

the sheet

News, Views & Culture of the Eastern Sierra

Saturday, June 15, 2024

FREE

Vol. 22, No. Ramirez

SCHACHT OF LOVE

By Lunch

Dave Schacht is the Head Golf Pro in Mammoth. Sanctioned by the Professional Golfers Assn. of America (PGA).

And when the PGA confers its blessing upon one of its 30,000 trained golf professionals, it does so with a mission statement which guys like Schacht take seriously.

The PGA is “dedicated to elevating and advancing the game for the enjoyment of everyone.”

So by definition, closing a golf course is like a gut punch. No elevation. No advancement. No joy.

Which is why Schacht and Sierra Star Course Superintendent Pat Lewis (“I wouldn’t have done this without Pat as my wingman.”) floated the idea this winter of resurrecting Snowcreek Golf Course, which had closed for the 2023 season because of the record-breaking winter.

Mostly because Schacht couldn’t get Snowcreek out of his head - an old flame he couldn’t let go.

As we toured the course this week (why toured versus played will be explained shortly), Schacht emoted.

“If I play Snowcreek, I can hit driver five out of nine holes. At Sierra Star, I can hit driver three out of 18 ... and just look at this,” he said as we pulled up to the tee box on #3. “This is the most stunning par three in the Eastern Sierra,” he said as we took in the Sherwins and Mammoth Rock in the noon-day sun. “And it plays different every time depending on the wind. I’ve hit nine-iron here. I’ve hit three-iron here.”

“If the pin is in front [here], you want to be short,” he advised as an afterthought, as if I’m a good enough golfer



To ad lib an old Hunter S. Thompson line, “When the going gets weird, the weird turn pro. Golf pro.”

to translate his advice into actionable improvement.

At the fourth hole, we stopped in the fairway just before the bunker “You know, I spent five years hitting the approach long here ... because the wind is different in the fairway. It blows strong out here, but it’s calmer at the green.” He contemplated this for a moment and gave that trademark Schacht chuckle. “I’m a slow learner.”

As we drove past the 4th green to make the turn for the final five holes back to the

clubhouse, Schacht pointed to the green and said, “We’re bringing it back. It completely died last year ... give this whole place two more weeks and it will be absolutely lush. The fairways are super tight. The rough’s cut at one-and-a-quarter inches ... I know people will tell you that nine holes versus 18 is like getting naked without having sex, but I’m here to tell you that you can have plenty of fun just getting naked.”

Spending another day aboveground is also a lot of

more LOVE, pg. 8



Steph Marsh (left) and Karah Kataoka (right) pictured at Olmsted Point on Sunday, June 8—the day before Tioga Pass fully opened to vehicles, and the only day in which cyclists were permitted on the road.

FIRING UP THE HOMEOWNERS

Whitebark hosts wildfire insurance seminar

By Milender

Last week was Wildfire Resilience Week—a series of events, hosted by the Whitebark Institute and in partnership with Mono and Inyo County to help cultivate community-mindedness toward wildfire resilience reduction strategies.

On June 7 at Mammoth Lakes Library, Yana Valachovic, County Director and Forest Advisor for the University of California Cooperative Extension in Humboldt and Del Norte Counties, virtually led a well-attended “Lunch and Learn” on California’s evolving landscape—literally, and figuratively—in relation to wildfires and the insurance they mandate.

And so, Valachovic started at the beginning.

The FAIR Plan, established in 1968 and explained by Valachovic, was created as a plan of “last resort” for Californians unable to secure insurance through the regular market.

“It’s an association of admitted or proven insurers to conduct business in Califor-

nia where the costs are distributed among the carriers,” said Valachovic, noting that in many other states, that cost burden is borne, instead, by consumers. “So, the liability is borne by those [California] insurance companies themselves.”

Notably, the FAIR Plan exclusively provides fire insurance. And while it can be supplemented with Difference in Conditions (DIC) expanded coverage for such things as theft and water damage, the growth in exposure and liability due to increasing wildfire seasons has put pressure on the FAIR Plan.

“California is the largest homeowners’ insurance market in the nation,” noted Valachovic. “The 2017-2018 wildfire sequence caused major disruption in many of our lives and the insurance industry,” she explained. Over the past decade, California has witnessed the loss of 43,000 structures—a statistic that has raised concerns about the sustainability and effective-

see FIRE, pg. 4

BUCKLE UP



District 9 Barrel Racer, Chloe Charlton, earned her turns down in Bishop Wednesday Night. For more photos of this week’s CHSRA State Finals, see page 14.

One word solution

p. 6/

Summer shorts

p. 15/

Mistake, learn, fix

p. 2/

The Wight Stuff

p. 6/

Easy Bake Solar Oven

p. 7/

MAKE MISTAKES, LEARN, FIX

There was a story in an industry publication called “Becker’s Hospital Review” a few months back which quoted Northern Inyo Hospital District CEO Stephen DelRossi.

The story referenced a consultant’s report by the firm Kaufman Hall which refuted the conventional wisdom of the financial divide between rural and urban hospitals. It found no difference in operating margins or overall financial performance.

What the report did say is that regardless of size, 40% of hospitals lost money during the first two months of 2024. And that industry-wide, “cash-on-hand days” have plummeted 25% since 2022.

The story talks about the strides NIHD is making in its turnaround and states, “DelRossi has his focus set on reimbursement trends.”

On many occasions over the past several months, DelRossi has expressed the hope that California would increase its Medi-Cal reimbursement pay schedule, which would by extension improve the District’s financial position.

Fast-forward to last month where Gov. Gavin Newsom pulled the rug out from underneath the healthcare industry.

According to a CalMatters story from last month, the single largest cut in Newsom’s proposed budget was to Medi-Cal. Overall, the story reported that Newsom wanted to redirect \$6.7 billion earmarked for health care providers in order to shore up the state’s massive budget deficit.

So where does this leave NIHD? The Sheet sat down with Mr. DelRossi this week to get his take on the state of the district.

What he offered were a few rays of sunshine, as well as a little bit of rain.

On the bright side, after seeing “cash-on-hand days” dwindle into the teens, the District received a cash infusion which brought the number back up into the 70s. This is the cyclical nature of reimbursements, explained DelRossi. It’ll keep the Reaper at bay in the near-term.

The District has also made strides in improving its operating income and has corrected \$12 million in bad debt.

Unfortunately, uncollectible debt (debt more than four years old) is expiring at the rate of about \$700,000/month. That’s money NIHD will never recover.

Sheet: Four years? That’s it? Seems like people are incentivized to run out the clock.

DelRossi: We do need to get better at setting up payment plans. But remember, it can take insurance a year just to pay a bill.

... I used to have people tell me that they’d purposely wait until their hospital bills were classified as ‘bad debt’ so they could settle at big discounts. We

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

JACK LUNCH
PUBLISHER

- Ted Carleton..... Jack of all Lunches
760.937.4613 / lunch@thesheetnews.com
- Kendall Milender Writer
kendallatthesheet@gmail.com
- Harold Hartley People Person
hart6399@yahoo.com
- Jon Klusmire Curmudgeon
hart6399@yahoo.com
- Spike Todd Beverage Consultant

P.O. Box 8088
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546
760.924.0048/jacklunch@yahoo.com
An adjudicated paper of general circulation. © 2024 The Sheet, all rights reserved.

have stopped that practice (classifying bad debt). Further, if you completely skip out on a bill, we no longer just shrug our shoulders and accept it. We’ll turn that over to the IRS and they’ll classify that balance as earned income for the non-payer.

*Meaning, you can cheat the system, but you can’t cheat it completely. There are no more free rides.

Running a hospital is not for the faint of heart or the mathematically challenged. DelRossi is neither. He throws around reimbursement numbers like a Sabermetrics-obsessed sports fan.

What clearly frustrates him are the time/resources required for regulatory “compliance.”

“We have five employees dedicated [to compliance]. That’s 10,000 hours. For a 25-bed hospital.”

So what’s the path ahead? “We want to operate as a regional hospital ... from a safety perspective, we want to treat and care for people here ... we’ve brought in a urologist. Our cardiologist is now here six days a month.”

Basically, the strategy is right the ship, and then slowly add targeted services.

DelRossi’s management mantra: Make mistakes, learn, fix.



BBQ Sauce
Brewed and Bottled
at
Rock Creek Lakes Resort





Mammoth Community Water District

Level 0

2024 WATERING SCHEDULE

SPRINKLER TIMES: 1 - 11 am & 4 - 11 pm

	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN
EVEN Address		X		X	X		X
ODD Address	X		X		X	X	

Hand-watering allowed **BEFORE 10 am & AFTER 5 pm**
All hoses must be equipped with an Automatic Shutoff Device

Rebates available!

