

the sheet

News, Views & Culture of the Eastern Sierra



PHOTO GAYLA

The inimitable Duane Rossi, flanked by Maggie Denton and Forest Bell, served as head chef for the Inyo Associates dinner held at the Bishop Elks Lodge on Monday

Saturday, October 26, 2024

FREE

Vol. 22, No. 43

TOP VOLUNTEER

Jeff Frome recognized for service

By Fisher

For ten years, Jeff Frome (pronounced Fro-me) was the “Beer Man,” tapping donated Tioga-Sequoia Brewing kegs at parties for his drunken climbing buddies in Yosemite, causing headaches for National Park Service staff.

“It was fun... it was too much fun,” he said. “We had to stop it; we were too drunk. I mean, they gave a ticket to somebody on a bicycle.”

When I met Frome on Tuesday, his long white beard spilled out from under a sun-spotted baseball hat. He had just been chosen as a recipient of the 2024 Yosemite Volunteer of the Year Award.

Frome has been a climber his whole life, even in the sixties, when “if you walked around with a rope, people would look sideways at you.” He attended many events in Yosemite and became friends with Ken Yager, who was a climbing guide at the time.

In 2004, during a guiding trip, Yager saw that someone had pooped on a rock leading up a bouldering route.

“There was poop everywhere because they didn’t have a lot of bathrooms on the roads going into the valley,” Frome said.



Jeff Frome (center) at his award ceremony

“It was disgusting.”

Outraged, Yager launched an annual campaign to clean up the park – what’s now known as the Yosemite FaceLift program. The effort began small, just an assembly of climbing guides, but has since grown to become one of the largest volunteer efforts in the National Park system.

Frome got involved in the program’s third year. The ragtag group of climbers would gather, pick up waste, and then throw big parties.

“When we started, we weren’t very sophisticated,” he said. “We picked [poop] up with our pickers and put it in our trash bags; when we had to sort the trash, it was really bad.”

Early on, the group “deep cleaned” the park, walking every road and picking up trash, including leftover logging cables, old asphalt, and pieces of metal way out in the woods.

The NPS was involved from the start, but the staff initially had a strained relationship with the rock climbers, likely due to those rowdy parties, Frome said. That conflict posed a challenge for the FaceLift volunteers. In fact, the NPS almost stopped the movement altogether multiple times.

One issue was that the NPS considers anything over 50 years old on the ground in a National Park to be an artifact, which is protected under federal law. So FaceLift volunteers started accidentally picking up “artifacts,” Frome explained.

Because archaeology was so important to the NPS, the staff threatened to end the program. As a career forester with a background in archaeology, Frome began educating each volunteer on leaving artifacts

more FROME, pg. 8

ESCA RUN/WALK



Photographer Gayla Wolf was out and about last weekend at Eastern Sierra Cancer Alliance’s annual run/walk for breast cancer. For a few more photos, see page 17

SURVEYING THE MESA

By Fisher

On Wednesday, I climbed aboard a six-seater plane and slipped on a noise-canceling headset in preparation for a half-hour flight out of Lone Pine Airport over the Mojave Desert, to get an aerial glimpse of Conglomerate Mesa — a parcel of land steeped in controversy, sacred significance and gold.

I boarded the aircraft around 9:15 a.m., the second flight of the day. Inyo County Supervisor Jennifer Roeser squeezed in behind me, followed by Jaime Lopez Wolters, Friends of the Inyo Desert Lands Organizer. Dan Berry, a candidate for Inyo County Supervisor, took the passenger seat.

Gary Kraft was our pilot, and the flight was hosted by EcoFlight, a Colorado-based company specializing in public land advocacy.

The front propeller whirled as we rolled onto the runway. Kraft said the wind was perfect as we advanced towards

the hills to observe a Joshua tree forest—a growing rarity in today’s warming world.

In my headset, Wolters’ voice rang loud and somewhat clear, cutting out occasionally. He mentioned that Joshua trees at lower elevations—i.e., Joshua Tree National Park—are struggling to survive in hotter temperatures, making this region vital for the endangered keystone species.

At 9:40 a.m., Wolters announced that Conglomerate Mesa was in view to our left. We turned our heads to catch our first glimpse of the highland. Kraft took a wide turn to circle around it.

Conglomerate Mesa, named for its rock formation (conglomerate) and topography (mesa), holds a rich history for several tribes.

“There’s definitely something up there, there’s a frequency to it. It’s a real mysticism,” said Jeremiah Joseph, Big Pine Paiute Tribe member, who came

to the tarmac on Tuesday but didn’t fly.

But the land also has a long history of mining operations.

Modern exploration of the area began in 1984 with the discovery of gold by Mobil. Since then, several companies, including Newmont and BHP, have explored the mesa.

Canadian company K2 Gold, along with its subsidiary, Mojave Precious Metals, began exploratory digging on the land in 2020. K2’s recent comprehensive work is the most extensive since 1997, expanding the number of exploration areas on the property from three to twelve, according to K2’s website.

They have submitted an expanded proposal requesting miles of new road be constructed to access the Mesa, as well as 30 additional drill sites, totaling 120 drill holes, according to the Friends of the Inyo website.

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Volleyball soars

p. 18/

Hooray for jury duty

p. 19/

Bullish on the Bayers

p. 13/

Pro consonant

p. 4, 6/

Meted punishment

p. 2/

SO ... WHAT IS IT REALLY FOR?

I thought I might take a breather this week while Mssrs. Wentworth, Thompson and Escobar made their tax pitches (on pages 4 & 6 respectively), but ... there's always a fly in the ointment.

The fly in this case was a short note from Mono County Supervisor Lynda Salcido. I'll include the relevant excerpt here:

"A thought on Measure K, the County TOT measure. Actually, it would bring in about 3 or 4 million for use in the housing programs, although as pointed out, not specifically dedicated to housing as the vote required is really tough to get. The track record of the BOS, however, has indicated a real dedication to housing needs. The County doesn't have a budget structure anything like the Town, in fact, last week we were told that the additional costs for the new jail were going to be \$6 million to even be able to go out to bid for the construction. This new jail was mandated by the State when the new law requiring jail updates came out years ago and the amount we were given was before Covid and rising building costs. A real smack to the County in being able to pay for this and any housing ventures. Agreed, a TOT increase is not my ideal idea to get housing funds, but it's one of the few tools the County has at its disposal."

I read the above as a fairly clear signal that the County has bills to pay and the easiest way to pay them is to raise taxes.

And while Salcido is careful to say the tax hike would go towards housing, it's pretty clear where that money is actually gonna go.

To housing, sure. For criminals.

But at least she can claim a "state mandate" for the inevitable bait-and-switch.

As opposed to the Town of Mammoth. In the Town's case (see opposite page), there's a shiny new office building (among other elective wants) to pay for.

It is somewhat ironic that Rusty helped drive us into the ditch regarding the airport lawsuit (which we still owe \$19 million in principal on). In the wake of that debacle, he urged the Town to grow itself out of the mess. So for better or worse, we threw a whole bunch of money at marketing. And continued to throw A LOT of money at marketing long after it became obvious that we needed to shift gears. And now that we're obsessed with housing, I would argue once again that there needs to be some deftness in leadership,

the
sheet

News, Views & Culture of the Eastern Sierra

"These are people of the land. The common clay of the New West. You know ... morons."

-The Waco Kid
from Blazing Saddles

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and some pivot.

The housing we've built is the low-hanging fruit which comes with federal and state handouts and all the strings attached. There is a place and a market for it. I'm sure the Mountain is thrilled.

But it's so odd to think that we have housing which requires annual income verification to ensure that none of the residents become more successful. Instead of incentivizing people to work harder and make more, we're instead incentivizing them to jog in place. 25-30 hours a week. Don't make too much! Don't take the promotion! Because then you don't qualify and you're out on your ass.

