

the sheet

News, Views & Culture of the Eastern Sierra



Believe it or not, this is how the flags were displayed in front of the town offices on June 30th. Makes you wanna build 'em new \$30M+ digs, doesn't it?

Saturday, July 19, 2025

FREE

Vol. 23, No. 29

MAMMOTH MAYOR SHUTS TRAP

Bubser mum on bringing in CDFW to trap bears at her property. Neighbors upset.

By Lunch

The trapping and removal of two bears in Old Mammoth last week has stoked the ire of neighboring residents and the community at large.

Mayor Chris Bubser and her husband David Baron authorized the California Dept. of Wildlife (CDFW) to set traps on their private property.

Bubser declined an interview with The Sheet this week, but we did speak with her husband. Baron said the goal of the operation was to relocate a yearling who was demonstrating signs of becoming a bit too habituated to human contact (see Baron letter page four for his telling of events).

The yearling was caught and relocated, but not without some collateral damage.

On the first night the trap was set (July 11), a five-year old male bear who just happened to be passing through, likely cruising for a mate according to CDFW Environmental Scientist and Bear Biologist Michael Brown, took the bait and was captured.

CDFW subsequently tagged, collared and relocated this bear to the Glass Mountains.

But on the second night (July 12), the yearling was captured and relocated in the Sherwins area beyond the Mammoth Motocross track.

Brown said neither bear had returned to the Old Mammoth area as of Tuesday, July 15.

Former Mammoth Wildlife Specialist and renowned "Bear Whisperer" Steve Searles said that's unlikely to remain the case.

"The Glass Mountains have no food or water ... I'll bet you \$100 that bear is here now."

As Searles explained, CDFW policy is first-time tag and collar and second time shoot. Two

strikes. And that the Mayor and her husband are responsible for one strike each that didn't have to happen.

"Every bear wearing the bling (collars) from last summer is gone. Ask yourself why."

"I'm shocked at the reversal," he continued, "at how quickly things have unraveled since the Town abandoned the bear program ... I go up to Lake Mary almost every day to paddle around. Not once this summer have I seen a police officer, Fish and Game personnel, anyone. Once Victor was removed last

summer, you got triple the bears moving in and competing for habitat. Quite simply, the more you shoot, the more you shoot."

Sheet: "Are you suggesting that removing Victor provided a certain degree of job security for Fish and Wildlife?"

Searles: "Hell, yes."

Perhaps the fundamental point all parties agree on is that there needs to be better wildlife awareness and education - especially now that there's not

more BEARS, pg. 8



This yearling was trapped last Saturday and relocated

SAVING A LIFE

Donated kidney allows Brayan Zamora to dream again

By Fisher

For most of his young adulthood, Brayan Zamora couldn't imagine a future that wasn't ruled by illness. Diagnosed with kidney failure at just 15, he faced a world defined by dialysis schedules, missed opportunities, and constant fatigue.

Now 24, Brayan is finally starting to dream again, thanks to an extraordinary gift from someone he never expected: his elementary school counselor, Jean Sprague.

Brayan's journey began in high school when he noticed something wasn't right. His legs felt heavy. One looked crooked. His bones ached.

"I was freaking out," he recalled of the day he was pulled from class and told to go to the hospital. His mother was out of town, unreachable. Alone and scared, he was rushed into emergency surgery and started dialysis the next day.

Dialysis is a life-preserving treatment for kidney failure, but it's grueling, especially for a teenager. Brayan returned to school two months later with a catheter in his chest, facing the isolation of being different from his peers.

"I couldn't swim. I couldn't do a lot of things after that," he said. "How do I tell someone, 'Hey, I'm really sick, and I'm doing dialysis?'"

Brayan's lifeline came in the form of the Toiyabe Dialysis Center, a clinic operated by the Toiyabe Indian Health Project in Bishop. It's a place where people like Brayan, rural residents with limited access to care, can get the treatment they need, close to home.

"That place was amazing, and the doctors were super nice," he said. "As a kid, I appreciated that. And as an

adult, I appreciate it a lot more. Because at the end of the day, I was very scared and very young when I started."

Over time, Brayan not only found care there, but he also found a community. The other patients called him "baby" because he was the youngest. He got to know them all.

His school teachers helped accommodate his treatment schedule, and his managers at his jobs at Vons and El Pollo Loco made adjustments to support his health. So did his friends; his childhood best friend Kai stood by him throughout, and another friend, Nick, often drove him to appointments.

His siblings also took care of him, even though he was the eldest of the bunch. They would help him up the stairs if he were having trouble, or they would lie with him and make sure he fell asleep when he was in pain.

He assumed this would be his life forever. It was painful. It was all-consuming.

After Brayan graduated from high school, his dialysis appointments were moved to 4:00 a.m. He'd get home around eight, sleep a little, and try to go to work. Some days, he would be nauseous from the pain and headaches.

He couldn't work for more than a few days at a time. He could barely leave Bishop, knowing he'd need to be back in the center the next morning. He couldn't swim, and his treatments limited the amount of time he had with his friends.

Brayan had given up hope of ever getting a kidney. His mom had wanted to donate a kidney, but she wasn't a match. His siblings were too young. The

see LIFE, pg. 7

MACC bid

Betting scam

Book party

Shed a tear for the billionaires

We know Bo

p. 6/

p. 6/

p. 2/

p. 4/

p. 2/

WE KNOW BO

The Bishop community came out in support of Orthopedic Surgeon Bo Loy Wednesday night. Whether it will make a difference is anyone's guess.

During public comment at Northern Inyo Hospital's regular board meeting, person after person, professional after professional, came forward to sing Loy's praises. Respected people within the community: Oney, Fendon, Arndal and more.

People like Cindy Rottner said they've recently had to travel to Mammoth (for her son's appendix) because NIH doesn't have a surgeon available. "We've been losing people [patients] because we don't have the staff."

"Orthopedics is supposed to be a profit center and now nobody's here," -Randy Fendon

"This [Loy's ostracism and suspension] shows anything can happen to anyone," -Jeanine Arndal

As she rushed out of the room to take an emergency call, Dr. Marty Kim saw me scribbling notes and said, "He needs to be exonerated. We need him."

So what happened with Bo Loy? We're told it's a personnel matter so no one can say anything. But I can tell you it stems from a nurse inappropriately grabbing the married doctor of three's ass. The doctor reporting the incident. The unionized staff seeking retribution. Nothing to do with skill, ability, patient care ... just little people cutting down big people so everyone can be the same size - a celebration of Lilliputia.

In response to Board member Laura Smith exclaiming, "I honestly don't know what happened," Bishop resident Randy Short replied, "Shame on you as a Board if you don't know what's going on. This has been going on for months. If you haven't dug into it, that's an embarrassment."

Board member David Barrett thanked the public for attending. "Without the public here, I can't fight the fight," he said, suggesting that he's fighting the fight alone.

Based upon Board Chair Jean Turner's body language, it's clear she has no interest in digging into it.

Dr. Rachel Chamberlain said the Medical Executive Committee (MEC) at every hospital has immunity, and "absolute power corrupts absolutely." She described Loy's career at this point as "borderline unsalvageable."

the
sheet

News, Views & Culture of the Eastern Sierra

"I'm a great believer in luck, and I find the harder I work, the more I have of it."
-Jefferson

JACK LUNCH

PUBLISHER

The composition of the MEC at Northern Inyo includes the following:

Sierra Bourne - Sierra.Bourne@nih.org
Lindsey Ricci - Lindsey.Ricci@nih.org
Theodore Rasoumoff - Theodore.Rasoumoff@nih.org
Bradley Clark - clark@tcrad.com
Lisa Manzanares - Lisa.Manzanares@nih.org
Samantha Jeppsen - Samantha.Jeppsen@nih.org
Stefan Schunk - Stefan.Schunk@nih.org
Connor Wiles - Connor.Wiles@nih.org.

Apparently doesn't take much to destroy a career. Let's hope these eight people are looking in the mirror every day and asking themselves, "Am I really comfortable destroying this man? Am I sure? Is it about him and his alleged transgressions? Or is it about my insecurity and my ego? Have I no shame?"

It's an arts smorgasbord this weekend in Mammoth - with the Chamber Unbound Festival going on as well as the 8th annual Eastern Sierra Book Festival.

I'm looking forward to this year's Book event because Suzanne Roberts see LUNCH, pg. 14

When Nihil Del

The Mobil

Live
MUSIC
2025

AT TIOGA GAS MART

THU, JUN 12TH 6PM-9PM | THE TWO TRACKS

THU, JUN 26TH 6PM-9PM | TRACORUM

SUN, JUL 20TH 3PM-6PM | BODIE 601

THU, JUL 31ST 6PM-9PM | THE TRESPASSERS

THU, AUG 14TH 6PM-9PM | BICICLETAS POR LA PAZ

WINNER OF THE NATIONAL OUTDOOR BOOK AWARD IN OUTDOOR LITERATURE

SUZANNE ROBERTS

ALMOST SOMEWHERE

Twenty-Eight Days on the John Muir Trail

New Edition



MAMMOTH LAKES EVENTS — 2025 —

JUNE

- 7 NATIONAL TRAILS DAY
- 7-8 EASTERN SIERRA PRIDE
- 20-29 MONSTER ENERGY MAMMOTH MOTOCROSS
- 27-28 MAMMOTH FEEL GOOD FESTIVAL

JULY

- 3-6 ARTS ON THE 4TH AND CELEBRATIONS
- 4 4TH OF JULY PARADE
- 4 POPS IN THE PARK
- 4-5 GIDDYUP COUNTRY MUSIC
- 5 SUMMIT SUNSET PARTY
- 11-12 MAMMOTH JAZZFEST
- 16-27 THE UNBOUND CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL:
WEDNESDAYS, FRIDAYS AND SUNDAYS
- 18-20 MAMMOTH REGGAE FESTIVAL
- 25-26 MAMMOTH VILLAGEFEST
- 25-27 MAMMOTH LAKES OPEN AIR ARTS AND
CRAFTS FAIR
- 26 ANNUAL KIDS FISHING FESTIVAL

