

the sheet

News, Views & Culture of the Eastern Sierra



Junior Emory Dondero will be slinging it for the Broncos this fall. For a season preview, see p. 16.

Saturday, August 17, 2024

FREE

Vol. 22, No. Bird



The charred portion of the Bishop Mobile Home Park - Tuesday morning.

NOT ALL HOORAYS FOR A REVISED SDA

By Lunch

Mammoth Lakes Planning and Economic Development Commission held a workshop Wednesday regarding the proposed revision to 2010's Snowcreek Development Agreement.

And the reaction from the general public is what one might expect.

A split between those who believe the revised SDA will be a boon for Mammoth, and those who believe the town is getting snookered, because, well, when is the town ever NOT getting snookered?

Developer Chuck Lande thinks the revised SDA is fairly balanced.

In fact, he said, "On our side, there are folks who think we gave too much away."

But longtime Mammoth

local and former Mammoth Councilman Greg Newbry has a different view.

"This is the largest project in the history of Mammoth Lakes," he began. "1,000 units. Any other resort would have hired a high-powered consultant [to broker a deal of this magnitude]," he said.

Mammoth? We did it in-house.

Newbry said given Mammoth's history of hubris and irresponsibility (see the 2008 airport lawsuit, the invisible Village parking structure which was never built, et. al.), he's nervous.

Newbry specifically asked PEDC Chair Michael Vanderhurst to confirm that when all is said and done, the decision on the SDA would "referendable."

Yes, replied Vanderhurst.

Newbry, however, wasn't wholly accurate in his assertion that the DA analysis was done entirely in-house.

The agenda packet did include a Community Benefits Analysis performed by consultant Keyser Marston Associates, which determined the value of the community benefit package at \$51 million.

The project will also include 47 units of on-site deed-restricted housing for households within the 150-200% AMI (Area Median Income) threshold.

This is the "missing middle" segment the politicians like to flap their gums about, but rarely serve.

The revised SDA would also

see LUNCH, pg. 2

WILLOW SAVED

Bishop Fire limits dangerous blaze

By Lunch

If not for the efforts of the Bishop Fire Department and a slew of supporting agencies, the City of Bishop would be a whole lot thinner.

On Monday, at the Bishop City Council's regular meeting, Fire Chef Bret Russell gave the debrief on the fire which had occurred the night before at the mobile home park on Willow Street.

According to Russell, at 8:13 p.m. Sunday (the 11th), firefighters responded to a report of three units engulfed in fire, in close proximity to other structures, with limited access for fire apparatus.

A power line was arcing and showering sparks below.

Two propane tanks had popped their tops and were blowing fire.

Tires were popping.

"Smoke, embers, extreme heat ... the BTUs were real," said Russell.

Councilmember Karen Kong said she overheard the grumbling of the doubters at the outset. "There's no way these volunteers are gonna get this under control."

And yet ...

"The beautiful part," said Russell in a follow-up interview on Tuesday, "is that we had been training on these 'close cousin' scenarios (where structures are in very close proximity). Rapid hose deployment, rapid water application ... it was beyond impressive execution. There was a breeze blowing to the southeast. It was a recipe for disaster. We could have lost a block or more."

"Thank your stars and buy a lotto ticket," he remarked.

He gave special kudos to Capt. Hector Martinez, who

led Operations during the event while Russell served as Incident Commander.

While Russell said Monday that the cause of the fire was under investigation, neighbors The Sheet spoke to on Tuesday morning had a pretty clear idea of what they thought the cause was: One of the properties which burned had an oversubscribed electrical box next to dry grass with extension cords snaking in various directions.

A source of frustration for first responders was ... the general public. The fire drew a maze of curious residents and gawkers, numbering perhaps 100, many ignoring law enforcement admonitions during the incident to edge closer for a better look.

Some even set up lawn chairs on the other side of Willow.

Police Chief Nate Derr said police got so frustrated with repeat offenders crossing safety lines that they were 'this close' to making some arrests.

"I get that everyone wants to check it out," said Derr, "but it hinders emergency response. It's a nightmare [in a chaotic situation] when you can't account for people. If we'd had to evacuate further out, we wouldn't know who's cleared and who's not [from their residences]."

Nine households were put up at the Vagabond for the night (with no charge for pets!). All but two households could return home the next day. One firefighter suffered a minor injury during the incident. Two dogs perished in the blaze.

Daced and Confused

p. 8/

Stunned? Really?

p. 4/

Take the Fork(lift)

p. 10/

Tax survey

p. 13/

Paige Turner

p. 14-15/

LUNCH

continued from page 1
guarantee operation of the existing nine-hole golf course for the life of the SDA (a 20-year extension through 2045).

The lifeline for the golf course was at least one thing folks could agree on, though Newbry snarked, “Aside from the golf course, we’re not getting a whole lot out of it [the DA extension].”

During public comment, Tom Daniels suggested that there needs to be a higher standard for the expected condition of the course.

Right now, he said, there’s no equipment, no maintenance shed, limited carts. “The golf course needs money spent on it and soon,” declared Daniels. “We need to nail down [the terms] of course conditions before we accept this.”

If the revised DA is approved, one casualty would be the par five first hole, which would have to be re-aligned and shortened because of how the project lays out.

The workshop was largely held for the benefit of the three new PEDC commissioners (Dawn Verueck, Cynthia Fleming and Lana Grand), who are expected to vote on the revised SDA at PEDC’s next meeting in September.

*By the way, 150-200% of AMI would cover a family of four making an annual household income of between \$160,000-212,000.

Speaking of snark, here’s a note I received this week from Sharon Clark. “When I read (August 10 Sheet, page 1) that TOT (room tax) revenue was about 7% down from 2022-2023 and that the MLT (Mammoth Lakes Tourism) Board had given John Urdi a 3% raise, I was dumbfounded. I asked my husband Malcolm, who is better at math than I am, ‘What am I missing’? ‘Nothing’, he replied, ‘If TOT were down 10%, the MLT Board would have given Urdi a 5% raise.’”

A late letter to include from Karen Roseme of Bishop:

Dear Editor,
Our son came to visit us in Mammoth this summer. I told him about a

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
- Paige Fisher Writer
sheetfisher@gmail.com
- Harold Hartley Curmudgeon
hart6399@yahoo.com
- Jon Klusmire Curmudgeon
jonklusmire@yahoo.com
- Spike Todd Beverage Consultant

P.O. Box 8088
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546
760.924.0048/jacklunch@yahoo.com
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couple of near misses that I had had on the bike path going up to Twin Lakes. I also told him about an emergency room trip I had last summer in which I asked the ER doctor what were the worst accidents he saw in the ER. The doctor said the worst accidents were from the bike path, not skiing or snowboarding or the bike park.

Our son who lives in Long Beach said all bike paths there have a line painted down the middle of the path. We think this could help remind riders and walkers to stay on their side of the bike path. A few arrows could help too.

Regarding State Superintendent of School Instruction Tony Thurmond’s visit to Mammoth on Thursday, he said Stacey Adler has been trying to recruit him to visit for the past six years, or pretty much ever since he assumed his current position in 2019.

Thurmond, who displayed a quick wit and a ton of charisma, was one of four children raised by an educator and single mother.

He met his father, a Vietnam vet, when he was 40.
He said he was the product of a host of government programs [and included a long and humorous description of what it’s like to eat ‘government cheese’], and that education is the great equalizer that changed his life.

One of the initiatives he’s pushing is for school districts to use surplus land they own to build workforce housing for teachers and staff.

Which is exactly what Mammoth Unified is pushing locally in its bond measure this fall.

According to an Associated Press story this week, “Thurmond has pledged financial incentives for districts that pass bonds to build staff housing, and the Department of Education is sponsoring a workshop for district officials to learn the ins-and-outs of real estate development.

His move comes on the heels of a report from UC Berkeley and UCLA that found school districts in California own 75,000 acres of developable land, enough to build 2.3 million housing units — which could wipe out the state’s housing shortage.

It also follows the Teacher Housing Act of 2016, which allows school districts to pursue funding sources for housing projects, including state and federal tax credits.”

Aside from Adler, who has served as Mono County’s superintendent since 2010 (and whom Thurmond says has been instrumental in helping him understand the needs of rural counties), Thurmond’s other local connection is through the CHP officer who serves as his full-time driver. That would be Randy Paranick, son of a former Mono County Sheriff and a proud graduate of the MHS Class of 1993.

A photo of Thurmond (running for governor in 2026) and Adler appears on page 12. Adler is retiring from her post at the end of this month.

And finally, Mammoth Rocks Event Co-Director Mark Deeds reminds that the event is next weekend.

The closer on Friday night will be Fooz Fighters, Winner of Jimmy Fallon’s network TV Series “Clash of The Cover Bands” (Episode 5) and over-all Season 1 finalist on E! Entertainment.

Saturday’s closer will be Journey Revisited! Back for a third time by popular demand, the band will play all the hits.

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LETTERS

Feeling Betrayed

Dear Lunch,

I am writing to express my extreme disappointment in our State Senator, Marie Alvarado-Gil, (SD 4), who just announced her decision to switch her party affiliation from Republican to Democrat. This is disappointing for voters who elected Senator Alvarado-Gil as a Democrat; voters trusted her to represent them and Democratic values, and she has betrayed that trust. There is a big difference between the values of the party of Trump and those of Democrats fighting to protect our basic freedoms.

