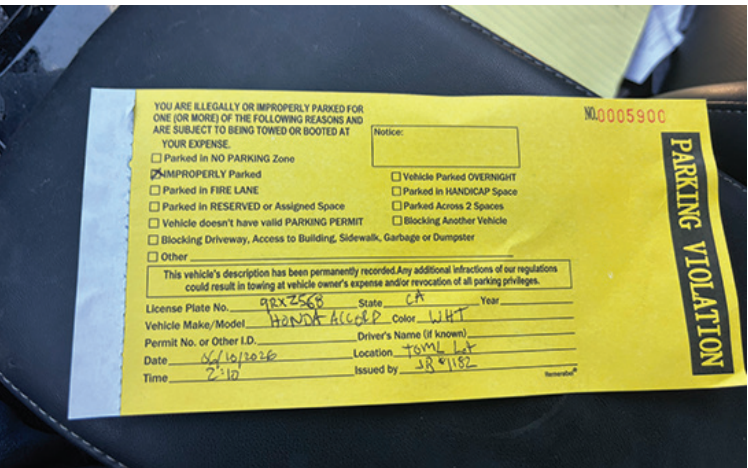


the sheet

News, Views & Culture of the Eastern Sierra



Who's handing out rogue traffic tickets? Lunch braves the underworld of the library system to look for answers.



This should be the reward for attending any five-hour public meeting. PHOTO: LUNCH

WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS AGAIN?

By Klusmire

“Why are you doing this?”
“Do you have a comment you want to share?”
No Kings March Number Eight in Bishop came and went on Sunday afternoon, June 14. President Donald J. Trump’s birthday.

About 40 people plied a familiar route. Gather at the intersection of U.S. 35 and Line Street, march north to the City Park, cross the highway and march south back to the intersection.

After eight rounds, the signs were familiar, and some looked a little shopworn. There was what appeared to be only one new entry: “You can’t cherry pick the Constitution like you do the Bible.”

So the question becomes: “After seven previous events, why are you protesting a president who shows no signs of changing his actions or his policies?”

A selection of answers and comments from some of the marchers.
“It’s important to keep showing up.”

“I don’t believe in the current administration or its policies.”

more NO KINGS, pg. 19



PINIZZOTTO SENTENCED

Lee Vining man gets 31 years for child molestation
By Fisher

Mitchell Pinizzotto, 41, was sentenced Tuesday to 31 years in state prison for nine counts of child molestation and one count of rape in Mono County Superior Court, bringing a near five-year case to a close.

The sentencing was attended by several of Pinizzotto’s victims and their families. Many gave emotional, tearful impact statements describing lasting mental health effects, disruptions to their education, and the strain of nearly five years of court proceedings while awaiting resolution.

Pinizzotto was arrested on August 23, 2021, on suspicion of sexual assault after an initial report prompted an investigation that ultimately identified additional victims. The assaults occurred between 2012 and 2021, and the victims were between 7 and 15 years old at the time. All of the crimes occurred in the Lee Vining area.

He was released on \$600,000 bail pending trial on November 9, 2021.

In their impact statements, several victims said they’d avoid public spaces, isolate themselves, and live with persistent concern about encountering him.

“My innocence was taken from me, and the repercussions of that act have echoed through every aspect of my existence,” one victim told the court.

She described lasting anxiety, depression, and difficulty trusting others, saying the trauma affected both her academic performance and her relationships with peers and family.

Another victim told the court she has experienced ongoing mental health chal-



Mitchell Pinizzotto

lenges, including substance use as a coping mechanism.

“I often find myself overwhelmed by fear and stress... I turned to drugs and alcohol to cope, even though I know it is not healthy.”

She described difficulty focusing in school and said the court process itself had been emotionally draining, with intrusive thoughts and ongoing fear tied to the case.

A mother of one victim also addressed the court, describing the broader impact on her family and the ripple effects of trauma on her children’s mental health.

“My children have been deeply affected in their sense of safety and stability,” she said. “They are struggling with emotional trauma and fear for their safety every day.”

She said her children had attempted suicide, and described the financial burden of therapy, medical treatment, and legal proceedings as overwhelming. She said she can no longer work regularly due to the demands of caring for her family.

“It has been more than five years of trying to hold

more PINIZZOTO, pg. 6

MmmBopp	TOT Bonuses	Data Pigs	Another Fiddler	Rodeo Mom Emotes
p. 12/	p. 2/	p. 9-10/	p. 8/	p. 4/

GINNING THE NUMBERS

It was somewhere around 7 p.m., or three hours into what became a five hour Mammoth Town Council meeting, and a Town staffer texted me.

Staffer: “Surprised you’re still here.”

Lunch: “I’m in training. Rebuilding my endurance.”

With dear Ulla having decamped back to her native land (Utah), I decided to jump back in and cover Council - see what I’ve been missing.

I was inspired to attend by poring over the union contracts in the agenda packet. And wrote what appears below on Tuesday night as a placeholder. Only to get a reality check on Wednesday evening which makes me question whether I suffer from premature senility.

First, the placeholder.

You see this more and more.

Government agencies approving consequential agenda items by consent, without discussion.

Agenda items which have significant implications, both financial and philosophical.

Take Mammoth’s Town Council this week. On the consent agenda was approval of three, three-year union contracts.

On the surface, the terms seemed reasonable, even favorable. A 6% salary increase in year one, with subsequent 3% increases in years two and three.

But if you dig deeper, you see a provision which states: “Employees shall be eligible for an annual contingent payment based upon Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) revenues received during the previous fiscal year, in order to allow them to share in the success of the Town. No individual payment shall exceed \$4,000 ... The revenue sharing payment shall be calculated based on the total year end Town’s share of TOT revenues above the original fiscal year TOT budget.”

Oh, so there’s a bonus you don’t have to list in your budget presentation because you won’t know if you have to pay it out ‘til the end of the year.

But the bar is set so low, there’s no way not to achieve the bonus.

Let’s put this in context, TOT revenue for 2024-2025 was approximately \$30 million. The Town is budgeting TOT revenue for 2026-2027 to come in at \$23 million. Which the Town likes to do. Lowball the TOT revenue esti-

the
sheet

News, Views & Culture of the Eastern Sierra

“In a time of deceit, telling the truth is a revolutionary act.”

-Orwell

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mate so there’s a big overage at the end of the year for Town Council to play house with.

If the Town does no better in 2026-2027 than it did in 2024-2025, there’s still a \$7 million (\$30m minus \$23m) surplus. 8% of that = \$560,000. More than enough to divide 122 ways (the number of FTE, or full-time employees, the Town is expected to have next year) and come out with \$4,000/person.

The budgeted cost for the Town’s 122 employees in 2026-2027 is \$21.4 million. \$12 million of that is in salary with the rest in benefits.

The 2025-2026 budget was approximately \$18.4 million.

So labor costs are up **more than 16%** year-over-year.

But let’s zero in on the salary component for starters.

\$12 million for 122 employees is approximately \$100,000 per average employee.

If we promise a 6% bump in salary to this person, plus a slam-dunk achievable \$4,000 bonus, that person is making \$110,000 in 2026-2027. That’s a 10% raise.

The Town is also grappling with a 24% increase in health insurance premium (totaling \$813,497) and a 17.4% increase in PERS retirement contribution (totaling \$578,225).

Ergo, is this TOT bonus really necessary?

Talk about the cherry atop the sundae.

But what bothers me perhaps even more is this defining of the “success” of the Town. Which is defined entirely by money, the only metric anyone seems to care about. How does “sharing in the success” via TOT bonus payments influence Town employees? How does it affect planning decisions, for example? Or code enforcement decisions?

