rice firmed up her position, and advocated again for a set standard of three minutes for more “equity.” Truax tried rebuttal, but Rice brought her index finger to her mouth and told him not to interrupt her. The two quibbled for a minute or two, repeating their original statements, until Councilmember John Wentworth jumped in with a motion.

He proposed the warning light on the clerk’s clock go off at three minutes, and the stop light go off at five.

“The clock can’t do all that,” Town Clerk Jamie Gray said. She added that she was not looking for a motion, just consensus so that she could amend the resolution.

Once that was straightened out, Bubser asked Wentworth why he wanted the red light to go off at five minutes, and not, say, 3:15 or 3:30. Five minutes still felt especially long to her.

“People are often just repeating the same six points that the last twelve people said,” Bubser said. “I find that to

be a really poor use of our time, and so I would like us to have some structure around this.”

Wentworth said it was an issue of free speech, taking Truax and Sauser’s side. Sandy Hogan had left by this point, but Wentworth used her as an example for the third time. He said it’s not fair that someone like her should go out of their way just to be limited to three minutes.

“We have enough problems getting public engagement with these things,” he said. “And I think it sends a message to say, well, we’re just gonna cut it down.”

Sauser suggested a cut off time of four minutes in order to meet in the middle, and Bubser shut the suggestion down.

Wentworth eventually said he would support the three-minute limit in order to reach consensus, as did Truax. Sauser said this wasn’t a

hill he was going to die on and that most people who speak don’t know two minutes from five minutes.

The Council ultimately directed staff to revise a resolution to restrict public comment period to three minutes.

mammoth

GEAR EXCHANGE

106 S. Main St, Bishop (760) 873-4300

Kindergarten & TK Enrollment 2025

FIRST 5 MONO COUNTY

Learn how to enroll your child in Kindergarten and Transitional Kindergarten, meet the teacher(s), and get your Kindergarten Readiness Backpack.
***If you’re child is new to the TK-12 system, please bring them to enroll.**

The first 30 mins is the enrollment event and the last hour is a resource fair.

Wednesday, March 5th, 5:00–6:30 pm
Mammoth Elementary School
1500 Meridian Blvd, Mammoth Lakes

Monday, April 14th, 10:00–11:30 am
Lee Vining Elementary School
132 Lee Vining Ave, Lee Vining

Tuesday, April 15th, 12:30–2:00 pm
Bridgeport Elementary School
205 Kingsley St, Bridgeport

Wednesday, April 16th, 1:00–2:15 pm
Antelope Elementary School
111527 Hwy 395, Coleville

Thursday, April 17th, 12:30–2:00 pm
Edna Beaman Elementary School
25541 Hwy 6, Benton

If your child will turn five on or before September 1, 2025, they can attend Kindergarten in the fall of 2025.

If your child will turn four by September 1, 2025, then they can attend Transitional Kindergarten in the fall of 2025.

Información sobre cómo matricular a sus niños en Kindergarten y Transicional Kindergarten, para presentarles a las maestras, y recoger su mochila.
***Si su hijo es nuevo en el sistema TK-12, tráigalo para inscribirlo.**

Los primeros 30 minutos son el evento de inscripción y la última hora es una feria de recursos.

Miércoles, 5 de marzo, 5:00–6:30 pm
Mammoth Elementary School
1500 Meridian Blvd, Mammoth Lakes

Lunes, 14 de abril, 10:00–11:30 am
Lee Vining Elementary School
132 Lee Vining Ave, Lee Vining

Martes, 15 de abril, 12:30–2:00 pm
Bridgeport Elementary School
205 Kingsley St, Bridgeport

Miércoles, 16 de abril, 1:00–2:15 pm
Antelope Elementary School
111527 Hwy 395, Coleville

Jueves, 17 de abril, 12:30–2:00 pm
Edna Beaman Elementary School
25541 Hwy 6, Benton

Si su hijo cumplirá cinco años el 1 de septiembre de 2025 o antes, podrá asistir al jardín de infantes en el otoño de 2025.

Si su hijo cumplirá cuatro años antes del 1 de septiembre de 2025, podrá asistir al jardín de infantes de transición en el otoño de 2025.



Mono County Child Care Council



The Mono County Child Care Council actively leads a community-wide effort to develop and sustain accessible, high-quality, and affordable child care and education. To learn more or to get involved, visit monocccc.org or call 760-934-0031.



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

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

hr@mono.courts.ca.gov

Closing Date: Open until filled

OBITUARY

HUGH “SMITTY” SMYTH 1928-2025

Right before school began in the fall of 1970, Donna Cederburg wed Hugh Smyth in Reno, Nevada, the timing driven not by the imminence of the next school campaign, but by the imminence of the sage hen hunting season.

So when the kids arrived for their first day of school in Bridgeport, Calif., they learned that Miss Cederburg would now answer by a new name.

As one parent told Donna the next day, this is what her child said when he got home. “Mom, Miss Cederburg isn’t Miss Cederburg anymore. She’s Mrs. Smitty the Plumber!”

Smitty Smythe, a Bridgeport institution since 1961, the only man living or dead who knows the location of every pipe in and under every building in Bridgeport, passed away this week at his second home in Palm Desert. He died of nothing more than peaceful old age. He was 96.

Smitty was born in Old Saybrook, Connecticut in 1928, the son of a craftsman and shipbuilder who one day would own the West Mystic (Conn.) shipyard.

