

Reds Meadow and Devils Postpile Roads opened Wednesday and the shuttle buses are running. Yeah! But there's a lot of water down there, and the **Middle Fork of the San Joaquin River** is flooding. Plus, a lot of trails are damaged or under water. So, be careful, be very, very careful. ...

Good news for **anglers** is hard to come by in these days of invasive species and whirling disease problems. But state **Fish and Game's Brad Henderson** said that the **Eastern Sierra** is one of the state's highest priorities and because of that, we once again, have our own fish biologist, **Jim Erdman**, who follows old-timer **Curtis Milliron** and others. Welcome Jim. Now, get to work! ...

Wine grapes in Mono County? Sure enough, says **George Milovich**, the county's agricultural commissioner. They are being grown out in the **Tri-Valley** area, near **Chalfant** and pretty soon, they will be ready for wine-making. Sounds good to us.

Ace mountaineer/photographer/mountaineer **John Dittli** is opening a photography exhibit next Saturday at 8 o'clock at the historic **LeConte Memorial Lodge** in Yosemite Valley. And we can't wait. The falls will be beautiful in the evening. He'll present a slide show of images from his book: "Walk the Sky, Following the **John Muir Trail**." Cool! ...

The **Mammoth Bike Park** trails open this weekend are Paper Route, Timber Ridge, Big Ring, Lakes Trail, Juniper, Uptown, Downtown, Follow Me and Bullet. And this just in: the **Kamikaze** mountain bike trail is slated to open from the top on Saturday. ...

Happy to see another edition of the guidebook "The Explorer's Guide

What's Up, Up Here?



This rainbow appeared over Mammoth Rock on Tuesday. Photo/Wendilyn Grasseschi

to Yosemite and the Southern Nevada." on the shelves. It's a terrific revision by our own **David T. Page**, whose 2009 first edition practically jumped off the shelves. It's not a traditional guidebook to the **backcountry**. Rather, it deals with the roads, towns and scenic wonders. ...

Was that **Pamela Conrad**, a NASA project leader for the search for life on Mars, up here in **Lee Vining** recently? It was, and she was eager to explain why **Mono Lake's tufa formations** have helped her determine what criteria to use when looking for that life. NASA's **Opportunity Rover** heads to Mars in 2013 and Conrad's work here in **Mono Lake** could have big results...

Feel-good fun run of the summer is the **Freedom Run** on Monday from Minaret Rd. to the downtown parade

route, led by runners from the **High Sierra Striders** and coach **Andrew Kastor**. ...

Just for the heck of it: the Summer 2011 **Mono Lake Newsletter** is now online. ...

One of our favorite runners, **Ryan Hall**, tweets that he'd like to start a petition for gluten free buns at **In-N-Out Burger**. ...

You can actually feel yourself age – palpably – while waiting to turn left around here without a stoplight, says **Our Neighbor Walt**. His advice is to turn right and wing it. Occupancy for this weekend is projected to be 76 percent. ...

Nothing like taking care of the woods and trails to make yourself feel better, eh? The Mammoth Lakes Trail System **Summer of Stewardship** Trail Days begins tomorrow on the ap-

proach to the Sherwin Lakes trail, the Valentine trail, Mammoth Rock trail, and other area recreation amenities. Plus, says MLTPA, you'll get to "pig out not only on breakfast (donated by the Old New York Deli & Bagel Company)," but also on a delicious lunch at the trailhead. The whole thing is co-hosted by the **High Sierra Triathlon club**. Check MLTPA website for more details. ...

From our Facebook files: **Roma, Penny McCoy and I** were at June Lake yesterday (Tuesday) and here's a shot I got of a rainbow beyond Gull Lake. **Guess who?** ...

From Tourism Chief **John Urdi**: "When registering my '57 Chevy (that I have owned for 25 years) I was informed that it was registered here in Calif. before – interesting." No vintage plates, though. ...

Hats off to **Sandra Clark, Elizabeth Tenney and Jay Deinken**, of the Mammoth Lakes Planning Commission, along with town staffer Sandra Moberly for doing some unbelievably granular work on neighborhood district plans, including the gnarly Sierra Sites plan. ...

Was it just us, that was weird, the **Mobility Commission** meeting on the first day of summer to talk about next winter. ...

The tireless **Leslie Dawson** writes to remind us that the **Valentine Reserve Fourth grade Native Plant Project** is selling native plants for four bucks apiece tomorrow 9-1 a.m. at 107 Sugar Pine Drive. Bring a box for yer new plants. Plant list is Sticky Cinquefoil, Great Basin Wildrye, Mountain Pennyroyal, Scarlet Gilia, Sierra Wallflower, Crimson Columbine and Goldenrod, all good for **high-elevation gardens**.



Come Join in the Fun

at the Grand Opening Event in The Plaza on Saturday, July 2



★ Mammoth Times presents! ★

The Newspaper of Record • Serving Mammoth Lakes For Over 24 Years

an "Old Fashioned 4th of July" for children aged 5 to 95!

★ \$1 Hot Dogs ★ ★ \$1 Popcorn ★ ★ \$1 Peanuts ★ ★ \$1 Cotton Candy ★ ★ \$1 Icy Cold lemonade

★ Pin the Tail on Woolly ★ ★ Bobbing for Apples ★ ★ Have your picture taken as "Uncle Sam"

Lots of Giveaways & Prizes

★ THE WINNERS OF THE DEVILS POSTPILE CONTEST WILL RECEIVE THEIR AWARD AT 3 P.M.

The fun begins at 11.30 a.m. with the ribbon-cutting ceremony and will continue until 4.30 p.m.




★ All profits will go to Disabled Sports Eastern Sierra ★