

the sheet

News, Views & Culture of the Eastern Sierra



It's Friday Night Lights this weekend as Bishop takes on Boron.

Saturday, October 11, 2025

FREE

Vol. 23, No. Seaver

CHOO CHOO



Gayla Wolf photographed the Choo Choo Swap Meet & Fall Color Car Show in Bishop last weekend. For more chrome and cuteness, see p. 13.

HOPE IT WORKS OUT

Mammoth Planners approve 54 Mono project
By Fisher

Despite opposition from neighbors, local hotelier Bipin Morari received approval from the Mammoth Lakes Planning and Economic Development Commission (PEDC) on Wednesday to move forward with plans to build an affordable housing complex at 54 Mono Street.

Morari first approached the PEDC in August, seeking a density bonus to allow six units—double the standard density limit. Under Town ordinance, at least half of those units must be deed-restricted for workforce housing. Morari, however, offered to restrict all six units in exchange for looser development standards: greater lot coverage, smaller setbacks, fewer guest parking spaces, and no requirement for private outdoor space.

But his proposal drew strong

opposition from neighbors Keith and Kimberly Erickson, primarily due to confusion surrounding a 30-foot-wide access easement that currently serves as the Ericksons' driveway. Under Morari's plans, that driveway would become shared access to both properties.

Although the project design includes an underground garage with seven parking spaces and three exterior spots, the Ericksons objected to the idea of sharing their driveway. They said they purchased their property "specifically for the protection of an exclusive easement" and submitted three letters opposing the project.

The Ericksons' opposition delayed the Commissioner's decision in August, and by Wednesday's meeting, the Ericksons' stance hadn't changed.

more MONO, pg. 5

SIH CALLS A FRIEND

Inyo Supes approve \$500K lifeline

By Klusmire

"Let us live out our days in the community we love."

Mike Graves, a lifelong Lone Piner currently residing in what he called the "nursing home" at Southern Inyo Hospital (SIH), put that plea in a letter urging Inyo County to approve a loan or grant to help the Lone Pine hospital get through its current fiscal crisis.

Two fathers, Dan Gockley from Lone Pine and Andrew Howe from Independence, related how each had a child in a harrowing, near-death medical situation whose lives were saved by the staff in the Emergency Room at SIH.

Those stories, shared during public comment at Tuesday's Inyo County Supervisors meeting, put a personal perspective

on the importance of SIH to the people in the communities it serves.

The financial perspective was provided by SIH board members. They noted the hospital Emergency Room, Rural Health Clinic and Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF – where Graves resides) employs 150 people, with 50 of them living in Bishop. The hospital pumps about \$800,000 a month into the local economy in the form of payroll and supplies and services purchased from vendors in the county.

Even though SIH is currently \$2 million in the red and teetering on the brink of insolvency, in the long-term, SIH is "very financially viable," Chief

see SIH, pg. 6

LAMARCKABLE



Some encouragement to indulge in hiking weather this weekend. Stormy weather is in the forecast!

Waste Land

Homeless on the Range

SCE Juices Rates

Union Shut Down

U-la-la

p. 2/

p. 4/

p. 15/

p. 5/

p. 14/

THE WASTE LAND

You see a lot of stuff recently, including a letter to the editor in this paper last week, which compares the current political climate to 1930s Germany.

Which, in this era of “hot takes” and internet noise, can strike one as a bit of hyperbole.

Until you read a historian like Robert Kaplan, who dissects the fragility of our institutions, as well as the vagaries and happenstance of history, and makes you think twice.

Paraphrasing Russian author Alexander Solzhenitsyn, Kaplan writes, “It is a conceit of the modern world, and particularly of the West, that history is governed by reason.” Kaplan is the author of “Waste Land: A World in Permanent Crisis,” published this year. His thesis, in fact, is that the modern world mirrors the Weimar Republic, which governed Germany from 1918-1933 (the end of World War I through the rise of Hitler). He describes Weimar as “less a government than a system of belligerent and far-flung competing parts.”

And though Weimar “boasted an abundance of artistic and cultural freedom, its fundamental absence of basic political and institutional order made Hitler possible.”

But before Hitler’s Germany, there was Lenin’s Russia.

In both instances, there is a decaying establishment, old political hierarchies that invite contempt. In Russia’s Duma (legislature), members are given to “endless, flowery and directionless speeches” amid complete bureaucratic dysfunction.

“Crowds assault police ... criminals are released from prison. Soldiers desert from the army after nearly beating to death their officers. Mutinies lead to the collapse of the Baltic fleet. It is as if the entire Russian military organization is being eaten away by microbes ... gangs of arsonists set fire to public buildings. Entire staffs disappear from government offices. Youths tear down a statue of the great modernizing prime minister Stolypin. Meanwhile, congeries of parties and factions within parties are left to debate among themselves. Loose, drunken talk postulates that if only the government would change, everything would become better and more humane ... there is almost a romance about the future, about any fate save for the czarist present.”

If only they knew that Lenin was about to execute more people in the first two months of the Bolshevik regime than the Romanovs had executed in 100 years.

In Germany, Hitler attempted violent overthrow in the early ‘20s (think January 6). All that got him was faint rebuke and a little jail time - which made him a martyr and also gave him the time to produce Mein Kampf.