She spent time in our area in May, and came to a fundraiser in Mammoth for our Democratic Congressional candidate, Jessica Morse. At that time, she gave a ringing endorsement of Jessica and all she stands for as well as what a great candidate she is for our district (CA 03), and those of us who were there had nothing but praise for the Senator. What is she thinking now? Does she still endorse Jessica, or will she throw her endorsement to Republican MAGA and Trump-backed candidate Kevin Kiley? In other words, where does she stand? We clearly do not know.

This switch in parties may be politically expedient in the short term for Senator Alvarado-Gil as she looks ahead to reelection in 2026, but sid-

ing with extremism is never the right choice. And it is a betrayal of voters' confidence in her. Who will now believe her when (if) she runs again in 2026?

Joyce Kaufman
June Lake

Judy (not in Disguise)

Hi Congressman Kevin Kiley,

I am contacting you in regard to National Thrift Store Day, August 17, 2024. In reviewing your list of thrift stores (nominated for best in District 3), I am impressed and truly amazed what they do for their communities.

However, I was surprised and disappointed that the Cast Off Thrift Store in Mammoth Lakes (Mono County) was NOT included, especially since we are in your District 3.

We, The Mammoth Hospital Auxiliary, manage and run The Cast Off Thrift Store with ALL volunteers and NO paid employees.

We have donated over \$5 million (yes—5 MILLION!) in lifesaving equipment and programmatic support since 1978 to Mammoth Hospital, a critical access hospital and the only hospital in Mono County.

Our donations to the hospital are extensive: State-of-the-art medical equipment, support for cancer patients,

see LETTERS, pg. 5

ALVARADO-GIL STRIPPED OF COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Press Release

This press release came from Senator Alvarado-Gil's this week. Frankly, I am stunned that she is stunned by the political retribution.

-Lunch

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – In a stunning display of political retribution, Democrats in the California State Senate have responded to Senator Alvarado-Gil's (R-Jackson) decision to leave the Democratic Party by stripping her of all her committee assignments and removing her from the Latino Caucus. Despite these punitive actions, Senator Alvarado-Gil remains committed to representing the people of California, and her Senate District 4.

"How far will the Democrats go because they're angry?" Senator Alvarado-Gil asked. "I can take whatever heat is coming my way and fully recognize it comes with the territory of leaving a supermajority that operates like a mob. They can attack me all they want, but the people of California do not deserve to suffer because of political vendettas."

This week, the Democrats' retaliation against Senator Alvarado-Gil raises serious concerns about the future of several key bills she is authoring to protect Californians:

- SB 268: Making Rape of an Intentionally Intoxicated Person a Violent Felony
- SB 796: Making General Threats

against a School or Place of Worship a Felony

SB 1088: Improving Water Infrastructure for Rural Communities Facing Imminent Wildfire Threats

By killing SB 268, Democrats won't care about protecting victims of sexual violence – rather, they would prefer to protect rapists who take advantage of vulnerable people.

If the Democrats axe SB 796, they would be turning a blind eye to the safety of our children and communities, allowing mass shooters to go unpunished.

Finally, Democrats will abandon rural Californians in their time of need, refusing to safeguard our water systems and prevent devastating wildfires if they don't push SB 1088 forward. This particular move will speak volumes amid their significant backing of Proposition 4 (water bonds) on this year's November ballot.

Senator Alvarado-Gil is calling on all Californians to make their voices heard. "This is not just about one senator; this is about ensuring critical legislation is not sacrificed on the altar of political retribution. I urge you to call or email Pro-Tem McGuire's office or your local senator. Let them know that you won't stand for this. We must put the people of California first."

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TAMMY HOOPER
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LETTERS

continued from page 4

continued education for hospital employees, expansion of the dental clinic, scholarships, high school achievement awards, support for pediatric patients and, of course, supporting our community with a vast selection of merchandise at The Cast Off.

Just this year we donated \$300,000 towards a new CT Scanner.

In 2022, the Mammoth Hospital Auxiliary, which runs the Cast Off, was honored by the Mammoth Lakes Chamber of Commerce as non-profit of the year.

I am aware that it's too late to include the Cast Off in your list of outstanding thrift stores, however, hopefully you will include us next year.

Judy Bornfeld, Past President
Mammoth Hospital Auxiliary

PS: Yes, we will be celebrating "National Thrift Day" this Saturday, August 17 with fun and creative sales at the Cast Off!

Not chump change

Dear Editor,

Hey, you piqued my interest in your August 3rd editorial about state car registrations, so I looked it up: 31.3 million registered motor vehicles in CA 2021. Divide by 12 (your ratio of legal to expired plates) = 2.6 million unregistered. Multiply by a \$200 registration fee (that's low, based on my nine-year-old RAV4 and 25-year-old rice-rocket truck) = \$521 million. That's not crazy money, but half a billion is still half a billion.

Enforcement cost would cut into it some, maybe 10 percent. So there's \$470 million out there. I think your hypothesis was sound. But maybe not a good way to endear yourself to the daughter (enlisting her to help gather data in triple-degree heat)?

Yet who knows, maybe some of those vehicles would just move to Texas to get out from under onerous CA regulation, each one with a pistol in the glove compartment and an AR duct-taped to the dash ...

Jeff Putman
Lone Pine



Lunch's obsession: Expired registration tags. Here's one (expired December 2022 off a Lexus!) from the Vons parking lot in Mammoth on Wednesday.

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LOCAL BRIEFS

Vehicle fire in Panamint Valley

DEATH VALLEY, Calif. – A fire destroyed a travel trailer in Death Valley National Park on Sunday, August 11.

The fire started as the vehicle descended Towne Pass toward Panamint Valley on CA-190. The driver and his wife saved their pickup truck by unhooking from the burning fifth wheel trailer. They tried to put out the fire with fire extinguishers.

The driver and his wife said they believe a propane issue near the refrigerator started the fire.

An off-duty National Park Service (NPS) employee reported the fire. Death Valley National Park is temporarily unable to staff its fire engine due to a shortage of employees with firefighting certification. San Bernardino County Fire Protection District, Mojave National Preserve, CHP, Caltrans, and the Bureau of Land Management responded to this incident.

Heat-related death at Natural Bridge

DEATH VALLEY, Calif. – A man died of heat exposure at Natural Bridge Trailhead on August 1. Peter Hayes Robino, 57, was a resident of the Los Angeles County community of Duarte. This was the second heat death this summer in Death Valley National Park.

Bystanders saw Robino stumble as he returned from the one-mile roundtrip Natural Bridge Trail. The bystanders offered to help Robino, but he declined. They said his responses did not make

sense.

Robino got in his car and drove off a steep 20-foot embankment at the edge of the parking lot. The car rolled over and airbags deployed. A bystander left to call 911. Other bystanders helped Robino walk back to the parking lot and provided shade.

National Park Service (NPS) emergency responders received the 911 call at 3:50 pm and arrived at 4:10. The bystanders said Robino was breathing until just before the park rangers arrived. NPS EMTs started CPR and moved Robino into the air-conditioned ambulance. Robino was declared dead at 4:42.

An autopsy conducted by the Inyo County Coroner found that Robino died of hyperthermia. Symptoms of overheating can include confusion, irritability, and lack of coordination. The Furnace Creek weather station recorded 119°F that afternoon.

“My condolences go out to Mr. Robino’s family and friends,” said Superintendent Mike Reynolds, who was one of the EMTs that responded to this incident. “His death serves as a reminder not to underestimate the dangers of extreme heat.”

Inyo Dump News

It seems trash talk can actually work. Inyo County famously went to court years ago with a condemnation action against LADWP in an effort to make LADWP had over the land holding the county’s three dumps (“Solid Waste

Disposal Sites” in Bishop, Independence and Lone Pine). The county leases the land from LADWP, and without title to the land the county couldn’t get grants and other long-term state and federal funding, which is a familiar story in the Owens Valley.

The county lawsuit got summarily dumped by a judge when LADWP lawyers used the winning argument saying the incompetent county might allow runoff and leeching of nasty stuff from the landfills into the groundwater which would then trash and contaminate the Sacred Source of Los Angeles’ drinking water.

Fast forward and the county and LADWP have been talking about the county just buying the landfills. And it looks like that might happen. A recent legal ad noted the Supervisors will be discussing the purchase of the three landfill sites at their Aug. 20 meeting at 11 a.m. The price is a mere \$465,965. The current Board agenda doesn’t mention that item, but there is time for an amendment.

If the sale goes through, it could be the first time in history that buying three dumps is chalked up as a massive win.

-Klusmire

CHP releases Aug. 2 accident report

The California Highway Patrol determined fault for the Aug 2. crash at the June Lake junction, in which six people were seriously injured in a two-car collision. The agency has not disclosed the identity of the person at fault, because he

is a minor.

At least four of the passengers involved in the crash – Adrian Longino, 15, Yanzel Figueroa, 14, Colton Goetz, 13, and Ethan Campbell, 14 – were minors from Mammoth Lakes.

The driver at fault had a restriction on his license which stated he “may not transport passengers under age 20 without a parent,” according to the crash report.

He was driving an F-150 northbound on US-395 when he tried to make the left turn onto Hwy. 158

Alexander Kresse, 44, was driving southbound on 395, and when the approaching truck suddenly turned in front of him, he hit his brakes but was unable to avoid hitting the truck.

The accident occurred around noon. Sabina Kresse, 42, Tobi Kresse, 12, and Arlina Kresse, 17, were also involved in the crash. They are from Gustrow, Germany, according to the CHP report.

