

the sheet

News, Views & Culture of the Eastern Sierra



A 37th view of Mount Tom taken Thursday morning in Bishop. For Lunch's review of Stephen Ingram's new book, see p.10.

Saturday, November 15, 2025

FREE

Vol. 23, No. 46

PACK FIRE ENGULFS MCGEE



The Pack Fire exploded Thursday afternoon, forcing mass evacuations in Crowley and McGee. For more, see p.2.

WHEN 50/50 IS ANYTHING BUT

Bishop City Council held a joint meeting with the Bishop Rural Fire Protection District Board prior to its regular council meeting on Monday.

And the meeting was infused with some urgency.

Because what is supposed to be a 50/50 cost-sharing relationship is becoming lopsided over time.

Exacerbated by the fact that some of the wealthiest neighborhoods receive fire protection services (Aspendell, Starlite, 40 Acres, Mustang Mesa) yet don't pay a dime for the privilege.

In his presentation at the outset of the meeting, Bishop Fire Chief Bret Russell noted that his department serves approximately 12,500 residents, yet just 30% (or approx. 3,800) live within the city limits.

So off the bat, you realize 50/50 is 30/70.

According to the Inyo County Auditor's Office, the Bishop Rural Fire Protection District receives 1% of the net taxable property value of its constituents. Last year, that amounted to \$528,000.

Do a calculation of total net taxable value in the outlying communities listed above and

that's what's not being collected.

Interestingly, Rovana pays a flat \$30,000 annual fee to the District. And Southern California Edison also pays.

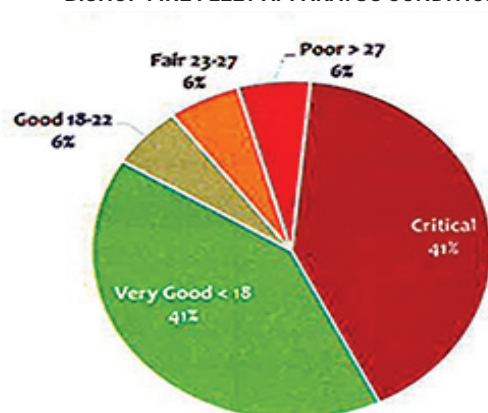
Unfortunately, revenues are not keeping pace with expenses and deferred maintenance.

Russell told The Sheet this week that the department needed a \$2 million infrastructure investment 5 to 8 years ago.

His opinion is borne out by a 2023 "Bishop Fire Department Agency Evaluation" performed by

more LUNCH, pg. 2

BISHOP FIRE FLEET APPARATUS CONDITION



A NEW FIRE HOUSE

MLFPD in escrow to buy complex for employee housing

By Fisher

On Wednesday morning, the Planning and Economic Development Commission (PEDC) unanimously approved, without discussion, a permit to convert a four-unit complex at 395 Chaparral Road into housing for employees of the Mammoth Lakes Fire Protection District (MLFPD).

Under the current plans, MLFPD employees will move in after the current tenants gradually move out.

"Our goal is to work with [the current tenants] and not evict anyone immediately," MLFPD Chief Ales Tomaier told The Sheet. "I believe one of them is already in the process of moving, and the second one is very close to moving as well."

Employees will be prioritized for the housing based on seniority, rank, and full-time status as units become available, he said. The District will charge rent, but it will subsidize the cost to make it affordable compared to market rates. The exact rent rates are still to be determined, but Tomaier said they will be based on employees' salaries.

The complex is neither deed-restricted nor income-restricted, meaning there are no limitations on who can live in the apartments or on the income levels of the tenants.

Each of the four units has two bedrooms, and eligible MLFPD employees may invite family members or roommates to live with them to share the subsidized rent.

"What we're working on is having one firefighter essentially responsible for the lease," Tomaier explained. "This will benefit the public as a whole, beyond just the firefighters, but it'll be difficult to create

sub-leases where every room is rented out to a different firefighter. That could create a whole bunch of issues."

MLFPD is funding the purchase using its capital expenditure fund, which makes up 13% of its overall budget. Of that budget, 95% comes from property taxes. Last November, the district passed a measure that raised taxes by \$98 per parcel for nine years, boosting its revenue.

While housing wasn't explicitly listed as a goal of the ballot measure when it was presented to the public, it did promise to "enhance its ability to respond to emergencies, prevent wildfires, and ensure the safety of the community." Technically, housing supports staffing, and staffing, in turn, helps achieve all those goals.

In Mono County, public entities, including MLFPD, are exempt from paying property taxes, as long as those properties are used for public purposes.

This exemption would apply to the apartment complex, Tomaier confirmed. He declined to disclose the cost of the building or estimated maintenance expenses as the building is currently in escrow.

Currently, the department has a small army of full-time staff, with volunteers available to back them up when needed. But national fire safety standards make it so MLFPD can't afford to show up with anything less than a full crew.

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) requires a minimum of four firefighters per engine, with 15-17 firefighters on scene within eight minutes for a single-family house fire. For an apartment

more MLFPD, pg. 6

New Air-rangments

Honoring Veterans

In Touch With Reality

Back in a SNAP

Windy City Blows West

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LUNCH

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Emergency Services Consulting International (ESCI), which found that nearly 50% of the department’s apparatus fleet condition rated poor to critical (see accompanying graphic).

The department currently has just three full-time employees (ESCI recommended 5).

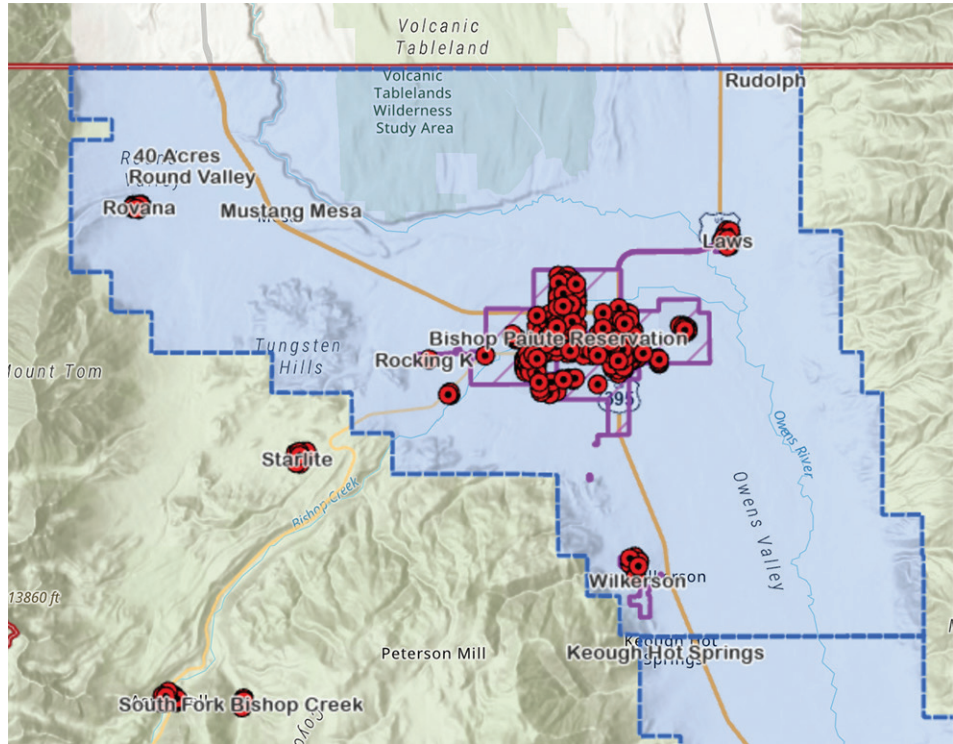
With five, Russell said that affords BFD to go to a shift schedule, which would guarantee a response to every call.

There have been a half-dozen instances over the past two years, he said, where volunteers have been stranded at the firehouse because an engine driver/operator wasn’t available.

As Bishop Councilman Stephen Muchovej said, in recent years, department needs have outgrown the agreement (between the City and the Rural FPD).

“The issue is level of service and who pays how much.”

We’re living off property taxes, and that funding [increase] is incremental,



Bishop’s Rural Fire Protection District is outlined within the purple boundary; the “sphere of influence” is demarcated in blue.

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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)

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said Commissioner Gavin Delmas.

“You need a tax measure,” chimed in Councilmember Karen Schwartz.

But a tax measure doesn’t address the fundamental inequality of certain communities using services without paying.

Part of the motivation may be this: if you enlarge the district boundaries to include outlying communities, guaranteed fire coverage may have the unintended consequence of allowing large tracts of land within these communities (think Starlite) to be subdivided and developed.

Schwartz is correct in that a tax measure is still appropriate given skyrocketing costs since the pandemic.

The short-term fix discussed at Monday’s meeting would be having outlying districts contract with the City of Bishop for fire services. The Rovana model.

