

the sheet

News, Views & Culture of the Eastern Sierra



Mammoth local Sofia Carolina Flores wraps her toes on Sunday at 3 a.m. during "the mammoth," a new 208 mile trail race. See story p. 8-9.

Saturday, October 4, 2025

FREE

Vol. 23, No. 40

GONE LEAF PEEPIN'



Fall foliage was on full display in the high country this week. Get your camera out before it's too late! Photo by Klusmire.

STARBUCKS GETS BUCKED

By Fisher

On Saturday morning, the Starbucks on Main Street in Mammoth Lakes didn't open. By Monday, it was clear it never would. Without warning to customers or the property owner, the location has officially closed.

The closure was part of a nationwide downsizing announced by Starbucks CEO Brian Niccol, who came into his role about a year ago. On Thursday, Niccol said the company would close about 1% of its stores across North America to trim costs and reinvest in cafe improvements. Employees at affected stores were notified the following day.

"We identified coffeehouses where we're unable to create the physical environment our customers and partners

expect, or where we don't see a path to financial performance," Niccol said.

The move comes after six consecutive quarters of declining same-store sales, according to the Wall Street Journal. Niccol said the company intends to redesign remaining locations to "deliver a warm and welcoming space with a great atmosphere."

For the property's owner, San Diego-based Jack Campagna, the closure was stunning.

Starbucks opened the Main Street location in 2018, replacing a Village location that shuttered around the same time. At 1.2 acres, the site was the largest Starbucks in Southern California and one of only two stand-alone retail buildings in Mammoth with a drive-through (though the

drive-through rarely operated).

Campagna purchased the property for \$4.7 million in 2019, with complete confidence in Starbucks' tenancy.

"When we [Campagna and his wife] bought it, we honestly never thought they'd leave because Starbucks always wants a drive-through," he said. "It was so big. I thought it was an awesome fit for the area. I thought it was great all around. I was shocked that they closed."

The lease, signed through 2029, should have guaranteed stability. Instead, Campagna said he received only an abrupt email just before closure.

"They literally gave me no notice. They didn't even

more STARBUCKS, pg. 5

NOT LOCKED UP

By Libre

This summer, Mammoth Lakes was ravaged by bike thieves. The earliest reported missing bike was in April, and the bulk of the crimes occurred in June and July. The Mammoth Lakes Police Department (MLPD) reported eight to ten theft related cases, resulting in approximately \$22,000 in stolen bikes and bike parts.

Sergeant Jason Heilman speculated in an interview with The Sheet on Wednesday there could be more unreported cases and uncovered bicycles.

The majority of the stolen bikes were e-bikes and mountain bikes. They were stolen from all over town from a mix of residential condos and commercial establishments. In July, eight bikes and various bike parts were recovered in residences associated with the suspects and in a meadow near Minaret Road and Old Mammoth.

Also in July, the MLPD arrested three suspects: Manuel Cruz Alcantar, 22, Vincente Jesus Guerrero Garcia, 25, and Jorge Luis Garcia, 29. All three are Mammoth Lakes residents.

There is no clear family tie between Guerrero Garcia and Luis Garcia. The three were charged with possession of stolen property, theft, and conspiracy. Their cases are still pending through the court system. All three suspects had prior contact with MLPD, though Heilman did not share what their previous cases entailed.

The Garcias are scheduled for a hearing in October. Alcantar has reportedly cut his GPS ankle monitor off and is

on the run. He is not believed to be dangerous. Heilman stated there is not "an active man-hunt" for Alcantar, and officers aren't going door to door looking for him. However, he encouraged the public to reach out if they have leads on Alcantar's whereabouts.

"We will definitely follow up and attempt to locate him," Heilman said.

Looking at the case summary, Heilman described the stolen bicycles as a "bike chop-shop." The suspects were re-arranging the bikes, painting over them, rendering them new.

He didn't know whether the suspects were using the bikes for themselves or if they were resold. He wondered if some of the bikes had left the area before they could be recovered.

"They were definitely altering the bikes and bike parts to where they did not look like the bikes that were originally stolen," he explained.

Throughout the interview, Heilman emphasized the meticulous investigation work done by the MLPD, including the 100+ page police reports.

"It was a lot of work and long days putting this all together," he said.

Heilman urged the public to lock up their bicycles and to keep a record of the serial numbers associated with their bikes.

"Take a picture on your phone," he said. That way, if your bike is stolen, the MLPD can track it down.

"If you're missing any bike parts or bikes and you think we may be in possession of it, contact us."

Will you goose-step?

Powered down

Liquid gratitude

U-Knighted

Nate Nate don't tell me

p. 4/

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CARBO STUPOR

There was a press release this week announcing the mutual “parting of ways” between Inyo Supervisors and former Inyo Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Nate Greenberg. He had served as CAO since September, 2022.

I guess he had outlived his usefulness to the Board once he had shepherded through raises for everybody.

You’d think that would’ve made him quite popular with the troops. Alas, the generals were apparently less sanguine.

Even though I don’t recall his bosses voicing any opposition along the way to Greenberg’s largesse.

As Nate was fond of saying in budget meetings, “I’m not going to balance the budget on the backs of our employees.”

Well, duh. Not when the well-fed county government is already slumped in a carbohydrate stupor atop the helpless taxpayers.

Klusmire told me this morning that the County Museum Director post he left in 2021 now pays 50% more than it did when he retired.

This is fairly representative of the wage spiral within county government.

By comparison, according to the CPI (Consumer Price Index), \$1 dollar in 2021 is worth about \$1.19 today.

I checked the Sheet’s rate cards and see my rates have risen 14% over the past four years.

But if Supervisors think they can jettison Greenberg and not be held accountable for their spendthrift ways, they are sadly mistaken.

What may have also sealed Nate’s fate was ... obsession with spreadsheets at the expense of services.

At one meeting prior to his departure, he lamented that he hadn’t been able to address the County’s EMS issue because he’d been consumed with creation and approval of the budget for the previous two months.

Which strikes one as particularly tone deaf.

Woe is me, I’m working soooo hard it’s affecting my work/life balance.

Note to staff: When the inevitable recession hits, you’re gonna have to do more than merely look busy.

Mono County Planning Commission approved changes in STR (nightly rental) policy at its meeting Tuesday.



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the sheet

News, Views & Culture of the Eastern Sierra

“It’s a dog-eat-dog world, Sammy, and I’m wearing Milk Bone underwear.”

-Norm (Cheers)

JACK LUNCH

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Community Development Director Wendy Sugimura was refreshingly candid - but I’m not sure the economic rationale is sound.

She said the purpose of policy changes is to prioritize residential use, prevent the commodification of housing and prevent loss of residential housing to a business model.

Her argument was that to reduce “commodification” of housing, we need to limit the number of transient rental permits. She said this will lower sale and rental prices and make housing more affordable to local residents.

“STRs are not a property right or entitlement,” she said.

All noble sentiments, but I’m still not sure how that makes a local resident more competitive when bidding against Southern California (or the rest of the world, for that matter).

Regardless of whether the unit is permitted for STR or not.

My personal belief is that larger market forces will dictate what happens next.

By larger forces, I think the combined weight of taxes and insurance and the like will continue to vex even the cleverest of planners - it won’t be a question of whether a local or a non-local will buy a place so much as if anyone can buy a place. And the costs of the “STR model” will become so high as to ultimately depress tourism demand.

Jacking the TOT rate last year will not help.

Maybe a local or two will buy a place ... if they work remotely.



5 FALL TIPS

— FOR RECREATING RESPONSIBLY —

- **Plan Ahead** Check weather, roads, and maps before you go. Weather can shift, cell service can be limited and restrooms may be scarce.
- **Park Smart** Use designated spots only. Avoid parking on plants or soft shoulders to protect fragile aspen roots. Aspens grow in shallow soils, and repeated pressure from cars can damage their roots for years to come.
- **Tread Lightly** Brush off boots and gear to prevent the spread of invasive species. Stay on trails and know proper trail etiquette. Never carve into aspens—their paper-thin bark makes them especially vulnerable, and even small cuts can introduce harmful disease.
- **Stay Aware** Drive safely, pull over only in safe areas, and never stop or stand in the road. Even quiet country roads see fast-moving traffic—protect yourself and be courteous to others.
- **Pack It In, Pack It Out** Carry out all trash—even food scraps. With more visitors during peak color season, even small litter can add up quickly and can harm wildlife. Bonus points for picking up extra litter.