AUGUST

- 7/31-3 MAMMOTH FESTIVAL OF BEERS AND
BLUESAPALOOZA
- 6 FAMILY FUN DAY AT THE VILLAGE
- 8-9 MAMMOTH MARGARITA FESTIVAL
- 15-16 MAMMOTH WINE WEEKEND
- 16 MAMMOTH 50K PEDALPALOOZA
- 22-23 MAMMOTH ROCKS
- 29-31 MAMMOTH ROCK N RYE
- 31 ANNUAL WAVE RAVE SKATE CONTEST
- 31 SUMMIT SUNSET PARTY

SEPTEMBER

- 6 MAMMOTH ROLL AND SOUL
- 6 MAMMOTH GRAN FONDO
- 12-14 FLASH FOXY TRAD FEST
- 12-14 MAMMOTH TUFF
- 18-21 MAMMOTH TRAILFEST
- 20 HEALTH AND WELLNESS FAIR
- 26-30 THE MAMMOTH

OCTOBER

- 4-5 SPARTAN SUPER WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS
- 8 REBELLE RALLY



FOR FULL DETAILS SCAN THE QR CODE OR GO TO:
VisitMammoth.com/Events
ALL EVENTS SUBJECT TO CHANGE AND/OR CANCELLATION



LETTERS

Billionaires being screwed!

Jack,

Well hell, turns out Billionaires are getting screwed. Propping up the slothful masses. The layabouts, whiners and posers. Look, they're all around us in our shops, restaurants, hospitals and schools. They're staffing businesses or running their own. They're ranchers and farmers and newspapermen.

Freeloaders.

Of course, after the real Americans get through funding this country they'll still control more than 70% of the wealth while 140 million of our hard working citizens couldn't put their hands on enough dough to cover a \$1,000 emergency. And there will be a lot more of those emergencies under the BBB.

An estimated 12 million souls will lose their Medicaid healthcare coverage under the bill. Yale University estimates 51,000 of them could die, unnecessarily, each year. Many rural hospitals will close. In addition nearly \$1 trillion will be cut from Medicare over 10 years. This will result in lower reimbursements for

providers, many of whom will stop accepting Medicare, leading to even more uninsured.

Some Billionaires including Warren Buffet, who recognize the tremendous advantages America has afforded them, advocate for higher taxes on the wealthy. "While most Americans struggle to make ends meet," he's said, "we mega rich continue to get our extraordinary tax breaks."

Using those tax breaks, folks like our president—a self styled Billionaire, who in 2020 paid no income tax and claimed losses leading to a \$5 million refund—go shopping for that private Caribbean island, another golf course or maybe their 3rd, 4th or 5th vacation home.

Dennis Phillips
Mammoth Lakes

A more direct response to Rogitz

Dear Editor,

In regard to John Rogitz's recent letter to the editor which highlighted federal income tax contributions by class both federally and specifically to California. When I read your letter, the tone did not make me defensive, but instead made me curious, and I researched the numbers you shared.

I love math and economics so I wanted to respond back with more numbers. It was difficult to find these and I hope they are accurate, feel free to inform me if I am totally off.

I researched "real labor" in CA and

what contribution to the GDP real labor contributes. I chose "real labor" because the federal income tax generated by the 1% is most likely not tied to "real labor," as the 1% is not taking your order at the local restaurant, running your lift operations, walking your dog, or harvesting food on the vast fields of California.

CA GDP is around \$4 trillion. Of that \$4 trillion, "real labor" contributes 40-50% of CA GDP. So the working class is contributing \$2 trillion dollars in profits towards GDP to the state of CA through their daily physical work.

The working class contributes 40-50% of CA GDP. They also pay income tax. So if you add together what the working class contributes in gross profits to CA and what they pay in income taxes, I think it's fair to say, everyone, regardless of income bracket, is contributing in some way to this economy. Whether you were born into the 1% or receive the benefits of wealth through trickle down economics (ie the working class), we are all human and it matters that we are a part of this economic system.

I personally do not want to comment on "more progressive tax code" because the tax code is already unnecessarily and disadvantageously complicated.

I just wanted to speak up because I think it is helpful to look at the micro and macroeconomics of the state of CA and its residents when discussing tax contributions.

Tanya Zelaya
Mammoth Lakes

Baron and Da Bears

To the Editor:

My name is David Baron and I live in Old Mammoth.

I had noticed over the past few months that there were a few yearling bears who were becoming increasingly comfortable with people and trash in our neighborhood. Yearling bears have separated from their mothers and are learning the ways of the world. They are not nuisances nor threats at this time. However, I learned through the SNARL (The Sierra Nevada Aquatic Research Lab) lecture in early June that these yearlings are learning to find food and establish their own territories. The fear for yearlings in towns like ours is that they would grow up as dumpster divers, not wild bears. Following the protocol set up by the Town and the Department of Fish and Wildlife, I consulted with CDFW biologists, who were studying bears in and around Mammoth Lakes. CDFW, who are the wildlife experts, decided that the best course of action would be to relocate this yearling bear to a more natural spot outside of town. I offered up the use of our backyard to set the trap to enable CDFW to safely move the bear, not realizing there would be such opposition to my actions, since the stated goal of everyone in town is to keep wildlife wild and safe.

A few days before this all went down, a sow and her cub were in our yard. We scared them off. But she left me a present

more LETTERS, pg. 5

TAX PREP, BOOKKEEPING & PLANNING SERVICES

REGISTERED WITH SAM.GOV FOR GOVERNMENT CONTRACTING



www.bb-advisorsfirm.com (747)-307-4715

Cory Barron
Enrolled Agent



TUNES, BREWS, BBQ & VIEWS

RIDE THE SCENIC J1 CHAIR LIFT TO THE TOP OF JUNE MOUNTAIN FOR A TASTY BBQ, BEER TASTING FROM LOCAL BREWERIES & LIVE MUSIC

PARTY on the MOUNTAIN

JULY 5 & JULY 26 • 3-8PM • JUNE MOUNTAIN

CONCERT-ONLY TICKET (AGES 13+) + BEER TASTING ADD-ON (AGES 21+)
FREE ADMISSION FOR KIDS 12 & UNDER

SAVE UP TO \$20 WHEN YOU PURCHASE ONLINE



25/26 IKON PASS & JUNE PASS HOLDERS SAVE 10% ON MUSIC-ONLY TICKETS

888.JUNE.MTN JUNEMOUNTAIN.COM

THIS FACILITY OPERATES UNDER A SPECIAL USE PERMIT FROM THE INYO NATIONAL FOREST. VISITORS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

PARK & RECREATION MONTH!



Parks & Recreation



UPCOMING EVENTS

JULY 19 Rhiannon's Kid's Pickleball Tournament

JULY 19-20 Softball Tournament @ Shady Rest Park

JULY 20 **FREE** Swim Sundays @ Whitmore Pool

JULY 25 **FREE** Skate Friday Night @ Mammoth RecZone



For more info about Park and Recreation Month events, plus other fun camps, lessons, and programs, visit:
MammothParksAndRec.com



ASK ABOUT OUR SCHOLARSHIPS CONSULTA POR NUESTRAS BECAS

MammothParksAndRec.com • ParksAndRec@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov • 760-965-3690

LETTERS

continued from page 4

- she pooped in my yard. While cleaning it up the next day, I noticed that there was a large plastic bag embedded in her feces.

My family have had dozens of interactions with bears over the 20 years we've lived in Mammoth. We treasure the opportunity to live alongside the original residents of these mountains - the bears, deer, coyotes, birds, and other critters. Like so many residents, we want the natural fauna of this community to thrive and survive. This is why I called the CDFW scientists on the wildlife hotline and listened to their recommendations. That's what we have been told to do to protect our wildlife. Here was an opportunity to help a bear to a better and natural life, in the wilderness, where it could grow up without becoming a dumpster diver or home invader or ingesting plastic bags on a regular basis. We all know that when bears become habituated to the bad behavior of humans such as access to dumpsters that are not locked down (which are not always cited by the town or the police with enough rigor) or bird feeders, or unfortunately even cars that have food in them, they do not thrive. In addition, they run the risk of being killed by the increasing car traffic in town.

In the end, CDFW trapped two bears, including one of the yearlings. Both were safely relocated just outside of town. To be clear: NEITHER WERE KILLED, as was wrongly stated in online Facebook comments. Neither were deemed nuisances. Both are safely back in the wilderness, where they can thrive as the wild creatures they are.

My actions inspired some very strong reactions. I appreciate and welcome any

honest discussion and opinions. We are all continually learning how to do our best for our wildlife. But we were doxxed by Steve Searles on Facebook. He published our address and a photograph of our home to protest the fact that we were allowing CDFW to trap a yearling bear that was becoming habituated to our community. Searles actions were irresponsible, incorrect, counterproductive to our goals of protecting our wildlife, and dangerous. He posted false information as well as outright lies in the threads that followed. His actions and comments as well as the comments of others posting on the thread, left my wife and daughter feeling threatened and frightened; Posting grievances on social media is not how we will find better solutions for co-existing with bears and other wildlife in Mammoth

In order to co-exist, we, the human residents, need to do much, much better. But that doesn't mean that we can't also pro-actively help the bears when the opportunity arises. These are not mutually exclusive actions. A yearling, who has an opportunity to learn the ways of the world in the wild (rather than in town) has a much stronger chance of living a healthy, safe and long life. I believe that is what all of us want for the bears of Mammoth.