One bright spot. In the recent bill that reopened the federal government back up, there is an earmark for a new ladder truck for the Bishop Fire Department.

A parting gift from Congressman Kevin Kiley before he is redistricted.

A new 105’ ladder truck (to replace the current 75’ one) will cost approximately \$1.7 million.

The earmark is for about 75% of that.

Pack Fire

Multiple residents reported the Pack Fire started Wednesday night, Nov. 12, in the vicinity of McGee Creek Campground. The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) allegedly thought the fire had gone out, but the flames exploded due to heavy winds on Thursday morning, according to several residents.

Fire alert websites reported a five acre large vegetation fire at McGee Creek Road northwest of Crowley Lake at 11 a.m.. Fifteen minutes later, law enforcement began a full evacuation of the Crowley Lake and McGee communities, and Benton Crossing Road an hour later. Highway 395 was shut down north and south from Benton Crossing Road to Rock Creek Road.

When the fire jumped 395 at 12:41 p.m. and began burning north on the west side of Crowley Lake, the Highway’s closure extended from Tom’s Place to Benton Crossing Road. Drivers were forced to use Highway 6 as a detour. By 2 p.m., the fire was estimated to be 1,000 acres.

McGee Trailer Park began to burn at 2 p.m.. The Sheet has confirmed six residential home losses in McGee. Mammoth Lakes Middle School and the Tri-County Fairgrounds were designated as evacuation shelters.

Air tankers were called off due to heavy winds, reported to be 12-16 miles per hour from the south, with gusts up to 24 mph.

PARKING JOB OF THE WEEK



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LOCAL NEWS

MONEY FLIES!

By Libre

This winter, United Airlines will add three to four additional flights per week from the Bishop Airport, totaling 79 extra flights over the course of the four-month winter season.

This increase in flights will make it easier for locals and visitors to travel to and from the area, which otherwise lacks a commercial airport within 150 miles and does not offer commercial flights during the off seasons.

Inyo County is working toward year-round commercial flights, but according to Mammoth Lakes Tourism (MLT) CEO John Urdi, this would be costly and may not be feasible.

Both United Airlines and Advanced Air, a seasonal charter service based out of Mammoth Airport, rely on a Minimum Revenue Guarantee (MRG). This financial safety net ensures the airlines are guaranteed a specified amount of revenue, even if ticket sales don't meet expectations.

"The airlines are concerned that they can provide the service and lose a ton of money," Ashely Helms, Inyo County Public Works Deputy Director, told the Sheet on Wednesday.

Each year, that shortfall is covered by a partnership between MLT, the Town of Mammoth Lakes (TOML), Inyo County, and Mammoth Mountain Ski Area

(MMSA). Inyo County does not contribute to the Advanced Air MRGs because its flights do not fly in or out of Bishop.

In the past, MLT has contracted directly with the airlines. MLT then makes yearly "cautionary agreements," Helms said, with TOML, Inyo County, and MMSA for reimbursement. But last February, the four parties joined together to draft a new, consolidated cost sharing agreement for Bishop Regional Airport to distribute United's MRG costs and establish funding caps for the contributing parties.

The goal of this initial document was three fold: to work towards providing year-round air service in Bishop, to provide transparency by stating how much each entity is paying, and to create a longer-term agreement, rather than year-to-year deals.

In October, Helms presented a final version of this contract to the Inyo County Board of Supervisors.

Under the agreement, MLT will contribute up to \$1.75 million annually, mainly from TBID revenue, while Inyo County and TOML will each pay up to \$200,000 from general funds. Any remaining costs beyond these amounts will be the responsibility of MMSA, with no cap on its contribution.

This is largely in line with the previous

funding structure, but the consolidated contract allows for better interagency communication and transparency.

"Some years [MMSA] can pay nothing. Others it can be three to four million," Urdi said.

The Inyo County Board of Supervisors approved the contract on Oct. 21, and MLT and MMSA approved it soon after. The Mammoth Lakes Council is agendized to consider the item next Wednesday night, and if it passes, the MRG contract change will be set into motion.

The airlines do not publicly disclose the monetary value of their MRGs, but The Sheet estimates the United MRGs range from \$2-3 million every year.

"United is a private company. They don't even like me talking about this," Urdi said.

Inyo County Supervisor Jen Roeser supported the motion, but asked staff to include an itemized report of how much the other agencies were billed for invoices going forward. "We need to figure out a way to pay the minimum amount we can," she said.

The contract also noted the "parties' desire for year-round air service to be provided at Bishop Airport," but stated the document must be reviewed before any expansion such as new routes or more flights.

"Year-round is really tough, we don't have the population base to fill the seats," Urdi said. "Instead we'll likely beef up the winter capacity."

"We'll likely see an expansion of flights into the shoulder seasons next year," Helms said. She disagreed with Urdi -- she does think year-round air service is possible -- but she's not exactly sure when these flights would be scheduled.

United currently offers twice-daily summer flights from Bishop to Denver and San Francisco, while Advanced Air, a private charter airline, flies from Mammoth Yosemite Airport to Carlsbad and Hawthorne-LA from Thursday through Sunday.

This winter, United will resume flights to San Francisco on Dec. 11 and to Denver on Dec. 18. Advanced Air will restart its seasonal service to both Hawthorne and Carlsbad on Wednesday, Nov. 26, just in time for Thanksgiving.

In the future, Bishop municipal airport could offer American Air flights to Dallas and Delta flights to Salt Lake City. But for now, Urdi is encouraged by the relationship with United.

"The support from United going into this winter is huge."

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SNAPPING BACK

By Fisher

Now that the government has reopened, Inyo County decided not to proceed with allocating funds to supplement CalFresh (California's version of SNAP) benefits despite securing funds to do so.

At the start of the month, the Trump administration halted SNAP funding due to the federal government shut-down, leaving millions of Americans without food assistance. In response, states began litigating the suspension, which led California Governor Gavin Newsom to authorize the immediate release of 100% of SNAP funding last Thursday.

On Tuesday, the Supreme Court declined to intervene and order the government to fully restore benefits. However, the Court refrained from addressing whether lower courts were right in their decisions. It did not clarify when millions of Americans would receive their benefits.

Amid the federal confusion, Mono County, in partnership with the Town of Mammoth Lakes, allocated a total

of \$200,000 toward providing grocery cards to CalFresh households and strengthening food banks and other local food assistance programs. After serving 35 households, it paused the program last Thursday after Newsom's announcement.

"While we understand Congress may soon reach an agreement to end the shutdown, we are incredibly grateful to have these emergency resources available should they be needed again – particularly if the shutdown is not fully resolved when December benefits are scheduled to be issued," Mono County stated in a press release Wednesday.

Inyo County, meanwhile, silently secured a \$20,000 grant from Southern California Edison through the Eastern Sierra Foundation, but did not deploy the funds. The County has no plans to use them now that benefits appear to be reinstated, Inyo County Supervisor Jeff Griffiths said.

"It's all up in the air because the benefits are restored," Griffiths said Wednesday. "This all happened very quickly."

County supervisors were briefed by Anna Scott, Inyo County Health and Human Services director, at their Oct. 23 meeting on the potential shut-off of SNAP funds. According to Scott, about 2,087 residents receive SNAP benefits.

With the funds sitting idle, Inyo County is now loosely considering re-appropriating them for other assistance programs.

"These funds were intended for those who were losing their benefits," Griffiths explained. "If we use them for something else, we would need to get approval from Southern California Edison."

According to Scott, the funds could still be directed to their original purpose if SNAP is suspended again in the coming months.

"We're trying to determine whether we'll continue facing challenges with SNAP," Scott said. "At this point, all SNAP benefits for November have been fully issued to eligible recipients, so we're not planning to implement any alternative solutions right now."

There is no time restriction for when the SCE funds would need to be allocated, Griffiths said, so they could be sitting for a while.

Meanwhile, as CalFresh families went without benefits for two weeks, Inyo County did not organize food drives or establish new food banks, as Mono County did. Instead, Inyo County referred those in need to existing resources, primarily the Inyo Mono Advocates for Community Action (IMACA) Food Resources.

"[Families affected by the benefit suspension] have indicated that they have enough resources to meet their needs," Scott noted. "I haven't heard anything different at this point."

All other programs administered by Inyo County Health and Human Services are fully funded through at least the end of December.

"We're not worried right now, but we are certainly monitoring the situation at the federal level closely," Scott said.

MLFPD

continued from page 1

fire, the district must bring 26-28 firefighters, and 43 firefighters minimum if the fire occurs at a high-risk location like a school.

California's statewide mutual aid pact ensures that fire crews from other districts can assist during major fires outside their districts, but the local fire district is the first and most essential line of defense in emergencies.

Beyond fire protection, firefighters also respond to a wide range of emergencies, including medical aid, traffic accidents, locked doors, and fuel leaks.

To meet the NFPA recommended response times, MLFPD requires its employees to live within seven minutes of driving time to ensure a rapid response to emergencies. But Tomaier said this has become increasingly difficult to achieve.

