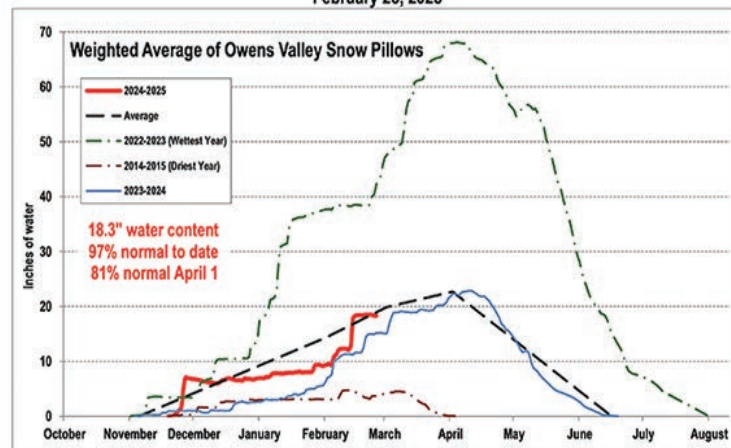


the sheet

News, Views & Culture of the Eastern Sierra

EASTERN SIERRA
CURRENT PRECIPITATION CONDITIONS
February 25, 2025



The most recent stats from LADWP

Saturday, March 1, 2025

FREE

Vol. 23, No. Williams

BLAME TRINA

By Lunch

What has been remarkable over the course of The Sheet's 22-year run (to date) has been my general good health and good fortune. That the technology (office computer), weather, my body, or the bodies of my rare stand-ins haven't completely broken down during any one week.

That's about 1,500 papers worth - some 375 or so over the first two years or so when I was doing them on a "daily" basis.

While I'd like to think this "Iron Man" streak is worthy of Lou Gehrig (2,130 consecutive games played), the better comp could be the man Gehrig surpassed, a guy by the name of Everett Scott (1,307 consecutive games played).

The thumbnail sketch from Wikipedia:

Scott was a slick-fielding shortstop who led the American League in fielding percentage for seven straight seasons from 1916-1922.

He was also a mediocre hitter (.249 career batting average) with scant power (20 career HRs).

Like Babe Ruth, Scott was traded from the Red Sox to the Yankees following a contract dispute. He won World Series titles with both teams, and served as captain of both teams.

Upon his retirement, he was a professional bowler and owned bowling alleys in his hometown of Fort Wayne, Indiana.

He also wrote a children's book, "Third Base Thatcher," published in 1928.

I start with the above because the kid's been sick this week

see LUNCH, pg. 2

VENUSIAN FISHER LEARNS ABOUT MARS

By Fisher

Death Valley National Park is the hottest, lowest, and driest place in North America, captivating visitors with its unique geological features striking temperature contrasts between its searing valley floor and the snow-capped peaks.

This stark landscape, shaped by dramatic flash floods, tectonic plates and fierce winds, showcases the remarkable resilience of life that thrives against all odds. It is otherworldly.

So otherworldly, in fact, that it serves as the backdrop for astronomers' discussions about the cosmos. Last weekend, the park hosted the Death Valley Dark Sky Festival, an annual celebration of its pristine night skies and their significance in planetary science.

The desert environment is one of the best analogs for studying extraterrestrial landscapes, allowing astronomers to draw conclusions about dry regions beyond our planet. This scientific cross-comparison is

known as comparative planetary, as NASA geomorphologist Dr. Serina Diniega explained during her talk, "Wind and Frost in Another Very Dry Place - Mars!"

Mars, even to the casual observer, bears a striking resemblance to Death Valley in satellite imagery, featuring sand dunes, salt flats, and playas. Like Death Valley, the Martian surface is actively reshaped by wind, seasonal frost, and gravity.

For instance, sand dunes on Mars form and evolve much like those on Earth. Wind moves granular material over time, allowing grains to interact with each other and the ground, ultimately accumulating into larger structures. Understanding the behavior of sand dunes in places like Death Valley helps scientists make sense of Martian geological phenomena, such as gullies

Gullies are trenches in the

see DEATH & MARS, pg. 6



Zabriskie Point at sunrise, February 22

The Captain Rides

What is Real?

Living constitutionally

Great Expectations

Man in the Bush Hat

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LUNCH

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and I’m wondering whether or not I’m following her down that rabbit hole. It’s 3:06 a.m.

I’m debating whether or not it’s too early for coffee. The dog would opine yes, as he’s asleep on my right foot and does not wish to be disturbed.

The dog, a Corgi/Terrier mix, exists as a living, breathing example of the power of advertising.

This is what happens when you run regular shelter ads every week. It breaks you down.

That, and the meeting Inyo Supervisor Trina Orrill held where she talked about the spike in shelter numbers.

Thus the title of this column.

I’ve been thinking a lot about Joey Merten this week. The late Joey Merten. Seems impossible that he’s gone. A guy with that irrepressible energy and zest for life.

I’m guessing he was around my age (late 50s). I’ll have that answer next week. I’m working on the obit ...

When I arrived in town in December, 2001, Joey was the manager at Roberto’s, and it sure seemed to me like he was the town’s de facto Mayor.

The place was a zoo. Crowded, loud ... but Joey thrived on the pace of it. And was always super pleasant, rushed and yet unrushed. He made the time to give you a smile and pat on the back. And it didn’t matter if you’d been a local for two weeks or two decades - Joey made you feel special. He knew you and was gonna take care of you.

And after I started the paper and would bring Sheets by to litter in various establishments, Joey would see me and give me a big “Lunch!” greeting and pretended that the arrival of the paper had made his day, and he’d make a special place for my stack of insolence.

Joey made you feel special.

Pause here while I grab that coffee - the dog has moved to my padded kitchen bench. The dog does have a name he came with btw. Captain.

Ride captain ride upon your mystery ship/
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FELICI & FRIENDS

WINTER

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the

sheet

News, Views & Culture of the Eastern Sierra

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

-The Waco Kid
from Blazing Saddles

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Front page photo from the July 12, 2008 edition - Joey on Gull Lake.

That’s the bittersweet thing about obits. Joey’s death means that one more time, he’ll bring people together - for a celebration of life this summer. It also means that I’ll call my first landlord (Traci Walker at the Pinecliff) to commiserate. And track down my first Mammoth roommate, Dave “Farmer” Yaeger, who moved to Hawaii many moons ago. Joey was his best man.

When I spoke with Traci, I learned that her daughter, Winter, is studying journalism in college. I asked (not entirely facetiously) if Winter would like to come home and buy a newspaper. “Oh, she wouldn’t be interested in that,” deadpanned Traci.

As for Joey’s partner, Andrea Barnes, I spoke to her on Monday, on what would have been their 20th anniversary. She said she had just got done feeding Joey’s 10’ boa constrictor. She had to head south for a medical appointment, thus the delay.

My daughter got me this mug I’m drinking out of - a birthday/Father’s day gift. It amuses me because it’s a piece of MLT propaganda. Has the logo and Mammoth Lakes, California written on it and below that, a tagline (of course). The Real Unreal.

But at that MLT Board “visioning” session a few weeks back, the more relevant tagline may have been “What is Real?”

Because there was a whole discussion/digression at to how to define “What is a Local?”

Because the ski bum fantasy stereotype is long dead.

And the guy working three jobs to make it - that stereotype is long in the tooth, too. The guy working three jobs to get ahead - he can’t get ahead these days even if he worked a fourth job. Whereas the guy working half a job qualifies for housing.

So the hard worker, if he’s also a smart worker, and a young guy/gal looking to make it - more than likely he’s living someplace else now.

The facilitator of the workshop, a guy named Matthew Landkamer, had a more LUNCH, page 3

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LUNCH

continued from page 2

very interesting, ‘when’ and not ‘if’ supposition. And that is, when will one of these wealthy communities reach a tipping point where the workforce housing shortage will finally precipitate economic collapse.

Of course, that’s a free market solution to some of the woes we wring our hands about. Economic collapse tends to separate the wheat from the chaff and the hoi polloi from their lattes.

I’ve been reading “Henry at Work: Thoreau on Making a Living” by John Kaag and Jonathan Van Belle and Thoreau, if he were alive today, would almost assuredly be a van lifer.

Though not quite a van lifer in the sense that Thoreau wasn’t a mooch: “If I devote myself to other pursuits and contemplations, I must first see, at least, that I do not pursue them sitting upon another man’s shoulders.”

Or sponging off another man’s shower and parking ...

But a van lifer in the sense that he would not enslave himself in a work/labor system to facilitate another man’s leisure.

Thoreau viewed earthly desires and monetary aspirations as a pair of golden handcuffs.

I doubt he would have skipped a powder day to go to work.

I also doubt he would have bought an Ikon Pass.

Which explains the other view expressed at the MLT workshop - that of a sense of what John Mendel described as “local entitlement.”

But is it entitlement? Or is it lack of buy-in towards catering to the landed gentry?

As John Wentworth observed, for remote workers living in their vans, their investment in this community is minimal.