All passengers involved in the crash were listed as suffering serious injury, except for Tobi Kresse, who sustained minor injuries from seat belt abrasions. He was taken to Mammoth Hospital.

Alexander Kresse and Colton Goetz were also taken to Mammoth Hospital.

Ethan Campbell, Yanzel Figueroa, and Longino were life flighted to Renown Medical Center in Reno, Nevada. Arlina Kresse was care flighted to Fresno Hospital for chest trauma and a potential punctured lung.

THE

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MAMMOTH OPEN

SEPT 28 & 29

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DACED AND CONFUSED

FWS Seeks Comment on Proposed Listing of Long Valley Speckled Dace
Press Release

RENO, Nevada – The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced today that it is opening a 60-day public comment period on the proposed rule to list the Long Valley speckled dace, a small freshwater fish native to California's Owens Valley at the base of the Eastern Sierra, as endangered under the Endangered Species Act.

Using the Service's Species Status Assessment framework, we determined that Long Valley speckled dace, a subspecies of speckled dace, warrants the protections of the ESA due to ongoing threats from non-native invasive fish, disease, recreation, and water diversion, geothermal development, climate change and small population size.

Long Valley speckled dace are small, often less than 8 centimeters in length, and live in cold-water to hot springs with water temperatures up to 84 degrees Fahrenheit. The subspecies once lived in seven locations within the Long Valley Caldera in Mono County. Today just one wild population exists at Whitmore Marsh near the Town of Mammoth Lakes.

"Part of the magic of the Eastern Sierra is in the wildlife that live there, like these remaining fish populations. Habitat at the six historical sites has either disappeared or become unsuitable," said Sam Luginbuhl, a fish and wildlife biologist for the Service in Reno, Nevada. "Some

of the springs have been absorbed by other water bodies while other sites can no longer support the dace due to the presence of non-native fish or modification of habitat for other land uses."

The Service works with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, the Whitmore Marsh landowner, UCLA's White Mountain Research Center, and the Inyo National Forest to conserve the existing population and potentially establish new populations in suitable locations in the area.

In 2023, CDFW, which has led local conservation of the species, recorded the highest number of the fish in Whitmore Marsh in years. In 2022, CDFW, translocated Long Valley speckled dace from a refuge population at the White Mountain Research Center to suitable habitat in the Inyo National Forest.

"While it's too soon to say if the translocated population is self-sustaining, I'm excited to work with our partners on future projects like the translocation for the benefit of Long Valley speckled dace," said Luginbuhl. "They are a special, unique fish to this beautiful area and together we'll work to help conserve them for future generations."

A 60-day comment period on the proposed rule opens August 8, 2024 and closes October 7, 2024. Information on how to submit comments can be found at www.federalregister.gov by searching for docket number FWS-R8-ES-2021-0065.

For more information about the US-FWS and the people who make it happen, visit <https://www.fws.gov/office/reno-fish-and-wildlife> or connect via [instagram.com/usfws]Instagram, Facebook, X/Twitter, YouTube and Flickr.



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SKYROCKETING INSURANCE PREMIUMS DAUNT HOMEOWNERS

By Fisher

As wildfire danger increases in California, it's becoming more difficult – and more expensive – for homeowners to protect themselves against it.

California residents face a growing threat of losing fire insurance due to higher frequency and severity of wildfires, said Chris Mokracek, Mono County's Director of Emergency Management in a presentation at the Aug. 13 Mono Supervisors meeting.

Only a third of all homes in the US are fully insured, he said.

And that sad number isn't bound to improve given the increased severity of wildfire risk in California, worsened by the effects of climate change and the cost of rebuilding.

California is ranked #1 for climate disasters, averaging an annual \$16.33 billion dollars in damages. Cal Fire reports there have been 5,195 wildland fires year-to-date as of Aug. 15.

Last month, California experienced its hottest July on record, which may have contributed to a spate of fast-spreading wildfires, according to an Aug 1 report by Daniel Swain, climate scientist at the Institute of the Environment and Sustainability.

But despite the increased danger of fire risk, the state government, through regulation, often makes it financially unfeasible for some companies to continue providing coverage because it limits the ability of insurers to raise premiums to match the increased risk, Mokracek said.

All the while, reinsurance, which is insurance for insurance companies, has become more expensive and harder to obtain due to the increased risk.

California rates, though below the national average, are high, with the average yearly cost for \$300,000 homes at \$1,405, according to the state government website.

**Of course the government makes a comp on a \$300,000 home, which as we all know, does not exist.*

Last year, California Governor Gavin Newsom signed an executive action to "strengthen and stabilize" California's insurance marketplace.

According to the language of that executive order, the situation is dire. It referenced two of the state's largest insurance carriers, representing over 27 percent of the admitted insurance market in California, had announced they would stop issuing new homeowners and commercial property insurance policies in California.

Over a third of the other market players announced plans to limit new policy origination.

The Newsom Administration released a proposal in May to increase the transparency and speed of rate change application approval timelines, and on

June 12 California Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara drafted a new policy to specifically address distressed areas.

In the meantime, though, it falls on homeowners to take action if they are dropped by their insurers, Mokracek said.

He urges people, if they're dropped by their insurers, to ask the companies if there are home improvements they can make within 75 days before their coverage expires to prevent being dropped.

Some home improvement solutions are quite inexpensive, such as installing screens to keep embers out or clearing gutters and nearby plants, but other, more important fixes can be costly.

For example, installing A-rated fire

rated roofs can prevent fire damage. Materials that comply include asphalt glass fiber composition shingles, clay tiles, concrete tiles and slate.

Mokracek said people need to expect to pay more and spend time shopping for home insurance options. In the worst case scenario, The California FAIR Plan (CFP) offers basic fire protection for people who can't find private coverage.

In certain cases, it's possible to pair a CFP policy with a "difference in conditions" (DIC) policy to fill gaps in what CFP policies don't cover.

Also at the Aug 13 Mono County Board of Supervisors meeting, board members through the consent agenda

approved a resolution determining Deputy Sheriff Scott Minder industrially disabled and eligible for industrial disability retirement.

This means he will receive \$2,304 per month until placed on the retirement roll by CalPERS at which time CalPERS begins paying the industrial disability retirement.

Industrially disabled individuals are people who contracted a job-related illness or injury, according to the CalPERS website.

The board also denied two claims submitted by Frontier on two claims for damages for damaged cables allegedly caused by Mono County digging operations.



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TOWN OF MAMMOTH LAKES

40th Anniversary

Celebration

CELEBRACIÓN DEL 40° ANIVERSARIO



Celebrate the Past – Build for the Future!
Celebremos el pasado – construyamos el futuro

Please join us to celebrate the Town's storied past and bright future on **Saturday, August 24 at Mammoth Creek Park.**

The celebration will feature music, speeches, food and drinks for purchase, complimentary mini-cupcakes, FREE play in the Mammoth RecZone, cornhole tournament, a community-wide visioning exercise, and more!

El evento contará con música, discursos, venta de comida y bebidas, mini-cupcakes de cortesía, juegos GRATUITOS en el Mammoth RecZone, un torneo de cornhole, un ejercicio de visión para toda la comunidad ¡y mucho más!

See you there!

¡Ahí nos vemos!

Saturday, August 24 • Sábado 24 de agosto
Mammoth Creek Park • 12~4pm



Scan the QR code for the event schedule or if your organization would like to participate in the festivities.



www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov/1289/Community-Events



**What Homebuyers and Sellers Should Know –
Understanding Real Estate Policy Changes:**

If you’ve been following the headlines lately, you know that the National Association of REALTORS® reached a settlement agreement with new policies that will significantly impact the real estate industry and bring two major practice changes for REALTORS® by August 17th.

Pending various information and opinions in the news about the upcoming changes we want to clarify how the new policies will impact buyers and sellers who are in the market or thinking about making a sale or purchase of a home.

First, offers of compensation are prohibited to be reflected on a Multiple Listing Service (MLS). Offers of compensation will continue to be an option consumers can pursue off-MLS through negotiation and consultation with their real estate professional.

Second, prior to touring a home, buyers working with an agent will need to sign a written agreement that spells out the agent’s responsibilities and compensation negotiated between the buyer and their agent.

We see this as a positive development for both consumers and agents. Our number one priority is to support the consumer, ensure they understand their choices while providing guidance and support thru a complicated process. These conversations will help buyers learn the right questions to ask including what role and fiduciary responsibilities the agent is going to provide to their client as a professional guide and resource.

It will also provide agents an opportunity to explain the value REALTORS® bring to a transaction including our experience navigating the many complexities involved in a real estate transaction, negotiating terms with the client’s best interest in mind, guiding clients through their contractual and financial obligations, and offering potential solutions if issues arise during the transaction. It will also provide clarification as to all the extra steps agents take that often go unnoticed to ensure a smooth transaction.

Most homebuyers historically have opted to work with a real estate agent because they recognize the value REALTORS® bring to the process. We help buyers and sellers navigate a maze of forms and complex paperwork. We connect clients with reputable mortgage lenders, home inspectors, appraisers and other professionals in our networks. And through it all, we ensure that our clients’ interests are represented in every detail from pricing and negotiations thru close of escrow.

The CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® (C.A.R.) has long supported transparency in a buyer’s relationship with their agent. While this practice change is new, our commitment to transparency that benefits consumers is longstanding in California and clearly demonstrates the value agents bring to each transaction.