"When I started as Fire Chief, we actually had five people living in their cars for various reasons," Tomaier shared. "We're trying to address that and make sure the district has the personnel it needs to respond to incidents."

In the meantime, the District is working on developing other housing programs, including a down payment assistance program. It owns a parcel at the corner of Joaquin and Dorrance Roads, which could potentially be developed into nine duplexes. However, Tomaier noted that building on that land would be significantly more expensive compared to purchasing existing real estate.

The PEDC did not deliberate on the issue and passed it within 15 minutes of bringing it forward. After the vote, Commission Chair Michael Vanderhurst expressed his admiration for the District's initiative.

"Way to set the precedent for taking care of your own and taking care of this community," he said.

"This is not a selfish act by the District. This is something that will benefit all of us."



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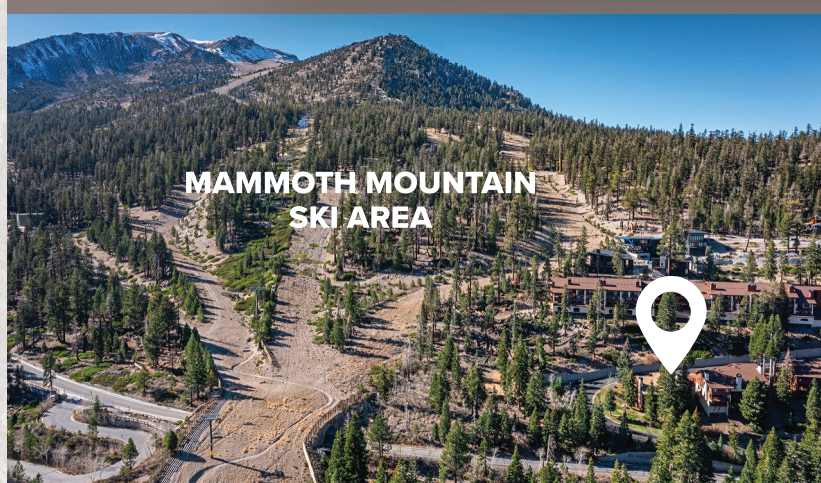
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LOCAL BRIEFS

All's Fair for Orihuela

Steven Orihuela, of Bishop, has been appointed by Gov. Gavin Newsom to the 18th District Agricultural Association Eastern Sierra Tri County Fair Board, the governor's office recently announced.

Orihuela has been Tribal Chairman at Bishop Paiute Tribal Council since 2024. He has held multiple positions with the Tribal Council since 2020, including Secretary and Treasurer. He held several positions at the Bishop Paiute Tribe from 2018 to 2020, including Chief Operations Officer of Tribal Administration and Water Quality Specialist of Environmental Management Office. Orihuela has been Chairman of Owens Valley Board of Trustees.

"My journey has always centered on building partnerships, fostering opportunity, and strengthening our connections throughout the Eastern Sierra," Orihuela posted on social media. "I'm grateful for this opportunity to continue serving our region and representing the nüümü perspective in this capacity."

Orihuela earned a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Arizona after earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in Environmental Studies from Fort Lewis College.

The position on the Tri-County Fair Board does not require California Senate confirmation and there is no compensation. Orihuela is registered without party preference.



Steven Orihuela

Sharp Pencil Punctures Big Numbers

That's quite a pencil wielded by Nora Gamino, City of Bishop public works director.

The wielding was done at a recent city council meeting.

After an eye-raising initial estimate of the long-term costs of water system improvements, Gamino said she took "a hard, hard look" at the initial list of projects. Then she "sharpened my pencil" and went through the list with an eye to deferring some less critical work. She came up with about \$1.5 million worth of work that could be moved a tad further into the future.

An example was holding off on re-

placing 4-inch water pipe with 8-inch, she said.

Gamino said the "feedback" the city received after revealing potentially massive rate hikes for water and sewer was taken into account when paring the wish list.

The new water capital improvement plan anticipates \$14.1 million worth of improvements to the city water system over the next five years. Water rate revenue will pay for roughly \$3.5 million, with grants and loans covering about \$10.6 million.

The sewer capital improvement plan was basically unchanged, Gamino said. Over the next five years, the city sewer system will get about \$9.8 million worth of upgrades. Rate revenue will cover about \$2 million of those costs with \$7.8 covered by grants, such as USDA Rural Development grants.

MMSA Pushes Opening Day

Mammoth Mountain Ski Area (MMSA) officially pushed back its opening day on Tuesday, and again Thursday. MMSA was scheduled to open on Friday, and now it promises to open as soon as conditions allow.

In the weeks leading up to the postponement, temperatures remained relatively high in Mammoth Lakes, with daytime temperatures reaching 60 degrees leading up to the announcement.

A promising storm was forecast to hit the region late Wednesday and continue

through Friday, which led MMSA to remain hopeful of a snowy opening day Saturday. The storm had not delivered by Thursday midday, prompting MMSA to delay opening day indefinitely.

Plane Crash Kills Two, Injures One

On Tuesday, the Inyo County Sheriff Department located a small missing aircraft in which two people were killed and one was injured when it crashed late Monday.

The plane had taken off from the Bishop airport around 9 p.m. and lost all contact shortly after departure, according to the Inyo County Sheriff's Office.

The Civil Air Patrol then initiated search efforts, and a Patrol aircraft located the wreckage around 6 a.m. Tuesday near Black Canyon Road. Inyo County Search and Rescue teams were activated soon after, with a California Highway Patrol helicopter bringing a medically trained responder to the site.

When rescuers reached the scene shortly after 9 a.m., two people were found dead, and one survivor was discovered with serious injuries. The survivor was airlifted to the Bishop airport and met by emergency medical personnel.

The names of the victims have not been released pending notification of relatives. The aircraft's disappearance triggered a multistate response involving the Federal Aviation Administration, the Civil Air Patrol and the CHP.



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OFF THE SLOPES

36 VIEWS OF MOUNT TOM

By Lunch

When I lived in Swall Meadows, the right-hand picture window at the front of my house (which kind of juttied out like the bow of a ship) faced Mount Tom. And I found myself looking at Tom. A lot. And thinking that the hoi polloi had it all wrong. That Tom was the California mountain - even if it surrendered a few hundred feet to Whitney (13,658' vs. 14,505'), or didn't have the biographical story of Morrison.

And if not for the Round Fire, I'd still be looking down valley, south towards Tom. My favorite view.

Instead, I look westward at it every day from the trails cutting through the sagebrush off Reata Rd. In Bishop.

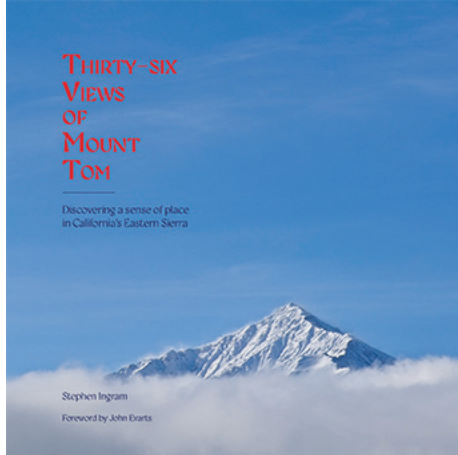
But for sure, I have a good, long look at Tom at least once a day.

So imagine my delight at the publication of Stephen Ingram's new coffee table book, "Thirty-Six Views of Mount Tom."

Ingram lived down the street from me in Swall and also lost his home in the Round Fire but has built a lovely home in its stead.

Though in his essay about the Round Fire which appears in the book, the understated Ingram doesn't mention his loss.

I visited Stephen last week to get a first



look at the book and to talk about his inspiration for it.

... Which are the Japanese artist Hokusai's "36 Views of Mount Fuji" as well as the collaborations of Poet Gary Snyder and Wood-Cut Artist Tom Killion, who published both "The High Sierra of California" and "Tamalpais Walking."

The when of Ingram's inspiration? Fall 2003.

Why did it take so long to come together? The better question might be, how did you get it done so quickly?

As Ingram writes in essay #2 (there's an essay accompanying every photograph, or 'view'), "The mind-boggling timeline from the formation of the Sierra

Nevada Batholith - the Sierra's granitic core - to its current shape stretches over 300 million years."

So 22 years to finish the book is quite speedy.

The research and writing took him the most time. As for the photos, they came incrementally. Good ones replaced by better ones over the years.

Reminiscent of Neil Young writing 126 verses for "Sugar Mountain," before ultimately choosing four to include.

Ingram's favorite shot to get? That appears on page 36 (essay #13), the product of a solo backpack 10 miles in to the headwaters of Pine Creek.

In terms of help in putting Ingram's self-published book together, he assembled a whole lot of pros to make it happen.