It is clear to me that we need more education and thoughtful communication in our community. I strongly encourage the Town to work with CDFW, MLPD and any other relevant agencies to understand the community's concerns, work to educate the community about the Eastern Sierra Bear Study and the opportunities it provides; establish best practices; take

stronger enforcement measures; and counter the misinformation that swirls around this topic with real data provided by CDFW and all other agencies.

David Baron
Mammoth Lakes



Local, comprehensive behavioral healthcare.

Accepting appointments for new patients for in-person counseling & psychiatry in both Mammoth & Bishop.

760.709.0262
www.EasternSierraCounseling.com

Accepting all local insurances

PRE-MANUFACTURED SHEDS

TRENDS HAS SHEDS IN STOCK
CUSTOMIZE YOUR SHEDS
ROOFING, WINDOWS,
SIDING AND MORE.
DELIVERY AVAILABLE

WE HAVE APPLIANCES

AVAILABLE AT TRENDS IN BISHOP!

FRIGIDAIRE GE APPLIANCES LG SAMSUNG VIKING

OPEN SATURDAYS
APPLIANCES IN STOCK
DELIVERY & INSTALLATION

TRENDS
HIGH COUNTRY LUMBER

760.873.5877 • 590 South Main St, Bishop
MON-FRI 9AM-5PM SAT 9AM-3PM SUN CLOSED

HCL
HIGH COUNTRY LUMBER
EMPLOYEE OWNED SINCE 2022

LOCAL NEWS

WANAHAHA SAYS BEWARE OF SCAM

Press Release

The Bishop Paiute Tribal Council wants to let the community know about a complicated online gaming fraud that is falsely using the name “Wanaaha Casino.”

This scam is spreading false ads and social media posts that promise a “\$1,500 welcome bonus” and apps that can be downloaded from the Google Play Store and Apple App Store. None of these things are authorized and could be dangerous. Important Information About the Scam: (1) Misleading Advertising: Scammers have made graphics with the California state seal and pictures of the Tribe’s Wanaaha Casino to make it look like online gaming is really starting up. (2) Links to fake downloads: These advertisements tell people to click on “Play Game” buttons that install software without permission. This could put devices at risk of malware or unwanted transac-

tions. A fake Facebook page pretending to be Wanaaha Casino posted a “Notice” saying that it had nothing to do with online gaming. This announcement is part of the scam itself. “We care about keeping our community’s personal and financial information secure,” said Tribal Chairman Steven Orihuela. “The State of California doesn’t permit online gambling, nor did the Bishop Paiute Tribal Council give permission for online gaming under the Wanaaha Casino name.” We ask that everyone stay alert and check the veracity of any offer before downloading software or giving out personal information.

Advice to the Public

Don’t click on links that you didn’t ask for that say they lead to Wanaaha Casino online gaming. Do not download or install any app that claims it is from Wanaaha Casino. Check the Wanaaha’s official website (www.wanaaha.com) or social media (www.facebook.com/wanaahacasino) accounts to ensure gambling promotions are authentic. Call the California Department of Justice’s gaming section at 1-800-GAMBLER if you get any strange messages. Please call the Tribal Office at (760) 873-3584 if you need more information or want to report more fraudulent activity.

Offices for rent

station81.net



STATION

TOML AWARDS MACC BID

Press Release

Development of the McCoy Arts and Cultural Center (MACC) took another step forward on July 2, when the Mammoth Lakes Town Council awarded the project’s construction contract to Spiess Construction Co., Inc. in the amount of \$15,862,000.

To celebrate this milestone, the community is invited to the groundbreaking ceremony for the MACC and a tour of the Edison Theatre renovations at 2:30pm on Wednesday, August 6, 2025 at 100 College Parkway.

Construction for the MACC will commence this summer with extensive site and utility work. The new theater addition will be integrated into the substantially complete Edison Hall phase I renovations (\$1 Million+) located at 100 College Parkway. This property was recently purchased by the Town from the Mammoth Lakes Foundation (MLF). Enhancements completed by MLF include dedicated dressing and rehearsal rooms, new restrooms, concession spaces, and other interior improvements. In the interest of public safety during construction, the Edison Theatre will not be available for public use until the new McCoy Arts and Cultural Center (MACC) is fully operational.

So local theater will not have a home until 2027 at the earliest.

The approximately 7,482 square-foot, 239-seat performing arts theatre will support live theater, musical performances, films, lectures, conferences, and an array of community activities. The Town’s Parks and Recreation Department will

manage the facility and coordinate the theatre’s annual programming with several organizations including Chamber Music Unbound, Sierra Classic Theatre, Mammoth Lakes Repertory Theatre, Eastern Sierra Community Chorus, and Mammoth High School.

Last year, the Town Council authorized the Town Manager to execute a purchase and sale agreement with the Mammoth Lakes Foundation (MLF) for the acquisition of the 8-acre property.

Funding for the MACC was derived from the project’s various partners. Kern Community College District (Measure C) in the amount of \$7.5 million, \$3 million was contributed from the Mammoth Lakes Foundation, \$500,000 from the Tambour Foundation, and \$5.82 million from the Town’s General Fund and Measure U.

The Town contracted with the recently formed Mammoth Lakes Performing Arts Foundation, a 501(c)(3), tax-exempt California Benefit Corporation, to perform fundraising activities and to administer an endowment fund to support operations and maintenance of the facility. To kick start the organization’s fundraising efforts and to support on-going overhead expenses, the Town is providing an annual contribution of \$25,000. With the formation of the Mammoth Lakes Performing Arts Foundation, a generous private donor has committed \$250,000 as a matching grant to develop a permanent endowment for this purpose. This is in addition to a Measure U contribution of \$300,000.

Stone Blossoms Jewelry



MAMMOTH LAKES

OPEN AIR ARTS & CRAFTS FAIR

Kittredge Sports | Highway 203 (Main Street) & Forest Trail

July 25·26·27 | Fri-Sun 10am-5pm

30 Professional Artists

Sandy & the High Country | Fri-Sun 11am-3pm

Handcrafted • Art in the Outdoors • Supporting Small Makers

Presented by



PacificFineArts.com

John's PIZZA WORKS

OUTLAW SALOON

LOCATED INSIDE JOHN'S PIZZA WORKS

FRIENDLY MOUNTAIN ATMOSPHERE

Watch your favorite sports events on our large-screen HD TVs!

HAPPY HOUR

Monday-Friday, 4:00-6:00pm

Dine In & Take Out

Open Daily Mon-Sun

11:30am -11:00pm

Two Scoops ICE CREAM PARLOR

Arcade & Ice Cream Milkshakes Sundaes

3499 Main Street, Mammoth Lakes (769) 934-4065 • johnspizzaworks.com

Use the QR code at right to view our full menu!

BEARS

continued from page 1

a full-time Town employee on call cruising around and talking to people and handing out stickers and hazing nuisance bears.

The Town of Mammoth outlined its program and strategy in a press release it sent out this week (located at right).

But the issues ultimately boil down to people, neighbors, and the constant struggle to remain vigilant when you're busy and tired and distracted.

It also proves the adage, as Town Councilman Bill Sauser observed during the Victor controversy last summer, "We've talked about the tourists as bad players ... but there's only 7,000 people who live in this town and I have seen more offenses by locals than I have by tourists."

Bubser and Baron are not the only ones in Old Mammoth who've had a trap on their property.

Laurey and Jeff Carlson also cooperated with CDFW to host a trap for a week prior - though it did not draw any takers.

In both cases, neighbors say Bubser/Baron and the Carlsons chronically left their garage doors open.

Bubser/Baron neighbor Jerry Woo, who's lived in his home for 28 years, observed drily, "They leave the garage door open half the time."

He also noted that a bear had gotten into an unlocked van with food in it which was parked in the Bubser/Baron driveway.

Baron said, "We do not leave our ga-

rage door open. That's not accurate."

He did acknowledge a van had been broken into by a bear but said the van break-in was unrelated to the purpose of his CDFW call to relocate the yearling.

"Chris [wife] and I have followed the science on this. Yearlings are more adaptable to relocation."

Area resident Mike Bond was unmoved. "The Mayor has taken it upon herself to become a 'wildlife expert,'" he said.

"They're the only ones in the neighborhood who've had an issue," said Bond.

Woo was further annoyed by the insinuation of the Mayor and her husband that his birdfeeder has been the main attractant and is responsible for this whole mess.

"We leave the feeder out during the day," he explained. "It's got a ratio of 3 oz. cayenne pepper to 1 oz. of feed."

The yearling cub, he says, wasn't even big enough to access it.

"Bears walk through our yard and by this house every day," he continued, noting the only time he's ever had a bear issue it was his own damn fault.

"I forgot a bag of dogfood one day in the car."

Woo says he talked to Bubser about six weeks ago and told her that if you call 'em (CDFW), they catch 'em and they'll euthanize 'em.

Searles said Bubser and Baron stopped by his home to talk to him after he posted a photo of the bear trap in

their yard which also included their address.

As Baron told The Sheet this week, "I feel safe about the bears, but not about being doxxed. There are crazies who now have our address, people driving

slowly down the street ... I'm taking down license plate numbers"

Searles was unrepentant. "I told them 'If you're proud of what you're doing, talk to the community. Why dodge it? ... She [Mayor Bubser] had no remorse."

more BEARS, pg. 9

TOWN OUTLINES WILDLIFE PROGRAM

To care for its local bears and other wildlife, the Town of Mammoth Lakes works closely with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), the Mammoth Lakes Police Department (MLPD), United States Forest Service (USFS) and other relevant organizations to implement humane, science-based approaches to bear management.

A recent intervention involving the relocation of a yearling bear highlights the importance of this work.

In some instances, to ensure the health and safety of the black bear population, CDFW will deploy traps to relocate bears that show signs of habituation to give them the best chance to move away from the area they are frequenting and thrive once again as a wild animal.