Hitler was appointed Chancellor in 1933 by President von Hindenburg, on the advice of former Chancellor Franz von Papen.

The rationale in appointing him was to contain him within the political structure. “We have framed him in,” declared one of von Papen’s associates.

“Before two months had passed, all traces of democracy had been extinguished.”

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
PUBLISHER

As German historian Golo Mann observed, “What is the meaning of human existence when such a lightweight as von Papen could at a key juncture determine the course of world history.”

“The most fundamental problem of politics ... is not the control of wickedness but the limitation of righteousness.” -Henry Kissinger

And how do you limit righteousness in a modern age which boasts the ultimate echo chamber - social media?

The answer is, it’s damn tough.

“It is the masses speaking through one voice that are the danger. Most people think that they generate their own ideas: in fact, their ideas are prepared by others who think for them. The idea that some sermon or blog post or tweet has gone viral is a sad reflection on the state of individualism. Cities, as we know, have become venues for elites. And elites have an undeniable proclivity for groupthink and echo chambers, despite all their erudition.”

So the idea of the mob has changed in that it’s not necessarily a physical mob so much as a large gathering of voices in complete agreement “bent on the destruction of a single individual, in order to intimidate the many ... this kind of mob is the ultimate enemy of freedom, since its effect is to abolish individual thought itself.”

Cancel culture is cited as an example of the virtual mob.

Kaplan has a great section devoted to Elias Canetti, author of the 1960 book

see LUNCH, pg. 8



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LOCAL NEWS

HOMELESS COUNT GOES UP

By Fisher

Homelessness is on the rise across the Eastern Sierra, according to the annual Point-in-Time (PIT) Count.

The PIT Count is a survey conducted each January which aims to get a snapshot of the number of people experiencing homelessness in Mono, Alpine and Inyo counties, which are all under the Eastern Sierra Continuum of Care (CoC) service area. The count is required by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development in every county nationwide.

This year's annual snapshot found 124 people experiencing homelessness in the three counties. By contrast, last years' PIT Count found 106 individuals experiencing homelessness, including 71 in Inyo County and 35 in Mono County. This year, there were 78 in Inyo and 46 in Mono County.

Nearly four out of five were unsheltered, sleeping in encampments, vehicles, parks or on sidewalks.

The Sheet reported on the CoC's execution of the study on January 30 in the February 8 issue. On that night, county staff prowled bars and parking lots with questionnaire forms to people experiencing homelessness, knocking on vans and handing out

blankets and gift cards to participants.

While the survey provides some insight into the scope of homelessness in the area, it's not a perfect measure, as Anna Scott, Inyo County's Human Services Director, told The Sheet in the days after the survey was conducted.

Because the count is always done in January, It's likely that the winter count of those experiencing homelessness is less than the area experiences in the summer months – especially in Mono and Alpine counties where weather is harsher. The PIT count is federally required to happen during this time, so the local CoC can't change the timing.

The weather during the count was significantly warmer this year than previous years, which could explain some of the higher numbers, said Stephanie Rubio, Inyo County Housing Program Manager.

Still, the county takes the numbers seriously, Chair of the Eastern Sierra CoC and Mono County Supervisor Jennifer Kreitz said on Wednesday.

"It's important because it reflects back to the state and the federal government, and that indicates how much funding we can get through the CoC every year," she said. "It's sup-

posed to be a point-in-time count and that's exactly what it is."

In terms of policy, she said the rising numbers are a stark reminder that housing is still a pervasive problem in the Eastern Sierra, and that it needs to be a continued priority of the regions' elected officials.

"It doesn't make [housing] more or less of a priority for me because it's always been a priority," she said.

More than three-quarters of participants reported that this was their first episode of homelessness, and the majority had lived in the region for three or more years.

When asked if she believed the Town of Mammoth Lakes and Mono County affordable housing programs, such as the Parcel or the bridge program, were making a difference in the homelessness population, she said she believed they were but that they hadn't been around long enough to make a sizable difference in the count.

"We'll see what happens with all of the numbers in January 2026," she said. "We're all interested in addressing the situation and putting effort, energy and resources into housing."

Of those surveyed, many individuals reported significant health concerns:

41% cited a mental health disorder, 33% a physical disability, and one in five said they struggled with substance use.

About two-thirds of those counted were men, while just over 30% were women and less than one percent identified as non-binary. A quarter reported a history of domestic violence.

Kreitz said the county and the CoC does its best to allocate funds to its programs which support people with mental health and substance abuse issues, and said she believed the county was in a good position to continue to provide those services.

She suggested those experiencing homelessness or those at risk of homelessness apply to the CoC's coordinated entry system, which prioritizes those with the highest need for housing in housing programs or assistance.

The nine-month lag between when the study was conducted and when the results came out was because it took a lot of time for the CoC to compile the data and submit it to the federal government, Kreitz said.

"It's pretty standard that the report would come out in the fall," she said.

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MONO

continued from page 1

"It concerns me for our whole community that you can just interpret something that's recorded and legal to fit one person's project," Mrs. Erickson pleaded during public comment.

Morari's property, currently an open lot, is situated directly between the Ericksons' home and Mono Street. Both sides insist that their interpretation of the easement is legally sound, with the disagreement stemming from an error in the Town's records dating back more than three decades.