What a strange, backwards notion.

You know what incentivized me those many years ago when The Sheet was in its nascent stage? I lived in a series of roommate situations which were in turn fun and trying and exhausting and at a certain point, I just had to liberate myself. Which meant making more money and busting my ass and reaching for the unattainable.

Similarly, it's hard to imagine VanLifers living in the vans forever.

**Okay, some snark. Eventually their Boomer parents have to die, right?*

There was a good chance at that moment I was gonna fail and leave. That happens. I mean, I'd failed at everything else to that point. That was the norm. But Mammoth was my Last Chance saloon. And as Dylan says, when you ain't got nothin', you got nothin' to lose.

I got a good lotto number and qualified for the first affordable housing development at Meridian Court.

The way it worked then was down payment assistance.

They priced the condo at a whopping \$359,600. Probably \$600/foot (in 2006!). Funny money.

And gave me \$159,600 in down payment assistance via some federal program.

And then I came up with 5% of the remaining \$200,000 and took out a loan at 7.4% from Countrywide, so my payment was something like \$1,300/month. I recall \$1,307 somehow.

The unit was deed-restricted. When you sold (back to Mammoth Lakes Housing), the price was set based on the increase in CPI, and the down-payment assistance was rolled into the next qualified buyer on the housing list.

Of course, only two of us sold at Meridian Court before the Great Recession occurred, and ... no one had contemplated what would happen when the CPI went negative and the Town's budget blew up and they couldn't afford to buy back the units anymore.

And if they didn't buy back the units, the deed restrictions were removed. Which didn't really matter. Those units were so underwater that many of my former neighbors, who didn't want to live there forever, got tired of waiting for a market rebound and walked away.

The law of unintended consequences.

So it's hard not to wonder what the law of unintended consequences has in store in the near future.

Will The Sawyer turn over? Or will there be lifers? Will it represent a transitional phase to something better or a dead-end?

The idea of building higher AMI (120-150%) units on Joaquin for \$750,000 apiece and selling them with deed restrictions at \$500,000 seems like even greater folly than Meridian Court.

You shouldn't have to, in essence, write \$250,000 checks to people to get them to want to live here.

What I'm trying to say is, the town's strategy of grab for every possible dollar to throw wildly at the nearest wall is no strategy at all. And this idea that others (tourists) will pay for it all without consequence is absurd. Higher taxes = a dangerous boomerang. Just ask the guy who lost a hand in Mad Max



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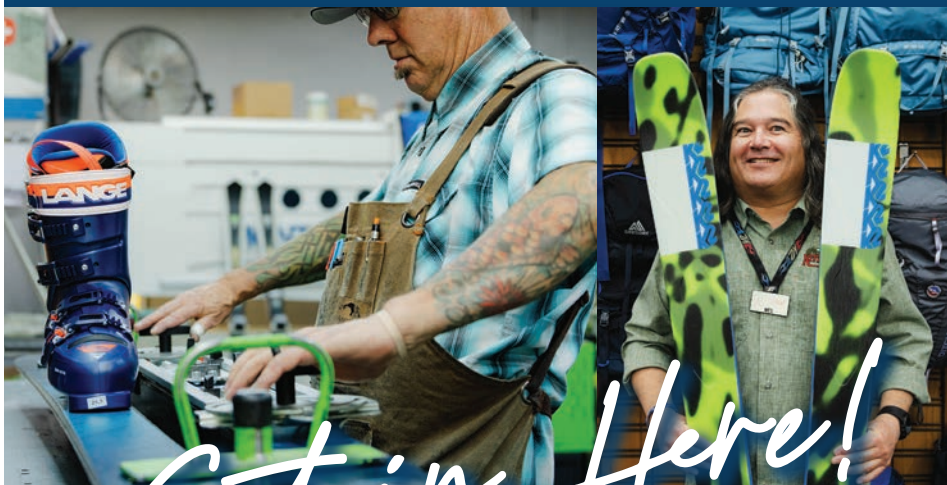
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COINCIDENCE?



Town of Mammoth Lakes New Civic Center Design

The Town of Mammoth Lakes seeks to raise the TOT rate by two points (or 15.5%) via a November ballot measure.

The Goal:

Raise \$40 million over ten years

The Stated Cause:

Build more workforce housing

Meanwhile...

The Town of Mammoth Lakes just broke ground on a new civic center to house its staff (see rendering above).

Estimated Price Tag:

\$30 million

So, where's the money really going to go?

LETTERS

Housing and Public Safety

Dear Editor,

Let's take a clear-eyed look at the current ballot measures in Mammoth Lakes and what's at state with two emerging themes, housing and public safety. Let's start with public safety. Our climate has changed. Sitting at over 7,800 feet, Mammoth Lakes is the highest incorporated jurisdiction in the State of California. We are uniquely exposed to the threat of natural disasters. Let's not forget the winter of 2022 / 2023 where the Mammoth Lakes Fire

Protection District (MLFPD) rose to multiple challenges to protect property and save lives in Mammoth Lakes. And the growing threat of wildfire in this new climate represents yet another new reality. Paraphrasing former Mammoth Fire Chief Frank Frievalt in his excellent Oct. 12 letter to the Sheet: 1) we are currently getting "too good of a deal from MLFPD;" 2) by doing so, we are ignoring very real threats to public safety; 3) if we continue to rely on our under-resourced arrangement with MLFPD, then let's be prepared to a) create an entirely new and adequately fire district; or b) the Town creates

a brand new fire department from scratch for triple the cost; or c) turn a failed situation over to CALFIRE with the promise of no future local control. The MLFPD is a brave and professional volunteer fire department. The Inyo National Forest has cut its wild-fire fighting capacity to the bone with more cuts on the way. Our new climate is telling us that this is not where we need to be. Measure M will provide just shy of \$1 million annually for the MLFPD to cut community fuel breaks and create defensible space from wildfire, coordinate operations during local emergencies, enhance reliable MLFPD staffing, and maintain critical equipment. An exemption from the cost of the measure will be available for low-income seniors 65 and older. It will automatically expire after nine years. And the MLFPD also needs housing.

Delivering affordable housing is no longer optional for the community of Mammoth Lakes. We are being hollowed out; the community can't afford to live in its own town. With housing challenges of its own, Bishop today reminds us of Mammoth twenty years ago - vibrant and alive, you can feel the pulse. Like all communities in the Eastern Sierra, Mammoth Lakes needs people and people need affordable places to live.

The Housing Now! Mammoth Lakes program is delivering. Google it. 135 units of workforce housing already including leases to locals, with 107 units in development and 114 more in the pipeline. Housing Now! is funded through partnerships with Eastern Sierra Community Housing, restrictive grants from the state and the federal government, and - wait for it - \$39 million in unrestricted TOT from our local recreation driven tourist economy. Visitors from all over the world are helping to pay for community housing in Mammoth Lakes. The Economist

writes "... the American economy is the envy of the world..." and "...the American economy has left other rich countries in the dust." TOT numbers for Mammoth Lakes bear this out, with yet another record setting month this past August.

The Mammoth Lakes Chamber of Commerce supports Measure L. Local businesses need to start up, create jobs, grow and thrive for us all. Town Council put Measure L on the ballot at the recommendation of a citizens advisory committee to close out the housing moratorium earlier this year while preserving the right to legally rent short term and protect local homeowners' equity in their property. Funding Community Housing is a key recommendation of the Community Housing Action Plan funded by Mammoth Mountain. But let's be clear, Community Housing investment doesn't belong in the same conversation with timidity and caution channeling vague worries from tourism consultants. Community Housing requires bold community action based on proven results and community trust. Don't be fooled. Turn the page on anonymous well-produced editorial cartoons, ignore yesterday's conspiracy theories. Measure L will raise the TOT rate on visitors and tourists who stay in hotels and local short-term rentals, generating unrestricted funding to support Housing Now! Mammoth Lakes. It will not increase taxes on local residents. It will sunset and automatically expire after ten years.