Joe Reidhead essentially served as editor/designer. Wife Karen Ferrell-Ingram (Fmr. Eastern Sierra Land Trust Exec. Director, English major and avid reader), Sally Gaines and Robin Morning helped with copy-editing and structure.

Renowned geologist Allen Glazner shepherded Stephen through the subject matter in the opening "physical setting" section.

As for Stephen, the book served as an excuse to appear productive to the larger world while he indulged in a pas-

sion project.

Fortunately for us, Ingram's passion is backed by a boatload of insight and talent.

He'll be appearing at a book release party at C5 Studios in Bishop on November 21 from 5-6:30 p.m. That event will feature a slideshow and talk.

The book goes on sale to the general public on November 22. Look for it at Spellbinder Books in Bishop and at the Booky Joint in Mammoth.



Stephen Ingram's view of Tom from his back porch.



World-Class Longevity Training

Available right here in Mammoth Lakes!

Ted and Tammy Dardzinski, internationally recognized strength and conditioning specialists, have brought their combined 70 years of experience and knowledge to Mammoth Lakes with their world-class training center, TEDD High Altitude Longevity Training Center (TEDD Fitness). The TEDD training center is among the first of its kind in the US to focus on older athletes and longevity. TEDD is a gym specifically designed for those over 40 years of age. It is important to note that the methods utilized at TEDD have evolved over many years of practical, hands-on experience. Every piece of world-class equipment has been specifically and carefully selected for individuals with multiple physical issues, including new joints, back problems, and years of compensation and wear-and-tear. This center isn't a health club designed to sell memberships and cater to a younger crowd; it's a hybrid. It is not merely a restorative center; it is an innovative program that integrates the science of longevity and health span with sports strength and

conditioning. The TEDD focus is on reconditioning and transforming older bodies into rejuvenated and youthful versions by using advanced techniques.

As for the owners, Ted and Tammy, you couldn't ask for two more experienced and knowledgeable coaches. Their careers span over decades and include extensive training and teaching in neuromuscular re-education and active nervous system recruitment (The Dardzinski Method). Ted and Tammy were pioneers in spinal cord injury recovery, founding and growing Project Walk Spinal Cord Injury Recovery Center into facilities all over the world. They have been interviewed on TV and in print highlighting their successes. Researchers from all over the world visited their corporate center in Carlsbad, CA to observe and learn The Dardzinski Method. Once, during a national television broadcast, Anderson Cooper inquired if Ted possessed expertise akin to that of a witch doctor due to the remarkable results he was achieving.

The results garnered by the Dardzinski's continue to generate discussion. Over the years, Ted and Tammy have focused their extensive experience and knowledge of the body into longevity training. And now, they are offering the TEDD program to Mammoth! Clients who have consistently participated in the TEDD training program have experienced significant transformations. Individuals in their 70s have regained athletic abilities comparable to those a decade younger; chronic pain issues have been resolved; and their bodies exhibit better mobility than 90% of their peers.

You owe it to yourself to visit the TEDD High Altitude Longevity Training Center. See firsthand how it can benefit you and help you achieve a longer, healthier, happier, more functional health span.

Contact Ted today for a tour of the center and a free consultation. TEDD is located: Outpost Mall, 126 Old Mammoth Rd. 760.716.8773 | info@teddski.com



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MAMMOTH, LAND OF THE FUTURE

By Libre

Step into Mammothland VR and you enter a fluorescent-lit future. From one purple painted wall hangs the word “Trendy” in enormous blocky neon light letters. Other similar signs read “Yeah!!!” and “We are the party every day!!”

Currently, Mammothland VR boasts eleven virtual reality machines, which transport the user to a plethora of other worlds: a 360 degree skier, a racing kart, a sniper. Customers pre-load money onto a game card which they receive from a kiosk in the front of the store. They then pay \$10-25 to play the games on the machines, which typically last 5-10 minutes.

“Usually people spend about a

hundred dollars or so,” said Mammothland VR employee Leanne Paupel in an interview with the Sheet on Tuesday.

Mammothland VR “soft opened” on Aug. 8. The operating hours are 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily. Owner Rami Akary is planning a “grand opening” for sometime before Christmas. His business has yet to receive all the machines he hopes it will have, which he says could be as many as 25.

This Saturday, Akary expects to receive six more machines, Paupel said. These could include additional virtual reality machines, an air hockey table, a vending machine, and a popcorn and cotton candy maker.

Akary started the business with the intention of giving people something to do in the evenings.

He pointed to Mammoth Rock ‘N’ Bowl as a business with a similar mission, supplying people with a mechanism for fun that doesn’t revolve around an outdoor adventure.

“[VR] is made for all ages, from three year-olds to 100 year-olds,” Akary said. Business has been slow so far. Like many other businesses in town, Mammothland VR has felt the economic impacts of shoulder season.

“Nobody is coming to town, it’s not the season,” Akary said. “But God willing, we’ll get more business when it gets busy.”

Akary emigrated from Syria in 2004, when he was 22-years-old. He followed his brother to San Fernando, Calif. The pair went on to co-own multiple businesses, including a gas station and a liquor store. Akary brought his family to Mammothland VR; his cousin, Issa Souki, is the manager.

Akary first came to Mammoth Lakes in 2016. He currently splits his time between Mammoth and San Fernando, where his wife and four-year-old child live.

“I fell in love with the town,” he said. “Ever since moving from Syria, I’ve always loved and built small community businesses.”

He hopes to eventually utilize Mammothland VR to give back to the



VR Racing Kart – drive it like you stole it!

community. He floated the idea of connecting with different high school principals throughout the area, starting with Mammoth and extending to June, Lee Vining, and Bishop, and supplying the top ten kids in each of these schools with a free ticket every few months.

“I didn’t really have a good education. I didn’t go to college,” Akary said.

But since having a child of his own, Akary has placed immense value on education. This hypothetical program could create a fun incentive for academic success.



A shot of the virtual reality sniper machines in the Mammothland VR game room

LIBERTY SPORTS BAR & GRILL

FREE LIVE MUSIC BEGINS AT 9:30 PM

A NOVEMBER TO REMEMBER

THURSDAY 6TH FRIDAY 7TH MURDER MYSTERY DINNER THEATER

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original jam band grooves

FRIDAY 14TH 1910 OPENING WEEKEND PARTY!
SpliffRiff & Deviates

SATURDAY 15TH PAY THE RENT MOVE PREMIERE
Blind Fortune

THURSDAY 20TH IMPROV COMEDY 8 PM

11/26 the return of Wild Wednesday monthly residency

FRIDAY 28TH POLDER POLDER
MODERN CLASSIX

SATURDAY 29TH BG SMOOTH
COVERS & DANCE BANGERS

YOUR NFL HEADQUARTERS



LET'S TALK TURKEY

Mammoth

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The Lakefront

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MAMMOTHMOUNTAIN.COM/EVENTS

FACILITIES OPERATED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH INYO NATIONAL FOREST
Events Subject to Change

THE CLYBOURNE IDENTITY

By Libre

S hira Dubrovner, Artistic Director of the Mammoth Lakes Repertory Theater, invited me to watch one of the last dress rehearsals of her most recent play, “Clybourne Park” on Wednesday night. Armed with my notepad, pen, and brilliant friend Gracie, I watched in awe for two hours as local actors portrayed complex race dynamics.

The play takes place in a Chicago two-bedroom home, over a period of 50 years, and deals with the historical issue of white flight and the contemporary dilemma of gentrification.

In the first act, the play is stiff and awkward. I wondered if this was due to the uncomfortable subject matter. The play opens with a particularly compelling Russ (Clay Tyson), sitting in his pajamas, listening to jazz on the radio and eating an entire carton of neapolitan ice cream. It’s 1959 at 4 p.m.

Russ’s painfully well-meaning, floral dress-clad wife, Bev (Marlene Piper) walks down the stairs to join him. Bev is worried about Russ. She fears he has leaned too far into grieving their dead son Kenneth (Cam Angwin), who committed suicide in the house two years before. Bev invites Pastor Jim (Kenneth Aedwyrd Needham) over to comfort her husband. Russ tells the Pastor to go f*ck himself.

White couple Russ and Bev are moving. All of their things are packed in boxes strewn across the floor. The yellow walls have been stripped of photographs, leaving behind grimy rectangular outlines. Their quiet Black maid Francine (Sarah Brown) is helping Bev move when neighbor Karl (Micheal Neal Johnson, an actor from LA) calls with some alarming news. The family who bought the house is Black.

The actors found their stride once their characters’ emotions started to fly. Karl brings his deaf and pregnant wife, Betsy (Gretchen Seibert, whom the other characters engage with via disheartening attempts at sign language) over to the house and a yelling match ensues. Karl is irate.

“They eat different food!” Karl shouts. Then he brings Francine and her husband Albert (Ronnell Hill) into the room, and asks them how they would feel if a bunch of white people moved into their neighborhood.

“Maybe that would be good for you guys actually,” Karl says.

Francine turns to her husband Albert and says, “These people are all crazy.”