The original subdivision, approved by the Mammoth Town Council in 1990, split one parcel into two: 56 Mono (the Ericksons' property) and 54 Mono (Morari's lot). Conditions of approval at the time required the two parcels to share a single driveway within the 30-foot easement.

However, when the final parcel map was recorded in February 1992, it incorrectly described that same easement as providing "exclusive access" to 56 Mono (the Ericksons' property).

Gina Montecallo, Mammoth Lakes Assistant Planner, acknowledged the confusion but said the easement dispute was a civil matter and beyond the Town's jurisdiction.

"The Town does not need to be involved with the resolution of such tension," she said.

After all, the item on the PEDC's agenda was not of the legality of the easement but whether the project met density and zoning standards. The Ericksons challenged that aspect, too, arguing the Town had miscalculated the gross lot area, which determines how many housing units a property can contain. They claimed the area calculation was incorrect because it included the driveway easement and should be reassessed.

"We're really trying to understand how you can squeeze this big project into that very small space," Mrs. Erickson said.

Nolan Bobroff, Mammoth Lakes Community & Economic Development Director, said the Town's code bases density on the gross lot area before any dedications, meaning easements are not ever subtracted when determining buildable density.

Town Attorney Andy Morris confirmed that interpretation.

"The Town has never deducted the area of easements from the area of a lot when calculating what can be built," he said. "The Town just doesn't do that, and I'm not aware of any jurisdiction that does, or of anything in the law that requires it."

If the Ericksons still felt wronged over the driveway, Morris suggested their recourse could be a Quiet Title Action, a type of lawsuit where a court determines the legal rights of each party.

However, he digressed; he couldn't give legal advice to anyone but the Town.

By the time public comment closed, there was little deliberation from the commission, aside from Vice Chair Dawn Vereuck, who expressed empathy for both sides while reminding the room that much of the discussion was outside the Commission's purview.

She took a long pause before making a motion to support the approval of Morari's project, and Commissioner Cynthia Fleming hesitated before seconding it. When the clerk called the vote, the Commission unanimously endorsed the approval of the project.

As the Ericksons left the meeting, Vanderhust offered a polite farewell: "I think you guys will be neighbors for a while, so hopefully this will work out."

THE HIGHS AND FURLOUGHES

By Fisher

Yosemite National Park employees voted to unionize this summer. Then, the government shut down.

"We're at a standstill right now," said Steven Gutierrez, a representative with the National Federation of Federal Employees (NFFE), which represents federal workers at Yosemite, Sequoia, Yellowstone and other National Parks, as well as the U.S. Forest Service.

The federal government shut down last Wednesday after Congress failed to pass appropriations legislation for the 2026 fiscal year, which began that day.

Under the Trump administration's contingency plan for the National Park Service (NPS), roughly two-thirds of park staff are now furloughed without pay, even as California's nine national parks remain broadly open.

That means there's no ranger at Yosemite's entrance booths to greet visitors or collect fees, but people can (and will) still visit the park. And for the rangers who usually staff those booths, the shutdown means most of them are both out of work and unable to begin negotiating new labor contracts until the government reopens.

The vote to unionize, certified August 27, came in response to widespread staff terminations within the National Park Service over the summer. And though the union can't yet negotiate with the administration, it is still meeting and organizing internally. For Gutierrez, that often requires a hands-on approach.

"You can't do everything on Zoom, and not everybody has cell phone service 24-hours/day in these positions," he said.

"So if I have to hike up a trail to go find somebody, then I'm going to go do that."

The newly formed union is currently electing officers, building a board, and setting up administrative accounts. A draft contract template is already in place, though Gutierrez acknowledged that negotiating terms with the current administration will be difficult.

"In this administration, I don't expect to get some big wins on there, but I do expect to get some," he said.

Meanwhile, the staff cuts that initially spurred the union vote remain a major concern, especially as the National Park Conservation Association and other advocacy groups warn of further reductions. If additional layoffs occur before contracts are in place, NFFE plans to pursue litigation to protect affected employees.

But above all, Gutierrez said, the union gives park workers a voice.

"Now that they are organized as a union, they have a different way of expressing themselves. They don't need to live in fear," he said.

Once the government reopens, the union plans to send Yosemite and other park employees to Washington, D.C., to lobby Congress and "share what is truly happening on the ground."

In the meantime, NFFE is delivering nonperishable food to furloughed employees to help ease the strain of missed paychecks.

"We anticipate [the shutdown] will be a little long, and these folks still have to put food on the table," Gutierrez said. "It's not going to solve all the issues, but it's a nice gesture."



5 FALL TIPS

— FOR RECREATING RESPONSIBLY —

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- 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.

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SIH
continued from page 1

Executive Officer Kevin Flanigan said. Starting in 2026, reimbursement payments will jump by about \$1-2 million a year for the 28-bed SNF. The daily, per-bed payment will go from \$470 to \$670 a day on Jan. 1. Supplemental state reimbursements to make up for lagging past payments will go up by \$4 million in 2026 and by \$6 million in 2027.

The immediate problem is securing enough money to stay open until the end of January 2026 when the state money arrives.

After a bit of dithering, the Board of Supervisors approved a \$500,000 loan to SIH.

The loan money will only go to SIH after the hospital secures millions in

state funding, which is not assured. Loan payments would not start until 2027, and the board indicated it wanted the flexibility to “forgive” the loan if necessary. Flanigan said the \$500,000 would not guarantee the hospital’s future but would help “push it across the finish line” after additional state grants or loans are secured.