I believe these changes will help our clients better understand what REALTORS® do every day. We look out for our clients’ best interest in achieving and enjoying their goal of home and property ownership. That always has been, and remains, our commitment.

Karen Nelson
2024 President
Mammoth Lakes Board of REALTORS®

THURMOND IN MAMMOTH



California Superintendent of School Instruction Tony Thurmond, pictured here with Mono County Superintendent of Schools Stacey Adler, passed through town on Thursday, speaking with local educators in the Ellie Randol Room at the Mammoth Lakes Library. Thurmond is planning a run for Governor in 2026. For more about his visit, refer back to p. 2.

MONO SALARIES UP ~12%

By Fisher

The Mono County Board of Supervisors discussed adjustments to the fiscal year 2024-2025 budget in a special session held Aug 8, 2024.

Housing, as always, was a major topic of discussion.

Originally, the budget proposed setting aside approximately \$1 million to bolster the county’s general reserve and economic stabilization fund.

However, several board members suggested reallocating this amount to the housing fund instead to prioritize addressing the county’s housing issue over increasing the reserve percentage.

The board reached a consensus to redirect the \$1 million to the housing fund, along with additional savings from policy item adjustments.

Aside from housing, the board discussed the establishment of four new positions within county administration and public works departments.

The overall expenditure for the salaries and benefits for the proposed FY 2024-25 budget is \$56.1 million, compared to the \$50.2 million allocated in the adopted budget of FY 2023-24.

That’s a near 12% increase.

Among the positions added was an initiative to turn the Solid Waste Superintendent position into an Environmental and Transportation Engineer.

This position, costing \$95,650 for the current year and \$191,300 annually, aims to advance solid waste projects and address environmental aspects of transportation needs.

The Environmental and Transportation Engineer would focus on getting the solid waste program up to speed with the environmental processing which is now required by CalRecycle.

The board showed general support for this change and have already begun recruiting for it.

Another proposal involved adding a Project Manager to the Public Works Department, with an annual cost of \$103,743.

Board members expressed strong support for the new position, with its intended purpose to be managing the new jail project and other public works initiatives.

The board also supported a proposal for a new Chief Information Security Of-

ficer, with an annual salary of \$163,868.

The board supported the addition of the position, as long as it was in-county and in-person.

Lastly, the board reviewed a proposal for a Special District Liaison position, costing \$78,624 for three quarters of the year and \$147,756 annually.

This role is intended to improve coordination with special districts.

The board generally supported the position, but some members felt it was premature to allocate funds without further analysis of the districts needs.

In terms of increased operational costs, the Human Resources Department requested \$104,000 for new software, which would increase annual costs by \$40,000.

The board supported this investment, which is aimed at improving labor law compliance.

The board also considered a proposal for a new system to process parking tickets, including an initial cost of \$15,020 and annual ongoing costs of more than \$3,000.

The Mono County Sheriff’s office currently has no ability to issue parking tickets, but said it needed to enforce it at critical areas including the June Lake and Twin Lake areas.

The program involves handheld devices which print out tickets.

Some board members raised concerns about the system’s effectiveness in applying new fine updates, which the Sheriff’s office said it would look into.

The board discussed allocating \$49,000 to support the air travel into Mammoth Lakes and Bishop, but did not reach consensus because it was not clear the entire county would benefit.

There were three external programs which asked for funding.

The board supported an annual \$15,000 contribution to the Eastern Sierra Green Business Program.

The Mono Arts Council presented a one-time ask of \$20,000 to support student art education and the Whitebark Institute asked for \$150,000 over 3 years to support a staff position dedicated to financial management and oversight of projects that enhance wildfire resilience throughout Mono County. Both were approved

SHEET SURVEY

The Sheet asked: Will you support some, all or none of the local tax measures on the November ballot

By Fisher



"As a personal trainer, I've got clients who are restaurateurs and other business owners, and at times, not to point fingers or anything, but we live here year long, and I think that those that come to visit, yeah, let's hit them in the pocketbook a little bit."

-Bohdi Silva



"I think the T.O.T. is okay. A lot of people want to get on the Airbnb thing, and the tax pays for inspectors like me to go out and do inspections and make sure everything is safe for those people to buy condos."

-Joe Cadotte



"I do a lot of the inspections for the TOT for the town. Because of the age of some of the condos here that people want to rent out, some of the lofts are not legal and you've got to spend a lot of money to look after them. So there's an issue for property owners."

-Dave Galbreath



"The T.O.T. is already very high ... I support the fire tax, I definitely think that they need it and we as a town need it. I have two kids in the school district, so I've definitely seen the effect of having a teacher shortage, so probably would support the school tax also."

-Crystal Medhurst



"I think it's important there's transparency on where [tax money] is spent, and there's public input on how it's being used. The tourism tax, it's not ideal ... there's always gonna be tension with trying to meet the needs of locals versus supporting the tourism industry."

-Patrick McConnell



"It hurts the people's pocketbooks too much. We can't afford taxes the way this economy is right now. I'm for the people not paying taxes on things because the government already has raised taxes so much."

-Betty Jo Scheibe



"The taxes for the fire department and the schools, yes. I'm not sure about the T.O.T because that's already pretty high."

-Jerri Higinbotham



"I support the fire tax, and the T.O.T. doesn't really affect me."

-Dave Fultz

***SUMMER AIR SERVICE EXTENDED THROUGH OCTOBER 6!**



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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 and extended fall service running on Fridays and Sundays, Sept 6 – Oct 6. Thank you for being such unreal neighbors. Learn more at VisitMammoth.com/FlyLocal.

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

OFF THE SLOPES

PAIGE TURNER

By Fisher

I almost never made it here - after driving more than 3,000 miles, the last fifty were the toughest.

I'll admit, I was speeding when I entered the Golden State, fueled by days of solitude on Route 50 and frequent stops at gas stations hawking "I survived the Loneliest Road in America" sweatshirts.

Four hours from the state line, a sign read "Bishop: 257 miles," which intensified my anticipation of my new life away from green, humid Vermont. My foot pressed harder on the gas.

As I drove, my palms clammy and nerves high, my 2000s mix playlist cued Miley Cyrus's "Party in the U.S.A." I laughed and let tears swell in my eyes as I belted out the familiar, now ironically fitting, lyrics.

My smile quickly died, however, when I accidentally entered the truck lane at the California Agricultural Inspection Station. There, two agents lectured me on my reckless driving.

"If you'd been going the appropriate speed, you would have noticed the signs," the agent told me.

I guess it was fitting to arrive in this new state by showing off my suburban Boston roots.

Nobody drives quite like a Masshole. I promised to be more careful, and I sheepishly turned off my radio, realizing Britney Spears now blasting wasn't helping my case.

But my humiliation was not yet over. The agent asked me if I'd noticed the cloud of smoke emanating from my car's engine, reeking of burnt oil.

I had not. With my window down, I caught a whiff of the scent for the first time.

Uh oh. I continued, acutely aware of the trail of smoke I was leaving behind me and pulled into the first gas station I saw.

In blistering 102-degree heat, I wrestled with my car's hood for ten minutes. Suddenly, my independence wasn't so exhilarating. I called my now-distant parents for help, to no avail.

"I don't know what to tell you, kiddo," my dad told me, his words breaking up through the phone.

My introduction to Eastern Sierra cell service.

I caught sight of my disheveled reflection in the window of my car door, behind which lay every single one of my earthly possessions.

I'd spent the greater part of my final

semester of college at the University of Vermont planning out how to meticulously pack my life up, bidding my friends farewell.

I thought, through careful planning, I'd be invincible from loneliness and fear. Yet, here I stood, completely alone and completely afraid.

Fortunately, my first taste of Western hospitality came quickly. Three silver-haired strangers approached me and helped diagnose my car trouble.

With trepidation, I called Milender, my future colleague, roommate, and aside from Lunch, the only person I knew in Mammoth. She made a plan to come to my rescue in Bishop.

I fumbled in and out of the convenience store, stupidly pushing on the pull door, and bought a can of oil to top off my canister.

I crawled on for another 25 miles, with my hazards blinking and speed capped at 35 mph. About 10 minutes from town, an officer pulled me over because he saw me using my phone.

On the brink of tears, I told him I was lost and was searching Google Maps for an auto shop.

He took pity on me, and I escaped with directions and no ticket, only to

find Bishop Automotive closed for the July 4 holiday.

Shaken, I took refuge in the adjacent convenience store's cool air and kind staff. They helped me reach the mechanic by phone. Milender arrived soon after, greeting me warmly despite the chaos.

As the day's events sank in, I found myself mired in self-pity, lamenting Murphy's Law and convincing myself leaving home was the worst possible decision I could have made.

Yet, upon reflection, this tumultuous start had unexpectedly bonded me with the Eastern Sierra community. I realized I'd spent a lot of energy that day focusing entirely on myself; chastising myself for my stupid mistakes and telling myself I'd marred future connections.

But with time, I took gratitude in how excellently people here handled my tribulations.

I'd found, in just a couple of hours, a number of people with impressive commitment to safety and readiness to assist others. They'd held me accountable for my actions but made sure I was okay, too.

more PAIGE, pg. 15



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→ Did you know that while e-bikes are a great way to explore Mammoth, there are steps we can all take to ensure everyone has a safe and enjoyable experience?