While Betsy Truax said that what makes Mammoth different than other resorts is there’s still a population that lives and works here, one could nitpick and say realistically, they park and work here, and barring family help, Mammoth is a place they’ll have lived.

The other book I’ve been reading is Frank Rich’s “The Greatest Story Ever Sold,” which is a now quaint account of the Bush Administration’s cynical use

of 9/11 to “amass power and hold onto it ... by the way it dramatized its fable [Saddan and WMD]to the nation and made it credible to so many, even when it wasn’t remotely true. The chronicle of how a government told and sold its story is also, inevitably, a chronicle of an American culture that was an all-too-easy mark for the flimflam ... only an overheated 24/7 infotainment culture that had trivialized the very idea of reality (and with it, what once was known as ‘news’) could be so successfully manipulated by those in power.”

If we were an easy mark in 2002 and 2003, what does that makes us now?

Funny thing is, I found the Rich book at the library, but not in the library. It was on that free book cart in the foyer.

That’s how relevant the “clever manipulations” of the 2000s seem today.

I’ve heard a lot of people weigh in on the Claire Murphy death - Murphy was the MMSA ski patroller caught in the February 14 slide.

In my history of covering this town, that makes four patrollers who’ve died on the job. During the same time frame, zero law enforcement officers have died in the line of duty (thank God).

Arianne Weiner’s letter on the next page is spot on. All aspects of mountain safety should be in focus.

There is no universe where rushing to open up terrain is worth any risk to a person’s life.

more LUNCH, page 15



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LETTERS

On collective responsibility

Dear Editor,

Mammoth Lakes is a community built on adventure, resilience, and the shared experience of life in the mountains. Yet, when it comes to the harder conversations about safety, accountability, and our collective responsibility, we too often stay silent, letting rumors replace truth and allowing real lessons to go unlearned.

This isn't just about Claire Murphy's tragic passing, the increasingly reckless après-ski culture, or the crashes that have become too frequent. It's about a pattern: accidents happen, incidents unfold, yet we fail to address them openly as a community. We need transparency—not just to prevent future harm but to foster the kind of trust that makes a town stronger.

Another concern is the growing number of people heading out of bounds, often without the proper knowledge, gear, or regard for risk. We all know that the allure of fresh snow and untouched terrain is strong, but so are the dangers—avalanches, exposure, getting lost, and putting rescuers in harm's way. When things go wrong out there, the whole story is often buried, and we miss the opportunity to educate and protect locals and visitors.

Why are we so hesitant to acknowledge what's happening? Why not be more vulnerable and more honest? Authentic mountain culture isn't just about

pushing limits—it's about looking out for one another. That means acknowledging when things go wrong, learning from them, and making changes. Whether it's resort operations, town leadership, or individual responsibility, we all play a role in shaping the future of Mammoth.

I urge Mammoth Mountain, local officials, and community members to commit to open conversations. Let's not let fear of liability or discomfort keep us from doing what's right. We owe it to those we've lost, those still here, and those who will come after us.

Dr. Arianne Weiner
Mammoth Lakes

Regarding the Man in the Bush Hat

Ted,

Last week, in Hartley's column, there was a section subtitled "WHY ARE PEOPLE SO LACKING IN ACCOUNTABILITY" bemoaning the fact that a woman's husband had the temerity to complain in court after his wife was killed on safari by a rampaging hippo.

This is the smug writer for the msm (main stream media) needs a story, invents one, and runs with it genre.

It began with a famous case of a woman who spilled hot coffee on herself that she got from MacDonald's, sued and won a lot of money.

This sent the msm into a major tizzy. How could someone be so outrageous to spill coffee on themselves and then have

the nerve to sue McDonald's for its own bad behavior. What was never mentioned in those breathless accounts was that McDonald's had taken to heating the coffee to near boiling before serving it because the bean counters at McDonald's figured out that heating the coffee to very high temperatures kept the coffee from spoiling and saved a third of a pot of coffee per day per McDonald's! This, the bean counters claimed, would result in a lot of money for Ronald McD by the end of the year.

What also wasn't mentioned was that before this woman got badly burned by the super-hot coffee, McDonald's had received hundreds of complaints about people being seriously injured by the coffee, but the corporation chose to consciously ignore it. Only legal action persuaded McD's to change its approach.

Now onto Mr. Hartley, who can't imagine that someone, being apprised of the fact they might see Hippos(!) would not instantly understand the mortal danger of such an endeavor. Just the mere mention of the word hippos is a "red flag" to Mr. Hartley. "This guy is an assbat, these types of lawsuits should be banned" Hartley intones, implying he's considered all the relevant facts. NOT.

We know from published reports that the couple went on a safari arranged by a highly reputable and highly compensated tour company here in the States, with a highly regarded safari company in Africa. Let's assume the couple, named Craig and Lisa Manders, show up for their safari tour at the tour company's door. They are greeted by a sandy-haired outdoorsy looking fellow in khaki clothing and a bush hat who tells them, in an accent that sounds Australian but is actually from South Africa, that the tour is incredibly dangerous, that hippos can be vicious and unpredictable, that the safari cannot be relied upon to ensure their safety, and that they better have wills prepared before going. Of course, the Manders, throwing caution to the wind,

immediately sign up for this interesting adventure.

REALLY? NO, NOT REALLY!

With an intro like that any reasonably awake person would turn around and high-tail it out of there at top speed. Not to mention the fact that the safari company would have been out of business in about ten seconds flat and Mr. Bush Hat would have been right back in Kinshasa washing dishes in a restaurant.

What is much more likely is that Mr. Bush Hat told them the tour was perfectly safe, they had conducted it hundreds of times and no one had suffered so much as a hang-nail, they had trained guides who would not lead them into something dangerous, and that they could completely rely on this highly reputable company to take good care of them.

Meanwhile, the Manders, being from New Jersey and not knowing the first thing about safaris and wild animals, (in New Jersey, the most dangerous animals only have two legs) but having been connected with the highly regarded safari company by their highly reputable tour company, figure Mr. Bush Hat must know what he is talking about and decide to go on the safari. Does this make Mr. Manders an "assbat" as Hartley tells us? Well, an insurance defense attorney and Hartley clone will be sure to tell a jury exactly that but when the jury hears all the facts and renders a decision in Mr. Manders' favor, will Hartley apologize and write an article about how he jumped to a conclusion without considering all the facts and smeared poor Mr. Manders?

Hmmm. Perhaps or perhaps not.

Paul Rudder
Mammoth Lakes



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LOCAL BRIEFS

INF seeks OHV input

Bishop, Calif., February 24, 2025— Inyo National Forest law enforcement is asking for public input on its grant proposal to the California Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division (OHMVR). The public will be able to review and comment on the forest’s preliminary grant application beginning March 4 at https://olga.ohv.parks.ca.gov/egramms_ohmvr/user/home.aspx with a deadline for public comments on May 6, 2025.

“Grant funds will be used to support law enforcement activities for both OHV and OSV such as public information and education, staff time for enforcement of registration and safety regulations such as spark arrestor and helmet requirements,” said Laura James, Law Enforcement Patrol Captain for the Inyo National Forest.

For detailed directions on how to submit your comment, visit <https://ohv.parks.ca.gov>

For additional information about the Law Enforcement grant contact laura.james@usda.gov.

MCWD Fee Schedule takes effect in April

The Mammoth Community Water District would like to remind the community that the new connection fee schedule, adopted at the January 23, 2025, Board of Directors meeting, will go into effect beginning April 1, 2025.

The new connection fees reflect the cost of buying into the existing water and wastewater system, facilities and services provided by the District.

**Lunch note: What makes this pedestrian press release of note (see graphs below) is that for the first time in history, after a consultant’s review, fees were DECREASED in most categories.*

Customers are encouraged to review the new fee schedule related to their specific projects as completed applications received prior to April 1, 2025, will fall under the existing fee schedule.

In June 2024, the District began work with a consultant, Robert D. Niehaus,

Inc. (RDN), to evaluate the existing fees and make recommendations for appropriate changes to our capacity/connection fee structure. The draft report was made available for the public to review on January 8, 2025, and public comments were accepted at the January 23, 2025, Board of Directors meeting.

To view the 2025 Water and Wastewater Capacity Fee Final Report, please visit <https://www.mcwd.dst.ca.us/capacity-fee-study>.

Mathletes take top honors

The Bishop Union High School Varsity Mathletes team traveled to Rosamond, on February 5, 2025, to challenge other Mathletes teams. They came, saw and conquered, scoring first place with 28 points, beating second place Tehachapi by five points. Rosamond had third, Boron won fourth, and Silver Valley ended in fifth.

While at the meet, the Varsity team had to solve 10 complicated math problems, one of which was:

6. If $cscx = -3$ and $cotx > 0$, find the exact value of $secx$.

For individual awards, four of the five Bishop regulars won a ribbon! In first was Cooper Beard with 8 points, then in second was Alyssa Buchholz, who had 7 points. Jodie Bedore and Ellie Crall tied for fourth with 5 points each. Also competing with Bishop was Bryce Cokeley, Hunter Dermody, Jordan Lemons, Sydney Norcross, Caleb Fitt, Sydney Wilson, Josef Borow, Taylor Currie, Donovan Mondragon, Teagan Orr, Ari Rager, and Bennett Rowan.