These types of interventions help prevent the bear from developing a lifelong dependency on human food and reduce the risk of future conflicts. In particular, yearling bears, recently separated from their mothers, are at a vulnerable stage where their behaviors are shaped for life, according to CDFW. If not guided back to their natural habitats, these young bears risk becoming habituated to humans and food-conditioned — learning to seek out trash, unsecured dumpsters, and even ingesting dangerous materials such as plastic bags. Such habits can lead to poor health, increased aggression, and ultimately, tragic outcomes for both bears and people.

The Town has also put a huge emphasis on community and visitor education directed at peacefully co-existing with bears. Town staff continue to conduct outreach focused on bear and wildlife safety throughout the Lakes Basin. To date, staff have recorded 1,334 individual interactions with campers and recreational users.

Other examples of Town education efforts include, but are not limited to:

*Regular bear training with all campground hosts taught by CDFW biologists.

*Town staff and MLPD provide edu-

cational talks, contact details, and other information to all camp hosts in Mammoth Lakes at their orientation training.

*Distribution of bear educational handouts in both English and Spanish to all camp hosts in Inyo Campgrounds along with RV Parks and Camp High Sierra.

*Development of an 'in print' wildlife reporting form specifically for the Lakes Basin - there is no cell service to fill out CDFW's online form or to call their wildlife conflict hotline at (559) 550-7060.

*Developing bear box signage on how to properly use them and deploying more bear boxes in high traffic areas, such as Horseshoe Lake.

*Developing signs for dumpsters on how to use them properly along with painting the carabiners bright orange and showing where they attach to help people understand how to close them properly.

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) is ultimately responsible for the health and safety of the black bear population and recently published the Black Bear Conservation and Management Plan for California. The plan, an update to the 1998 Black Bear Management Plan, draws upon the latest scientific tools and methods to conserve, manage, and monitor black bear populations in California. Their processes for managing human-bear conflicts are described in a Department Bulletin titled, "Black Bear Policy in California: Public Safety, Depredation, Conflict, and Animal Welfare."

"This plan allows us to employ the best available science to understand populations and make informed management and regulatory decisions going forward to ensure black bears thrive into the future and can be enjoyed by all Californians," said Arjun Dheer, CDFW's Statewide Black Bear Coordinator.

For additional information, please visit the CDFW website. To report conflicts with wildlife, call CDFW directly at: (559) 550-7060 or in the case of an emergency dial 911.

36th Annual
KIDS FISHING FESTIVAL

Saturday, July 26th, 2025

8am - 1pm Mammoth Lakes, CA

Snowcreek Resort Ponds on Old Mammoth Rd.

FREE for Kids 14 & Under

Fishing Rods, Reels & Tackle Provided... or Bring Your Own!
Educational Activities! Catch Huge Trout! DFW Kids Programs!

Sponsored by: Town of Mammoth Lakes

CA Department of Fish & Wildlife
Desert Springs Trout Farm
Snow Creek ResortBerkley / Pure Fishing
Mammoth Lions Club
Mammoth MTN Ski Area

For Information on Lodging Contact:

Visit Mammoth.com or Mono County.org

Call: 760-937-2942 or www.KidsFishFest.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 BEERAND 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 YEAH DID
WE FORGET TO MENTION ALL THE BEER?

BEARS

continued from page 8

Her only remorse was that she got caught.”

Searles made the following profane post on Facebook this week.

“Mayor Bubsur [sic], you baited, trapped and removed two innocent bears. Fuck you.”

Unsurprisingly, Bubser and Baron find this unsettling. “People noticed the trap in the yard and Steve Searles went crazy,” observed Baron.

As for Carlson, she said she came home one day to find a whole slew of Fish and Wildlife personnel and Town Resource Officers in her driveway.

What she didn’t share, but what was shared by a neighbor, Traci Walker, who was on-site, was that her garage door was open.

And that she’d had two previous instances this year of bears being in the garage.

“This has been an issue (leaving the garage open) for more than a decade,” said Walker.

“I don’t want a war with Laurey but the lack of personal accountability is unacceptable,” added Walker.

For her part, Carlson is wary of the self-righteous attitudes.

“Old Mammoth is my chosen place on earth and I am mindful of my environment. Obviously I don’t want any creatures shot and/or killed ... this is the first time I’ve ever had a trap on my property.”

Quite frankly, she was madder about her sunflowers getting chomped by lo-

cal deer than anything bear-related.

“I’m madder at Bambi than I am at Yogi,” she said.

As Walker says, she’s happy to leave the past where it is. “If this leads to a garage not being left open with trash inside, that’s a win.”

On a side note, Walker is also upset about the Main Lodge parking area situation. She said there have been seven confirmed bear break-ins already this year from long term hiker parking. People are leaving food in their vehicles overnight and guess what happens.

Which brings us back to CDFW’s Michael Brown.

So much of his message was ... well, the message we’ve heard for years.

“Our goal is to work with the community to reduce opportunity. Lock up your stuff and store accordingly.

It’s the responsibility of everyone to do their part ... we rely on the public to report bear sightings and behavior.

A wildlife hotline has been established: 559.550.7060

We ID bears and intervene when necessary to curb behavior before it gets too far along. Negative conditioning works, he said.

“We have the highest concentration of human-bear conflict in California, if not the country, right here, and the numbers are increasing because our involvement in Mammoth is increasing. “

Mammoth has two times the bear density you’d typically see in the wild.

“We’re all working towards a similar



In 2021, a neighbor called saying a bear was in my building. We took care of it like this.
-Traci Walker

goal - to keep the populations as wild as possible.

“All indicators point to a larger bear population than ever, and a lot more people living and recreating here.”

This, he said, underscores the importance of educational programs - to

teach the naive.

Depredation permits are a last resort, he said.

In the past 10 years, he said CDFW has moved/relocated 15-20 bears.

Your Mammoth Lakes Real Estate Experts with an Unmatched Reach to Southern CA and Beyond

Powered by the Nation’s Top Brokerage



\$600M+

Total Sales Volume

1000+

Closed Transactions

250+

Five Star Reviews

50+

Years of Experience

THE HELTON TEAM

Compass Resort Division

MAMMOTH LAKES

760.914.3800

theheltonteam@compass.com

DRE 01784118



theheltonteam.com

COMPASS

Compass is a service mark owned by the State of California and used by Compass Real Estate, Inc. under license. All other marks are the property of their respective owners. © 2025 Compass Real Estate, Inc. All rights reserved.

SIERRA CLASSIC THEATRE & MAMMOTH LAKES REPERTORY THEATRE PRESENT



ROMEO & JULIET

AUGUST 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 15, 17

MAMMOTH Shakespeare FESTIVAL

AUGUST 5-24, 2025

TUESDAYS - SUNDAYS @ 7PM

FREE PRE-SHOW INTRO @ 6PM

OUTDOORS AT EAGLE LODGE



A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

AUGUST 12, 14, 16, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24

FOR TICKETS & INFORMATION

MAMMOTHSHAKES.COM

calendar of events

www.MammothRealEstateBlog.com



A Resource for Buyers & Sellers
Hundreds of Articles & Videos
Visit today!

mammoth

GEAR EXCHANGE

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

MAMMOTH LIQUOR

Beer lovers' candy store
Selection of more than 300 beers

CHECK OUT OUR GRAB 'N GO COCKTAIL BINS!

934.6260 Main St. Next to Rick's

**Sanford Horowitz**
CRIMINAL DEFENSE LAW
3293 MAIN ST.
MAMMOTH LAKES, CA 93546
SANDY@HOROWITZFORLAW.COM
SERVING MAMMOTH LAKES, BISHOP, AND THE EASTERN SIERRA



Call Us To Find Out More
805-452-7214

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

Yoga Mammoth Wellness Studio

Livitate LLC
3399 Main St., Unit W
P.O. Box 1434
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

This business is conducted by a limited liability co. The registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Mono County on May 30, 2025
File Number 2025-0079
TS #2025-0094 (7/12, 7/19, 7/26, 8/2)

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**. *More Liberty info: Ad p. 15*
Outlaw Saloon Happy Hour Monday through Friday from 4-6 p.m. *More info: See ad p. 6*
The Mogul happy hour 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the bar. Food and drink specials.
Main Street Pizza - *See ad page 13 for details.*
Distant Brewing happy hour Monday-Thursday from 3-5pm. \$1/off beer/wine/cider/seltzer/kombucha

Friday, July 18/
Bishop Country Club patio parties resume. Live music. Starts 5:30 p.m.

July 18-19/
Liberty hosts Reggaeifest after-parties featuring Local Anthology (Friday) and the Bower Street Scorchas (Saturday).

July 18-20/
Mammoth Reggaeifest @ the Village at Mammoth. Three days of music. Free. Info: mammothreggae.com.

Sunday, July 20/
Bodie 601 plays the Tioga Gas Mart in Lee Vining. Time: 3-6 p.m. Support the venue. No outside booze! *Ad p. 2*
Live music @ Cardinal Village Resort in Aspendell. Time: 1-4 p.m.
Jeff Livingstone (Americana) plays Distant Brewing. Time: 7-9 p.m. No cover.

Monday, July 21/
Open mic @ Distant Brewing. Time: 6-9 p.m.

Tuesday, July 22/
Karaoke @ Liberty. Starts 10 p.m.

BARS & MUSIC

Wednesday, July 23/
Eddy Evans plays jazz sax @ Liberty in Mammoth from 4-6 p.m.

Thursday, July 24/
You, Me and the Whales (LA's hottest experimental jazz) plays Liberty in Mammoth. Time: 9:30 p.m. No cover.