Replace turf grass and receive \$2.00/sf.
Install an Energy Star toilet, dishwasher or clothes washer and receive \$200-\$400!

Help recharge our groundwater aquifer by conserving water.

For more information visit:
WWW.MCWD.DST.CA.US
760-934-2596



JUNE
LAKE
BREW
ING
JUNE
20
NOON
TO 8PM

10
YEARS

THE RED YETI RETURNS 11AM
JOHNNY DRYWALL & THE SHEET ROCKERS 1.30PM
THE FELT CUTOUTS 3PM
ANTHONY CULLINS BAND 6PM
T-HILL COLLAB BEER RELEASE
FUN / GAMES / AWESOMENESS



FIRE

continued from page 1

ness of current policy.

According to Valachovic, those years and the wildfire events they witnessed were a “wake up call” in the insurance sector, in that they created enhanced concern for climate related changes and their impacts on the market.

“One thing to keep in mind is that insurers in California are part of a national and global network,” said Valchovic. “They’re supported by international re-insurers.”

The point being, challenges posed by wildfires in California are part of a broader, global issue. The rise in wildfire-related losses has had a ripple effect, and, says Valachovic, points to the need for enhanced mitigation strategies and the reevaluation of safe investment locations from an insurance perspective.

Insurers, then, have made demands to counteract the rising costs of reinsurance.

But, says Valachovic, those efforts are ballasted by Proposition 103—a policy passed in 1988 with the intent of providing consumer protection and rate stabilization for auto and property insurance. It established the position of the California Insurance Commissioner, currently held by Ricardo Lara, and set the regulatory landscape for the insurance market.

“Proposition 103 [passed in 1988] gave the Insurance Commissioner the ability to improve rates for property

insurance and create a level playing field for insurers in California,” Valachovic explained. “Insurers are passing rate increases on to consumers, but the Insurance Commissioner regulates that rate increase process.”

Valachovic noted that the Insurance Commissioner has begun to address these issues by allowing the use of catastrophe models and working on an accelerated rate filing approval process.

And then there’s the boon of The Safer from Wildfires Program, established in 2022, which provides insurance discounts for homeowners who implement wildfire mitigation measures.

“The Insurance Commissioner has identified actions such as using ember and fire-resistant vents and maintaining defensible space within the first five feet of structures as important for receiving discounts,” said Valachovic.

Detailing the different pathways through which wildfires can threaten homes, Valachovic emphasized the need for both defensive landscaping and structural hardening to mitigate risk to embers and radiant heat—two types of exposures requiring two methods of resilience tactics.

Embers, small burning pieces of vegetation or debris, can travel far from the main fire and ignite surrounding structures.

Radiant heat, the intense heat

more FIRE, pg. 8

Not Your Grandma's

BINGO NIGHT

Presented by
VES
Volunteers
Eastern
Sierra

Tuesday June 18th
at the Warming Hut
343 Old Mammoth Rd

Open for Happy Hour 3-5pm,
Bingo registration starts at 5 pm
First BINGO game at 6:00 pm

raffle prizes &
winnings galore!

This month's proceeds go to:
Mono County Search and Rescue
monosar.org



Got Fire Insurance?

We specialize in business insurance, FairPlan policies, Covered California, Senior Insurance products including manufactured homes, Medicare supplements and we are your authorized AARP insurance representatives for the Hartford auto insurance program. Combined 40 years experience insuring communities of the Eastern Sierra. Customers only talk to licensed brokers at Mammoth Insurance, mobile appointments are available..

ERIC OLSON
LIC # 0783148

ALICIA OLSON
LIC # 0i19200

info@MammothInsurance.com

CALL 760-934-2200

CATCH ALL THE ACTION

JUNE 21-30 | MAMMOTH LAKES

Summer's best spectator sport returns with 7 days of thrilling competitions. Cheer on as riders race for the coveted Mammoth bear trophy. Save on tickets and lodging when you book the Motocross Package online.

FOR EVENT SCHEDULE, VISIT
MAMMOTHMOTOCROSS.COM

FACILITIES OPERATED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH INYO NATIONAL FOREST
EVENTS SUBJECT TO CHANGE



BEN HAMANN
6 years at Footloose

**EARLY SEASON
BIKE SALE!**



**BIKE LIQUIDATION
OLD RENTAL BIKES
MUST GO!**

**Bikes go LIVE online and in-store
on Father's Day, JUNE 16 @ 8 am
footloosesports.com**



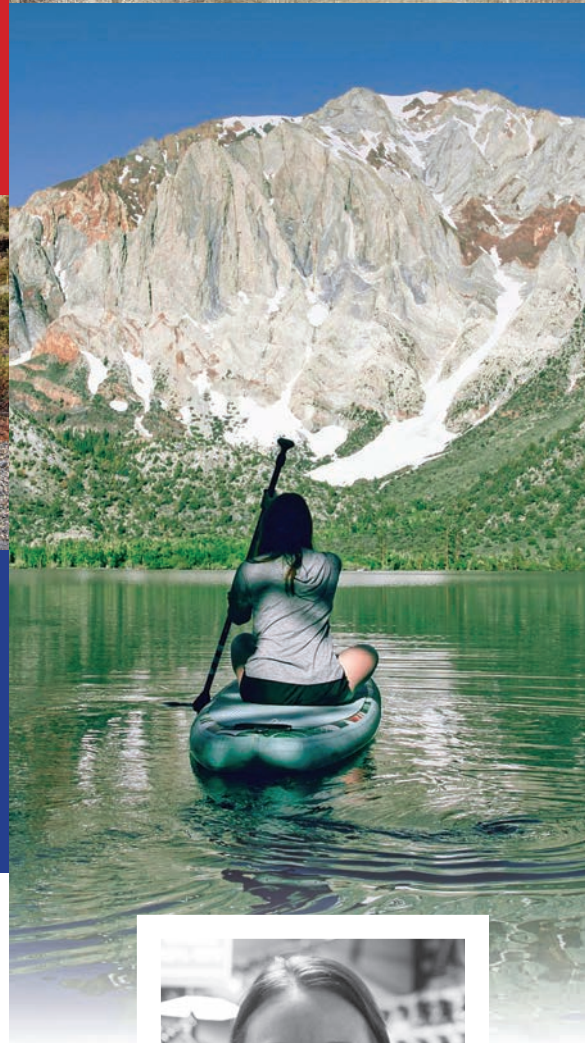
**ALL 23/24 WINTER
GEAR ON SALE
UP TO 70% OFF**

**Just in:
2024 CARGO E-BIKES**

**NEW
SUMMER
ARRIVALS**



SEAN DUNCAN
7 years at Footloose



BRIANA THIBAULT
4 years at Footloose

LOCAL BRIEFS

Where There's Smoke ...

They spent an hour on the topic. In the end, it appears they decided to eliminate a single word.

At its regular meeting Monday, Bishop City Council discussed a potential ordinance to ban smoking pot on City property and rights-of-way.

The City currently has an ordinance on the books banning tobacco smoke on City property.

This would be a companion measure.

Councilmember Stephen Muchovej opined that this was not the way to tackle the issue - by piecemealing it one substance at a time.

What's to suggest someone wouldn't then say, 'Hey, but there's no prohibition against smoking crack. Or meth.'

"The thought process around here is a little half-baked," he joked.

He suggested amending the current ordinance so that the word 'tobacco' was removed. Therefore, smoking, any smoking, would be illegal.

The City Attorney and Staff promised to review Muchovej's suggestion and bring the matter back at a later date.

City Manager Deston Dishion explained why a local ordinance is needed at all - because smoking in public places is illegal on a state level.

But state law requires a D.A. to prosecute and D.A.'s are busy and don't bother with petty transgressions anymore. So at least if you have a local

ordinance on the books, there is potential enforcement via fines.

-Lunch

MUSD shakeup

The Casey O'Neill era has come to a close at Mammoth High School. But will continue within the Mammoth Unified School District.

O'Neill will exit his post as MHS Principal to become MUSD's Manager of Fiscal Services.

He will hold that title for one year before becoming the District's CBO (Chief Business Officer).

He had served as MHS Principal for two years.

The recruitment to replace O'Neill is ongoing and candidate interviews are scheduled for this week. Superintendent Annie Rinaldi said there were candidates from both in and out of the area who have applied.

She couldn't recall the exact number of candidates but there were "more than five and less than ten."

The start date for a new Principal is targeted for July 1.