Let's open our eyes and vote Yes. Yes for Measure M and public safety and Yes for Measure L and Community Housing Now! in Mammoth Lakes. There's no going back. The future is calling.

John Wentworth, Councilman
Mammoth Lakes

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Deadline: October 31, 2024

Email submission to: ready@inyocounty.us

LETTERS

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Vote YES on J to Improve Schools

Dear Editor:

Measure J will fund essential repairs

at all four local schools: Mammoth Elementary, Mammoth Middle, Sierra High, and Mammoth High. These upgrades will enhance our children’s classrooms, protect our home values,

and support our local economy. Measure J extends the current school bond tax rate but does not increase it.

Local Control & Protections for Taxpayers

Measure J guarantees that bond funds will stay local. In other words, Measure J dollars can’t be taken by the state and spent elsewhere. Our locally elected school board will make decisions on spending. All spending will be publicly disclosed and reviewed by an independent citizens’ oversight committee of local residents like you and me, providing full transparency.

Improvements at Every School

Measure J will prioritize important classroom and school repairs and upgrades throughout the district, including:

- New heating, ventilation, filtration, and air-conditioning systems to provide safe and comfortable learning environments
- Classroom and facility upgrades, including adding early kindergarten and preschool facilities
- Constructing a field house to provide a safe and climate-controlled location for physical activity and sports year-round
- Enhancing accessibility to meet the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards

Measure J will also authorize building teacher and staff rental housing, a critical step to ensure Mammoth USD can attract, hire, and retain highly qualified educators and staff, especially in a community with limited housing and high housing costs. This will allow teachers and staff to live in and be part of the community. The rental housing will be offered to teachers and staff at reduced rental rates. The project will be funded by Measure J and rental income and will not jeopardize the district’s general fund. Most importantly, any housing project will require thorough study and board approval to ensure its cost-effectiveness and that it is in the best interest of the district and the community.

Why Your YES Vote Matters

Measure J is about more than improving schools; it’s about strengthening our community and ensuring our children have the best possible learning environments and resources. A strong school system attracts families to our community, boosts property values, and creates a foundation for a prosperous future for everyone. Let’s join together to protect and improve this valuable community asset.

Alonso Escobar & Marty Thompson
MUSD Board

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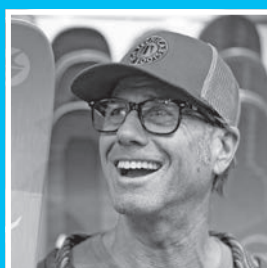
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RYAN SELIGMAN



DEAN WOLFE



MILES LAFAYETTE

FROME
continued from page 1

behind.

Slowly, the rapport began to improve. “I poured beer with the superintendent on multiple occasions,” Frome said. They all had the same goal, ultimately: it’s all about the park.

The FaceLift gatherings look different today than they did when Frome got involved in the 2000s. For one thing, there were fewer people back then. “In the evenings, we’d have these presentations with the best climbers in the world, and there were only like 30 or 40 of us sitting in the auditorium,” he said.

Over time, those evening gatherings had a line out the door, and the fire department had to regulate the number of people allowed in. As the program grew, sponsorships came in, and they started holding a raffle.

They also began regulating the amount of beer people could drink and replaced the kegs with cans.

“I’m disappointed; I liked the kegs,”



Frome said, reminiscing. There are now FaceLift days in mountain towns and national parks all over the country, including Joshua Tree National Park and Rocky Mountain National Park.

The award ceremony was held outside, with Frome’s wife, daughter, son, and grandchildren in attendance. It was a great honor to be recognized.

He and his friends were in the right place at the right time to create something special, he said. The core group is aging. Some have died, some are in poor health, and some just can’t make it anymore. But some, like Frome, are still going year after year.

Now, they’re starting to pass the torch to younger generations. He wiped a tear from his eye and told me about his son, who makes custom surfboards that he raffles off at the FaceLift functions.

“We need to get new blood in there,” he said. “God, we’re gonna make it work; it’s gonna keep going.”

Frome moved permanently to Mammoth Lakes twelve years ago in retirement. He quickly became an active volunteer for Disabled Sports Eastern Sierra and started participating in shows through the Sierra Classic Theatre Company.

“I’m obsessive-compulsive,” he said. “So when I involve myself in something, I do it head over heels.”

Frome is currently rehearsing for the



Frome (left) participated in a 2019 April Fool's spoof with SCT's Chuck Scatolini, as they put hair dryers to tee box #1 at Snowcreek.

Sierra Classic Theatre Company’s annual Murder Mystery, which opens on November 7.

He also contributes to the arts financially, thanks to a foundation his father started. His family has a lucrative business owning and managing industrial property in Southern California, which has allowed him to support local organizations.

Most of his contributions go toward

disabled sports, the two theater groups in town, and the Mono Arts Council.

“I’m pretty happy,” Frome told me at the end of our interview. “I have managed to get a lot done in my life.”

Oh! And an update on the Yosemite poop – it’s still a problem, but not as pervasive, Frome said. Education has helped mitigate the issue.



LISTEN

To Your Doctor

There needs to be continuity and familiarity with the **Mammoth Hospital expansion**. Mammoth Hospital providers strongly recommend re-election of the current board members of Southern Mono Healthcare District.

Re-elect!

Alex Clowes

Laurey Carlson

Ryan Wood

This advertisement is paid for by members of the medical staff of Mammoth Hospital and was not authorized or paid for by Mammoth Hospital, or a candidate for this office, or a committee controlled by a candidate for this office.



HUSKY OF THE WEEK

LET'S CELEBRATE THE HARD WORK & DEDICATION OF OUR LOCAL YOUTH



THOMAS LACKEY

Introducing the Husky of the Week, Senior, Thomas Lackey. In Mammoth High's recent game in "The Pit" at Trona, Tommy had an excellent performance on both sides of the ball. At wide receiver and tight end, Tommy had 4 catches for 73 yards and a touchdown, he also had 5 total tackles, one TFL and 2 interceptions!

Off the field we can always expect Tommy to go above and beyond as an honor student with a 4.44 GPA and being enrolled in college courses. He excels at school all while participating in multiple sports each season. Tommy also plays MHS Boys Basketball while also being on the MHS Ski Race team at the same time during winter, and in the spring Tommy has participated in Track and Baseball. **Congratulations Tommy, keep up the hard work and commitment in all aspects of life and you will go far after High School.**

NOMINATED BY JESSE WORDEN (MHS VARSITY FOOTBALL HEAD COACH)

Husky of the Week is brought to you by High Country Lumber

LUNCH

continued from page 2

Speaking of state mandates, I attended the Indian Creek/Westridge Community Services District meeting on Wednesday.

Members of the District had to decide whether or not to approve a whopping 51% rate increase to help pay for AB 552 mandates, specifically, that every one of the 298 connections in the district requires a meter by 2032.

The meter installation is estimated to cost \$1.2 million, or \$4,000 per resident. The Indian Creek CSD has not had a rate increase since 2018.

Terry Tye, Indian Creek's system manager, says the state is broke and there are no grants available.

His theory is that the statge is trying to force small community service districts into consolidation with larger entities.

But that comes with a price. They'd assume ownership of everything you had - your wells, your water.

"If you like the taste of chlorine in your water, let's join the city," groused Louis Elia.

Most members of Indian Creek's CSD apparently don't. The vote against the rate increase (and AB 552 compliance) was a loud ~73%.

Meter compliance isn't required by AB 552 until 2032. Tye had suggested getting the project done now because he anticipates it'll cost a lot more later.