Further, why shower the employees with a collective \$500,000 bonus when they’re already realizing a 16% increase in wages and benefits?!?! Why not lower taxes or pay down debt? You are currently building a \$34 million office building and a \$19 million arts center. Or how about hiring a wildlife specialist for that matter? An animal control officer?

Where have you gone Ray Nadwocki, a mountain town turns its lonely eyes to you, woo woo woo ...

It turns out they’ve had this TOT bonus program in place for perhaps a DECADE. How come I don’t remember this? Councilman Bill Sauser recalled that former Town Manager Dan Holler dreamed it up during a previous union negotiation. As an alternative carrot to a straight raise - because a bonus isn’t subject to PERS (retirement system) contributions, so it’s cheaper for the Town to put in an employee’s pocket, and if you have a bad year (Covid), you don’t pay it.

But for the most part, you pay it, and this particular bonus, like most perks, has become baked in and institutionalized over time.

So, what’s a 16% increase in labor costs when you can add another \$500k into the equation and make it 19%?

Onto the meeting itself. Public comment featured six residents from Ski Trails Mobile Home Park complaining about space rents and property management.

The residents said the average space rent is \$1,600/month and increasing by 7% annually. Further, they say the park is deteriorating and were critical of Blizzard Property Mgmt.

“And if you call Robert Calvert [owner of Blizzard], he will cuss you out and blow his top within twenty seconds.”

Residents begged the Council for some sort of regulation or rent control.

“No units have sold since August,” said one resident, citing this as evidence

more LUNCH, pg. 13

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LETTERS

Cussed out by rodeo mom

Jack,

I wanted to reach out regarding the most recent issue of The Sheet and your coverage of the California High School Rodeo Association State Finals.

As a longtime publisher of magazines and newspapers, I was disappointed to see five photos published with no real story, no tribute, and no meaningful acknowledgment of the high school rodeo kids and families who bring major annual revenue to Bishop.

These families do not just pass through town. They fill hotels, restaurants, gas stations, grocery stores, feed stores, coffee shops, and local businesses all week long. Year after year, the CHSRA State Finals inject more than \$1 million into the Bishop-area economy. That deserves more than a few photos with no context.

This was a missed opportunity to honor the kids, recognize the families, and connect with a group of people who could become bigger supporters of Bishop and its local publication. Instead, the event felt barely acknowledged.

I say this as both a rodeo mom and a fellow publisher: that is embarrassing.

Since the local publication chose not to run the story, I will be running it through Ropers Sports News. These kids and families deserve to be seen, and the contribution they make to Bishop deserves to be recognized.

I hope The Sheet will do better by the CHSRA families in the future.

Dee Yates, Publisher
Ropers Sports News

Lunch's reply was typed and erased a few times. Essentially a variation on two one-syllable words. Eventually, he wrote the following:

"Submit something. Or, here's a thought. Advertise versus expect it all for nothing.

Neither the Bishop Chamber nor the Fairgrounds promote the event locally to my knowledge.

I bought admission and a program to get the photos we ran.

You're welcome for the free PR."

Yates had the last word. Of course she did. "Maybe if you gave them some love they would advertise ..."

"Please don't feed our bears!"

Dear Editor,

Regarding the recent series of articles on increasing problems with bears in Mammoth's town and campgrounds, I would like to see the town emphasize more awareness of not feeding bears. It could start with re-posting the very bold sign that used to hang from the ski lift bridge over Lake Mary Road, highly visible as one drove up from town toward the Mammoth Lakes Basin - "Please

don't feed our bears!"

Stickers saying the same used to be available for free at some stores' counters. I haven't seen them in a long time but maybe I'm not shopping at the right places.

And those of us who benefitted greatly from Steve Searles' advice/services, PLEASE bring him back! He came by after bear break-ins in several USFS cabins and explained to us how to minimize the risk, which helped immensely.

Sarah Roeske
Lakes Basin cabin owner

Missing our Village in the Trees

Dear Editor,

About 12 years ago, our Village in the Trees began its downward spiral and the development community moved in. The trio of power, Holler, Wentworth and Urdi, began to kowtow to developers. Regardless of public opinion, funding was eliminated to put a roof on our hockey rink. Zoning laws were updated, an alcoholic police chief was hired, workforce housing needs were changed and Development Impact Fees were questioned. Most egregious, the regime attempted to allow nightly rentals in our neighborhoods. We fought back and passed "Yes on Z" protecting our neighborhoods.

Our roads are falling apart. Our police force is seriously understaffed. The

recent planning commission decision to allow 67 nondescript look-alike housing units on Minaret Road makes me wonder if the members care about the appearance of our town. The developer is cutting down 85% of the Woodsite's interior trees. We'll get to look at what's left: ticky-tacky little boxes.

Sharon Raven Clark
Mammoth Lakes

Kick that can!

Dear Lunch,

We happened to be in Mammoth when they were clear cutting the trees for that monstrosity they built behind the brewing company and the Village Gondola. The sight of all those massive trees falling and then seen loaded up on the logging trucks still makes me want to throw up.

Now I read that the developers are using, (abusing?) the rules that govern the council to fire up those chainsaws once again and decimate another quadrant of the forest for their latest "needed" housing project. Oh, and they are graciously saving one large tree. How environmentally prudent of them!

And the urgently needed workforce housing? Well, that can gets kicked down the road again ...

Brad Orrico
Granada Hills

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PINIZZOTTO

continued from page 1

everything together,” she said. “The cost of care, the court process, and trying to protect my family has taken everything we have.”

Other victims described similar patterns of depression, isolation, and difficulty rebuilding normal routines. Several said the long timeline of the case intensified their trauma, as they repeatedly relived details through investigations and court proceedings.

Pinizzotto was sentenced under a negotiated plea agreement. The sentence includes multiple consecutive terms across felony counts, including an 11-year term, a 12-year term, and additional two-year terms that together total 31 years.

He will receive 90 days of custody credit and waived additional pretrial credits as part of the agreement.

In addition to the prison sentence, the court imposed a \$6,000 restitution fine and a matching \$6,000 parole revocation restitution fine, which will be suspended unless parole is violated. Additional statutory fees were also imposed, including court security and criminal conviction assessments.

He is also required to register as a sex offender for life.

After hearing the impact statements, Judge Magit told the victims, “none of this is your fault,” and wished them healing as the proceedings concluded.

As Pinizzotto was handcuffed and taken into custody for transfer to state prison, the courtroom broke into applause.

Fatal motorcycle collision

On Wednesday, June 10, at approximately 7:14 p.m., officers from the Bishop Police Department responded to a traffic collision involving a motorcycle and a vehicle at the intersection of East Elm Street and Howard Street.

Upon arrival, officers observed the intersection was blocked by involved vehicles and located the motorcyclist down in the roadway.

The motorcyclist was James Dickinson, 55, of Hammil Valley. The vehicle driver was local resident Tani Tatum.

Personnel from the Bishop Fire Department and Sierra LifeFlight arrived on scene and provided medical aid to Dickinson. He was subsequently transported to Northern Inyo Hospital for Treatment.

On Sunday, June 14, the Washoe County Regional Medical Examiner’s Office reported that Dickinson succumbed to his injuries while receiving medical care in Reno.

There is video of the incident, Bishop Police Chief Nate Derr said. It is an open investigation.

BLM issues fire restrictions

The Bureau of Land Management, in coordination with the US Wildland Fire Agency, is issuing fire restrictions for all BLM managed lands in Inyo, Mono, and portions of Alpine counties effective Monday, June 22, due to dry conditions and wildland fire danger.

LOCAL BRIEFS

These seasonal restrictions are in addition to the year-round statewide fire prevention order and will remain in effect until further notice.