Coach DeeDee Buchholz proudly states “Mathletes - We Do Math For Fun! Love these kids and I’m so excited about how this year has been going!”

The next two Varsity Meets will take place here at our very own Bishop High School on March 12th and April 2nd. Stay tuned!

Table 1. Current Scaling Ratios and Capacity Charges

Meter Size	AWWA Ratio	Water Capacity Fee	EBMUD Ratio	Sewer Capacity Fee
3/4"	1.00	\$8,580	1.00	\$3,710
1"	1.67	\$14,300	2.63	\$9,760
1 1/2"	3.33	\$28,600	5.12	\$19,010
2"	5.33	\$45,760	9.60	\$35,630
3"	11.67	\$100,100	20.15	\$74,790
4"	21.00	\$180,180	40.93	\$151,910
6"	46.67	\$400,410	71.60	\$265,730
8"	80.00	\$686,410	47.30	Discretionary

Table 2. Proposed Capacity Charges

Water System		
Meter Size	Minimum Charge	Maximum Charge
3/4"	\$5,357	\$5,357
1"	\$11,675	\$11,675
1 1/2"	\$11,812	\$50,820
2"	\$50,957	\$89,827
3"	\$89,964	\$109,880
4"	\$110,017	\$243,796
6"	\$243,934	\$734,823
8"	\$734,960	\$1,009,523

Sewer System		
Meter Size	Minimum Charge	Maximum Charge
3/4"	\$4,068	\$4,068
1"	\$10,280	\$10,280
1 1/2"	\$25,331	\$25,331
2"	\$41,286	\$41,286
3"	\$58,411	\$71,341
4"	\$71,430	\$158,288
6"	\$158,377	\$477,094
8"	\$477,183	\$655,447

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Dr. Gianquinto, a native of Bakersfield, California, pursued his education at the University of Colorado at Boulder, the University of New Mexico, and Temple University School of Dentistry. As a Navy dentist, he completed an Advanced Education in General Dentistry residency and earned several military honors.

In 2011, he founded Gianquinto OrthoArts in Bakersfield after training in orthodontics at Temple. He retired as a Lieutenant Commander from the U.S. Navy Reserve in 2016 to focus on his family.

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Dr. Gianquinto practices in Bakersfield, Tehachapi, and Mammoth Lakes. Outside of work, he plays bass in the funk band The Akoustiks, is a private pilot, and enjoys outdoor adventures with his family.

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DEATH & MARS

continued from page 1

dunes with apron-like features at the top and bottom. On Earth, they often form from displaced water flow and are visible throughout Death Valley, including in Ubehebe Crater, which resulted from a powerful volcanic steam explosion.

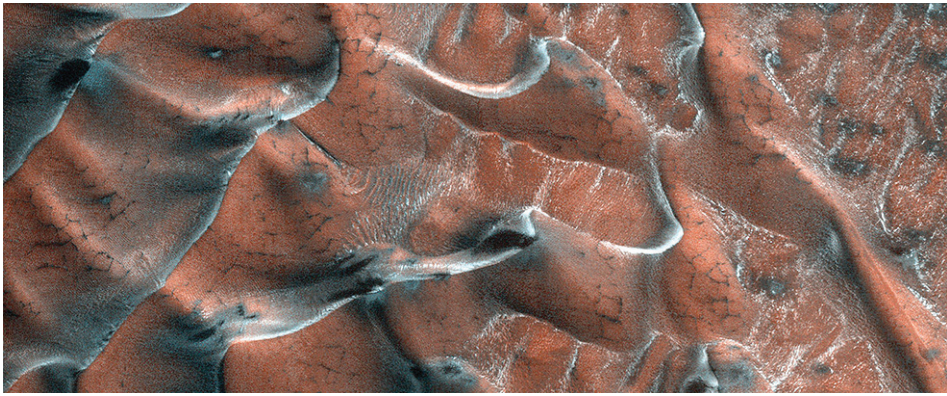
The Newton Crater on Mars, a large basin formed by an asteroid impact, closely resembles Ubehebe Crater, complete with narrow gullies carved into its northern wall. The discovery of gullies on Mars excited astronomers because proving they formed similarly to those on Earth – with water – could provide hard evidence that Mars was once a wetter planet.

And if Mars was once wet, it might have had life on it.

But Diniega also sees these gullies on sand dunes, and with more data, she's seen new gullies forming on sand dunes, despite the fact that there's hardly any accessible water in the planet's atmosphere. So, the initial explanation didn't track in her research of present day activity.

That's the tricky thing about comparative planetology: you only get a snapshot of the extraterrestrial, and you have to find a way to explain the entire landscape formation. In reality, these places can form unbelievably different from Earth's processes, even if the landforms look the same.

"Think about it as a big puzzle; we're trying to really decode things," she said. "This is very complicated because many processes happen on landscapes. Some of these are very short time scales and some of them over very long time scales. Some of them act continuously and some of them act very suddenly."



Frosty Sand Dunes On Mars Courtesy NASA/JPL-Caltech/University of Arizona: This image acquired by NASA's Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter, shows a field of sand dunes occupying a frosty 5-kilometer diameter crater in the high-latitudes of the northern plains of Mars.

That was the case for the gullies. The results on Earth and Mars looked similar, but the chemical make-up of Mars complicates the story. While it's not impossible that Mars gullies formed in the past with water, that's almost certainly not what's happening right now.

Almost all of the current frost on Mars is dry ice, which behaves very differently from water ice.

You might be familiar with dry ice from science class or a fun cocktail (depending on where you tend to pay attention.) It's a funky-looking substance because it turns directly into a gas when it warms, rather than water ice which melts to liquid. Dry ice also has a significantly lower freezing point than water, with dry ice freezing at approximately -109.3°F compared to water's freezing point of 32°F.

Diniega's team ultimately suggested that these gullies result from the movement of dry ice, not water ice. They presume it mimics fluid dynamics when it

warms, leading to the erosion and reshaping of Martian surface features without the involvement of water.

This also helps to explain a specific kind of gully formation seen on Mars dunes, characterized by relatively constant width and by raised banks along the sides and without an apron closure, what you'd imagine seeing if a boulder rolled down a hill.

Except instead of boulders, pits punctuate these trenches. The phenomenon has puzzled astronomers since they first saw them.

That is, until Diniega's team discovered – on a sand dune in Utah – that dry ice floats down sand dunes like hockey pucks, while blocks of water ice and wooden blocks slide only incrementally on sand before stopping.

This is because of the gas dry ice emits while warming, which essentially allows it to "hoverboard" down the slope. The longest known gullies of this type extend

almost 1.2 miles down the side of a large sand dune inside Russell Crater on Mars.

Mars' dry ice anomalies don't stop there; they also include geysers. In 2003, astronomers noticed spider-like geological scars on the Martian surface, which puzzled them until NASA scientists recently modeled a theory in the lab. They found that carbon dioxide gas from dry ice builds up beneath frost until sunlight penetrates the surface in spring, releasing the gas in a pressurized system.

Now, the prevailing hypothesis suggests these geysers are responsible for the surface scars. At Mars' frosty poles, dry ice behaves much like water snow on Earth, resulting in clouds of debris during springtime. Meanwhile, the southern polar cap features a "swiss cheese" terrain, with pits that widen over time due to the interplay of dry and water ice.

Astronomers are still trying to figure out exactly what this means for Mars' atmosphere – whether that carbon dioxide stays in the atmosphere, goes back into space, or does something else entirely.

As researchers like Dr. Serina Diniega continue to unravel the complexities of these environments, we gain deeper insights into the history of Mars and the possibility of past life there.

Studying such extremes on Earth not only informs our exploration of other worlds but also deepens our appreciation for the intricate dynamics that shape our own planet. As we look to the stars, places like Death Valley remind us that the mysteries of the universe are often reflected in the landscapes right beneath our feet.

Mammoth Lakes Repertory Theatre
presents

POTUS:

Or, Behind Every Great
Dumbass are 7 Women Trying
to Keep Him Alive

by
Selina Fillinger

March 14-30, 2025

Fri & Sat @ 7pm Sun @ 4pm

WARNING! Adult Language and Mature Themes

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365 Sierra Park Rd.

for tickets MammothLakesRep.org

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This production has no affiliation with Mammoth High School or MUSD

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“GREAT EXPECTATIONS”

Felici Trio and guests concert preview
By Lunch

What I admire about Rebecca Hang and Brian Schuldt, principals and founding members of the Felici Trio, is that they choose their programs with such ... intention. There is purpose and a backstory to each piece of music they select.

Makes me jealous. When am I gonna get that smart?

I spoke with Hang this week about the Trio's next shows, which will take place March 8 & 9 (*more info, see ad p. 2*).

This concert will feature pieces by Schubert, Fanny Hensel and Dvorak.