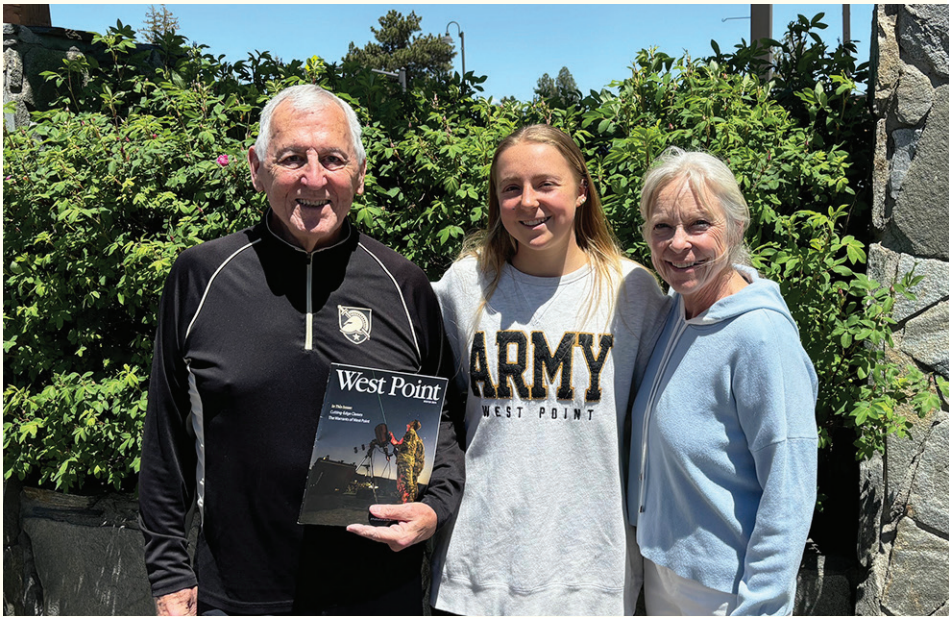
Rinaldi has been serving concurrently as MUSD Superintendent and Chief Business Officer for the past year.

-Lunch

Hooper Design Change

Mammoth's Planning and Economic Development Commission (PEDC) met Wednesday morning in Suite Z

THE WIGHT STUFF



MHS Senior Sierra Wight, flanked by her mother Jena Wight and Retired Col. Emmett Mahle, will be attending West Point beginning in the fall of 2026.

She will spend a postgrad year at the Georgia Military College before her West Point enrollment.

Wight says she was inspired to apply because she loves the history of West Point (founded 1802), is inspired by what West Point produces (leaders of character) and she "wants to serve our country."

Wight was nominated for West Point by Congressman Kevin Kiley.

Mahle, who serves as Chairman for this region's interview panel, served in Korea and the Republic of South Vietnam. He was awarded two Bronze Star Medals, The Air Medal, The Army Commendation Medal, the Combat Infantryman's Badge, and numerous service medals. He left active service as a Captain and retired as a full Colonel. He attended the following Army schools: Airborne, Ranger, Pathfinder, Green Beret, and The Panama Jungle School.

He was effusive in his praise for Wight, who captained three MHS athletic teams and has already earned three Associates' degrees from Cerro Coso Community College.

Wight graduates from Mammoth High School this Friday.

and approved one small change to John Hooper's development project located at 540 Old Mammoth Road (next to the Sierra Center Mall).

Hooper's initial mixed-use project called for 13 residential units and 2 commercial units.

The two commercial units (with a residential unit above) were supposed to be built in the two-story building nearest to the street.

Instead, that building will be reduced to one story, housing a single ground floor commercial space of approx. 800-square feet.

Twelve condo units have already been built on-site.

The change will reduce the building's square-footage from 1,524 to 1,081, and reduce the building height by 7 feet.

Commissioners unanimously approved the change.

-Lunch

ing infrastructure network. The Board of Supervisors approved a 32-month \$199,393 contract with transportation planning and engineering firm DKS Associates to prepare a plan for implementing such a program. The planning is funded by a Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant from Caltrans, with a small match of \$25,000 from the County.

According to Public Works staff, the plan will outline a path forward to install EV charging infrastructure throughout Inyo County and to electrify the County-owned vehicle fleet by gathering data, evaluating the physical and financial feasibility of expanding the existing network, and conducting a site analysis for EV charging locations, with an emphasis on County-operated properties.

The plan's development will include the creation of a Stakeholder Advisory Committee comprised of individuals with technical expertise.

Also ... a long list of road maintenance and rehabilitation projects throughout the County was also approved.

The list was prepared and approved per the requirements of SB 1: Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017, which makes State Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Account funds available to local jurisdictions. This year's allocation - the 8th that Inyo County has received through SB 1 - is estimated at \$4,114,189. Inyo County is not obligated to complete every project listed, but simply identify where the funding may be spent. The funding has helped the County maintain and rehabilitate dozens of the 530 streets/roads and several of the 50 bridges under its care.

-Press Release

PS: The only other tidbit I found interesting from PEDC was in regard to the "Child Care Center" being built on the Mammoth Lakes Foundation property on College Parkway.

Town Engineering Manager Amy Callanan acknowledged that there is no plan and no operator for the Center, including no idea as to who might fund the tenant improvements required to make the site operational.

Sure sounds like a recipe for dilapidation and hantavirus.

Inyo Supes recap

At its June 4 meeting ...

Inyo County is moving forward in its efforts to explore the possibility of switching to an electric vehicle (EV) fleet and expand the existing charg-

MAIN STREET PIZZA & TAP

Superlative East Coast, Thin-Crust Pizza

LUNCH SPECIALS

Monday-Thursday, 11am-2pm

- \$2 Off All 10" Pizzas
- 1/2 Off All Salads

HAPPY HOUR

Mon-Fri: 3:30-6:30 pm
Sat-Sun: 8pm-Close

- \$3 Cheese Slice \$4 Pepperoni Slice
- \$1 off all Pints & Tasting Flights
- \$1 off all Wines By the Glass

Happy Hour Specials!

Lunch Specials!

3399 Main Street, Mammoth Lakes, Family Friendly!

(760) 965-0321 | order online | mainstreetpizzaandtap.com

SOME LIKE IT HOT

Middle Schoolers Compete in 2024 Solar Cook-Off

By Milender

On Tuesday afternoon, June 11, Mammoth Middle Schoolers went head-to-head in an ice melting competition. As part of an education in environmental science, students were instructed to create a mechanism that could melt a sphere of ice effectively. The finalists of previous melting rounds got a chance to showcase their work... for the chance to win a Fun Shop gift card and ice cream voucher.

The project, facilitated by Pam Bold, is done in collaboration with the Mammoth Community Water District through LivingWise—an educational program that focuses on energy, water conservation, and efficiency.



Ulises Garcia, Winner of Most Creative Design; Ulises utilized a magnifying plastic material, purchased at a dollar store. His melting box was unique among its competitors in that it both caught on fire (a number of times) and was able to cook a Hot Pocket all the way through.



Connor Moberly and Eli Perry, Winners of Highest Recorded Temperature; Moberly and Perry took the experiment to new heights, recording the highest temperature of the group in direct sunlight. When asked why the pair had not one, but three thermometers in their melting box, Moberly responded: "Well, we're just gonna report the one that has the highest temperature." Perry said he was glad to win because it will mark the third time his photo has appeared in The Sheet.



Pam Bold demonstrates infrared technology in front of cook-off finalists.



Blaise Pondella, Winner of Fastest Ice Melt; Blaise made sure to emphasize dark-colored materials to absorb the rays of the sun. When asked why there were ingredients to make s'mores beside his block of ice, Pondella responded, "Why not?" Pondella's s'mores can be seen, top right.



Chloe Bair, Winner of Judges' Choice; Bair stood out for her commitment to optimal sun exposure—not once did she leave her posting behind her melting box, as to ensure positive experimental results. Bair was commended for her effective and frugal use of materials. Rather than using a sheet of Plexiglass—which was common among her competitors—Bair and associates strapped a sheet of vinyl across a handmade wooden frame. This reduced the cost significantly, according to the young scientist.

What's Most Important to You in Emergency Services for Mammoth Lakes?

WE ASKED, YOU ANSWERED

MLFD Firefighters at the Slink Fire in Coleville/Walker

In order to ensure Mammoth Lakes Fire Protection District (MLFPD) is equipped to respond quickly and independently to emergencies, the MLFPD Board of Commissioners is considering a potential parcel tax measure on the November 2024 ballot that would provide a stable, dedicated source of local funding to support our local fire department's activities and operations.



YOUR TOP PRIORITIES:

- Rapid 911 Medical Response
- Wildfire Program for the Community and Homeowners
- Fiscal Protections to Ensure the Money Is Spent Only on Emergency Services Here in Mammoth Lakes



Escanea aquí para recibir esta información en español.



