



BRC BATTLES COUNTY IN COURT

CURIOS

Not two weeks before Fertility 2012, Pershing County officials grabbed Burning Man by the balls when it imposed a new festival ordinance that nearly tripled the previous year's fees for law enforcement and event-related costs. To keep the peace and ensure the Burn, Black Rock City, LLC (BRC) ponied up.

That new county festival ordinance parallels permit fees that BRC already pays the federal Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Not exactly double dipping, just submitting the same bill twice.

According to a Burning Man press release, a representative from the Sheriff's office estimated last year's cost at around \$180,000, but the bill came in at \$400,000. This year, the bill came in at \$600,000, under the aegis of the new ordinance. County commissioners reportedly said upcoming years' fees could be a million and more.

BRC filed suit. Pershing County attempted to block the lawsuit, but a federal district court dismissed that attempt.

Larry Harvey, founder of Burning Man, said in the press release, "We are being treated like a piggy bank. We do not think that this government or any govern-

ment has the right to do this."

Regarding this year's half-million-dollar tab, "That's when we said 'No,'" said Burning Man Public Relations Manager Megan Miller, camped out at Media Mecca. "We were always happy to reimburse them for the cost of being here, but we can't afford to keep paying for something that's

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not actually costing the County." Is the sheriff trying to run Burning Man out of town with the ever-increasing fees? In addition to the jacked-up festival bill, BRC also gave Pershing County \$395,600 in charitable donations from the Playa coffee and ice sales last year, as part of its civic engagement with local communities.

Burners also bring the state of Nevada about \$30 million in burner-related spending. In response to the County coffer imbroglio, the State Assembly, working with BRC passed a bill, AB374, this spring to clarify the use of local festival ordinances, a major win for BRC.

As a result, BRC was able to renegotiate this year's contract with Pershing County from \$400,000 to a more reasonable \$200,000. In addition, Pershing

County now works with the BLM on law enforcement activities on the Playa. If you haven't seen any Pershing County vehicles on the Playa this year, that's because its officers now ride one-on-one with BLM officers, which is more cost-effective and efficient. Burning Man paid the BLM an additional \$150,000 for equipment costs to integrate these two entities.

The two parties are now in confidential settlement negotiations and hope to settle a final detail over the local festival ordinance before the lawsuit goes to trial in November, said Miller. "I do hope we come to a resolution with Pershing County. That would be the best for everyone involved."

County officials take exception to the charge that it is fattening its coffers on Burner dollars. District Attorney James Shirley, in a public statement, said "The residents of Pershing County should not be required to flip the bill for the business conducted by a [20 million dollar plus] business." County commissioners have also said BRC's lawsuit challenging an ordinance falling under State law is "replete with misrepresentations, omissions and inaccurate information." The Beacon was not able to reach the County for comment by press time. 🐘



PHOTO: Teymar

Happy Tutu Tuesday!

Tuesday is the New Friday

MATT

With a potential unprecedented total population of 68,000 this week, Black Rock City is filling up faster than ever: this year's Tuesday population already exceeds the 2010 peak. While watching the nonstop line of vehicles pouring through the city Monday afternoon, over a cold beverage with friends a campmate leaned over to me and declared, "Tuesday is the new Friday!"

He might be right. Tales from around Black Rock City seem to indicate that the city and playa are filling up faster than ever.

Although a fair share of theme camps and artists were still scrambling to finish their setup (the Man wasn't even open until around midnight Monday), BRC denizens were out in force Monday night and ready for a party. In fact Monday night on the playa at times felt more like a Wednesday or Thursday from years past.

The DMV was so crowded with new car registrations Monday night that, according to an inside source, some vehicles had to be turned away due to the large volume, and DMV workers labored past midnight to complete their shifts.

Sunday night entry was brutal for many, with rumors of 10-hour waits and pulsing traffic well south of Empire. Some Sunday night arrivals were just finally entering the city early Monday afternoon.

The recent trend of mid-week playa art burns continues this year, with a record number of core pieces to be ignited Thursday evening.