Supervisor Jen Roeser said supporting hospitals was not a typical local government function, but it is “what most citizens expect.” She added the county has been subsidizing ambulance service in Bishop and the rest of the county. She endorsed a straight grant instead of a loan.

Supervisor Trina Orrill said a loan would be preferable. As did Supervisor

Jeff Griffiths, who suggested being able to forgive repayment.

Third District Supervisor Scott Marcellin noted the county uses General Fund money to pay the Bishop ambulance subsidy (which goes to a private company) and smaller subsidies to the county’s volunteer fire/ambulance departments (the cost of those subsidies in 2025-26 will be about \$250,000). He said that can’t go on forever, and some sort of additional tax or funding source for Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and SIH should be considered.

Marcellin’s comment echoed the analysis by SIH board member Mark Lacey. The small facility has been on the financial brink for decades because of a chronic “lack of volume and lack of tax base.” Lacey suggested increasing the bed tax or sales tax to increase funding for the hospital district and EMS.

Lacey has been on the SIH board for 10 years and helped steer the hospital through its 2016 bankruptcy and onto solid financial ground. However, he admitted “there had been mistakes by us (the board)” that contributed to the current, yet familiar fiscal crisis. The board had given too much autonomy to the former CEO and had not fully staffed management levels to provide more checks and balances, he noted.

The long-term and short-term issues could be “mitigated with proper management.” With the “plan of action” now in place, he said, “I have a high

degree of confidence we can be financially sustainable.”

Flanigan outlined the ongoing cost-cutting.

Staff members have voluntarily cut their hours to reduce yearly payroll by at least \$150,000. Vendors owed more than \$100,000 have agreed to a 10-month payment plan while still providing supplies and services. The hospital has about \$2 million in accounts receivable it’s working to collect. Several “generous donors and benefactors” have made significant donations to SIH.

At the current pace, SIH is almost breaking even, with \$50,000 a day in revenue and expenses. But SIH remains about \$2 million in the red, and its cash on hand can only carry it through mid-November, Flanigan said.

SIH also sent a request for \$3 million in emergency funding to Governor Gavin Newsom. The request is based on SIH being a rural, critical access hospital. Flanigan said he is also talking with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power in an effort to obtain grant funding.

If those large grants or loans do not arrive, SIH could suspend Emergency Room and in-patient operations for several months then restart those services after the first of the year.

Or it could go into Chapter 9 bankruptcy, once again.

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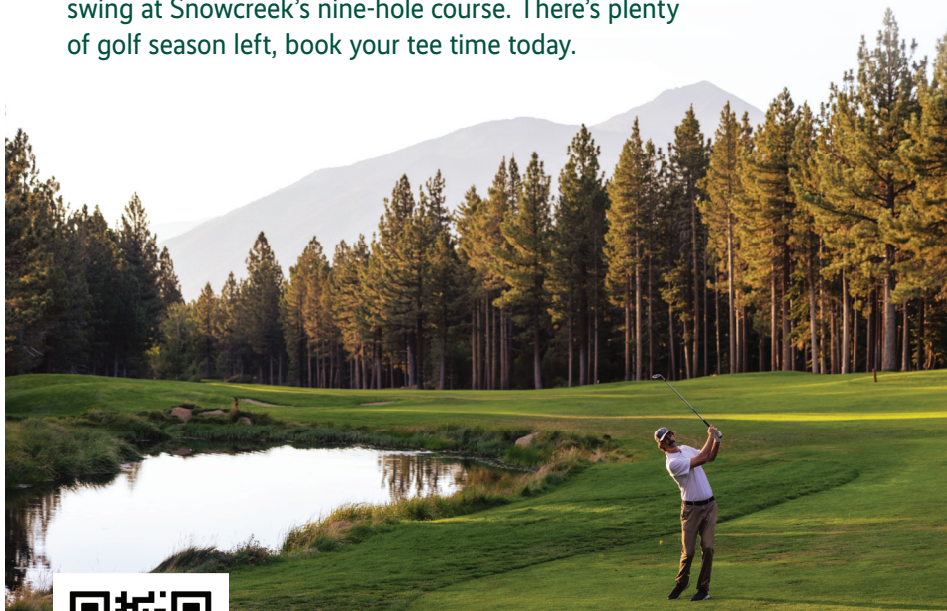
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LOCAL BRIEFS

Will Wadelton's Cash Stash

Fifth District Inyo County Supervisor Will Wadelton is pondering how to hand out up to \$180,000 for projects, events or programs in the district, which stretches from Independence and Lone Pine through Death Valley.

The windfall is the result of a change in the county's Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT), or bed tax, collection process. Since its inception, the county allowed hotels, motels and short-term rentals to keep 4% of the TOT tax. Apparently, in the foggy past when the county first imposed the TOT, the supervisors decided filling out paperwork and sending a check to the county was a bit of a burden, so businesses were allowed to keep 4% for their trouble.

That practice ended in 2022 when the board directed all TOT proceeds go to the county treasury. However, the "extra" 4% was diverted into separate accounts based on the supervisory district where the money was collected.