The following restrictions will remain in place until the fire danger subsides:

- No Campfires, briquette/charcoal barbeques, or stove fires are allowed outside of agency-provided fire rings or barbeques at developed campgrounds.
- No Smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed campground, or while stopped in an area at least three feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable material.
- No welding or operating acetylene or other torch with open flame.
- No motorized vehicles, tools powered by internal combustion engines or battery-operated chainsaws off designated roads or trails.
- No target shooting

As always, possessing, discharging or using fireworks or pyrotechnic devices are prohibited across Bureau of Land Management lands. Additionally, a valid California Campfire Permit is required to operate a stove or fire on public lands.

Deadly B-52 crash at Edwards

Eight people were killed Monday when a U.S. Air Force B-52 Stratofortress crashed shortly after takeoff from Edwards Air Force Base, according to the Air Force.

The aircraft was on a “routine test mission” carrying eight people, and that “initial indications are that the crash was

not survivable,” according to a statement by the Air Force.

Authorities identified those killed as Col. Gregory Watson, Lt. Col. Gabriel Estrella, retired Lt. Col. Miles Middleton, Maj. Alexander Davis, Maj. Robert Dee, Maj. Brad Hovey, flight test engineer Jeromy Smith, and flight test engineer Christopher Rischar.

Reading the signs

A federal judge has ordered the Trump administration to restore a series of signs, exhibits, and interpretive materials removed or altered at U.S. national park sites under an executive order that targeted content deemed to “disparage” American history, CNN reported Saturday.

U.S. District Judge Angel Kelley issued a preliminary injunction Friday, finding that the policy likely amounted to unlawful censorship and directed federal agencies to halt further changes while restoring materials that had been removed.

The ruling applies to sites across the National Park Service system and covers signage addressing topics including slavery, Indigenous history, civil rights, and climate change.

The order requires the Interior Department to reinstate the affected materials within roughly three weeks and submit compliance updates to the court, while also pausing any additional revisions. The Trump administration has criticized the ruling and is expected to appeal.

Mammoth Hospital Seeking Participants:
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We invite patients and community members to share their perspectives on how healthcare concerns and complaints are handled. Your feedback will help us better understand patient expectations and identify opportunities to improve our processes and patient experience.

If you are interested in participating, please email Caroline Britton at Caroline.Britton@mammothhospital.com. The focus group will be held on July 28, 2026, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in Conference Rooms A/B at Mammoth Hospital. Dinner will be provided. Space is limited, so please respond by July 1, 2026.

Participants should also be available for a second follow-up session. The date and time of the follow-up meeting will be determined with participants at the conclusion of the first session.

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- 19-28 MONSTER ENERGY MAMMOTH MOTOCROSS
- 26-27 MAMMOTH FEEL GOOD FESTIVAL
- 28 FIRST RESPONDER FESTIVAL

JULY

- 2-5 ARTS ON THE 4TH
- 3 SUMMIT SUNSET PARTY
- 3-4 GIDDY UP COUNTRY MUSIC
- 4 4TH OF JULY PARADE & CELEBRATIONS
- 10-11 MAMMOTH JAZZFEST
- 15-26 UNBOUND CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL
- 16 SIERRA SUMMER NIGHTS
- 17-19 MAMMOTH REGGAE FESTIVAL
- 24-25 MAMMOTH VILLAGEFEST
- 24-26 MAMMOTH LAKES OPEN AIR ARTS & CRAFTS FAIR
- 25 MAMMOTH PEDALPALOOZA
- 25 KIDS FISHING FESTIVAL
- 31-8/1 MAMMOTH ART WALK

AUGUST

- 5 FAMILY FUN DAY AT THE VILLAGE
- 5-16 SHAKESPEARE IN THE WOODS: KING LEAR
- 7-8 MAMMOTH MARGARITA FESTIVAL
- 13 SIERRA SUMMER NIGHTS
- 14-15 MAMMOTH WINE WEEKEND
- 21-22 MAMMOTH ROCKS
- 29 WAVE RAVE SKATE CONTEST

SEPTEMBER

- 4-6 MAMMOTH ROCK N RYE
- 6 SUMMIT SUNSET PARTY
- 11-12 MAMMOTH ROLL AND SOUL
- 12 MAMMOTH GRAN FONDO
- 19 ANNUAL LAKES BASIN CLEANUP
- 18-20 MAMMOTH TUFF
- 20-27 PAINT MONO COUNTY PLEIN AIR COMPETITION
- 26 MAMMOTH LAKES HEALTH & WELLNESS FAIR
- 24-27 MAMMOTH TRAILFEST

OCTOBER

- 2-6 THE MAMMOTH
- 8 REBELLE RALLY

NOVEMBER

- 13-14 EASTERN SIERRA SNOW AND AVALANCHE WORKSHOP

DECEMBER

- 5 EASTERN SIERRA COMMUNITY CHORUS WINTER CONCERT
- 11-12 MAMMOTH 24
- 12 NIGHT OF LIGHTS



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BUSINESS/ARTS

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Shayne's clinical background includes extensive experience in peri-operative surgical settings and interventional radiology, where she developed the precision, attention to detail, and commitment to patient safety that she brings to every treatment.

Originally from Bishop, California, Shayne recently returned to California and is excited to begin seeing patients at Phillips' Aesthetic Dermatology. She looks forward to serving the Eastern Sierra community with compassionate, personalized aesthetic and wellness care. When she's not in the office, Shayne enjoys surfing, traveling, snowboarding, hiking, yoga, Pilates, reading, and gardening.

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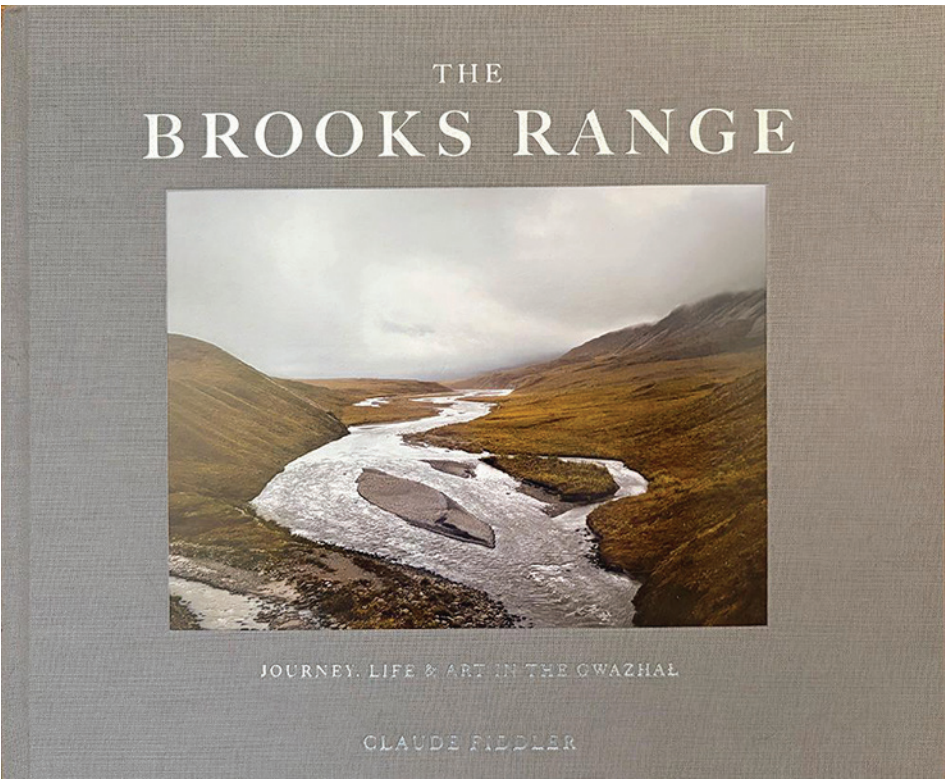
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NEW RELEASE FROM FIDDLER



The Brooks Range: Journey, Life & Art in the Gwazhal presents 80 beautifully crafted photographs from large-format photographer and mountaineer Claude Fiddler. The photos are accompanied by essays from esteemed Alaska writers: Roman Dial, Caroline Van Hemert, Adeline Raboff, and Nancy Lord.