Attention burners: if you really want to ride on that one special art car this year, or find that unscathed hidden gem of playa art at the edge of the city, do it NOW. 🐘

Playa Gourmet

The Week in Dusty-Topped Playa Eats

RINGO FIREFLY,

Monday – Friday Camp Moon Cheese

9:00 & B • 11pm–1am

By day NASA scientists, by night intergalactic sandwich stackers. The stellar operation at Camp Moon Cheese has launched a not-so-top secret mission to serve up earthly delights by the melty slice, scoured from the surface of our favorite blue and green dot. Shuttle over to enjoy a taste of comfort food beneath the orb of night, where our favorite satellite builders will launch five hundred grilled cheese

sandwiches into the dustmosphere. Let me know if you unfold the mystery of what the moon is made of along the way.

Camp Midnight Poutine

6:45 & D within Charcadia
10pmish or whenever it starts to become cold

Trot on over to enjoy a greasy-spooned, Quebec delicacy comprising French fries, squeaky cheese curds, and vegan gravy. This toothy delight adored by Canadians and the gastronomically inclined is a rare treat for the desert bound. A vegan cheese option is available for the dairyless diet.

Camp Miso Horny (9:00 & D)

Baby Grandpa and his operatives are arousing the senses with a sexy hot soup and sake operation. Swing by each night this week when it starts to become cold to slurp up some savory broth to warm up the heart and belly. You'll enjoy sensual aphrodisiacs and exotic chocolate ball offerings, or what I like to call sweet little morsels of HELL YES!

Wednesday & Friday Camp Kreme Burners

9:15 & G within Rogue Nation
4pm–7pm

Satisfy that hankering for a sugar fix with a proper visit to the sweet side of the desert. The Kreme Burners are serving up Creme Brulee that will leave your tongue to somersault. Glisten with excitement while breaking through the delicate surface of caramelized sugar, knowing well you'll be rewarded with an egg-beaten, amaretto and milky cream dream at the end of your ramekin — the perfect after-dinner winner.

Thursday

Camp Mystopia
7:30 & H • 11:00am–1:00pm



PHOTO: WeeGee

The scene of the creme.

The kind humans at Camp Mystopia have scheduled a French Toast brunch: A veritable carbohydrate feast served up with breakfast juice and a sweet, thickened syrup that's certain to go well on breakfast, brunch, and boyfriends.

As always, please bring your own eating utensils, unless of course, you'll be joining your mother who has them nicely stashed for you. 🐘

A MOMENT WITH LARRY

The Beacon caught up with Larry Harvey yesterday. According to Larry, if at the end of the event the majority of the Bmorg board say "Wow!" there will be a Burning Man scheduled for 2014. However, if most of the board say "Meh" there may not be another one. So if you want to see Black Rock City return next year, don't be a "Meh," be a "Wow!" 🐘



The Jerk Church cathedral, based on Gothic architecture, is hosting several burner weddings this year. It is impressively large, measuring approximately 20' tall, 53' long and 30' wide.

ON BICYCLE THIEVES AT BURNING MAN

TAYMAR

I hope there's a special hell for bicycle thieves. I've had three bikes stolen over my ten years of coming to Burning Man and last night I caught red-handed a half-wasted punk trying to steal the fourth. A cable lock wrapped around the front wheel made it un-rideable. I found him shuffling around the Ichthyosaur with it after I was shooting some photos of the art piece late last night. When I confronted the kid, he said, "Stealing it? I just found it for you." I said, "No, you were trying to steal it. Fuck off," and I grabbed the bike from him and walked away.

popping him in the head but Burning Man is about peace so I decided to write about it instead. My bike was clearly marked with a light on the crossbar, which is how I eventually spotted it. It could not be mistaken for a Yellow Bike. What I think should happen to anyone who is caught stealing a bike at Burning Man is to be ejected from the event. You are fucked out here without a bike. It is so hard to get around without one and so much harder to enjoy the event when you have to schlep around in the hot sun on foot, besides the fact I paid \$60 for it at the Reno Bike Project.

to be like this. It's supposed to be a better place. But I have to recommend to everyone out here with a bike, lock it, every time you're out on the playa. Lock it to itself, front and back wheels, or lock it to something. But please be mindful, don't lock it to something that might block access to something, like a door, or an art project. Bicycle thieves at Burning Man: you are scum. Take the communal Yellow bikes—that's what they're there for—but don't think just any bike lying around is free for you to pick up and ride away with.