Smitty grew up in coastal towns in both Massachusetts and Connecticut before graduating from Groton (Conn.) high school, whereupon he joined the Marines and was stationed at Quantico, Va.

His claim to fame as a Marine was becoming the All Navy Middleweight Eastern Division Boxing Champion in



Smitty and Donna at home in Bridgeport. 1948.

That distinction won him a trip to compete in a national competition in San Diego - and once he visited San Diego, he vowed to return. Who, after all, needs the cold winters and mosquito- and humidity-plagued summers of New England when a shangri la such as California exists?

It took him a few years to make it the left coast. There was trade school (he was certified to become a diesel mechanic in Long Beach), a stint working at his father’s shipyard, and a few years working for the Cummins Corp. in south

Florida.

But in 1952, he finally took off cross-country on his motorcycle and landed in El Segundo, working for North American Aviation (later acquired by Rockwell, and now a part of Boeing).

During his time at North American, he met a guy (Smitty was the type of gregarious character who met guys and created opportunities for himself) who was interested in opening up a string of laundromats. The guy taught Smitty the plumbing trade and the two eventually established their own company - P&H Plumbing - and opened the string of laundromats as promised.

But the outdoors, mountains, hiking and fishing spoke to Smitty more than spin cycles and the jangling of quarters.

So he moved to Bridgeport (where he’d visited previously on hunting trips), and took odd jobs at first to get to know people and build a reputation before launching his construction and plumbing business.

He ran that business - building new homes, thawing lots of pipes and repairing residential and county water systems. until 2015, when he was 87 years old.

He met his wife, quite ironically, outside a laundromat which used to be behind the Bridgeport Inn. Miss Cederburg, a flatlander from Trona, had slipped on the ice outside, and Smitty offered assistance in getting her to her feet.

Now Smitty by this time was a confirmed bachelor. 41 years old. Miss Cederburg was 24.

And yet, they still managed to squeeze in 54 years of marriage.

For her part, Donna taught in the local schools for forty years, eventually serving as school principal.

The two of them did not have children of their own, unless you count the children of Bridgeport and Coleville, in which case they had more than a

thousand. They were a fixture at all the high school athletic contests. For thirteen years, they sponsored an academic scholarship at Coleville High School.

And as Lynda Pemberton said, Smitty taught plenty of kids how to box in his garage, which was outfitted with a heavy bag and a speed bag. Donna said he worked out regularly in that garage until he was 80 years old.

During the summers, Smitty and Donna hosted a bevy of nieces and nephews, and the town of Bridgeport appreciated the annual influx of summer labor.

When he slowed down in the plumbing business (he refused to say he retired), he turned his high energy to his garden and demonstrated that you could grow 500 pounds of potatoes in a small area. He shared the bounty with the town of Bridgeport and allowed the primary students at BES to come over to harvest vegetables in the fall.

A veritable billy goat, Smitty often disappeared into the mountains for the day. And was popular with friends and family because he knew all the best hunting spots.

As Donna says, her husband was simply “unique.” And was imbued with a strong ethic - for work, for community, for fairness. “He would speak up when something was wrong,” she said.

Smitty was proof that Mayors, true Mayors, true leaders, are not elected so much as anointed.

**In fact, when Erinn Wells contacted The Sheet about his passing, her first sentence was, “Just a heads up that Smitty passed away. He is like the king of Bridgeport ...”*

Donna said that Smitty suffered from a bit of dementia in his later years, but until his final day, he was coherent and sweet with the nurses.

His favorite thing over the past few years was sitting in the shade of a tree in his garden.

Conjuring an image of Ferdinand the Bull, just sitting quietly and smelling the flowers.

A great man has left us. To make up for his loss, the rest of us need to get slightly and collectively better.

A memorial for Smitty will be held on the lawn at the Bridgeport Inn on Saturday, May 31 at 11 a.m.

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MEET POLISH!

This stunning boy is still waiting for his forever home. His brother Vortex has found his forever home and now Polish is hoping his person is out there, waiting to see this post! Polish is an Alaskan Malamute/Husky mix, approximately 8 years old and has the most unique and beautiful coloring/coat. He is quite a gentleman—intelligent, sweet and loving!

His ideal home is a home with no cats, but preferably with another dog friend. Polish lived as a part of a large dog pack and would likely thrive with another canine companion.

If you’re looking for a loyal and loving best friend, Polish could be the perfect match for you. Contact:

WHITMORE SHELTER (760) 935-4734



OBITUARY

MARTIN JAY HOGUE 1951-2025

Martin Jay Hogue, known to all as “Marty,” passed away peacefully at the age of 73.

Born in San Diego, Marty grew up in Ontario, where he spent his childhood playing sports, creating memories with friends, and getting into the usual boy-hood mischief.

As a young man, Marty worked a variety of jobs, but it was his time working retail and modeling for May Company (now Macy’s) that he fondly reminisced about.



Marty & “CS” communing with Lord Stanley’s Cup

Marty’s love of learning led him to Cal Poly Pomona, where he earned his Masters in Education. He then dedicated his life to working in various school settings, ultimately landing a job at the Lanterman Developmental Center (state hospital), where he touched many lives.

Marty later relocated to Bishop, where he settled down with his family and became deeply involved in his community. He worked in early childhood special education for Inyo County Office of Ed.

In sum, he taught special education for nearly four decades.