The second act of the play is set in 2009, at 4 p.m., in the same room of the now dilapidated house on Clybourne Street. A white couple, Lindsey and Steve (played by Johnson and Siebert), are tearing the house down.

They plan to rebuild it to be 15 feet taller, violating historical building codes.

They’re the first white people in 50 years to move into the geographically desirable neighborhood. A Black woman, Lena (Brown, again), backed by her husband, Kevin (Hill returns), raises her concerns. Every so often Dan (Tyson), a handy-man wearing his hat backwards and a greasy “Guns and Roses” t-shirt, comes in to ask about installing a koi pond in the backyard.



Brown and Hill as Lena and Kevin, Act 2.

In this act, the play beautifully highlights generational history. Lena’s great aunt and her namesake had been a little girl when her family moved into the house, and Kathy (Marlene Piper), a lawyer Steve and Lindsey had hired, was the child of pregnant Betsy in the first act. Through the characters exchanging these details about their own families, the audience learns that the white families occupying the neighborhood fled when the first Black family moved in.

What transpires over the course of the much stronger second act is a nail-biting, excruciating discussion of race and gentrification. It’s a conversation that is applicable today. Siebert is dressed in a flowing white shirt and her and her husband are both liberal. But when her husband tells a racist joke, Lindsey exclaims, “half my friends are Black!” Steve then asks her to list them.

The strength of “Clybourne Park” lies in its dialogue. Because the play takes place in one room, in one house, the tensions exist in the conversation. This requires a lot of heavy lifting from the actors, who must make all this talking feel natural and real.

“It was hard to memorize all the lines,” Dubrovner told the Sheet on Wednesday. “We had two less weeks than I wish we did.”

The stars of the show were Johnson, and Tyson, who has been acting in Mammoth since 2012. Hill, also an experienced actor, had moments of brilliance, like when he raised one eyebrow and said, “we a couple of crackheads ourselves.” On the flip side, it was Brown’s first time acting, and sometimes, her voice was lost.

Dubrovner is taking a risk with this play. She’s a white woman directing a play written by a white man, Bruce Norris, about race. I initially questioned these ethics, but my friend Gracie posed a different perspective. Art is supposed to make us think. It is supposed to make us feel uncomfortable. In an era of woke-ism on the left and Trumpism on the right, “Clybourne Park” forces the audience to confront their own conceptions of race. By bringing the play to Mammoth Lakes, Dubrovner opens the conversation in our backyard. It’s a risk worth taking.

“Clybourne Park” will run for the next two weekends.

50% Sale Extended!

FALL SPECIAL50% off

TOWN OF MAMMOTH LAKES

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Purchase your discounted Membership in-person only at the NEW Parks and Recreation offices, located at the Community Recreation Center/LA Kings Ice Mammoth Lakes (686 Old Mammoth Road). Monday-Friday, 1pm-5pm.

Town of Mammoth Lakes Parks & Recreation

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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. 6*
Outlaw Saloon Happy Hour Monday through Friday from 4-6 p.m. *More info: See ad p. 15. 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 page 13 for details.*
Distant Brewing happy hour Monday-Thursday from 3-5pm. \$1/off beer/wine/cider/seltzer/kombucha

Friday, November 14/
1910 Opening Weekend party w/ Spliffriff & Deviates @ Liberty. Starts 9:30 p.m. *More info: See ad p. 12*
"Nexus" Ski Movie Premiere Event at Bar Sierra. Doors open 8 p.m., movies start 8:45 p.m.

Saturday, November 15/
Pay The Rent Movie Premiere w/Blind Fortune @ Liberty. Starts 9:30 p.m.
Deep Thicket Dwellers performs at C5 Community Arts Center (210 S Warren St. in Bishop). Doors at 6:30, music starts 7 p.m. Cost \$20-30, donation-based. *Tix: c5studios.org.*

Sunday, November 16/
The Midwatch plays **Distant**. Come for a genre blending of jazz, pop and classic rock. Time: 7-9 p.m.

Thursday, November 20/
Cassie Dunn plays **Distant**. Time: 6:30-8:30 p.m.

TOWN STUFF

Friday, November 14/
Mono County Behavioral Health holds a mental health first aid training from 1-4 p.m. Location: Civic Center, Mono Lake Room, 1290 Tavern Road, Mammoth Lakes CA.
Bishop Bronco Football hosts a quarterfinal CIF playoff game v. Cabrillo High School (Lompoc). Time: 6 p.m.

November 14-23/
Mammoth Lakes Repertory Theatre presents **"Clybourne Park."** Showtimes Friday & Saturday 7 p.m., Sunday 4 p.m. in the Mammoth High School MPR. *Tix: mammothlakesrep.org. More info: See ad p. 19*

Saturday, November 15/
Wildlife Tracking Workshop with tracker and mountain lion researcher Phil Johnston. Come learn to track and indentify signs of Eastern Sierra wildlife. Time: 9 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Location: TBA. More info and registration: eslt.org.

Monday, November 17/
The Inyo Associates meet at the Legion Hall in Independence, courtesy of the Indy Civic Club. 5:30 p.m. social and 6:30 p.m. dinner by Ellen Harrison. \$25.

Tuesday, November 18/
Not Your Grandma's Bingo Night from 6-8 p.m in the Eatery at Mammoth Brewing to benefit Rhiannon's Kids.
Mono County Board of Supervisors meets 9 a.m. Location: Mono Lake

TOWN STUFF

Tuesday, November 18 (cont.)/
Room @ the County Civic Center in Mammoth.
Inyo County Supervisors meet 10 a.m. in Independence and online at inyocounty.us.gov.
Mammoth Lakes Chamber Business After Hours mixer. Time: 5-7 p.m. Location: A Better Fireplace showroom on Center Street.
Eastern Sierra Strummers (community ukulele group) meets. *More info: See ad this page.*

Wednesday, November 19/
Mammoth Lakes Tourism Board meets 1 p.m. in Suite Z in the Minaret Mall and online at townofmammothlakes.ca.gov.
Mammoth Lakes Town Council meets 4 p.m. in Suite Z in the Minaret Mall and online at townofmammothlakes.ca.gov.
Great Basin Water Justice Summit, featuring a presentation by the Owens Valley Indian Water Commission, "Collaborating in Payahuunadu: Creating Pathways for a Healthy Homeland" online from 5:30-7:30 p.m. *Register at bit.ly/GBWJS2025.*
Northern Inyo Hospital Board meets from 5-8 p.m. Location: Birch Street Annex in Bishop or online at nih.org/events.

Thursday, November 20/
Mono County EDTFC special meeting 10 a.m. Location: Lee Vining Community Center and online at monocounty.zoom.us.
Mountainfilm On Tour partners with **Sierra Forever**. Come for an evening of awe-inspiring, adventure packed films. Time: 6:30-9 p.m. Location: Bishop Twin Theatre.

TOWN STUFF

Thursday, November 20 (cont.)/
Art + Wine: Out of Office hosted by **Mono Arts Council** @ Outboud. Join for an evening with local artist Annemarie Hall. Time: 5:30-8:30 p.m. \$\$\$.

Friday, November 21/
Book Release: Stephen Ingram "36 Views of Mount Tom." Slideshow and talk @C5 Community Arts Center (210 S Warren St. in Bishop). Time: 5-6:30 p.m. *For more info, see profile pg. 10.*

Saturday, November 22/
Chilly Nights, Warm Delights Art Walk starts at C5 Studios (210 S. Warren St. in Bishop). Time: 5:30-8 p.m.
Snow and Avalanche Workshop with the Eastern Sierra Avalanche Center (ESAC). Time: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Location: Eagle Lodge in Mammoth. *Info: esavalanche.org*
Season Kickoff and Fundraiser for ESAC. \$30 entry. Doors 5 p.m., event 7 p.m. *Info: esavalanche.org*

UPCOMING

Thursday, November 27/
11th Annual Footloose Turkey Trot. Starts 9 a.m. Race-day registration @ 7:30 a.m. Location: Mammoth Creek Park.

Friday, November 28/
Holiday Tree Lighting in the Village at Mammoth. Time: 5-7 p.m.



JOIN US!

*Eastern Sierra
Strummers*

A Community Ukulele Group

1ST & 3RD TUESDAYS OF THE MONTH
BEGINNER SESSION
4:30-5:00PM
REGULAR SESSION
5:00PM - 6:30PM

MONO ARTS COUNCIL
501 OLD MAMMOTH ROAD

FOR MORE INFO:
WWW.EASTERNSIERRASTRUMMERS.COM

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Help Wanted



Footloose Sports is hiring Bootfitters and Demo Ski Technicians for the upcoming winter season. We are looking for outdoor enthusiasts who enjoy skiing and prefer working in a fast paced, team-oriented environment. We are searching for individuals with experience but also provide paid training to entry level candidates demonstrating reliability, enthusiasm, and excellent customer service skills. This is a great opportunity to join a legendary Mammoth ski shop. Please submit a current resume to footloose@footloosesports.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/>.