Some residents had such disdain for the state mandate that I imagine they'll die by 2032 just so they don't have to pay

STAR POWER

By Fisher

“How is it that you want your fire?” Taro Pusina, White Mountain District Ranger, asked a group of twenty-four Starlite neighborhood community members in the Bishop Cerro Coso Community College Meeting room on Wednesday evening.

“Because we’re going to get it,” he continued. “I personally choose to have it – to the best of our ability – on our terms”

The meeting started at 6:00 p.m., when Lisa Cox, Public Affairs Officer for Inyo National Forest, showed a four minute YouTube video titled, “dramatic, heart racing footage as firefighters escape incineration during California Wildfire.”

Staff of the Inyo National Forest called the meeting to discuss the Starlite Fuelbreak project, which was implemented under the authority of the Bishop Creek and Pine Creek Fuels Reduction Project to create a fire buffer on the federal land to protect the community.

Initiation for the project began in the wake of the 1998 Tom Fire, when community members of the Starlite neighborhood reached out to the Inyo National Forest to work on a fuel reduction project to help protect them from wildfire threat.

The project proposal from that outreach conducted work on the northern and southern boundaries of Starlite, while the Starlite Fire Safe Council worked on the east and west boundar-

ies, working as a team towards compliance with the California Homeowners Hazard Abatement Program

In 2013, the program grew beyond the Bishop Creek watershed to also include the Pine Creek watershed, Cox said. By 2016, the project went out for public scoping and in January 2018, The White Mountain Ranger District created a Decision Memo for the project.

“

How is it that you want your fire?

”

- Taro Pusina

”

The action for Starlite, as listed in that Decision Memo, was to “create defensible space on Federal lands bordering Starlite (where there are structures near the public-private land boundary) for a minimum of 100 feet.”

The agency is now tasked with increasing the pace and scale of their fuels reduction work, and are prioritizing the project, Cox said.

So far, about eight acres on the northern section of the border has been treated and another 45 acres of mow-

ing are planned for around Starlite for this winter and into the next couple seasons.

The west side of the community was not originally included in the plan because it wasn't bordering any structures, but they've morphed the plan a bit to include some portions of the west side. Some of the forest on the west side is sparse enough that work is not necessary.

The east side, portions of the west side, and half of the south side are slated to be treated. The southwestern section of the project has a fence, the adjacent land of which can be solidly mowed.

“It's worth mentioning that we don't have any treatment funding this next fiscal year,” said White Bren Townsend, Mountain District Fire Management Officer. “We'll have firefighters, but we don't have any money to buy the stuff we need.”

The staff urged the Starlite community to restart the Fire Safe Council.

District 4 Inyo County Supervisor Jennifer Roeser also spoke at the meeting to announce the county had launched the Genasys system, a new emergency alert system that law enforcement uses in case of disaster, to replace the old system, Code Red.



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HEALTH

MANY RURAL CALIFORNIANS LACK ABORTION ACCESS

And if you live in Bishop, you're more than 200 miles to the nearest clinic

BY Lauren DeLaunay Miller

Two years ago, California voters overwhelmingly decided that all residents should have access to reproductive health care, including abortion, and enshrined this right in the state constitution. It wasn't just coastal liberals that supported the measure: Counties in the rural north, Central Valley and Sierra Nevada all voted in favor of the proposition despite also voting largely for Republican offices. But despite the law, residents in many parts of the state still struggle to access reproductive health care. About 40 percent of California counties do not have an abortion clinic. Most of these, including Del Norte, Siskiyou, Trinity, Plumas, Sierra, El Dorado, Tuolumne and Inyo and Mono counties, are rural areas where the lack of access can leave residents with few options.

While order-by-mail medication and telehealth appointments have become more accessible in the last few years, rural patients sometimes still have difficulty getting accurate information about the reproductive health care services that are available to them. One solution, health advocates say, could be to allow nurse practitioners and nurse midwives to perform abortions,

as approved by the California legislature in 2022. While advocates hope this will help alleviate the shortage of providers, the challenge some rural areas face isn't in finding a provider with the skills to perform abortions, but the will and space to do so.

Inyo County, in the Eastern Sierra, has one of the worst access landscapes in the state, with most of its residents living more than 200 miles from the nearest abortion provider. Many residents may not know what services are or are not available until they need them and may be surprised when they realize that not all Californians can easily access abortion care, despite the role of the state in advocating for access.

For K. (who requested that we with-

hold her name to protect her privacy), the news that she was pregnant last year came as a shock.

K. was living in Bishop with her long-term partner, and she thought they were doing what they needed to do to avoid getting pregnant. But, that spring, after she learned she was pregnant, she decided to seek an abortion.

K. assumed that she'd be able to seek care at the Women's Health Clinic at Northern Inyo Hospital in Bishop, a place she'd received other medical care

in the past. But when she called to make an appointment, the clinic told her that they were not able to provide abortions that the clinic deems medically neces-

sary. K. was surprised that abortions weren't accessible across California given the state's vocal support for access. K. began researching the nearest clinics. After realizing that she'd need to travel more than 200 miles — likely requiring a stay in a hotel and many hours of travel — she and her partner decided that they'd seek care in Seattle, where they were planning to visit soon. There was a clinic close to where they'd be staying, and it seemed more comfortable to have a home, not a hotel, to recover in.

K.'s procedure went smoothly, but because of the lack of access in Bishop, she had to wait a few weeks longer to have the procedure. K. is content with her decision, but the weeks she spent waiting for and seeking care made the experience much more difficult, both physically and emotionally. "It could have been easy," she said.

And yet, K. acknowledges how much harder the situation can be for others without the resources she has. She worries about low-income patients, those with work and family responsibilities,

more ACCESS, page 11

“
Dr. Kim fears that offering elective abortion services could draw negativity or attacks on patients or fellow providers
”
-Miller



DID YOU KNOW?

→ Did you know that the Town has a variety of housing projects and programs separate from The Parcel that target higher income earning households (the “missing middle”)?

- The BRIDGE Program utilizes existing housing stock to create opportunities for local income-eligible households to purchase deed-restricted affordable units. Four units ranging in size from 1-bedroom to a 2-bedroom plus loft are currently available for households earning up to 150% of the Area Median Income.
- The Town's Small-Site Development efforts are focused on the creation of infill development projects on various sites throughout the Town. The first project is located at 60 Joaquin Road and features four units that will be ready for purchase in spring 2025.
- The Lease to Locals program operated by Placemate is focused on converting existing short-term rentals or vacant homes into long-term rentals by offering a one-time incentive payment of up to \$18,000 in exchange for renting the property to a local, income-eligible household.
- The future Phase 3 of The Parcel will add up to 42 affordable ownership units and is tentatively scheduled to break-ground in spring 2025.

All of the above programs target households earning between 150%-200% of the Area Median Income (AMI) for Mono County (household income of ~\$142K-\$190K for a household of three).

For additional information on ownership opportunities, please contact Eastern Sierra Community Housing at 760-934-4740 and for additional information on the Lease to Locals program, please visit placemate.com/mammoth.

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ACCESS

continued from page 10

and those in abusive relationships, who may not be able to access reproductive health care. The Eastern Sierra’s remoteness is also complicated by the lack of comprehensive public transportation, which makes traveling out of the area more difficult.

Dr. Martha Kim, one of Northern Inyo’s obstetrician-gynecologists, explained the role of small-town politics in making difficult decisions about the availability of reproductive health services, for a story we reported in 2022. Dr. Kim fears that offering elective abortion services could draw negativity or attacks on patients or fellow providers, and despite her personal support for abortion rights, believes that it is, unfortunately, the best thing for the community to only provide pregnancy terminations that the clinic deems medically necessary.