- The Town's paved multi-use pathways (MUPs) have a speed limit, which is a maximum of 15 miles per hour for both e-bikes and regular bicycles.
- In order to qualify as an e-bike, the vehicle must be under 750 watts. If over 750 watts, the vehicle is considered an e-dirt bike.
- E-bikes are NOT allowed on non-motorized soft surface trails. This could change in the future, but currently e-bikes are considered motorized vehicles.
- Currently, the only locations where you can take an e-bike on non-motorized soft surface trails are on the Mammoth Mountain Bike Park and the adjacent Uptown/Downtown Trails.
- You can cruise any of the dirt roads in and around Mammoth Lakes on your e-bike.
- One of the best ways to view the Mammoth Lakes Basin is via e-bike. Parking is extremely limited in the Basin and utilizing an e-bike is often the best method of access.

TownofMammothLakes.ca.gov

[f](#) Town of Mammoth Lakes

PAIGE
continued from page 14



Fiebiger and Fisher @ Alpine Garage.

This has only become more true as I've settled into my new life here. I ended up taking my car to Alpine Garage in Mammoth, where Mike fixed the oil leak and treated me like one of his daughters.

I've built friendships, attended community events and recognize familiar faces everywhere I go. I've been impressed by our readership: people care about what happens in this town. I've been asked follow-up questions on articles I've written in my short time here, yet another display of accountability.

It seems to me the more you invest in this place, the more the people give back to you, and that is a wonderful

thing to see and experience.

Community can have a lot of different implications.

By definition, it's just a group of people living in the same place or having something, anything, in common.

But ultimately, we all need support, we all need each other, and, heck, we all need to not be alone. When we feel abandoned—physically, emotionally, spiritually—that's when we find our strongest alliances. That's when we find community.

And so, though an unconventional approach, I think I truly became a local when my car broke down with all my stuff in the back.

POLICE ACADEMY 1

Press Release

The Bishop Police Department will host a Community Police Academy starting Thursday, September 19. The Academy is open to community members interested in learning how the Bishop Police Department and surrounding law enforcement agencies of Inyo County work.

The goal: To form and maintain partnerships between the community and law enforcement via education. Participants will have the opportunity to see the criminal justice system as only an insider could; learn about the day-to-day operations of the department, detectives, DUI enforcement and detection, major crimes, traffic enforcement and much more. Participants will also tour the Inyo County Superior Court and the Inyo County Jail.

Participants must be 21 years of age or older and live in the Inyo County area. The academy will be limited to a maximum of 15 students. Classes will be held every Thursday from 6-9:15 p.m., beginning Sept. 19 and ending Nov. 14.

Application packets are available at the Bishop Police Department (207 W. Line Street, Bishop, CA 93514). Deadline to turn in the application packet is Sept. 1. For more info: Sgt. David Scobie 760.873.5866/dscobie@bishoppd.org.

DISTANT BREWING HAS BEER AND CIDER AND SELTZER AND KOMBUCHA AND WINE AND BEER AND SODA AND SOUPS AND SALADS AND PIZZAS AND COOKIES AND SANDWICHES AND APPETIZERS AND BEER AND COFFEE AND LIVE MUSIC TWICE A WEEK AND AN OPEN MIC EVERY MONDAY AND BEER AND A POOL TOURNAMENT EVERY WEDNESDAY AND A MONTHLY VINYL NIGHT AND OH YEAD DID WE FORGET TO MENTION ALL THE BEER?

Mammoth Community Water District

Level 0

2024 WATERING SCHEDULE

SPRINKLER TIMES

1 a.m. - 11 a.m. & 4 p.m. - 11 p.m.

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EVEN Address							
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BINGO NIGHT

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Tuesday Aug 20th

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Open for Happy Hour 3-5pm,

Bingo registration starts at 5 pm

First BINGO game at 6:00 pm

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This month's proceeds go to:
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SPORTS

BISHOP FOOTBALL RELOADS

By Lunch

They're reminded of it every day. 42-41. For the Guests.

That was the score of last year's Division V Central Section CIF championship game. Which the Bishop Broncos played at home. A stinging defeat, punctuated by a turnover deep in Wasco territory with less than two minutes to play.

This is the fuel Coach Arnie Palu, now in his 9th year, presents his team at each practice.

And it's posted on the scoreboard every afternoon at John Schwab Field.

The message: Get better, faster, stronger and maybe the score of the next championship game will be 43-42.

For most programs, the graduation of a star QB (Boden St. Marie) would signal a rebuilding year, but Palu's Broncos have become a juggernaut (the team hasn't lost a league game since 2018).

And this year, Palu has high hopes for his new starting QB, **Emory Dondero**, whom he says, "throws the most catchable ball" of any QB he's ever had.

A Junior, Dondero was brought up to the varsity at the end of last season

and played backup QB as well as full-back and tight end.

"He's a tank ... with a cannon [for an arm]. He can make all the throws," says Palu.

And he'll often be throwing to another guy named Dondero - **Dom Dondero**, who plays tight end and also happens to be Emory's brother.

He'll also be throwing to returning Junior wideouts **Levi Derr** and **Carlos Sualdez**.

And in the backfield, 6'1", 235 lb. Senior Captain **Elijah Reynolds** finally gets his turn to regularly carry the rock.

Reynolds is also the "bell cow" of the defense at Middle Linebacker. "He doesn't come off the field on that side of the ball," says Palu.

The line is anchored by two rather imposing specimens.

Joe Lent, who set the school record in the discus in track-and-field this past spring, starts at right tackle.

And Senior Capt. **Dre Garnder**, 6'8" and 330 lb., starts at left tackle.

Of Garnder, Palu says, "From freshman to senior, Dre has made the greatest strides, mentally and physically, of any player I've ever had."

Other notables include **Nik Calde-**



At football practice on Tuesday evening, Nelo Dondero carries with lineman Nikolas Poole leading the way.

ron, another captain who plays CB/WR, and **Malachi Orrick**, a FB/TE hybrid on offense and lineman on defense.

During one memorable afternoon in the weight room, a freshman, **Hunter Daly**, set a school record (at least a record during Palu's tenure) with a back squat of 425 lbs.

He held the record for approx. 13 seconds, until Orrick squatted 430.

But that only lasted for a few hours before **Milton Michel** went for 435.

Michel, whom Palu affectionately refers to as an "absolute dog," broke his collarbone last year against Boron - but stayed in the game and even made a one-handed tackle with his other arm.

As for the games to circle on your calendar, there's Fernley for the opener (at home) on August 23. Last year's contest was a 7-0 slugfest won by the Broncos via a defensive score.

Then on September 6, Bishop hosts

Douglas H.S. ... from Juneau, Alaska!

This game was engineered by Youth Football President Aaron Berkovatz, who struck up a friendship with the Juneau coach at an 8th grade tournament in Las Vegas a few years back.

Palu says he has no idea what to expect.

"We've got film [on them] from two games ... but film is like a bikini. You can see a lot, but you can't see everything."

And then, before the league schedule kicks in, Bishop has a grudge match with Ontario Christian at home on Sept. 20.

Last year, Ontario Christian beat the Broncos 57-7.

"This is a humility game," acknowledges Palu. "And we'll learn more about our players from that game than from anything that happens in league."



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Gary Myers • Geffen Playhouse • Giovanni's • Good Life Café • Graphic Conclusions • Grizzly Ranch Golf Club • Joshua Cripps Photography
Ken Willingham • Kern River Brewing • Kern River's Edge Campground • Kerry Peterson • Krissy Sandvigen • Lenny & Larry's Cookies • Looney Bean
Mammoth Brewing Company • Mammoth Coffee Roasting Company • Mammoth Fun Shop • Mammoth King • Mammoth Lakes Film Festival
Mammoth Mountain Community Foundation • Mammoth Off-Road Adventures • Mammoth Tavern • Marrakesh Country Club • Mizata by AntiResort
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Volcom • Weird Tea/Weird Water • Whitewater Voyages Kern, Inc. • Yoga Eastern Sierra • Yosemite Axe Throwing • Yuri & Wendy Parisky**

And thank you to all of the amazing volunteers who make this event possible!

For more info on the Mammoth Hospital Foundation, contact Gardiner Miller at Foundation@MammothHospital.com.

www.MammothHospitalFoundation.com



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MAMMOTH LAKES CALIFORNIA

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Since 1970

644 Old Mammoth Road (760) 934-2821



CARSON

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(760) 512-7700

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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 **live sports**, other than across the parking lot @ **Main Street Pizza and Tap**.
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 AND karaoke every Sunday, starting at 8:30 p.m.
Main Street Pizza - See ad this page for details.

August 16-17/
The Road to Jamfest features **Guitar Hero Matthew Curry** playing the Liberty Bar in Mammoth. 9:30 p.m. both nights. No cover. *More info: See ad p. 8*

Sunday, August 18/
Cassie Dunn plays **Distant Brewing**. Music starts sometime between 6 & 7 p.m.
Live Music Sundays @ Cardinal Village Resort in Aspendell. Time: 1-4 p.m. Drinks, burgers, fries, pizza and drinks available for purchase.

Monday, August 19/
Free Concert in Bishop City Park under the gazebo 8 to 9 p.m. every Monday evening.
Open mic night @ Distant Brewing. Time: 6-9 p.m.

Wednesday, August 21/
Weekly Pool Tournament @ Distant Brewing. Hosted by Eastern Sierra Pool from 4:30-9:30 p.m.
Weekly trivia @ Main Street Pizza and Tap. Time: 6:30 p.m.