In the 2024-25 fiscal year, the county collected about \$4.7 million in TOT. The Fifth District, which includes the high-end accommodations in Death Valley National Park and hotels and motels in Lone Pine, delivered roughly 90% of the TOT revenue. Thus the \$180,000 was set aside for Wadelton to direct toward projects and programs in the district.

As of Monday, Oct. 6, he said in an

email to The Sheet that he had not made any decisions about how to allocate the money as he waits to see how the fiscal emergency at Southern Inyo Hospital plays out. There are some restrictions, but not many, on what can be funded.

The Fourth District, which includes the High Sierra resorts, had a \$12,000 allocation. During the budget process, Supervisor Jennifer Roeser directed the full amount to new signs in the Buttermilk bouldering area.

History is Happening

A peek into the past will take center stage during the 10th annual Eastern Sierra History Conference, slated for Friday, Oct. 31 through Sunday, Nov. 2. Sponsored by Sierra Forever (formerly Eastern Sierra Interpretive Association), the conference will be held at Cerro Coso Community College in Bishop, with field trips to several local historical locations.

Over the past decade, the conference has become an inspiring gathering for scholars, storytellers and history enthusiasts to learn about the fascinating past of the Eastern Sierra and Great Basin, states Sierra Forever. This year's event will offer two full days of presentations covering topics including Owens Lake hydrology, the legacy of author Mary Austin, the journals of Yosemite ranger Ferdinand Castillo, Big Pine Cemetery's history, and the iconic exploits of mountaineer Nor-

man Clyde.

Besides several local historians and authors (David Carle, Marty Voght and Stephen Ingram), presenters will include a number of Ph.D. candidates, history professors, etc.

The conference will include Sunday field trips to Big Pine Cemetery, Laws Railroad Museum, Manzanar National Historic Site, and Bald Mountain Fire Lookout for those who want to step into the landscapes where history happened.

Tickets range from \$50-\$140, with discounts for students and seniors. Food will be provided by Pupfish Café. Space is limited, so register today at www.sieraforever.org/eshc.

Arnold is Baaaack

Former body builder, actor and California governor Arnold Schwarzenegger has jumped into the Proposition 50 fight. He is tossing his heft and reputation in with the "No on 50" campaign.

The Terminator hopes to terminate the move to redraw the state's congressional districts that could lead to five new Democratic-leaning districts in time for the 2026 midterm elections. As the 38th governor of California, he is one of the higher profile state politicians to weigh in against the redistricting measure on the Nov. 4 special election ballot.

Schwarzenegger was elected governor in the 2003 Recall Election, besting dozens of candidates to replace recalled Gov. Gray Davis. He was reelected in 2006 and left office after a full, four-year term. He pitched himself as a "moderate Republican." Toward the end of his term, he seemed to tilt left, leading then-San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom to declare, "he's becoming a Democrat."

Apparently that transformation didn't take and now Governor Newsom is going head-to-head with Schwarzenegger over Prop 50, which was proposed, championed and promoted by Newsom.

So it's the Saggy Muscle Man versus the Good Hair Gel Guy.

- Klusmire

LUNCH continued from page 2

"Crowds and Power."

Canetti postulated that the mob is made up of the lonely, and the need of the lonely individual to conform with others.

Both Canetti and American historian and philosopher Hannah Arendt "understood that the worst tyrannies had their origins in the isolation and loneliness of the individual, which leads to the most fearsome crowd formations."

"The crowd's urge is always to grow, rescuing others from their loneliness, and consuming all hierarchies, since the goal of a lonely individual is always to be noticed and to dominate his betters ... the lonely individual, in his own thoughts at least, can do no wrong. And he receives justification of this inside the crowd, where for the first time he feels he has power. This is how tyranny begins."

Liberal and MAGA alike.

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There are other political philosophers featured along the way - Spengler, Ortega y Gasset, Jane Jacobs ... she's the one who coined the phrase "The Great Blight of Dullness" to refer to the sameness of wealthy enclaves (resort towns).

"Everyone in wealthy districts thinks of themselves as just so fascinating ... and in straining to be unique they are all actually the same."

But if there's one overarching message from Kaplan, it is this: If you don't have order and you don't preserve institutions, you sure as hell won't have the luxury of making arcane arguments over individual rights.

In essence, moderation in all things.

Defunding law enforcement, for example, is a dumb idea.

And beware the isolation borne of the internet connection.



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Personas que se identifican como LGBTQ+ y residen en los condados de Mono o Inyo.

para completar nuestra encuesta en línea sobre atención médica.





Vea si usted es elegible.

UCLA

Protocol ID: IRB-24-1398 UCLA IRB Approved Approval Date: 5/30/2025 Committee: South General IRB

UCLA is looking for individuals who identify as LGBTQ+ and are residents of Mono or Inyo Counties to complete our online survey on healthcare. See if you are eligible.



UCLA

Protocol ID: IRB#24-001398 UCLA IRB Approved Approval Date: 3/5/2025 Committee: South General IRB



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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 12/ Chris Baron Duo plays Distant Brewing in Mammoth 6-9 p.m.

Wednesday, October 15/ Cassie Dunn plays Shelter Distilling in Mammoth 6-9 p.m.

Thursday, October 16/ Tracked Out plays Distant Brewing in Mammoth 6-9 p.m.