If you're unfamiliar with Fanny Hensel, she was Felix Mendelssohn's sister.

According to Hang, Fanny was told by her father that music would “always be an ornament, not a calling” for her. That it was “improper” for her to perform and publish her music.

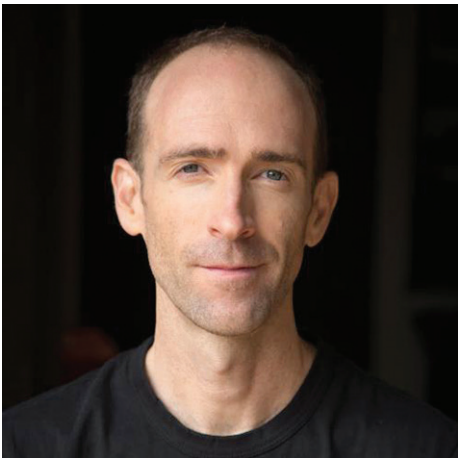
So, sexism at play, and perhaps some sibling rivalry as well.

Against her father's and brother's wishes, she published her music in 1845, two years prior to her death at age 42.

Her brother also died in 1847 at the age of 38.

Hang describes the Hensel piece they'll be playing next weekend as a “fabulous piece ... who knows how much she could have written with some encouragement.”

The other backstory I found interesting was in regard to the Dvorak piece, and not really the story about the piece itself,



Ian Walker

written when Dvorak was 34 and on the cusp of notoriety and fame. Rather, it was the happenstance of how someone in passing told Hang about a double bass player who lives in Lone Pine.

Oftentimes, someone tells you about someone (“Oh, I have this writer friend you need to meet”) and the buildup doesn't match the goods, but in this case, it turns out Ian Walker can really play.

Walker is both a composer in his own right and a studio musician who works in L.A.

The other two guests on the Dvorak piece include violist Kevin Hsu and violinist Ambroise Aubrun.

The guests, plus Rebecca and Brian, collaborated on a piece at last summer's Chamber Music Festival, so with a nod to Jake and Elwood Blues, they're getting the band back together!

MLT FUNDING AWARDS

MLT has made its 2025 Special Events funding award allocations. These funds are provided by Mammoth Lakes Tourism to special event producers and are intended to support the growth of visitation to our area, particularly during shoulder seasons and need periods. Events must take place in Mammoth Lakes to be eligible for funding. \$350,000 was available for award in 2025, a \$65,500 increase from the funds disbursed to Special Events in 2024. Most events saw an increase in funding from 2024, including six new special events applicants who received funding for the first time. The Special Event Committee consists of Stuart Brown, Town of Mammoth Lakes Parks & Recreation Director | PIO and Mary Beth Ericson, John Morris and Deb Radcliff from the MLT Board.

	Funding Request	2024 Award	Funding Award
Applicant			
Eastern Sierra Pride	\$ 18,000.00	\$ -	\$ 13,500.00
Flash Foxy Trad Fest	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -	\$ 3,500.00
Footloose Freedom Mile	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -	\$ 2,500.00
Health and Wellness Fair	\$ 15,000.00		\$ 7,500.00
Keep Her Wild Craft Festival	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 3,500.00
Mammoth Roll and Soul	\$ 3,500.00		\$ 2,800.00
The MAMMOTH - Trailfest	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -	\$ 7,500.00
Fourth of July Parade	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Arts on the 4th	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 12,000.00
Elevation Mammoth	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
Giddy-Up	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 14,000.00
Kids Fishing Festival	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 6,000.00
Mammoth Feel Good Festival	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 12,500.00	\$ 14,000.00
Mammoth Festival of Beers and Bluesapalooza	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
Mammoth Gran Fondo	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
Mammoth JazzFest	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 12,500.00	\$ 14,000.00
Mammoth Lakes Film Festival	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 18,000.00
Mammoth Margarita Festival	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 12,500.00	\$ 14,000.00
Mammoth Reggae Festival	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 12,500.00	\$ 14,000.00
Mammoth Rocks	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 12,500.00	\$ 14,000.00
Mammoth TrailFest	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 38,000.00	\$ 45,000.00
Mammoth Tuff	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 23,000.00
Mammoth Villagefest	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 12,500.00	\$ 18,000.00
Pamper Pedal	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,200.00
PedalPalooza	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 9,000.00
Rock n Rye	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 12,500.00	\$ 14,000.00
The Outbound Music Series	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 12,500.00	\$ 14,000.00
	\$ 514,000.00	\$ 267,000.00	\$ 350,000.00
		Available	\$ 350,000.00

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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.

ADVANCED AIR

KLUSMIRE

UNDERWEAR ANGST ALLEVIATED?

It appears our era of underwear angst is coming to a close.

Thank God.

The Eastern Sierra's perennial existential question, uttered like a Tibetan chant since the closure of JC Penney, Kmart and Rite Aid, has been "where am I gonna buy underwear?" Actually, the more accurate phrasing is, "where am I gonna buy cheap underwear?" That subtle difference will be addressed later. What will not be addressed is the local citizenry's deep desire and unquenchable need for heaps of cheap underwear. Let your mind wander, if you must.

When I read in the Feb. 14 Sheet that a Marshalls department store was moving into the vacant Rite Aid space, I was a bit suspicious. Every mall in America is sucking wind and has been for years with thousands of department and specialty stores shuttering or going bankrupt. Mom-and-pop main street stores have also been hammered primarily due to online shopping. So how in the world did Bishop land a national franchise department store?

After a bit of online stalking, it all made perfect business sense since one brand's failure opens the door to another brand's success.

But since Marshalls isn't slated to open for at least a year, a more personal and immediate question needed to be addressed: Will your current array of underwear last for a year? I'm betting that in the bottom of many dresser drawers are some forgotten delicacies purchased at the Bishop JC Penney many years ago, and a couple more from the deserted Kmart. Sort of an emergency stash of undies. They are probably a tad threadbare, so nothing to show off. That task should be handed off to the very stylish, colorful and comfy Patagonia underwear from Eastside Sports. Pricey, sure, but style isn't cheap. In reality, most folks probably have made some underwear runs to Walmart to score the treasured array of "cheap underwear." Those will probably tide folks over until Marshalls arrives.

Fortunately, for those in an immediate underwear emergency, every outdoor/sporting goods store and clothing store from Mammoth to Lone Pine has some sort of undies or base layer. I know because I have done almost yearly stories based on personal surveys of underwear availability to counter the drama of the area's "underwear shortage." Oh, and don't forget sharing

with friends. Close friends. Friends with good washing machines.

Now that has been addressed, onto some insights about Marshalls deciding to move into Bishop and the Eastern Sierra despite the small population and the departure of two, national general merchandise stores.

Some background. Marshalls is owned by TJX Companies, which also owns TJ Maxx, Home Goods and Sierra. Marshalls stores typical merchandise mix includes men's, women's and kids' clothes, shoes and home goods.

The first news item of interest detailed how Marshalls opened a new store in Clear Lake, California, this past August. The telling detail: the Marshalls store was opening in a building that was recently vacated by Kmart. Another former Kmart being converted into a Marshalls is located in Lakeport in Sonoma County. Same story in Pennsylvania, Michigan, Texas and Maine and other states.

Seems like a trend.

Going into the trade journals, the May 23, 2024 issue of Retail Dive in this case, confirmed that trend. TJX CEO Ernie Herrman said the company expects to add about 140 new stores to its existing roster of about 4,900 stores.

The company is taking advantage of the glut of empty retail space in the country caused by the closure of thousands of other retailers, from Macy's to Kmart to Big Lots. Cheap rent and consumers looking for an affordable in-store experience is driving the company's expansion, Herrman said.

Marshalls, Retail Dive noted, is the "world's largest" chain of off-price stores. Off-price means sort of inexpensive, but not bargain basement cheap. The chain swoops in and buys discontinued lines of clothes and merchandise, inventory overstock from manufacturers or other retailers, cancelled orders for merchandise, and other "bulk buying" techniques. Ideally, that translates into lower prices for the consumer.

So there's hope, God willing, that the fever dream about having a pile of cheap undies just around the corner just might come true.

Jon Klusmire of Bishop is hoping the arrival of Marshalls will put an end to his undercover underwear investigations.



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BONUS KLUSMIRE

A SMALL, BRIGHT PACKAGE

The highlight of a recent week arrived in a small, bright package bursting with energy. A sweet voice and sparkling eyes brought new views and new perspectives to a number of things I have come to take for granted or to overlook as mundane or routine.

Was I treated to some wisdom? Maybe. Some clear-eyed insights? Most likely. A laugh or two? Absolutely.

Delivering those doses of light and optimism was my favorite 7-year-old who had arrived for nice, long family visit to the Eastern Sierra.

Here are some of things I learned, or in some cases, relearned while hosting the little sprite.

It's perfectly fine to have ice cream

bars in the middle of February. And eat them outside in the wintry sunshine. In addition, you don't have to worry about getting high-end, gourmet, organic ice cream bars. Something from the nearest gas station/convenience store freezer will be just fine.