Haven't had a chance to tell us your priorities? Visit mlfd.ca.gov/potentialmeasure



MUSD

LE FRANCOIS BIDS SEMI-FAREWELL

By Milender

Teacher Erin Kittle Le Francois is leaving her full-time teaching role at Mammoth High School after a career spanning over two decades. But she's not really done. Not yet. Le Francois will now be engaging in a reduced workload arrangement, sharing a contract with another full-time employee and teaching part-time at nearby Sierra High School. It's a new phase that marks the continuation of a storied career in the halls of MUSD—one that spans back to 1997.

"I'm thankful our district offers reduced workload," said Le Francois. "I'm looking forward to working with a smaller group, for sure, with more focus on helping the kids and utilizing my resources to help them be successful."

Le Francois's connection to Mammoth began when her parents moved here in '76.

"I moved to Mammoth when I was seven years old," she recalls, "Back in the day when the elementary school was down by the fish hatchery. That was before it was closed by an earthquake in my fifth-grade year."

Le Francois went on to attend the combined K-12 school that emerged after that earthquake, where she excelled both academically and athletically, eventually earning a Division I volleyball

scholarship to Saint Mary's College in Moraga. There, she majored in Government.

Teaching, then, was not Le Francois's original career plan.

After college, she played semi-pro volleyball in the Bay Area and considered pursuing a career in law.

But soon enough, she "fell into teaching," obtained her credential from the College of Notre Dame in Belmont, student taught at Sequoia Union High School, and remained there for four years.

"Teaching really was an accident for me," Le Francois admitted to The Sheet. "I didn't think I was going to do it permanently, but I just ended up liking it so much that I stayed in it."

Her eventual return to Mammoth was influenced by her mother's encouragement—herself a teacher, and one that actually helped open Sierra High School.

"She suggested I apply for a position back home," Erin explains. "That was in 1997. I wasn't sure if I was ready to move home yet, but I interviewed and got the job."

Since then, there have been few corners of the school unimpacted by Le Francois. She's taught AP U.S. History, AP Comparative Politics, and AP Government and Politics, in line with her

own academic background.

"Government was really more of my major," she said. "Those courses were kind of my jam."

Outside of the classroom, Le Francois proved herself to be a winning coach for the high school's cross country team and volleyball team, the latter of which she took on immediately after returning to Mammoth and later resumed in 2019 after the pandemic's hiatus. She also started the beach volleyball program at Mammoth High School—a team 3 years running in the league, and one that frequently travels to the west side of the Sierra to compete.

But through it all, Le Francois says that her students have made the job worthwhile. She describes herself as "one of those weird people that tend to get along better with teenagers than I do adults."

Some of her best memories of these past 20 years, says Le Francois, are of playing board games and cooking dinners with her athletes while traveling out-of-town for tournaments. Or, as Senior Class Advisor, chaperoning a trip of 74 teachers who were "fun to be around" and "keep you young."

"I don't have too many bad days at work...because the best thing about being a teacher is the kids," said Le



Erin Kittle Le Francois pictured with her beloved beach volleyball program at a tournament in Palm Desert.

Francois. "And the best way to get to know them is not necessarily in class, it's outside of class."

This Friday, Le Francois's daughter, Madeline, graduates from Mammoth High School and will go on to attend UCLA where her brother, Aidan, will be a senior. Le Francois also has a son, Quentin, currently attending CU Boulder.

As she approaches semi-retirement, Le Francois says she's looking forward to moving Madeline into school, spending time with her children, and joining Gerry—her "hubby"—who has been retired for the past 2 years.



EARLY SEASON PASS SAVINGS

It's time to dust off the clubs as Sierra Star golf course is **NOW OPEN**. Save on our Star Card, Season Pass, or Couples Season Pass now before prices go up.

SIERRASTARGOLF.COM



OPTIONS START AT JUST \$249

24/25 Ikon Pass holders receive exclusive savings on select passes – Call 760.924.GOLF to purchase.



SNOWCREEK GOLF COURSE IS NOW OPEN

Play all day for \$35 through June 16.





PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT

• **SATURDAY, JULY 20** •

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT RHIANNON'S KIDS

Rhiannon's Kids program supports the families of Mammoth Hospital pediatric patients who must travel outside of the Eastern Sierra for specialized medical or dental care.

PICKLEBALL COMPLEX

416 SIERRA PARK ROAD, MAMMOTH LAKES, CA

Doubles Format - A&B Brackets



SCAN ME

MAMMOTHHOSPITALFOUNDATION.COM

QUESTIONS? CALL 760-965-9954

EMAIL foundation@mammothhospital.com



calendar of events

www.MammothRealEstateBlog.com
**A Resource for Buyers & Sellers**
Hundreds of Articles & Videos
Visit today!

MAMMOTH LIQUOR
Beer lovers' candy store
Selection of more than 300 beers
NOTHING SAYS, 'I LOVE YOU, DAD'
LIKE A SIXPACK
934.6260 Main St. Next to Rick's

**The Stove**
MAMMOTH LAKES CALIFORNIA
A Mammoth Tradition
Since 1970
644 Old Mammoth Road (760) 934-2821

Offices for rent
station81.net


Affordable Italian Wine
**BEVI BENE**
Bar & Retail
www.bevibenewine.com

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 the **NBA Finals**, 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.

Fridays/
Check out Friday evening fun @ Bishop Country Club. Weekly entertainment. 4-8 p.m.
June 14-15/
Consummate entertainer, pianist Joe Gray, plays Tamarack Lodge. Time: 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Saturday, June 15/
Live music @ Stellar Brew in Mammoth. Time: 2:30-5 p.m.
Wednesday, June 19/
Elizabeth Petra plays Locals Night @ Mountain Rambler Brewery in Bishop. Starts 7 p.m.

Thursday, June 20/
Mark your calendars! **June Lake Brewing's 10th anniversary** celebration. *For details, see ad p. 3*
June 21-22/
Live music returns to Liberty with **Anthony Cullins** (blues rock) for two nights. *For details, see ad p. 14*

TOWN STUFF

Saturday, June 15/
California High School State Rodeo Finals conclude @ the Fairgrounds. Lunch's favorite event in the Eastern Sierra! *For schedule, see chsra.com*
Sunday, June 16/
The Mono Basin National Forest Scenic Area celebrates its 40th anniversary. The event will feature the screening of a new film about Mono Lake to be followed by live music. Event starts 4:30 p.m. at the Visitor Center in Lee Vining.

Tuesday, June 18/
Mono County Supervisors meet. Time: 9 a.m. Location: Board Chambers inside the Bridgeport Courthouse or online via monocounty.ca.gov - click on Government, follows prompts.
Inyo County Supervisors meet. Time: 10 a.m. Location: Board Chambers at 224 N. Edwards in Independence or online via inyocounty.us.
Volunteer Eastern Sierra's "Not Your Grandma's Bingo Night" returns yet again to the Warming Hut! Happy hour 3-5 p.m./Bingo registration starts 5 p.m. and first game at 6. This month's proceeds go to Mono County Search and Rescue. monosar.org

TOWN STUFF

Wednesday, June 19/
Mammoth's Town Council meets. Time: 4 p.m. Location: Suite Z, Minaret Mall or online via townofmammothlakes.ca.gov.
Pickup Ultimate Frisbee behind the Bishop Elementary School @ 7 p.m. on Wednesdays.
Open House at the Big Pine Library (500 S. Main St.) from 3-6 p.m. followed by the Summer Reading program kickoff at 6. Big Pine Library is open Wednesdays 2-7 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 am-1 pm starting June 22.

Thursday, June 20/
Care for your community by participating in **"Trashy Thursdays."** This week. Meet Sherwins Trailhead @ 5 p.m.

June 20-23: Mammoth Yoga Festival (ticketed event). *Info: mammothyogafestival.com*
June 21-30: Mammoth Motocross returns for year ... well, it's been happening since 1968 so you do the math. *More info: mammothmountain.com or see ad p. 4*

Saturday, June 22/
Death Valley Brill Car Train Rides @ Laws Museum east of Bishop off Hwy. 6. Time: 10 a.m. 'til 1 p.m. Experience a vintage train ride on a 1920s era motorcar. Adults - \$5. Seats for under 10 years old - \$1.

**SIERRA ELECTRIC**
Home Automation Professionals
760-920-3547
LIC# 923994

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

We will be closing our doors!
**TONI'S**
FASHION • CALIFORNIA STYLE
Thank you for helping us be a part of Mammoth for over 23 years... But it's time to move on...
EVERYTHING MUST GO!
Inventory | Furniture
Displays | Fixtures
Come and get it while it lasts!
LIQUIDATION SALE
40%-70% OFF ENTIRE STORE
10:30am - 5:30pm Daily
501 Old Mammoth Rd

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.