For Rent



Roommate Sought to Share Furnished House
Available thru June 30, 2026
Walking distance to Canyon Lodge/Mammoth Village
Longer Arrangements Preferred & Pay Less. Serious Inquiries Only
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Help Wanted



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

- Preschool/Associate Teacher
- Maintenance Technician
- Housekeeper
- Environmental Services Tech
- Registered Nurse - Pediatrics

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.



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\$89,889 – \$109,261 annually
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+ Up to 9% longevity pay
+ Up to 7.5% special assignment pay
+ Eligibility for 5% bilingual pay

Police Officer – Recruit
\$30.43 hourly

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

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



(760) 965-3604
townofmammothlakes.ca.gov

PERSONALS

I saw you ... pushed back opening day. Stop playing hard to get.
I saw you ... opened a virtual reality place called Mammoth Land. Is this just a version of Candyland? Where can I find me some Gramma Nutt?!

I hope to see you ... at the book signing for 36 Views of Mt. Tom. Boy I'd just like one view of you hiking up the back way.

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

Crescent 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.

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

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

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.



Restaurant Skadi seeks a professional dinner cook. Please email info.skadi@gmail.com or text 760.914.0962.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice of Public Hearing

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Mono County Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing on December 18, 2025, in the Mono Lake Room (1st Floor) at the Mono County Civic Center, 1290 Tavern Road, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546.

The meeting will be accessible remotely by livecast at <https://monocounty.zoom.us/j/87371280325>, or via teleconference at the CAO Conference Room in the Mono County offices, Annex 1, 74 North School Street, Bridgeport, CA 93517 where members of the public shall have the right to observe and offer public comment and to consider the following: No earlier than 9:15 a.m.

1. Use Permit 25-007/Decoster Apartments. The project proposes the construction of four apartments, a new parking area, redesign of an existing parking area, and the installation of two electric vehicle charging stations on 2555 Highway 158 (APN: 015-085-010-000) in June Lake. The 0.33-acre project parcel has a land use designation of Commercial (C) and existing development on the property includes a 1,400-sf retail storefront housing a cannabis dispensary and a 1200-sf warehouse. The project qualifies for an exemption under Categorical Exemption 15303, New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures.

Project materials will be available on or before December 11, 2025, for public review online at <https://monocounty.ca.gov/planning-commission> and hard copies will be available for the cost of reproduction by calling 760-924-1800.

No earlier than 9:30 a.m.

2. Use Permit 25-008/Decoster STR. The proposal is to permit one single-family residence located at 189 Hillside Road in June Lake (APN: 015-084-026-000) as a hosted Short-Term Rental. The property is 0.23 acres and designated Single-Family Residential (SFR). The host will occupy the two-bedroom, one bath, 1058-sf main house while the one bedroom (plus loft), one bath, 1016-sf residence is available to nightly renters.

The project qualifies for an exemption under CEQA §15301, Existing Facilities. Project materials will be available on or before December 11, 2025 for public review online at <https://monocounty.ca.gov/planning-commission> and hard copies will be available for the cost of reproduction by calling 760-924-1800. INTERESTED PERSONS are strongly encouraged to attend online or in person to comment, or to submit comments to the Secretary of the Planning Commission, PO Box 347, Mammoth Lakes, CA, 93546, by 5 pm on Wednesday, December 17, 2025, to ensure timely receipt, or by email at cddcomments@mono.ca.gov.

If you challenge the proposed action(s) in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered at or prior to the public hearing.

TS #2025-0125

Notice of Public Hearing

Mono County Behavioral Health is seeking public comment for its Mental Health Services Act FY 25-26 Annual Update.

Interested parties may access the plan at monocounty.ca.gov/mhsa, send comments via email to MCBHQA@mono.ca.gov, and/or attend a public hearing which will take place December 8, 2025 at 3 p.m. at 1290 Tavern Rd. Mammoth Lakes, Dana Room or Via Zoom: <https://monocounty.zoom.us/j/7609242222>; Call in: +1 669 900 6833 Meeting ID: 760 924 2222

TS #2025-0126

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, beginning at 4:00 p.m. and continuing until finished, at the Town Council Chambers, Suite Z, within the Minaret Village Shopping Center, 437 Old Mammoth Road the Mammoth Lakes Town Council will conduct a public hearing for the following:

Appeal of the October 8, 2025 Planning and Economic Development Commission decision to approve Use Permit Application (UPA) 24-003, Major Design Review 24-006 and Adjustment 25-005 for a six-unit, multi-family residential apartment project subject to the Town's Density Bonus Ordinance located in the Residential Multi-Family 1 (RMF-1) zoning district at 54 Mono Street.

CEQA Determination: Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines this project is exempt from further environmental review pursuant to Categorical Exemption Section 15332 – In-fill Development Projects.

Appeal Summary: An appeal was filed by the property owners of the adjacent property, 56 Mono Street, alleging that the shared access easement located on 54 Mono Street is exclusive to the property owners of 56 Mono Street and that the property owner of 54 Mono Street is not authorized to use or access the easement area, thereby eliminating access to the 54 Mono Street site.

All persons having an interest in the proposed application request may appear before the Town Council either in person or represented by counsel and present testimony or may, prior to said hearing, file with the Executive Secretary written correspondence pertaining thereto. Pursuant to Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice or in written correspondence delivered to the Town of Mammoth Lakes at, or prior to, the public hearing. For additional information, or to obtain a copy of the staff report which will be published no later than November 14, 2025, contact Gina Montecallo, Assistant Planner, at (760) 965-3641. Public comments may be sent via email to gmontecallo@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov

Additional information, including project plans, can be found on the project website, which is located at: <https://www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov/1389/54-Mono-Street-Apartments>

ZOOM WEBINAR INFORMATION:

Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone or Android device:
Please visit this URL to join. <https://monocounty.zoom.us/j/92958002088>
Webinar ID: 929 5800 2088
Or join by phone: (669) 900-6833 Callers - To Raise your hand press *9, To Unmute/Mute press *6

Mammoth Lakes Town Council
P.O. Box 1609
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546
TS #2025-0124

Mammoth Community Water District Sale of Surplus Goods

Notice is hereby given that Mammoth Community Water District (MCWD) will sell the following surplus items:



Make/Model: Bobcat S250 Skid Steer
Includes: Chains, Tracks, Blower, & General-Purpose Bucket
Year: 2005
Hours: 4,122
Serial #: 526018605
Minimum Bid: \$19,000.00
Item Number: 112525-6

Make/Model: Bobcat 435 Mini Excavator
Year: 2011
Hours: 4,370
Includes: 12” & 18” Bucket
Serial #: 563211653
Minimum Bid: \$20,000.00
Item Number: 112525-66

Make/Model: Bobcat S770 Skid Steer
Year: 2013
Hours: 1,509
Includes: Two Blowers & Chains
Serial #: ATF212059
Minimum Bid: \$22,000.00
Item Number: 112525-80

Make/Model: Ford Ranger XL Supercab 4X4
Year: 2000
Odometer Reading: 119,518
VIN #: 1FTZR15V6YPB59177
Minimum Bid: \$500.00
Item Number: 112525-39
**DISCLAIMER: THIS VEHICLE DOES NOT PASS SMOG AND CANNOT BE REGISTERED IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA. THIS ITEM IS BEING SOLD FOR THE VALUE OF ITS PARTS AND IS NOT INTENDED FOR ON-ROAD USE.*

Make/Model: Ford F-250 4X4 w/ 6’ Service Bed & Piperack
Year: 2006
Odometer Reading: 91,262
VIN #: 1FTNF21576EA30280
Minimum Bid: \$8,500.00
Item Number: 112525-52

Make/Model: Ford F-550 4X4 Diesel Hydraulic Dump Flat Bed
Year: 2006
Odometer Reading: 56,595
VIN #: 1FDAF57P76EC67985
Minimum Bid: \$20,000.00
Item Number: 112525-53

Make/Model: Chevy Silverado 3500 Diesel w/ 12’ Utility Body
Year: 2006
Odometer Reading: 104,765
Includes: Set of Studded Tires w/ Rims
VIN #: 1GBJK34D86E139399
Minimum Bid: \$20,000.00
Item Number: 112525-58

Make/Model: Ford F350 XL Supercab 4X4 w/ 8’ Service Bed
Year: 2012
Odometer Reading: 72,034
VIN #: 1FD7X3F65CEC68990
Minimum Bid: \$7,500.00
Item Number: 112525-70
**DISCLAIMERS: THE DISTRICT HAS BEEN ADVISED THAT THE TRANSMISSION NEEDS TO BE REPLACED. THIS VEHICLE HAS NOT BEEN SMOG TESTED AND CANNOT BE REGISTERED IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA UNTIL A SMOG CERTIFICATE IS OBTAINED.*

Bid forms are available at the MCWD office or on our website at [MCWD-Surplus-Bid-Form.pdf](https://www.mcwd-surplus-bid-form.pdf) (dst.ca.us) and must be received at the District offices no later than 3:00 pm on Tuesday, November 25, 2025. Each bid form must be submitted in a sealed envelope labeled with the item number.