A passionate coach, Marty spent many years coaching soccer, imparting both the skills of the game and the value of teamwork to countless young athletes. He was also an avid motorcyclist, a lover of the outdoors, and someone who reveled in hiking and exploring the beauty of the Eastern Sierra.

Marty was known for his sense of humor, his love of travel, and his quirky companion—his rubber chicken, affectionately named “CS.” This well-traveled chicken became a beloved figure on many of Marty’s adventures, whether posing at Niagara Falls, in small towns in Nevada, or on his trips across the East Coast, Canada and Florida. Marty was also an enthusiastic hockey fan, enjoyed watching old Western movies, and could always be found hanging out in his garage or doing yard work.

Marty is survived by his son Chris



Gomez (Danica) and their children Carreese, Bradley, and Knoxton of Bishop, and his daughter Brianna Villalpando (Hugo) and their children Nora and Nico of Reno. He is also survived by his sister-in-law Sherry Hogue and nephews Kevin and Andy of Southern California. Marty was preceded in death by his parents, Marguerite and Albert Hogue, and his brothers Johnny and Kenny.

Marty’s legacy will live on in the hearts of those who knew him, as a

father, grandfather, coach, friend, and a tireless advocate for those he served.

Rest in peace, Mott. You lived your life with kindness, humor, and an unshakable dedication to those you loved. Your journey may have ended, but your spirit will continue to inspire those who had the privilege of knowing you, your children miss you fiercely and your grandchildren will always look up to their pop pop.

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This winter, Eastern Sierra locals get unreal flight discounts. Save up to 40% off Advanced Air with service from MMH four days a week, starting November 27. Or save up to 10% on United with daily service from BIH to SFO starting December 12 and DEN starting December 19. Thank you for being such unreal neighbors. Learn more at VisitMammoth.com/FlyLocal.



calendar of events

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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. 4
Outlaw Saloon Happy Hour Monday through Friday from 4-6 p.m. Also a great viewing spot for NFL. *More info: See ad p. 15*
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

February 7-8/
Collectivity (Bay Area funk rock fusion) plays Liberty. Starts 9:30 p.m. both nights. No cover.
Weekend Apres Ski parties @ Canyon Lodge. Starts 2 p.m. both days.

Sunday, February 9/
Super Sunday @ Liberty! Doors for game 2 p.m.

Monday, February 10/
Open mic night @ Distant Brewing. Time: 6-9 p.m.

Tuesday, February 11/
Karaoke @ Liberty. Starts 9 p.m.
Vinyl night @ Distant Brewing. Time: 6-9 p.m.

Wednesday, February 12/
Weekly Pool Tournament @ Distant Brewing. Hosted by Eastern Sierra Pool from 4:30-9:30 p.m.

TOWN STUFF

Friday, February 7/
Inyo Council for the Arts gallery show and reception in its new space at 150 Willow St. Featured artist: Amanda Smith. Time: 6-7 p.m.

Saturday, February 8/
Bishop Trout Rodeo. Time: 9-4. Meet Tri-County Fairgrounds (475 Sierra Street, Bishop). Entry is \$30 per individual and \$25 per team, regardless of team size. Contact msangler@earthlink.net for more info.
Sage to Summit Winter Race Series 5k. Check in 8 a.m., race 9 a.m. Location: Millpond County Park in Bishop. Proceeds go to the Eastside Student Center. *More info: sagetosummit.com*
6th annual Green and White Washer Tourney & bbq dinner @ the Tri-County Fairgrounds. For tix call Inyo County 4-H @ 760.873.7854
Sierra Forever offers free guided snowshoe hikes in Mammoth each Saturday @ 11 a.m. Snowshoe loaners available. Leave from Mammoth Lakes Welcome Center at 2510 Main St.
Woolly's Adventure Summit Open House. Time: 1-5:30 p.m. Location: The Tube Park on the way up the hill. *Info: mammothmountain.com*
Mono Arts Council art opening and reception in conjunction with the seasonal art show featuring the artist Grub. Starts 5:30 p.m. Location: MAC Gallery, Minaret Mall in Mammoth.

TOWN STUFF

Saturday, February 8 (cont.)/
Bill Schuck and Hadi al Saadeen play a "Two Part Invention Concert" @ United Methodist Church (205 N. Fowler) in Bishop. Time: 2 p.m. Tix: \$20 (students no charge).
Community Fruit Tree Pruning Day @ Three Creeks Orchard. Info: scofredav@gmail.com/760.938.0411

Monday, February 10/
Bishop City Council meets. Time: 6 p.m. Location: Council Chambers, 301 West Line St. On the agenda: Mid-year budget adjustments

Tuesday, February 11/
Live Full, Die Well: A Film Series Exploring Life, Death, The Human Experience. Time: 6 p.m. Location: C5 Studios in Bishop, 210 S. Warren St. Cost: \$10-20 sliding scale per night
C5 Studios' After-School Arts Program (ASAP) kicks off and runs for four weeks on Tuesdays and Thursdays. For ages 6-12. Time: 2:30-5 p.m. *For more info, visit C5studios.org.*
Inyo County Supervisors meet. Public session starts 10 a.m. Location: 224 N. Edwards in Independence or online via inyocounty.us
Mono County Supervisors meet. Location: Bridgeport Courthouse or online via monocountyca.gov. Time: 9 a.m.
MHS Soccer hosts Frazier Mountain., Last home regular season games of the year. Girls play 1 p.m. with Boys to follow.