Footloose Sports is seeking enthusiastic and passionate outdoors lovers to fill the following positions:

- FULL TIME BIKE MECHANIC
- Rental Associates
- Part time seasonal positions
- Full time yearly positions



If you have a passion for the Eastern Sierra or just want to get your foot in the door at one of the best and largest outdoor shops in the country, please come see us now!

760-934-2400
footloosesports.com/careers
3043 MAIN ST | MAMMOTH LAKES

PERSONALS

I hope you ... got your Dad something good for Father's Day. Like a boat. A big, powerful boat. Because Dads love motorboating!

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.

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

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

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)

HEAD BARTENDER or BAR MANAGER
Fast paced well established Mammoth restaurant seeks FT individual to oversee bar services. Must have experience in inventory and personnel management. \$16.00-\$21/HR + tips, bonuses, discounts, 401(k), health and welfare and other employee benefits. Send resume or email to jobs@convictlake.com

SERVERS-SHIFT MANAGER
Well, established Mammoth Lakes dining establishment seeks experienced server. \$16.00-\$21.00/HR + tips, benefits and discounts. Send resume or email to jobs@convictlake.com



BUY AN AD NOW
Your Ad here makes you \$\$\$
Know why? People read
Call Lunch!
760.937.4613

Help Wanted

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.



JOB OPENINGS

FULL-TIME POSITIONS

*Full-time positions include competitive benefits package

- **Airport Maintenance Coordinator**
\$58,704 – \$82,602
- **Payroll/Human Resources Specialist**
\$71,269 – \$100,282

TEMPORARY PART-TIME POSITIONS

- **Recreation Program Assistant**
- **Recreation Coordinator**
- **Recreation Instructor**
\$18.50 – \$30.00/hr

For more information and to apply:
townofmammothlakes.ca.gov
(760) 965-3604

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 certificated 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

PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice of Petition to Administer Estate

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF
FRANCES E. YORK

MONO COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT CASE NO. 24PRB13

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of FRANCES E. YORK.

A Petition for Probate has been filed by MICHELE TILTON in the Superior Court of California, County of Mono. The Petition for Probate requests that MICHELE TILTON be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of decedent.

The petition requests the decedent’s will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the executor to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: July 11, 2024, 9:30 a.m., Mammoth Courthouse, Department 1, 100 Thompson Way, PO Box 1037, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546.

If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for Petitioner: Gian Carlo Simonetti, Esq. (SBN.: 279468), Wood Law Group, 126 Old Mammoth Road, Suite 203, P.O. Box 3837, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546; (760) 934-5821.

TS # 2024-0095

Notice of Public Hearing

A Public Hearing for the Mono County Office of Education’s 2024-25 Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) and Budget will be held at 4:30 PM on Monday, June 24, 2024 at the MCOE-South office, 451 Sierra Park Road, Mammoth Lakes, CA.

The proposed LCAP and Budget can be viewed starting on Wednesday, June 12th during open hours at the MCOE-South office and at the Mammoth Lakes Library, 400 Sierra Park Road, Mammoth Lakes and online under the “Current Agenda” tab at www.monocoe.org/.

Members of the public may attend the meeting to make a comment, or may submit written comments to MCOE, 451 Sierra Park Rd, Mammoth Lakes or via email to board@monocoe.org or to PO Box 130, Mammoth Lakes CA 93546 for delivery prior to June 24, 2024.

The governing board is scheduled to take action on the proposed LCAP and Budget at the regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, June 27, 2024, at 10:00 AM at MCOE-N, 37 Emigrant St, Bridgeport, CA 93517.

TS #2024-0094

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

Doe Ridge Services

Howard Schau
P.O. Box 8926, 587 Old Mammoth Rd.
Mammoth Lakes, CA. 93546

This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name listed herein. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on May 6, 2024. File Number 24-038 2024-0093 (6/8, 6/15, 6/22, 6/29)

Notice of Inspection Period

NOTICE OF PUBLIC INSPECTION PERIOD: GREAT BASIN UNIFIED AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICTAIR QUALITY MONITORING NETWORK PLAN

The Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District (GBUAPCD) has made available for inspection and public comment the following documents: Draft Air Quality Monitoring Network Plan for 2024 (Draft AMNP 2024), in accordance with Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations Part 58.10.

Copies of the Draft AMNP 2024, and supporting documents may be obtained from the GBUAPCD by email from Chris Lanane at clanane@gbuapcd.org, or by visiting the District’s website, www.gbuapcd.org, under “What’s New.”

Written comments should be sent via email to pkiddoo@gbuapcd.org. Written comments received by 12:00 noon on Wednesday, June 19, 2024, will be included in an informational item and staff report provided to the Governing Board of the GBUAPCD at its special Board meeting on Wednesday, July 10, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.Please be advised that the Governing Board will be conducting its meeting both in-person and via Zoom. The in-person meeting will take place at the Alpine County Administrative Center, 99 Water Street (State Hwy 89), Markleeville, California 96120. The teleconference will be accessible by the public via computer, tablet or smartphone at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81619291252?pwd=UHHvKzh4cjJLdEZNYVNyUjJXT2FMUT09> You can also dial in using your phone at 1 (669)900 6833, and then enter Webinar ID: 816 1929 1252. Oral comments will also be taken at this meeting. All written comments must be received by 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, July 10, 2024, to be included in the staff report presented to the U.S. EPA for their consideration and action. Comments on the plan should be sent to Mr. Phill Kiddoo, Air Pollution Control Officer, GBUAPCD, by e-mail to pkiddoo@gbuapcd.org. For further information, contact Mr. Chris Lanane, Air Monitoring Specialist, at (760) 872-8211.

TS #2024-0090

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 Superintendent Stacey Adler at 760-934-0031 or sadler@monocoe.org for information regarding the Portable. 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.

TS #2024-0079

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)

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)

Notice of Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 24-20. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MAMMOTH LAKES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO LEVY AND COLLECT ASSESSMENTS FOR ASSESSMENT DISTRICT 93-1 (JUNIPER RIDGE) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024/25

The Town Council (the “Council”) of the Town of Mammoth Lakes (the “Town”) does resolve as follows: WHEREAS, the Council previously completed its proceedings in accordance with and pursuant to the Landscaping and Lighting Act of 1972, Part 2, Division 15 of the California Streets and Highways Code (commencing with Section 22500) (the “Act”) to establish the Town’s Assessment District 93-1 (Juniper Ridge) (the “Assessment District”); and WHEREAS, the Town has retained NBS for the purpose of assisting with the annual levy of the Assessment District, and the preparation and filing of an Annual Report. NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. Intention: The Council hereby declares its intention to levy and collect assessments within the Assessment District to pay the costs of the improvements for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025. The Council finds that the public’s best interest requires such action.
2. Improvements: The improvements include, but are not limited to turf, shrubs, plants and trees, landscaping, irrigation and drainage systems, graffiti removal, and associated appurtenances within the public right-of-ways or specific easements. Services provided include all necessary services, operations, administration, and maintenance required to keep the improvements in a healthy, vigorous, and satisfactory condition.
3. Assessment District Boundaries: The boundaries of the Assessment District are as shown by the assessment diagram filed in the offices of the Town Clerk, which map is made a part hereof by reference.
4. Annual Report: Reference is made to the Annual Report prepared by NBS, on file with the Clerk, for a full and detailed description of the improvements, the boundaries of the Assessment District and the zones therein, and the proposed assessments upon assessable lots and parcels of land within the Assessment District.
5. Notice of Public Hearing: The Council hereby declares its intention to conduct a Public Hearing concerning the levy of assessments in accordance with Section 22629 of the Act. All objections to the assessment, if any, will be considered by the Council. The Public Hearing will be held on Wednesday June 19, 2024 at 4:00 pm or as soon thereafter as is feasible in the Council Chamber, Suite Z located at 437 Old Mammoth Road, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546. The Council further orders the Clerk to publish notice of this resolution in accordance with Section 22626 of the Act.
6. Increase of Assessment: The maximum assessment is not proposed to increase from the previous year above that previously approved by the property owners (as “increased assessment” is defined in Section 54954.6 of the Government Code).

