

the sheet

News, Views & Culture of the Eastern Sierra

Saturday, May 25, 2024

FREE

Vol. 22, No. 21

WHAT, ME WORRY?

By Lunch

I'm in a philosophical mood this week.

Buyer beware.

Memorial Day plays into it. Certainly, lip service is paid to vets these days. But talk is cheap. Deep down, I think people are self-involved and care less than they pretend to.

But also, to circle back to the Orwell biography I've been reading ... I then had to detour into re-reading "1984" again before I continued with the bio, because so much of the bio alludes to the masterwork.

And I'll have more to say about it, but in brief, "1984" is fundamentally not so much about Big Brother and the Thought Police as it is about people letting you down. Like, everyone letting you down. Especially and heart-wrenchingly, letting down yourself and the other person you care about most.

There's a reason people allude to "1984" but don't read it - because truth is brutal.

Oh right. The news. My sacrifice for the week was listening to the recording of the four-hour Mono County budget hearing held May 16.

I had to listen to it in one-hour chunks to get through it. Naps and ice cream in between.

I recall that when Mike Bodine used to work here - he would conscientiously sit through the budget hearings. Bodine, tortured poet and a quite decent human being. He's dead now, so I'm told.

More folks are dying now than I can keep track of. Byron Walters. I remember him for his sprite-like mind. The expressiveness of his eyes. A live wire. Always something to say.

Back to the hearing ... and Klusmire's column on page 21 dovetails nicely. There's always

a lag time between fiscal reality and government reality.

The state's running huge deficits, the county budget relies on 40% of its funding from the state, and somehow the spigot is always supposed to turn to the left versus turn to the right.

Over the past three years, employee salaries and benefits have soared 27%, from approximately \$44 million to \$56 million.

Secured property tax over the same period has increased by

see WORRY, pg. 2

AUGUSTUS (WITHOUT THE GLOOP)

By Milender

"I found Rome a city of bricks, and left it a city of marble." - Augustus, loosely paraphrased by the Town Council of Mammoth Lakes

There's set to be a new neighbor on the block, directly west of the Mono County Civic Center.

"We are excited to discuss the current plans for our new Town Hall," Town Manager Rob Patterson began, before Public Works Director, Haislip Hayes, gave the project update for both the Mono County Board of Supervisors and Mammoth

Lakes Town Council. Both boards convened for a joint workshop this past Tuesday afternoon.

According to Hayes, all project designs have been completed and are pending approval from the Planning Commission.

"We are currently out to bid, with bids opening next Thursday," said Hayes. "We aim to award the construction contract on July 3rd, with an early start in August and a summer 2026 completion date."

The new Town Hall will span 22,000 square feet, and is designed to be a modern, flexible space. The office space has a modular design to ensure flexibility, cost-effectivity, and reconfiguration of executive offices as future needs demand. It will include a 2,000-square foot chamber space, a nine seat dais for Council, and seating for about 120 members of the public. The lobby is designed to be open and inviting— "a friendly face"—to greet visitors.

As far as external aesthetics are concerned: "We wanted our new building to fit seamlessly

into the existing Civic Center campus," Hayes explained.

"Our architects have incorporated design elements from surrounding buildings to create a cohesive look."

A village in the trees, and all that.

The project also includes plans for a new parking lot with 45 spaces and additional street parking. And while there currently are no plans to include solar panels on the building itself, the project is exploring "other green energy options" such as solar paneling in the parking lots and vehicular coverings.

Sustainability is a key focus of the new Civic Center. "While we are not currently including solar panels due to financial constraints and snow load concerns, we are exploring other green energy options," Hayes noted. "We are working with Mono County Public Works on concepts like solar on parking lots and vehicle coverings."

The estimated cost for construction stands at \$23 million, with an additional \$3 million in

more AUGUSTUS, pg. 7

WITH HONORS



Chamber Music Unbound's "Honors Strings" performed concerts Tuesday and Wednesday evenings in Bishop and Mammoth at the respective Cerro Coso campuses. The cellists (from right-to-left) are Connor Moberly, Theo Clark and Owen Zhang (with Bayla Audenreid in the background). The violinists, left-to-right, are Brooke Miller, and high school seniors Lucy Martyr and Ashley Fitt. Martyr is attending the Colorado School of Mines next year; Fitt will attend Columbia University.



The northern wall of C5 Studios in Bishop has gotten a makeover. Klusmire covers the Connected Community Mural, page 4.

Whitebark Noise

Couch coverage

Comedy is hard!

DV rescue

Oster column

p. 16/

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p. 10/

WORRY

continued from page 1

\$5 million.

County Transient Occupancy Tax revenue by approximately \$700,000.

Interestingly, the “gap” in projected General Fund expenditures and revenues for 2024-2025 is \$5.8 million.

The gap between wages and revenues in the above cited categories is roughly the same - \$6.3 million.

Maybe the county budget team should take some direction from Commander ‘Stinger’ Jordan in Top Gun. “Your ego’s writing checks your body can’t cash.”

Now I get it in the sense that the cost-of-living around here is absurd and you’d rather pay your local employees versus trim staff and send the money out-of-town to a bunch of consultants, but ... consider this line from the staff report.

“The significant increase in salaries and benefits is due to the addition of new positions from last year’s budget hearing that were only funded for a portion of the year in 2023-2024 as well as implementing the MCPE MOU and the management and class study equating to a 12% increase in the 2024-2025 budget.”

*Translation: We were fat and happy last year and hired a whole bunch of folks - geez, maybe when we hire we should be realistic about what it will cost

	2021-22 Adopted Budget	2022-23 Adopted Budget	2023-24 Adopted Budget	2024-25 Department Requested	Variance	% Change
Intergovernmental	\$57,793,727	\$61,275,863	\$43,546,051	\$54,741,390	\$11,195,339	26%
Taxes	\$27,969,697	\$32,280,410	\$34,981,413	\$34,987,730	\$6,317	0%
Transfers In	\$11,649,606	\$14,684,267	\$17,728,419	\$30,862,281	\$13,133,862	74%
Charges for Services	\$11,330,693	\$12,731,040	\$13,976,988	\$14,672,438	\$695,450	5%
Miscellaneous Revenues	\$4,713,366	\$3,038,965	\$2,942,334	\$3,068,096	\$125,762	4%
Interest & Rents	\$526,590	\$671,561	\$933,623	\$1,316,117	\$382,494	41%
Fines, Forfeitures & Penalties	\$787,700	\$854,150	\$959,100	\$627,850	-\$331,250	-35%
Licenses, Permits & Franchises	\$724,561	\$785,097	\$828,206	\$879,156	\$50,950	6%
Other Financing Sources	\$560,000	\$477,000	\$255,000	\$45,000	-\$210,000	-82%
Total Revenues	\$116,055,940	\$126,798,353	\$116,151,134	\$141,200,058	\$25,048,924	22%
Salaries & Benefits	\$44,137,890	\$46,065,668	\$50,246,136	\$56,345,782	\$6,099,646	12%
Capital Outlay	\$38,369,661	\$44,309,144	\$18,025,011	\$38,626,343	\$20,601,332	114%
Services and Supplies	\$26,735,948	\$30,657,528	\$36,793,485	\$37,951,079	\$1,157,594	3%
Transfers Out	\$12,163,478	\$14,710,174	\$17,731,082	\$23,057,445	\$5,326,363	30%
Support of Other	\$1,655,627	\$1,688,492	\$3,865,220	\$2,518,176	-\$1,347,044	-35%
Debt Service	\$1,765,160	\$2,218,956	\$2,104,199	\$1,757,007	-\$347,192	-16%
Other Expenses	\$0	\$0	\$50,000	\$7,300,000	\$7,250,000	14500%
Contingency	\$105,000	\$473,660	\$911,014	\$665,287	-\$245,727	-27%
Total Expenses	\$124,932,764	\$140,123,622	\$129,726,147	\$168,221,119	\$38,494,972	30%
Net	-\$8,876,824	-\$13,325,269	-\$13,575,013	-\$27,021,061		



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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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to carry that person, in good times and bad.

Community Development alone saw its department salaries and benefits increase more than \$700,000.

The reason given: Workers compensation insurance and general liability.

Board Chairman John Peters: Have we considered shopping our carrier?
Acting “Chief People Officer” Jay Sloane: We did. Twice. This is the best deal out there.

Liability insurance for EMS services jumped 49%.

But EMS is interesting in that the caseload is 75% non-resident but the department is half paid for via the General Fund and half paid for via fee revenue.

Supervisor Bob Gardner suggested we need to look hard at raising the fee structure so non-residents pay their fair share.

An idea floated was that MMSA should incorporate EMS insurance into its pass structure, which is clever, but a non-starter, because I’m sure MMSA doesn’t wish to advertise the fact that skiing is dangerous and injury is inevitable.

The same way you can’t advertise the reality of “1984” - grim scenes of torture and the weakness of man. No wonder they’ve never turned it into a decent movie.



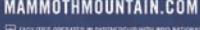
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**NEW
SUMMER
ARRIVALS**

UP AGAINST THE WALL

By Klusmire



Seventy feet of vibrant color. Intense animal portraits. Striking landscapes of the Eastern Sierra. Whimsical depictions of local plants and flowers. Ravens in sparkling high heels and party hats. Moons and mountains and rivers and desert. A multi-colored Desert Bighorn with rainbow wings. Abstract images and scenes.

There is plenty to see, enjoy and ponder when viewing the mural adorning the long, northern wall of C5 Studios in Bishop (210 South Warren St.). More than 30 local artists contributed to the sprawling artwork, titled the Connected Community Mural, which was officially unveiled on Saturday, May 18 to an appreciative crowd.

The mural project took a year to organize and then paint and install, and was funded by a grant from the nonprofit KDA Creative Corps.

Trying to describe the separate paint-

ings making up the mural would be a disservice to the artwork and the artists. So I'll just focus on some of the items which caught my eye and piqued my curiosity.

The first work on the right side by Dave Titus is a finely crafted and breathtaking vision of blue flowers (Polemonium, which only grows in the high country).

Next to it is a somewhat dark combo of stylized headshots featuring a coyote, hawk and snake with night and day-time skies as backdrop. Fierce. By Corey Posner.

One of the larger works prompted more than a few onlookers to ask, "what exactly is that?" Which is a compliment, in my mind. Titled Stardust, by Dana Ellis, the work's big circle combines an orange coyote above a woman's body that shows her bones. Your interpretation is as good as any. Go for it.

An incendiary interpretation greeted Jael Hoffman's steel sculpture, Com-

posite Being. It shows a stylized bighorn sheep with curly purple horns and a couple sets of wings, notably one set painted with rainbow colors. Some easily offended religious types complained the animal was a goat – a manifestation of the Devil – and the rainbow wings were a sinister LGBTQ message. Basically, a gay devil goat. Fortunately for those believers, the beast is bolted to the wall and won't be swooping down on them.

A fantastical group of wild animals comes to life with snarls and swirling bodies, thanks to artist Vanesa Rios.

The depiction of moon phases each named (Wolf Moon, etc.) and containing a local plant, animal or symbol. The moons and their inhabitants reside in the night sky above the nighttime skyscraper skyline of Los Angeles, with window lights glowing from buildings. Good linkage, right? The work was imagined and created by the Bishop High School

Students in the Workability Program.