You need to think long and hard before teaching a quick learner how to deploy "the stink eye." And you might even want to consult the parents before revealing such a technique to a 7-year-old who can easily find plenty of things that are "stink-eye worthy." Yes, that would include the esteemed teacher.

Never be shy or embarrassed when asking for help. It's not a big deal. No

one knows everything, so if you don't know, just ask, whether it's for help spelling "Mt. Whitney" in a crossword puzzle or help opening brand new tubes of paint.

Don't give a second thought to changing your mind when new information shows up. Example: going into the Toggery in Bishop to find a pair of fringy cowgirl boots, but then forgetting about boots and not even hesitating to grab a pair of high-water bell bottoms sporting a wild blue and white-line design.

Likewise, you can put time and effort into choosing and then starting a painting or craft project. But then after getting into it for awhile you realize said painting or craft project is too hard or too boring or just not very fun. So you can just stop. Put things away. Walk away. Don't give it a second thought. Onto the next project. No biggie.

Don't think twice about plowing past bedtime to keep reading and finally finishing a new book that you really like.

There is never a good reason not to stop and watch a climber in a harness and helmet use ropes to scamper up

the Shark Fin in the Alabama Hills. Amazing.

While there is a fairly strict timeline for breakfast, lunch and dinner, there is always time in the day to make and bake vanilla cupcakes with strawberry frosting and sprinkles. And yes, it's always okay to dig a finger into the frosting and just flat-out eat a big clump.

Look up into the Eastern Sierra's clear, dark night sky. Yep. That's the Milky Way. Stars. Planets lining up like a chorus line. Quiet. Otherworldly. Mesmerizing.

Making the adults walk through the cold-water spray at Keough's Hot Spring is hilarious.

Never doubt that little clusters of winged forest fairies are living magically under the trees around the house and want to share special gifts with everyone who believes.

Jon Klusmire of Bishop is reassessing his life goals.

MEET

Louie

— a lovable 3 year old Doberman-Bulldog mix weighing 100 lbs! With the majestic looks of a Doberman and the charmingly snoring habits of a Bulldog, he's a big cuddle bug who adores giving kisses. Although he can be wary of strangers, especially men, we're working on building his confidence through positive reinforcement.

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Donations will be accepted via Venmo or cash/check and distributed to local workers who were terminated from their jobs as a result of the recent federal firings.



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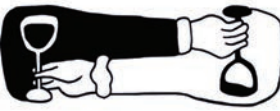
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Outlaw Saloon Happy Hour Monday through Friday from 4-6 p.m. *More info: See ad p.13*
The Mogul happy hour 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the bar. Food and drink specials.
Lakanuki happy hour 3-6 p.m. daily AND karaoke every Sunday, starting at 8:30 p.m.
Main Street Pizza - *See ad this page for details.*
Distant Brewing happy hour Monday-Thursday from 3-5pm. \$1/off beer/wine/cider/seltzer/kombucha

Friday, February 28/
Trey Hill brings a "Nashville-style" show to the Mill at Mammoth Mountain. Music starts 12:30 p.m.

February 28-March 1/
Weekend Apres Ski parties @ Canyon Lodge. Starts 2 p.m. DJ Mikey Lion headlines Friday, DJ WLDCT opens.
Luis Oliart & The Hinges, a funk-soul-blues band, play Liberty. Music starts 9:30 p.m.

Monday, March 3/
Open mic night @ Distant Brewing. Time: 6-9 p.m.

Tuesday, March 4/
Enjoy FAT TUESDAY @ Liberty. NOLA-inspired food & drink specials all day followed by **live music with the Stick Horns** (featuring Cliff Porter) starting 9 p.m.
Vinyl night @ Distant Brewing. Time: 6-9 p.m.

Wednesday, March 5/
Weekly Pool Tournament @ Distant Brewing. Hosted by Eastern Sierra Pool from 4:30-9:30 p.m.

Friday, March 7-8/
Arc'teryx Academy Music Series at Kitchen 53. Runs from 11:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. both nights. Bianca Oblivion headlines on Friday, Mary Droppinz on Saturday. *Tix \$25 on mammoth.arcteryxacademy.com.*

TOWN STUFF

Friday, February 28/
Skate for Tony! @ the Mammoth Ice Rink. Time: 6-7:30 p.m. 100% of all admissions will go towards the Tony Colasardo scholarship fund, removing financial barriers for local youth participation in our recreation programs. Suggested donation of \$20 for Winter Skate Members.

Saturday, March 1/
Alabama Hills "Ask a Ranger" popup table at the Mobius Arch Trailhead parking lot from 10-12., Ask a Sierra Forever ranger questions about anything related to the Alabama Hills.
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.

Sunday, March 2/
MMSA Unbound Series Halfpipe. Time: 8:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. *For info, visit mammothmountain.com*
Fundraiser for fired federal workers.

TOWN STUFF

Time: 5-7 p.m. Location: American Legion Hall in Independence. *More info: See ad p. 9*

Monday, March 3/
Eastern Sierra Community Housing Board meets. Time: 6 p.m. Location: Suite Z, Minaret Mall or online via townofmammothlakes.ca.gov.

Tuesday, March 4/
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

Wednesday, March 5/
Mammoth Lakes Town Council meets. Time: 4 p.m. Location: Suite Z, Minaret Mall or online via townofmammothlakes.ca.gov.
Community Skate Night @ Mammoth Ice Rink. Time: 7:30-9 pm. Sponsored by Mammoth Lakes Tourism. Admission and skate rentals are FREE (subject to availability) with hot chocolate compliments of MLT. Attendees can also enter to win 2 tickets to an LA Kings game!

Thursday, March 6/
Mammoth Mayor Chris Bubser will hold her weekly office hours @ Stellar Brew. Time: 9-10 a.m.

March 7-9/
Arcteryx Backcountry Academy comes to Mammoth. *For info:*

TOWN STUFF

mammoth.arcteryxacademy.com.

March 8-9/
Chamber Music Unbound Winter Concert Series continues. Saturday's concert at Cerro Coso College in Mammoth starts 7 p.m. Sunday's concert at Cerro Coso in Bishop starts 4 p.m. *For tix and more info: see ad p. 2*

UPCOMING

March 12: ESAC holds Avalanche Awareness Evening at Mammoth Brewing Company
March 14-30: Mammoth Lakes Repertory Theatre's production of "Behind Every Great Dumbass are Seven Women Trying to Keep Him Alive" plays at the MHS MPR. *More info: See ad p. 6*
March 22: Annual Blake Jones Trout Derby. HQ @ Tri-County Fairgrounds.

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 \$30-45

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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



Whitebark Institute Seeks Environmental Planning Program Director
Whitebark Institute, a nonprofit dedicated to environmental resilience in California's Eastern Sierra, is hiring an Environmental Planning Program Director. This leadership role will provide strategic leadership for Whitebark's environmental planning initiatives. Salary \$115K-\$135K/year, benefits, hybrid work. Apply at whitebarkinstitute.org/careers.

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.

Help Wanted



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- **Physical Therapist** – Starting wage \$48.72 to \$59.05 based on qualifications. \$5,000 Retention Bonus
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To view more open positions and apply, please visit www.mammothhospital.org/jobs



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/>



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Creekside Spa and Fitness Desk at the Double Eagle Resort and Spa, immediate opening for enthusiast team member. Help in creating a wonderful experience for our spa and fitness center guests. Customer service, computer, cleaning, food service. Full or part time, health benefits, fitness membership and PTO. Great place to work! Email Lodging@doubleeagle.com
Restaurant Server for Eagles Landing Restaurant at the popular Double Eagle Resort and Spa in June Lake CA. Experience in restaurant service, computers and working as team member are essential. Full and part time available, health benefits, fitness membership and PTO. Great

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

place to work. Email Lodging@doubleeagle.com
Restaurant bartender for Eagle's Landing Restaurant at the popular Double Eagle Resort and Spa. Experience in restaurant bartending, computers and working as a team member are essential. FT and PT work available. Health benefits, fitness membership, PTO. Great place to work. Email Lodging@doubleeagle.com
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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.



Papich Construction is **HIRING!** Seeking experienced Heavy Equipment Operators and Construction Laborers. Please visit www.papichco.com for more info or email your resume to HR@papichconstruction.com.



"We are seeking a motivated and detail-oriented Reservationist/Administrative Assistant to join our growing vacation rental management company in Mammoth Lakes. As a Reservationist/Administrative Assistant, you'll be responsible for handling guest inquiries and bookings, offering local area advice, providing phone support for in-house guests, and responding to emails/digital messages. You will also support our Executive Team and assist with administrative tasks such as phones, scheduling, scanning, drafting/editing emails, and filing. To succeed in this position, you'll need to be a reliable self-starter, work well under pressure, and be flexible in changing roles or jumping in where needed. 1-2 years experience in reservations/guest service (or hotel front desk) and a strong comfort level with modern tech (especially mobile apps) is required. Experience using StreamlineVRS or similar is preferred. Weekend availability may be required. We offer hourly wages commensurate with experience and (once eligibility requirements are met) health club memberships, health plan, and 401k. If you're ready to join our team and help us deliver outstanding service to our owners and guests, please fill out our online job application today at www.fivestarlodging.com."