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 15th day of May, 2024.
BILL SAUSER, Mayor
ATTEST: JAMIE GRAY, Town Clerk

TS #2024-0080

Notice of Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 24-21. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MAMMOTH LAKES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, APPROVING THE ANNUAL REPORT FOR PROCEEDINGS FOR THE LEVY OF ASSESSMENTS WITHIN THE SPECIAL MAINTENANCE DISTRICT ASSESSMENT DISTRICT 93-4, ZONE 1(THE BLUFFS)-MAINTENANCE DISTRICT NO. 1 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024/25

The Town Council of the Town of Mammoth Lakes (the “Town”) does resolve as follows: WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Mammoth Lakes (the “Town Council”), California, pursuant to the terms of the Improvement Act of 1911, Division 7 of the California Streets and Highways Code, (commencing with Section 5000) (the “Assessment Law”) did, by previous resolution, establish the Assessment District designated as: Assessment District 93-4, Zone 1 (The Bluffs) – Maintenance District No. 1 (hereinafter referred to as the “Maintenance District”); and WHEREAS, the Town has retained NBS for the purpose of assisting with the annual levy of the Maintenance District, and the preparation and filing of an annual report for the levy of assessments for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025 within such Maintenance District; and WHEREAS, there has now been presented to this Town Council the Fiscal Year 2024/25 Annual Report (the “Report”) as required by the Assessment Law; and WHEREAS, this Town Council has now carefully examined and reviewed the Report as presented, and is satisfied with each and all of the items and documents as set forth therein, and is satisfied that the assessments, on a preliminary basis, have been spread in accordance with the special benefits received from the improvements to be maintained, as set forth in the Report; and WHEREAS, the Town Council hereby declares its intention to conduct a Public Hearing concerning the levy of assessments in accordance with the Assessment Law. All objections to the assessment, if any, will be considered by the Town Council. The Public Hearing will be held on Wednesday June 19, 2024 at 4:00 pm or as soon thereafter as is feasible in the Town Council Chambers, Suite Z located at 437 Old Mammoth Road, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546. The Town Council further orders the Town Clerk to publish notice of this resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. The above recitals are all true and correct.
2. The Report as presented, consists of the following:
 - (a) Plans and specifications describing the

Notice of Resolution (cont.)

general nature, location, and extent of the improvements to be maintained and of the maintenance work;

- (b) An estimate of the cost of maintenance of the improvements for the Maintenance District for Fiscal Year 2024/25;
- (c) A diagram of the Maintenance District, showing the area and properties proposed to be assessed;
- (d) An annual assessment for Fiscal Year 2024/25 of the estimated costs of the maintenance of those improvements to be maintained during such fiscal year, assessing the net amount upon all assessable lots and/or parcels within the Maintenance District; and
- (e) The Town’s Contribution will be applied to offset the cost of improvements for Fiscal Year 2024/25, resulting in \$165,900 levy to the parcels in the Maintenance District.

3. The Report, as presented, is hereby approved, and is ordered to be filed in the Office of the Town Clerk of the Town Council as a permanent record and to remain open to public inspection.

4. The Clerk of the Town Council shall certify the passage and adoption of this Resolution, and the minutes of this meeting shall so reflect the presentation of the Report.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 15th day of May, 2024.
BILL SAUSER, Mayor
ATTEST: JAMIE GRAY, Town Clerk

TS #2024-0081

Notice of Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 24-22. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MAMMOTH LAKES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, APPROVING THE ANNUAL REPORT FOR PROCEEDINGS FOR THE LEVY OF ASSESSMENTS WITHIN THE SPECIAL MAINTENANCE DISTRICT OLD MAMMOTH ROAD BENEFIT ASSESSMENT DISTRICT NO. 2002-1 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024/25

The Town Council of the Town of Mammoth Lakes (the “Town”) does resolve as follows: WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Mammoth Lakes (the “Town Council”), California, pursuant to the terms of the Benefit Assessment Act of 1982, Title 5 Division 2, of the California Government Code (commencing with Section 54703), Article XIII D of the Constitution of the State and the Proposition 218 Omnibus Implementation Act (Government Code Section 53750 and following) (collectively, hereafter referred to as the “Assessment Law”) did, by previous resolution, establish the Benefit Assessment District designated as: Old Mammoth Road Benefit Assessment District No. 2002-1 (hereinafter referred to as the “Maintenance District”); and WHEREAS, the Town has retained NBS for the purpose of assisting with the annual levy of the Maintenance District, and the preparation and filing of an annual report for the levy of assessments for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025 within such Maintenance District; and WHEREAS, there has now been presented to this Town Council the Fiscal Year 2024/25 Annual Report (the “Report”) as required by the Assessment Law; and WHEREAS, this Town Council has now carefully examined and reviewed the Report as presented, and is satisfied with each and all of the items and documents as set forth therein, and is satisfied that the assessments, on a preliminary basis, have been spread in accordance with the special benefits received from the improvements to be maintained, as set forth in the Report; and WHEREAS, the Town Council hereby declares its intention to conduct a Public Hearing concerning the levy of assessments in accordance with the Assessment Law. All objections to the assessment, if any, will be considered by the Town Council. The Public Hearing will be held on Wednesday June 19, 2024 at 4:00 pm or as soon thereafter as is feasible in the Town Council Chambers, Suite Z located at 437 Old Mammoth Road, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546. The Town Council further orders the Town Clerk to publish notice of this resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. The above recitals are all true and correct.
2. The Report as presented, consists of the following:
 - (a) Plans and specifications describing the general nature, location, and extent of the improvements to be maintained and of the maintenance work;
 - (b) An estimate of the cost of maintenance of the improvements for the Maintenance District for Fiscal Year 2024/25;
 - (c) A diagram of the Maintenance District, showing the area and properties proposed to be assessed; and
 - (d) An annual assessment for Fiscal Year 2024/25 of the estimated costs of the maintenance of those improvements to be maintained during such fiscal year, assessing the net amount upon all assessable lots and/or parcels within the Maintenance District in proportion to the special benefits received; together with a formula pursuant to which such annual assessment may be adjusted annually for inflation pursuant to the Assessment Law without the necessity for additional assessment ballot procedures.
3. The Report, as presented, is hereby approved, and is ordered to be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Town Council as a permanent record and to remain open to public inspection.
4. The Town Clerk of the Town Council shall certify the passage and adoption of this Resolution, and the minutes of this meeting shall reflect the presentation of the Report.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 15th day of May, 2024.
BILL SAUSER, Mayor
ATTEST: JAMIE GRAY, Town Clerk

TS #2024-0082

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 24-23. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MAMMOTH LAKES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, APPROVING THE ANNUAL REPORT FOR PROCEEDINGS FOR THE LEVY OF ASSESSMENTS WITHIN THE SPECIAL MAINTENANCE DISTRICT NORTH VILLAGE AREA BENEFIT ASSESSMENT DISTRICT NO. 2002-2, ZONE 1 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024/25

The Town Council of the Town of Mammoth Lakes (the "Town") does resolve as follows:

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Mammoth Lakes (the "Town Council"), California, pursuant to the terms of the Benefit Assessment Act of 1982, Title 5 Division 2, of the California Government Code (commencing with Section 54703), Article XIII D of the Constitution of the State and the Proposition 218 Omnibus Implementation Act (Government Code Section 53750 and following) (collectively, hereafter referred to as the "Assessment Law") did, by previous resolution, establish the Benefit Assessment District designated as: North Village Area Benefit Assessment District No. 2002-2, Zone 1 (hereinafter referred to as the "Maintenance District"); and

WHEREAS, the Town has retained NBS for the purpose of assisting with the annual levy of the Maintenance District, and the preparation and filing of an annual report for the levy of assessments for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025 within such Maintenance District; and

WHEREAS, there has now been presented to this Town Council the Fiscal Year 2024/25 Annual Report (the "Report") as required by the Assessment Law; and

WHEREAS, this Town Council has now carefully examined and reviewed the Report as presented, and is satisfied with each and all of the items and documents as set forth therein, and is satisfied that the assessments, on a preliminary basis, have been spread in accordance with the special benefits received from the improvements to be maintained, as set forth in the Report; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council hereby declares its intention to conduct a Public Hearing concerning the levy of assessments in accordance with the Assessment Law. All objections to the assessment, if any, will be considered by the Town Council. The Public Hearing will be held on Wednesday June 19, 2024 at 4:00 pm or as soon thereafter as is feasible in the Town Council Chambers, Suite Z located at 437 Old Mammoth Road, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546. The Town Council further orders the Town Clerk to publish notice of this resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

- The above recitals are all true and correct.
- The Report as presented, consists of the following:
 - Plans and specifications describing the general nature, location, and extent of the improvements to be maintained and of the maintenance work.
 - An estimate of the cost of maintenance of the improvements for the Maintenance District for Fiscal Year 2024/25.
 - A diagram of the Maintenance District, showing the area and properties proposed to be assessed.
 - An annual assessment for Fiscal Year 2024/25 of the estimated costs of the maintenance of those improvements to be maintained during such fiscal year, assessing the net amount upon all assessable lots and/or parcels within the Maintenance District in proportion to the special benefits received; together with a formula pursuant to which such annual assessment may be adjusted annually for inflation pursuant to the Assessment Law without the necessity for additional assessment ballot procedures.
 - The Town Contribution for General Benefit funds will be applied to offset the cost of improvements for Fiscal Year 2024/25, resulting in \$130,572 levy to the parcels in the Maintenance District.
- The Report, as presented, is hereby approved, and is ordered to be filed in the Office of the Town Clerk of the Town Council as a permanent record and to remain open to public inspection.
- The Town Clerk of the Town Council shall certify the passage and adoption of this Resolution, and the minutes of this meeting shall so reflect the presentation of the Report.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 15th day of May, 2024.
BILL SAUSER, Mayor
ATTEST: JAMIE GRAY, Town Clerk

TS #2024-0083

Notice of Public Hearing

A Public Hearing for the **Mammoth Unified School District (MUSD)** 2024-2025 Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) and Budget will be held on Tuesday, June 18, 2024, at 6:00 PM.