LETTERS

Chasing waterfalls

Jack,

I love the way The Sheet often has a theme in each issue, maybe intended or not. This week's theme was unsettling because it is about that waterfall ahead that keeps roaring louder the closer we get no matter how much we insist on ignoring it. Here are a few of the sounds it is making.

Southern Inyo Hospital about to go bankrupt. Tri-County Fair in financial trouble. Bishop needing to hike sewage rates by over 50% and water rates by almost 300% just to replace rotted piping, accompanied by an explanation that the Lions sell water bottles for \$1 at the Fair because of the sensitivities of "local wallets" that somehow are expected to bear

the utility price hikes. And a plea from southeast Inyo residents, citizens of the most prosperous country on Earth, for food and electricity.

That's our micro situation in a very much larger spectacle. We can't expect much help from California since state and local debt exceeds \$500 billion. Uncle's credit card balance stands at \$37 trillion, which is less than his unfunded liabilities of around \$70 trillion. That waterfall ahead is fed by the most torrential economy in history, which paradoxically has spawned the most indebted nation since Adam and Eve had to find a place to live somewhere east of Eden.

We're in a boat drifting toward that watery precipice, our pilots are asleep, the motor won't start, and we've lost our anchor. The only question is when we're

going over, but we're already feeling the spray in our face.

John Rogitz
Mammoth Lakes

History repeats itself

One of my best friends grew up in Vienna, Austria. She witnessed Hitler and his Storm Troopers, colloquially called Brownshirts similar to Mussolini's fascists' Black Shirts, take over her country. In 1943, her dad left Vienna to fight with the Austrian resistance; he never came home.

Eighty years later, she is enduring a replay....Neo-Nazism.

Neo-Nazism became prevalent in America during the 1970s and promotes white supremacy and hatred towards

ethnic minorities. Neo-Nazism copies the Nazi doctrine, including ultranationalism, xenophobia, racism, ableism, homophobia and antisemitism. Neo-Nazis often deny the Holocaust.

When the "Unite the Right" rally became violent in Charlottesville, August 2017, Trump said that there were "very fine people on both sides." His statement divided an already polarized America.

As Hitler stomped out opposition in Germany, Trump is doing likewise in America. He has persecuted freedom of the press, oppressed universities, subjugated medical care, environmental protection, scientific research and has ignored our laws.

Anyone who criticizes Trump becomes his enemy. If I, a "lefty", criticize Trump, he ridicules me: "We will root out the communists, Marxists, fascists and the radical left thugs that live like vermin within the confines of our country, that lie and steal and cheat on elections and will do anything possible — they'll do anything, whether legally or illegally, to destroy America and to destroy the American dream."

Dividing the United States into friends and enemies is a tool of authoritarians.

America, we're being led down Trump's primrose path to dictatorship. I'll never goose-step...will you?

Sharon Raven Clark
Mammoth Lakes



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TRUTH POTIONS

By Fisher

Beer and pointed comments flowed Tuesday night in the Mammoth Brewing Company Beer Cellar. The comments came from local residents, while the beer came from consultants hoping the brews would prompt some unvarnished views.

It worked.

The drinks were on Hunden Partners, hired by Mammoth Lakes Tourism, in exchange for feedback to inform it's new "Destination Stewardship Plan."

Bethanie DeRose, Executive Vice President of Hunden Partners, was quick on her feet when the candor started flowing.

"That's why we chose to serve beer at this event," she cracked whenever someone made an especially honest statement.

For context, Hunden Partners is being paid up to \$145,000, plus travel expenses, to collect this kind of community feedback, analyze it, and eventually hand MLT a set of recommendations.

The beer proved useful when she asked the crowd, "As residents, what challenges do you face?"

The answers poured out, especially from business owners who rely on Mammoth's seasonal economy. They complained of both brutally slow shoulder seasons and of overcrowded winters with too many people and too few workers.

They weren't shy to admit it's a hard place to keep the doors open.

"I know you've lost some businesses over time," one Hunden facilitator offered sympathetically. "Some? All of them. Most of them. Really good restaurants," someone shot back without missing a beat.

Another owner described the struggle to balance extremes between on and off seasons: "We need someone... I don't know who. God maybe? To give us a little help. We make it work, but we've had to get creative [...] going from turning people away to no one."

DeRose pivoted, looking up at the wall where the anonymous responses had been collected online from people in the room.

"Can someone please expand on this point, 'no support for locals?'" she asked. Here, the long-simmering tension between residents came to light.

MLT has historically focused on marketing to visitors, and has not necessarily won high fives from the community in this regard.

Especially as locals pay the Mammoth Lakes Tourism Business Improvement District (TBID) tax in retail and restaurant purchases, which, of course, helps fund MLT.

"Why am I paying tourism tax when I live here?" one person asked, loud enough for heads to nod around the room. Another voice immediately followed: "Yes, 100%."

Another said living in Mammoth felt like being on "an uphill treadmill that's only getting steeper and faster."

People criticized MLT further, saying

more MLT, pg. 6

STARBUCKS

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call us to say anything," Campagna said.

In over two decades of owning retail properties, he'd never experienced such an abrupt closure. Now, he doesn't know what it will mean for the property.

While Starbucks is still obligated to pay rent, Campagna is now tasked with re-tenanting the large and costly space.

"It's an expensive asset and it can't sit there empty," he said. "That's just not an option."

He refused to disclose the exact rent rate, but said it was "expensive." Because of this, he expects to lease the location with another chain.

The Starbucks locations inside Bishop Vons, Bishop proper, and Mammoth Vons remain open.

According to a barista at the Mammoth Vons cafe, those shops benefit from steady foot traffic tied to the grocery store. The former Main Street shop, she surmised, was far more vulnerable to the swings of the tourist economy.

"I don't think it was mismanagement," she said. "But they were short-staffed and struggling to get people. The only time they were really busy was during peak season in December."

Though Starbucks pledged \$1 billion for severance, lease exits, and transfers, employees at the Main Street shop were not moved to nearby stores by the Vons barista's count.

"They all lost their jobs," she said. Local cafe owners say the closure isn't a sign of waning demand for coffee, but of Starbucks' corporate model.

Stellar Brew General Manager Nikki Lee argued that big-brand efficiency leaves out what many customers actually want.

"It's so streamlined that it removes the friendly interaction people inherently need," Lee said. "I read into Starbucks' restructuring plans, and they were essentially everything that mom-and-pop shops have been doing this whole time."

A manager at Bishop's Starbucks, who also previously worked at the Mammoth location, declined to comment.

"Starbucks partners, including any managers and baristas, do not have any information as to why the store closed," she said, directing the Sheet to the corporate media line.

Starbucks corporate did not respond to The Sheet's request for comment.

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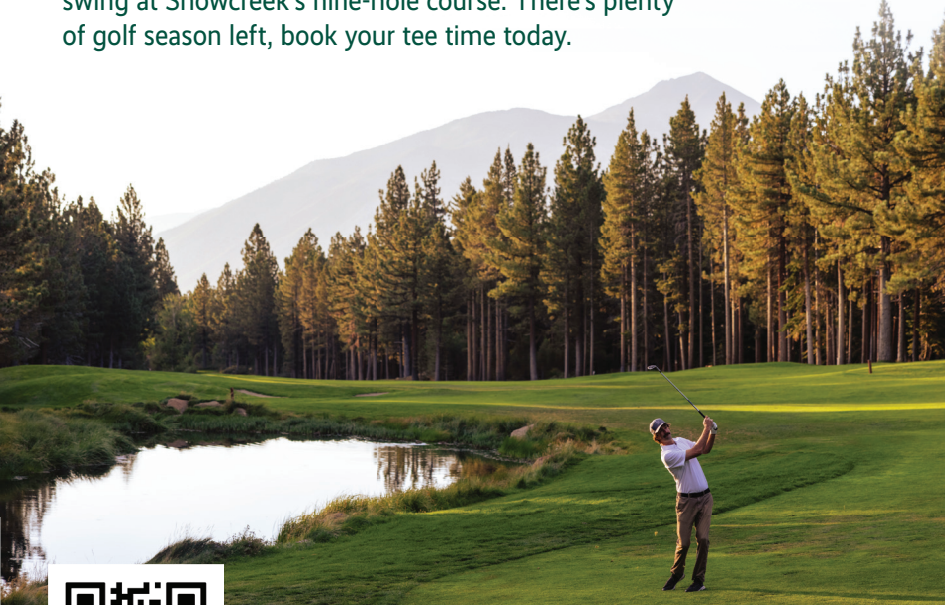


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MLT

continued from page 1

its efforts don't always translate into a better experience for anyone, even tourists.