The left-side anchor of the mural brings some surrealism to the party. In a decidedly unreal but finely drawn landscape by Alyssa Marquez.

Then there is whimsy and humor. Lori Michelin winged it with two ravens in colorful shoes and party hats. Ben Atkins decided his coyote needed to spend the night in a sleeping bag with a lantern. Richard Potashin painted local plants with names then added a little extra to help kids remember the plants' names. The Tiger Lily has a tiger in the plant. And so on, all the way across the bottom of the mural.

The overall response to the mural was a combination of "awe" and "ah-ha" and "aahh." Can't ask for much more.

Jon Klusmire of Bishop has used up all his adjectives.



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APPEALS COURT SAYS, 'BABY, DON'T YOU DRILL'

Press Release

SAN FRANCISCO— A federal appeals court issued its opinion reversing the decision of a lower court that would have allowed exploratory drilling east of California's Sierra Nevada Mountains. The Court found the Forest Service violated the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) when it relied on two categorical exclusions for a single project to avoid the required environmental reviews. The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals reversed the district court's decision and overturned the U.S. Forest Service's 2021 approval that allowed gold-mining exploration in sensitive habitat in Inyo National Forest's Long Valley area.

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals had issued an earlier ruling in September 2023, just one day after oral arguments, because the company had planned to begin drilling at that time.

In their 2021 lawsuit, conservation groups said the Forest Service's use of two categorical exclusions, rather than more detailed environmental review, effectively ignored the mining project's effects on Bi-state sage grouse in the area, as well as the potential harm to nearby Hot Creek where endangered Owens tui chub live.

The Forest Service had attempted to shoehorn the mining exploration into a "short-term" categorical exclusion lasting less than a year, even though the remediation of the drilling sites would take much longer than a year in this snowy, remote area; and then attempted to use a second categorical exclusion for

restoration projects to cover the required mining reclamation and remediation.

"We are so thrilled that the appellate court overturned the illegal agency actions," said Wendy Schneider, executive director of Friends of the Inyo. "The impacts to the ecosystem, including sensitive species,

and to the local community deserve an in-depth, detailed evaluation. Friends of the Inyo will keep working to protect this special area from destructive mining impacts."

"This is a win for the Sierra Nevada's imperiled wildlife, and the appeals court is absolutely right that the Forest Service shouldn't be able to pile on exclusions to avoid the legally required environmental review," said Lisa Belenky, a senior counsel at the Center for Biological Diversity. "Drilling here could harm the Owens tui chub, an endangered fish, and populations of bi-state sage grouse that rely on this area. The Forest Service should never have approved this project without thoroughly investigating the impacts."

"This is a precedent-setting decision that will have ramifications across the

West and the country, as the Court correctly nipped in the bud the agency's proposal to avoid the required 'hard look' of significant impacts to wildlife and the environment," stated Roger Flynn, Director and Managing Attorney of the Western Mining Action Project.

The Court held that "The Forest Service asks us to adopt a view of categorical exclusions that will swallow the protections of NEPA. We decline to do such violence to NEPA's procedural safeguards." Court deci-

sion at p. 25. As the Court explained: "when an agency applies CEs in a way that circumvents NEPA's procedural requirements and renders the environmental impact of a proposed action unknown, the purpose of the exclusions is undermined. That is the case here." Court decision at p. 24.

Bi-state sage grouse, whose numbers have drastically declined in the past decade, live next to 12 proposed drilling pads, project roads and access roads. The birds are a genetically distinct population of greater sage grouse, famous for

their showy plumage and mating dances, during which the males make popping sounds with large, inflated air sacs. They live only in an area along the California-Nevada border and face multiple threats.

Gold exploration and drilling would harm sensitive habitat for the imperiled Bi-State distinct population segment of greater sage grouse and could result in abandonment of this area by the species," said Laura Cunningham, California director at Western Watersheds Project. "The bi-state sage grouse populations have been in severe decline across the Eastern Sierra due to mining, development of intact landscapes, livestock grazing in meadows and sagebrush habitats, and raven predation. This ruling gives the imperiled birds a reprieve from industrial disturbance."

"We're gratified that the appeals court recognized the need to overturn the Forest Service's hasty approval of this risky mining exploration," said Lynn Boulton, chair of the Sierra Club's Range of Light Group, Toiyabe Chapter. "Exploratory drilling for gold causes unnecessary harm to the environment and vulnerable species. If KORE Mining insists on continuing their drilling plans, there must be a comprehensive environmental assessment subject to full public review — as there should have been from the start."

The groups were represented by Roger Flynn of the Western Mining Action Project, Talasi Brooks of Western Watersheds Project, and Lisa Belenky of the Center for Biological Diversity.

“ If KORE Mining insists on continuing their drilling plans, there must be a comprehensive environmental assessment subject to full public review — as there should have been from the start. **”**

-Lynn Boulton

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AUGUSTUS

continued from page 1

soft costs
"We're working to ensure we stay in budget while delivering a high-quality facility," said Hayes.

Speaking of parking, the new Mono County Housing Opportunities Manager, Tyrone Grandstrand, then spoke about the proposal to operate a safe, long-term parking site.

Grandstrand emphasized its importance as a temporary measure to mitigate the pressing housing crisis.

"Staff from the Town, County, and Alterra have been discussing providing space for people living in vehicles as a stopgap measure to address the critical shortage of workforce and affordable housing throughout the county, including the town," he explained. "This project is not intended to replace ambitious efforts to develop affordable workforce housing throughout the county."

The proposal is still in its early stages, with plans to offer 10 to 20 parking spots as part of a pilot project intended to launch next fall. "We are incorporating lessons learned from other communities served by Alterra to ensure the success of this pilot," Grandstrand added.

Several challenges are being addressed to ensure the feasibility and success of the project. These include potential site suitability issues, CEQA [California Environmental Quality Act] considerations, co-location feasibility with existing tenants, and site control options.

Nolan Bobroff, the Town's Community and Economic Development Director, highlighted the environmental concerns associated with unregulated van dwelling. "There is a true environmental concern with waste accumulating, if it's not being managed, whether it's trash, human waste, etc.," he said. "This program aims to address those issues by providing a controlled environment for van dwellers."

Data from the Coordinated Entry System estimates 65 households in Mono County are experiencing homelessness.

"We know there's a need, and the pilot of 10 to 20 spots is just a start. The site we've identified is large enough to potentially accommodate more in the future," Bobroff assured.

Aptly, both Grandstrand and Bobroff stuck around to discuss the meeting's final agenda item—the Housing Needs Assessment coordination

between the Town and Mono County. According to Grandstrand, the last iteration of the Housing Needs Assessment took place back in 2017.

"For the county, we weren't able to get a community-by-community breakdown of what the need was," said Grandstrand.

The new assessment aims to provide more comprehensive data, including recommendations for site selection that minimize overall costs for residents. This includes energy and water efficiency, long-term maintenance expenditure, and transportation costs.

Bobroff provided an overview of the Town's housing targets, which were set for a five-year horizon in 2017.

"The town's housing needs assessment was set for a five-year horizon of where we should be ... By 2022, it said we should have 595 new units. As we know, we haven't seen any new affordable units during that period," said Bobroff. However, he noted that upcoming projects like The Parcel and Innsbruck Lodge would soon start to address these needs.

A key focus of the updated assessment will be to better understand the housing needs of different employment sectors. "A needs assessment that can really help direct where our funds go as far as when we're looking at projects of what to fund, what to build, what grants or applications to pursue," Bobroff explained. He also suggested that enhanced coordination on the survey questions, themselves, and data collection methods would be beneficial—coordination that could very well involve ESCOG (Eastern Sierra Council of Governments) in the process.

"I think some collaboration on the questions that are asked may then inform the community and the City of Bishop with some initiatives," said Bobroff.

The Town Council's directive is to move forward with a needs assessment within the next 6-8 months.

Grandstrand added that Mono County already has a proposal from a consultant to facilitate the process, and is looking at ways to include the Town in their assessment to reduce costs and synergize efforts.

Mayor Bill Sauser emphasized the importance of a coordinated approach, "To me, this is a place where our staff[s] need to go into full cooperation to get this right."

PRIDE FEST RETURNS

By Daniel Feldman

In Bishop, California, where pride means grit, the 3rd annual Eastern Sierra Pride Festival will return to the Tri-County Fairgrounds on June 1st and 2nd. Smiling wide behind rainbow glasses and wearing a bracelet printed with the phrase, "Don't hide your pride," Bishop local, Celeste Rodas, can hardly bear the anticipation.

"I was an early skeptic," admits Ann Strohm, one of the festival's organizers, recalling community gatherings numbering around 20 people before former President of Eastern Sierra Pride, Deena Davenport, suggested scaling up. The community's turnout the last couple of years means a lot to Strohm, who grew up in Bishop, "We are here. We are not intimidated...There is still work to do."

Kyle Holland, also an event organizer who grew up in Bishop, echoed the sentiment, "I deserved better growing up. When I was younger, I made a promise to myself to come back and contribute to this community. It feels full circle helping out with Pride and uplifting the community."

This year's festival will have live music, complimentary transportation, and free entry for indigenous people. The open market, featuring local businesses, food vendors, and 2SLGBTQ-IAP+ artists, will take place on both festival days this year.

The All-Star Drag Show will be hosted by Miss Shugana and Ethylina Canne. Bishop native, Taffy Magoo,

will be performing, as well as other kings and the queens from Los Angeles and the San Francisco Bay Area. There will also be queer yoga (bring your own mat and water bottle), drag bingo, an all-ages drag show, and a dancing demonstration by the local, indigenous AkaMya Culture Group. Local DJ, T Wrecks, will preside over Saturday night's dance party.

For more information, music line-up, and to purchase tickets, visit: <https://easternsierrapride.org/event/pride-festival-2024/>



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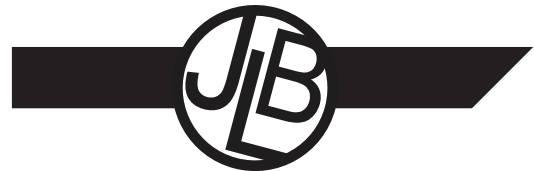
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Your Guide to Local Real Estate

VILLAGE VERSUS MAIN LODGE?

By Paul Oster

Q: All of the construction and demolition activity in the Village is a big change. It has been a long time since anything really happened up there. But do you think similar type development at the Main Lodge will end-up competing with the Village, or further stall development in the Village?

A: The demolition aspect of your question is the really curious thing about Mammoth's future. Especially because demolition implies replacement or redevelopment, and the success of that hinges on the financing available to complete the project. Sometimes the demolition happens and the financing doesn't. In the past decades, Mammoth has seen all sorts of redevelopment plans, hotel plans, etc. that never went anywhere. It is almost laughable. Most of these proposals get killed at the financing stage—it's either a turn in the economy, the project has inadequate economic projections for the lender, the cost of construction is too high, or something else.