TOWN STUFF

Wednesday, February 12/
Mammoth Lakes Planning and Economic Development Commission meets. Time: 9 am. Location: Suite Z, Minaret Mall or online via townofmammothlakes.ca.gov. On the agenda: See public notice items page 12.
Mixed Media Valentine's Day Cards!
A crafting workshop with Marijke IJff @ C5 Studios in Bishop. \$\$\$.
Time: 5:30-7:30 p.m. *Info/register @ c5studios.org.*

Saturday, February 15/
Eastern Sierra Land Trust hosts the "Great Backyard Bird Count." Time: 8:30-11:30 a.m. *For info, visit eslt.org/events*

ONGOING

ONGOING: Free tax help! The AARP Foundation Tax Aide programs in Bishop and Mammoth using IRS-certified volunteers prepare federal and state tax returns online without charge to low- and moderate-income residents. Call for an appt./more info

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-Mammoth \$20-22
- Line Cook**
-Mammoth \$22
- Prep/Dishwasher**
-Mammoth \$20.77
- Front Desk Receptionist**
-Mammoth \$19-24
- Community Integration Partner**
Bishop/Mammoth \$20-25 + potential mileage reimbursement
- Retail Sales**
-Bishop \$17-negotiable
- Journeyman Plumber**
-Mammoth \$30-45

Call or text 760-924-0523



Eastern Sierra Counseling is hiring:
Patient Navigator (\$25-\$30/hour): non-clinical position to assist with various administrative tasks including coordinating patient care. Hybrid remote and in-office.
Licensed Psychotherapist (\$125-\$150/visit) for in-person practice in our Mammoth Lakes and Bishop offices. Make your own schedule and practice the way you want. Associate therapists working towards licensure will be considered.
We value flexibility, autonomy, and work-life balance so that patient care is of the highest quality possible.
EasternSierraCounseling.com

Entry Level Administrative Assistant sought by the Hilton Creek Community Services District in Crowley.
PT/19 Hours Per Week
Please visit our website hiltoncreekcsd.com or contact us via email info@hiltoncreekcsd.com. (760) 965-9696
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
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

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Whitmore Pool & Summer Camps
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For more information and to apply:
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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.
• **Clinical Scribe** - Starting wage \$23.85 to \$28.91 based on qualification.
• **Physical Therapist** – Starting wage \$48.72 to \$59.05 based on qualifications. \$5,000 Retention Bonus
• **Hospital Social Worker** – Starting wage \$43.69 to \$52.96 based on qualifications.
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.



MAMMOTH COMMUNITY WATER DISTRICT's Operations Department is currently recruiting for one permanent Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator. I/II/III (DOQ) position. FOR APPLICATION INFORMATION/TO APPLY: Please see the District website <https://mcwd.dst.ca.us/employment/>



Help Wanted



Reservations Desk Clerk immediate opening at the Double Eagle Resort and Spa in June Lake CA (20 min from mammoth). Must have excellent customer service and computer skills. Full or part time, health benefits, fitness membership and PTO. Great place to work! Email Lodging@doubleeagle.com
P/T Wedding Coordinator asst. Great computer/communication skills essential. Please email interest to: weddingevents.doubleeagleresort@gmail.com
Creekside Spa and Fitness Desk at the Double Eagle Resort and Spa, immediate opening for enthusiast team member. Help in creating a wonderful experience for our spa and fitness center guests. Customer service, computer, cleaning, food service. Full or part time, health benefits, fitness membership and PTO. Great place to work! Email Lodging@doubleeagle.com
Restaurant Server for Eagles Landing Restaurant at the popular Double Eagle Resort and Spa in June Lake CA. Experi-

BRAND AMBASSADOR MAMMOTH HOLISTICS

Mammoth Holistics is seeking energetic individuals for local events and customer engagement. Must be 21+, valid driver's license required. Weekend/evening availability needed. Duties include: distributing promotional materials, booth setup, event photography, customer engagement, and promoting local business and deals. Hourly pay plus success bonuses, fun and flexible schedule. Email resume to Doug@hallandgans.com and ruthie@hallandgans.com.



Help Wanted

ence 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

MAMMOTH TWO BDR/ONE BA, one-car garage, woodstove, one-year lease only. \$2,850/mo. 760.937.7569.
Two bay shop space for rent. Approx. 1,800-sq. feet. No auto repair. Next to Starbucks. \$3,000/mo. 760.937.7569
Office space available on Old Mammoth Rd., ranging in size and price starting at just \$300. Call 760.914.1500.



Commercial spaces for rent:
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Building features incl. 24/7 access, parking, kitchen, bathrooms, common area conference room and heat.
Call 818.307.3698 or 970.837.6720

Help Wanted

John's Pizza Works seeks energetic, motivated, reliable individuals, to work in the FOH or cashier position. PT/FT positions. Experience preferred. Come in to apply.

Mammoth Mountain Resorts 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.

PERSONALS

I saw you ... have a lot of money riding on the Super Bowl. No matter what happens, I have one sure bet for you ... in my underwear. Here's the over/under betting line for this weekend. While I am totally over you, I could find myself under you Sunday evening if I have too much tequila.
I heard you ... were planning to lay the points this weekend. In that case, maybe I should change my last name to "Points."
I saw you ... want to restrict me to three minutes. I think that's quite generous - under pressure, I should be able to finish in two!