Saturday, July 19/
8th Annual Eastern Sierra Book Festival. Location: Hayden Cabin in Mammoth. Time: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. with speakers and used and new books for sale all day.
Improv Comedy Workshop @ C5 Studios in Bishop. Time: 10 a.m. 'til 1 p.m. Ages 15+. Location: 210 S. Warren St. \$\$\$ *Info/register @ c5studios.org*
Rock Creek Lakes cleanup day with Friends of the Inyo. Time: 9 a.m. 'til noon. Meeting spot: campground parking lot.
Rhiannon's Kids Pickleball Tourney @ the Pickleball complex next to Mammoth Lakes Library. *Info: 760.965.9954*
Another We The People Protest in Mammoth. Time: 3:30-5:30 p.m. *Where: Main St. in front of Stellar Brew.*

Sunday, July 20/
Free swim Sundays @ Whitmore Pool.

July 20, 23, 25, 27/
The Unbound Chamber Music Festival resumes @ Cerro Coso College in Mammoth and runs through July 27. *For more info, see ad p. 7*

Monday, July 21/
The Bishop Community Band has begun its Summer Season of Concerts in the Park. Time:

TOWN STUFF

Every Monday @ 8 p.m. Music will include marches, popular songs, jazz arrangements and popular novelty numbers. Bring a chair and/or a blanket and enjoy.

July 21-24/
Kids Summer Film Series @ Minaret Cinemas w/support from Mammoth Hospital. Previously released kids' films on the big screen at 11 a.m. daily. Just \$2.50 for a walk-up ticket. **This week's film: Puss in Boots: The Final Wish.**

Tuesday, July 22/
Inyo County Supervisors meet in Board Chambers @ 224 N. Edwards St. in Independence or online via inyocounty.us. Time: 10 a.m.

Wednesday, July 23/
Womens Wednesday Rides @ Mammoth Mountain Bike Park. Meet outside the Adventure Center by the MTB rentals at 4:30 p.m.
Eastern Sierra Business Resource Center hosts a procurement workshop for local building contractors at its new offices, 269 N. Main St. in Bishop. Time: 4-6 p.m. *Info: mpicard@sierrabusiness.org*
Mono Arts Council Summer Art & Wine Series: Basket Weaving with Lucy Parker & Family. Location: MAC Gallery inside the Minaret Mall. Class includes materials, instruction and a beverage. \$\$\$ *Info/register monoarts.org*

Thursday, July 24/
Bishop Chamber of Commerce and Inyo Council for the Arts co-host a Summer Arts mixer. Location: The ICA @ 1150 Willow St. Time: 5:30-7:30 p.m. Student showcase, food & drink, free event.



Join Now

We Are Hiring!

At mono County, we're always on the lookout for talented individuals to join our team. We pride ourselves on offering exciting career opportunities and a workplace where you can thrive.

Why Work with us?

- Endless Opportunities
- Exceptional Benefits
- Professional Growth
- Working as part of a team
- Be part of something extraordinary

Ready to take the next step in your career? Visit our careers page to explore the current opening and apply today!

Visit:
<https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/monocountyca>

NO CLASS-IFIEDS

Help Wanted



SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF MONO

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

Information Technology Technician

I or II

This is a part-time, non-exempt, non-represented position

Hourly Salary:
\$23.16-\$35.99

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/AE/ADAE



MAMMOTH COMMUNITY WATER DISTRICT'S Personnel Services Department is currently recruiting for one permanent Human Resources Manager position. FOR APPLICATION INFORMATION/TO APPLY: Please see the District website <https://mcwd.dst.ca.us/employment/>.

For Rent



TAMMY HOOPER
REAL ESTATE

LT lease available for stylishly designed, move-in ready Bigwood Townhome. 1+ loft/2 BA/1-car garage. \$3,500/mo. Sunny corner location, furnished, lots of storage, woodburning stove, prvt. entrance, near common area pool, spa, on-site laundry and shuttle. No pets per HOA. Call Tammy @ 760.937.7300.

PERSONALS

I heard you ... were planning to attend this weekend's Book Festival, which comes as a complete shock. Just make sure to pace yourself. Otherwise your lips will get tired.

I hope to see you ... at this weekend's Reggae-fest. Although if I do see you, will I remember it? Let's just make it easier on ourselves and resolve to go home together

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.
- **Physical Therapist** - Starting wage \$48.72 to \$59.05 based on qualifications. \$5,000 Retention Bonus
- **Hospital Social Worker** - Starting wage \$43.69 to \$52.96 based on qualifications.
- **Dental Assistant** - Registered - Starting \$25.49 to \$30.90 based on qualifications.

To view more positions and apply, pls. 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.

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



Great Basin Unified
Air Pollution Control District

Job Announcement
Administrative Services Officer

GBUAPCD seeks an individual with government finance experience to lead and oversee all financial activities of the agency and to lead human resources. The position is full-time, exempt, and based in Bishop, CA. Annual salary is \$119-\$160k per year plus generous benefits. For more info please visit www.gbuapcd.org/employment. Recruitment will be open until the position is filled.



HIGHLAND PLUMBING

Hiring motivated candidates, experience preferred but not essential, job training will be provided. Must have a valid drivers license. Great pay and perks. Full time, year-round, Mon-Fri schedule. To apply, please contact Tarek at 760-914-9184.



MAMMOTH
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Mammoth Unified School District is seeking contractors to submit a pre-qualification application and submit proposals for preconstruction services and lease-leaseback to support various Measure J General Obligation Bond funded projects, including the Mammoth Elementary HVAC and TK Classroom projects.

Please visit the Mammoth USD website or <https://tinyurl.com/5bhf3tb> for more information. The pre-qualification application deadline is August 1, 2025 and the RFQ/RFP deadline is August 15, 2025.

TS #2025-0091

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

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

Restaurant Server for Eagles Landing Restaurant at the popular Double Eagle Resort and Spa in June Lake CA. Experience in restaurant service, computers and working as team member are essential. Full and part time available, health ben-

Maintenance and Repair Technician
Local Resort seeks experienced person to complete carpentry and other building maintenance and repair. \$34-\$38/hr depending on experience and skill set. We offer benefits (medical, life insurance, 401(k) with matching, employee discounts, etc.) and a great working environment. Please send resume to jobs@convictlake.com.

JDB Construction seeks a skilled and reliable Journeyman to join our team. We are a well-established construction company based in Mammoth - this is a great opportunity to work on a variety of builds with a solid crew in a professional and supportive environment. Call Jaimie @ 760.258.1078



Papich Construction is **HIRING!** Seeking experienced Heavy Equipment Operators and Construction Laborers. Please visit www.papichco.com for more info or email resume to HR@papichconstruction.com.

Help Wanted

efits, fitness membership and PTO. Great place to work. Email Lodging@doubleeagle.com

Restaurant bartender for Eagle's Landing Restaurant at the popular Double Eagle Resort and Spa. Experience in restaurant bartending, computers and working as a team member are essential. FT and PT work available. Health benefits, fitness membership, PTO. Great place to work. Email Lodging@doubleeagle.com

Cooks and Prep Cooks 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

MT. WHITNEY GOLF CLUB

WE ARE HIRING CLUBHOUSE STAFF!

Seasonal and Year Round Part Time Hourly Position

Starting pay: \$17.00 per hour Plus Tips

Your main objective is to provide the highest level of customer service to the club's members and their guests.

Create positive memorable experiences for members and their guests by maintaining the Values of MWGC. Be Engaged, Treat Members/ Guests with Respect, Have Camaraderie, Be Excellent.

RESPONSIBILITIES & DUTIES
Clubhouse Operations, Tee Sheet Management, Light Bartending, Cleaning and more
You must be motivated, be able to stay on your feet and know/learn about Golf!!

For full Job Description visit www.mtwhitneygolf.com



Tioga Green Dispensary is hiring an asst. manager and budtenders. Please email tiogagreen@gmail.com with resume/references.

This is **Charlie!**

He's just a cool guy, easy going and a favorite of the volunteers and the other dogs. The medium sized sweet boy will be a fun addition to any home.

Visit our shelter to meet Charlie 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.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE, BECOME A VOLUNTEER TODAY!



PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice of Ordinance

ORDINANCE NO. ORD 25-003

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MONO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ADDING CHAPTER 19.10 TO THE MONO COUNTY CODE, PROVIDING A PROCEDURE FOR REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION IN THE COUNTY'S LAND USE AND ZONING REGULATIONS PURSUANT TO FAIR HOUSING LAWS.

WHEREAS, on November 5, 2019, the Mono County Board of Supervisors adopted the 6th Cycle (2019-2027) Mono County Housing Element; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) approved the County's 6th Cycle Housing Element and sent a letter of compliance to the County; and

WHEREAS, HCD's approval of the 6th Cycle Housing Element noted that approval was based on, among other reasons, Mono County's plans to adopt policy which addresses the need for reasonable accommodations in land use and zoning regulations for persons with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, approval will result in Chapter 19.10 being added to the Mono County Code, pursuant to the Federal Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988 and the California Fair Employment and Housing Act, to provide individuals with disabilities reasonable accommodation in rules, policies, practices and procedures to ensure equal access to housing and facilitate the development of housing for individuals with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors held a public hearing to receive public testimony on the matter on December 10, 2024; and

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF MONO FINDS AND ORDAINS that:

SECTION ONE: Chapter 19.10 shall be added to the Mono County Code to read as follows:

Chapter 19.10 - REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION

19.10.010 - Purpose.

It is the policy of Mono County, pursuant to the federal Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988 and the California Fair Employment and Housing Act (hereafter "fair housing laws"), to provide individuals with disabilities reasonable accommodation in rules, policies, practices and procedures to ensure equal access to housing and facilitate the development of housing for individuals with disabilities. This ordinance establishes a procedure for making requests for reasonable accommodation in land use and zoning regulations, policies, practices and procedures of the jurisdiction to comply fully with the intent and purpose of fair housing laws.

19.10.020 - Findings.