And while abortion rights are not explicitly on the ballot this November in California, new data from the Deliberative Democracy Lab at Stanford University shows that reproductive rights are paramount to first-time voters. In a sample of young voters from across the country, about 80 percent opposed the idea that Congress should pass a nationwide ban on medication abortion. Both Republicans and Democrats supported the idea that the U.S. federal government should create protections for abortions when the pregnancy threatens the mother’s life, and Democratic and Independent voters also supported

a law ensuring access to abortion on a national basis.

Despite Californians’ vocal support for abortion access in 2022, little change has been seen in rural parts of the state. The state passed a series of bills, also in 2022, to strengthen abortion access, and experts are hopeful that allowing nurse practitioners and nurse midwives to perform first-trimester abortions without a doctor present will help in rural areas. But while shortage of providers is a contributing factor in many rural parts of the state, it isn’t the only issue. Dr. Kim and the staff at Northern Inyo Hospital in Bishop are trained and equipped to provide abortions, yet they only do so selectively.

The state also launched a website to help people find their nearest abortion clinic, but as we reported in 2022, the site, through the organization AbortionFinder, uses straight-line directions that provide inaccurate information to many rural residents. In Bishop, for example, the site claims Fresno as Bishop’s nearest clinic, at 89 miles away, while Fresno is actually more than 200 miles away driving in the summer when roads through the mountains are open and more than 300 miles away in winter when those roads are closed. Despite acknowledging the problem in 2022, state officials have not updated the website.

Medication abortion, available in California via telehealth, is also an important resource for rural residents.



NIHD’s Rural Health Women’s Clinic does not offer abortion services

Today, more than half of abortions are performed via medication, but doctors and patients emphasize that medication is not always a substitute for an in-clinic procedure. Many patients prefer to be treated in-person, and some doctors say that the surgical procedure can be quicker and easier than taking the medication. Additionally, the medication method is limited to the first ten weeks of pregnancy.

Despite the shortcomings of Cali-

fornia’s abortion access in rural areas, patients like K. and doctors like Dr. Kim are still grateful that seeking care did not come with legal repercussions, as it can in some states. Still, they know it’s not easy for patients. In some areas, said Dr. Kim, it’s a resource limitation, but in Bishop? “It’s a social limitation.”

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PHOTOGRAPHER: Jack Affleck

MESA
continued from page 1

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Ridgecrest Office, which manages the land, plans to produce an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in March to determine whether K2 can move forward with its plans. During the initial public scoping period for K2's exploration, the BLM received 23,800 comments.

After the EIS is complete, the BLM will open another public comment period. Local groups hope to use this time to rally against it.

"We will generate a tremendous amount of public opposition to the project: we will organize a protest or two, put letters to the editor in papers, appear at the annual county supervisors' meetings, and submit a 30-40 page technical comment letter," said Wendy Schneider, Executive Director of Friends of the Inyo.

The 1872 mining law, passed during the gold rush era, designates mining as the highest and best use of public land, Schneider noted. However, the State Mining and Reclamation Act (SMRA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) impose restrictions on this law, requiring the BLM to consider alternatives, including a "no action alternative."

Once the public comment period ends, the BLM will count and code the comments for relevance, DeSenze explained. "Sometimes, people send comments about future possibilities, like an open mining operation. Well, that's not what we're analyzing here, and that would be a lot of conjecture."

That is an important distinction—K2 is not currently seeking a permit to begin mining the gold, but some believe the



expansion indicates that mining may be on the horizon.

The Mesa. Photo courtesy EcoFlight

If K2 were to eventually mine the mesa, they would do so through cyanide heap leaching, Schneider said.

In cyanide heap leaching, the ore is crushed into small pieces and piled into heaps, and a dilute cyanide solution is sprayed onto the heaps, allowing the cyanide to separate the gold as it percolates through the ore.

This can be extremely degrading to the environment and would require a massive dig of the mesa. Wolters described the idea as, "turning the mountain upside down."

Given the mesa's long history of drilling, Friends of the Inyo and their partners are also interested in pursuing permanent protection for the mesa through a National Monument campaign but have not yet pursued that option.

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SO YOU THINK YOU DON'T LIKE BUGS?

By Jen Bayer

Bugs!? They sting and bite! They eat our food, our forests, and even our sweaters! At one time or another, almost all of us just want them to go away.

As it turns out, they are going away. Worldwide insect populations have declined by nearly half over the past forty years. Here in the Eastern Sierra, many of us see the evidence of this on our windshields.

But wait, once insects are gone what will pollinate our apples and apricots, our Sierra asters, monkeyflowers, and shooting stars? What will break down deadwood, fallen leaves, and animal waste? What will trout and songbirds eat? Edward Wilson, an ecologist who devoted a lifetime to studying these questions, has warned, "If all mankind were to disappear the world would regenerate back into the rich state of equilibrium that existed ten thousand years ago. If insects were to vanish the world would collapse into chaos."

Insects are 80% of all known species of animals and represent about half of all animal biomass on earth. Insects are foundational to the ecosystem, though only one million of an estimated five million species have been identified.

My twin sister Hilary and I founded Silicon Valley Barcode of Life to address biodiversity loss. We were raised in the Silicon Valley surrounded by technology and science, and always appreciating nature.

Over time, we learned that a mass extinction, only the seventh in the multi-billion-year history of life on Earth, was underway and that recovery of the diversity of life lost in prior events of this kind has taken tens of millions of years. We wanted to do something. Inspired by eminent conservation biologists Dan Janzen and Winnie Hallwachs, we realized we had an opportunity to use technology for biodiversity, and founded SVBOL. Hilary is currently overseeing the Silicon Valley portion of the project, and I'm living here in the Mono Basin full time.

We're DNA barcoding arthropods to create a comprehensive catalogue of Mono Basin and Silicon Valley arthropod biodiversity, and to engage volunteers in learning about the importance of it. DNA barcodes can be thought of like fingerprints for each species, and are a more efficient way than morphological taxonomy to identify previously unknown species.

We're using Malaise traps (tent-like tools for bulk collection of flying insects), aerial and aquatic nets, light traps (for nighttime collecting), and Berlese funnels (devices to extract ground-dwelling insects from soil and litter) to sample diverse ecosystems in each of the ecoregions in our locales recognized by the United States Geo-

logical Survey.

In the six years since our founding we've collected more than 70,000 samples, and contributed 1,000+ unique records to the BOLD Systems database, a globally accessible open access catalog of multicellular life. We've also directly reached one thousand people through in-person presentations and many more through our website. If you're interested in learning more about SVBOL or participating in this work, please let us know! We're looking for landowners, macro photographers, naturalists, educational group directors, and more. You can reach us at svbarcodeoflife@gmail.com.



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Outlaw Saloon Happy Hour Monday through Friday from 4-6 p.m. *More info: See ad p. 19*
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.*
Distant Brewing happy hour Monday-Thursday from 3-5pm. \$1/off beer/wine/cider/seltzer/kombucha

Friday, October 25/
Avant Garde Paper Ball held by C5 studios @ 210 S Warren St. Time: 7-11 p.m. Guests must wear paper. Cost: \$25, members attend for free. *For tix: c5studios.org*

Saturday, October 26/
Eastside Student Center presents the Halloweezer House Show, their Fall Fundraiser Event at 199 Edward Street in Bishop. Time: 6-9. Live Music, raffle and costumes. *For tix: eastsidestudentcenter.org/events.*
Dos Alas Fifth Annual Halloween Bash starts 9 p.m. Dress up for the costume contest and listen to live music from blues-funk band, The Mudd Foote. Cost: \$10

Sunday, October 27/
NFL Sunday Football @ the Bishop Elks Lodge, 151 E. Line St. Starts 9:30 a.m. Bar open! Public welcome!
Mike McGuire and Amy Callanan play Distant Brewing. Time: 7-9 p.m.

Monday, October 28/
Open mic night @ Distant Brewing. Time: 6-9 p.m.