Progress Your Career at Mammoth Hospital!

We're currently looking for:

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- **Physical Therapist (\$5000 Retention Bonus)**

- **Success Sharing Incentive Program**
- **Staff Development Programs**
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Openings at www.mammothhospital.com | [f](#) [i](#) [t](#) [v](#)

PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice of Public Hearing

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Mono County Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing on February 20, 2025 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 livecast at <https://monocounty.zoom.us/j/88951174507>, 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 24-010/Lehman. The applicant proposes to build several structures necessary to conduct business as a general contractor on 1.03 acres of undeveloped property with no assigned address at the corner of Highway 395 and West Mill Creek Lane in Walker (APN: 002-353-021-000).

The property is designated for Mixed Use.

The project qualifies for an exemption under CEQA §15303, New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures.

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, February 19, 2025, 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 #2025-0011

Notice of Public Hearing

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE MAMMOTH LAKES TOWN COUNCIL will hold a PUBLIC HEARING on Wednesday, February 19, 2025, beginning at 4:00 p.m. and continuing until finished, at the Mammoth Lakes Town Council Chamber, Suite Z within the Minaret Village Shopping Center, 437 Old Mammoth Road, to consider the following:

Adopt the resolution regarding amendments to the 2025/26 Parks and Recreation Department fee schedule.

All persons having an interest in the proposed resolution may appear before the Town Council either in person or represented by counsel and present testimony or may, prior to said hearing, file with the Town Clerk 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, please contact Stuart Brown, Parks and Recreation Director, by telephone at (760) 965-3696 or email at sbrown@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov. The proposed resolution will be available for review at the Town Offices, located at 437 Old Mammoth Road, Suite 230, and on the Town of Mammoth Lakes web site at www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov.

BY ORDER OF MAMMOTH LAKES TOWN COUNCIL
Dated: January 31, 2025
Jamie Gray, Town Clerk
TS #2025-0012

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

The Stove

Black Glass Hospitality, Inc.
644 Old Mammoth Rd.
Mammoth Lakes, Calif. 93546

This business is conducted by a corporation. The registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on January 10, 2025
File Number 25-006
2025-0006 (01/25, 02/01, 02/08, 02/15)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Outbound Hotel “Villas” Project DZA 24-001, TTM 24-003, UPA 24-004

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Wednesday, February 12, 2025, 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 and Economic Development Commission will hear an application request for the following (a teleconference option via Zoom is available for remote participation by the public):

Application Request:
District Zoning Amendment (DZA) 24-001, Tentative Tract Map (TTM) 24-003, and Use Permit (UPA) 24-004, for the Outbound Hotel “Villas” Project. The application request is for a subsequent amendment to the Amended Phase 1 Clearwater Specific Plan document to allow the subdivision of five (5) existing four-plex structures “Villas” into twenty (20) condominium hotel units that may be sold individually.

A public hearing for this application was held on December 11, 2024, and concluded with a 2-1 vote of the Commission which was not sufficient to move the item forward to Town Council for consideration. Therefore, a new public hearing on the application is required to be conducted with the PEDC.

CEQA Determination: The proposed action is within the scope of the project analyzed in the previously adopted 2021 Addendum to the Clearwater Specific Plan Environmental Impact Report (SCH# 2006062154). No additional CEQA review is required.

Location: 164 Old Mammoth Road
Zoning: Clearwater Specific Plan (CSP)
Applicant: Matthew Mering / WH SN Mammoth, L.L.C.

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 February 7, 2025, contact Kim Cooke, Senior Planner, at (760) 965-3638 or email: kcooke@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov

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

TS #2025-0008

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Snowcreek Development Agreement Amendment (DA) 23-001

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Wednesday, February 12, 2025, 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 a request for the following:

Application Request:
Amendment to Snowcreek Development Agreement (DA) 23-001

CEQA Determination: Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the proposed action is within the scope of the projects analyzed in the previously certified Snowcreek VIII, Snowcreek Master Plan Update 2007 Environmental Impact Report (EIR) (SCH #2006112015) and the Snowcreek VII Mitigated Negative Declaration. No additional CEQA review is required.

Location: Approximately 260 acres consisting of the Snowcreek VII and VIII (Snowcreek Master Plan Update) project areas (Lots 1-18 and Lots A-G of Tract Map 2009-002 [Snowcreek VIII] and Lots created by Tract Map 36-236 and 36-236A [Snowcreek VII]).

Zoning: Resort (R) - Snowcreek Master Plan Update (2007)

Proponent: Snowcreek Investment Company II LLC (Applicant / Property Owner)

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 February 7, 2025, contact Nolan Bobbroff, Community and Economic Development Director, at (760) 965-3631. Facsimiles may be sent to (760) 934-7493, or email at: nbobbroff@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov.

Mammoth Lakes Planning & Economic Development Commission
P.O. Box 1609
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

TS #2025-0009



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NATIONAL

AFTER THE EXECUTIVE ORDERS, WHAT NEXT?

By Casselman

There will now be an extended period of adjustment while President Trump's astonishingly large number of executive orders are implemented. Some will be quashed by court order; others will be delayed while being challenged in court. Still others will require legislation to take effect. Most, however, take effect immediately, including those which rescind executive orders by Mr. Trump's predecessor.