"You're spending so much money, so many resources, to get visitors to come here. When they do come here, they have a shit experience in the winter," one person said, bemoaning long grocery lines and just a few, overcrowded restaurants.

Southern Californians, one said, are shocked when they need dinner reservations. Another shouted, "Or try to seat 30 people at a table at 7 p.m.!"

Some complained that tourists' respect for locals has dwindled with increased digitization. Because tourists can check into lodging online or order food through a QR code, they've lost their connection

to the community.

One participant suggested MLT make "restaurant etiquette" videos to educate tourists, like its current PSAs dissuading tourists from feeding wildlife or encouraging them to pick up after their dogs.

When The Sheet asked DeRose about the tension between MLT and locals directly, she said it wasn't unusual in tourism-based markets. Across the country, destination management organizations are shifting from pure marketing to a greater emphasis on community engagement and stewardship, she said.

She said the conversation was encouraging, and that she believes residents will be pleased with the outcomes of the study so long as there is continued dialogue and follow-through.

STILL IN THE DARK

By Fisher

When the lights went out in the most rural parts of Mono and Inyo Counties again and again (and again) this summer, it was more than just an inconvenience.

"It makes it unlivable," one resident said bluntly.

Southern California Edison (SCE) officials came to the Crowley Community Center Tuesday evening to explain why Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS) continue across the region and what the utility is doing to reduce them. But much of the four-hour session, which ran past its scheduled end and forced locals to miss the Dodgers game, became a stage for rural residents to voice their frustration with repeated blackouts.

"If we can put a rover on Mars and send back data telling us what the chemicals are and whether there's life there, I think maybe we can figure out what's going on between poles," one resident complained.

Homes on the Birchim circuit—a 62-mile line serving Paradise Valley, Swall Meadows, Round Valley, West Bishop, and Mustang Mesa—have been hit especially hard, experiencing frequent, long-lasting shutoffs and minimal backup support. SCE itself admitted the Birchim circuit is one of its worst-performing.

These shutoffs have real consequences: spoiled food, lost communications, and interrupted basic needs like water.

"Every new house on Mustang Mesa has to have an engineered septic system, which means your septic tank has a well pump in it which requires electricity," one resident said. "Twenty-three hours without electricity, and you have a house of five or six people using the water system that can't be pumped."

He continued: "There's an old expression about 'fertilizer' rolling downhill. Well, from Mustang Mesa, pretty much everything's downhill."

SCE insists the shutoffs are necessary to prevent wildfires sparked by electrical equipment.

Nearly all of Mono and Inyo Counties are classified as High Fire Risk Areas, meaning a single downed line could ignite a catastrophic blaze. Decisions are made based on weather across entire circuits, so wind in one distant community, or open land, can trigger outages elsewhere.

Residents, including those with firefighting and fire mitigation experience, argued that routine seasonal winds shouldn't trigger repeated PSPS events.

"There are seasons when the wind just picks up in the afternoon. It's not a storm, it's just regular weather here. And yet we're getting PSPS notices back-to-back for days on end," one complained.

Another joked the winds in Rovana were so predictable he sometimes called it "Blow-vana."

SCE didn't give an inch.

"Everything we've talked about here is trying to harden your grid and come up with solutions," said Matthew Paruolo, SCE's Government Relations Manager. "The solution we're not looking at is saying, 'It's fine. It's always like this. Let's keep the power on.'"

This is also why it takes a long time to get the power back on after a shutoff, even once winds have quelled.

"We need to visually inspect every inch and mile of that line because it does us no good to de-energize that circuit, to have vegetation or a tree toppled on it," Paruolo said.

He also denied constituents' insinuation that SCE doesn't have enough

more SCE, pg. 7

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SCE

continued from page 1

manpower or preparation to address the shutdowns, and blamed instead the rural nature of the region, demanding long truck trips or helicopter use.

Since 2018, SCE has been installing “covered conductors,” power lines wrapped in protective insulation designed to reduce fire risk.

About 195 miles have been completed in Mono and Inyo Counties, more than half of the total planned by 2027. Officials are also adding weather stations and breaking up long lines into smaller “segments” so fewer customers are affected during shutoffs.

Officials encouraged residents to update their contact information for alerts, invest in backup batteries, and prepare for long outages. Programs like the Self-Generation Incentive Program (SGIP) provide rebates for home energy storage.

SCE posts post-event reports to the California Public Utilities Commission website ten days after every PSPS event. These reports detail which circuits were affected, reasons for shutoffs, and any missed notifications. Residents can access this information to better understand SCE’s decision-making and prepare for future events.

For residents of the Birchim circuit, full upgrades won’t be completed until 2026 or later. Until then, they can expect more shutoffs.

By Libre

Kendra Knight dreams of non-profit collaboration. She wants every nonprofit in Mono and Inyo counties to work together. All 527 of them.

Since Knight became chair of the Mammoth Lakes Chamber of Commerce nonprofit coalition in February, she’s been striving to make this dream a reality.

“We really want to connect all the nonprofits and realize we’re all in this together. You’re not alone in this struggle,” she said in an interview with The Sheet last Wednesday. “We can face this together by really utilizing each other’s resources.”

Why is resource sharing important for nonprofit work? It can make operating a nonprofit more affordable, Knight said. She gave a few examples in the form of sharing attorneys, bookkeepers, and health insurance companies.

“Let’s look at getting nonprofit leaders the amount of money they deserve,” she said.

In June, Knight began to hold bi-monthly coalition meetings, in an effort to strengthen ties between local non-profits in Mammoth. A few weeks ago, in September, the coalition held its second meeting. Both of these events were attended by roughly 25 people representing their nonprofit organizations. For the upcoming December meeting, Knight hopes more nonprofits will show.

“Even though this is a Mammoth

COME TOGETHER

Lakes Chamber of Commerce program, we’re looking outside of that,” she said. “So we’re networking with both Mono County and Inyo county nonprofits.”

Lee Vining and June Lake’s nonprofits will potentially be invited to the next meeting, Knight added. “They’re not members because they’re not in town, but we just want to share those resources. Right now, we’re just talking about it.”

Non-chamber members technically have to pay a fee to attend these meetings, but “at this point we’re not asking” for money, Knight assured.

Knight has been involved with nonprofits in the Eastern Sierra since she moved to the area 25 years ago. She previously served as the director and curator of the Mammoth Ski Museum at the Mammoth Lakes Foundation (MLF) and was the executive director for Mono Arts Council. Her work is now focused primarily with MLF again.

In the past year, Knight has devoted herself to the mission of MLF: making college at Cerro Coso free for any Mono County resident.

“We have the ability to put anyone through college, no matter who you are,” she said.

Aided by Cerro Coso Community College and the MLF scholarship program, MLF offers college education to non-traditional students as well.

Throughout our conversation, Knight alluded to the Dave and Roma McCoy legacy.

“This is what they would have wanted,” she said, reflecting the desires of the late Mammoth Mountain founder and his wife.

Knight has a personal connection to MLF. She had to put herself through college.

Knight holds two degrees: one in photography and business from UC Santa Barbara and the other from the Brooks Institute of Photography. She wanted other low-income students to be able to pursue higher education without having to work full-time.

Knight’s dedication to nonprofits didn’t begin in Mammoth. She started the first recycling program at her middle school in Los Angeles when she was 13.

“I was always really into sustainability and art and helping children,” Knight said. “Throughout my life, it’s kind of been my purpose.”

Knight wants every nonprofit in Mono and Inyo county to see that she’s available and her effort to connect nonprofits in the Eastern Sierra is sincere.

“If they want to reach out to me, they can. I’d love to meet for coffee or go to your nonprofit. I’m really just trying to connect all of us.”