Bids may be submitted to the MCWD offices, located at 1315 Meridian Boulevard, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546 or mailed to PO Box 597, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546.

To view or inquire about the item(s) listed above, please call the MCWD Purchasing Office during regular business hours at 760-934-2596.

MCWD makes no express or implied warranties or representations with respect to the condition of the vehicles and/or equipment listed above and all items are sold as-is.

TS #2025-0127

Request for Proposals

2025 2026 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS SNOW REMOVAL

The Hilton Creek Community Services District is requesting proposals for snow removal service for the 2025/2026 winter season in the Crowley Lake area. Areas to be plowed are:

- *Juniper Loop Road
- *Lager Lane
- *Pinion Drive
- *Hilton Creek Community Services District sewer plant road and parking lot
- *Sierra Springs sewer pump station road

A description of the specific services to be provided is as follows:

Contractor shall provide snow removal services for the period of November 18, 2025, through June 30, 2026. Upon the accumulation of two (2) inches of snow or more from each storm or when conditions require the roads to be cindered, and prior to 7:00 a.m. each day when such accumulation or conditions occur, or as otherwise requested by the District. Contractor shall provide snow removal and cinder services for Lager Lane, Pinion Drive, Juniper Loop Road, the Hilton Creek Community Services District sewer plant road and parking lot, and the Sierra Springs sewer pump station road in Crowley Lake, California during the contract period. Snow removal shall continue until optimum accessibility at the above locations is achieved. Snow shall be blown or hauled off the property with the prior approval of the District.

Contractor shall provide all labor, equipment, material and supplies required or necessary to properly, competently, and completely perform the work or render the services. Contractor shall determine the method, details and means of doing the work or rendering the services.

Contractor shall use snow removal equipment that will satisfactorily perform the required services and specify such equipment in the proposal.

The snow removal contractor will be required to carry specified insurance and comply with prevailing wage law requirements.

To review these and other contract requirements, as well as obtain other pertinent information, or to obtain answers to questions, contact: Lorinda Beatty, Board Secretary at (760) 965-9696.

Please submit all proposals to Hilton Creek CSD, 3222 Crowley Lake Drive, Crowley Lake, CA 93546 or info@hiltoncreekcsd.com

Proposals must be received by 4:00 p.m. November 15, 2025 (postmarks not accepted) to be included in the award process to take place at the Board of Directors Regular Meeting for November 18, 2025 at 5:00 p.m., Crowley Lake Community, Crowley Lake, CA. The contract will be awarded to the lowest responsible, responsive bidder.

TS #2025-0122

HARTLEY

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE NOT SO INTELLIGENT

Like Kyler Murray ... Time is short today. Gotta hit it fast.

Micah Parsons is responding to Colin Cowherd's criticism about his inability to play the run.

Why? Why do you care what Cowherd says? You're only giving him more fuel. Funny thing is the last part of Micah's whining. According to Parsons: "We just held Saquon Barkley to 60 rushing yards, and our only losses have been holding teams to 13 points!" Parsons wrote. "Man, ... please stfu and enjoy great defense! ... Please stop giving people's mics or listening to trash!" How can he say that? That is exactly what his podcast is. Trash. Also funny is the fact that EVERYONE has held Barkley to 60 yards this year. Parsons didn't respond to himself having zero sacks and zero QB hits the last two games.

Texans LB Azeez Al Shaair is fined again for illegal hits. It is his 3rd this year. He was suspended 3 games last year. So why isn't he getting suspended every time this year? He has already proved he doesn't care about the monetary penalties, so suspend him every time.

Pro gambling scandals. Why are NBA players and coaches getting involved in gambling schemes? The average NBA salary is \$12 million. Terry Rozier was making \$26 million. The baseball scandal? Reliever Emmanuel Clase was making \$4 million/year. And is accused of tanking prop bets for as little as \$4,000.

Dolphins laying 2.5 to the Commanders. O/U 47.5. Jayden Daniels OUT. Dolphins on the interim GM bounce. Dolphins 27-23. If you watch this game you need help.

Packers laying 7 to Giants in NY. Daboll finally fired. He needed to be. He had a young QB on a bad team and ran him like 8 times a game on designed runs, despite the fact that he has been in the Blue Tent for concus-

sion protocol 4 times. I guess yelling at the independent neurological ... i am too tired to finish that phrase - "He can still walk, put his ass on the field" wasn't enough to save his job. Packers 30-20.

Bills laying 5.5 to the Bucs. O/U 48.5. Bucs are leaking oil. Bills ain't much better. Game is in Buffalo and Bucs still banged up. Bills 30-26.

Steelers laying 5.5 to the Bengals. O/U 48.5. Steelers got the crap kicked out of them by the Chargers. And the Chargers had 3 starting OL out and are on their 4th string RB. Steeler QB Aaron Rodgers looked every bit of 51, not 41. He was spinning away from contact while throwing to prevent getting hit and just sailing the ball all game. He looked like a Dan Orlovsky highlight reel.

Bengals offense is potent. Steelers secondary is impotent. Bengals 33-30.

Chargers laying 3 AT Jags. O/U 43.5. The Jags just put Travis Hunter on I/R. They wasted all that draft capital on ONE player who wasn't transcendent. They got less than 300 yards receiving out of him. Everyone said they got two players (two-way WR/CB) with one draft pick. Those people don't know math. They traded a 2025 first-round pick (No. 5 overall), a 2025 second-round pick (No. 36), a 2025 fourth-round pick (No. 126), and their 2026 first-round pick to the Browns to move up from No. 5 to No. 2.

I know math and that is more than one player they lost to get "2" players. So they traded 3 players for him. And they got half a mediocre season.

Bears are 3 point 'dogs to the

Vikings. O/U 48.5. I am not sure why. JJ McCarthy is playing more like JJ Walker. They are starting to use the term "HE'S A WINNER" to explain his poor performance but the team winning. See Bo Nix. Bears are playing okay. The Bears gonna have their first 4,000 yard passer in team history? He still seems average to me. Bears 23-20.

Falcons laying 3.5 to Panthers. O/U 42.5. Falcon Coach Raheem Morris must like getting fired. His team is so up and down. When I try to watch them I always think ... if they didn't have the name of the team on the screen I wouldn't know who they are. They lack any significant STYLE of play or IDENTITY. They look like when we were kids and would meet at the park and play pickup football. Just running around with no coaching. Go right at the bare spot and head towards the tree. I'll hit you. Panthers beat the Packers then lost to the Saints. Same thing as the Falcons, except you know the Panthers just wanna run the ball. They have to in order to keep their sorry QB from throwing it. Falcons 24-20.

Rams laying 3 to the 'Hawks. O/U 48.5. Hmm. I smell something here. It is in LA. The way the 'Hawks are playing that stadium gonna be overrun with rabid 'Hawks fans pretending they came to support the team but in actuality are just getting out of the soggy, cold Pacific Northwest for the last time before that 5-month long cloud smothers the life out of them and allows the unstoppable growth of that neon green moss that covers everything, including some of the sedentary mole people that wreak of musty, moldy smell in their house, cars and clothing. Rams 24-22.

Niners laying 3 at Cards. O/U 48.5. Niners offense better with Mac Jones making \$4 an hour than with Brock Purdy making \$50 mil a year. Upset

alert though. Jacoby Brissett is a better investment with a higher ROI than both. Buyer's remorse on Purdy and Trey Lance. But Shanahan is a genius? Cards 20-17.

Ravens laying 7.5 to the Browns. O/U 39.5. Brown QB Dillon Gabriel needs to go back to wherever little hobbits run free. He is not an NFL QB. Ravens 24-16.

Chiefs laying 3.5 to the Broncos. O/U 43.5. This has all the makings of a slogfest that ends 17-13. TeBO Nix is atrocious. Chiefs 24-19.

Eagles laying 2.5 to the Lions. AJ Brown is irritated again. He is like a middle school girl with serious hormonal issues. O/U 46.5. Take the over on any mentions of AJ Brown. He loves himself some press. Lions got their own mischief going on. Head coach took over offensive playcalling. These children. Eagles 27-21

This is hilarious. Russia debuted their first human-like AI robot. And he was magnificent. Until he wasn't.

I like how he got the Tequila-drunk or Mike Tyson one-punch legs. That was comical. Putin has already killed the head engineer. It reminds me of when the Russians used to roll out those massive advanced Submarines when we used to play little Cold War games with them. Flaunting them around the ocean. Then they would fail and disappear and everyone asked "where is that submarine?....."What submarine are you talking about?"

"We see a lot of searching going on at this spot. "We don't need help." Hilarious debut.

