

LETTERS

Re: Ludwig's "axe-grinding"

Dear Editor:

I hesitate to revisit a subject that I believed had been put to rest, especially considering the challenges the town currently faces.

In Hans Ludwig's letter in the Sept. 20 edition of The Sheet, he uses his distrust or dislike of Tony Barrett to grind an old axe in regard to the Ranch Road gate. His characterization of my neighbors and friends on Ranch Road and Woodcrest Trail show he has little knowledge of who they are or why the gate was proposed. The gate was the result of homeowner meetings where stories of verbal abuse and threats by some exiting the Sherwins through planted private property were shared.

Although certainly not all Sherwins users were abusive, the number was significant enough to cause concern for full-time and part-time owners. Parking problems in private drives and on the street, which is maintained solely by residents, were an everyday winter occurrence.

With reference to Mr. Ludwig's statement that we are a small (50+) and very wealthy group of homeowners who gained instant millions in equity, our

home is currently worth about 25% less than pre-Gate days.

The very wealthy part, I wish. After 13 years of Air Force service and 33 years as an airline pilot, I lost most of my retirement in airline bankruptcy. Others in this group include names of long-time Mammoth residents who are never absent from Foundation and other local charity events as donors and workers.

While I applaud those willing to donate time and energy to a cause they support, that alone doesn't necessarily mean they are completely informed as to all sides of the issue. The Sherwins are still very accessible and used consistently during winter months. The Gate area has pedestrian access that is maintained 12 months a year.

As point of fact, Chuck Lande, who I have never met, gained nothing but problems from the gate. I do understand that he is responsible for the bike path addition between Minaret and Ranch Road. I believe his Snowcreek VIII plan also includes improved Sherwin egress and parking.

Having attended an information session hosted by the group providing MLTPA guidance, I was under the impression that they and John Wentworth had concluded that cooperation between access groups and property

owners was by far the most effective way to accomplish their goals. I hope we can all move on to the current challenges facing our town.

Ray Leonard
Mammoth Lakes, CA

Backing Bauer for District 3

Dear Editor:

On Nov. 4, June Lake District 3 faces a runoff election for supervisor between my friend Vikki Bauer and Dorothy Burdette. The voting community of June Lake will go to the polls to vote for the person best qualified for the position. I would like to take the time and tell you what Vikki has been doing for our community and the citizens that live in this county.

Vikki has reached many of her decisions on difficult matters through both collaboration and compromise. Just a few programs that Vikki has been involved with are the Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (Yarts), Yosemite Gateway Partners Group and the Eastern Sierra Partners Group. She was actively involved with the Coalition for the Rodeo Ground project last summer.

The current ongoing collaboration effort is with the June Lake Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC). Meetings for public participation have been held. Public comments have been welcome. Presentations by Intrawest have been given. The CAC has now approved the Rodeo Grounds Project, which will go before the Board of Supervisors with continued refinements.

All these efforts are meant to carry out a successful conclusion in creating the best possible development and design for June Lake. The Rodeo Grounds project is in line with the CAC's 1988 recommendation to build a hotel (a hotel by definition is several stories in height, and provides meals and other services) to complement June Mountain Ski Area.

Just a little history on the CAC: the Committee members are all volunteers. The organizer for the CAC was Supervisor Glenn Thompson in 1986. The present CAC Board consists of Rob Morgan and Dan Roberts, residents and business owners appointed by Thompson, Ron Black and Dale Bromberger, residents and business owners, and Carl Williams, business representative, appointed by Joanne Ronci.

Chris Elam retired part time resident Jerry Allendorf retired, full time resident and assistant fire chief, Jill Stark part-time resident and Dean Rosnau, resident and business owner were appointed by Vikki Bauer.

June Mountain Ski Area has had a seat on the board since its conception and

Carl Williams is the current representative. Vikki is the only supervisor who has appointed two second homeowners and retirees to the CAC Board.

Supervisor Bauer, by her choice of appointees has shown her desire for the coming together of ideas. She has sought to have balance for the total community.

I admire Vikki's ability to pull together people of expertise, her ability to balance both sides of an issue and the fairness in her decisions. I ask you to keep June Lake moving forward and vote for another four years with Supervisor Vikki Bauer.

Cheri Bromberger
Mono County Tourist Commissioner
June Lake Motel
June Lake, CA

Commitment Upheld

Dear Editor,

We are submitting a clarification to your 9/20/08 editorial. The Town is upholding its political commitment to use promised TOT funds for the provision of workforce housing. The \$30,369 used to fund part of the required Housing Element Update and Town-wide housing strategy is a loan from the TOT fund and will be re-paid from future long range planning fees.

Council made this change from the dais at the meeting in order to uphold our political commitment to the community.

Mayor Wendy Sugimura,
Councilmember Jo Bacon
Housing Director Pam Hennarty
Mammoth Lakes, CA

Editor's Reply: The letter, while factually correct, is laughable. At the Sept. 20 Council meeting, Council was literally set to vote on this agenda item when Lunch spoke up to remind them that in so voting, Council would be renegeing on its political commitment to spend Housing T.O.T. funds on housing as opposed to planning. Council then hastily reclassified its raid on Housing T.O.T. funds as a "loan" which everyone knows will never be repaid in Wendy Sugimura's child's lifetime.

Repaid from future long range planning fees? Ha! Does that come before or after the repayment of the airport loans, paying off the \$30 million airport lawsuit defeat, the \$3 million raided from the North Village parking fund to cover last year's DIF shortfall ... need I go on?

This letter is an embarrassment. I can only imagine what threats were leveled at Hennarty to get her name on it.

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