From the formal layout to the warm-tone paper, the book has a reverential and understated feel to it.

The historical element of the book is also hard to miss. In the same way Eliot Porter's *Glen Canyon: The Place No One Knew* brought to light the little-known landscape of Glen Canyon: the eloquent words and images in *The Brooks Range: Journey, Life & Art in the Gwazhal* make it clear that this remote, beautiful, and indigenous tribal treasure is worthy of our attention.

The book is 150 pages, with hardbound linen cover and silver foil-stamped title lettering. The first and only edition is 600 copies.

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OFF THE SLOPES

AI = A WAR ON WATER

By Fisher

For a region that has spent plenty of time fighting for its water, the Eastern Sierra has so far managed to avoid the West's latest water war against Artificial Intelligence (AI) data centers.

Still, that battle is happening just a stone's throw away.

AI data centers are warehouse-scaled facilities that house the servers, networking equipment, cooling systems and electrical infrastructure needed to power artificial intelligence and cloud-computing services. They are both power- and water-intensive, with large facilities using millions of gallons of water per day.

And though no major data centers have been proposed in Inyo or Mono counties, the industry's rapid expansion appears to be sandwiching the region, with massive projects operating, under construction or proposed both to the North and to the South.

To the North

The Reno-Tahoe region has become one of the fastest-growing data center hubs in the country, thanks to relatively cheap power, tax incentives and

proximity to Silicon Valley.

There are 29 data centers in and around Reno, according to Data Center Map, an online resource that tracks the industry.

As the industry has grown, so too has the debate over how it should be regulated.

For the six centers within Reno's city limits, some facilities were built before conditional-use permits were required.

More recent projects underwent Planning Commission review, and one existing facility was later required to obtain a conditional-use permit after the city updated its business code, according to the Reno Gazette Journal.

In May, the Reno City Council paused new data center applications for 30 days while officials considered regulatory options. The council later voted to extend a temporary moratorium through August 2027, according to the

Nevada Independent.

The decision followed more than five hours of public comment largely over the industry's impacts on water, energy infrastructure and quality of life.

Among the proposals submitted to the city was a seven-page policy framework from the Sierra Club Toiyabe Chapter recommending dedicated zoning districts, mandatory special permits, minimum setbacks from homes and schools, and extensive studies on water use, energy

demand, noise and economic impacts before projects are approved.

Outside of Reno, the industry's rapid growth is beginning to test Northern Nevada's infrastructure.

In Storey County, southeast of Reno, data center development at the Tahoe Reno Industrial Center has begun to outpace available electrical capacity. One developer is seeking state approval to operate a temporary natural gas

power plant while awaiting service from NV Energy, according to Carson Now.

The industrial center has become one of the region's largest concentrations of data centers and technology infrastructure, attracting investment from companies including Google and Microsoft. New facilities continue to be proposed even as questions emerge about power supply, transmission capacity and long-term infrastructure needs.

"Nevada is not a sacrifice zone for the AI boom," said Olivia Tanager, executive director of the Sierra Club Toiyabe Chapter. "Our communities deserve affordable energy, a stable climate, responsible water management, and a transparent decision-making process — not decades of new fossil fuel infrastructure built to accommodate unchecked data center growth."

Elsewhere, local governments are actively positioning themselves for future growth. In Lyon County, commissioners recently moved to create a new power district to serve the 20,000-acre Northern Nevada Industrial Center in Silver Springs, a development

more DATA, page 10



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JUNE 19-28 | MAMMOTH LAKES

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AMA FACILITIES OPERATED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH INYO NATIONAL FOREST
EVENTS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

DATA

continued from page 9

expected to accommodate data centers, advanced manufacturing facilities and logistics hubs. The district would allow the county to secure power more quickly than existing utilities can provide.

The county is also home to Copia Power's proposed Monarch Data Center Campus near Yerington, a 505-acre project that could eventually include multiple data centers, battery storage facilities, substations and backup natural gas generation. The proposal has drawn opposition from residents concerned about water use and impacts to the community's rural character.

For many local governments, the promise of data centers is economic development. For opponents, the question is whether the jobs and tax revenue justify the long-term demands on water, energy and public infrastructure.

To the South

A proposed data center near Inyo-kern is similarly drawing scrutiny from residents and water managers in the Indian Wells Valley.

Developer R&L Capital has proposed a 238,000-square-foot facility on roughly 50 acres near the junction of U.S. Highway 395 and State Route 178.

The project would include enough backup generation capacity to produce up to 99 megawatts of electricity during outages, supported by 40 diesel-fired generators and enough on-site

fuel storage to operate at full capacity for up to 72 hours, according to the California Energy Commission.

It would also draw an estimated 12 to 16 million gallons of water annually from the already stressed Indian Wells Valley groundwater basin, which supplies most of the water used in Ridgecrest and Inyokern and has long experienced declining groundwater levels.

The facility would use water primarily for cooling systems, including hybrid cooling towers and water-cooled chillers.

The generators would be reserved for emergency use and would not supply power to the grid. However, the facility would maintain enough on-site fuel storage to operate at full capacity for up to 72 hours if utility power were interrupted.

Residents have urged a full environmental review and detailed analysis of the project's water demands, backup power systems and long-term impacts on the basin before it moves forward, according to a report by KGET, the NBC affiliate in the Bakersfield and Kern County region.

"We're trying to do our due diligence," said Jim Worth, an attorney for the Indian Wells Valley Water District, during a recent board meeting.

In a broader debate about AI data centers, critics also worry that the massive electricity development could eventually increase costs for other

utility customers.

Consumer Reports reported this year that utilities across the country are spending billions on new transmission lines and power infrastructure to accommodate data center growth, prompting concerns that some of those costs could ultimately be passed on to ratepayers.

As of April, the United States had more than 3,000 operational data centers, and according to the Pew Research Center, many of the facilities planned in the coming years will be located in rural areas.

The Eastern Sierra has so far avoided the AI data center boom, but it is increasingly surrounded by it.



PHOTO: KEN LUND

A 2021 aerial shot of the Tahoe Reno Industrial Center.

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Mammoth Community Water District

Level 0

2026 WATERING SCHEDULE

SPRINKLER TIMES

1 a.m. - 11 a.m. & 4 p.m. - 11 p.m.

	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN
EVEN Address							
ODD Address							

Hand-watering allowed **BEFORE 10 a.m. & AFTER 5 p.m.**

NO hand-watering or irrigation on Fridays.