Tuesday, October 29/
Taco Tuesdays @ John's Pizza Works. Time: 4-9 p.m. And a great place to watch the game. *More info, see ad p. 5.*
Weekly karaoke @ Liberty! Starts 9 p.m. *More info: See ad p. 19*

Wednesday, October 30/
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.

Thursday, October 31/
Sierra Giant Live @ Distant Brewing. Time: 6-9 p.m. Celebrate Halloween with local band featuring singer Giacomo Timbrello
Halloween Costume Crawl in Mammoth begins at Clocktower Cellar from 7-9 p.m. before moving to Lakanuki. Dance, drinks and a chance to win \$100 for the best costume.

TOWN STUFF

Friday, October 25/
The **Town of Mammoth Lakes** hosts its vaunted "**Haunted Ice Rink**" from 4-7 p.m. @ the CRC (686 Old Mammoth Rd.).

TOWN STUFF

October 25-27/
Eastern Sierra History Conference @ the Cerro Coso College campus in Bishop. Three days of tours, lectures and wonky fun! For tix: sierraforever.org/eshc.
Beatty Days takes place on the other side of Death Valley. Find out what Beatty has to offer other than parking tickets and a candy store! *Info: www.beattynevada.org*

Saturday, October 26/
\$20 Mammogram appointments available @ Mammoth Hospital! Call 760.924.4070
Bishop FFA Haunted Swamp @ the FFA farm on Sunland. Time: 7-9 p.m. Cost: \$10
10th Annual Owens River Cleanup. Event starts 8 a.m. at the Pleasant Valley Campground. Coffee/baked goods and then lunch provided. Come prepared. *Info: Chris Leonard at 818.288.3271*
Thrill the World Bishop performance of Michael Jackson's iconic Thriller zombie dance. Time: 3 p.m. Location: Bishop City Park @ the bandshell.
June Lake Holiday Bazaar at Epic Cafe, 7258 Boulder Drive. Time: 12-4 p.m. Free Halloween cookie decorating kits for kids 12 and under.

Monday, October 28/
Mono County Local Transportation Commission holds a special meeting

UPCOMING

at 9 a.m. Location: Mono County Civic Center. 1290 Tavern Rd.
Bishop Paiute Tribe's Halloween Carnival held at the Barlow Lane Gym, 390 Barlow Lane. Doors open 5:30 p.m., costume contest begins 6 p.m. All ages welcome.
Bishop City Council meets at 6 p.m. in the Bishop City Council Chambers @ 377 West Line St. *or online via cityofbishop.com*

Thursday, October 31/
Mono County Collaborative Planning Team meets in Suite Z, Minaret Mall. Time: 9 a.m.
Kid's Fall Festival hosted by Bishop local churches at Fendon's Furniture. Time: 5-8 p.m.
Mammoth Trails Halloween Trick or Treat Event in the Trails Neighborhood. Time: 5-8 p.m.

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General Laborer - Mammoth \$20-25

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Journeyman Plumber - Mammoth \$30-45

Retail Sales - Bishop \$16-17

Community Integration Partner - Bishop/Mammoth \$20-25

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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

Help Wanted



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

Radiologic Technologist II - Starting wage \$44.42 to \$53.84 based on qualifications. \$5,000 Retention Bonus.

Landscape Maintenance Technician - Starting wage \$22.24 to \$23.81 based on qualification.

Physical Therapist - Starting wage \$48.72 to \$59.05 based on qualifications. \$5,000 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.

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

Help wanted PT/FT retail sporting goods and clothing sales. Housing may be available. Ski pass may be available. Apply by email, dave@mammothgear.com with resume if you have one.

Licensed T1 & D1 Water Operator wanted, part-time 5-10 hrs. monthly at Sierra Industrial Park. Monthly fee plus hourly, call Chip 951-323-5682



MAMMOTH COMMUNITY WATER DISTRICT Maintenance Dept. is currently recruiting for one permanent Line Maintenance Worker I/II/III (DOQ) position.

FOR APPLICATION INFORMATION/ TO APPLY: Please see the District website <https://mcwd.dst.ca.us/employment/>.



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.



Black Tie Ski & Bike Rentals is now hiring for both FT/PT winter seasonal positions for the 2024-25 ski season. Seeking proactive and energetic individuals who share our love of the mountains and possess an entrepreneurial spirit. Ideal candidates enjoy working in a great team atmosphere and are passionate about providing impeccable customer service to our guests.

Flexible scheduling is available but MUST be able to work weekends & holidays. Competitive compensation includes; generous tips, ski pass, 401k, industry pricing equipment deals, personal use of shop equipment and tools and family & friend discounts.

If you're passionate about skiing and/or snowboarding and enjoy sharing that passion with guests of our mountain community, this could be a great opportunity for you. Please email a resume with references to mammoth@blacktiemammoth.com if you are interested in joining our team.

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



Surefoot Mammoth is hiring bootfitters for the upcoming winter season. We are looking for enthusiastic skiers who want to work hard and play hard. No experience necessary. Paid training. This is a great opportunity to learn a valuable skill in the ski industry. Season pass and custom ski boots provided with employment. Contact Todd at Mammoth@Surefoot.com.



SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF MONO

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

Family Law Facilitator and Self-Help Center Program Coordinator

This is a part-time independent contractor position for a licensed attorney

Annual Salary: \$89,243

A job description and application instructions may be obtained on the court's website, <https://www.mono.courts.ca.gov/ge/neralinfo/employment.htm>, or contact the court at (760)923-2321

hr@mono.courts.ca.gov

Closing Date: Open until filled

EOE/AEE/AAE

PT job oppty. - Secretary to the Birchim Community Services District. Job duties include but are not limited to the following: preparing and posting monthly agenda, attending monthly night meetings in Sunny Slopes, preparing minutes, warrants and collecting mail. Familiarity with Brown Act helpful. HS diploma and computer skills req'd. Averages 30 hours/month. No benefits. Interested parties can mail a letter of introduction and resume to Birchim Community Services District, 636 Owens Gorge Rd, Toms Place, CA 93546. Application deadline: November 30.

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



JOB OPENINGS

FULL-TIME POSITIONS

* Full-time positions include competitive benefits package

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

Police Officer - Recruit \$30.43/hr.

Airport Maintenance Coordinator \$58,704.00 - \$82,602.00

Sr. Accounting Assistant \$54,477 - \$76,654

Revenue Specialist \$51,320 - \$72,212

TEMPORARY PART-TIME POSITIONS

Temporary Snow Removal Operator** \$29.36 - \$33.99/hr.

Temporary Trail Crew Leader - Winter \$26.69 - \$30.90/hr.

Lodging Support & Enforcement \$29.36 - \$33.99/hr.

**CDL required

For more information and to apply: townofmammothlakes.ca.gov

(760) 965-3604

PERSONALS

I hope I don't see you ... trick-or-treating in The Trails. I know, I know - free food - but all you're gonna do is terrify the kids in that VanLife costume.

I saw you ... are excited by the election. Of course you are. You love those Get Smart reruns. Always rooting for KAOS.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice Inviting Bids

BIRCHIM COMMUNITY SERVICE DISTRICT
INVITATION FOR BIDS
GENERATOR & POWER SYSTEM PROJECT
Project No. 1

Notice is hereby given that the Birchim Community Service District ("District") calls for bids from qualified General Engineering and Electrical Contractors for the GENERATOR & POWER SYSTEM PROJECT ("Project"). The project is state funded under the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Act of 2014. The project will install new 80 kW backup generator and propane tank, upgrade the electrical service from 240 VAC to 480 VAC and install a new electrical system and motor control panel.