We were recently reminiscing about all of the buildings that have been demolished in the recent past, and

many of them were in anticipation of expansion at the Village. We used to have a Shakey's Pizza and 31 Flavors, and a fondue restaurant. They seemed like perfectly good buildings, but they and others are gone and the ground has just been sitting there for years. And of course downtown there was the old Ocean Harvest building that was fully renovated, only to be recently demolished. The more we think about it, the longer the list of demolished properties gets. Now they want to demolish Main Lodge and everything around it. Alterra must be pretty confident they have the financing to develop the replacement buildings and facilities. This might be profound.

But let's get some perspective. The North Village Specific Plan was approved in 1991 and revised in 1994. The 1994 Plan was the Eldon Beck plan. He was the "father" of modern alpine (faux) villages like the one in Whistler and other mountain resort communities. But that was 30 years ago. Today, the Plan is less than 50% built-out and some properties have been repurposed and renovated instead of replaced, like

the Mammoth Brewing property. The original Berger's was going to be demolished, but instead we ended up with a modernized two-story Burgers.

Besides the unbuilt hotel sites in the Village, there are also unbuilt hotel sites within the Sierra Star golf course, at Eagle Base, and in theory in Snowcreek Phase 8 at the base of the Sherwins. That's a lot of unbuilt hotel rooms. What is the likelihood of unbuilt hotel rooms at the Main Lodge site? All it takes is a big pile of money and about six years—a year of planning and about five years of construction at 9,000 feet of elevation.

The redevelopment at the Main Lodge site is destined to be exclusive, really exclusive. Or at least, that has been the vision and the plan. Parking from Chair 2 (The Mill) and up will likely become some sort of preferred parking (except for employee parking). Expensive parking is now one of the cherry-on-top profit centers in the entertainment world. The ski industry is catching on. But to create something highly exclusive is going to cost even more money, and time. This is also profound.

But for now the Village is where it

is at. Currently, 60% of the skier traffic entering the Mountain is at Canyon Lodge. As the Main Lodge demolition and redevelopment progresses, this traffic will need to increase (and Eagle too). And the Village Gondola becomes even more important. So do the uphill Gondola extensions beyond Canyon Lodge. Without these extensions, the skier and snowboarder "mobility" will become an even bigger nightmare. But all of this takes even more money.

The addition of the Limelight bed base to the Village will only improve the "critical mass" of the Village. Assuming that the bridge over Canyon Blvd. does indeed get constructed (it is in the approved plan), it will greatly improve the link from the Limelight and Westin to the Village plaza, and vice versa. Beck promoted the concept of a "processional effect" in a village, creating interest and walkways that make people curious and draw them from one spot to the next. The plaza is the hub. Additional hotels and development will only add to this effect.

The plaza special events, especially
see OSTER, page 12



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REAL ESTATE

continued from page 10

in summer, have become incredibly popular. And for good reason. It can be enjoyable sensory overload, and dare I say, even family-friendly. The Village condo hotel owners who financially support the events and Village common grounds are hopefully rewarded with increased rental revenues (and appreciation). That was the original theory of the plan. More hotels and more bed base creates even more synergy and will prove that the village concept and planning works. Too bad it has taken so long. The "beach" at the new Main Lodge area may have some of that on a sunny ski day, but it will never compete with the Village synergy. The last opportunity for that was when the Grateful Dead were canceled from playing at the base of Broadway.

One thing that stymied the Village evolution was another one of Mammoth's infamous lawsuits and court decisions. Not as notorious as the Airport lawsuit, it was one of the Friends of Mammoth cases. Part of the Mammoth/Intrawest plan for the Village was to establish a California style redevelopment agency, which in the 1990s was a very popular (and abused) development mechanism. The North Village planning area included 38 properties and was comprised of some raggedy old motels, some really funky commercial (the original Footloose), and also included the old Mono County maintenance yard (pre Town incorporation). One criteria for establishing a redevelopment agency was "blight." At the time the Plan was established, blight was a reasonable description for the

area (and even today if you go look at the Berner St. property where the Residence Inn is planned). But it wasn't like some gang-infested, run down ghetto.

A Village redevelopment agency would have kept most of the new property tax increment in the immediate district rather than the tax dollars flowing to Mono County. Controlling these new property tax dollars could have funded the ice rink/indoor events center/parking structure that is part of the Plan. It could have built workforce housing within the planning area. It could have brought geothermal heating to the plaza and walkways and eventually to the buildings. And plenty of other things. With all the extra dollars, it could have been amazing.

But by the late 1990s the redevelopment agency plan for Mammoth got out of control and also met some new headwinds. The size and scope of the local proposed redevelopment agency reached well beyond Village and now included most of town. If it had come to fruition, it would have starved Mono County of critical property tax revenues.

At the same time, redevelopment agencies in the State had come under tremendous scrutiny for the abuse of the blight concept. The Friends of Mammoth, with former Mono County Supervisor Andrea Lawrence in the lead, sued the Town and eventually put an end to all of it. It forever changed the course of the Village. Those were very different times from today. Up until the year 2000, real estate values in Mammoth remained

very depressed.

But Intrawest did complete the three core condo hotel properties; White Mountain Lodge, Lincoln House and Grand Sierra Lodge. These included the plaza areas and the ground floor commercial. They finished with the Westin Monache before pulling out of Mammoth development. The Village Gondola was completed and probably would have been impossible if the ski lift easements hadn't been established within the uphill residential subdivisions in the 1960s. The Ski Area built the Mountain Center. The 80/50 Residence Club was only partially finished. But prior to the start of the Limelight, a span of nearly 15 years, very little was developed in the Village.

The Limelight construction is very impressive and the finished product is bound to be a significant addition to the Village in many ways. There are two more approved projects that have started demolition and with the hopes of getting into construction phase. And again, these additions will create even more synergy for the Village. And all of that may attract even more development. It works that way.

Meanwhile, recent condo hotel sales in the Village are at the highest per square foot pricing ever, especially for properties with special features like top floor units, corner units, view units, etc. The condo hotel units in the Limelight will likely push those per square foot prices even more stratospheric. So 30 years later the Plan is succeeding.

As for the Main Lodge redevelopment

plan, nobody really knows how long it will take. The sport may evolve to flying hoverboards by then.

One interesting observation about demolition; Why are old commercial properties demolished and not the old condo projects of the same vintage? We even have some of the old motel district properties from the 1940s and 50s along Old Mammoth Road that today serve as valuable apartments. We have thousands of condos the same age as many of the buildings that have been demolished in recent years. For the most part it is because the HOA communities are compelled to maintain and upgrade properties. But it is an interesting contrast.

As long as Mammoth remains land locked and an increasingly popular place to be, somewhere in Mammoth's distant future the older condo projects will be demolished too. The only question is will they be redeveloped as luxury properties or some sort of workforce housing? Or will we just own nothing and be happy?

Please remember why we celebrate Memorial Day.

Paul Oster is the Broker/Owner of RE/MAX of Mammoth (celebrating 34 years). For other timely real estate information you can go to www.MammothRealEstateBlog.com. For legal, accounting, or construction advice, please seek out the appropriate professional.

2nd Annual Eastern Sierra

WILDFIRE RESILIENCE WEEK

May 30 - June 8

INYO COUNTY

MONO COUNTY

MAY 30
6:30-7:30pm

SCIENCE ON TAP SPEAKER SERIES

Marc Meyer, USFS - Landscape Treatments
Mountain Rambler Brewery, Bishop

MAY 31
5:30-7:30pm

NORTH INYO COUNTY FIREWISE

Beth Burnam, Firewise USA - Mustang Mesa

JUNE 4
5:30-7:30pm

COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS

Yana Valachovic, UCCE - South Inyo County, Lone Pine

JUNE 7
12-1pm

THE FUTURE OF WILDFIRE INSURANCE

Yana Valachovic, UCCE - Lunch & Learn Webinar

FIRE RESILIENCE & ESCCRP UPDATES

Mammoth Lakes Chamber of Commerce
Community Coffee, Online Presentation

MAY 30
8:30-9:30am

EMBERS & ALES WILDFIRE TRIVIA NIGHT

Mammoth Brewing Company, Brewers' Hall

JUNE 4
6:30-8:30pm

WILDFIRE MITIGATION DEMO HOME

Beth Burnam, Firewise USA - Long Valley Fire Dept

JUNE 5
5:30-7:30pm

NORTH MONO COUNTY FIREWISE

Beth Burnam, Firewise USA - Bridgeport Fire Dept

JUNE 6
5:30-7:30pm

FOREST HEALTH & FIREWISE E-BIKE TOUR

High Sierra Energy Foundation
Mammoth Lakes Library

JUNE 8
10am-1pm



EVENT DETAILS

WhitebarkInstitute.org/Events2024

For more information contact: Crystal Medhurst

crystal@whitebarkinstitute.org / 760-709-2263

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Funding for this project provided in part by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection's Fire Prevention Program as part of the California Climate Investments Program.





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**mammoth
film lakes
festival '24**
may 22-26

Narrative Feature / Saturday May 25, 7:30pm



Mediha

A teenage Yazidi girl who has recently returned from ISIS captivity turns her camera on herself to process her trauma while rescuers search for her missing family members. This is the story of the Yazidi genocide and its aftermath, shown through the lens of one young survivor as she confronts her past through personal video-diaries

Shorts Program / Sunday May 26, 5:00pm



**Documentary
Shorts Block 3**

Voices
Cherry

What Happened
to You
Romeo

Shorts Program / Sunday May 26, 2:45pm

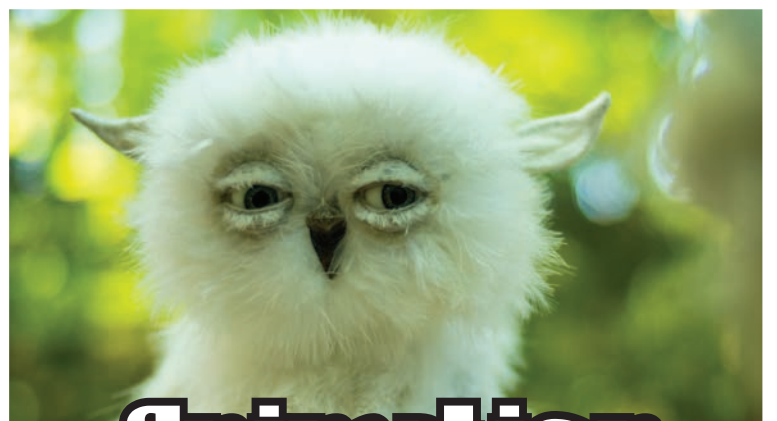


Shorts Block 6

The Knee Touch
Rabbit
Najan

In Silence, We Echo
Dad Swap

Shorts Program / Sunday May 26, 10:30am



Animation

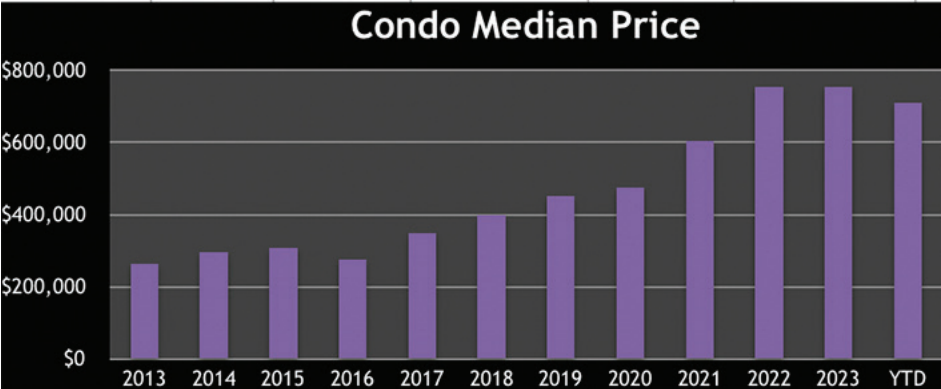
Slowly Waking
Reanimations
The Date

Shackle
Nohomo
Vacation

www.mammothlakesfilmfestival.com

REAL ESTATE MARKET UPDATE

Stats courtesy of Matthew Lehman Real Estate ...
Median single family home prices are up 2.1% YTD. This is based on 22 sales as of May 21. If that trend held for the year, the market would see just 57 sales in 2024.
The only year in the last ten which saw as little activity was 2023.
Meanwhile, average days on market has surged to 124. That's approximately 50% greater than last year.
On the condo side, the median sales price is up 2.9% since the beginning of the month, but still down 5.9% year to date. It appears median condo prices are recovering now that the Council-imposed nightly-rental moratorium has lapsed.
Condominium inventory remains around 50 active listings.
Annual sales are trending to come in around 200. That would be off last year's total of 228, less than half of 2021's 467, and again, the lowest number in a decade. Average days-on-market for condos has also ticked approximately 10% higher than last year.