All hoses must be equipped with Automatic Shutoff Devices

Outdoor Conservation Tips



Turf Rebate



Indoor Rebates

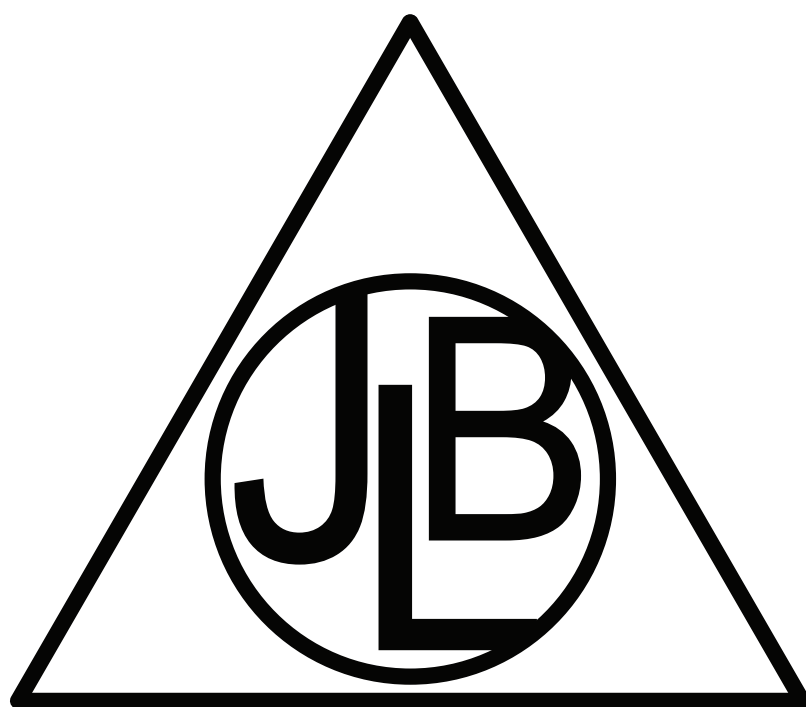


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SUBVERSION



JUNE **BREW** **21** **JUNE** **NOON**
LAKE **TO 8PM**
FREE SHUTTLE FROM DISTANT
PARK SOMEWHERE ELSE

LUNCH

continued from page 2

the place has become rundown and unattractive.

The Sheet reached Mr. Calvert by phone on Thursday. He said he was sorry about the residents' dissatisfaction, but then, not sorry.

"If they don't like the price, they're welcome to go elsewhere ... they could move to Kansas. Gas is \$3.50 in Kansas. I'm just passing Randsburg. There's a house for lease right here ... as my mother always said, 'We all make choices in life.'"

He emphasized that Blizzard manages the property. It does not set the rent.

Town Attorney Andy Morris said there are certain things the Town can/can't do in relation to mobile home parks.

It can pass a rent-control ordinance, but such an ordinance would be forward-looking, so the \$1,600 space rent would be a baseline.

It cannot pass a rent freeze - a landlord has the right to make a return on his investment.

It cannot regulate the park or its maintenance. Interestingly, mobile home parks are regulated by the state.

Would utilities be included?

The thematic story at Council was housing, both the rise of Housing Manager Marcus Sproll continuing to explore the idea of the Town as developer building its own "Missing Middle" project, and the fall of Eastern Sierra Community Housing, which is seem-

ingly no longer trusted as a developer and currently operates as a front desk.

In his presentation, Sproll outlined a proposed 130-unit, \$72 million project, which would require \$27 million of Town investment capital, and \$45 million worth of borrowing.

The project would serve those making between 80-120% of Area Median Income (AMI).

Proposed rents would be \$1,800 for a studio, \$2,600 for a one-bedroom and \$3,200 for a two-bedroom, with the unit mix being 25 studios, 80 one-BDR and 25 two-BDR.

Council immediately dove into the weeds.

"Would utilities be included?" asked Mayor Rice.

"I'm not comfortable with these rents," huffed Councilman Bill Sauser.

Councilman John Wentworth pumped the brakes. "I'm predisposed to another round of discovery and analysis."

Council certainly agreed it wanted more of that.

Sauser declared that the Town could easily raise \$27 million over two years to throw at such a project.

In fact, it would only need to raise \$26 million if it stopped tossing TOT bonuses at its employees.

As to Eastern Sierra Community Housing (ESCH), Council approved its \$350,000 contract later in the evening.

The contract includes \$250,000 "for core housing navigation and homebuy-

er counseling services," and \$100,000 for "income verification and compliance monitoring services."

In essence, \$350,000 for a whole lot of who knows what.

I suppose it's \$350,000 meant to divert people from visiting the Town offices to ask where the hell they're supposed to live.

ESCH will no longer be governed by the Brown Act and will not have a Councilmember on its board.

Board Chair Tom Hodges said the Town is protected in that there's a provision in the contract which says it can terminate without cause with 60 days notice.

Councilman Brent Truax asked that at the very least, ESCH make a quarterly update report to Council outlining its activities.

Mayor Rice and Councilman Wentworth pushed back, opining that while ESCH is reinventing itself, Hodges and Co. shouldn't be burdened by, you know, accountability.

Creating a motion to require a quarterly update promised to take thirty more seconds, however, and as the clock approached 9, Bill Sauser was having none of that.

The vote was 3-2 to approve the contract as is.

MMMBopp

Okay, so here's a good one.

On Wednesday, June 10 I had a meet-

ing scheduled with Rob Patterson at the Town offices.

I didn't want to take a parking spot at the mall (support local business) so I parked over at the library lot, which was 3/4 empty.

There's a spot under a tree - not an official spot, but I'm definitely not blocking anyone in, and people can get around me, and it'll keep the car a little cooler for the dog for the thirty minutes I'm gone.

When I come back, there's a yellow parking ticket on the dash.

But the ticket doesn't say Town of Mammoth Lakes or Mono County.

I text a photo to Police Chief Casabian. "Not ours."

I call Sheriff Braun to ask. "Nope. We wouldn't be doing parking enforcement there."

So it's a bogus ticket. But who wrote it? The initials on the ticket are JB.

A little sleuthing uncovers that JB is more than likely Joe Bopp, the director of Mono County Libraries.

Library staff tells me Joe is fond of parking enforcement and writing tickets.

I'm also told that the staff has almost entirely turned over since Bopp took the job.

Hmm. Seems like there's an allegory here.

Remember the tale of Little Rabbit Foo Foo?

more LUNCH, page 13

SATURDAY JUNE 20 & SUNDAY JUNE 21

FROM 5-10PM

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Devils Creek Distillery flights are here — a curated selection of small-batch, local American whiskeys, poured and ready for Dad. At \$20 a flight, every pour gives back: \$1 goes straight to the Limelight Mammoth Community Fund and gets reinvested right back into the community we love.

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LIMELIGHT

MAMMOTH



LUNCH

continued from page 12

Little Rabbit Foo Foo
Hopping through the forest
Scooping up the field mice
And **Bopping** them on the head!

So the Good Fairy comes down and admonishes Little Rabbit Foo Foo and gives him three chances to be good. And if he's not good, she'll turn him into a Goon!

The moral of the story is that you shouldn't bully or pick on people, because bad behavior has consequences. The story wraps up with the pun, Hare Today, Goon Tomorrow.

A few tidbits to share from recent stories in the Wall Street Journal.

June 10: A story on Vail Resorts says Industry-wide visits to the Rockies plunged 24% year-over-year. This was the worst annual decline in four decades.

Vail's net revenue was down 7%.

While the stock is also down about 7% over the past year, it was up 11.5% on Thursday.

May 16-17: From a column titled "The Great California Medicaid Grift"

Since 2019, state Medicaid spending has more than doubled. It is now \$220 billion.

"California makes up about 12% of the US population but accounts for nearly half of new social assistance and healthcare establishments in the US over the past decade ... between 2019-2024, the number of home health

providers in California rose 66%, about twice as much as nationwide."

"Healthcare and social assistance account for all of the state's net job growth since the start of the pandemic."

April 10: Front page story on surging Homeowner Association (HOA) fees around the country. The median monthly condo fee is up 29% from 2019.

April 16: From a story about Affordable Care Act (ACA) enrollees. One in seven have stopped making payments after premium costs rose at the start of the year.

Normally, the falloff rate is in the mid-single digits.

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona lost 30% of members who initially registered. Last year, it was 2%.

Lunch's ACA premium increased more than 700% this year.