TOWN STUFF

Friday, October 10/ BUHS Football hosts Boron. JV at 4 p.m., varsity at 7.
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 10-12/ Lone Pine Film Festival. Film showings, horseback riding, a parade, and more. *Info: lonepinefilmfestival.org.*
Leaves in the Loop in June Lake. Includes live music, craft vendors, face painting, pumpkin patch, and more. *Details/info: junelakeloop.org.*
VCMC Bishop Dual Sport Ride. Motorsport rides start 7:30 a.m. Friday and Saturday at the Tri-County Fairgrounds. Registration Thursday 4 p.m. *Reg/info: VenturaCountyMC.com.*

October 10-11/ Chalfant Big Trees Pumpkin Patch continues. Recurring weekly on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday until the 31st. *Location: 395 Hunter Ave.*

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).
Home Street Middle School 8th grade AVID class carwash at HSMS to raise \$\$\$ for spring college trip. Time: 11-2.

Monday, October 13/ Join Eastern Sierra Land Trust and ecological pros at C5 Studios in Bishop for, **"From Ridge to River: Beaver and Process-Based Watershed Restoration."** Time: 4-6 p.m. Location: 210 S. Warren St. Suggested donation.

Tuesday, October 14/ Mono County Board of Supervisors meets 9 a.m. in Bridgeport and online at monocounty.ca.gov.

TOWN STUFF

Tuesday, October 14 (cont.)/ Mammoth Lakes Parks and Recreation Commission meets 2:30 p.m. in Suite Z and online at townofmammothlakes.ca.gov.
Mammoth Lakes Town Council holds a special meeting to celebrate the grand opening of the Access Apts. *For more info, look at ad below!*
BUHS Volleyball hosts Mammoth. JV starts 4 p.m., varsity starts 5 p.m.
Mono County flu/vax clinics in Benton (comm. ctr.) from 1:30-3 p.m. and in Chalfant (comm. ctr.) from 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, October 15/ Mammoth Lakes Tourism Board meets 1-3 p.m. in Suite Z and online at townofmammothlakes.ca.gov.
Mammoth Lakes Town Council meets 4 p.m. in Suite Z and online at townofmammothlakes.ca.gov.
Lundy Lake Cleanup Day. Meet 10 a.m. at the Lundy Lake Resort Store.

Thursday, October 16/ MHS Volleyball hosts Boron. JV starts 4 p.m., varsity starts 5 p.m.
Owens Valley Radio Observatory Astronomy Lecture Series on the World's Most Powerful Radio Telescope 6-7 p.m. by Katie Jameson of Caltech. Location: Cerro Coso College Bishop Campus (4090 W Line St)
Trunk or Treat hosted by Inyo County from 5-7 p.m. at 1360 N. Main St. in Bishop. Music, games, treats, et. al.
Mono County flu/vax clinic in Bridgeport Memorial Hall from 3-5 pm

TOWN STUFF

Friday, October 17/ BUHS Football homecoming versus Cal City. JV at 4 p.m., varsity at 7 p.m.
MHS Football hosts Trona for its senior night game. Time: 7 p.m.
Campfire Program: Geology of the Eastern Sierra at Whitney Portal in Lone Pine. Time: 6:30-7:30.

Saturday, October 18/ Mono Arts Council Gala at the Mammoth Rock N' Bowl (3029 Chateau Rd.) Time: 6-9 p.m. Live music, live painting & live auctions. \$\$\$ *Info/tix: monoarts.org/mac-gala. See ad p. 6*
Bishop FFA Haunted Swamp Tour @ the FFA Farm on Sunland. Time: 6-9 p.m. \$10/person. Monsters, ghouls and scares await you!
No Kings Protests 2.0 up and down the Eastside. 10 a.m. 'til 1 p.m., at Spainhower Park in Lone Pine; 12-2 p.m. at Bishop City Park; 4-6 p.m. on the sidewalk outside Stellar Brew in Mammoth.
Sale Event and Youth Soccer Fundraiser at High Country Lumber in Bishop from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. \$1 hot dogs! *See ad p. 15.*

Sunday, October 19/ UC White Mountain Research Center Open House Celebration. BBQ lunch, live music, art auction. Time: 12-4 p.m. Location: Owens Valley Station (3000 E. Line St.) in Bishop. *Info/schedule: wmrc.edu.*



ACCESS APARTMENTS

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OCTOBER

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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

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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/AE/AAE

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

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- Foundation Coordinator
- Certified Laboratory Assistant
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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

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.



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.

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

The Alpenhof Lodge has positions available for full and part time employment. We are a 24 hour per day business looking to add members to our Front Desk team. Competitive wages, benefits, flexible schedule, and housing option may be available for the right individual. Please pick up an application and drop a resume at 6080 Minaret Rd Mammoth.



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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)

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 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/>.



SKADI

Restaurant Skadi seeks a professional dinner cook.

Please email info.skadi@gmail.com or text 760.914.0962.

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



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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

HARTLEY

EMPLOYEES MUST WASH HANDS

I say every year the season doesn't start until week six. Well, week six is here. This is when you start to see the real contenders vs. the pretenders.

Eagles laying 7 to the Giants. The Real Housewives of Philadelphia starring head Diva AJ Brown, antagonist Jalen Hurts and doofus Nick Sirianni is exhausting. How is a 4-1 team this dramatic and irritable? They have truly taken on the persona of their city. A bunch of miserable f&*ks - irritated even when successful. Meanwhile, QB Jaxson Dart is fun to watch - because interception returns are exciting plays. Eagles 23-16. Btw, Giant RB Cam Skattebo blaming his gloves for a fumble? C'mon.