The proposed LCAP and Budget can be viewed at the Mammoth Unified School District office at 461 Sierra Park Rd, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546 beginning June 13, 2024, from 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Members of the public may submit written comments to Mammoth Unified School District, PO Box 3509, Mammoth Lakes CA 93546 for delivery prior to June 18, 2024, or via email to cmolina@mammothusd.org. The governing board is scheduled to take action on the proposed LCAP and Budget at the regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, June 20, 2024, at 6:00 PM.

TS #2024-0087

Notice of Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 24-24. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MAMMOTH LAKES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, APPROVING THE ANNUAL REPORT FOR PROCEEDINGS FOR THE LEVY OF ASSESSMENTS WITHIN THE SPECIAL MAINTENANCE DISTRICT BENEFIT ASSESSMENT DISTRICT NO. 2014-1 (MAMMOTH VIEW) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024/25

The Town Council of the Town of Mammoth Lakes (the "Town") does resolve as follows:

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Mammoth Lakes (the "Town Council"), California, pursuant to the terms of the Benefit Assessment Act of 1982, Title 5 Division 2, of the California Government Code (commencing with Section 54703), Article XIII D of the Constitution of the State and the Proposition 218 Omnibus Implementation Act (Government Code Section 53750 and following) (collectively, hereafter referred to as the "Assessment Law") did, by previous resolution, establish the Benefit Assessment District designated as: Benefit Assessment District No. 2014-1 (Mammoth View) (hereinafter referred to as the "Maintenance District"); and

WHEREAS, the Town has retained NBS for the purpose of assisting with the annual levy of the Maintenance District, and the preparation and filing of an annual report for the levy of assessments for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025 within such Maintenance District; and

WHEREAS, there has now been presented to this Town Council the Fiscal Year 2024/25 Annual Report (the "Report") as required by the Assessment Law; and

WHEREAS, this Town Council has now carefully examined and reviewed the Report as presented, and is satisfied with each and all of the items and documents as set forth therein, and is satisfied that the assessments, on a preliminary basis, have been spread in accordance with the special benefits received from the improvements to be maintained, as set forth in the Report; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council hereby declares its intention to conduct a Public Hearing concerning the levy of assessments in accordance with the Assessment Law. All objections to the assessment, if any, will be considered by the Town Council. The Public Hearing will be held on Wednesday, June 19, 2024 at 4:00 pm or as soon thereafter as is feasible in the Town Council Chambers, Suite Z located at 437 Old Mammoth Road, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546. The Town Council further orders the Town Clerk to publish notice of this resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

- The above recitals are all true and correct.
- The Report as presented, consists of the following:
 - Plans and specifications describing the general nature, location, and extent of the improvements to be maintained and of the maintenance work.
 - An estimate of the cost of maintenance of the improvements for the Maintenance District for Fiscal Year 2024/25.
 - A diagram of the Maintenance District, showing the area and properties proposed to be assessed.
 - An annual assessment for Fiscal Year 2024/25 of the estimated costs of the maintenance of those improvements to be maintained during such fiscal year, assessing the net amount upon all assessable lots and/or parcels within the Maintenance District in proportion to the special benefits received; together with a formula pursuant to which such annual assessment may be adjusted annually for inflation pursuant to the Assessment Law without the necessity for additional assessment ballot procedures.
 - The available Maintenance District funds will be applied to offset the cost of improvements for Fiscal Year 2024/25, resulting in \$6,000 levy to the parcels in the Maintenance District.
- The Report, as presented, is hereby approved, and is ordered to be filed in the Office of the Town Clerk of the Town Council as a permanent record and to remain open to public inspection.
- The Town Clerk of the Town Council shall certify the passage and adoption of this Resolution, and the minutes of this meeting shall reflect the presentation of the Report.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 15th day of May, 2024.
BILL SAUSER, Mayor
ATTEST: JAMIE GRAY, Town Clerk

TS #2024-0084

Notice of Public Hearing

EASTERN SIERRA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT PUBLIC NOTICE. As required by Education Codes 42103, 42127, and 52062, the governing board of Eastern Sierra Unified School District will hold a public hearing to solicit public comment on the 2024-2025 proposed Budget of the District, and the 2024-2025 Local Control and Accountability Plan prior to final adoption.

The Special Board Meeting will take place Tuesday, June 18, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. at the District Office, 231 Kingsley St., Bridgeport, Ca 93517.

The Budget and Local Control and Accountability Plan can be inspected by the public beginning Friday, June 14, 2024, during the hours of 8 AM and 4 PM, at: Location: District Office Address: 231 Kingsley St, Bridgeport, CA 93517 and will be available on Gamut Online once the agenda has posted.

TS #2024-0092

Notice of Vacancies

NOTICE OF VACANCIES. MAMMOTH'S PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION AND PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that three terms of office on the Planning and Economic Development Commission and three terms of office on the Parks and Recreation Commission will become vacant.

The terms of appointment are for four years and will expire on July 31, 2028.

The Planning and Economic Development Commission meetings are scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on the second Wednesday of each month. The Parks and Recreation Commission meetings are scheduled for the first Tuesday of each month at 2:30 p.m.

Interested parties should file an application with the Town Clerk on or before Monday, June 24, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. Application forms ("Application for Public Appointment") may be obtained from the Town's website, www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov; Town Clerk at the Town Offices, Minaret Village Shopping Center; by emailing jgray@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov or by phoning 965-3602.

Dated: May 31, 2024
Jamie Gray, Town Clerk

TS # 2024-0089

Notice of Public Hearing

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE MAMMOTH LAKES TOWN COUNCIL will hold a PUBLIC HEARING on Wednesday, June 19, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. at the Mammoth Lakes Town Council Chamber, Minaret Village Shopping Center, 437 Old Mammoth Road, Suite Z, to consider the following:

Update the Schedule of Fees and Charges for Town Services, including fees for building, public works, and planning permits and services, public safety processing and services, recreation programs and services, and administrative products and services.

All persons having an interest in the proposed schedule may appear before the Town Council either in person or represented by counsel and present testimony or may, prior to said hearing, file with the Town Clerk written correspondence pertaining thereto. Pursuant to Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice or in written correspondence delivered to the Town of Mammoth Lakes at, or prior to, the public hearing. For additional information, please contact Town Manager Rob Patterson by telephone at (760) 965-3601 or email at rpatterson@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov.

BY ORDER OF MAMMOTH LAKES TOWN COUNCIL
Dated: May 31, 2024
Jamie Gray, Town Clerk

TS #2024-0088

Notice of Public Hearing

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE MAMMOTH LAKES TOWN COUNCIL will hold a PUBLIC HEARING on Wednesday, June 19, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. at the Mammoth Lakes Town Council Chamber, Minaret Village Shopping Center, Suite Z, to consider the following:

Adoption of Fiscal Year 2024-25 Budget.

All persons having an interest in the proposed public hearing may appear before the Town Council either in person or represented by counsel and present testimony or may, prior to said hearing, file with the Town Clerk written correspondence pertaining thereto. Pursuant to Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice or in written correspondence delivered to the Town of Mammoth Lakes at, or prior to, the public hearing. For additional information, please contact Town Manager Rob Patterson by telephone at (760) 965-3601 or email at rpatterson@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov.

BY ORDER OF MAMMOTH LAKES TOWN COUNCIL
Dated: May 31, 2024
Jamie Gray, Town Clerk

TS # 2024-0086

PERSONALS

I hope I don't see you ... on the solstice. Because why make the longest day of the year even longer?

I saw you ... said that nine holes is like getting naked without having sex. Is that another reason why they call it Blowcreek?

I saw you ... turned down a job with the Lakers. Smart choice. The Lakers make me Hurl(ey).

VICTOR v. MORRIS

By Addison Alvarado

Last week, the Mono Superior Court heard a security deposit dispute between Makena Victor and Nick Morris.

In August 2023, Victor rented a studio in Morris's home with her dog. The agreement was informal, with only a rental application and \$1,000 security deposit serving as the basis for the open-ended studio rental.