The purpose of the volume and speed of these executive actions is two-fold. First and foremost is the new president's need to fulfill a large number of campaign promise for which he feels he received the decisive voter mandate on election day less than three months ago.

Secondly, although his party also won control of both houses of Congress in the election, the Republican majorities in both are small, and Mr. Trump's ability to push through legislation enacting his administration's agenda is greatest when he likely has the most popularity and influence, i.e., in the months right after his election and inauguration.

Both of these are in the context that this is President Trump's second, and therefore last, term. After the mid-term elections (in 2026), a second-term president usually has diminished power as a so-called lame duck.

At that point, members of the U.S. House and Senate frankly often see their re-elections as a greater priority than being team players.

Already, three members of the Senate have bucked the confirmation of a cabinet appointment, and could do so again. It

would take only a very few Republican House members to block votes. Now, at a peak of the new president's popularity, GOP senators and congresspersons are much less likely to defy him.

Democrats in recent years have voted primarily as a bloc when in the majority. It is likely, especially in 2025, they will do so again. Mavericks in the previous Senate, Manchin and Sinema are gone, and only Senator Fetterman (D-PA) has so far given any indication he will sometimes vote independently.

Democrats, however, are still reeling from the 2024 elections, and will take some time to fully recover their political footing to effectively oppose Mr. Trump. As the 2026 mid-term elections approach, however, they are likely to regain political strength, and this further is an incentive for Mr. Trump and his party to enact their policies and program sooner rather than later.

What is unknown, of course, is whether or not the Trump initiatives and policies will succeed. Historically, the first two years of a new administration often are problematic, especially economically. Mr. Trump, however is a political rarity, serving his second term after losing his re-election in 2020, so historical precedent might not apply, especially since Mr. Trump has led a significant electoral realignment making working class and ethnic voters a new base of his party.

In 2026, the economy will very likely again be the main issue. The immigration issue by that time will likely be essentially resolved, but inflation might not go away. The GOP will lower taxes, but it is less clear they will be able to lower

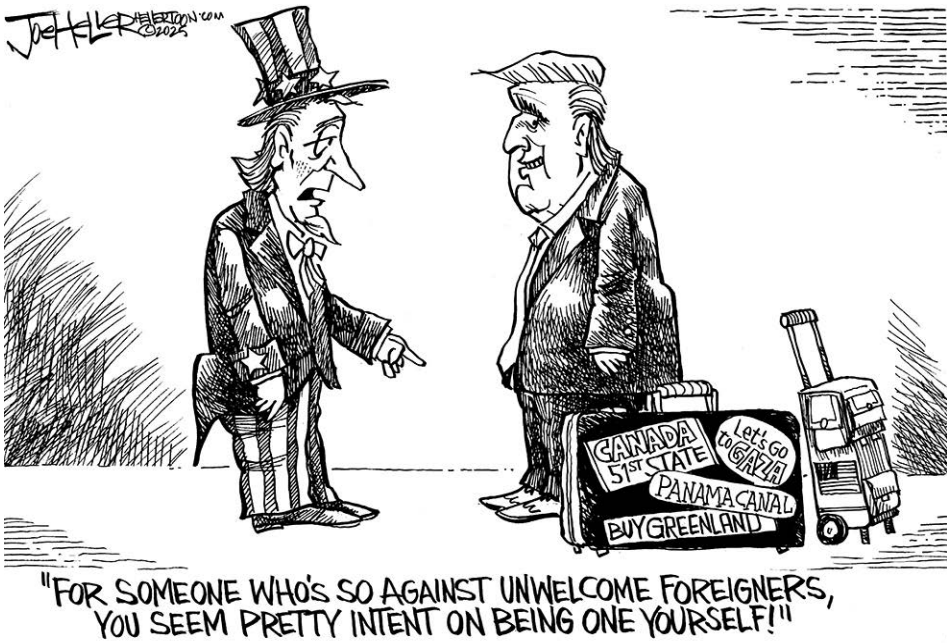
federal spending — a necessary part of successful conservative economic policy, especially in controlling inflation, maintaining high employment, and reducing the federal deficit.

Every liberal spending and welfare program has a constituency, and just issuing an executive order might make economic reform much more difficult than it seems, especially since Mr. Trump has pledged to revive the sagging U.S. military and defense. Some of the reforms will be easier, including ending or reducing the U.S. contributions to international organizations and programs which do not reflect U.S. interests. Trump-induced resolution of current international conflicts could

also help reduce spending. But these are relatively small compared to the bulk of federal outflow, U.S. domestic programs, and this is the real challenge facing President Trump and his administration.

The 2024 national election campaign was one for the books. The results indicate that going into new political territory will likely not be limited to the campaign season.

The first several months of the second Trump administration will likely be, with all of the current foreign and domestic problems and challenges, as unprecedented and politically colorful as the year which came before.





GREAT BASIN UNIFIED AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT

157 Short Street, Bishop, California 93514-3537
Tel: 760-872-8211 www.gbuapcd.org

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Deputy Air Pollution Control Officer

Salary Range: Range 92 (\$10,725 - \$14,390 per month) plus benefits
FLSA Classification: Exempt
Bargaining Unit: Management

The Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District is seeking a Deputy Air Pollution Control Officer to serve in a leadership role to participate in the development and implementation of the overall goals of the District including providing policy guidance, planning and implementing the District's air pollution program; and representing the District in the APCO's absence.