August 23-24/
Mammoth Rocks! once again @ the Village at Mammoth. Music, vendors and more. *Info: See ad p. 5*

TOWN STUFF

August 16-18/
Mammoth Shakespeare Festival, featuring two productions on alternate nights ("Merry Wives of Windsor" and "The Winter's Tale") continues outdoors at Eagle Lodge. *For more info, see ad p. x2*

August 16-17/
Mammoth Wine Weekend continues culminating in the Wine Walk in the Village at Mammoth on Saturday from 4-8 p.m. For tix/info, visit mammothfoundation.org.

Friday, August 16/
The Downtown Bishop Market takes place behind City Hall on Church St. between Warren and Fowler. Entertainment by Giacomo and Friends. Starts 6 p.m.
The Mono Arts Council presents "The Eastern Sierra Collection" artist reception & auction closing @ the Blake DeBock Gallery in the Village at Mammoth. Time: 5-7 p.m. *More info: See ad p. 10.*

August 17-18/
Sierra Business Council-sponsored "Forest Entrepreneurship Program" two-day business bootcamp. *8:30-4:30 both days. Interested? *info@sierracommons.org*.

TOWN STUFF

Tuesday, August 20/
Inyo County Supervisors meet. Time: 10 a.m. Location: Board Chambers @ 224 N. Edwards in Indy or online via inyocounty.us.
Volunteer Eastern Sierra's "Not Your Grandma's Bingo" goes off @ the Warming Hut in Mammoth. Happy hour 3-5 p.m., registration 5 p.m. Games begin 6 p.m. This month's

Wednesday, August 21/
Women's Wednesday Rides @ Mammoth Bike Park. Time: 4:30-7:00. Meet at the bottom of chair 11 to ride with supportive female instructors at any skill level. Free for women with Mammoth Bike Park passes, \$5 for those without.
Wednesday Worknights. Join the Mammoth Lakes Trail System Trail Crew to help with trail construction and maintenance. Trail work 5-7 p.m., beverages and food 7-8 p.m. Sign up at townofmammothlakes.ca.gov
Mono Arts Council's next Art and Wine class features Acrylic Landscapes, Plein Air Painting on the shore of Lake Mary. Class \$45. Info/ Register at Monoarts.org

Thursday, August 22/
"Trashy Thursdays" - lend a hand to help clean up your community. Time: 5-6 p.m. Location: Snowcreek Athletic Club.
Whitebark Institute continues its **Science on Tap Speaker Series** -

*WEEKLY TRIVIA RETURNS TO MSP! WEDNESDAYS @ 6:30

TOWN STUFF

Learn more about tree mortality and the resilience of Sierra Nevada forests with Research Forest Ecologist, Malcom North @ Liberty Sports Bar & Grill. Happy hour at 6:00 pm, with the talk beginning at 6:30 pm.

Saturday, August 24/
Wave Rave's 25th annual Skate Contest @ Brothers Skatepark in Mammoth. Register at liveheats.com/waverave. *More: See ad p. 3.*
The Town of Mammoth Lakes celebrates the **40th anniversary** of its incorporation @ Shady Rest Park. Time: 12-4 p.m. *More info: See ad p. 11.*

Wednesday, August 28/
H.E.A.R.T.S. Connection Parent Support Group meets 9:30-10:30 a.m. via Zoom. Special guest speaker on ABA (Applied Behavior Analysis). For deets, contact Ann @ 661.531.3498/ ann.bason@heartsfrc.org.



SIERRA ELECTRIC

Sean Flavin, Owner

760-920-3547

LIC# 923994

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

Lunch Specials!

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!

3399 Main Street, Mammoth Lakes, Family Friendly!

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

NO CLASS-IFIEDS/NOTICES

Help Wanted



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

Retail Sales/Inventory Associate - Mammoth \$30/hr

Construction Office Admin. - Mammoth \$22-25

Maintenance techs - Mammoth \$21-22

Line Cooks - Mammoth \$20.77

Lead Cook - Mammoth \$25-26

Property Mgr. Coordinator - Mammoth \$25-34

Housekeeper - Mammoth \$20

Laundry Attendant - Mammoth \$20

General Laborers - Mammoth \$20-25

Journeyman Plumber - Mammoth \$30-45

Trail Surveyor - Lee Vining \$25 plus mileage

Call or text 760-924-0523

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

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 application.

FRONT DESK PERSON NEEDED FOR BOOKKEEPING OFFICE. Customer service, secretarial and computer skills necessary. Heavy phone duties. Competitive pay, 401(k) profit sharing, paid vacation, holidays. Please send resume to info@butnerhoaservices.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.



SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF MONO

The Superior Court of California for Mono County invites applications for the position of

Deputy Court Clerk

in the Mammoth Lakes Courthouse

Hourly Salary Range: \$21.76 - \$34.66 DOE with excellent benefits

Application and job description available at: <https://mono.courts.ca.gov> or call the court at (760) 923-2321 or email: hr@mono.courts.ca.gov

Open Until Filled

The Mono County Superior Court is an equal opportunity employer



TAMMY HOOPER REAL ESTATE

Long Term Rental Available

Hidden Valley Village - Sunny Upstairs Studio + Loft / 2 Baths. Stylishly furnished and outfitted from top to bottom. LT Only with Month-to-Month Agreement. Move-in ready. Ideal for One Person or Couple without furniture and pets. \$2300/mo. Avail. Sept. 1st. Represented by Tammy Hooper Real Estate, DRE #01237866. Call Tammy for details - 760-937-7300

Help Wanted



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

Physical Therapist - Mammoth - Starting wage \$48.72 to \$52.16 based on qualifications. \$5,000 Retention Bonus.

Physical Therapist Assistant - Mammoth - Starting wage \$32.20 to \$34.48 based on qualifications. \$3,500 Retention Bonus.

Cook/Food Service Worker - Starting wage \$20.23 to \$21.66 based on qualifications. \$2,200 Retention Bonus.

To view more open positions and apply, please visit 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 COMMUNITY WATER DISTRICT Operations Department is currently recruiting for one permanent **Wastewater Treatment Plant Chief Operator** position. FOR APPLICATION INFORMATION/ TO APPLY: Please see the District website <https://mcwd.dst.ca.us/employment/>.



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

Full time Service Manager

Rental Associates

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

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

Fictitious Business Name Statement

The Following Entity Is Doing Business As:

Five Star Cleaning

Araceli Reyes
451 Commerce Circle, Apt. 5
P.O. Box 7361
Mammoth Lakes, Calif. 93546

This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant commenced to transact business starting April 25, 2024 under the fictitious business name listed herein. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on April 26, 2024
File Number 24-034
2024-0102 (8/3, 8/10, 8/17, 8/24)

Help Wanted

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 Entity Is Doing Business As:

Mammoth Off-Road Adventures

RBH-Services LLC
456 Industrial Circle
Mammoth Lakes, Calif. 93546

This business is conducted by a limited liability co. The registrant has yet to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on June 27, 2024
File Number 24-058
2024-0109 (7/27, 8/3, 8/10, 8/17)

Celebrating 15 Years & Counting!!



We honor this anniversary with grand appreciation & heartfelt gratitude. We could not have done it without all of you. We look forward to another 15 years of serving this amazing community!!

Nutritious & Delicious Food
Fair Trade Coffee
Healthy Smoothies
Local Eggs
Local Grown Produce
Grab & Go

5:30am-6pm daily



www.stellarbrew.life | @stellar_brew

PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice of Ordinance

TOWN OF MAMMOTH LAKES

Notice is hereby given that on August 7, 2024 the Town Council adopted an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 24-05

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MAMMOTH LAKES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, RENEWING THE TOWN'S MILITARY EQUIPMENT USE POLICY PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 7071 (AB 481).

by the following vote:

YES: Councilmembers Rea, Rice, Wentworth, Mayor Pro Tem Bubser, and Mayor Sauser
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None
DISQUALIFICATION: None

A certified copy of the complete text of the Ordinance is posted and may be read at the Town Offices, Minaret Mall, Old Mammoth Road, Mammoth Lakes, and /or a copy may be obtained from the office of the Town Clerk at a nominal charge.

Dated: August 8, 2024
JAMIE GRAY, Town Clerk
Town of Mammoth Lakes
TS # 2024-0115

Notice of Ordinance

TOWN OF MAMMOTH LAKES

Notice is hereby given that on August 7, 2024 the Town Council adopted an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 24-06

AN ORDINANCE OF THE PEOPLE OF THE TOWN OF MAMMOTH LAKES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, AMENDING SECTION 3.12.040 OF THE MAMMOTH LAKES MUNICIPAL CODE INCREASING THE RATE OF THE TOWN'S TRANSIENT OCCUPANCY TAX FROM THIRTEEN PERCENT TO FIFTEEN PERCENT.

by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Rea, Rice, Wentworth, Mayor Pro Tem Bubser, and Mayor Sauser
NOES: None
ABSENT: None



JOB OPENINGS

FULL-TIME POSITIONS
*Full-time positions include competitive benefits package.

- Police Officer - Lateral**
\$89,889 – \$109,261

TEMPORARY PART-TIME POSITIONS

- Sustainability Coordinator**
\$18.50 – \$30.00/hr

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

Notice of Ordinance (cont.)

ABSTAIN: None
DISQUALIFICATION: None

A certified copy of the complete text of the Ordinance is posted and may be read at the Town Offices, Minaret Mall, Old Mammoth Road, Mammoth Lakes, and /or a copy may be obtained from the office of the Town Clerk at a nominal charge.