From several news outlets, who referenced a report in the Journal of Geophysical Research. "Researchers report that the tectonic stress accumulating on the San Andreas and San Jacinto fault systems has reached its highest levels in the past 1,000 years and, in some segments, may already exceed those levels."

From Mammoth Lakes Town Council's budget: Last year, Councilmembers earned \$71,000 in salaries but also had the Town spend \$228,000 on their health benefits.

And from Hartley's desk, some thoughts on Brendan Sorsby.

Sorsby is a QB. Used to play for Indiana. Then transferred to Texas Tech.

He was busted at Indiana for making bets on games that involved his team. The NCAA subsequently took away his playing eligibility.

Until a judge in Texas ruled against the NCAA's right to do that.

You guessed it, the Judge is from Lubbock, Texas - home of Texas Tech.

With all the talk about integrity of the game and gambling, he bet on games he had inside information on and didn't get banished? What the hell? If he were black he would be playing in the UFL or going to the Supplemental Draft. Who is sleazy in all of this:

1. Sorsby. You did it. You went to counseling then sued to get back to Texas Tech. Screw you. Walk away. Own your mistake.
2. Texas Tech. Shame on you. You call yourself an institution of higher learning and probably offer a whole slew of ethics classes, yet you are whoring yourselves out for college football wins.
3. The State of Texas. A judge did this so the university can win games. Damn judicial system. Justice sure is blind.
4. Nick Saban. The former Alabama coach made millions and won titles when the SEC could run wild and illegally pay players. Saban now whines that players getting legal money is ruining the sport? Shut up.

The whole story is sad.

Then there's Niners WR Brandon Aiyuk. Check that boy for CTE. Check to see if he has parents. What is wrong with this guy?

Aiyuk got hurt in 2024. He was on the first year of a four-year, \$120 million extension. Aiyuk, out for the year, subsequently ghosted the team. In response, they voided his contract guarantees for 2027.

Aiyuk said last week the Niners are "running from the belt. They know it's coming." I guess I can relate to running from the belt as a black child. That belt was no joke. But the switch from the bush was worse. And running did you no good ... you would get it worse later. But for a grown man, an NFL player to be saying stuff like that?

He upped the ante this week:

"You want to know why they really mad, though?" Aiyuk said. "They mad 'cause they stupid. They dumb. They mad that they paid me \$50 million in eight months and then voided my guarantees for 2027. And I'm about to be on a new team in 2027. They mad at themselves for real. They acting like they mad at me, but they stupid ass mad at themselves."

Two other questions. Does he have a brain or an agent? How can you say the team was stupid for paying you? That means you MEANT to take the money and run. And at the same time you say you will be on another team this year. Why not just say ANOTHER STUPID TEAM WILL PAY ME NEXT YEAR.

This boy is stuck on stupid.

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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. 19*
Outlaw Saloon Happy Hour Monday through Friday from 4-6 p.m. *More info: See ad p. 9*

The Mogul happy hour 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the bar. Food and drink specials.
Main St. Pizza - See ad this page.

Distant Brewing happy hour Monday-Thursday from 3-5 p.m. \$1/off beer/wine/cider/seltzer/kombucha

Bar Sierra happy hour from 4-5:30 p.m. Thursday through Monday.

Minaret Club happy hour daily 'til 6:30 p.m. Weekend wine bottle specials.

Whitebark @ The Westin. Half-off lounge menu and drinks daily from 4-6 p.m. and 9-close. *See ad p. 13*

Friday, June 19/ Bishop Country Club's Friday evening patio party features live music by Bob Snow. Starts ~5 p.m.
Tracorum (cosmic-gospel-thunder funk) plays **Liberty** in Mammoth. Time: 9:30 p.m. No cover.

June 20-21/ The Limelight hosts **Father's Day Flights** featuring Devils Creek Distillery small-batch whiskeys. Time: 5-10 p.m. each day.

Monday, June 22/ Open mic Mondays @ Distant Brewing (568 Old Mammoth Rd.). Time: 6-9 p.m.

Thursday, June 25/ Moto Hoedown Country Line Dance Night @ Mammoth Rock 'n Bowl. Time: 8-11 p.m. **They'll have a line dance instructor there to get you up to speed!*
The Two Tracks play the **Tioga Mobil Mart** in Lee Vining. Time: 6 p.m. **Support the venue - no outside booze!*

June 26-27/ The Anthony Cullins Band (crushing blues rock phenom) plays **Liberty** - the Feel Good Fest after-party. Music starts 9:30 p.m. No cover.

June 26-28/ Mammoth Feel Good Fest @ the Village at Mammoth. Music & Booze.

TOWN STUFF

Friday, June 19/ Coalition Mammoth Rally against KORE protesting exploratory drilling at Hot Creek. Time: 3:30-5:30 p.m. Location: Main Street sidewalk in front of Stellar Brew
Friday Night Market and Pool Party @ Bishop City Park featuring live music and food/retail vendors. Time: 5:30-8:30 p.m.

June 19-28/ Mammoth Motocross kicks into gear and you can be there for all the action! *For event schedule/ticket info, visit mammothmotocross.com*

June 19-21/ Ask a Naturalist pop-up tables hosted by Sierra Forever. Time: 2-4 p.m. At Coldwater campground in

TOWN STUFF

the Lakes Basin (19th), Silver Lake campground in June (20th) and Sherwin Meadows campground (21st).

Saturday, June 20/ Mono Arts Council reception for new exhibit featuring the work of Debb Campbell and Kristen Gentilucci. Time: 5-7 p.m. Location: MAC Gallery at 501 Old Mammoth Rd., Ste. 5
Sierra Forever campfire program: "The Secret Lives of Black Bears." Time: 6:30 p.m. Location: Robinson Creek Campground amphitheater in Bridgeport. Free.

June 20-21/ Brill Car train rides @ Laws Museum off Hwy. 6 just east of Bishop. Time: 10:30-2:30 both days. Tix are \$8 adults and \$4 for kids. *More Info: lawsmuseum.org*

Sunday, June 21/ No Kings March in Bishop from 4-6 p.m. at the intersection of Main St and Line St.
Father's Day. Treat your Dad like a King! Brunch? *See ad p. 2*
Cars and Coffee at Devils Creek Distillery (120 Commerce Drive in Mammoth). Starts 9:30 a.m.
Say NO to Flock - informal info session regarding the City's use of Flock Safety cameras @ Bishop City Park at the Gazebo. Time: 6:30 p.m.

Monday, June 22/ Bishop City Council meets. Time: 6

TOWN STUFF

p.m. Location: Council Chambers @ 377 West Line St.

Tuesday, June 23/ Inyo Supervisors meet in Board Chambers at 224 N. Edwards in Independence. Time: 10 a.m. Or attend online via inyocounty.us.

June 23-25/ Summer matinee series opens @ Bishop Twin Theatre. Every Tuesday-Thursday a different film at 11 a.m. Ticket is just \$3. This week: Storks.

Wednesday, June 24/ No Hot Creek Mine hosts a Science on Tap event @ Mammoth Brewing Co. Time: 6-8 p.m.
Mammoth Market at Outbound Mammoth (164 Old Mammoth Road). Time: 4-7. Local farmers, ranchers and makers.

Thursday, June 25/ Farm to Table Market @ the Methodist Church (205 N. Fowler) in Bishop. Time: 4-7 p.m. Live music, demos, workshops, more.
Trashy Thursdays (cleanup days) kick off with an evening at Mammoth Library followed by dinner courtesy of Stellar Brew. Cleanup 5-7 p.m. Dinner/social 7-8 p.m.

Saturday, June 27/ The first Bodie Ghost Walk of the summer. Three different options. Tix are \$45 and available at bodiefoundation.org. Time: 6-10 p.m.