The position is a management position that plans and evaluates staff duties and priorities; provides oversight and direction to District divisions and projects; supervises permitting and enforcement activities; serves as liaison to the public, industry, and government agencies; represents the District in technical meetings and variance hearings; makes presentations to the Governing Board and presents at other meetings; reviews and comments on environmental impact documents; develops and implements air pollution control programs and regulations; leads development of air quality management documents and technical reports; reviews new regulations and participate in the development of District policy; seeks funding for special projects; and assists with administrative and financial responsibilities for the District.

Successful performance includes the ability to represent the District in a wide variety of settings; to establish positive working relationships with agencies, staff, and the public; to work independently and as part of a team; to communicate technical information in layperson terms both in writing and verbally; and the ability to organize and prioritize multiple duties and projects. The position requires knowledge of policies and regulatory codes related to government operations as well as the development and implementation of air quality management programs.

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 8 pm on Sunday February 23, 2025.



GREAT BASIN UNIFIED AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT

157 Short Street, Bishop, California 93514-3537
Tel: 760-872-8211 www.gbuapcd.org

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Senior Scientist

Salary Range: Range 67 (\$8,365-\$11,221 per month) plus benefits
FLSA Classification: Non Exempt
Bargaining Unit: Non-Management

The Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District is seeking a Senior Scientist to lead scientific, technical, and research efforts related to Owens Lake and Mono Lake. The position serves the District in a leadership role; conducts, leads, and oversees professional research studies of dust control and issues of soils, geology, and hydrology; reviews technical studies and reports; assists with the identification of dust source areas requiring mitigation; and participates as a team member in the evaluation of dust control areas for compliance with performance criteria. The position oversees professional services contracts requiring budgeting, project management, and oversight of consultants.

The work duties include office work as well as fieldwork, including leading and participating in data collection and field inspections. The position maintains databases of field tests and performs analyses of data. Successful performance requires the ability to work independently and as part of a team; present to the Governing Board and other audiences; represent the District in management, agency, and stakeholder meetings; to coordinate activities and establish positive working relationships; summarize scientific reports and review research proposals; and the ability to prepare detailed technical reports.

The position requires a thorough knowledge of geology, hydrology, air quality, and general scientific principles and processes. Responsibilities include supervising professional services contracts, overseeing long-term field projects, overseeing the complex and varied functions of the research 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 8 pm on Sunday February 23, 2025.

nfl

YOU CAN AFFORD A DECENT HAIRCUT

By Hartley

Thheeeeeee GAME. Just one.

Chiefs laying 1.5 to the Eagles. O/U 48.5. This boils down to Mahomes being 8-0 against Fangio-coordinated defenses. OUCH. And Andy Reid is pretty good, too. Advantage Chiefs.

On the other side of the ball, in his career versus Spagnuolo defenses, Eagle OC Kellen Moore has put up 9, 17 and 12 points. OUCH.

The Eagles are talented for sure, but the Chiefs are playoff legends. You want Mahomes or Hurts? Chiefs win 30-24.

I was just contemplating all the things that could happen after the Super Bowl. Just my mind at work.

1. When Chiefs win again:

a. Will Mahomes retire and go play baseball saying he is bored with the competition a la Michael Jordan?

b. Will Andy Reid retire and say he is already better than Belichick and doesn't need to break all his records?

c. Will Andy Reid have a chaperone for a few weeks to ensure he doesn't eat himself into a hamburger-induced coma?

d. Will Travis Kelce go for 118 yards and proclaim he is the best TE ever, Gronk be damned?

e. Will JuJu Smith-Schuster lobby the Eagles for a large contract because he is

the key to Super Bowl Victories?

f. What will the fans blame this Chiefs win on? The game wasn't held in Philly to make it fair?

2. When the Eagles lose again:

a. Will they consider the Chiefs ask their daddy like the Cowboys did to the Bills?

b. Will Nick Sirianni be the first coach to make it to the Super Bowl and get fired the same year?

c. Will the Eagles "Security Guy" Dom get hired by the Chiefs to keep Andy Reid from eating Biscuits 'n Gravy during games

d. Will Kellen Moore still get the Saints head coaching job? You know that is who they are waiting for.

e. Will Saquon Barkley ask for a trade to the Chiefs?

The Super Bowl is upon us. And now every house wants to host a party. Complete with women and children. NO. Most women don't wanna see the game, just eat and talk about the commercials. I hate it. I just wanna watch the game and drink. Don't wanna be chasing someone's kids out of areas of my house I don't want anyone in. NO.

Now if your lady loves football, then so be it. But if they wanna rewind the game to watch a lame-ass commercial, no. And

don't be bothering me about what the menu is. MEAT, CHIPS, SOME BEANS OR BEAN DIP and LIQUOR.

NFL Notes

First of all I was pretty sure the hiring of Pete Carroll in Las Vegas was a good move. I think he wears out his welcome but he will help build a culture in Las Vegas that extends beyond this idiot (see photo at right) befriendng the players and hiring whomever they want and then firing the same coach before he finishes his first meal at the team facility. How does an NFL owner not have the capacity to get a decent haircut - a haircut that isn't accomplished by using the same bowl he just ate Froot Loops out of? Who looks at this clown and says ... I GOTTA GET SOME OF THAT TONIGHT? Well, he is rich so a lot of people do I guess.