Dated: August 8, 2024
JAMIE GRAY, Town Clerk
Town of Mammoth Lakes
TS #2024-0116

Notice of Ordinance

TOWN OF MAMMOTH LAKES

Notice is hereby given that on August 7, 2024 the Town Council introduced an Ordinance entitled:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MAMMOTH LAKES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, AMENDING SECTION 2.04.050 OF THE TOWN OF MAMMOTH LAKES MUNICIPAL CODE RELATED TO TOWN COUNCIL COMPENSATION.

A copy of the complete text of the Ordinance is posted and may be read at the Town Offices, Minaret Mall, Old Mammoth Road, Mammoth Lakes, and/or a copy may be obtained from the office of the Town Clerk at a nominal charge.

Dated: August 8, 2024
JAMIE GRAY, Town Clerk
Town of Mammoth Lakes
TS #2024-0118

Notice of Public Hearing

Mono County Office of Education - Public Hearing Notice for Instructional Materials.

Pursuant to California Education Code 60119 et seq. a public hearing will be held to receive input regarding whether each pupil in Mono County Office of Education programs has or will have sufficient textbooks or instructional materials, or both for the 2024-25 school year.

The hearing will be held on August 22, 2024 at 4:30 pm at the Mono County Office of Education, 451 Sierra Park Road, Mammoth Lakes, CA, the Mono County Office of Education, 37 Emigrant Street, Bridgeport, CA and via zoom <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86929994415?pwd=KaksJVZLbiKFeffkeFpwhssA5OnDIw.1>

Meeting ID: 869 2999 4415
Passcode: MCOE
or call 1 (669) 900-6833 Meeting ID: 869 2999 4415 Passcode: 011625.

Parents, teachers and members of the community interested in the affairs of the schools and programs operated by the County Office of Education are encouraged to participate in the public hearing process.

TS #2024-0117

mammoth

GEAR EXCHANGE

106 S. Main St., Bishop **(760) 873-4300**

BISHOP COUNCIL RACE DRAWS A CROWD

By Klusmire

It seems those comfy chairs on the Bishop City Council dais are much sought after.

Six candidates are looking to fill three council spots up for grabs in November.

**Contrast this with Mammoth Lakes, which drew just two candidates for its two open seats.*

In Bishop, Incumbent Jim Ellis won't be running for another term after a long-tenure on council since he will be moving to Kansas.

Incumbents Karen Kong and Jose Garcia, however, are seeking reelection.

Four newcomers to local politics will join them. Three, however, have pretty good name recognition: Dennis Freundt, co-owner of Grocery Outlet; and two members of the Schat extended family, Erick, Jr. and Sterling. (Note: Aaron and Marianne Schat are the public face of the Schat business enterprises and are locked in a legal battle with the City of Bishop over remodeling of three buildings: Whiskey Creek, the former Bank of America and former Sterling Heights.)

A sixth candidate, Tyler Beadle, is hometown, born and raised in Bishop, and a graduate of Bishop High School and Cerro Coso Community College.

He works at Inyo-Mono Title.

Oh, and he's a lot younger than the rest.

To kick off the campaign season, The Sheet asked all six candidates for a brief (four line) intro blurb, which are printed below. (More detailed coverage of the candidates will follow closer to Election Day.) The only candidate who did not respond was Sterling Schat. The Inyo County Elections Office put the wrong email address for Sterling on its candidate list, but corrected the error. The Sheet sent the info request to the correct email and left three phone messages, but did not receive a response.

Dennis Freundt

With four decades of experience in the business world (including being a business owner for the past seven), I have honed the skills and insights necessary to bring effective, practical solutions to Bishop's City Council.

Throughout my career, I have managed budgets, led diverse teams and navigated complex regulatory environments.

My extensive background in business has prepared me to tackle the economic challenges our community faces and to promote sustainable growth.

My main long-term goal would be getting the City of Bishop into the next decade with fiscal responsibility and services to support the needs of the people.

Jose Garcia

Having lived in Bishop for 35 years, and the honor of serving as your Councilmember for the past four years, I take the trust you placed in me four years ago seriously and remain committed to serving and representing all

community members.

I have voted in favor of all initiatives preparing and moving Bishop forward, laying the foundation for its growth and prosperity over the next few decades.

I have done my best fulfilling the commitment that I made four years ago of providing leadership, service, and dedication in my role as your Councilmember, and would be honored to earn your vote again to keep delivering the results that Bishop needs.

I'm committed to maintaining Bishop's best interest first; we have serious challenges in our community, that is why I look forward to continuing working on your behalf and humbly ask for your vote.

Erick Schat

My background is business development and product development.

I am a problem solver, outside the box thinker by nature and Bishop has an economic stagnation and housing shortage that has created hardships for my fellow neighbors.

My aim is to restructure our local government to create policies to better serve economic growth instead of justifying its existence at the citizens' expense.

Tyler Beadle

My name is Tyler Beadle, a local Title Officer in Bishop.

I enjoy exploring our beautiful Eastern Sierra, studying the history of the Owens Valley and volunteering my time with local organizations.

If elected, some of my goals include: Promoting business while working with local business owners, exploring affordable housing options to help locals stay in Bishop, and keeping Bishop's small town feeling we all love.

Karen Kong

I have lived in Bishop for three decades, raised my children here and now have the privilege of being the grandmother of three terrific girls and one wonderful boy.

I ran and was elected to the Bishop City Council in 2020 at the height of the COVID outbreak, and am now seeking another 4-year term.

I spent the majority of my adult life dedicated to prevention and intervention of some of our greatest societal problems.

It is part of who I am to work hard for the betterment of individuals and families, and I will continue give 100% of my energy and effort to make decisions with the health, safety and long-term stability for the residents and town in mind.



10 YEARS



MUSIC IN A MAGICAL PLACE

September 6 - 8, 2024
Gull Lake Park
June Lake, California



Meet me at the Jubilee!!



Setting the stage for local music, arts, and theater

Formerly known as June Lake Loop Performing Arts Association or JLLOPPA, June Lake Arts believes that art and music are essential to the human experience. Our Mission is twofold:

- 1) To support art and music education for Mono County youth through creative programs and opportunities.
- 2) To benefit the community by providing a diversity of music, art, and theater events in the magical place that is June Lake.

Get involved: Donate, Volunteer or Attend a event!
For more information visit junelakearts.org

WELCOME TO VENDOR VILLAGE

Featuring a variety of craft & food vendors, hand-picked by our team of Magic Makers!

RSVP FOR CAMP PLAYFUL!

Children under 12 jam for free! Don't forget to add your childs ticket to your cart while buying tickets!

Three days of of live music, vendors, food and libations in June Lake!

FRIDAY 9/6

Groovesession
8:00 - 10:00pm

The Nth Power
6:00 - 7:30pm

Lightning Dan & the Crawdads
4:00 - 5:30pm

SATURDAY 9/7

Cubensis w/ Stu Allen
8:00 - 10:00pm

Shaky Feelin
6:00 - 7:30pm

Wolf Jett
4:00 - 5:30pm

The Storytellers
2:00 - 3:30pm

Matthew Curry
12:00 - 1:30pm

Wreckless Strangers
10:00 - 11:30am

SUNDAY 9/8

Dead Funk Summit
8:00 - 10:00pm

Scott Pemberton O Theory
6:00 - 7:30pm

Katie Skene Band
4:00 - 5:30pm

The Great North Special
2:00 - 3:30pm

Sol Soiree
12:00 - 1:30pm

Alex Jordan Band
10:00 - 11:30am

MHS Jazz Ensemble
9:00 - 9:30am

Bella Rayne
Artist at Large

More info at junelakejamfest.org

Road to Jam Fest
2024 Jam Fest Artist Preshow

Matthew Curry
August 16th & 17th
at Liberty Sports Bar & Grill
in Mammoth Lakes, CA

Stay “in the loop” follow June Lake Jam Fest on Facebook & Instagram!

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

The Sheet · Traveling Spirits · Project Barley · Mountain Rambler Brewery · Laguna Beer · June Lake Brewing · Events.com · Liberty Bar
T-Bar Social Club · High Sierra June Lake · DJE Productions · JLL Women's Club · E-Lux Bikes · Playful Designs · Mono County Tourism
June Lake Arts · Arianne Weiner · Whispering Pines · Rainbow Ridge · Snowcreek Resort · Boulder Lodge · Adventure in Camping



THE ABCs ON THE AFC

By Hartley

Can you feel it? Can you feel it ... can you feel it? Like the famous philosophers - the Jacksons - once sang, can you feel it? The NFL season is almost here.

This week, the AFC preview.

AFC SOUTH. The South will rise again. So the Trumpies - the MAGGOTS - believe.

Titans 5-12. I know you aren't supposed to think every team will suck but there are only so many games in the season and somebody has to suck for teams to win 11 games. The Titans are banking on Will Levis at QB and ... that's all. They signed RB Tony Pollard. I guess putting him back in a situation where he IS NOT the lead back is good, but they don't have a lead back. They have two guys to share the role of average back. They did get a father and son duo as head coach and OL coach. That doesn't sound promising. How is the dynamic when the son says to the dad ... SHUT THE F UP AND LET ME LEAD THE TEAM OLDHEAD. YOU WERE A HEAD COACH ONCE, HOW DID THAT TURN OUT?