SFR SALES STATS

Year	#Sales	Average Price	Median Price	Avg. DOM	% change Median Price
2013	83	\$816,326	\$600,000	172	
2014	83	\$762,061	\$622,000	175	3.67%
2015	80	\$986,324	\$765,000	204	22.99%
2016	97	\$826,079	\$721,500	190	-5.69%
2017	89	\$936,500	\$775,000	186	7.42%
2018	79	\$1,085,436	\$920,000	176	18.71%
2019	90	\$929,786	\$792,786	133	-13.83%
2020	126	\$1,078,455	\$885,000	130	11.63%
2021	123	\$1,480,775	\$1,190,000	95	34.46%
2022	83	\$1,527,253	\$1,225,000	91	2.94%
2023	63	\$1,483,126	\$1,299,000	83	6.04%
YTD	22	\$1,635,721	\$1,327,500	124	2.19%



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ALL I'VE GOT & THEN SOME

By Milender



Rasheed Stephens

Comedy has a dark underbelly. But I guess that's an old story. Still, that notion has achieved its refrain in Hollywood's current environs. Many well-established, A-List comics have come out of the woodwork to speak on their sinister relationships to the industry. Bill Hader and Jenny Slate have clinically awful stage fright. John Mulaney was battling substance abuse disorder throughout his tenure on Saturday Night Live and through his first few tours. Comedy, to say the least, was a site of excavation during the Me Too movement. "Funny," as it turns out, does not come easy. But All I've Got & Then Some, playing this Saturday at the Mammoth Lakes Film Festival, plays within the less trafficked annals of that phenomenon—meaning, the further reaches of that aforementioned misery that a comic must endure before he earns his Netflix special; before the comedienne is a marquee name. The movie follows Rasheed (based on the "true events" of Rasheed Stephens' life, who co-directed the feature with Tehben Dean) as he struggles to make it as a stand-up in those grittier parts of LA we don't often see on the silver screen. He moonlights as a fatally optimistic Uber driver, and lives out of the car from which he works. The story's scope extends the length of one day, with Rasheed's first paid gig serving as the climax and his taking to an aspiring pop singer as a worthy, romantic subplot. Throughout the film are interjections of Rasheed being interviewed by the documentary crew, and it's unclear whether Rasheed is speaking from the point of view of his character, from his lived experience, or some conflation of the two. Regardless, the point of the movie is pretty well summed in the following soundbite from the comic of the hour: "Stand-up comedy is one of the hardest art forms on planet earth. It's the only art form where I need an instant response ... Comedy. I need you to be attentive. To respond, and respond with laughter. Two of the biggest fears in the world are people dying and public speaking. Comedy is both of those things engulfed in one. Comedy is public speaking plus 'I need instant laughter.' If not, then I die." The film's stakes, then, are of a degree

unique to Hollywood: how far, and for how long, will a performer go to make it in Tinseltown? How far will he go to make it in that industry and place, one and the same, indifferent to his living or dying? Aesthetically, the film is rough-hewn. It is not the over-saturated, palm frond fare of most of the coming-of-fame Hollywood Handjobs that we're familiar with in the genre. Rather, All I've Got & Then Some deals in muted colors and the liminal spaces confined by Angeleno stucco. There are scenes, rather, of Rasheed getting a handjob by his prostitute/friend/Driving-Miss-Daisy counterpart, Rose (Avis Parsons) on a side street in his Hyundai Sonata, before dipping his toothbrush in a bottle of mouthwash, absent a sink, to begin the day. Many of the film's scenes, you might notice, were shot in stairwells. There is a suspicion derived from the pacing of the film that Rasheed is on his way to something. A feeling that our protagonist is climbing imperceptibly higher, but toward what, we don't know. It's a struggle. It's an upward, lonesome slog. But there, keeping company to the misery, is comedy through it all. I think my favorite moment in the 1 hour 19 minute runtime is when Rasheed is describing his early days in Los Angeles, for the benefit of the documenting camera. He had asked his father—who, home in Atlanta, was previously under the illusion his son was touring with Kevin Hart—to send food, money, anything to help him get by. His father says he'll send a package. Makes good on his word. When it arrives, Rasheed discovers a box of honey and incense which his father tells him to sell. And so he does it. Sells out within the day and so lives to see another. It's the idea that a real man makes his own luck. And the suggestion that the deluded man has an even easier time making it. But again, maybe that's an old story. Still, good stories should be told often. All I've Got & Then Some plays, via the Mammoth Lakes Film Festival, on Saturday, May 25th at 2:30 p.m. at the US Forest Service Auditorium. For the full schedule of festival events and to purchase tickets visit: <https://mammothlakesfilm-festival.eventive.org/>

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SCIENCE

WHITEBARK NOISE

By Milender

“One of the greatest threats to ecosystems today is anthropogenic climate change,” said Dr. Joan Dudney at the Sierra Nevada Aquatic Research Laboratory (SNARL) Tuesday night. An Assistant Professor of Global Change Ecology at the Bren School and the Department of Environmental Studies at the University of California Santa Barbara, Dr. Dudney was invited to speak as part of SNARL’s guest lecture series.

“With climate change, we’re seeing increases in average temperatures and we’re also seeing increases in the severity and frequency of droughts,” said Dudney. “But, not all forests are experiencing the effects of climate change in the same way.”

Back in 2015, Dr. Dudney was driving through Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Park. She took a photo. And then another. And then another. According to the doctor, there was not a single shot that didn’t show huge mortality events; the devastating loss of trees attributed to what, at that point, had been a 3-year long drought.

But then, about a thousand feet above, in elevation, the forest was thriving.

“It was as if there was nothing wrong. As if their neighbors down below didn’t matter,” said Dr. Dudney. “And [the trees] were actually able to grow more, and totally ignore the fact that this was one of the most unprecedented drought events we’d seen in the last 300 years.”

So it got the doctor thinking. Are high elevation forests actually going to fare better, because of climate change?

Dr. Dudney’s research has a particular focus on the whitebark pine—a tree that recently garnered the distinction of having a spot on the endangered species list. According to Dudney, whose research spans more than a decade, the whitebark pine’s vulnerability to climate change can be estimated by “quantifying the magnitude of change, multiplied by the adaptive capacity of the population.”

It’s Resilience Theory, defined by the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) as “The capacity of ... environmental systems to cope with a hazardous event, trend or disturbance, responding or re-organizing in ways that maintain systems’ essential function.”

To understand this ecosystemic call and response phenomenon, Dr. Dudney’s team sampled 27 plots across the Sierra Nevada, from northern Tahoe to southern Sequoia National Park, capturing a range of environmental conditions.

And importantly, because the Eastern Sierra is characterized by its unique topography and range of microclimatic conditions, it’s a crucial case study for understanding the broader impacts of climate change on whitebark pine. This region, with its mix of high-altitude environments and varied microclimates, offers a natural laboratory for observing the effects of rising temperatures and shifting precipitation patterns. Dr. Dudney describes it as a near factorial design; imperfect because the research makes use of an observational data set (Those of us that remember our high school science

may recall that observational research is rife with confounding variables). Still, the team captured the extremes of both cold and wet, and hot and dry environs. Over the course of two years, Dr. Dudney’s team collected 772 tree cores and over 1,300 needles, conducting over a thousand stable isotope measurements to analyze the data comprehensively.

The research revealed that, over the past 40 years, the Sierra Nevada has experienced a 0.4°C increase in average temperatures. This warming has had a generally positive effect on whitebark pine growth, but with a nuanced, non-linear relationship. In the colder regions, temperature increases have boosted growth, while in hotter, drier areas, growth has declined. Projections suggest that by 2099, about 20% of the whitebark pine population could experience growth declines, particularly in the Eastern Sierra.

A keystone of Dr. Dudney’s research is the concept of spatial synchrony, where populations across different areas respond similarly to environmental changes. Higher spatial synchrony often indicates vulnerability to widespread disturbances. The study found that climate change has increased spatial synchrony in whitebark pine populations, suggesting a heightened risk of mortality and biotic attacks.

Returning to Dr. Dudney’s hypothesis, what that means is that, while high-elevation forests might be less affected by direct temperature increases, their adaptive capacity is lower due to energy limitations. And that reduced adaptive capacity, like a bad immune system, is precisely what will handicap the whitebark from bouncing back in the case of significant environmental disturbance.

And those are just the direct impacts of climate change.

Dr. Dudney also explored the indirect effects of climate change, particularly the role of biotic agents like bark beetles and the pathogenic white pine blister rust.

“Mountain pine beetle, the most aggressive pine beetle, has decimated populations in northern parts of the whitebark pine range,” she said, showing images of trees with pitch tubes, a sign of their struggle to fend off beetle attacks. White pine blister rust, an invasive disease introduced in the early 1900s—ironically and accidentally by way of the Father of Conservation, Gifford Pinchot—poses a significant threat by infecting tree branches through needle stomata and often leading to tree death.

Historically, these biotic agents have been less prevalent in the southern Sierra Nevada. But, climate change appears to be shifting their range.

But, explained, Dr. Dudney, “Even though the range has expanded, the number of infections is declining in this system,” she explained.

That paradox is due to differing drought responses: while lower-elevation trees like sugar pine photosynthesize less during droughts, high-elevation whitebark pines increase their photosynthesis, inadvertently making them more vulnerable to infection during the fall when the



Dr. Joan Dudney

rust spreads.

She highlighted the importance of resin production in defending against biotic agents.

“Resin is produced whenever there’s a bark beetle attack, disease, or physical damage,” explained Dr. Dudney, and a 2023 study showed that whitebark pine is capable of producing more resin over time, indicating some level of phenotypic plasticity. “This means these populations can somewhat respond to changing environments by defending themselves better.”