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to \$99238.5 of the Transportation Development Act, the Town of Mammoth Lakes, Planning and Economic Development Commission (PEDC) will conduct a Public Hearing on unmet transit needs on **March 12, 2025 at 9:00 am.**

The PEDC is soliciting input of transit-dependent and transit-disadvantaged persons, including the elderly, disabled, and persons of limited means. The PEDC will also receive comments from interested citizens on unmet transit needs that may exist within the Town of Mammoth Lakes, and that might be reasonable to meet by establishing or contracting for new public transportation or specialized transportation services or by expanding existing services in the Town of Mammoth Lakes. Identified unmet needs within the Town of Mammoth Lakes will be considered the Mono County Local Transportation Commission for allocations of Transportation Development Act Funds for FY 2025/26. All persons interested in these matters are urged to attend and make comments. Comments may be sent to clerk@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov.

NOTE This meeting will be conducted pursuant to the provisions of the Governor's Executive Order which suspends certain requirements of the Ralph M. Brown Act. It is strongly encouraged that you watch the Planning and Economic Development Commission meetings on the Town of Mammoth Lakes' website at www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov or on the local government cable channel 18. Public comments can be submitted to the Town Clerk at clerk@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov before and during the meeting.

ZOOM INFORMATION

Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone, or Android device: Please click this URL to join. <https://monocounty.zoom.us/j/94467884456>

Or join by phone:

Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):
US: +1 669 900 6833 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 646 876 9923 or +1 301 715 8592
Callers - To Raise your hand press *9, To Unmute/Mute press *6 Webinar ID: 944 6788 4456 International numbers available: <https://monocounty.zoom.us/j/94467884456>

TS #2025-0021

Notice of Vacancies

PUBLIC NOTICE - REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS FOR APPOINTMENT OF MAMMOTH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT CITIZENS' BOND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE FOR RENOVATION, MODERNIZATION AND EXPANSION OF EXISTING SCHOOL FACILITIES

Because the Mammoth Unified School District ("District") elected to pursue a bond election under the provisions of Proposition 39, State Law requires the District to establish a Committee appointed by the District's Governing Board. The Committee's purposes are:

- To actively inform the public concerning the expenditures of bond revenues.
- To review and report on the proper expenditure of taxpayer money for school construction.
- To report to members of the community whether the District is in compliance with bond expenditures requirements according to paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Section 1 of Article XIII A of the California Constitution.

Duties of the Committee will include:
Monitor whether Bond funds are spent only on projects listed in the Bond Project Lists.
Monitor the progress of Bond projects.
Receive and review copies of the annual performance and financial audits of Bond projects as required by California State law (Proposition 39),
Provide information to the public on the progress of Bond projects and expenditures of Bond funds.

For more information and/or an application please go to www.mammothusd.org or call Casey O'Neill at 760.934.6802 x 513

TS #2025-0018

Fictitious Business Name Statement

The Following Entity Is Doing Business As:

The Resonant Mind

Heather Anderson
233 Wagon Wheel Rd., P.O. Box 294
Mammoth Lakes, Calif. 93546

This business is conducted by an individual. 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 8, 2025
File Number 25-005
2025-0016 (02/15, 02/22, 03/01, 03/08)

Notice of Vacancy

NOTICE OF VACANCY - MAMMOTH PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a vacancy in an unexpired term exists on the Planning and Economic Development Commission due to a resignation. The term of appointment will expire on July 31, 2026. The Planning and Economic Development Commission meetings are scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on the second Wednesday of each month.

Interested parties should file an application with the Town Clerk on or before Monday, March 10, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. Application forms ("Application for Public Appointment") may be obtained from the Town's website, www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov; Town Clerk at the Town Offices, Minaret Village Shopping Center; by writing to P.O. Box 1609, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546, Attention: Town Clerk; or by phoning 965-3602.

Dated: February 12, 2025
Jamie Gray, Town Clerk

TS #2025-0017

Fictitious Business Name Statement

The Following Entity Is Doing Business As:

Unique Design Construction

Kevin Robert Gain
29 Crawford Ave. #3, P.O. Box 110
June Lake, Calif. 93529

This business is conducted by an individual. 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 17, 2025
File Number 25-011
2025-0020 (02/22, 03/01, 03/08, 03/15)

PERSONALS

I heard you say ... you can't hear out of one ear "due to an infection." From my experience, infection or no, you can't hear anything out of both.



THE ALLURE OF LEOTARD ONESIES

By Hartley

What Is there to do this time of year? Football is over? The NFL combine just started with a bunch of former college players, most of whom will be bouncers at bars after they don't get drafted, running around in leotard onesies running sprints. How the NFL has turned this into an actual show on TV is baffling. I guess we love football. Or guys in tight onesies with their nutsacks hanging out.

The Steelers are in usual offseason form. They are trying to decide between keeping QB Russell Wilson or QB Justin Fields. Do we want to lose and score 17 points a game, or lose and score 18 points a game? Who gives us the best chance of ending 10-7 and getting housed in the playoffs?

These QBs have been rumored to sign with the Steelers:

Aaron Rodgers. I can't stop laughing. Saying that name conjures the images of a great NFL QB.....in 2020

Sam Darnold. The ultimate one hit wonder. He has 5 years of bad tape and one year of great tape. Being a math guy, I am gonna lean towards the norm, not the outlier in that data spread.

Wilson and Fields. Seen that movie. No thank you. People keep saying YOU MIGHT HAVE YOUR FRANCHISE GUY

IN A YOUNG FIELDS IF YOU DEVELOP HIM. The Steelers coaching staff has better odds of developing hemorrhoids.

Matt Stafford. And everyone says send a 1st round pick to get him. And put his old, immobile ass behind a line that hasn't proven to be effective? Better get him a permanent bed at the local hospital.

Daniel Jones. Stop it. What is it about being 6'4" tall, 230 pounds and WHITE at QB that makes people think you always have potential. A long time ago an NFL wizard said ... POTENTIAL GETS YOU FIRED.

The Steelers should draft a QB in every round this year and hope one of them hits. It doesn't matter because why waste a 3rd round pick on a guy your coaches are too stupid to develop when you could take a stab at a QB. They should draft:

Round 1: Tallest, biggest White QB with the biggest arm who is willing to use the middle of the field, even if there are defenders there waiting for the ball. He LOOKS like an NFL QB.

Round 2: Tall black fast QB that MIGHT be a good QB if he can be developed

Round 3: Any tall QB with a giant arm, see HARTLEY, pg. 13



437 Old Mammoth Rd
Movie Info Line
(760) 934 3131



Buy Tickets Online
DPlaceEntertainment.com

Movies Starting This Friday 02/28 to 03/06

(PG) 1h 45m	(PG13) 1h 58m	(NR) 1h 20m	(R) 2h 17m
Friday 1:45pm 4:30pm 7:00pm Saturday 12:30pm 3:00pm 7:15pm Sunday & Tuesday 1:45pm 4:30pm 7:00pm Wednesday 4:30pm 7:00pm Thursday 4:30pm	Friday 1:30pm 4:15pm 7:15pm Saturday 1:00pm 4:00pm 7:00pm Sunday & Tuesday 1:30pm 4:15pm 7:15pm Wednesday 4:15pm 7:15pm	Friday 9:30pm Saturday 5:30pm	Thursday 3:45pm 7:15pm

CLOSED MONDAY 03/03/25

This is TUNDRA!

He's a beautiful young boy who came into our shelter as a stray. He's very calm in his kennel and shows excellent potential because he's smart, good with people and other dogs, playful and obedient.

Visit Tundra- 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



Save a life.
Adopt a shelter dog.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE, BECOME A VOLUNTEER TODAY!

HARTLEY

continued from page 12

who probably couldn't hit the side of his house with a pass if he was aiming at it, but has POTENTIAL and played for a winning program in college loaded with talent that carried him.

Round 4: Any QB that played for a crappy school, but looked good.
Round 5: Short black QB who is fast as hell and can run down defenders when they intercept his passes. Bonus: If he fails at QB maybe you can try him in the defensive backfield.

Round 6: Short white QB who lacks the physical skills but is a GAMER and WINNER. Prototype: Bailey Zappe

Round 7: Any QB left who has any quality that remotely translates to success as an NFL QB. Liken... he throws with anticipation. The whole team anticipates he will throw an interception, but he is willing to stick it in those tight holes and push the ball down the field.

That was a litany of QB cliches. See what I did there. Channeling ESPN.

Ravens kicker Justin Tucker is piling up criminal cases faster than QB Deshaun Watson. And he is married? What do you do as a woman when your husband is being charged with all this? Do you still tell your friends ... HE IS A GREAT MAN, THIS WILL ALL BE EXPOSED AS LIES.