Broncos laying 7.5 to the Jets. O/U 43.5. What could be over before it starts? The Aaron Glenn era in NY. That team is bad. The worst part is the defense is atrocious - Glenn's specialty. Broncos 30-17.

Cowboys laying 3 to the Panthers. O/U 49.5. Shouldn't the Cowboys crush the Panthers? Shouldn't the Cowboys defense be better? George Pickens had a coming out party last week. But we all know he came out years ago ... as crazy. Just wait, it's

coming. Pickens has missed a meeting, been late for a game.....it's coming. Time bomb ticking then one week.... Cowboys 30-20.

Rams laying 7.5 to the Ravens. O/U 44.5. What are the Ravens doing? I know Lamar is hurt but Lamar don't play DL, LB or CB. That defense is on pace to give up more points than any team in history. Where the hell are all their draft picks? Every year they are heralded for their drafts, but that team is old. Rams 32-19.

Chargers laying 4.5 to the Dolphins. O/U 44.5. Remember after week 2 when everyone said the Chargers were the best team in the league. Yeah, good times. Herbert is playing great. Wait for the playoffs. Chargers 27-20.

'Hawks 1.5 point dogs to the Jags. I see an upset here. Jags riding high, but didn't really outplay the Chiefs last week. Something is funky with the Chiefs. They have some players who seem like they just had Thanksgiving dinner and are all bloated and lazy. That walk-off TD on Monday? The QB fell down twice and still scored while DE Chris Jones was just standing there like he couldn't be bothered. I would bench his ass.

Some short-term pain for some long-term gain. Why am I talking about the Chiefs? 'Hawks win 27-23. O/U 47.5.

Raiders laying 3.5 to the Titans. When is it time to bench Geno Smith? He's throwing picks like green dildos at a WNBA game. I thought he and Carroll would bring some mediocre stability to the team. Geno is losing them games. Ride almost over. Raiders 27-20.

Bucs laying 3 to the Niners, O/U 47.5. The Mac Jones redemption tour continues. The Niners are beat up physically. I still think they need a new training staff. This happens every year. Do they have hot tubs or do they stretch? Are team meals skittles and cereal? Bucs 25-20.

Lions 2.5 point dogs to the Chiefs. O/U 52.5. Wow. Fireworks expected. Chiefs D does look good but a couple players look ... TICKISH. Shouldn't the Lions be favored? Chiefs win 30-27. Bounce back after last week's debacle.

I go to a restaurant and above the sink in the bathroom is always a sign. It says EMPLOYEES MUST WASH HANDS. No shit. But every time I see one of those signs I think. 1) If an employee wasn't going to wash their hands, they aren't going to be by the sink, dummy. Put the sign on the door on the way in and the door on the way out and above the toilet. Putting it at the sink is like putting a sign that says DON'T DRINK NON ALCOHOLIC BEER above the racks with non-alcoholic beer. 2) Shouldn't EVERYONE wash their hands? Nasty.

Government shutdown. That to me is an oxymoron. It has been my experience that the government is always shut down. It's impossible to get anything done with federal, state or local governments in a timely manner. The fact, saying government shutdown only means those lazy turds ain't getting paid. When no work is getting done for the public it's all good. But when they ain't getting paid to do nothing, GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN is important.

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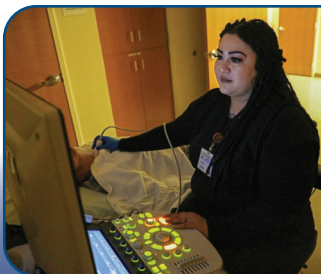
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Winter Adult Leagues
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Outdoor Recreation Host
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Temporary Snow Removal Operator
\$29.36 – \$33.99 hourly

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

For more information, to subscribe
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townofmammothlakes.ca.gov



GAYLA'S GALLERY

Car lovers, bargain hunters and Dodgers fans congregated in Bishop for the Choo Choo Swap Meet and Fall Colors Car Show last weekend. All photos by Gayla Wolf.





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.

TRAINING WILL BE PROVIDED!

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>.

MILES FOR MAMMOGRAMS

Join our community for a 2-mile walk supporting Mammoth Hospital Foundation's affordable mammography program.

**11AM START
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25TH
MAMMOTH CREEK PARK**



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OFF THE SLOPES

IT'LL TAKE MORE THAN A CUBA LIBRE

By Libre

“When was the last time you went on a date that wasn’t arranged by the internet?” a dad at the bike rodeo asked me two weeks ago. He stood in front of me, dark-tinted sunglasses on, adjusting his belt.

“Last night,” I replied, deadpan.

“Really?” He pulled back, surprised, still fiddling with the waist-band of his jeans. He’d just told me how he met his wife at the Clocktower Cellar, “back when guys used to pick up girls at the bar.” My recent romantic escapades somehow defied his version of reality. “How’d that go?”

“Good,” I said and laughed.

I wanted to tell him hitting on girls at the bar is not a fixture of the past. Men here are brazenly forward. They’ll say anything for a chance to get in your pants.

This is my second month living in Mammoth Lakes. I love it here. The unparalleled outdoor access and deep sense of community makes this place feel like home. People here are open, vulnerable. They want to get to know you. They want to be your friend.