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If you're passionate about biking, detail-oriented, and thrive in a team setting, this is a great opportunity to spend the summer with one of Mammoth's most well-known shops.

Please submit your current resume to footloose@footloosesports.com, stop by the shop, or fill out an application on our website.



Whitebark Institute is hiring a Forest Health Operations Manager in the Eastern Sierra. This full-time role leads team operations, agency collaboration, and grant administration for major wildfire resilience and fuels reduction projects. Salary \$95K-\$115K/year, benefits, hybrid options. Apply at whitebarkinstitute.org/careers.



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"Full-time hourly position: **Assistant Condo Manager - Mammoth Lakes.** Includes free housing and utilities. This role involves assisting with daily operations.

Candidates must be at least 21 years old, possess a clean, valid driver's license, and be willing to work outdoors year-round.

Interested? Please call 760-914-1776 between 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM."

For Rent

Newly built Hilton Creek 1 BDR /1 BA ADU contiguous to main home, on serene private wooded lot with brooks on property. \$2,250/mo. Photos & further info on Zillow.com. Search for 267A Juniper Dr., Crowley Lake. Contact: steve@stephenpappas.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

Creskide 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

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

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

Shilo Inn seeks FT housekeepers, FT maintenance worker and Front desk/night auditor. Immediate Front Desk opportunity starting at \$18/hour. Pls. call Human Resources (Sarina Quintero) at 925.813.2331/email resume to squintero@marquishotelsgroup.com.



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PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice Inviting Bids

AIP NO. 3-06-0146-0XX-2026
MAMMOTH YOSEMITE AIRPORT
MULTIPURPOSE BUILDING – PHASE 2

Sealed proposals for the work shown on the plans entitled:

Construction Plans for Mammoth Yosemite Airport Multipurpose Building – Phase 2
in The Town of Mammoth Lakes, California

Bids will be received through the Town’s eProcurement Portal at: Online Bid Portal <https://www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov/1016/Bids> until 3:00 pm PT on Wednesday July 8, 2026, at which time they will be publicly opened and read. Contractors can attend the bid opening by Zoom (information will be posted on the Online Bid Portal page). Proposal forms for this work are included in a separate book entitled:

Contract and Bid Documents for Mammoth Yosemite Airport Multipurpose Building – Phase 2
In The Town of Mammoth Lakes, California

Each bidder must supply all the information required by the bid documents and specifications.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

The project generally consists of the following work:

- Construction work for Multipurpose Building to Include SRE Components including grading, drainage, paving of the access road and apron, hardscapes, marking, fencing, building and building foundations and floor slabs and building interior and exterior utilities.

This project will be partially funded by the Airport Improvement Program of the Federal Aviation Administration (F.A.A.).

The Engineer’s Estimate will be made public at the Bid Opening.

OBTAINING PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS:
Plans and specifications can be obtained from the On-line Bid Portal (<https://www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov/1016/Bids>).

Questions or requests for clarifications should be submitted through the Online Bid Portal under the project’s Question and Answer section. The contact is Soibian Spring, Airport Manager, Mammoth Yosemite Airport, via email sspring@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov or 760-914-0065. Oral clarifications are non-binding, and any changes shall be issued by written addenda only.

CONTRACT TIME:
This work shall be constructed in accordance with details as shown on the plans and described in the specifications for this project. The contractor will be allowed one hundred fifteen (115) working days to complete the project.

BIDDER’S BOND:
Each bid must be accompanied by a certified or cashier’s check payable to the order of the Town of Mammoth Lakes, or by a bid bond executed by a corporate surety authorized to do business in the State of California in the sum of not less than 10% of the total amount of the bid, as a guarantee that the bidder will enter into the proposed contract if it be awarded him/her.

CONTRACTOR QUALIFICATIONS:
The contractor shall have a valid Class B Contractor’s license, a current Town of Mammoth Lakes Business Tax Certificate, and shall maintain all required licenses throughout the duration of the Contract. The contractor shall demonstrate their qualifications by having adequate equipment in good working order, experience, and ability to perform the work.

AWARD OF CONTRACT:
The contract will be awarded on the basis of UNIT BID price and will provide for progressive payments and liquidated damages as fixed in the specifications. All proposals must be made on the forms as contained in the specifications for the previously described project and shall in all respects comply with the Instructions to Bidders and Contract Documents. Bids must be in writing and signed by or on behalf of the bidder.

The award of this project is contingent upon a grant offer from the Federal Aviation Administration and acceptance of the grant offer by the Town of Mammoth Lakes. Each bid shall remain good for a minimum of ninety five (95) days.

BONDING REQUIREMENTS:
The successful bidder shall furnish a payment bond and a performance bond for 100 percent of the contract price to secure fulfillment of all the bidder’s obligations under such contract and to assure payment as required by law of all persons supplying labor and material in the execution of the work provided for in the contract. All bonds shall be executed by an admitted surety insurer meeting the requirements of California Code of Civil Procedure Section 995.120.

FEDERAL PROVISIONS:
The work to be done is being financed in whole or in part by means of a grant made by the United States acting through the Federal Aviation Administration of the Department of Transportation. This project is subject to the Federal provisions, statutes and regulations as set forth in the project specifications.

This project is under and subject to the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act and Wage Rate Decision contained in the contract documents.

The requirements of 49 CFR Part 26 apply to this contract. It is the policy of the Sponsor to practice non-discrimination based on race, color, sex, or national origin in the award or performance of this contract. The Sponsor encourages participation by all firms qualifying under this solicitation regardless of business size or

ownership.

Title IV – Civil Rights Act - As a condition of a grant award, the Sponsor shall demonstrate that it complies with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. §§ 2000d et seq) and implementing regulations (49 CFR part 21) including amendments thereto, the Airport and Airway Improvement Act of 1982 (49 U.S.C. § 47123), the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (42 U.S.C. 6101 et seq.), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. § 794 et seq.), the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. § 12101, et seq.), U.S. Department of Transportation and Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Assurances, and other relevant civil rights statutes, regulations, or authorities, including any amendments or updates thereto. This may include, as applicable, providing a current Title VI Program Plan to the FAA for approval, in the format and according to the timeline required by the FAA, and other information about the communities that will be benefited and impacted by the project. A completed FAA Title VI Pre-Grant Award Checklist is required for every grant application, unless excused by the FAA. The Sponsor shall affirmatively ensure that when carrying out any project supported by this grant that it complies with all federal nondiscrimination and civil rights laws based on race, color, national origin, sex, creed, age, disability, genetic information, in consideration for federal financial assistance. The Department’s and FAA’s Office of Civil Rights may provide resources and technical assistance to recipients to ensure full and sustainable compliance with Federal civil rights requirements. Failure to comply with civil rights requirements will be considered a violation of the agreement or contract and be subject to any enforcement action as authorized by law.

SMALL BUSINESS PARTICIPATION:
The Sponsor has established a Small Business Element in accordance with 49 CFR Part 26 to facilitate competition by small business concerns, taking all reasonable steps to eliminate obstacles to their participation and to create a level playing field on which small businesses can compete fairly. While there is no specific numerical goal assigned to small business participation the prime contractor should make every effort to solicit small business concerns (as defined in 13 CFR Part 121) to participate as subcontractors, service providers, suppliers, etc.

The Bidder must submit the Small Business Participation information with its proposal on the forms provided herein (Fostering Small Business Participation & Non-Certified Small Business Verification Form).

SOCIALLY/ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS:
The Sponsor encourages Contractors and Subcontractors to utilize the services of financial institutions owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals in the community. You can find a link to Minority-Owned Financial Institutions and their branches on the FDIC website: <https://www.fdic.gov/regulations/resources/minority/mdi.html> or the U. S. Department of Treasury – Bureau of the Fiscal Service <https://fiscal.treasury.gov/mbdp/>.