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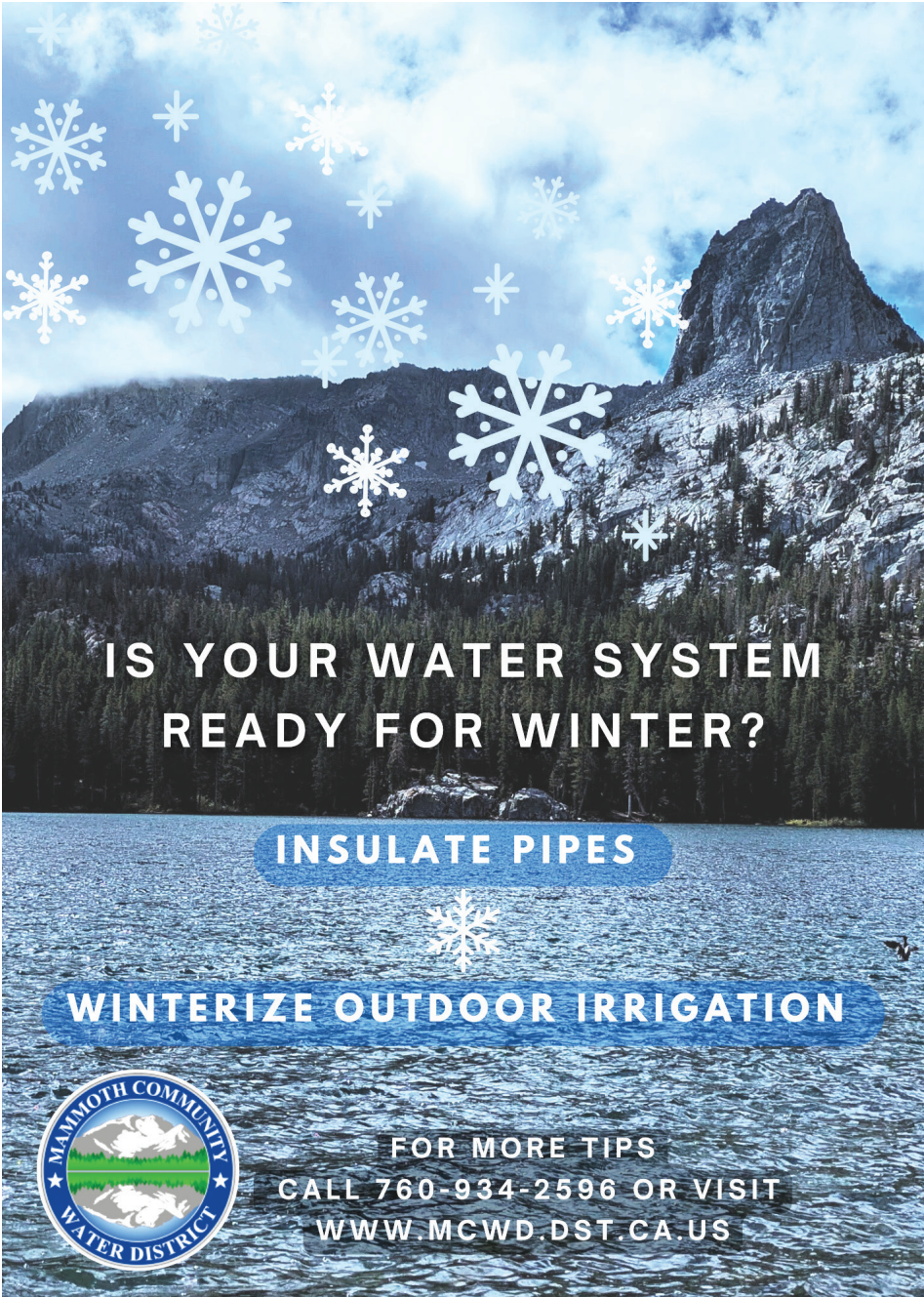
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THE MAMMOTH AND THE MILESTONE

By Libre

Last Tuesday, at 3:23 p.m., Mammoth Lakes local Sofia Carolina Flores finished the mammoth, a 208 mile trail race. An enormous accomplishment by any standard.

Flores is not your typical ultra-marathon runner. She's not a professional athlete. She didn't run in college. This was her first 200+ mile race. Flores is challenging the norms of the sport, breaking the runner stereotypes and pushing her body to achieve remarkable feats.

"I'm an average person," Flores said in an interview with the Sheet on Wednesday. "I don't chase podiums, I can't train that way. My body is different. I'm on the heavier side, but I can still go out there and do challenging things."

Flores and her family moved to Mammoth Lakes from Mexico when she was four years old. Her parents followed other relatives who had moved to the area, searching for better opportunities for their eight children.

Initially, her parents worked as housekeepers, but when Flores was in middle school, her mother and father each started businesses of their own. Her dad spearheaded Flores Carpet Cleaning, now run by her brother-in-law, and her mom founded a community daycare. They are both retired now, and have since moved back to Mexico.

"She took care of a lot of kids in the community," Flores said of her mother.

Flores grew up in the Mammoth Lakes school system. Her first experiences with running were on the MHS cross-country team.



Sofia Carolina Flores takes a selfie mid-race

"They didn't really have any girls running in the team, but my best friend convinced me and our other friends to join," she paused and laughed. "Yeah, we didn't consider ourselves runners. We just wanted to hang out."

The sport didn't matter much to Flores back then. She didn't pursue it in college at the University of San Diego, where she earned a degree in Child and Family Development. She wouldn't run again until after college, when a coworker proposed they sign up for a trail marathon together. The race was in nine months. Flores figured she was up for the challenge.

"It was just such a different mindset than what I was exposed to with road running," she said. "It opened the world to what running could be for me."

The race would change Flores's life.

She loved it. She loved that she could talk to the other runners while racing. She loved hearing about the trail community. She wanted to be a part of it.

After the marathon, Flores learned about ultra running. "I was like, 'Oh, that would be cool to do.' I didn't realize there were other distances."

Then Flores did her first 50k.

"When I [finished], someone was like, 'Well, some people say an ultra is more like 50 [miles],'" she said. "It starts itching your brain like, 'Oh, there's another distance. Let me see if I could train for it and go up to a challenge.'"

Flores was. She did a 50 miler. Then she did a 100 miler.

"When you get to one distance, it gives you the confidence to think about a longer distance," she said. "I never thought I would be able to run the 100 miler. And then I did."

After running through the night for 100 straight miles, Flores wanted to attack the next challenge: the mammoth.

It wasn't an easy race for her. In July, Flores rolled her ankle, and didn't run for eight weeks. She worried the injury would hold her back from competing in the fall.

"Instead, I decided I could still hike. I did a lot of hiking. That's what really saved me for this," she remarked.

During the race, at around mile 25, Flores started to have nerve pain on the soles of her feet. At that point in the run, her body still felt good and her muscles were fresh, but it hurt every time she stepped. The faster she ran, the more

pain she was in.

"I had to find a balance between pace and pain," Flores remembered.

Sometimes, she struck this balance. But other times, the pain was so great that it translated from physical to mental, leading to "negative self-talk."

"The negative self-talk was the worst part, because that's what made me feel like I needed to drop out," she said.

At mile 75, Flores had an epiphany. "I realized that my intention for the trail was to allow myself to lean into my community and allow myself to be taken care of," she said. "It is something that I normally don't do because I'm so strong headed and independent."

This realization would be important later in the race. Flores recalled her time at the Obsidian Dome station, when

more SOFIA, pg. 9

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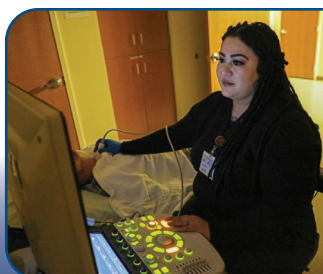
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Los ingresos familiares del comprador elegible se limitan al 150% del ingreso medio del área y deben estar empleados en el condado de Mono, entre otros requisitos. Podría haber ayuda con el pago inicial. Se requiere una carta de preaprobación del prestamista hipotecario.

Para obtener más información y participar en el sorteo de aplicaciones, visite: www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov/1382



SOFIA

continued from page 8

she was “mentally hitting a huge wall.” She cried and told her crew she wasn’t going back out there.

But her crew -- her partner Ian Snyder, two of her sisters, her cousin, and a collection of friends -- refused to let Flores give up. Her cousin spoon fed her mashed potatoes; her partner dutifully tended to her feet. She was off again.

When Flores finally got to the finish line, she was so overwhelmed by the outpouring of love from the people in the Village that she buried her head in her sister’s shoulder and started to cry.

“I think I was so emotional yesterday because it’s not just my journey [...] It’s the journey of my crew, because they experienced so much to support me.”

It was the journey of the community members who came up to her at the finish line and told her they were tracking her the whole time. They were so excited to see someone local running the race. It was a journey for the volunteers who ran up to her and asked, “are you Sofia?”

“That inspired me,” Flores said. The perpetual cycle of community stoke.

Flores doesn’t have any upcoming races. She wants to give herself a break. But she does have a vision for the future of trail running, one whose seeds have already been planted. She wants to see more representation in the sport. More marginalized people, more low-income people, more people of color.