The only thing being exposed was Tucker's penis every time he needed a massage after his rigorous Sundays kicking the ball 4 times a game. No wonder he was the most prolific kicker in NFL history. He was plenty loose and completely relaxed and sexually spent. No built up aggression at all. He was swinging his right leg and his penis freely at an alarmingly accurate rate.

You just have to read this quote by Devondre Campbell. If you don't recall, he played for the Niners and famously quit during a game. Just wouldn't play anymore. People have dogged him for it and when asked about it recently, he responded: "I ain't addressing shit. I'm rich and never have to work another day of my life and I told [Coach] Kyle Shanahan and[GM] John Lynch that when they FaceTimed me and begged me to come out there an hour after Green Bay cut me," Campbell wrote.

Jordan Schultz and Adam Schefter had a verbal altercation at a Starbucks near the NFL combine. Who are they? Two NFL "NEWSBREAKERS."

Their purpose in life is to break news one nanosecond ahead of everybody else. How is it an industry to have NFL reporters be the first to report that the Jets are done with Aaron Rodgers? I don't care who tells me first. Or STEELERS HAVE SIGNED ZACH WILSON. I can throw up just as effectively if I read that online several hours later. Stupid.

The curse of Antonio Brown lives on for the Steelers.

Ben Roethlisberger was on his podcast talking about during his last several years in the league, more players were on their phones in the locker room during halftime checking social media every year. Which explains why Mike Tomlin is considered a PLAYERS coach. More like a substitute teacher. He lets them play on their phones while the coaches are talking? Comical. I guess if your coaches are too stubborn and stale to change anything anyway, why listen to the halftime adjustments? But it reminded me of the AB FaceTime live while the coaches were talking in the locker room. That was the last playoff game the Steelers won? Coincidence? Curse?

But Ben had something else to say that was hilarious. He talked about the organization being rigid and not wanting to change or do anything different. They line up and say THIS IS STEELER FOOTBALL, BEAT US. Which teams do.

Pittsburgh doesn't really scheme. They count on you as a Steeler being better than the player across from you.

Alas, you cannot have the best player at every position on your team, dumbass. The good teams scheme it up and destroy the Steelers. They know

“ You got what you voted for. Your hate has come back to screw you. And the screwing has just begun.

-Hartley”

what they are doing. This really made me laugh though. Ben had this quote: "At some point, you have to decide that you're going to throw some different wrinkles at teams," Roethlisberger said. "I mentioned this at one point when we were doing offensive stuff.

'Hey Coach, what if they do this?'" Roethlisberger asked. "'They won't,'" Tomlin replied. "'I'm sorry, what if they do?'" So yeah, I just think that's something that the Steelers, they gotta get away from."

That is exactly what I have thought of Tomlin and have said for years. He is just a clown. He hasn't done anything different in 18 years. THEY WON'T was his response. What he really meant to say was "I WOULD NOT KNOW WHAT TO DO." That is genius.

I must admit this Musk and Trump show is hilarious. The people that voted for them are the funniest to me. Black folks voted for them, poor white folks voted for them. And they will suffer as much as anyone. I have seen reports and posts about ardent Trump supporters, probably some toothless

hillbillies from Anywhere Alabama, were all in on Trump and Musky cleaning up the GUBMENT. Then one of their family members, or themselves get fired and are like ... I thought y'all were just after them darker-skinned folks and gays? I'm white? But you don't realize that to Chump and Musky you are just poor ... poor trash. Poor is trash to them in any color. Dummy. There is truth to the notion that there are a lot of lazy, entitled government workers. But having two clowns, mentally unstable clowns completely detached from reality deciding where to trim the fat is insane. They are just wielding the power they spent their entire lives building up - like children. There is no logic to them at all. Just greed and hatred. And immaturity. You got what you voted for. Your hate has come back to screw you. And the screwing has just begun.

mammoth

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Mammoth

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BOOKS

THE YEAR OF LIVING CONSTITUTIONALLY

By Fisher

Whether you've been anticipating the death of democracy with every newly-minted headline, or been calculating each newscast as a win, I figure we could all benefit from a return to that 4,543 word document we were all presumably required to read at least once sometime between kindergarten and high school graduation: the Constitution.

In the preamble to "The Year of Living Constitutionally," author A.J. Jacobs is quick to admit he'd never read the constitution in full. That is, he'd never read it before he decided to commit a full year of his life to living out the constitution's "original meaning."

When Jacobs did read the Constitution, much to his wife's disdain, he did so by candlelight and on a khaki-colored replica, an addendum to the challenge wherein he attempted to abide by 18th century living customs so as not to complicate the interpretation. He followed this rule ... loosely (he bought the scroll on Amazon), and seemingly, to add a certain readable flair to an otherwise dense historic topic.

Nonetheless, I picked this book up because the reviews on the jacket cover pitched it as "light-hearted but surprisingly educational," and I'll vouch for the reviews. Jacobs quips about how his wife

hates the sound of his feathered pen parchment paper and the smell of his beef tallow candles, and he chides the Constitution's spelling errors as "baffling, disgusting, or worse." The opening lines of the book sum up the tone:

"I recently discovered that if you walk around New York City while carrying an eighteenth-century musket, you get a lot of questions."

As for "surprisingly educational," I'd agree there too. Jacobs's general thesis is that the constitution has always been buffered by a contention between originalists and reformists, but that it's pretty amazing that the document has never once been rewritten, having become the world's oldest active codified constitution.

The book reads as a history analysis with a modern twist, following roughly the same central themes and discussions as a college-level U.S. Political Systems class. It serves as a sequel to Jacobs' 2007

Originalists like to argue that the constitution is not a poem or a metaphor. It's more like a recipe for, say, chicken salad. Just because it was written over 230 years ago, you still need to follow the recipe.

bestseller, "The Year of Living Biblically," where he attempted to follow every single rule in the Bible as literally as possible, questioning the many ways a single document can be interpreted.

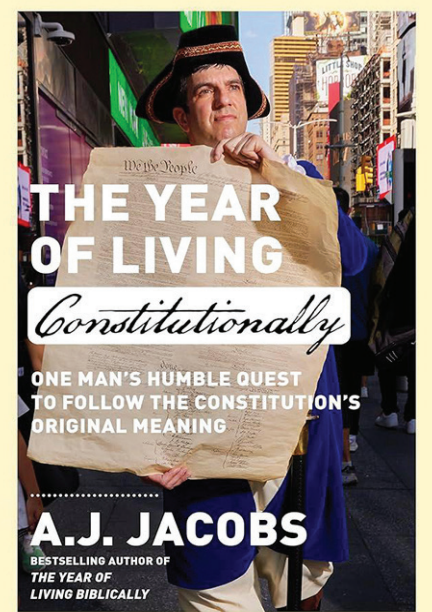
He starts his constitutional journal on election day, where he made traditional "election cake" and punch to celebrate the day, all while pondering whether or not it was appropriate to allow his wife to vote.

"Originalists like to argue that the constitution is not a poem or a metaphor," he wrote of the two constitutional philosophies. "It's more like a recipe for, say, chicken salad. And just because it was written over 230 years ago, you still need to follow the recipe."

One of the events which inspired Jacobs to take on the quest was the 2022 Supreme Court decision *Dobbs v. Jackson*, which overturned *Roe v. Wade*, removing the federal right to abortion. It was an originalist overruling, taking down a piece of legislation that banked largely on the Ninth Amendment's principle that Americans have "implied rights" beyond those explicitly listed in the constitution.

And while most conservatives and originalists would agree that enumerated rights are real, they disagree on what those hidden rights are and how expansive they are, Jacobs wrote.

All the while, the fact that the courts



have as much power as they do has been a stand-alone discussion since the very beginning – one that continues in fervor today. If you asked the founding fathers how much "check" the Supreme Court has over the other branches of government, you would have gotten different answers from each one. Hamilton was a SCOTUS fan, Jefferson was a skeptic. Today, the same debates continue.

"As I write this, the court is at a low ebb of public opinion," Jacobs said. "According to polls, most people view the justices not as objective and impartial arbiters, but as men and women who are loyal to their party."

The founding fathers were worried about two things: mob rule and monarchy. This brought out a lot of discussions about what the constitution could look like and some of these ideas are fun to entertain. For example, there was originally a campaign for the right to petition to also include the "right to instruct" representatives on how to rule. It was shut down for that fear of mob rule.

Or, as Ben Franklin suggested, the presidency could have consisted of a committee of twelve men. "One supreme leader is, in fact, the fetus of monarchy," Jacobs pondered at this idea. "Those who hold the office will just want to accrue power – and indeed they have."

This all sets the scene for Trump's second presidency well. This book was published in 2024, and since then, a landslide of constitutional qualms have risen to the surface through the administration's actions, which have called into question, and sometimes into contempt, the constitution's assumed implications.

Some scholars say we're in a "Constitutional Crisis," as The New York Times reported recently. The Times analysis largely focuses on the relationship between the SCOTUS and the president, calling into question his willingness to respect decisions by the judicial branch, criticizing Trump for his seeming contempt for the document.