Tribe Asks Burners to Slow Down and Shop

OMA & RHINO

Sunday's hit-and-run accident that destroyed Oasis 29, an Indian taco stand located between Nixon and Empire, highlights the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe's two biggest requests of burners. Terence James, the tribe's Vice Chairman, says that traffic is always the biggest concern during the week of Burning Man. Tribal police will be enforcing all traffic laws. James also asked burners to patronize the food vendors in Nixon and Wadsworth. They are all run by tribe members, and inspected and certified by the Indian Health Service. Oasis 29 (which is 29 miles south of Gerlach) earned its name from a group of Burners who suggested it after the event in 2009. The popular Indian taco stand provides the yearly income of an entire Paiute family beloved by burners. Oasis 29 is not only known for its delicious tacos, but also for helping burners in many big and small ways without accepting any payment or reward. School is in session this week

in Nixon and Wadsworth. Children will be going to and from school as burners are driving past. These schools have no crossing guards, and speeding burners often miss the intersection in Nixon. Drivers should use extra caution in these communities. Exiting burners are welcome to come visit nearby Pyramid Lake. Day use permits are available for \$7 at the local store or Ranger station in Sutcliffe, 18 miles west of Nixon. According to James, "We don't build on the lake because the lake has a spirit, and we don't want to kill the spirit of the lake. Respect the lake when you're out there. The spirit of the lake has healing powers, so as we tell our own children, have respect for her." The Paiutes have recently revitalized the lake's population of Lahontan cutthroat trout from their hatchery and the lake is producing impressive trophy trout. What burners can't visit are the petroglyphs that have been in the news the last few days. A recent academic study found that these drawings are the oldest

dated artwork in the Americas. According to Tribal Vice President James, the Tribal Council gave permission for the study, but were not notified of the findings before publication. The Tribe has not yet been able to develop policies to protect these ancient artifacts while sharing them with a wider audience. So for now, the area is restricted.

ALMANAC

Wednesday • August 28

Sunset • 7:37 P.M.
Twilight ends • 8:05 P.M.
Moonrise • 12:16 A.M. (Th)

Thursday • August 29

The moon will be in the sky at dawn.

First light • 5:53 A.M.
Sunrise • 6:21 A.M.
Sunset • 7:35 P.M.
Twilight ends • 8:04 P.M.
Moonrise • 1:05 A.M. (Fri)

Friday • August 30

The moon will be in the sky at dawn.

First light • 5:54 A.M.
Sunrise • 6:22 A.M.

Courtesy www.SunriseSunset.com

Police & Medical Blotter

Arrests Low, Injuries High

REDNIKKI

Pershing County Police and the Bureau of Land Management report that there were no arrests on Monday during the day. Pershing County Police did register several sex offenders as they entered Black Rock City. Sex offenders are required to register with the county police upon entry into the county. Rampart reports a very busy burn so far. "Monday night was like Thursday night," said a High EMS Rescue representative, who credited it to the unusually high population on Monday. There have been several injuries from Burners falling off the Coyote, but so far it has only been bumps and bruises. Rampart has also treated several broken bones, which have largely come from falls off either trampolines or art cars.

from a DPW worker on Sunday night. The DPW worker was stopped by law enforcement because there were no plates on his vehicle, said the representative. The BLM officer observed a firearm in the DPW worker's car, the BLM rep said. The DPW worker reportedly had been in BRC for several weeks and had brought the firearms with him when he arrived. BLM informed him that firearms are not allowed once Burning Man begins, said the BLM rep. BLM then confiscated all the weapons in his car and issued the DPW worker a citation, the BLM official stated. He will be allowed to pick up the weapons after Burning Man ends, said the BLM representative. This is not the first time that weapons have been confiscated at Burning Man. The BLM representative said that every year there are weapons confiscated at Gate, but generally those weapons are swords or other items used as part of a costume.



Burners are falling off the Coyote.

BRAINTEASERS BY DURGY

Fill in the blanks and read from top to bottom to find out what "it" is.

WE SQUEAL A_OUT IT ALL THE TIME.

TO DENIGR_TE IT IS A CRIME.

OF_OURSE IT'S A TREAT.

IT'S OUR FAV_RITE MEAT,

AND THE A_SWER TO THIS LITTLE RHYME.

LEAVE NO TRACE TIP

durgy, LNT lead from Disorient, suggests that each participant pick up MOOP (matter out of place) while going to and from their playa living space and the porta-potties each day. If you kick the dust gently, additional detritus may appear. For additional coverage vary your path a little to the right or left.

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