Sometimes, however, my interactions with men have shown me there’s a dark underbelly to this friendliness.

The first time I went out in town was with Fisher, during Margarita Fest in

August. Determined to make an impression, I wore my favorite cheetah print cropped shirt, black baggy low-rise jorts, and a purple bandana, tied around my head like a pirate.

I was abiding by the mantra my friends and I repeated to ourselves in college, “You can’t always be the prettiest girl in the room but you can always be the most interesting.”

Turns out, in Mammoth, you likely are the prettiest girl in the room. That’s because you’re likely the only girl in the room.

I did make friends that fateful August night. But I was also groped by strangers. One persistent boy told me he’d “be anything for me” as long as we went home together (I politely declined). Another couldn’t remember my name, referring to me only as “gorgeous” in his charming British accent. A third, maybe in his forties, insistently asked me to dance. No, I kept saying. When I biked away from the establishment, he yelled after me. “Hey sweetie, let me hop on those handlebars.”

I’m no stranger to unwanted attention. I grew up in Alta, Utah. I know what it’s like to be a girl in a ski town. We used to joke about being an Alta 10 and a Salt Lake 6. In high school, young skier boys with goggles beneath their helmets and

their pants hanging below their knees asked me for my number in the lift line. Back then, it was harmless, even flattering. Who doesn’t love a little male validation? I started to crave it.

My college experience was tainted by the institution’s Greek system and the hierarchy it imposed. Clout was determined by which frats the boys I kissed belonged to. Sex became gamified, leaving both parties to feel objectified. This was no way to form an authentic connection. The more I bought into this culture, the less desirable I felt.

Mammoth is a different beast. My feeling of undesirability has been completely erased, replaced by the sensation of my body on constant display. It’s as if there’s an invisible sign hanging around my neck which reads “for sale, come and get it.”

Maybe it’s the clothes I wear, the mini-dresses and chunky jewelry and silver studded belts. Lunch accuses me of being a hippie, but sue me! I’m a lover of a long flowy skirt and electric blue eyeliner.

It also could be my friend-making strategy, which revolves mostly around going out to bars and introducing myself to girls.

“I’m Ulla,” I’ll say, shaking their hand. “Can we be friends?” This usually works

until a boy interrupts, winking at both of us. The girl I’m mid-shmoozing into being my friend and I will exchange a look, like, “Smooth dude. No thanks.”

The truth? There’s an abundance of men and a lack of women Mammoth.

My experiences are not unique. Girls everywhere in Mammoth face the same thing. In conversations with Fisher, she’s told me similar stories. She says it was worse when she was single, but the occasional creep still comes along.

“It’s like the boys here are hyper-horny,” a local barista with a septum piercing told me. “All my guy friends want to talk about is the dates they go on and all my girl friends are just trying to chill.”

The barista told me she’s stopped going to bars, because “I just don’t want to feel uncomfortable.”

She pointed to other spaces she feels objectified in, like the hot springs. “It’s a group of naked men who are like, ‘come on in.’” Ew.

Of course, there are good guys in Mammoth. I’ve met plenty of well-intentioned, friendship material men. But the women here are the real gems. They’re cool and beautiful and badass and hardcore.

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SCE JACKS RATES

By Libre

Heads up Mono and Inyo counties. Your electricity bills could increase by 13% this month. Southern California Edison (SCE), the electric company which serves the Eastern Sierra, just implemented their new rate structure.

These new rates are based on the work the company is planning to do and how much it can charge its customers to cover that work. The increased rates help SCE maintain a reliable electric grid and make the system more resilient against wildfire, said Gabriela Ornelas, a spokesperson for SCE.

SCE followed the rate development process with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). These rates will be in place until 2028. SCE had previously worked under a rate structure set in 2021, which increased rates from the previous years by 8%.

Electricity rates can change from month to month, Ornelas explained. On average, the new basic rates are expected to increase residential bills by about 9.1%.

But this month's bills include costs outside of the new rate structure, such as previous wildfire mitigation.

"Rates also include separate costs for wildfire mitigation and vegetation management," Ornelas said. "So that's why these October bills are reflecting 13% [increase]."

Rates also depend on time of use, as there are times in the day which have

higher electric demands than others. "For customers who are able to shift their usage to non-peak hours, they could see savings through that rate plan," Ornelas said.

There are other changes to upcoming SCE customer bills. The California Climate credit, a state program applied automatically twice a year, will provide customers with a credit of \$56 to their October bill. This credit applies for residential homes and small businesses, and is a part of the California cap and trade program that is an effort to mitigate green house gas emissions.

Another change is a state mandated \$24 base service charge. This charge is

not new, Ornelas assured. "Essentially, those \$24 are moving from one section of the bill to another section of the bill."

For low-income customers who are on or qualify for federal or state discount plans, this base charge will be discounted. The discounts would range from \$6-12.

So far, Ornelas and SCE are unsure what customer reactions will be to the increase in rates.

Editor's note: we at The Sheet are pretty confident as to what those reactions will be.

"We know it's a challenge for our customers to see changes on their bill, especially as they manage other bills

in their life, and so we are sensitive to the fact that this will result in an increase," Ornelas said. "We do want our customers to know that we are working hard to maintain a reliable and resilient electric grid."

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