There is a need, says Dr. Dudney, for comprehensive, multi-faceted research

and conservation efforts: consistent scientific study and monitoring practice, and practical on-the-ground actions like assisted migration and genetic testing for disease resistance. Planting whitebark pine in cooler, higher-elevation areas or in regions with more stable water availability could help ensure the species’ survival. And identifying markers in trees that are resistant to diseases to guide replanting and restoration efforts.

All of it, says the doctor, will require collaboration between universities, government agencies, non-profits, and the communities that call these ecosystems home practicing good stewardship.



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Level 0

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BARS & MUSIC

Happy Hour/
The Liberty Sports Bar and Grill
Pursuit of Happiness Hour Daily 3-6 p.m. Live Music. Best viewing spot in town for Saturday's **Kentucky Derby**, other than across the parking lot @ **Main Street Pizza and Tap.**
June Lake Brewing
Winter hours 12-7, Sundays 11-7
Happy Tuesday (every Tues.) \$6 Pints, \$10 for 3 Tacos from Parilla, Wed. Trivia @ 5 p.m.
Outlaw Saloon Happy Hour Monday through Friday from 4-6 p.m.
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.
Main Street Pizza - just look down and to your right for all the deals. Of note: Check out the lunch specials.

Friday, May 24/
Joey Splenderson plays June Lake Brewing. Starts 4 p.m.

May 24-25/
Tha Exchange, horn-driven hop funk plays Liberty in Mammoth. Music starts ~9:30 p.m. Free. *More info: See ad p. 16.*

May 24-26/
Consummate entertainer, pianist Joe Gray, plays Tamarack Lodge. Time: 5:30-8:30 p.m. *More info: See ad p. 15*

Saturday, May 25/
Live music @ Stellar Brew in Mammoth. Time: 2:30-5 p.m.

Tuesday, May 28/
Open mic night @ C5 Studios in Bishop. Location: 210 S. Warren St. Sign up 6:30-7 p.m. and open mic from 7-9 p.m.

TOWN STUFF

May 24-26/
Mule Days in Bishop continues!
Note that the annual parade starts 10 a.m. on Saturday. Full schedule at muledays.org.
10th annual Mammoth Lakes Film Festival continues.
Calico Quilters Quilt Show @ Laws Museum, just a few miles east of Bishop off Highway 6. Time: 10 a.m. 'til 4 p.m.

May 24-27/
Memorial Days Arts and Crafts Show @ Bishop City Park. 9 a.m. 'til 6 p.m. through Sunday and 9 a.m. 'til 2 p.m. on Monday.

Saturday, May 25/
Mammoth Yacht Club boat races @ MMSA. Starts 11 a.m.

May 25-26/
Death Valley Brill Car Train Rides @ Laws Museum, just a few miles east of Bishop off Highway 6. Time: 10 a.m. 'til 2 p.m.

Monday, May 27/
MMSA Closing day. Time 7:30 a.m. 'til 2 p.m.
Memorial Day celebration @ the East Line cemetery in Bishop. Time: 11 a.m.

Tuesday, May 28/
The SNARL (Sierra Nevada Aquatic Research Lab) lecture series continues @ the Page Center, 1016 Mt. Morrison Rd. off Hwy. 395 roughly across from Benton Crossing.

TOWN STUFF

Tonight: The Future of Pinyon-Juniper Woodlands in the Eastern Sierra - a Panel discussion moderated by Dr. Paul Burow of Stanford University. Time: 7 p.m. Free.

Thursday, May 30/
Wildfire Resilience Week kicks off with the "Scince on Tap Speaker Series." Tonight: Marc Meyer on landscape treatments. Time: 6:30 p.m. Location: Mountain Rambler Brewery in Bishop. *For complete schedule, see ad p. 12.*

Friday, May 31/
Round Valley Elementary PTO hosts its **annual Spring Soiree fundraiser** @ Elks Park in Bishop. *More info: See ad p. 21*
"Surrealist Parlor Games" with Naomi @ the 1903 Taphouse (175 N. Main) in Bishop. Time: 7-9 p.m. *Arrive 30 minutes early to place orders from the menu. Did you know that some of the most recognized and celebrated Surrealist artists spent their free time together playing art games in the dark bars and street cafes of Paris in the 1920's? We'll do our best to re-create the vibe of 1920s Paris right here in Bishop. *Register @ c5studios.org.* Walk-ins are cash only and will be added depending on space.

May 31-June 1/
2024 Taatswano @ the Owens Valley Paiute Shoshone Cultural Center @ 2300 West Line St. Performances, singing, games, et. al.

Saturday, June 1/
Celebrate National Trails Day by meeting the Mammoth Lakes Trail System crew for a morning of fellowship and stewardship. *For details, see ad p. 22.*
Eastern Sierra Land Trust's Annual Pollinator Garden Tour in Bishop & Chalfant. Info: eslt.org.
Mono County Sustainability series continues with a **tour of the Bishop Creek Plan 4 Hydro project.** Space limited. Register @ highsierraenergy.org.
Alice Piper Legacy Celebration in Big Pine @ the Big Pine school campus. Starts 11 a.m. This year marks the 100th anniversary of Piper's successful bid to sue the ig Pine School District to intergrate their classrooms and allow indigenous students to attend. Time: 11 a.m.

June 1-2/
3rd Annual Eastern Sierra Pride Festival @ the Tri-County Fairgrounds in Bishop. *Schedule/info @ easternsierrapride.org.*

UPCOMING

June 8: California Institute of Technology's Owens Valley Radio Observatory Open House with tours from 9 am to 1 pm. We will have astronomers on site to explain how radio telescopes work and how we make radio observations. Parking will be near the 130' telescope. Directions: Just north of Big Pine, turn east off Highway 395 onto Highway 168. Go 2¼ miles then turn left onto Leighton Lane. Go 4 miles north and through the gate. Follow the signs toward the big telescope. Reservations not req'd and water will be available.

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

Fictitious Business Name Statement
The Following Person
Is Doing Business As:
The Tangled Web
Aly Vanko
306 Laurel Mtn. Road – Unit 205
P.O. Box 8163
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious name listed herein on April 18, 2024. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on April 29, 2024. File Number 24-035 (5/18, 5/25, 6/1, 6/8)
TS: 2024-0063

Fictitious Business Name Statement
The Following Person
Is Doing Business As:
June Lake Arts
June Lake Loop Performing Arts Assn.
52 Raymond Ave.
P.O. Box 405
June Lake, CA 93529

This business is conducted by a corporation. Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious name listed herein on April 22, 2024. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on April 29, 2024. File Number 24-036 (5/18, 5/25, 6/1, 6/8)
TS: 2024-0061

Fictitious Business Name Statement
The Following Person
Is Doing Business As:
June Lake Jam Fest
June Lake Loop Performing Arts Assn.
52 Raymond Ave.
P.O. Box 405
June Lake, CA 93529

This business is conducted by a corporation. Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious name listed herein on April 22, 2024. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on April 29, 2024. File Number 24-036 (5/18, 5/25, 6/1, 6/8)
TS: 2024-0062

NO CLASS-IFIEDS/NOTICES

Help Wanted



Sierra Employment Services, Inc. is hiring for the following positions:

Heavy Equip. Operator – Mammoth
Permanent Technician I – Mammoth
Journeyman Drywall/Paint Repair – Mammoth
Journeyman Plumber (4 years experience) – Mammoth
Journeyman/Apprentice Carpenter – Mammoth

760-924-0523 / 760-873-8599
www.SierraEmployment.com

Sweetwater Plumbing Inc. Full time position for Journeyman Plumber and/or Apprentice Plumber. Full Benefits. Job is located in Mammoth Lakes. Contact 760-914-1266 info@sweetwaterplumbing.com

U.S.P.S contractor needs a carrier trainee. \$33/hr., 5/6 days per week 6 hrs./day. Must pass FBI clearance & DMV. Contact Mike @ 760-914-1463

John's Pizza Works seeks energetic, motivated, reliable individuals, to work in the FOH or cashier position. Oppty. for year-round employment. PT/FT positions. Experience preferred. Come in for an application.

Line Cooks - Full-time or Part-time - \$24-\$28/hour based on experience + Benefits and Employee Discounts. Please send resume to jobs@convictlake.com or call 760-934-3800x49.

Prep Cooks - Full-Time or Part-time - \$22-\$27/hour + Benefits and Employee Discounts. Please send resume to jobs@convictlake.com or call 760-934-3800 extension 49.

Bookkeeper Needed. FT Position. Looking for a friendly team player. Duties incl. Accts. Payable/Receivable, Bank Reconciliations, Preparation of Financial Reports and General Office Duties. Experience preferred, but willing to train the right candidate. Pay depends on experience. Please email resume to info@butnerhoaservices.com

Housekeepers wanted! 2 PT housekeepers for Hot Creek Ranch. Approx. 12-20 hours per week. Top pay/tips/year-end bonus. Call Kevin @ 760.937.0519

Family Services Specialist-Bilingual - FT Salary: Classified Salary Schedule Range 46: \$22.40-\$28.63
**Filing Deadline: May 31, 2024*

Adaptive Physical Education Teacher - Virtual, Part-Time
Salary: Appropriate placement on certified salary schedule based on verifiable education & experience
**Filing Deadline: Until Filled*

County Library Director - Full Time Salary: \$138,261-\$180,399 annually
Filing Deadline: June 14, 2024

For more details/application log onto www.edjoin.org
Mono County Office of Education
Attn: Monica Hernandez, Human Resources, PO Box 477, Bridgeport, CA 93517-0477. 760.932.7311

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

Local Scoop

Kaye Pow LLC
2806 Hwy. 158
June Lake, CA 93529

This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Co. Registrant will commence to transact business under the fictitious name listed herein on May 25, 2024. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on May 15, 2024. File Number 24-040
2024-0071 (5/25, 6/1, 6/8, 6/15)

Help Wanted



Elevate Your Career At Mammoth Hospital! We have an immediate need for the following positions:

- Dental Hygienist – Starting wage \$50.21 to \$53.76 based on qualifications. \$5,000 Retention Bonus.
- Physical Therapist (Bishop and Mammoth locations) – Starting wage \$44.07 to \$47.19 based on qualifications. \$5,000 Retention Bonus.
- Physical Therapist Assistant (Bishop and Mammoth locations) – Starting wage \$30.87 to \$33.05 based on qualifications. \$3,500 Retention Bonus.
- Cook/Food Service Worker – Starting wage \$19.83 to \$21.23 based on qualifications.

\$2,200 Retention Bonus.
To view more open positions and apply, please visit our website at www.mammothhospital.org/jobs

Shilo Inn is accepting applications for FT housekeepers, FT maintenance worker and Front desk/night auditor. Immediate Front Desk opportunity starting at \$18/hour. Please call Human Resources (Sarina Quintero) at 925.813.2331 or email your resume to squintero@marquishotelsgroup.com.



Mammoth 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.