The Federal Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988 and California's Fair Employment and Housing Act impose an affirmative duty on local governments to make reasonable accommodation in their land use and zoning regulations and practices when such accommodation may be necessary to afford individuals with disabilities an equal opportunity to housing;

A. The Housing Element of the jurisdiction must identify and develop a plan for removing governmental constraints to housing for individuals with disabilities including local land use and zoning constraints or providing reasonable accommodation;

B. The Attorney General of the State of California has recommended that cities and counties implement fair housing reasonable accommodation procedures for making land use and zoning determinations concerning individuals with disabilities to further the development of housing for individuals with disabilities;

C. A fair housing reasonable accommodation procedure for individuals with disabilities and developers of housing for individuals with disabilities to seek relief in the application of land use and zoning regulations, policies, practices and procedures will further the jurisdiction's compliance with federal and state fair housing laws and provide greater opportunities for the development of critically needed housing for individuals with disabilities.

19.10.030 - Applicability.

Reasonable accommodation in the land use and zoning context means providing individuals with disabilities, or developers of housing for people with disabilities, flexibility in the application of land use and zoning regulations, policies, practices and procedures, or even waiving certain requirements, when it is necessary to eliminate barriers to housing opportunities. An individual with a disability is someone who has a physical or mental impairment that limits one or more major life activities; anyone who is regarded as having such impairment; or anyone with a record of such impairment. A request for reasonable accommodation may be made by any individual with a disability, his or her representative, or a developer or provider of housing for individuals with disabilities, when the application of a land use or zoning regulation, policy, practice or procedure acts as a barrier to fair housing opportunities.

19.10.040 - Notice to the Public of Availability of Accommodation Process.

Notice of the availability of reasonable accommodation shall be prominently displayed at public information counters in the Community Development Department, advising the public of the availability of the procedure for eligible individuals. Forms for requesting reasonable accommodation shall be available to the public in the Community Development Department.

19.10.050 - Requesting Reasonable Accommodation.

In order to make housing available to an individual with a disability, any eligible person as defined in 19.10.030 may request a reasonable accommodation in land use and zoning regulations, policies, practices and procedures, as follows:

A. Requests for reasonable accommodation shall be in writing and provide the following information:

(1) Name, mailing address, and contact information of the individual(s) requesting reasonable accommodation;

(2) Name, mailing address, and contact information of the property owner(s);

(3) Physical address and Assessor's parcel number (APN) of the property for which accommodation is requested;

(4) The current use of the property;

(5) The basis for the claim that the person is considered disabled under fair housing laws: identification and description of the disability which is the basis for the request for accommodation, including current, written medical certification and description of the disability and its effects on the person's medical, physical or mental limitations;

(6) Description of the requested accommodation and the regulation(s), policy or procedure for which accommodation is sought;

(7) The reason(s) why the requested accommodation is reasonable and necessary for the disabled individual(s) to use and enjoy the dwelling. Where appropriate, include a summary of any potential means and alternatives considered in evaluating the need for the accommodation;

(8) Copies of memoranda, correspondence, pictures, plans or background information reasonably necessary to reach a decision regarding the need for and reasonableness of the accommodation; and

(9) Any additional information the Community Development Department may request consistent with fair housing laws to evaluate the request for reasonable accommodation.

B. Any information identified by an applicant as confidential shall be retained in a manner so as to respect the privacy rights of the applicant and shall not be made available for public inspection.

C. A request for reasonable accommodation in regulations, policies, practices and procedures may be filed at any time that the accommodation may be necessary to ensure equal access to housing. A reasonable accommodation does not affect an individual's obligations to comply with other applicable regulations not at issue in the requested accommodation.

D. If an individual needs assistance in making the request for reasonable accommodation, the jurisdiction will provide assistance to ensure that the process is accessible.

E. Requests for reasonable accommodations are subject to Development Activity Hourly Rate fees at the rate listed in the Mono County Fee Schedule.

19.10.060 - Reviewing Authority.

A. Requests for reasonable accommodation shall be reviewed by the Director of the Mono County Community Development Department, using the criteria set forth in 19.10.070.

B. The reviewing authority shall issue a decision on a request for reasonable accommodation within thirty (30) days of the date of a complete application and may either grant, grant with modifications, or deny a request for reasonable accommodation in accordance with the required findings set forth in 19.10.070.

C. If necessary to reach a determination on the request for reasonable accommodation, the reviewing authority may request further information from the applicant consistent with fair housing laws, specifying in detail the information that is required. In the event that a request for additional information is made, the thirty (30) day period to issue a decision is stayed until the applicant responds to the request.

19.10.070 - Required Findings.

The following findings must be made to grant, with or without modifications, a request for reasonable accommodation consistent with fair housing laws:

(1) The housing, which is the subject of the request for reasonable accommodation, will be used by an individual with disabilities protected under fair housing laws;

(2) The requested accommodation is necessary to make housing available to an individual with disabilities protected under the fair housing laws;

(3) The requested accommodation would not induce an undue financial or administrative burden on the jurisdiction and;

(4) The requested accommodation would not require a fundamental alteration in the nature of the jurisdiction's land use and zoning program, including community character, public safety, and reasonableness.

19.10.080 - Written Decision on the Request for Reasonable Accommodation.

A. The written decision on the request for reasonable accommodation shall explain in detail the basis of the decision, including the reviewing authority's findings on the criteria set forth in 19.10.070. All written decisions shall give notice of the applicant's right to appeal and to request reasonable accommodation in the appeals process as set forth below. The notice of decision shall be sent to the applicant by certified mail or, if the applicant has consented in writing, by electronic mail.

B. The written decision of the reviewing authority shall be final unless an applicant appeals it to the Mono County Planning Commission. The decision of the Planning Commission upon appeal shall be final unless an applicant appeals it to the Mono County Board of Supervisors.

C. If the reviewing authority fails to render a written

decision on the request for reasonable accommodation within the thirty (30) day time period allotted by 19.10.060, the request shall be deemed granted.

D. While a request for reasonable accommodation is pending, all laws and regulations otherwise applicable to the property that is the subject of the request shall remain in full force and effect.

19.10.090 - Appeals.

A. Within thirty (30) calendar days of the date of the reviewing authority's written decision, an applicant may appeal an adverse decision to the Mono County Planning Commission. Appeals from the adverse decision shall be made in writing and submitted to the Mono County Community Development Department.

B. Within thirty (30) calendar days of the date of the Mono County Planning Commission's decision, an applicant may appeal an adverse decision to the Mono County Board of Supervisors. Appeals from the adverse decision shall be made in writing and submitted to the Mono County Community Development Department.

C. If an individual needs assistance in filing an appeal on an adverse decision, the jurisdiction will provide assistance to ensure that the appeals process is accessible.

D. All appeals shall contain a statement of the grounds for the appeal. Any information identified by an applicant as confidential shall be retained in a manner so as to respect the privacy rights of the applicant and shall not be made available for public inspection.

E. All appeals are subject to Appeal fees at the rate listed in the Mono County Fee Schedule.

F. Nothing in this procedure shall preclude an aggrieved individual from seeking any other state or federal remedy available.

SECTION TWO: This Ordinance shall take effect and be in full force and effect thirty (30) days after its adoption. Before the expiration of fifteen (15) days from the adoption hereof, this Ordinance shall be published as required by Government Code Section 25124. The Clerk of the Board of Supervisors shall post this ordinance and also publish it or a summary thereof in the manner prescribed by Government Code section 25124 no later than 15 days after the date of its adoption.

PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED this 8th day of July 2025, by the following vote,
to wit:
AYES: Supervisors Duggan, Kreitz, McFarland, Peters, and Salcido.
NOES: None.
ABSENT: None.
ABSTAIN: None.

Lynda Salcido, Chair
Mono County Board of Supervisors
ATTEST: Danielle Patrick, Clerk of the Board
APPROVED AS TO FORM: Christopher Beck, County Counsel

TS #2025-0096

Request for Proposals

The Bishop Paiute Tribe (the "Tribe") is soliciting proposals from qualified construction firms or contractors to complete a network operations center (NOC) as part of a Broadband Project funded by the NTIA Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program. The project period of this service will be 3 months (August 25, 2025 to November 25, 2025).

A mandatory on-site meeting and walkout will be held on July 24 at 10:00AM at 2490 Diaz Ln, Bishop, CA 93514. A sign-on sheet will be provided at the location, and a representative of the construction firm must be present in order to be eligible to bid. Areas of work include but are not limited to:

- Demolition and disposal of existing walls, fixtures, and structural components
- Plumbing and HVAC redesign and repair
- Carpentry and framing including addition and removal of doors and windows
- Carpeting, tiling, and floor reinforcement
- Internal drywall and external siding and skirting repair and paint
- Roof inspection and repair
- Electrical inspection, repair, and installation including 120V, 240V, and low voltage/data/fiber
- Installation, modification and repair of perimeter fencing
- Installation of bollards and laying of gravel in parking areas
- Others as listed in the "Project Description" available at [bishoppaiutetribes.com](#)

Those wishing to attend and bid must send contact information via email to Phil.fowler@bishoppaiute.org. This is a Federally funded project and Bishop Paiute Tribal Prevailing Wages apply. Tribal Employment Rights Ordinance (TERO) regulations apply and TERO Compliance Plan Agreements will be required, including the 4% TERO administrative fee for this project.

The Bishop Paiute Tribe is a federally recognized Indian Tribe and as such is exempt from Sales Tax. As such, all bids should not include any California sales tax on the materials purchased for installation on this project but will be required to pay the Tribal Materials Tax of 6%.

Questions are to be directed to Phil Fowler, IT Director - Bishop Paiute Tribe, 50 Tu Su Lane - Bishop, CA, 93514 - (760) 873-3584 Ext 1400 - Phil.fowler@bishoppaiute.org

TS #2025-0090

H.E.A.R.T.S. CONNECTION
CENTRO DE EMPODERAMIENTO
FAMILIAR PRESENTA:

CONFERENCIA DE
UN DÍA

¡Pronto habrá más
información!
Contacto: Ann Bason
661-531-3498

ASPECTOS DESTACADOS DEL
EVENTO:

• Información sobre el proceso de Educación Especial y más!