“It’s about the stories we’re told,” she said. “You can enter a sport as who you are.”

It’s why telling her story matters.

Fall Colors Fading or Failing?

The big surge of SoCal folks trooping to the Eastern Sierra to “experience the splendor of Fall Colors” seems to be fading.

A small example of this season of discontent, er, discount. Mammoth Reservations is promoting a Fall Colors Deal: Stay two nights, get the third night free, from Sept. 13 to Nov. 2 (promo code 3FALL). That’s peak leaf peeping season, but you have to use discounts to get anyone to peep?

- Klusmire

Feds Cut Covid Cash and More in Inyo

Inyo County reported the Trump Administration has eliminated about \$2 million in federal funding that flowed to the county last year. The cut-backs included about \$63,000 in federal cash that helps fund the county’s COVID immunization efforts.

The biggest hit, \$1.1 million, was absorbed by the county Health and Human Services Department Epidemiology & Laboratory Capacity (staff) budget.

Federal funds for two mental health programs were also reduced. A \$65,000 mental health block grant was dropped, and a substance use grant of \$11,800 was also eliminated.

The funding eliminations were noted in the recently approved Inyo County 2025-26 budget. The list also included a number of items where the amounts of the funding cuts were “unknown.”

LOCAL BRIEFS

Those HHS programs included Community Based Child Abuse Prevention; California Strengthening Public Health Initiative; and the California Equitable Recovery Initiative.

Also dropped was \$750,000 in federal funds for the Old Spanish Trail Project Rural & Tribal Pilot Assistance Program. The Forest Service Cooperative Enforcement Agreement with the Inyo Sheriff suffered a cut of \$5,000.

prompted the drilling approvals in the hopes California gas, already the most expensive in the nation, won’t get more expensive.

The bottom line, pronounced with a definite twang: “you gotta dance with the one who brung ya,” as they say in Bakersfield and West Texas.

- Klusmire

Living Large Thanks to Death Valley

A new National Park Service (NPS) report shows that 1,440,484 visitors to Death Valley National Park in 2024 spent \$146 million in communities [in California and Nevada] near the park.

“The relationship between Death Valley National Park and the park’s surrounding communities is symbiotic,” said Superintendent Mike Reynolds.

“Travelers coming to visit the park need the supplies, food, And lodging that businesses inside and surrounding the park provide. In return, those visitors’ spending provides economic opportunities and jobs in these communities.”

The National Park Visitor Spending Effects Report finds that Death Valley visitors spent about \$47 million on hotels and \$28 million on restaurants in local communities or inside the park. Travelers also spent money on camping, gas, groceries, and retail purchases. (Editor’s Note: Besides Inyo County towns, Ridgecrest, Beatty and Pahrump, Nevada, are also “local.”)

Newsom: Drill, Baby, Drill

California leads the nation in the number of electric vehicles on its streets. California leads the nation in the number of gas-powered vehicles on its streets.

When confronted with those dueling realities, Gov. Gavin Newsom and the Democrats in charge of the state legislature replied, “drill, baby, drill.” They approved drilling 2,000 new oil and gas wells every year for the next decade in Kern County, the land famous for pump-jacks and the Bakersfield Sound of Dwight Yokum, Buck Owens and Merle Haggard.

Although the state leads the world-wide electric vehicle charge (sorry), the transition from gas guzzlers to electrics is idling a little bit. Californians use about 33 million gallons of gas a day, according to the US Energy Information Administration, which puts it in second place to Texas, which uses 38 million gallons a day.

Keeping the state’s oil refineries producing “locally sourced” gasoline

MONO COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

COMMUNITY FLU VACCINATION CLINICS

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL OUR OFFICES AT 760-924-1830

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
OCT 7	3pm - 5pm	June Lake Community Center
OCT 9	4pm - 7pm	Mammoth Lakes Civic Center 1290 Tavern Rd
OCT 14	1:30pm - 3pm	Benton Community Center
OCT 14	4:30-6:30pm	Chalfant Community Center
OCT 16	3pm - 5pm	Bridgeport Memorial Hall
OCT 21	4pm - 7pm	Crowley Community Center
OCT 23	1pm - 3pm	Wheeler Crest (Swall Meadows) Fire Station
OCT 28	4pm - 6pm	Walker Community Center
OCT 30	4pm - 6pm	Lee Vining Community Center

Walk-ins available at Mono County Public Health Monday-Friday 8am-5pm or schedule an appointment at 760.924.1830

SALUD PUBLICA del CONDADO DE MONO

CLÍNICAS COMUNITARIAS DE VACUNACIÓN CONTRA LA GRIPE

PARA MÁS INFORMACIÓN, LLAME A NUESTRAS OFICINAS AL 760-924-1830

FECHA	HORA	UBICACION
7 de OCT	3pm - 5pm	Centro Comunitario de June Lake
9 de OCT	4pm - 7pm	Centro Civico del Condado de Mono 1290 Tavern Rd
14 de OCT	1:30pm-3pm	Centro Comunitario de Benton
14 de OCT	4:30pm -6:30pm	Centro Comunitario de Chalfant
16 de OCT	3pm - 5pm	Centro Memorial de Bridgeport
21 de OCT	4pm - 7pm	Centro Comunitario de Crowley
23 de OCT	1pm - 3pm	Wheeler Crest (Swall Meadows) Estacion de Bomberos
28 de OCT	4pm - 6pm	Centro Comunitario de Walker
30 de OCT	4pm - 6pm	Centro Comunitario de Lee Vining

Se atiende sin cita previa en el departamento de Salud Publica del Condado de Mono , de Lunes a Viernes, de 8 am a 5 pm, o con cita previa llamando al 760.924.1830

calendar of events

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BARS & MUSIC

Happy Hour/ The Liberty Sports Bar and Grill Pursuit of Happiness Hour Daily 3-6 p.m. Live Music. Best viewing spot in town for **live sports**, other than across the parking lot @ **Main Street Pizza and Tap**. *More Liberty info, see ad p. 14*
Outlaw Saloon Happy Hour Monday through Friday from 4-6 p.m. *More info: See ad p. 3. And remember to catch all the NFL games right here!*
The Mogul happy hour 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the bar. Food and drink specials.
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

Sunday, October 5/ Cassie Dunn plays Distant Brewing in Mammoth 7-9 p.m.

Wednesday, October 8/ Cassie Dunn plays Shelter Distilling in Mammoth 6-9 p.m.

TOWN STUFF

October 3-5/ Oktoberfest continues at Woolly's Adventure Summit from 12-6 p.m. all three days. Face painting, pumpkin decorating, and live music. *Info: See ad p. 15*
Fall Colors Car Show in the Bishop City Park. *To enter your car, contact Karey Poole 760.920.2720.*
Taylor Swift Album Release Party at Minaret Cinemas is D'Place. Showtimes: 5:15-7:30 p.m. all three days. Tix \$12.

Friday, October 3/ Campfire Talks: Animal Adaptions. Location: Oh! Ridge campground in June Lake. Time: 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Friday Night Market on Academy Street in Bishop. Live music by Sandy and the High Country. Food, drinks and shopping. Time: 5:30-9 p.m.
BUHS Football hosts Rosamond. JV at 4 p.m., varsity at 7.

Saturday, October 4/ BUHS Wine Spooktacular @ the FFA Farm on Sunland. Wine, beer and small plates. Putting the fun in fundraiser. Tix: \$50. Time: 4:30-7:30 p.m.
Choo Choo Swap Meet at the Tri-County Fairgrounds in Bishop. Admission \$5. Time: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. *Info: lawsmuseum.org.*
Seed Saving Workshop. Location: Food Sovereignty Program Cultural Center Garden & Seed Library (2300 W. Line St, Bishop). Time: 9 a.m - 12 p.m.
Chalfant Pumpkin Patch opens. Recurring weekly on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday until the 31st. *More info: See ad p. 3*
Paint Mono County Plein Art Exhibit & Reception by Mono Arts Council. Tix \$35. Time: 6:30-9 p.m. Location: MAC Gallery @ 501 Old Mammoth Rd. #5. *Info: monoarts.org.*
Campfire Talks: Pika & Marmots. Location: Twin Lakes Campground in Mammoth. Time: 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Monday, October 6/ Eastern Sierra Pride: Monthly Meet-Up at Mountain Rambler Brewery in Bishop. Time: 6-8 p.m. *Info: easternsierrapride.org*
MHS Booster Club meets at 5:30 p.m. in the MHS library.