FT/PT, Year-Round: Front Desk PM Security (11pm-7am) and Front desk agent (3-11pm)
Prior experience a plus. Basic computer skills. Must be 100% reliable. Must be capable of working alone and in a team environment. Good customer service. Positive can-do attitude is a must. Competitive Start Pay + Benefits!
**All FT Positions Include Full Medical Benefits, 401k with Employer Match, Ski Pass, Paid Time Off. Stop by for an application- 50 Canyon Blvd! or call (760)924-4400*

Experienced help wanted. Ski tech, Nordic ski expert, Alpine Approach store, Mammoth Mountaineering Supply. Apply to jobs@mammothgear.com

The Breakfast Club in Mammoth is **hiring experienced servers.** Please apply in person. Bring resume.

For Rent

Commercial space available in the Nomadness building at the corner of Laurel Mountain and Sierra Nevada Rds. Call Whitney @ 970.837.6720 or call 818.307.3698 for more info.

1,750-sq. feet of Commercial space. Two shop bays, office space, bathroom and two storage rooms. No common area fee. \$3,500/mo. Not available for auto repair. Call 760.937.7569.

New Office Co Working Space Available- Six private offices with month to month & daily rental options. All newly furnished, copy and coffee station included.
Visit SierraSummitWorkspace.com for more details or call Mike at 626-484-3646

Help Wanted



Reservations Desk Clerk immediate opening at the Double Eagle Resort and Spa in June Lake CA (20 min from mammoth). Must have excellent customer service and computer skills. Full or part time, health benefits, fitness membership and PTO. Great place to work! Email Lodging@doubleeagle.com

P/T Wedding Coordinator asst. Great computer/communication skills essential. Please email interest to: weddingevents.doubleeagleresort@gmail.com

Creekside Spa and Fitness Desk at the Double Eagle Resort and Spa, immediate opening for enthusiast team member. Help in creating a wonderful experience for our spa and fitness center guests. Customer service, computer, cleaning, food service. Full or part time, health benefits, fitness membership and PTO. Great place to work! Email Lodging@doubleeagle.com

Restaurant Server for Eagles Landing Restaurant at the popular Double Eagle Resort and Spa in June Lake CA. Experience in restaurant service, computers and working as team member are essential. Full and part time available, health benefits, fitness membership and PTO. Great place to work. Email Lodging@doubleeagle.com

Maintenance Supervisor needed to manage a small maintenance team at the Double Eagle Resort & Spa in June Lake. You will be responsible for ensuring the smooth running of upkeep and repair. Must be reliable, have technical skills and knowledge of various crafts such as carpentry, plumbing etc. Leadership and knowledge of administrative tasks such as scheduling are also essential. The goal is to ensure that facilities are in good condition at all times. Compensation based on experience and references. We offer health benefits, fitness membership and PTO. A great place to work! Email Lodging@doubleeagle.com

Cooks and Dishwasher jobs available at the famous Eagles Landing Restaurant in June Lake. We offer health benefits, fitness membership and PTO. A great place to work! Email lodging@doubleeagle.com



Administrative Services Officer
FLSA Classification Salary Range Bargaining Unit Exempt Range 82. Non-Represented, Confidential (\$9,523-\$12,156/month DOE)

Under administrative direction of the Air Pollution Control Officer (APCO), plans, organizes, and manages the administrative services for the District, including leading and overseeing all financial and human resources activities.

The position is also responsible for contract management, purchasing, grant and special funding management, safety, risk management, legal compliance, benefit administration, facilities management services, and other related work as required.

This is a management classification that aids the Air Pollution Control Officer (APCO) in a variety of administrative, coordinative, analytical, and liaison capacities. Successful performance requires knowledge of public policy, all District functions and activities, including the role of the Governing Board, and the ability to develop, oversee, and implement projects and programs in a variety of areas. Responsibilities include supervising and overseeing the complex and varied function of the administrative division, as well as coordinating the activities of the division with other divisions and outside agencies.

For a complete job description and instructions on how to apply, please visit www.gbuapcd.org/employment or <https://gbuapcd.bamboohr.com/careers>. Desired start date for the position is May 2024. Open until filled.

Help Wanted



Friends of the Inyo hiring Summer 2024 Trail Ambassadors
TAs support National Forests providing trail maintenance and public outreach on local trails. Prior trail maintenance or similar experience, knowledge of the Eastern Sierra, and enthusiasm for wilderness preferred. Pay: \$20/hr + \$200 gear stipend. Resume+cover letter to Lindsay Butcher, Stewardship Director: Lindsay@friendsoftheinyo.org

The following positions are available:
2024-2025 (1) K-8 Teacher at Lee Vining Elementary School. FT position for a total of 183 day to provide a planned instructional program, engaging learning experiences, and promote a classroom environment that is conducive to student growth. 2024-2025 Certificated Salary Schedule; \$51,540-\$103,410, an additional stipend will be paid for a Masters. Employer pays pro-rata portion for employee and dependents of medical, dental, and vision insurance, with co-pay paid by employee. Open until filled.

2024-2025 ASES Aide at Lee Vining Elementary for 3 hours with 2024-2025 Classified Salary Schedule of \$16.00-\$22.51 per hour depending on experience.
For details/to apply, call Lisa Kelly @ 760.932.7443 or apply online via edjoin.org.

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

Neal Does Art

Neal James Covert
515 South Landing Rd.
Crowley Lake, CA 93546

This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious name listed herein on April 20, 2024. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on April 24, 2024. File Number 24-033 (5/18, 5/25, 6/1, 6/8)
TS: 2024-0077

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

Fish Mammoth

Fish Mammoth LLC
219 Commerce Dr., Unit B
P.O. Box 425
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Co. Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious name listed herein on April 15, 2024. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on May 16, 2024. File Number 24-042
2024-0069 (5/25, 6/1, 6/8, 6/15)

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

Jim's Snow Removal

Fish Mammoth LLC
219 Commerce Dr., Unit B
P.O. Box 425
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Co. Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious name listed herein on April 15, 2024. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on May 16, 2024. File Number 24-042
2024-0070 (5/25, 6/1, 6/8, 6/15)

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice of Impending Power to Sell Tax-Defaulted Property

NOTICE OF IMPENDING POWER TO SELL TAX-DEFAULTED PROPERTY
(Rev. & Tax. Code, §§ 3361, 3362)

Pursuant to Revenue and Taxation Code sections 3691 and 3692.4, the following conditions will, by operation of law, subject real property to the tax collector's power to sell.

- All property for which property taxes and assessments have been in default for five or more years.
- All nonresidential Commercial property for which property taxes and assessments have been in default for three or more years.
- Any property the tax collector has received a request to bring the property to the next scheduled tax sale from a person or entity that has a nuisance abatement lien recorded against the property and for which property taxes and assessments have been in default for three or more years.
- Any property that has been identified and requested for purchase by a city, county, city and county, or nonprofit organization to serve the public benefit by providing housing or services directly related to low-income persons and for which property taxes and assessments have been in default for three or more years.

Note: The power to sell schedule for nonresidential commercial property is three or more years of tax default status, unless the county adopts, by ordinance or resolution, the five-year tax default schedule.

The parcels listed herein meet one or more of the conditions listed above and thus, will become subject to the tax collector's power to sell on July 1, 2024, at 12:01 a.m., by operation of law. The tax collector's power to sell will arise unless the property is either redeemed or made subject to an installment plan of redemption initiated as provided by law prior to close of business on the last business day in June. The right to an installment plan terminates on the last business day in June, and after that date the entire balance due must be paid in full to prevent sale of the property at a tax sale. The right of redemption survives the property becoming subject to the power to sell, but it terminates at close of business on the last business day prior to the date of the tax sale by the tax collector. All information concerning redemption or the initiation of an installment plan of redemption will be furnished, upon request, by Gerald A. Frank, Mono County Asst. Finance Director/ Treasurer-Tax Collector, P.O. Box 495, Bridgeport, CA 93517. Inquiries by phone may be directed to (760) 932-5480, or by email to treasurer@mono.ca.gov. The amount to redeem, including all penalties and fees, as of June 2024, is shown opposite the parcel number and next to the name of the assessee.

PARCEL NUMBERING SYSTEM EXPLANATION

The Assessor's Parcel Number (APN), when used to describe property in this list, refers to the assessor's map book, the map page, the block on the map, if applicable, and the individual parcel on the map page or in the block. The assessor's maps and further explanation of the parcel numbering system are available in the assessor's office.

PROPERTY TAX DEFAULTED ON JULY 1, 2015 FOR THE TAXES, ASSESSMENTS AND OTHER CHARGES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015

ITEM NUMBER	ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NUMBER	PROPERTY ADDRESS	ASSESSEE NAME	AMOUNT TO REDEEM
1	025-030-045-000	24931 HIGHWAY 6	CROWELL ROBERT L. & NANCEE L.	\$ 1,052.47

PROPERTY TAX DEFAULTED ON JULY 1, 2017 FOR THE TAXES, ASSESSMENTS AND OTHER CHARGES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017

ITEM NUMBER	ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NUMBER	PROPERTY ADDRESS	ASSESSEE NAME	AMOUNT TO REDEEM
2	031-212-014-000	248 MAMMOTH SLOPES DR #14	FOLLETT JEFFREY T	\$ 7,764.51

PROPERTY TAX DEFAULTED ON JULY 1, 2018 FOR THE TAXES, ASSESSMENTS AND OTHER CHARGES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018

ITEM NUMBER	ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NUMBER	PROPERTY ADDRESS	ASSESSEE NAME	AMOUNT TO REDEEM
3	022-350-044-000	1691 OLD MAMMOTH ROAD	BOHL, JEFFREY	\$ 52,836.71
4	033-021-021-000	1111FOREST TRAIL #C21	FORSTER-GILL INC. ET AL & FORSTER CHARITABLE REMAINDER TRUST	\$ 74,342.25

PROPERTY TAX DEFAULTED ON JULY 1, 2019 FOR THE TAXES, ASSESSMENTS AND OTHER CHARGES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2018-2019

ITEM NUMBER	ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NUMBER	PROPERTY ADDRESS	ASSESSEE NAME	AMOUNT TO REDEEM
5	002-332-007-000	334 PINE NUT ROAD	SMITH LAWRENCE E.	\$13,029.15
6	008-093-032-000	56 KIRKWOOD STREET	GARBARINO MICHAEL J	\$ 3,924.71
7	008-213-001-000	72 AURORA CANYON ROAD	KIRWAN KEVIN & CARTER RAND JR	\$ 1,081.33
8	011-304-005-000		MCKNIGHT RORY E. & ANITA L.	\$ 6,115.41
9	015-105-002-000	ALDERMAN STREET	ANDERSON-HOOPER PATRICIA	\$ 11,515.27
10	015-105-011-000	76 ALDERMAN STREET	ANDERSON-HOOPER PATRICIA	\$ 45,298.14
11	024-110-012-000		LI VICTOR F.C. & LINDA C. & LI FEIX S.H. 1/2	\$ 4,023.18
12	031-142-006-000	143 LAKEVIEW BOULEVARD #6	JURAK EDWARD J. & HERVEY	\$13,148.95
13	032-103-212-000	865 MAJESTIC PINES DRIVE #212	SMITH KEVIN W.	\$ 31,629.10
14	032-150-010-000	177 JUNIPER ROAD	SMITH KEVIN W & MARIA	\$ 130,699.56
15	037-241-005-000	451 COMMERCE CIRCLE #5	REYES LUIS R & ARACELI	\$ 2,577.74
16	060-240-001-000	80 SOUTH LANDING ROAD	ECKERT GREG & TERRI & JEFFREY M & JODI	\$ 11,509.62
17	031-130-019-000	493 CANYON BOULEVARD	NUQUE ROMMEL & ALMEE	\$ 2,260.22

I certify or (declare), under penalty of perjury, that the foregoing is true and correct.
Janet Dutcher, Mono County Finance Director/Treasurer-Tax Collector
Executed at Bridgeport, Mono, California, on May 16, 2024
TS #2024-0072

Notice of Property Tax Delinquency and Impending Default

NOTICE OF PROPERTY TAX DELINQUENCY AND IMPENDING DEFAULT (Rev. &Tax. Code, Section 3351 & 3352)

I, Janet Dutcher, Mono County Director of Finance/Treasurer-Tax Collector, State of California, certify as follows: That at 12:01 a.m. on July 1, 2024, by operation of law, any real property (unless previously tax-defaulted and not redeemed) that has any delinquent taxes, assessments, or other charges levied for the fiscal year 2023-2024, and/or any delinquent supplemental taxes levied prior to the fiscal year 2023-2024, shall be declared tax-defaulted.