• Sesiones de Preguntas y Respuestas

• Mesas informativas de proveedores

ORADORA PRINCIPAL:

HEATHER CARR, DIRECTORA DE
SELPA DEL CONDADO DE INYO

18 DE SEPTIEMBRE DE 2025
10AM – 2PM

IGLESIA METODISTA
205 N. FOWLER ST., BISHOP, CA

¡CONOCE A PROVEEDORES DE
OTRAS ORGANIZACIONES Y
SERVICIOS DENTRO DE LOS
CONDADOS DE INYO Y MONO!

COSTO DE ENTRADA:
\$15/PERSONA

INCLUYE ENTRADA,
BOCADILLOS, REFRIGERIOS,
ALMUERZO Y UN LIBRO PARA
LLEVAR A CASA



NATIONAL

A 2026 PREVIEW - GUBERNATORIAL RACES

By Casselman

With so much public attention on the political changes taking place at the federal level under the new Trump administration, the partisan orientation at the state level is easily overlooked.

Two governorships will be decided this November, and thirty-six more will be on the ballot in next year's mid-term elections.

Currently, there are twenty-seven Republican governors and twenty-three Democrats who hold their states' highest executive office.

The two up for election in 2025 are Virginia (GOP incumbent) and New Jersey (Democrat incumbent), but both are open races since their current governors are term-limited. Democrats are favored to win both these races although they are likely to be competitive. Virginia and New Jersey in recent years have favored liberal statewide candidates, although conservative Virginia Governor Glen Youngkin's victory was an upset.

In 2026, ten governorships held by Democrats, and fifteen held by Republicans, are considered "safe" races.

The competitive Democrat races include California (open), Colorado (open), Wisconsin, Kansas, Minnesota, Maine, Michigan and New Mexico — incumbents are expected to run in the latter six states.

The battleground Republican races include Nevada, Georgia and Iowa, the latter two will be open contests.

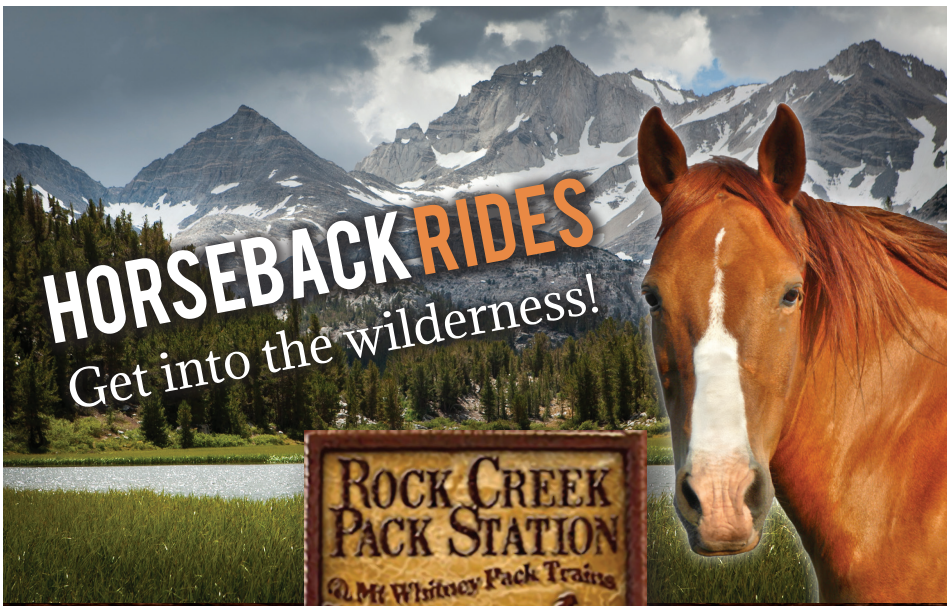
Some pundits rate the Pennsylvania race as a toss-up, but incumbent Democrat Josh Shapiro is very popular despite the Keystone State trending conservative, and so far, the GOP has not come up with a strong candidate.

Many commentators rate the Minnesota race as "safe" for the state Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party (DFL), but a recent major poll show his re-election numbers in the negative. If he is the DFL nominee in 2026, the race will likely be competitive.

The first mid-term election in a "new" presidency, 2026, historically favors the opposition party, in this case the Democrats, but that advantage could be illusory since most of the battleground races for governor are now held by Democrats.

Unlike the federal races in a mid-term election, contests for governor and other statewide races usually depend on local state issues. But in the era of the second Trump administration, intensity of support or opposition to the president and his policies could play a greater role than usual in next year's campaigns.

Barry Casselman is a syndicated columnist who has been covering national politics since 1972.



HORSEBACK RIDES

Get into the wilderness!

ROCK CREEK PACK STATION
Mt. Whitney Pack Trails

Join us for a day in the Sierra...

Spend a leisurely day on horseback exploring the beauty of Rock Creek Canyon and Little Lakes Valley. Enjoy a complimentary lunch at our favorite picnic spot with our guides!

Just 35 min. from Mammoth/Bishop



BOOK ONLINE OR CALL

(760) 935-4493

RockCreekPackStation.com

★ RIDES

Rock Creek Lake (2hr)	\$99
Panorama Ride (2hr)	\$99
Little Lakes Valley Overlook (2.5 hrs)	\$140
Half-Day Scenic Ride (4hr)	\$160
Day in the Sierra (6hr + lunch)	\$185
All-Day Fishing/Scenic Ride (8hr + lunch)	\$215

MAIN STREET PIZZA & TAP



Superlative East Coast, Thin-Crust Pizza

LUNCH SPECIALS

Monday-Thursday, 11am-2pm

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



HAPPY HOUR

Monday - Friday 3-6 PM

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



3399 Main Street, Mammoth Lakes, Family Friendly!

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

H.E.A.R.T.S. CONNECTION
FAMILY EMPOWERMENT CENTER
PRESENTS:

ONE DAY CONFERENCE

More info to come!
Contact Ann Bason
661-531-3498

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS:

- Info on Special Ed process and more!
- Q&A Sessions
- Vendor Booths



MAIN SPEAKER:

HEATHER CARR, INYO
COUNTY SELPA DIRECTOR

SEPT. 18, 2025 10AM-2PM

METHODIST CHURCH
205 N. FOWLER ST. BISHOP, CA

MEET VENDORS FROM OTHER ORGANIZATIONS AND SERVICES WITHIN INYO AND MONO COUNTIES

ENTRY FEE:
\$15/PERSON
INCLUDES ENTRY, SNACKS, REFRESHMENTS, LUNCH, AND A BOOK TO TAKE HOME

LUNCH

continued from page 2

will be here.

She teaches Masters students at the University of Nevada-Reno in creative writing, and has published seven books herself.

She and recently retired UNR literature professor Mike Branch ("On The Trail of the Jackalope") will be giving a one-hour presentation starting at 11:15 a.m. The topic: Incorporating humor into nature writing. She and Branch will each talk & read for twenty minutes before opening it up for a Q&A.

The Book Festival is being held at Hayden Cabin in Mammoth Lakes. Time: 10 a.m. 'til 3 p.m.

In preparation for our conversation, I read about fifty pages of Ms. Roberts book, "Almost Somewhere," a memoir published in 2012 about hiking the John Muir trail. She can sure write, and is full of trenchant observations.

I asked her if she receives a lot of Cheryl Strayed comparisons. Yes, she does. Their books, ironically, came out at the same time. The vagaries of publishing. One goes multi-platinum. The other writer, who is just as talented, ends up at the Eastern Sierra Book Festival.

Our gain.

Roberts also recommended sticking around for Eve Quesnel's talk at 12:45. Quesnel is a Truckee-based writer who recently published "Snow Fleas and Chickadees: Everyday Observations in the Sierra."

DESTINATION COVER-MY-ASS

By Fisher

Worry not if you can't quite put your finger on what's wrong with Mammoth Lakes' tourism sector. Hunden Partners is here to figure it out.

The organization, which prides itself on being a "Leading Advisor in Destination Real Estat, Tourism and Placemaking," gave presentations to both the Mammoth Lakes Town Council and Mammoth Lakes Tourism this week on their outline for a "Destination Stewardship Plan" initiative.

The first part of the plan, as explained by Project Executive Bethanie DeRose to the Mammoth Lakes Town Council on Wednesday, is to provide a 5-year roadmap for Mammoth Lakes Tourism (MLT). The organization will then translate this work into "project-based components with timescales and cost estimation with specific project details."

Corporate-speak to English translation: they'll do a study and then give some recommendations. The study part is estimated to take six months, and the recommendations section is estimated to take another six months, so it will take a year for Hunden to assess and advise MLT.

A cost estimate drawn up by Hunden on August 28, 2024, set the organization's fees at a maximum of \$145,000, plus travel expenses.

The plan represents a vocalized shift from Mammoth Lakes Tourism's previously stated goal of marketing tourism to now enhancing the existing tourism

experience.

"We're not shooting for maximum, we're shooting for optimal," DeRose said of the company's goals, responding to a comment that 100% occupancy is not a good goal as it hinders the tourism experience.

Now, whether this is a shift in verbiage or a shift in practice, time will come to prove. Spreading out the tourism's peak season into the shoulder seasons, for example, *has been discussed in every location in every nook of the world since Moses parted the Red Sea.*

Much of Hunden's presentation on Thursday was spent holding a model "focus group" on the MLT board and meeting attendees, where DeRose asked the room to answer three questions anonymously:

What key outcomes would the board like to see as they relate to destination stewardship and quality of life preservation? What defines success?

Who would you like to see at the planning table and how do we get them there?