No contractor or subcontractor may be listed in a bid proposal or awarded a contract for this project unless registered with the Department of Industrial Relations pursuant to Labor Code section 1725.5 (unless one of the limited time extensions set forth in Labor Code section 1771.1 applies, in which case registration must be completed by the time of contract award). This Project is subject to compliance monitoring and enforcement by the Department of Industrial Relations.

The Project Manual and Project Plans provide, in detail, the requirements for the Project. The Project Manual, Project Plans, and related Project documents are available from the project engineer. Contact Tim Rudolph at 760 798-4292 or e-mail TimRudolph@cox.net for a Project Manual and Project Plans.

Each bid shall be made on the proposal forms contained in the Project Manual and must be accompanied by bid security in the amount of not less than 10 percent (10%) of the total bid.

In accordance with Public Contract Code section 22038, the District has the option, after receiving and tabulating bids, to reject all bids and perform the work by force account if the District Board determines, by a four-fifths vote, that the work can be performed more economically by its own employees.

The Project and all work must be completed within 6 months (180) days but limited to 45 days of onsite construction from the start date identified in the Notice to Proceed.

Each bidder is required to schedule a MANDATORY PRE BID SITE VISIT to the project site at 636 Owens Gorge Road in Sunny Slopes. The site visit is to be

completed by 5pm Friday November 15, 2024. The site visit can be scheduled by contacting the Project Engineer. Please provide a minimum of 72 hours to schedule the site visit. Efforts will be made to coordinate bidders site visits if possible.

Bids may be mailed to the Project Engineer at Tim Rudolph PE, P.O. Box 652, Big Pine, California, 93513, or delivered to the office of the Project Engineer at, 181 Dewey Street, Big Pine, California 93513 In either event, to be considered, bids must be received by the Project Engineer no later than 3:00 pm Thursday November 21, 2024 ("Bid Submission Deadline").

All bids received as of the Bid Submission Deadline will be taken to The Project Engineer's office at 181 Dewey Street, Big Pine, California 93513, and there publicly opened, read aloud, and recorded. All interested parties are invited to attend. Advance notice will be sent to the bidders list or as requested via e-mail for all interested parties to attend online via the web.

TS #2024-0147

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

GC Firewood

GC Forest Products Inc.
123 Commerce Dr. #E-19
PO Box 9062
Mammoth Lakes, Calif. 93546

This business is conducted by a corporation. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein in 1985. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on October 1, 2024
File Number 24-086
2024-0148 (10/26, 11/2, 11/9, 11/16)

Notice of Vacancies

Eastern Sierra Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Inyo County Board of Supervisors is accepting letters of interest to fill seven (7) current and upcoming vacancies:

- Four (4) two-year terms ending December 31, 2026
- Three (3) two-year terms ending December 31, 2025.

The Advisory Council shall be comprised of nine (9) total members from across the two-county region of Inyo and Mono counties. At least 50% of the appointed members shall be aged 60 or above, including minority individuals and older individuals residing in rural areas. Cross-generational representation also is encouraged. Members may not be employed by an entity currently in a subcontracting relationship with ESAAA. Targeting efforts shall be made to ensure membership includes individuals from the following categories:

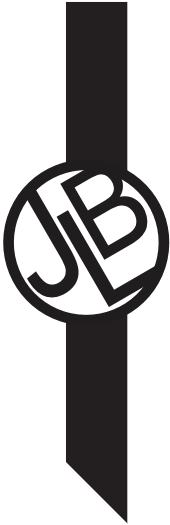
- low income older adults;
- disabled persons;
- supportive services provider;
- health care provider;

- individuals with leadership expertise in private/voluntary sectors; and
- family caregiver defined as either (1) an adult family member, or other individual, who is an informal provider of in-home and community care to an older individual with Alzheimer's disease or a related disorder with neurologic and organic brain dysfunction; or (2) a grandparent or step-grandparent of a child, or a relative of a child by blood, marriage, or adoption, who is 55 years of age or older and who lives with the child, is the primary caregiver of the child, and has a legal relationship with the child such legal custody, guardianship or raising the child informally.

If you are interested in serving on the Eastern Sierra Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council, have interest in the welfare of the region's seniors, and are not employed by an entity currently in a subcontracting relationship with ESAAA, please submit your request for appointment on or before Friday, November 22 at 5:00 p.m. to the Board of Supervisors at P.O. Box N, Independence, CA 93526 or dellis@inyocounty.us. Postmarks do not count.

For more information about the Advisory Council, contact the ESAAA Administration at (760) 872-0902.

TS #2024-0146





NOVEMBER 5, 2024, GENERAL ELECTION

Pursuant to California Elections Code §12109, the elections official is required to publish the location where the ballots of this election are to be tallied.

ELECTION NIGHT CENTRAL COUNT LOCATION:

Mono County Elections, 74 School St., Annex I, Bridgeport, CA 93517

Pursuant to California Elections Code §12105, the elections official is required to publish the list of polling places designated for each election precinct.

All Poll Places are open Election Day 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. (Poll Place Location / Voting Precinct Number and Name)	
Walker Community Center 442 Mule Deer Dr., Walker, CA 96107	01 - Antelope
Bridgeport Memorial Hall 73 School St., Bridgeport, CA 93517	03 - Bridgeport
Chalfant Community Center 123 Valley Rd., Chalfant Valley, CA 93514	04 - Tri-Valley
June Lake Community Center 90 W. Granite Ave., June Lake, CA 93529	05 - June Lake
Crowley Lake Community Center 58 Pearson Rd., Crowley Lake, CA 93546	07 - Long Valley
**** MOVED *** Mono County Civic Center 1290 Tavern Rd., Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546"	08 - Mammoth Meadow 09 - Mammoth Minaret 10 - Mammoth Pinecrest 12 - Mammoth View 13 - Old Mammoth

Ballot Drop Box Locations (open 10/8/2024)	
All Ballot Boxes are open 24 hours a day and are locked at 8 p.m. on Election Day	
Walker Community Center 442 Mule Deer Dr., Walker, CA 96107	Bridgeport Memorial Hall 73 School St., Bridgeport, CA 93517
Chalfant Community Center 123 Valley Rd., Chalfant Valley, CA 93514	June Lake Community Center 90 W. Granite Ave., June Lake, CA 93529
Crowley Lake Community Center 58 Pearson Rd., Crowley Lake, CA 93546	Mono County Civic Center 1290 Tavern Rd., Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

Mono County Elections

Ballots can be delivered to this office Mon - Fri 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., or Election Day 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.

74 School St., Annex I, Bridgeport, CA 93517
Elections: 760-932-5537 Main: 760-932-5530

All Vote Locations are Accessible to the Physically Handicapped

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE REFERENCE THE MONO COUNTY VOTER INFORMATION GUIDE. <https://monocounty.ca.gov/elections>

TS #2024-0145

MEET

Monster and Merlin



Two bonded, neutered male Tuxedos ready for their forever home.

They're both only 3 months young and are affectionate and playful.

Contact:
BRIDGEPORT SHELTER
(760) 932-7407

Fictitious Business Name Statement

The Following Entity
Is Doing Business As:

GC Construction

GC Forest Products Inc.
123 Commerce Dr. #E-19
PO Box 9062
Mammoth Lakes, Calif. 93546

This business is conducted by a corporation. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein in 1985. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on October 1, 2024
File Number 24-086
2024-0149 (10/26, 11/2, 11/9, 11/16)

Fictitious Business Name Statement

The Following Entity
Is Doing Business As:

Mammoth Firewood

GC Forest Products Inc.
123 Commerce Dr. #E-19
PO Box 9062
Mammoth Lakes, Calif. 93546

This business is conducted by a corporation. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein in 1985. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on October 1, 2024
File Number 24-086
2024-0150 (10/26, 11/2, 11/9, 11/16)

CAREER DAY



This week, the Mammoth Lakes Chamber hosted its Career Compass Exploration Day at Mammoth High School – 420 students, 80 volunteers from the community and 40 teachers and staff were involved. Top: Freddy Kogler, pilot from Bishop Flying School demonstrating his fighter pilot and helicopter pilot suits (via live mannequins!!) to the students. Above: CalTrans employees sharing their career experiences.