TOWN STUFF

October 7-9/ Hiring event for Limelight Hotel. Held at Eastern Sierra Business Resource Center in Bishop Tuesday, and at the ice rink in Mammoth Wednesday and Thursday. *More info, see ad p. 4*

Tuesday, October 7/ Family Robotics Night. Time: 3-6 p.m. Location: Mammoth Lakes Community Recreation Center. Transmission incoming!! All-ages event with robots, coding, STEM activities, and great raffle prizes! This fundraiser supports Mammoth's Lego League Robotics Team as it prepares for regional competitions.
Community Ukulele Group - Eastern Sierra Strummers meets. Time: 5-6:30 pm @ new MAC location (501 Old Mammoth Road #5).
Mono County Board of Supervisors meets 9 a.m. in Bridgeport and online at monocounty.ca.gov.
Inyo County Board of Supervisors meet at 10 a.m. at 224 N. Edwards Street, in Independence and online at inyocounty.us.

Wednesday, October 8/ Mammoth Lakes Planning and Economic Development Commission meets 9 a.m. in Suite Z and online at townofmammothlakes.ca.gov.
Bishop Chamber of Commerce meets at Alta One Federal Credit Union. Time: 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

TOWN STUFF

October 9-12/ Lone Pine Film Festival. Film showings, horseback riding, a parade, and more. *Tix/info: lonepinefilmfestival.org.*

October 10-12/ Leaves in the Loop in June Lake. Includes live music, craft vendors, face painting, pumpkin patch, and more. *Details/info: junelakeloop.org.*

Friday, October 10/ Art Opening at the Mono Sierra Lodge. Time: 5-9 p.m. Support local artists, buy art. Jewelry, photography and more. Location: 4135 Crowley Lake Dr. *More info: Call 760.935.4300.*

October 11-12/ Bishop FFA Pumpkin Patch @ the FFA Farm on Sunland. Time: 10-4. All sorts of family fun, petting zoo, games, et. al.

Sunday, October 12/ Highway Cleanup Stewardship Day with Keep Long Valley Green Coalition from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Meet at the Green Church (906 Benton Crossing Rd).

ONGOING

Oct. 7-30: Mono County Public Health holds community flu vaccination clinics. Get your flu shot, for free! Walk-ins also available at Mono County Public Health Monday-Friday 8 a.m to 5 p.m. *For full schedule and information, see ad p. 9.*



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3-6 PM

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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

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

Hourly Salary:
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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

Home For Sale

2168 Kiowa Circle, Bishop-Meadow-Creek2 <https://larsonhomesale.godaddy-sites.com/>
4 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 1,527 sq.ft. Contact Lorilyn McDonald: LorilynMcDonald@gmail.com (949) 293-2242 DRE#01300657

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Restaurant Skadi seeks a professional dinner cook.
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Country Glass seeks carpenters for window and door installation. FT & year round for the right applicant. Excellent pay DOE, with benefits/vacation. Will train the right hire with no experience. Must be solid, trustworthy and have a drivers license. 760-934-3587 or email your application to: Taylor@country-glass.com

Help Wanted



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

- Patient Access Representative (Multiple Departments)
- Help Desk Technician (Part Time)
- Foundation Coordinator
- Certified Laboratory Assistant
- HIMS Assisant

Mammoth Hospital offers; success sharing incentives program; staff development program; generous retirement match and PTO Accrual.

For questions, please email hr@mammoth. 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



Part-time Positions Working for a Special Needs Parent Center.
H.E.A.R.T.S. Connection Family Empowerment Center is hiring a Family Resource Specialist - 1 part-time position (25hrs/wk) based from home within Mono county. \$20.00/hr. Email susan_graham@heartsrc.org for application and job announcement.



Mammoth Five Star Lodging is seeking a skilled and reliable Maintenance Quality Controller to join our dynamic team!

As a QC team member, your primary responsibility will be to perform Quality Control (QC) checks of residential homes to grade the quality and completeness of the cleaning by our housekeepers. Additionally, you may perform detailed maintenance inspections after guests have checked out.

We're looking for team players who possess strong attention to detail, problem-solving abilities, and familiarity with consumer electronic systems, including audio/video/home theater, iOS mobile devices, and wifi/Internet troubleshooting skills. Maintenance and repair experience is a strong plus, but not required. A current driver's license and clean driving record required. Weekend and on-call availability is required.

FT/PT applicants all encouraged to apply; pay shall be commensurate with experience.

If you're ready to join our team and help us deliver outstanding service to our owners and guests, please fill out our online job application today at www.fivestarlodging.com



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



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.



We are seeking a motivated and detail-oriented Reservationist to join our growing vacation rental management company in Mammoth Lakes.

As a Reservationist you'll be responsible for handling guest inquiries and bookings, offering local area advice, providing phone support, and responding to emails/digital messages. You will also support our Executive Team and assist with administrative tasks.

Applicants should be reliable self-starters, work well under pressure, and be flexible in changing roles/jumping in where needed. 1-2 years experience in reservations/guest services/front desk and a strong comfort level with modern tech required. Experience using StreamlineVRS or similar is preferred. Weekend and on-call availability is required. Clean driving record is required

PT and FT applicants encouraged to apply; wage shall be commensurate with experience. Benefits include (once eligibility requirements are met) health club memberships, health plan, and 401k. If you're ready to join our team and help us deliver outstanding service to our owners and guests, please fill out our online job application today at www.fivestarlodging.com"



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/>.

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

Vancy Art

Maximiliano Alejandro Viltre
1934 Meridian Blvd.
P.O. Box 100, PMB 433
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein starting May 15, 2025. This statement was filed with the Mono County Clerk on Sept. 9, 2025
File Number 2025-0134
TS #2025-0115 (9/20, 9/27, 10/4, 10/11)

Help Wanted

Full and part time available, health benefits, 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



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



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Parks Maintenance Worker I
\$51,063 – \$71,850 annually

PART-TIME | TEMPORARY | SEASONAL POSITIONS

Parks & Recreation Seasonal Positions
LA Kings Ice at Mammoth Lakes | Winter Adult Leagues
\$19.06 – \$30.90 hourly

Outdoor Recreation Host
\$20.01 – 23.16 hourly

Temporary Snow Removal Operator
\$29.36 – \$33.99 hourly

Temporary Trail Crew Leader - Winter
\$26.69 – \$30.90 hourly

For more information, to subscribe to job alerts, and to apply:



(760) 965-3604
townofmammothlakes.ca.gov



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, we provide 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.

NOTICES

Notice of Public Hearing

GOLDEN STATE CONNECT AUTHORITY
PUBLIC HEARING FOR BOND ISSUANCE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING WITH RESPECT TO THE ISSUANCE OF REVENUE BONDS BY GOLDEN STATE CONNECT AUTHORITY TO CONSTRUCT A FIBER-OPTIC NETWORK IN CERTAIN AREAS OF THE TOWN OF MAMMOTH LAKES

NOTICE IS HERBY GIVEN that at 4pm, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, on October 15, 2025 at 437 Old Mammoth Road Suite Z Mammoth Lakes Ca 93546, the Town Council for the Town of Mammoth Lakes (the "Council") will conduct a public hearing (the "Public Hearing") at which the Council will hear and consider information concerning the issuance of one or more series of revenue obligation bonds by Golden State Connect Authority (the "Borrower") in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$120,000,000 (the "Obligations"). The proceeds of the Obligations will be applied to the purposes of (1) financing the construction of a high-speed fiber-optic network (the "Project"), and (2) paying certain expenses incurred in connection with the issuance of the Obligations. Golden State Connect Authority will be the owner and operator of the Project.

The Obligations will be limited obligations of Golden State Connect Authority, payable solely from revenues received by Golden State Connect Authority from operation of the network. Neither the faith and credit nor the taxing power of the Town, the State of California (the "State"), or any other political corporation, subdivision, or agency of the State is pledged to the payment of the principal of, premium, if any, or interest on, the Obligations.

The Public Hearing is intended to comply with the public approval requirements of Section 6586.5(a) of the California Government Code. Those wishing to comment on the proposed financing of the Project with the proceeds of the Obligations may either appear in person at the time and place indicated above or submit written comments, which must be received prior to the Public Hearing, by the Town of Mammoth Lakes, Attention: Town Clerk, PO BOX 1609 Mammoth Lakes CA 93546.