Victor described intolerable conditions during her short tenancy in Morris's studio.

According to the former tenant, there was reported hostility from Morris, both verbally and through text messages. According to Victor, the power frequently shut off for 24 hours at a time, there was no trash can or dumpster, there were hot water issues in the studio, and no heat throughout her stay.

Victor gave Morris less than 30 days notice of her departure, agreeing to pay rent until January 15th. Still, on January 1st, Morris changed the locks, terminating the agreement. Victor had to involve the police to retrieve her belongings, and Morris allegedly left them outside without informing Victor.

Morris accused Victor of damages to the studio walls and floors due to her dog. He claimed that he never treated her with hostility, cooperated with the police, and insisted that a concrete agreement should've been in place.

Judge Magit found insufficient evidence of damage, noting the lack of documentation, and consistent miscommunication.

The court ruled in favor of Victor, reimbursing her security deposit of \$1,000.

Morris was adamant, arguing with Judge Magit to convince the court that even with a lack of evidence, written documentation, and without a clear coherent claim, he was correct.

While Morris struggled to articulate his reasoning, Judge Magit reminded him of his right to appeal or file a claim against Victor instead of arguing post-ruling.



VIDEO KILLED THE RODEO STAR

By Lunch



District 3 Bareback Rider Madden Altschuler.



District 3 Saddle Bronc rider Zane Smull.

Wednesday night, June 12, Lunch stopped by the California High School Rodeo Association (CHSRA) State Finals in Bishop to get photos of the action—action that will continue through the week until Saturday, June 15.

For the full schedule of events, visit <https://www.chsra.com/high-school-state-finals>.



John Branquinho of District 5.



District 9 Barrel Racer Violet Howard



District 7's Kashlyn Martinez and Chase Grantham. Their time of 7.80 was among the leaders.

FREE LIVE MUSIC

Liberty Sports

B R & Grill

6/21 & 6/22

ANTHONY CULLINS

INCENDIARY GUITAR, ORIGINAL BLUES ROCK

6/28

PRIVATE EVENT

CALL US AND BOOK YOUR NEXT EVENT

6/29

MAMMOTH FEEL GOOD FEST AFTERPARTY

MAMMOTH'S PREMIERE SPORTS BAR & COMMUNITY FREE LIVE MUSIC VENUE



Progress Your Career at Mammoth Hospital!

We're currently looking for:

- **Preschool Program Manager**
- **Housekeeping** (Includes \$2,200 retention bonus)
- **Cook/Food Service Worker**



- Success Sharing Incentive Program
- Staff Development Programs
- Generous Retirement Match and PTO Accrual



Openings at www.mammothhospital.com | [f](#) [i](#) [t](#) [v](#)

KLUSMIRE

SUMMER SHORTS

It's time for summer shorts. When the temperature tops 100 for the first time every summer the heat torches my concentration and ambition. Long-winded, deeply researched and meticulously written articles become the domain of those with young brains still holding plenty of brain cells. That would not be me. So all we're left with are small blasts requiring minimal thinking. Unfortunately, I have to say this every summer: No one likes hairy feet in flip-flops or sandals. This needs no further explanation. The tanned (wait for it) foot soldiers of the Pacific Crest Trail army have been dropping into Eastern Sierra towns for R&R, in another sure sign of summer. (A subsection of long-distance hikers and visitors includes the hearty souls trekking the John Muir Trail, a mere ramble of 211 miles from Yosemite to Mt. Whitney.) Always fun to see this band of "who me worry?" vagabonds. Really. We'll forgive the occasional smelly hikers who arrive off-gassing a unique aroma that is a mixture of Dr. Bronner's soap, sweat, sunscreen and dirty socks and underwear. It's gutsy for anyone at any age to basically drop out of the American rat race for about four or five months and walk from Mexico to Canada. Of course, they take trail names - Zephyr, Bear Scat, Sunset - so no one really knows who they are. Kudos also go out to the nameless drivers who stop to pick up hitchhiking PCT

folks and ferry them to town or back to the trailhead. The whole hitchhiking operation is pretty amazing when you think about it. Complete strangers open their cars to other complete strangers then hang out and chat with them for a while. A rare display of humanity and kindness with a big trusting dose of why-the-hell-not/could-be-interesting. The PCTers are a happy lot, in general. In town they get a real shower, pick up new socks and underwear, sleep in a real bed, and then feast on burgers, beers, burritos and bacon after subsisting for several weeks on instant oatmeal, freeze dried chicken Alfredo and power bars. That change'll put a smile on anyone's face. The Mono Lake folks are also smiling and claiming "a win for depleted Mono Lake" as the front page headline in a recent LA Times blared. The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power only snagged 4,500-acre feet of water from the Mono Lake watershed when it could have soaked up 16,000-acre feet. That's good news. Numerous environmental groups sang the praises of LA Mayor Karen Bass who was credited with twisting the arms of those stubborn LADWP honchos to reduce flows from Mono. I'm sure she helped, but I'm also sure she doesn't deserve the environmental industry's near saintly adulation that painted her as a holy combo of Mother Teresa and John Muir. Anyway, reading the LADWP operations report reveals that the small water grab was not implemented out of the kindness of the mayor's heart, or from LADWP's love of holistic ecological management and a desire to see Mono Lake rise. The report stated, essentially, there wasn't any room for more water in any LADWP reservoirs, from LA to Crowley Lake. That lack of reservoir storage was also cited by LADWP as the reason it will send about 286,000-acre feet of water to Los Angeles via the LA Aqueduct, which is about twice as much as the long term yearly average of aqueduct exports. Those full reservoirs arrived thanks to last year's record snowpack followed by this year's 100% snowpack. Not to be too much of a buzzkill, but LADWP could change course and eventually take the full 16,000 af from Mono Basin. Buzzkill #2: LADWP folks refer to the groundwater in Inyo County as an "underground reservoir," which they openly declare will be pumped at high levels if drought arrives. Same is true of the Mono Basin. I'm betting that if there's a drought, LADWP will take its allocation of 16,000 af from the Mono Basin next year without blinking an eye, regardless of what the mayor says or the wailing from the Director of Water Scarcity Solutions for the Natural Resources Defense Council. And I'm not making up that title. Local governments and non-profit organizations don't come in for much praise around here. There is one exception, though, which proves it is still possible to

do big things well. Every spring and summer Jen McGuire and the staff, board and volunteers at the Eastern Sierra Tri-County Fairgrounds pull off a spectacular string of events, one after another with barely enough time to catch a breath or shovel all the manure. First comes Mule Days, then the Eastern Sierra Pride Festival, followed by the California State High School Rodeo Finals and then the Jr. Livestock Show and Auction. All of that happens in a month. Makes me tired just thinking about it. I ran into a friend whose teen just graduated from high school. Congrats all around. As a card carrying Baby Boomer, I had to inquire about future plans - work, school, getting the hell out of town, whatever. My friend said the kid didn't know what the future looked like. Super large, heartfelt congratulations for the kid and family not pushing the unrealistic fever dream and stern command to "find your dream, your future, your life RIGHT NOW and go get it." I said the uncertainty was great. Let the kid be a kid for a while. There's no rush, no urgency. There's plenty of time to figure out when and where to get on the soul-sucking work/life treadmill that will grind you to dust over the next 40 years. Enjoy the summer, kid. *Jon Klusmire of Bishop considers the whir and whine of a swamp cooler to be the first song of summer.*



LOCALS-ONLY AIRFARES ARE TAKING OFF.





This summer, Eastern Sierra locals get unreal flight discounts. Save up to 40% on Advanced Air with Friday and Sunday service from MMH, June 28 – Sept 2. Or save up to 10% on United with daily service from BIH to SFO, July 1 – Sept 2. Thank you for being such unreal neighbors. Learn more at [VisitMammoth.com/FlyLocal](https://www.visitmammoth.com/flylocal).



Terms and conditions apply. Rates and dates subject to change without notice.

A NEW HOME FOR *FAMILY FUN*



CREEKHOUSE
AT SNOWCREEK RESORT



ONLY THREE RESIDENCES REMAIN! CALL FOR CURRENT AVAILABILITY.

Luxury Mountain Retreats with Miles of Trails and Open Space. Clubhouse & Outdoor Spa Now Open.

3 TO 4 BEDROOMS. UP TO 2,742 SQ. FT. • SALES (760)-934-3334 • [LIVECREEKHOUSE.COM](https://livecreekhouse.com)



All information subject to change. The Snowcreek Property Company. CalDRE #01812140.
2024. All rights reserved.

ANOTHER LUXURY DEVELOPMENT BY THE CHADMAR GROUP



SNOWCREEK
RESORT