Request for Bids

Bid No 2024-01

The Lone Pine Community Services District seeks bids from licensed contractors to assemble and erect a 40' x 44' x 17' metal building w/1:12 pitch on a laid cement slab. All materials are on-site. Please contact Will Wadelton to schedule a site visit and to receive drawings. 760.876.5312 or LonePinecsd@gmail.com

Please submit sealed bids by Friday, November 8, 2024 to: Lone Pine CSD, P.O. Box 36, Lone Pine, CA 93545

TS #2024-0147

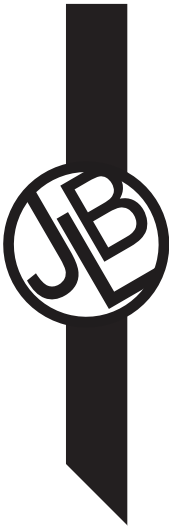


Join our dedicated, passionate team! Position available and job requirements:

- Outreach Advocate**
- *Bilingual/biliterate
 - *HS diploma or equivalent
 - *Valid DL & reliable transport

Send cover letter & resume to wildiris@wild-iris.org. More info: wild-iris.org/jobs-and-volunteers

JUNE
LAKE
BREWING



24TH ANNUAL FUNDRAISER FOR ESCA

*learn more at escanceralliance.org

By Gayla



Meet Milo!

He's a handsome young lad. And he's just got it all goin' on....affectionate, playful, especially with other dogs, and well behaved. A wonderful addition to any family. Please come meet him and others like him that are in search of their forever home – at the Inyo County Animal Shelter, located at 1001 County Road in Big Pine. For more information, call (760) 938-2715. To see more dogs available for adoption, visit

www.easternsierradogrescue.com

Save a life.
Adopt a shelter dog.



WOOF!

MAKE A DIFFERENCE, BECOME A VOLUNTEER TODAY!

SPORTS

MHS VOLLEYBALL LOOKS STRONG HEADING TOWARDS PLAYOFFS

Mammoth High School Girls Volleyball avenged an earlier season loss to Bishop, defeating the Broncos at home in four sets on Tuesday, October 15.

Mammoth's previous loss to Bishop was its only league loss this season.

The team's record is 23-9-1 overall and 12-1 (1st) in league.

Bishop is 24-10 overall and 9-4 (3rd) in league.

Pictured starting clockwise from below: Ashlynn Parsons on serve; Eleanor Brode challenges Bishop's Elizabeth Ellsworth at net; Meg Westervelt makes the save as Scout Flynn looks on; both teams huddle (huddling happens a lot in volleyball!)



Progress Your Career at Mammoth Hospital!

We're currently looking for:

- Radiologic Technologist II (\$5000 Retention Bonus)
- Physical Therapist (\$5000 Retention Bonus)
- Landscape Maintenance Technician

Endorsed by:

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Laurey Carlson
Joanne Hunt
Gary Myers
Yuri Parisky
Amanda Rice
Lynda Salcido
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Ryan Wood
and others!

Learn more on Instagram! Paid for by Alexander Clowes



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Openings at www.mammothhospital.com |

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?



PLAYING FOR DALLAS WORSE THAN JURY DUTY

By Hartley

Another week in the books and more teams realizing their fate is sealed: OH MAN. WE SUCK. The Giants ... they didn't need RB Saquon Barkley. Let him go to the Eagles. And replaced him with Devin Singletary ... because he has a good nickname (MOTOR)?

Well, that MOTOR needs a new timing belt because last week against the Eagles Devin Singletary MOTORED for 21 total yards rushing and receiving. For the year he has MOTORED for 314 TOTAL yards and 2 TDs.

Whereas against his former team, Saquon Barkley had 187 Total yards and a TD. For the season Barkley has 761 total yards and 6 TDs. If Devin Singletary is a MOTOR he is a lawnmower motor and Saquon Barkley is a 6.2L Supercharged Hemi.

- Here are a couple of interesting ways to get sidelined from your job:
1. Andy Dalton got in a car wreck and hurt his THUMB? Good one. After playing for the Panthers a few weeks he figured out how best to avoid that misery.
 2. Deshaun Watson tore his achilles so he can spend his money in peace while getting many massages in "rehab."
 3. The Cowboys kicker missed a practice for jury duty? Lol. Huh? I work at a

credit union and have gotten excused from jury duty due to work. He couldn't get out of jury duty as an NFL player? This is proof they shouldn't call kickers players. And how much do you hate your team to go to Jury Duty instead of practice? Only on the Cowboys ...

Look at this foolishness: #Browns DE Myles Garrett on fans booing QB Deshaun Watson after his season-ending injury: "No one deserves that. I've seen him work his a** off ... Man does pretty much everything right. He's been a model citizen through college and also the pros."

Umm ... why do people go out on a limb to support morons? To call Watson, a serial molester, a model anything is embarrassing. Why stake your reputation and credibility on him? No one thinks Watson works his ass off based on his play and body language.

The way people see Tampa QB Baker Mayfield is fascinating. He looks great, he looks terrible. He is a bad QB. He has his moments, but he is a mess. Now he thinks he is a RB and is always trying to scramble and run over people. They love him because he is "gritty." You like how he is playing? Wait a series and that will change. He's the Mammoth weather.

Packer QB Jordan Love is Brett Favre

with more athleticism and touch. Jordan Love has missed 2 games. Before the Monday night game started Love led the league in TD passes and interceptions. Hilarious. He brings them back in the 2nd half after burying them in the first half. If he could eliminate just ONE of the insanely stupid throws he has in every game he would be insanely good and the team would have probably 1 loss Fun to watch though.

Patriot coach Jerod Mayo is insistent on separating himself from the past/"The Patriot Way." After the team's last beatdown at the hands of the Jags, he said his team is SOFT. I agree. Soft and Slow. He forgot lousy. But ... the team is soft because of the coach. Dummy. The culture and the toughness of the team is established by the coach. Y'all talked about it being different now with Belichick gone and being less stressful and more open. How y'all feel going to Dairy Queen together for Blizzards after the game after getting boatraced? Ice cream heal your physical and mental boo-boos? Yeah, the Patriot Way is dead. But consider, last year under Belichick the defense was like 7th in the league. This year they are like 25th. With a lot of the same players. That is coaching.

They should call Jet CB Sauce Gardner

Sticky Fingers. How much can you hold and then get mad when you get called for pass interference?

Two picks this week.

Niners laying 4.5 to the Cowboys. The Niners are down all their WRs and the RB McCaffrey and I think the owner has a migraine and the Cowboys are still 4.5 point 'dogs. I am gonna go off the rails on this one. Cowboys win 26-23.

This week Troy Aikman went OFF on the Cowboys. He crushed the coaches without mentioning the coaches by name. He said the receivers run lazy, sloppy routes. Which is ALL on the coaching staff. Of course, Cowboy Coach Mike McCarthy came out and said Aikman's words have no impact on him and that Aikman is wrong because McCarthy is at practice every day and watches all the tape so he doesn't think it's credible and neither is Aikman. Hmm. I think Aikman watched enough routes from the QB position to know a sloppy, lazy route when he sees one.

Steelers laying 6.5 to the Giants on Monday night. Russell Wilson came back last week and looked like 2016 Russell Wilson. That won't last ... but it'll last one more week - because it's the Giants. Steelers win 23-15.



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Open at 9:45am for **Breakfast & Drink Specials!**

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THURS. NIGHT FOOTBALL

The Pursuit of Happiness
Happy Hour extended 3-8pm

OPENS DAILY AT 11AM

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