That unless the tax-defaulted property is completely redeemed through payment of all unpaid amounts, together with penalties and fees prescribed by law or an installment plan is initiated and maintained; the property will become tax-defaulted and may be sold subsequently at a tax sale to satisfy the tax lien.

That a detailed list of all properties remaining tax-defaulted as of July 1, 2024, and not redeemed prior to being submitted for publication, shall be published on or before September 8, 2027.

That information concerning redemption or the initiation of an installment plan for redemption of tax-defaulted property will be furnished, upon request, by Gerald A. Frank, Mono County Asst. Finance Director/Treasurer-Tax Collector, P.O. Box 495, Bridgeport, CA 93517.

Inquiries by phone may be directed to (760) 932-5480, or by email to treasurer@mono.ca.gov. I certify or (declare), under penalty of perjury, that the foregoing is true and correct.

Janet Dutcher, Mono County Finance Director/Treasurer-Tax Collector. Executed at Bridgeport, Mono, California, on May 14, 2024
TS #2024-0073

Notice of Free Stuff!

ADVERTISEMENT FOR FREE PORTABLE

The Governing Board ("Board") of the Mono County Office of Education ("COE") has found one (1) portable classroom known as the Mammoth Lakes Preschool Building ("Portable") owned by COE and located at Mammoth High School to be of insufficient value to the COE to defray the cost of a sale, and authorized the COE to either donate the Portable to a charitable organization, or dispose of the Portable. (Ed. Code, § 17546(c).)

The COE invites any and all non-profits or other qualifying charitable organizations to accept the Portable from the COE. Any qualifying organization must arrange for the removal of the Portable at its sole cost and expense. The COE makes no representations or warranties about the condition or suitability for use of the Portable. Any agreement to take the Portable shall be in its current condition, as-is.

Any interested organization shall contact Didi Tergesen at 760-934-0031 ext. 109 or dtergesen@monocoe.org for information regarding the Portable by Friday, June 7, 2024.

This advertisement does not constitute a formal offer or contract for the Portable. The COE reserves the right to donate the Portable to any organization accepting the Portable, and to set the terms of any such donation. The Board authorized and empowered the Superintendent of Schools Dr. Stacey Adler to dispose of the Portable in the local public dump in the event that any proposal by a charitable organization is not acceptable for any reason including but not limited to potential costs or risks to the COE.

(pending Board approval on May 23rd)

TS #2024-0076

Notice of Public Hearing

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the **Mono County Board of Supervisors** will conduct a public hearing no earlier than 9:00 am on June 11, 2024, in the Board Chambers, 2nd floor, at the Mono County Courthouse, 278 Main Street, Bridgeport, CA to discuss and solicit comments on the submittal of the California Development Block Grant (CDBG) accomplishments and acceptance of closeout report for the following grant activities.

Teleconference locations will be available at: Mono Lake Room of the Mono County Civic Center, First Floor, 1290 Tavern Road, Mammoth Lakes, CA. 93546; and online via Zoom at <https://monocounty.zoom.us/j/86184622677> or visit <https://www.zoom.us/>, click on "Join A Meeting" and enter the Zoom Webinar ID 861 8462 2677.

The Board will be required to disencumber the remaining 20-CDBG-12074 funds at closeout.

Activity	CDBG Grant 20-CDBG-12074 Awarded \$250,000	CDBG Program Income
Special District Needs Assessment (Resource Concepts, Inc.)	\$236,718.25	\$237,500.00
General Administration	\$3,393.24	\$12,500.00
Total	\$240,111.49	\$250,000.00

The purpose of this public hearing is to give members of the public an opportunity to make their comments known regarding the accomplishments under the State-administered CDBG Program.

INTERESTED PERSONS may appear before the Board of Supervisors to present testimony or, prior to or at the hearing, file written correspondence with: Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, P.O. Box 715, Bridgeport, CA 93517. If you challenge the proposed action(s) in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to Clerk of the Board of Supervisors at, or prior to, the public hearing.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Clerk of the Board at (760) 932-5530 or bos@mono.ca.gov. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the County to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting (See 42 USCS 12132, 28CFR 35.130).
TS #2024-0074

Notice of Ordinance

ORDINANCE NO. 05-16-24-16

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MAMMOTH COMMUNITY WATER DISTRICT REPEALING DIVISION X OF CHAPTER 12 OF THE DISTRICT CODE

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Directors of the Mammoth Community Water District as follows:

SECTION ONE. PURPOSE AND AUTHORITY
This Ordinance repeals in its entirety Division 10 of Chapter 12 of the Mammoth Community Water District Code, which contains the District's standards for customers' design and installation of new or improved landscaping. The Board finds and determines that updating those standards and repealing Division X and replacing it with a standalone policy will permit the District to be more responsive to changes in state law and recommended best practices related to water conservation and landscape design requirements. The authority for this Ordinance is found in California Water Code sections 30523, 30575, 30576, 31020, 31024, and 31026, and other applicable law.

SECTION TWO. REPEAL OF CHAPTER 2 OF THE MAMMOTH COMMUNITY WATER DISTRICT CODE
Division X of Chapter 12 of the District Code is hereby repealed in its entirety and is of no further effect. It is the Board's objective and intent that Division X shall be replaced by a standalone Landscape Standards Policy adopted contemporaneously with this repeal.

SECTION THREE. INCONSISTENCY
To the extent that the terms and provisions of this Ordinance may be inconsistent or in conflict with the terms or conditions of any prior District ordinances, resolutions, rules, or regulations governing the same subject, the terms of this Ordinance shall prevail with respect to the subject matter thereof and such inconsistent or conflicting provisions of prior ordinances, resolutions, rules, or regulations are hereby repealed as of the effective date of this Ordinance.

SECTION FOUR. INVALIDITY
If any provision of this Ordinance or application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, no other

Notice Inviting Bids

The **Lee Vining Public Utility District** requests bids for the external painting of a 180,000 gallon steel water tank. A complete project description is available by email request. Bids are due by 5 p.m., June 10, 2024 via email to leeviningpud@gmail.com.

TS #2024-0068

provision of this Ordinance shall be affected thereby.

SECTION FIVE. PUBLICATION
The District General Manager or his designee is directed to publish a summary of this Ordinance once, with the names of the members voting for and against the Ordinance, in a newspaper published within the District within 10 days after the adoption of this Ordinance.

SECTION SIX. EFFECTIVE DATE
This Ordinance shall take effect upon adoption pursuant to California Water Code sections 31027 and 31105.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Mammoth Community Water District at a meeting held on May 16, 2024, on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Directors Cage, Domaille, Hylton, Smith, and Thompson
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

By: Thomas R. Smith, President, Board of Directors
ATTEST: Mark Busby, Secretary, Board of Directors

SECRETARY'S CERTIFICATE
I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of Ordinance No. 05-16-24-16, duly and regularly adopted by the Board of Directors of MAMMOTH COMMUNITY WATER DISTRICT in the Town of Mammoth Lakes, County of Mono, on May 16, 2024. Mark Busby, Secretary, Board of Directors
TS #2024-0075

Notice of Vacancies

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the **Mammoth Lakes Tourism Board** has three seats with terms expiring as of June 30, 2024, which are available for candidacy: two from the Lodging Industry, and one At-Large position. The term of appointment for one of the Lodging positions will expire three years after appointment to the Board, and each of the other two positions will expire two years after appointment to the Board. The Mammoth Lakes Tourism Board meetings are scheduled at 1:00 p.m. on the first Wednesday of every month. Interested parties should file a letter of interest with John Morris, via email at jmorris@snowcreekresort.com for the Lodging seats, and Mammoth Lakes Tourism Office Manager, Jetsabel Aleman, via email at jaleman@visitmammoth.com for the At-Large seat, no later than June 15, 2024. Applicant interviews will be conducted by the MLT Nominating Committee in June. Recommendations and Board vote will take place in July. Dated: May 21, 2024
Angela Plaisted, Assistant Clerk
TS #2024-0078



Pet of the Week!!



Chispa

Chispa is a 6-year-old canine who is all love! Don't let her age fool you; while she is mature, Chispa is a puppy at heart. Her favorite pastime? Chasing a tennis ball, of course! But don't count on her to bring it back!

This sweet girl is ready to give the right person her love furr-ever, and she hopes it's someone reading this!

Whitmore Animal Shelter
575 Benton Crossing Rd
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546
(760) 935-4734
monocounty.ca.gov/animal



KLUSMIRE

NOT EVEN COAL FOR CHRISTMAS

Santa Claus ain't coming this year. And next year is iffy, as well. Local governments have counted on the State of California to play Santa and fly in on a magic money sleigh and rescue their shaky budgets by delivering cash gifts to help pay for everything from new buildings to personnel.

Faced with a \$45 billion deficit for the 2024-25 fiscal year, Gov. Gavin Newsom is playing Grinch by sneaking into existing programs to steal once-promised funds, slicing everything in sight like it's the Roast Beast, and then conveniently forgetting a couple promises for future presents.

Chopping billions out of a long list of programs has received a chilly reception from the advocates for programs getting less in their stockings in the coming year.

The first group not too happy with the governor are state employees and unions. Newsom announced he would eliminate 10,000 vacant state job positions to generate savings.

Let's pause a moment to consider just how large an operation the State of California has become. There are currently 10,000 job OPENINGS in state government. That's more than half the population of Inyo County, and about two-thirds of the lucky souls living in Mono County.

And remember, when talking about state government finances, everything is in billions of dollars. That's billions with a B. While cutting \$45 billion out of next year's budget is causing gnashing of teeth, Newsom's proposed 2024-25 budget still comes in at a healthy \$288 billion. For comparison, the budget for North Dakota is just \$20 billion. For the next two years. (*Cheap shot, yes, but it's always fun to dredge up North Dakota and its dog-shooting governor, Kristi Noem – Google it.*)

Back to the Golden State.

In April, the state legislature outlined about \$17 billion in cuts for next year and drained \$4 billion from budget reserves. That wasn't enough. Newsom is going after more. And that might not be enough. Revenue projections have been tanking since January and could increase the deficit in the coming months. Whoopie.