Dated: September 29, 2025
Jamie Gray, Town Clerk
TS #2025-0116

Notice of Independent Auditor's Report

Opinion

The summary financial statements of Southern Mono Healthcare District d/b/a Mammoth Hospital (the District), as of and for the years ended June 30, 2025 and 2024 are derived from the audited financial statements of the District as of and for the years ended June 30, 2025 and 2024, and the related notes, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements. We expressed unmodified audit opinions on those audited financial statements in our report dated September 23, 2025.

In our opinion, the accompanying summary financial statements of the District as of and for the years ended June 30, 2025 and 2024, referred to above are consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial statements from which they have

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

Mammoth Lakes Creative

Drake Design Company LLC
P.O. Box 8333
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

This business is conducted by a limited liability company. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein during March, 2013. This statement was filed with the Mono County Clerk on August 19, 2025 File Number 2025-0123 TS #2025-0112 (9/13, 9/20, 9/27, 10/4)

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

Mammoth Made

Drake Design Company LLC
P.O. Box 8333
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

This business is conducted by a limited liability company. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein during March, 2013. This statement was filed with the Mono County Clerk on August 19, 2025 File Number 2025-0123 TS #2025-0113 (9/13, 9/20, 9/27, 10/4)

been derived, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Summary Financial Statements

The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Reading the summary financial statements and the auditor's report hereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial statements and the auditor's report thereon. The summary financial statements and the audited financial statements do not reflect the effects of events that occurred subsequent to the date of our report on the audited financial statements. Responsibility of Management for the Summary Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of the summary financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the summary financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. The procedures consisted principally of comparing the summary financial statements with the related information in the audited financial statements from which the summary financial statements have been derived and evaluating whether the summary financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We did not perform any audit procedures regarding the audited financial statements after the date of our report on those financial statements.

Eide Bailly LLP
Rancho Cucamonga, Calif.
September 23, 2025

TS # 2025-0117

SOUTHERN MONO HEALTHCARE DISTRICT
SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF NET POSITION
As of June 30

	2025	2024
CONDENSED ASSETS		
Total current assets	\$ 128,932,705	\$ 114,944,420
Noncurrent restricted cash	15,629,787	14,472,956
Long-term investments	42,817,378	47,504,600
Total capital assets, net	74,430,527	51,384,036
Investment in joint venture	3,230,000	3,230,000
Total assets	\$ 265,040,397	\$ 231,536,012

CONDENSED LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF
RESOURCES, AND NET POSITION

Total current liabilities	\$ 20,801,944	\$ 13,723,634
Total long-term liabilities	25,281,408	23,613,960
Total liabilities	46,083,352	37,337,594
Total deferred inflows of resources	169,528	196,299
Net position		
Net investment in capital assets	43,038,450	23,792,290
Restricted		
Restricted for specific operating activities	580	580
Restricted for debt service	18,983,493	17,174,085
Unrestricted	156,764,994	153,035,164
Total net position	218,787,517	194,002,119
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and net position	\$ 265,040,397	\$ 231,536,012

CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENSES,
AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION
Years ended June 30

	2025	2024
Total operating revenues	\$ 118,318,352	\$ 111,487,565
Total operating expenses	106,738,155	100,006,003
Operating income	11,580,197	11,481,562
Total nonoperating revenues, net	9,869,966	8,424,461
Revenues in excess of expenses before capital contributions and tax revenues for debt principal payments	21,450,163	19,906,023
Contributions for capital assets	1,110,235	382,375
Tax revenues for debt principal payments	2,225,000	2,263,387
Change in net position	24,785,398	22,551,785
Net position, beginning of year	194,002,119	171,450,334
Net position, end of year	\$ 218,787,517	\$ 194,002,119

CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
Years ended June 30

	2025	2024
Net cash from operating activities	\$ 17,049,193	\$ 12,640,227
Net cash from noncapital financing activities	8,133,343	3,131,320
Net cash used for capital and related financing activities	(22,787,175)	(8,506,372)
Net cash from (used for) investing activities	34,416,383	(8,962,925)
Net change in cash and cash equivalents	36,811,744	(1,697,750)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	74,636,039	76,333,789
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	\$ 111,447,783	\$ 74,636,039
Reconciliation of cash and cash equivalents to the statements of net position		
Cash and cash equivalents in current assets	\$ 95,817,996	\$ 60,163,083
Cash and cash equivalents in noncurrent cash	15,629,787	14,472,956
Total cash and cash equivalents	\$ 111,447,783	\$ 74,636,039
Reconciliation of operating income to net cash from operating activities		
Operating income	\$ 11,580,197	\$ 11,481,562
Adjustments to reconcile operating income to net cash from operating activities	5,468,996	1,158,665
Net cash from operating activities	\$ 17,049,193	\$ 12,640,227

The summary financial statements are prepared from the financial statements as of and for the years ended June 30, 2025 and 2024.

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

KLUSMIRE

ANTIFA IS PLOTTING

Look what I found: The ANTIFA Starter Kit Handbook.

I'll share it with you, dear readers, despite the risk of having masked federal agents in full battle rattle breaking down my door, confiscating the ANTIFA booklet and handcuffing me and whisking me away to a "undisclosed location" for interrogation.

Anyway, let's take a look at what the ANTIFA folks are plotting, shall we?

First is the introductory question: What on God's green earth is this tattered booklet with dog-eared pages, some pages torn out and "new" ones from different eras stapled in -- Nixon to Trump? And the text is a crazy quilt of fonts and graphics and underlining and boldfacing.

Answer: Wow, you found one of those? Great. Gotta love our Baby Boomers still going old school with the printed material, right? Some of those pages were probably copied at a Kinkos. Just adorable. Anyway, the Boomers are rallying again with us and are pretty annoyed that they have to keep marching in the streets. Grateful for a bullhorn at their age, though.

On to the Q&A section.

What is a good location for an ANTIFA branch office?

Well, we don't have any offices since we aren't an organized group. Suggestion: find a spot near a bakery, a coffee shop, a brew pub and a bookstore. If you can't do that, use your kitchen table.

So ANTIFA doesn't have a building or even its own merch? No hats, flags, banners?

Nope. We tried a group chat to brainstorm merch but got sidetracked by a debate over graphics, fonts (still an issue), slogans and the merits of an IPA versus a Stout, so we dropped it. If you want to take a stab at it, go ahead. The merch. Not the beer brew-ha-ha. Get it?

Big Questions: what does ANTIFA mean?

Anti-Fascist. Non-controversial for anyone with a basic grasp of 20th Century world history. Pretty simple. It's a general set of ideas and ideals, which can be more powerful than position papers churned out of building full of folks in suits.

Why did President Trump declare ANTIFA was a "domestic terrorist organization?"

No idea. We're assuming he was bored, saw his poll numbers dropping and just started tweeting stuff after eating a Big Mac that had a double dose of "secret sauce," if you know what we mean.

Did ANTIFA respond?

We thought about it but remembered that we don't have a Twitter account or Facebook or YouTube

or TikTok or Instagram or anything else. Not even a webpage. So we just donated time or money to political candidates who are also anti-fascists. Or marched in the streets. Or both.

How can I handle anti-immigrant rhetoric?

Remind folks that if you live in North America your family story can only be immigrant, slave or Native American.

How about DEI?

Point to Fox News personalities in the Administration. Obvious Side Note: Only take medical advice from a doctor.

If I join, can I at least get an ANTIFA membership card?

Ha. See above about graphics and fonts, again. Plus, this generation doesn't own a printer. So that's a no. You can use your "I Voted" sticker from the last election. Just as good.

Witches, Christians, Pagans, et al -- what about religion?

Seriously? You're asking a group that argues over beer about religion? Wow. Try the Sermon on the Mount (The Beatitudes) or the Prayer of St. Francis. They cover the big stuff. Except why Pilsners suck.

Is there a priority issue list?

The list includes healthcare, social programs, energy, military, environment, culture, education, international affairs, civil rights and on and on. So go about it like it's a You-Pick-Em Farm -- pick issues you are passionate about, educate yourself and get involved. Local first, always.

How do I organize a local chapter?

Go any one of the dozens of rallies in your area. Bring a nice sign and some gluten-free muffins, big chocolate chip cookies, and a smile. You'll make lots of friends.

Jon Klusmire of Bishop is still baffled by fonts and graphics. And yes, he does own a printer.





MONO COUNTY ASSESSMENT APPEALS BOARD OPENINGS!

The County of Mono is accepting applications to fill five Board Member vacancies on the Assessment Appeals Board (AAB).