The problem with the constitution is that it's just four short pages, and therefore, leaves a lot up to interpretation. Franklin believed that governments follow an inevitable path to democracy, and that decisions around the constitution would be made in good faith.

Jacobs is less optimistic. He believes governments generally lean towards authoritarianism over time. In his conclusion, he writes, "there is nothing natural about democracy. It is not subject to any immutable laws. It's fragile. We created it, and if we're not careful, we can destroy it."

CHAINS REQUIRED

SPEED LIMIT 25

DID YOU KNOW?

→ **Did you know you can be Snow Smart this winter by observing a few simple rules and lifesaving tips?**

- **During heavy snowfall, please stay off the roads** to let our snow removal operators clear the roads and sidewalks. If you aren't comfortable driving in wintry conditions, let the professionals at Eastern Sierra Transit Authority do the driving for you.
- Don't put on chains when you have to. **Put on chains before you need them** and do not stop in the road. Pull off the road to a designated area or parking lot to safely install your chains.
- **Look out for and obey all posted traffic signage**—especially regarding speed limits and chain controls. When chain control conditions are in effect, the maximum speed limit throughout town is 25 mph.
- It is a violation of the Town of Mammoth Lakes municipal code to park on any roadway from **November 1 through April 30**.
- **Clear all the snow off the roof** of your vehicle prior to driving.
- **Keep children indoors while snow removal operations are underway** and do not play in yards, build snow forts, or dig caves near the road during snow removal operations.

Visit our Winter Snow Smart page:
townofmammothlakes.ca.gov/510/Be-Snowsmart-this-Winter for links to road and highway conditions (800-427-ROAD), current chain restrictions, a list of tow companies, taxi & shuttle services, and more!

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[Town of Mammoth Lakes](https://TownofMammothLakes)

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For information and to apply visit:
townofmammothlakes.ca.gov
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LUNCH

continued from page 3

And in the aftermath, I've received messages from people who just couldn't quite believe the apres-ski at Canyon resumed the next weekend as if nothing had happened.

No community conversation. And conspicuous Alterran silence, I'm sure guided by 'our lawyers told us we shouldn't say anything.'

"It'll blow over soon" seems to be the Alterra strategy.

What shocked Fisher was the suggestion in an MMSA Instagram post dated February 22 that it would share information regarding fundraising efforts.

What? Fundraising from whom? There's no need for fundraising. Alterra should be paying 100%.

Next MMSA Instagram post caption: Fresh midweek corduroy and wide open groomers.

But as Ms. Weiner alluded, this isn't isolated. We appear to be downplaying the danger inherent in the sport because no one wants to step on anyone else's buzz.

And it's "go go go gimme my shred why can't they get stuff open? In the old days they woulda had it open."

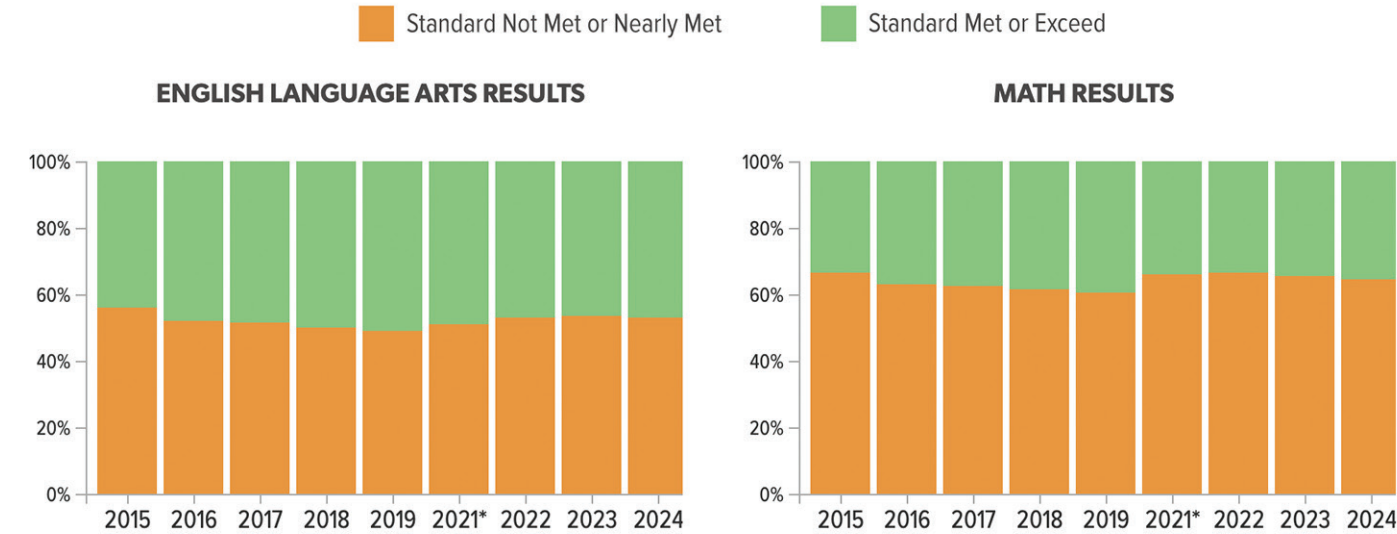
As personal examples, I was knocked unconscious on the hill (by a reckless skier) in 2021. The skier in question had been tucking down from Chair 5 so he could keep his speed to reach a "pop-up" bar which had been set up at the top of Chair 10.

In 2017, an out of control snowboarder on Scottie's missed my then-6 year old daughter and I (stopped for a rest) by a matter of inches. Board up, butt sliding, flying past at 25 mph. Still gives me nightmares. He would have killed her.

This season, I was plowed over again by a snowboarder speeding through the slow zone in front of Main Lodge trying to keep speed to get to the gondola.

Guy just left his goggles on and his facemask over his face while the patroller took the report. No remorse. It must have been this old guy's fault for standing in the way.

To the powers-that-be: I don't know what your skier satisfaction surveys say, but Arianne, I feel, very gently and deftly gave you the pulse of what the community is thinking and feeling.



In the old days, Rusty would have come down to a Council meeting and faced the music. He was good in the big moments. He communicated that he cared deeply. And then he sat respectfully and listened.

This is a leadership 101 moment. And if none of you have been empowered to lead, that is a profound indictment of Alterra Mountain Company

What's the score?

The above graphic came from the CAASPP (California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress).

It doesn't really give you a dramatic visual, but the point is, the pandemic just sent everything five points in reverse and recovery has been slow and uneven.

Statewide, the English standard was met by 50.87% of students in 2019. That was the high water mark.

The trough was 46.66% in 2023.

Statewide, the math standard peaked at 39.73% meeting proficiency in 2019. That number dipped to 33.38% in 2022 before rebounding slightly to 35.54% in 2024.

Locally, Mammoth Unified scores for 2024 were 41.61% and 35.25% for english and math respectively.

At Bishop Unified, those numbers were 39.61% and 34.34%.

Round Valley Elementary had the highest scores locally at 65.63% for english and 72.72% for math.

Nationally, the percentage of 8th graders at a basic or better reading level is at its lowest level since 1992.

The rich get spendier

From the Wall Street Journal this week, the front page headline, "US Economy relies heavily on the rich."

According to the Journal, the top 10% of earners (those making more than \$250,000/year) account for 49.7% of all spending, up from 36% three decades ago.

Between Sept. 2023 and Sept. 2024, this cohort increased its spending 12%. Spending by all other economic classes declined during this period.

During the past four years, the bottom 80% have increased their spending by 25%

The top 10% have increased their spending by an average of 58%

Price increases during that span averaged 21%.

And finally, from my mother ...

Well, actually it's a Mencken quote from 100 years ago shared by my mother.

"As democracy is perfected, the office of president represents, more and more closely, the inner soul of the people. On some great and glorious day the plain folks of the land will reach their heart's desire at last and the White House will be adorned by a downright moron."

This to me was illustrated nicely when I read this week that the U.S. had voted against a U.N. resolution condemning Russia's actions against Ukraine and supporting Ukrainian territorial integrity.

The US voted the same way as Russia, North Korea and Belarus.



3/4 **FAT TUESDAY**

* NOLA THEMED FOOD AND DRINK SPECIALS ALL DAY *

MUSIC BY THE STICK HORNS

* FEATURING CLIFF PORTER *

MUSIC BEGINS AT 9PM

Liberty Sports **BAR** & Grill

FREE LIVE MUSIC 9:30PM

3/1 - 3/8 **THE CROOKED STUFF**

DJ / LIVE BAND MASH UPS

DISCO, FUNK, PUNK

3/14 - 3/15 **COLD WITHOUT PANTS**

MAMMOTH'S FAVORITE PARTY BAND

MONDAY 3/17 **DJ ONEZIE AND FRIENDS**

3/21 **PIDDER PADDER**

MAMMOTH'S OKAYEST COVER BAND

3/22 **CHUCK BRISENO**

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3/28 - 3/29 **DEREK FRANK**

"EXPLOSION OF FUNK, ROCK, SOUL, & R&B"

-BASS MAGAZINE

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