Anyway, juust when I was thinking Pete Carroll might be alright he went off the rails by making Chip Kelly the Raiders OC. Not just that, he made him the highest paid coordinator in the league. Chip Kelly? He has been a disaster in the NFL. If I am Vic Fangio or Steve Spagnuolo I am in the owner's office on Monday post-Super Bowl demanding a raise.

The Bills head coach is still whining about officiating when his team ain't got no reason to be worried about playing football right now. He was on TV saying everything he could about preparing his



The ultimate Froot Loop

team to play knowing they wouldn't get any calls. A week after the game. Shut up. Did you talk to your OC about calling the same QB sneak to the exact same spot 19 times in a row? Shut up.

NBA Notes

Luka Doncic traded. How lazy do you gotta be to be one of the best players on the PLANET and a team trades you at age 25? How is it so hard for him to work out and stay in shape? They should put Luka, Zion and Joel Embiid on the same team. They would save millions by closing the gym facilities. None of 'em would use it anyway.

Jimmy Butler to the Warriors? If ever you had a culture where you don't need Jimmy Buckets ... it's there. They are all about culture. They have a culture problem already with Draymond. Adding Buckets to that - wild. I like Jimmy as a player, but he is chaos waiting to happen. He is fine for awhile then his behavior ADD kicks in and it's time to move on.

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WOOF!

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LUNCH

continued from page 2

traffic each hour.” Fred Wong also added, “Unfortunately, we will also need to close the road one month earlier than normal on October 6 because construction will make the road impassable to all traffic.”

Currently, Red’s Meadow Road is closed to wheeled vehicles for the regular winter season with an anticipated seasonal opening date of July 3, 2025 ...

Talk about putting lipstick on a pig.

1. We’re having a drought winter and you can’t get Red’s Meadow open until July 3. Pathetic.

2. Do not insult the public’s intelligence by offering ten Thursdays but then closing the road a month early. We can all do the math. 10 minus 30 is not a positive.

3. If you’ll recall, road usage was limited last year with the idea that it would speed the reconstruction project to more timely completion. Instead, there’s limited usage in 2025 and whispers about more of the same in 2026.

Exactly what the late Bobby Tanner predicted.

In short, the contractor (Herback Engineering) woefully underbid the project and the Forest Service has instituted road closure concessions to bail Herback out.

Never mind it’s less work for the Inyo National Forest and Devil’s Postpile National Monument - which are run by Team Wong. Fred Wong is the Inyo National Forest District Ranger while Rebecca Carr Wong, his spouse, is Site manager at Devil’s Postpile.

The Sheet called Claudia Moya Tanner to ask how the road restrictions would affect Red’s Meadow Resort operations.

“The schedule is better than last year,” she acknowledged, “but only because it couldn’t get worse ... they ask for input, but the result is the same.”

Boomeraskers all.

She vows the Resort will operate and that she’s “trying to book as much as I can.”

Pontificator-In-Chief

I loved this story which I saw this week in the Associated Press. Dovetails nicely with this week’s all talk/no listen



MHS Basketball had its Senior Night last Friday, January 31

PHOTO CESAR GARCIA

theme.

WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House stenographers have a problem. Donald Trump is talking so much, the people responsible for transcribing his public remarks are struggling to keep up with all the words.

There were more than 22,000 on Inauguration Day, then another 17,000 when Trump visited disaster sites in North Carolina and California. It’s enough to strain the ears and fingers of even the most dedicated stenographer, especially after four years of Joe Biden’s relative quiet.

Now there are discussions about hiring additional staff to keep up with the workload.

The flood of words is one of the most visible — or audible — shifts from Biden to Trump, who craves the spotlight and understands better than most politicians that attention is a form of power. He’s been speaking nearly non-stop since starting his second term, drowning out dissenting voices and leaving his opponents struggling to be heard.

Take Wednesday, for example. During a signing ceremony for legislation to accelerate deportations, Trump talked up his accomplishments, claimed Hamas was using U.S.-funded condoms to make bombs in Gaza, defended his administration’s efforts to freeze federal spending and reduce the government workforce, veered through descriptions of migrant violence and made the surprise announcement that Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, would be used as a detention center for people who are in the U.S. illegally.

“He’s dictating the news on his terms,” said Michael LaRosa, who worked as a television producer before serving as a spokesperson for former first lady Jill Biden. “He’s become America’s assignment editor.”

Most presidents try to start their terms with a bang, seizing the moment when their influence could be at its peak. However, Trump is in a different league.

Biden spent 2 hours and 36 minutes talking on camera and used 24,259 words in his first week in office four years ago, according to numbers generated by Factbase.

Trump’s comparable stats: nearly 7 hours and 44 minutes and 81,235 words last week. That’s longer than watching the original “Star Wars” trilogy back-to-back-to-back, and more

words than “Macbeth,” “Hamlet” and “Richard III” combined.

It’s also much more than when Trump took office for his first term eight years ago. Back then, he was only on camera talking for 3 hours and 41 minutes and spoke 33,571 words.

“Wise men talk because they have something to say; Fools because they have to say something.”

-Plato

“It was impossible to get a conversation going. Everybody was talking too much.”

-Yogi Berra

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Mammoth Hospital's General Surgeons, (from left) Richard Koehler, MD, Fru Bahiraei, MD, Ben Mundell, MD, and Sarah Sindell, MD.

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