The AAB is a quasi-judicial body which hears taxpayer appeals to property assessments at a public hearing where evidence is submitted by both parties, the taxpayer and the Assessor's Office. The AAB hearing process provides 'equalization', or fairness of the assessment of a property's value of the property in question.

Eligibility

Individuals interested in applying must meet the following requirements: A minimum of five years' professional experience within the state of California is required in one of the following professions:

- Certified Public Accountant or Public Accountant
- Licensed Real Estate Broker
- Attorney
- Property Appraiser Certified by 1) a Nationally Recognized Professional Organization; 2) the Office of Real Estate Appraisers; or 3) the California State Board of Equalization.

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Compensation

Board Members receive a taxable stipend for their attendance as follows:

- \$175 per meeting (typically 8-10 meetings per year, typically 2-4 hours in duration)
- Mileage reimbursement (current IRS standard mileage rate) for travel from the Board Member's residence to the hearing location.

For more information or an application, please contact the Clerk of the Board's Office at BOS@mono.ca.gov or visit our website at <https://monocounty.ca.gov/assessment-appeals>.





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Psychiatrist

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HARTLEY

WHAT IS A HUDDLE BUT JUST ANOTHER WORK CONFERENCE?

Wasting my time at a work conference this week. I don't know why the hell it's called a work conference because the only work being done is talking about what work to do when we get back to actual work.

I don't need a conference to be able to tell people to do their job and tell bank customers they ain't got no money because they don't have a job to NOT DO like some of the lazy bastards who are at "work." People and companies are so lazy you can literally have a job and get paid to not do that much - so you may as well take your ass to work.

My son is also at a work conference right now. His first. He aptly described it as an endless display of "hospital food and powerpoints." Didn't take him long to figure that out. Welcome to the real world, son.

And yet, a lot of people love these things because:

1. They would rather not be in their office doing real work so this is an excuse for them not to be working and having to hide the fact that they spend all day on their computers making jokes and sharing stupid GIFs in group chats across the company.

2. They don't have a life at home and are happy as hell to get out of the house and away from their spouses, children

and in-laws for a few days.

3. They don't travel so a free stay in a random hotel and getting free meals for a few days and getting hammered in the hotel lobby with a bunch of people they work with is better than any Friday or Saturday night at home.

These things are sad. They make lazy people at work look like real go-getters. Let me get back to my own bed, my own office and my own people. Work conference? Work-avoidance conference. Now I'm at a hotel room for days and the dreaded hotel iron left something on my shirt. F*ck.

**Editor's aside: Maybe this is why I am a fan of the no-huddle offense in football. Eliminate the conferences and play the damn game.*

Week 5 of the NFL season. The first week of byes. That gives us an opportunity to NOT see some dreadful teams play and shortens our Sundays a bit. I gotta tell you as much as I love football, I can do without these international games. They shouldn't do them unless they send teams we hate so WE don't have to be watching football starting at 6:30 a.m. Just make the Bears and Panthers play all international games so we don't feel like we're missing anything. And for the love of all that is football,

balance the day games. I can't stand 9 games in the morning and 3 in the afternoon.

Short on time so this one will be straight no chaser.

Random note first. There are a lot of QB injuries this year. Will they actually next year put different colored jerseys on QBs and forbid hitting them UNLESS they run?

Select picks

Lions laying 10.5 to the Bengals. O/U 49.5. OVER is the Bengals talk of Super Bowls. They need a QB. I know, it's too early to say that. But if their jackass owner is going to continue to build that team with NO CARE FOR DEFENSE OR OL PLAY, his QB will always be throwing the ball 45 times a game and getting beat up like a pinata. He should always have 3 fucking franchise QBs on the team so he can rotate them through beatings. He would be like a dog owner fighting pitbulls. One down, bring in another. Shoot the first one. Next.....

Oh, Lions 40 - Bengals 20. This is one of those Jake Browning 4 TD, 6 INT games.

Colts laying 6.5 to the Raiders. O/U 47.5. OVER should be the Geno Smith

experience. There is a theme here. These teams that started the season with what they thought was a solution at QB are right back where they started. I heard someone say "There aren't that many teams that NEED QBs next year." What they should have said was THERE AREN'T THAT MANY TEAMS THAT THINK THEY NEED QBS NEXT YEAR, BUT THEY DO. Raiders need a QB. Geno is addicted to throwing the ball to the other team. And Daniel Jones is a week away from turning back into Gump. Raiders step up at home 27-23.

Eagles laying 3.5 to the Broncos. O/U 43.5. The Eagles are the most unhappy 4-0 team in history. Even when they win they have drama. AJ Brown is like a character from a bad soap opera. If he ain't whining he isn't breathing. After they won to get to 4-0 he posts:

"If you're not welcomed, not listened to, quietly withdraw," Brown posted on X after the game. "Don't make a scene. Shrug your shoulders and be on your way."

Reporters flock to him like he wants. Just ignore the little cockroach. Eagles 24- 20.

Bills laying 8.5 to the Pats. O/U 49.5. Pats are better than folks think. Bills don't play defense. Pats 25- Bills 30. You thought I was picking the Pats?

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TOO MUCH OF A GOOD THING

By Klusmire

It starts as a casual request. As time goes on the intensity increases. Next is a heartfelt plea, followed by a cry for help, and, finally, a desperate admonition that the time to act is now, right now, this very minute.

Friends, neighbors and family members routinely get these urgent calls for them, or someone, anyone to come and pick the apples, apricots, pears and garden greens that have overwhelmed the casual grower. In most cases, those calls go unanswered and the bounty goes to waste.

Now, there is another option for folks facing the prospect of too much of a good thing: call for the gleaners from Eastern Sierra Farm Fresh.

The nonprofit group organizes volunteers who will and pick produce and put it to good use. The first stop is usually the Thursday Farm to Table Market the group has organized. What isn't sold is donated to such organizations as IMACA (which has been scrambling to obtain food to distribute), the Salvation Army, and the Methodist food bank and free lunches, said Larry Pace of Eastern Sierra Farm Fresh.

The local market has been up and running for about two months. The certified organic farmer's market, located in the Fellowship Hall of the Bishop First United Methodist Church, on Fowler Street, and open from 3 to 7 p.m. every Thursday.

Besides the "rescued" fruits and vegetables, the market also features

numerous local food and craft vendors. Cooking demonstrations and performances by local musicians add to the atmosphere.

The start of the market "has been very satisfying overall," Pace said, with a nice flow of customers and varied vendor lineup which can change week to week.

On a recent Thursday, shoppers were greeted by a long table loaded with fresh tomatoes, bags holding organic apple varieties, onions and other vegetables. Blue Heron Farm, in Wilkerson (the former Apple Hill Farm) is a steady vendor, said Pace, and brings a solid supply of fruits and vegetables.

Then there are the entrepreneurial bread folks. Punsters Amy and Chas Coufal are the Bishop born and "bread" pair behind Hippy Flour Child Baking, Co. (www.hippiefLOURchild.com). They offered a variety of sourdough specialty loaves. The cottage food operation Sommerhus Bakery (www.Cottifi.com) served open-face sandwiches on its sourdough at the market. It delivers its unique (chocolate chip loaf, anyone?) fresh loaves in town. Ah, "sommerhus" is Danish for "cottage."

Great Basin Bakery lets its bakers experiment with what pies and treats to bring, using fresh, seasonal local fruit. White Lotus offers desserts that will satisfy any sweet tooth. Bouquets of dried flowers and other arts and crafts tables were also part of the market that day.

Worm Rancher Caddy Jackson offers his worm and composting expertise to

the event every week.

At a several previous Markets, the Barbed Wire Beef and Montgomery Ranch operations, featuring organic, grass-fed beef, had tables offering locally grown beef.

Each market features trays of pears and apples from the gleaning effort. That work has generated some massive amounts of food. Pace said the gleaners were invited to the Manzanar National Historic Site to pick from the site's pear orchards. A group of volunteers pulled down about 2,000 pounds of pears. Overall, the Farm Fresh pickers have picked about 6,000 pounds of produce. The latest addition came from a home with a huge grape vine holding about 1,000

pounds of grapes, he said.

A goal of Farm Fresh is to provide a "platform" for new, small businesses and local food producers emphasizing farm to table products," Pace said. "Plus, it's also a great way to bring the community together."

The group will keep the markets going through the fall, and if there is enough interest into winter, offering canned, hydrated or preserved food, he said.

"The most impressive part of our work is how many people are actively interested in creating a local food system."

For more information or to volunteer, see www.esfarmfresh.org.

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

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