Education is on the chopping block. The state, thanks to arcane property tax laws such as Prop. 13 and others, is the main source of funds for most school districts, including those in the Eastern Sierra. Newsom plans a little sleight of hand to decrease school funding. He went back and lowered the base funding requirement for 2022-23, which will then drop funding from the state in 2024-25. And for years to come, says the state's educational industry. Everyone has "massive fight over education funding" on their bingo card, since the Legislature actually passes the budget.

To be safe, get that cookie recipe out. It looks like it's time for more bake sales to help pay for your kids' schooling. Teachers are probably already using their own money to buy and stockpile supplies for next year.

Other kid cuts include \$510 million less in scholarships for middle class kids seeking teaching degrees or credentials in state universities. About \$1.4 billion will disappear that was supposed to be spent to expand child-care. Higher wages for child-care workers were cited as the reason for the cuts that will curtail efforts to provide more childcare. Early childhood

programs are also getting a \$3 billion hit. Plus a 45% cut for CalWORKS' home visiting program that helps low income families after a baby arrives.

Remember Covid-19? Yep, that Covid, the pandemic/epidemic that destroyed the state economy, killed thousands, emptied downtowns and movie lots, and generally trashed the state in ways great and small? Yeah, that pandemic. Well, it seems Newsom's memory is a bit fuzzy on that point. He plans to cut \$300 million in funding for state and county public health departments. Those are the folk who had to go to work to organize vaccinations, track the infection rate and record deaths. Keep the hand sanitizer handy.

On a similar theme, there will be cuts in the hundreds of millions of dollars for programs to train and recruit nurses and social workers, which are in short supply in the Eastern Sierra and the rest of the state.

Local hospitals and clinics are chronically unable to cover their costs because of low reimbursements from Medi-Cal. The state helps a bit by providing some extra pay for healthcare workers and providers caring for Medi-Cal patients. That money is going away. A vague promise to support Medi-Cal is in the works.

Not in the works is the ambitious plan to hike healthcare workers' pay over time to a minimum of \$25 an hour. It would cost the state \$2 billion to implement. Too much, said Newsom. Bogus accounting, said the unions. Negotiations will ensue.

Finally, \$2 billion will be cut from the long list of state climate related programs.

Good news: closing prisons will save some money.

More good news: no tax hikes.

Not great news for next year: Newsom is planning on making an additional \$28 billion in cuts to the 2025-26 budget.

Election news. California voters will get to play Santa's elves in November when there could be up to three money generating ballot questions put before voters.

The one with the most local impact could be a state bond issue to help fund school construction projects. The Bishop Unified School District board mentioned that possible bond money when discussing the feasibility of a November school bond that if approved could fund massive renovations to all the district's school buildings.

Other possible bond measures would seek funds for affordable housing and climate-related infrastructure to prepare for drought, floods and fires. The legislature and Newsom are still in negotiations over those three possible bond measures.

A balanced state budget must be approved in time to take effect on July 1.

Jon Klusmire of Bishop has this inflation-adjusted wisdom to offer: "A billion here, a billion there, and pretty soon you are talking about real money."

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BENHAM'S BLOG

FROM THE GOLF DESK

I know all of you are hankering to read a report on the 2024 PGA Championship a week after the tournament has ended and the tour has moved on. So here it is ... My Report.

I couldn't get to Valhalla for this year's PGA because Aspen's airport is closed for maintenance during the month of May. So I covered it from my couch in Snowmass.

Instead of a breathtaking first person account of the most competitive field in golf and live face-to-face interviews with the world's top players on the grounds of a Jack Nicklaus designed course in Louisville, I offer you some architectural notes about the Snowmass Golf Course, which is right outside my window.

The holes are like ruts, like the architects dug out the fairways and moved all the earth to the side making the fairways relatively flat and banal.

I asked a local Black-billed Magpie, who plays the course year round, "What happened to the trees? A mudslide?"

"They clear cut," he said. "They made it as sterile as Valhalla."

Then out of nowhere, Black-billed Magpie turned the interview on its head and demanded that I show him my smoothie recipe.

"I don't know if I feel comfortable do-

ing that," I balked.

"Tell me or I'll punish you for eating dinner inside during sunset," he said.

"Fine," I said. "Here's our SOP for blasting the toilet at 10 am. Ground flax and Dino kale."

Satisfied, the Magpie flew off to play the second hole.

Here's a slightly more relevant aside: Denver and Minnesota had gone to a deciding Game 11 in the 89th round of the NBA Playoffs. Besides advancing to the next round, the winning team stood to receive a neglected nutribullet® and the nicest electric hand mixer on the market.

Back to the 2024 PGA—well not quite yet.

The night before the tournament teed off - that'd be Wednesday night - Golf Channel aired a replay of the 2004 PGA at Whistling Straits.

The intro featured a lot of shots of mist at dawn and then landed on Jim Nantz in his blue CBS blazer and khakis on the oval lawn at the entrance to the clubhouse. Nantz welcomed the viewers and began with an interview of a stately green hedge, who as Nance put it "had bared witness to the hallowed history of these magisterial grounds since the sto-

ried inception of this terrifying layout."

Or maybe he said, "the storied history of these hallowed grounds since the fabled inception of this terrific layout." I'm still not totally sure whether the history was storied and the grounds magisterial or if it was the other way around.

Anyways, Justin Leonard sported speedy sunglasses and Ben Hogan gear while Darren Clarke went low in Round 1 (-7), crediting a remade putting stroke. He said he moved his hands forward and wasn't hungover.

Now to this year's PGA Championship. ESPN broadcast the Thursday and Friday rounds. Scott Van Pelt captained the show and made it his mission to let us know that he was buddies with every player and their caddy, which was cool and made me like him and want to be him or at least be friends with him or at least have him know my name or just shake his hand one time.

On Friday morning on a highway just outside the tournament, Scottie Scheffler was arrested trying to skirt standstill traffic that had accumulated because a pedestrian was struck and killed earlier that morning. (Like the interview with the Black-billed Magpie this actually happened.) Allegedly, a cop told Scheffler to use a median to go around the

traffic and then he started to go around the traffic on the median but as he was going around another cop stopped him and told him he couldn't go around but Scottie kept going and the cop grabbed Scottie's moving car and held on because the cop thought he could create enough friction by dragging his heels on the ground to stop a one ton courtesy sport utility vehicle moving at 15 mph. The cop was dragged for about 20 yards before Scottie finally stopped the car. The cop arrested Scheffler on felony charges of being a bad, disobedient boy. Later that morning, Scheffler was released and able to make his tee time and shot a 66 and called the whole thing a big misunderstanding.

Come the weekend, CBS took over the broadcast and we were blessed with Jim Nantz continuing his tradition of beating the word 'history' to an absolute pulp and when history begged for mercy Nance got that gleam in his eye and finished the job.

Oh, I almost forgot, Xander Schauffele won the thing with a birdie on the 72 hole and it was the best, most tense, most dramatic major tournament in recent memory. So there's that.

Jack Benham is a former Sheet staffer who currently resides in Aspen

2024 SUMMER OF STEWARDSHIP

TRAIL DAYS

NATIONAL TRAILS DAY
Saturday
June 1, 9am-12pm

Meet the Mammoth Lakes Trail System crew at 9am at the Mammoth Lakes Library for a free bagel breakfast, safety talk, and work assignments - including trail maintenance, landscape restoration, and general cleanup activities!

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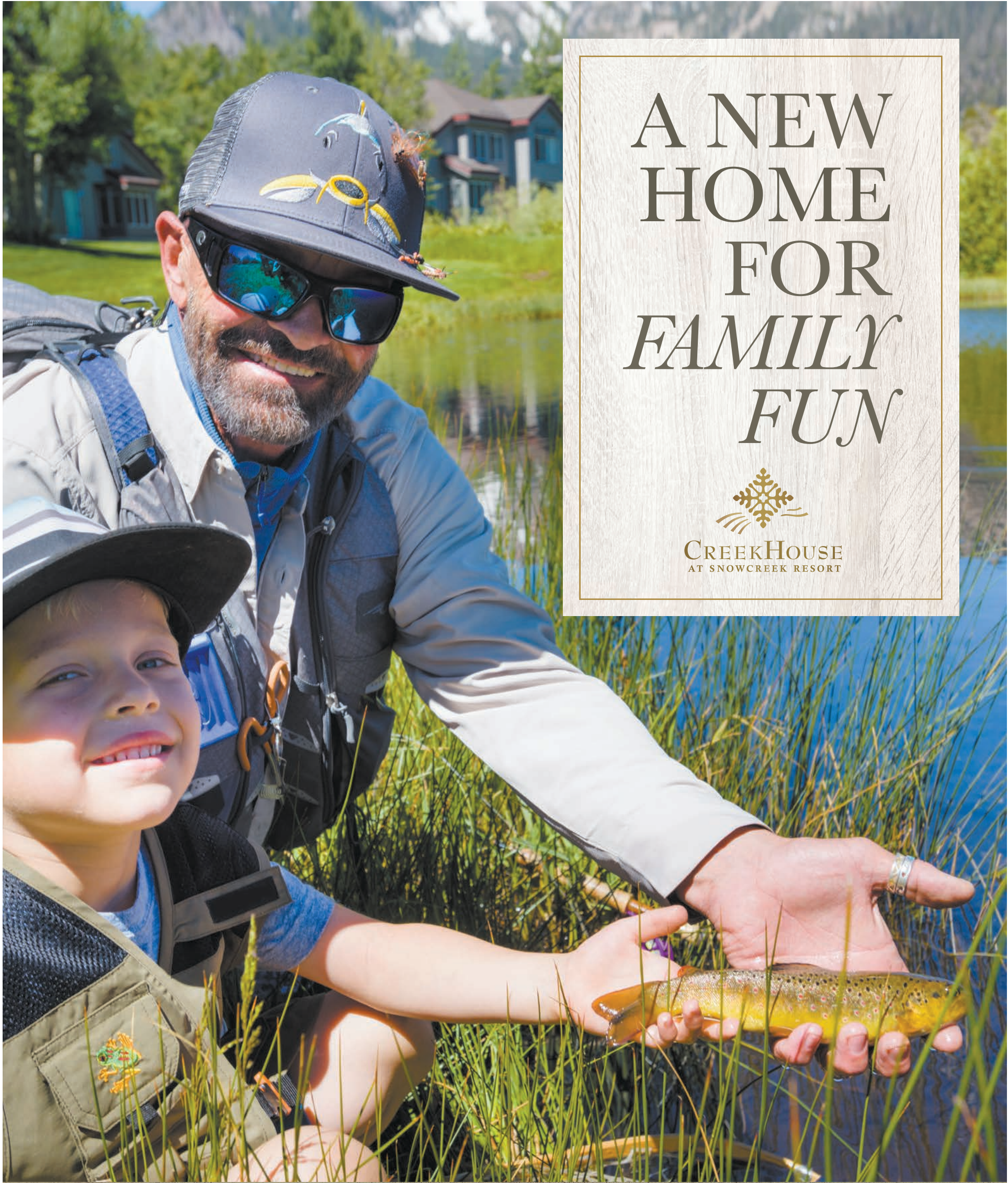
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