What challenges does Mammoth Lakes currently face related to tourism?

These questions prompted further discussion between the board and its new advisors. DeRose asked, for example, whether there were misconceptions the locals had about the tourists, which resulted in a belly laugh from the board members before they each deliberated on how the locals did not understand that tourism is a key element of the

town's economy.

**Oh those pesky peons we are so desperately trying to educate and save!*

Of the team, Hunden selected Stacy Corless, former Mono County Board of Supervisor, to be of service in community development (i.e., their local connection); but the three other project managers have no clear personal stake in the area.

**Of course, the local connection is in the process of moving to Tahoe.*

Corless seems to be aptly filling her role, as she asked the MLT board if they had any ideas on how to reach locals. She then threw out her best idea: "I don't know, buy them beer at Distant Brewing maybe?"

Part of Hunden's data collection plan is to hold focus groups, such as the one at the meeting, with other community stakeholders, including nonprofits, government officials, community members, van lifers, and beer drinkers.

They plan to use that information to assess the best way forward, hopefully striking a balance between the desires of each party.

**Ed. note: Finished the story and still not sure what the point is. My guess is that since MLT has already become a Destination Management Organization, this study is meant to provide the paper trail to back up that change in mission. Too bad we have to pay \$145,000 for the diploma. Stacy Corless fits right in as a consultant. I have no idea what she brings to the table here.*



GOJIRA
RAMEN & SUSHI

ALL YOU CAN EAT

LUNCH FROM **\$27.95** / DINNER FROM **\$34.95**
KIDS ANY

LOCATED IN THE BISHOP PLAZA, 1345 ROCKING W DR.
11:30 AM TO 8 PM DAILY



DISCONTINUED

Mammoth HOA members, has your
earthquake coverage
been cancelled?

We have a solution for you.

MAMMOTH INSURANCE
Serving the Community Since 1989

Eric Olson- Broker/Owner, Lic# 0783148
Alicia Olson- Broker/Owner, Lic# 0i19200
info@mammothinsurance.com, 625 Old Mammoth Rd, Suite 204
760-934-2200 • MammothInsurance.com

OP/ED

I WAS SO MUCH OLDER THEN ...

By Fisher

Someone once told me you can always tell how young someone is by how loud they are in public.

Teenagers make themselves known before they're even in the room. Babies wail without shame. Maybe that's passion. Maybe when you're young, you say everything before you know what's worth saying. By the time your hair goes silver, you've learned to think before you speak.

That thought came back to me on a hot train in Boston, my hand gripping the rail above my head instead of wiping my tears. My parents stood on either side. I think they were tired of listening to me cry.

I'd spent most of that morning crying. After a brief midday reprieve, I went right back to the waterworks in the Museum of Fine Arts courtyard. I'd spent the days before in Maine with my closest college friends, and felt the ache of their absence as I rode into the city to meet my parents.

The trip was part reunion, part celebration – it had been a year since I left the East Coast and moved to Mammoth. I'd spent most of this past year fantasizing about the life lessons I'd learn and the amazing person I'd become by this milestone.

But sometime between my friend Sarah asking me how I've grown up in the last year on Friday and losing half my body's salt content through tears on Monday, I'd realized I didn't have much to say. No tidy revelations. No confident takeaways. Just this strange ache, like growing pains during a mental puberty.

Leaving the Northeast was like breaking up with someone I was still in love with. I had good friends; I was close to my family; I loved the trees, the squirrels, even the masochistic weather. I knew if I stayed, I'd never leave. And when I did go, I was the only one of my friends to leave the 50 mile radius from which any of us were born.

In some ways, I've had it easier than my peers who stayed. We all had the rude awakening after college that there was no career plan drawn out for us and no clear indication that our friendships would last beyond the halls from which we graduated. While my friends tried to build a new life in the same place they'd lived their last, I got distance, and kept those memories tidy like a snow globe in my mind, grieving the change with my departure.

I kind of can't believe how I acted when I first arrived in Mammoth. I went out to bars alone, begging any girl in the room to be my friend.

"I literally don't care what your personality is like, we need to hang out be-

cause I don't know anyone in this town and there's only so many women that we need to stick together," was an actual sentence I said. Multiple times.

The scariest part of that story is how well it worked. Girls actually would text me back the day after I harassed them in Liberty Bar. It worked well enough, in fact, I made a group chat called 'GIRLS IN MAMMOTH' and added every single girl I met to it.

Eventually, I distilled the group chat into the women who became my closest friends.

I was dating a little at the time, but I remember the moment where I realized my now-boyfriend, Olaf, was actually going to be my boyfriend. He crept up on me. Olaf's a reserved guy with a mullet, a pickup truck, and a Berkeley degree. He grew up escaping the Central Valley heat by spending summers in Mammoth.

On our first date, he barely talked. He says now it's because I talked too much. We went paddleboarding at Horseshoe, and he kept trying to show me that pumice floats in water. But he couldn't find the right rock, and every stone he threw sank. I called my college friends later that night and told them I felt more of a friendship connection with him.

I spent more time with him because he was easy to talk to and I didn't really have anyone else to spend time with. Over a couple weeks, I found myself smiling at his texts, and we kept going on dates. On our third date, I met his mom and she, being a philosophy professor, showed us a Ted Talk titled, "How to Know if You're Going to Marry the Wrong Person," and asked us to analyze it to see if she should show it to her students.

And then, one day, he told me he was leaving Mammoth at the end of the summer because his job was ending and he didn't have anywhere to live. It knocked the breath out of me. He was the strongest connection I'd had in this town, and he was leaving?

I told him it was unfair; that I was just getting to know him, I'd endured philosophical debates from his mom on the topic of love, and now he was going to leave?

"Am I crazy, or do we have something really special?" I asked him, my face tear-streaked. "Well, you are crazy," he responded. "But we do have something special."

He told me he'd write me letters and call. I shot that down quickly. I couldn't do another long distance connection. Everyone in my life was long distance.

I sobbed in his arms and told him I just wanted to be known by somebody. Who else did I have? A list of numbers from girls I'd met in bars?

"I know. You just want to be loved, and I want to be the one to do it," he said.

He drove me home that night, after my emotions had subsided. When he pulled up next to my condo, the tears came right back. "Why am I in California?" I started crying again.

He brought me to bed, tucked me in, and sat at the end. "Say what you need to say," he told me. "Get it out of your head."

My head felt like it was full of bees, buzzing so loud I couldn't hear myself think. But after a good amount of time, probably hours, he stood up and gave me a kiss on the forehead. I asked him if it was the last time I was ever going to see him, and he scoffed.

He didn't end up leaving Mammoth. He did, however, sit patiently through several more of my meltdowns. I wonder now, how different my life here would look without him. Whether I would have stayed. I don't think I could.

When I was brainstorming this essay, I thought how very simple it all seems now. How very little I have to say now about a time that I once felt so much about. And ironically, how my life does not feel simpler now than it did then. I thought I'd be past this transition after a year, but so much around me is still

changing.

I am still lonely sometimes. I still miss my friends. I still don't really belong here, except now I don't really belong on the East Coast either.

As tears streamed down my face on Monday, I realized I'm never going to be "past" the transition, able to look back on it. Life is never going to be stable or simple. But over time, I'll file the pages of my life into books that sit, compressed across a wall. And knowing the pages will eventually settle; that's where you learn to be calm. Quiet.



Liberty Sports BAR & Grill @ f LIBERTYSPORTSBARANDGRILL

FREE LIVE MUSIC 9:30

7/3 THURSDAY Punkadelick
ON THE WAY TO HIGH SIERRA MUSIC FESTIVAL

7/5 Dominique & the Diamonds
BOOT SCOON COUNTRY

7/9 WEDNESDAY Great North Special
ON THE WAY FROM HIGH SIERRA MUSIC FESTIVAL

7/11 & 7/12 Willie Waldman Project
Plays w/ Tupac, Snoop, Al Green, Isaac Hayes & Fishbone

reggae fest after party 7/18 Local Anthology
ORIGINALS FROM ROCK TO REGGAE

7/19 Bover Street Scorchas
SKA, ROCK STEADY, BOSS REGGAE

7/24 THURSDAY YOU, ME + THE Whales
LA'S HOTTEST EXPERIMENTAL JAZZ

7/25 MAMMOTH ALL STARS
FUNK, SOUL & R&B

VILLAGE FEST AFTER PARTY 7/26 Tahoe Tribe
ORIGINAL MOUNTAIN JAMS

Karaoke every Tuesday at 10!
EDDY 4.6 JAZZ SAX on the patio EVERY WEDNESDAY

COMPASS
Family Counseling Services

ACCEPTING NEW CLIENTS

Victoria Ann Farber
Registered Associate
Marriage & Family Therapist #154885

760-914-4905
www.compassfamilycounseling.net

Supervised by Carol Windsor, LMFT #52237

760.709.2188

AT PEACE BOOKKEEPING

YOUR TRUSTED PARTNER FOR CLEAR, AFFORDABLE, STRESS-FREE BOOKS

WWW.ATPEACEBOOKKEEPING.COM

A NEW HOME FOR *FAMILY FUN*



CREEKHOUSE
AT SNOWCREEK RESORT



ALMOST SOLD OUT! CALL FOR CURRENT AVAILABILITY.

Last Chance to Purchase a Luxury Mountain Retreat with access to Clubhouse and Outdoor Spa.

3 BEDROOMS W/ FLEX ROOM • 3.5 BATHS • 2,152 SQ. FT. OF LIVING SPACE • TWO CAR GARAGE
SALES (760)-934-3334 • LIVECREEKHOUSE.COM



All information subject to change. The Snowcreek Property Company. CalDRE #01812140.
2025. All rights reserved.

ANOTHER LUXURY DEVELOPMENT BY THE CHADMAR GROUP



SNOWCREEK
RESORT