Colts 9-8. The head coach seems to have a grip on what he is doing. How-

ever, the owner is a pill-popping, liquor swilling idiot. You can only succeed so much when the top of the pyramid is a mess. Interested to see the QB Anthony Richardson grow this year. If only the owner will keep his mouth shut ...

Texans 10-7. Love the QB, CJ Stroud. They've also got a good thing going but the owner is just lurking, waiting like a Trump MAGGOT for a reason to pounce. He will say something stupid and it will all be over. WR Stefon Diggs will, at some point, pop off about everything NOT being about him and the drama begins. Diggs will be traded to the Steelers by midseason so he can end up in the land of WR divas who the head coach is supposed to be able to 'fix' but never does.

Jaguars. Meh. 9-8. QB Trevor Lawrence continues to carry the "potential" label and a giant bag of money the Jags gave him, while performing more like a GUY than a generational talent. Coach Doug Pederson gets run out of another job. This is another team with a jackass owner and a jackass son as an executive who run the 'family business' like spoiled rich, brats would.

AFC WEST. Or the Chiefs Division.

Broncos, oh the Broncos 7-10. Denver - the playland of Coach Sean Payton. He has taken over the team and the Denver media. It's all great to them, until his surly wannabe Bill Parcells persona is paired with him winning NOTHING for a couple years. Then the media will turn on everything they love right now. That said, QB Bo Nix will probably be good in his system. Someone said the other day Nix looked really good. He threw the ball 21 times for 125 yards. So ... he tosses a lot of short passes. He put up a bunch of points on the Colts second string defense - maybe third string. He wasn't playing Dink And Dunk. He was playing Dink and Dink. And scoring on the Colts first string defense aint tough so playing the second string is like practicing against Rosamond. The (Bishop) Broncos out up 55 on that squad last year.

Chiefs 12-5. They've got Mahomes and Reid so there are 10 games won. Then they have the idiot Raiders in their division talking smack for no reason. So add two wins there. 'Nuff said.

Chargers 10-7. Overly optimistic, but too late to revamp it now. Looks like the QB is hurt. New Coach Harbaugh will bring toughness and enough common sense to win some games. But if Herbert is Hurtburt this win total drops to 6 rapidly. They are already in need of talent and without a decent QB they will have to direct snap the ball to 4 RBs in the backfield and let them play rugby all season.

Raiders ... Suck. 5-12. They are having Aidan O'Connell and Gardiner Minshew wage a QB competition? So, your QB will either be a guy who looks like he gets the meat sweats from eating too much pot roast at the Golden Corral buffet versus a wayward Jhorts-wearing hillbilly. Meanwhile, the head coach is busy trying to prove he is from Compton instead of someone leading a billion dollar corporation.

AFC EAST

Patriots 5-12. And that's being generous, seeing as they just unloaded their best defensive player for a 3rd round draft pick next year. They couldn't wait to get the stench of Belichick's reign off of them with his 6 Super Bowl wins and all. It was time for him to go, but not time for them to try and eliminate all he did. They are one of the teams desperate to sign WR Brandon Aiyuk - is he supposed to save them? They are slow and unathletic. They have a rookie QB who barely played in the first preseason game? Why?

Bills 10-7. Paper champions. QB Josh Allen is immensely talented but will always have that one moment during a big game where you shae your head. I can say HE IS BETTER THAN TUA.

Dolphins 10-7. Lose every game where the temperature is less than 70 de-

grees. Which means they don't win in the playoffs. Giving Tua that massive contract was a mistake. He's mediocre against the better teams.

Jets 8-9. The Aaron Rodgers experiment ends with everyone getting fired. Except the idiot owner who keeps putting together these circus environments every year. I wish they would go 5-12 but their defense is probably good enough to get them to 8 wins. I wish Rodgers would get addicted to ayahuasca and crawl into a cave somewhere and disappear. Sick of seeing his smug-ass face. He's the NFL version of Donald J. Trump.

AFC NORTH.

Browns 9-8. The coach always seems to make something out of nothing. Good thing, too, because that's what he has. A bunch of overpaid clowns on his roster. Between QB Watson and WR Jeudy he has a duo of the most overpaid, sorry players in the league. The defense is the best in the league ... in home games. When they go on the road, they couldn't stop Aidan O'Connell and/or Gardiner Minshew.

Bengals 10-7. I probably overshot on this one considering QB Joe Burrow could get hurt eating oatmeal. They proclaim themselves the Chiefs biggest rival. They WENT to a Super Bowl. the Chiefs WON 3 Super Bowls. Math don't add up.

Ravens 11-6. The regular season world champions. The regular season MVP. They should hang up banners for that. Then another postseason loss.

Steelers 8-9. Oh boy. They have a heated battle between two QBs (Russell Wilson and Justin Fields) who can't throw in the middle of the field and take more sacks than they complete passes. I have never seen two QBs more happy to spoon with defensive linemen than these two. Except Matt Ryan - he used to just back into them and spoon so nicely. The Steelers are the other desperate team trying to land Brandon Aiyuk, which I can't understand when their OCs philosophy is that they can run the ball 90 times a game and not have a WR at all. Ah, the Steelers. A ragged, mediocre franchise that is mired in the 1970s. No, that isn't right. They won in the '70s They are mired in the '80s now when they had Mark Malone and Cliff Stoudt and Todd Blackledge as QBs.

Russ Wilson is already hurt and during his absence everyone was clamoring about how Fields would take the job. He is doing his best to give the job away. Fumbled twice and took 2 sacks in a preseason game. How long did he even play? Fuck the 8-9 Steelers. Why do they need Aiyuk when they don't even have a QB? The Steelers need a 4-13 season to slap them in the face and wake them up. REBOOT!

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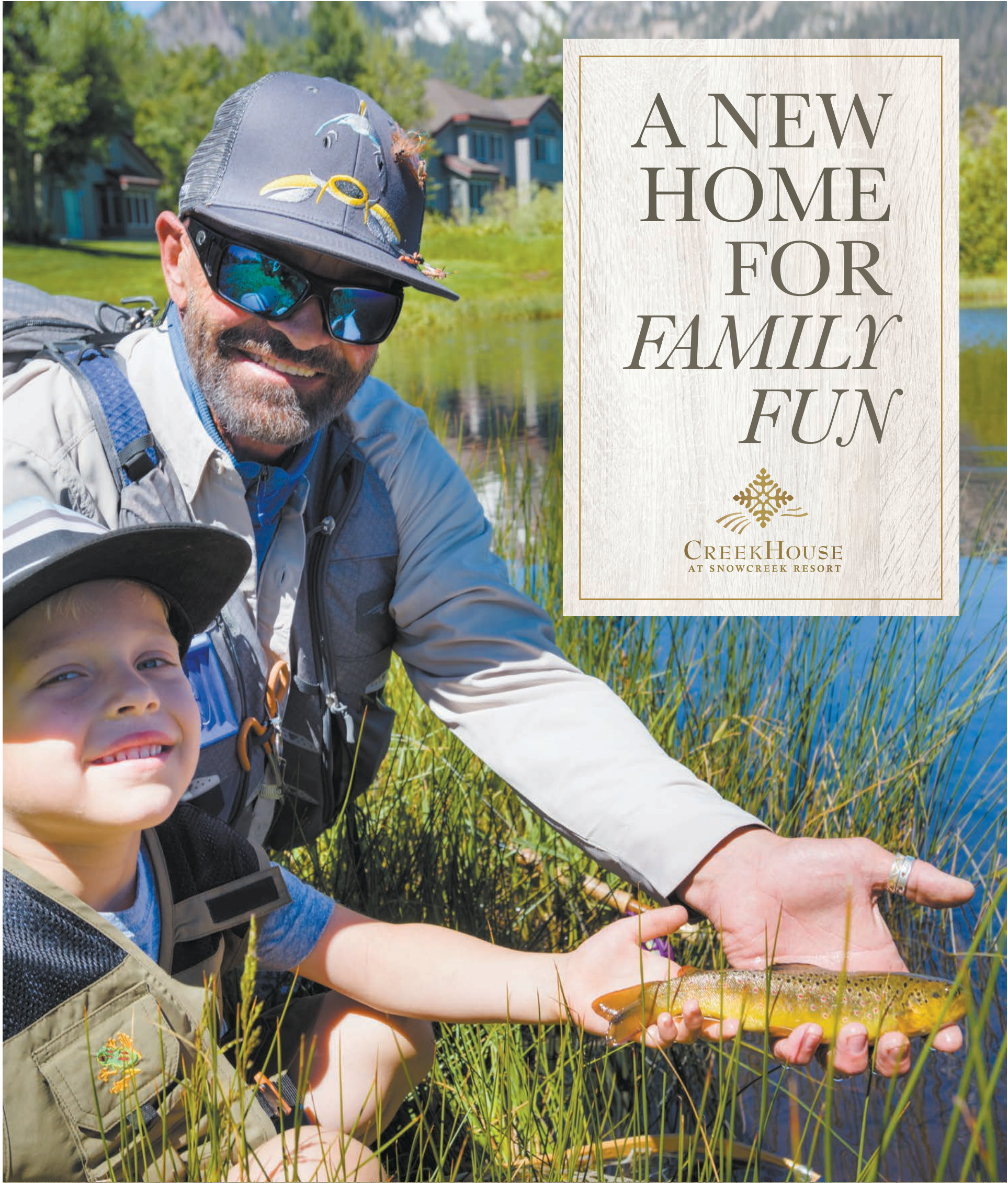
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