Harold Hartley is a regular contributor to The Sheet who lives in Charleston, South Carolina. He knows a little bit about submarines - he spent eight years in the Navy working on nuclear subs.

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SPORTS

HUSKIES VOLLEYBALL TAKES 2ND IN CIF, ON TO STATE



PHOTOS: FISHER

With an overall record of 35-5-1, Mammoth High School varsity volleyball team took second place in the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) Division IV after a well-fought and lengthy playoff run. The team won one set against Immanuel High School, but ultimately lost 3-1, with final box scores totaling 22-25, 25-18, 25-16, 25-10.

Despite last Thursday's defeat, the Huskies put forward strong performance later in the week, securing a dominant 3-0 victory over California Academy of Math & Science in their home state playoff match on Tuesday with box scores amounting to 21-25, 18-25, 13-25. The win allowed the team to advance to the next round of the playoffs, scheduled for Thursday night at home.



BRONCOS ADVANCE

The Bishop Broncos are heading to the 3 CIF state high school football quarterfinals after a convincing 49-21 win over Golden Valley of Bakersfield.

The win was cheered on by a hometown crowd at John Schwab Field in Bishop on Nov. 7.

Bishop will now host Cabrillo High School of Lompoc on Friday night, Nov. 14.

The win over Golden Valley was spearheaded by Broncos quarterback Emory Dondero's efficient night. Emory connected on 10 of 12 passes for 179 yards and 3 touchdowns.

Levi Derr caught 3 passes for 55 yards and a pair of scores. Senior Elliott Doua was the leading rusher with 86 yards on just 7 carries. Doua also returned the opening kickoff 89 yards for a touchdown. Hunter Dailey carried the ball 14 times for 62 yards and a touchdown.

Defensively the Broncos were led by a pair of seniors. Malachi Orrick and Richie had big nights. Orrick made a season high 10 solo tackles and Talavera had 7 solos with a pass break up and an interception.

Senior Levi Derr had 6 solos including a tackle for a loss. Senior Niko Poole had a strong game with 3 tackles and a fumble recovery.



KLUSMIRE

OUT OF PRINT

“Printer Offline.”

No, it can’t be offline. What’s your deal, computer, don’t want to “connect” with my buddy the printer? Just to prove your mistaken survey of the situation, I’ll hoist myself out of my chair and look at my printer. Well, that’s odd. The little wi-fi icon is blinking on and off. And the rest of the printer’s bells and whistles are not ringing or whistling. The display box is blank. It should have a “1” and a report on ink levels.

I will admit my mistake, computer. I’ll turn the printer on and off, the universal “first thing to do” when any computer issue arises. There we go. It’s buzzing a bit and clunking. That should be it. Now, cancel what is in the print queue and start over. Green lights, panel lit up. Ha, can’t fool me.

Hit print and wait for the sound of victory.

Which doesn’t come because, “Driver Not Found.”

Driver? Driver? I got your driver. I’ll drive you to Pittsburgh you trashy little plastic printer. Make me go to Settings, will you? You skank.

Printer Settings says, again, “Driver Not Found.” Then it asks, “Install New Device.”

Why would I do that when the current device worked just fine about 30 minutes ago, Settings? But fine, I’ll play your little game. “Install.” It’s now looking for “Connected Devices.” And asks if I want to install a device “manually.” Why not. Hit manual. A list of printers shows up. My printer is not on the list. One that is close, is, but not exact. So now I have to get the printer password and the IP address from one of my three “password notebooks” and type that “data” into the right box.

Please, don’t mistake me for an IT guy. I am not. But I am also not a Luddite. I started writing on a Radio Shack TRS 80. Which is a reminder of how horrible Radio Shack was managed. It had the first cheap home computer and somehow lost the tech war to IBM and Apple. My God. Same guys probably went into the printer business just to get revenge on us poor saps.

Got the info, plug it in, hit enter and ... “Incorrect IP address.” Double check, enter again, and bingo, it says “installing.” Great.

Back to my lonely document. Hit print and see the WRONG PRINTER in the window, so of course nothing happens but evil, silent laughter from the nasty little heartbreaker of a printer.

I would pray to the Gods -- Zoroaster, Shiva, Thor, Allah, Jesus and Gaia, to start -- to fix the printer, but a printer is a Devil Machine that does not answer to prayers. It makes all Gods call tech support, too.

Best I can do is calm down by chugging some eggnog right out of the bottle. Because that, my friends, is the Nectar of Gods, thanks to sugar, milk, sugar, cream, sugar, food coloring and chemicals. When partaking of said nectar, forego the glass and just drink it directly from the carton in long gulps. It will warm your heathen soul.

The heathen printer will get only vile oaths and hexes and spells and dark magic.

Not surprised calling on the Big Guns, good or evil, didn’t move the machine. So I’m back to deleting, manually installing, checking the printer App, putting in PIN numbers, shutting off the printer and the computer and pacing and cussing.

Maybe I should just pick up my hand-held tracking device, ask Google “Why do HP Printers suck.” Then AI will weigh in and be ignored, then I’ll click on a couple of pages such as Bob’s Pro Printer Tips and complain in the HP Printers Are Trash Facebook group.

By the time I swallow another half jug of eggnog I should have a half dozen ads for new printers on every website I open. Makes me nostalgic for the old TRS 80.

Time for an afternoon shower to wash the stain of technological failure away.

Okay, refreshed and ready to fight. Deep breath. Click. Password. File. Document. Print.

A miracle. The damn thing is printing. No idea why. No clue what actually flipped the switch. Divine intervention? Karma? Cosmic joke? Who cares. Something worked.

Now, the next print job. Print.

Nothing. No clacking, no whirring, no nothing.

I get out of my chair, check the printer and see a flashing message: OUT OF INK.

Shuffle to refrigerator. Drink all the eggnog. Shuffle to the couch. Assume fetal position. Whimper.

Jon Klusmire of Bishop is wondering if hitting Control-Alt-Delete will reset an entire day.

Mammoth Lakes Repertory Theatre
presents

CLYBOURNE PARK
by Bruce Norris

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Kenneth Aedwyrd Needham • Marlene Piper
Gretchen Seibert • Clay Tyson

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MOBILE
BEDS: 2
BATHS: 2
SQ FT: 1160



Crowley Lake, 71 Sierra Springs Dr. - \$939,000

Spacious 3-bedroom, 2.5-bath Sierra Springs home on nearly half an acre. Features vaulted ceilings, wood floors, chef's kitchen, dining room with bar, dual-zone heating, and mountain views—minutes from Mammoth Lakes.

HOUSE
BEDS: 3
BATHS: 2.5
SQ FT: 2007



Snowcreek V, 930 Links Way - \$989,000

Immaculate Snowcreek Resort townhome with attached garage and stunning Mammoth Mountain views. Features new carpet, paint, appliances, fireplace, and three private decks—move-in ready!

CONDO
BEDS: 2
BATHS: 2
SQ FT: 1375



The Lodges, 1101 Pyramid Peak Dr. - \$1,095,000

Rare single-level condo with attached garage and dog-friendly access to nature. Features hardwood floors, fireplace, stainless kitchen, serene water views, and deck—effortless comfort living near outdoor adventures.

CONDO
BEDS: 2
BATHS: 2.5
SQ FT: 1867



The Lodges, 1185 Pyramid Peak Dr. - \$1,799,000

Stunning 3 bedroom + loft townhome located on the Snowcreek golf course - spa adjacent. Like new condition with vaulted ceilings, gourmet kitchen, open views, primary suite with fireplace and large covered deck.

CONDO
BEDS: 3/LOFT
BATHS: 3.5
SQ FT: 2762



CreekHouse, 1384 Timber Creek Rd. - \$1,825,000

Immaculate 3-bedroom+, 3.5-bath CreekHouse townhome with 2-car garage, stunning mountain views, wood floors, two decks, and modern upgrades—sold furnished, blending rustic charm with contemporary comfort.

CONDO
BEDS: 3
BATHS: 3.5
SQ FT: 2152



IN ESCROW!

Snowcreek V, 732 Fairway Circle - \$1,855,000

Beautifully remodeled Snowcreek townhome with stunning Mammoth Mountain views. Sleeps 10, sold turnkey and furnished, featuring open living, wine fridge, large deck, and 2-car garage—ideal rental or mountain retreat.

CONDO
BEDS: 4
BATHS: 3.5
SQ FT: 1987



Swall Meadows Lot, 569 Rimrock Dr. - \$179,000

Prime 2-acre Swall Meadows equestrian lot with approved plans for a 3-bed, 2-bath home. Enjoy sweeping views, underground utilities, community water, and easy access to Mammoth Lakes & Bishop.

LOT
SQ FT:
85,378



The Snowcreek Property Company

5 Fairway Drive, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

(760) 934-3334

info@snowcreekproperty.com

www.snowcreekproperty.com

CA DRE #01812140