CARB CONTRACTING REQUIREMENTS:
The California Air Resources Board (“CARB”) implemented amendments to the In-Use Off-Road Diesel-Fueled Fleets Regulations (“Regulation”) which are effective on January 1, 2024 and apply broadly to all self-propelled off road diesel vehicles 25 horsepower or greater and other forms of equipment used in California. A copy of the Regulation is available at <https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/sites/default/files/barcu/regact/2022/off-roaddiesel/appa-1.pdf>. Bidders are required to comply with all CARB and Regulation requirements, including, without limitation, all applicable sections of the Regulation, as codified in Title 13 of the California Code of Regulations section 2449 et seq. throughout the duration of the Project. Bidders must provide, with their Bid, copies of Bidder’s and all listed subcontractors’ most recent, valid Certificate of Reported Compliance (“CRC”) issued by CARB. Failure to provide valid CRCs as required herein may render the Bid non-responsive.

WAGE REQUIREMENTS:
Pursuant to Section 1770, and following, of the California Labor Code, the Contractor shall pay not less than the prevailing rate of per diem wages as determined by the Director of the California Department of Industrial Relations. Copies of such prevailing rate of per diem wages are on file at the Town of Mammoth Lakes Public Works Department, which copies shall be made available to any interested party on request.

All labor on the project shall be paid the higher of the minimum wage rates as established by the U.S. Secretary of Labor, or the California Director of Industrial Relations. If a discrepancy exists between these two determinations, then all labor on the project shall be paid the higher of the two minimum wage rates.

DIR Registration: In accordance with Senate Bill 854 (SB 854) and Labor Code sections 1725.5 and 1771.1, all contractors and subcontractors that wish to bid on, be listed in a bid proposal, or enter into a contract to perform public work must be registered with the Department of Industrial Relations. No bid will be accepted nor any contract entered into without proof of the contractor’s and subcontractors’ current registration with the Department of Industrial Relations to perform public work. If awarded a Contract, the Bidder and its subcontractors, of any tier, shall maintain active registration with the Department of Industrial Relations for the duration of the Project.

PRE-BID CONFERENCE:
A non-mandatory pre-bid meeting will be held via zoom on Wednesday, June 10, 2026, at 1:00 P.M. Contractors may attend in person or may participate virtually. Information will be posted on the Online Bid Portal page. For those who can attend in person, a site walk will be conducted after the pre-bid meeting. For those attending virtually, a separate site visit by appointment only may be arranged by contacting Soibian

sspring@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov.

RETAINAGE FROM PAYMENTS:
Monthly progress payments shall be made to the Contractor for the value of the work completed during the preceding month, less a five percent (5%) security withhold pursuant to Public Contract Code Section 7201.

Pursuant to Government Code Section 4590, at the request and expense of the Contractor, securities equivalent to the amount withheld shall be deposited with the Town or with a state or federally chartered bank as the escrow agent, who shall pay such monies to the Contractor upon satisfactory completion of the contract. Securities eligible for investment under this section shall include those listed in Government Code Section 16430 or bank or savings and loan certificates of deposit. The Contractor shall be the beneficial owner of any securities substituted for monies withheld and shall receive any interest thereon.

The Town of Mammoth Lakes reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids or to utilize any alternative procedures authorized by the Public Contracts Codes Sections 20166 and 20167 and accept such bids as are to the best interest of the Town. The Town reserves the right to waive any informality, or irregularity in a bid.

TOWN OF MAMMOTH LAKES, CALIFORNIA
TOWN CLERK: Jamie Gray
TS #2026-0074

Notice of Petition to Administer Estate

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF GILBERT ALLEN KNIGHT MONO COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT CASE NO.: 26PRM17

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of GILBERT ALLEN KNIGHT. A Petition for Probate has been filed by WENDY SHRADER in the Superior Court of California, County of Mono. The Petition for Probate requests that WENDY SHRADER be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of decedent.

The petition requests the decedent’s will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the executor to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: July 23, 2026, 9:30 a.m., Mammoth Courthouse, 100 Thompson Way, PO Box 1037, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546.

If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Petitioner: Wendy Shrader, Pro Per, 2260 Brigadoon Avenue, Bishop, CA 93514, (760) 490-2829.

TS #2026-0077

Notice of Parcel Tax Exemption

SENIOR CITIZEN PARCEL TAX EXEMPTION
MAMMOTH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

How to apply:

1. Call to set up an appointment at the MUSD District Office located at 461 Sierra Park Road.
2. Please bring with you an ID that verifies your age and local address, with a copy of your current property tax bill.
3. You must be 65 on or before June 30, 2026, and your primary residence must be within the boundaries of the Mammoth Unified School District.
4. Applications must be received no later than June 30, 2026.
5. If you already have an application on file, please call or email the District at the number below to verify that you still own and live in the property.

Questions? Please call MUSD at (760) 934-6802 ext. 5110/Email: coneill@mammothusd.org

TS #2026-0072

Notice of Election

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Southern Mono Healthcare District (SMHD) will have two Board of Director seats open for election on November 3, 2026. In order to serve on the Board, you must be a registered voter, be over 18 years of age, and must have a primary domicile within the boundaries of the Southern Mono Healthcare District. The term expires November 30, 2030.

If you are interested, please contact Queenie Barnard, Mono County Clerk-Recorder-Registrar Office at 760.932.5530, PO Box 237, Bridgeport, CA 93517 or clerkrecorder@mono.ca.gov to request a Declaration of Candidacy form.

Forms will be available on the 113th day prior to the general election (July 13, 2026), and must be filed by 5:00 p.m. on the 88th day prior to the general election (August 7, 2026) in the office of the county elections official [EC §10510 (a)]. If a Declaration of Candidacy for an incumbent elective officer of a district is not filed by 5:00 p.m. on the 88th day before the general district election, any person other than the person who was the incumbent on the 88th day shall have until 5:00 p.m. on the 83rd day before the election (August 12, 2026) to file a Declaration of Candidacy for the elective office [EC §10516(a)].

With some exceptions, SMHD Board meetings are held the third Thursday of each month at 8:00 a.m. at Mammoth Hospital, Conference Rooms A & B and on Microsoft Teams.

TS #2026-0064

Notice of Vacancies

NOTICE OF VACANCIES - PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION AND PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that two terms of office on the Planning and Economic Development Commission and two terms of office on the Parks and Recreation Commission will become vacant. The terms of appointment are for four years and will expire on July 31, 2030.

The Planning and Economic Development Commission meetings are scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on the second Wednesday of each month. The Parks and Recreation Commission meetings are scheduled for the first Tuesday of every other month at 2:30 p.m. Interested parties should file an application with the Town Clerk on or before Monday, June 22, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. Application forms (“Application for Public Service Appointment”) may be obtained from the Town’s website, www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov; Town Clerk at the Town Offices, 437 Old Mammoth Road, Suite 230; by emailing jgray@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov or by phoning 760-965-3602.

Dated: May 29, 2026
Jamie Gray, Town Clerk
TS #2026-0071

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

Sierra Sky Gardens

Tierney Brandon
460 Fir Street
P.O. Box 7495
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein. This statement was filed with the Mono County Clerk on May 29, 2026

File Number 2026–0064
TS #2026–0076
(6/13, 6/20, 6/27, 7/4)



MEET
Izzy

Izzy is a sweet, mild-mannered 10-year-old Shepherd mix weighing 71 lbs. Surrendered selflessly when her owner fell ill, this gentle soul is the perfect companion. Izzy has outgrown puppy energy and prefers leisurely walks, cozy naps, and being your loyal, loving sidekick. Interested? Contact:
Whitmore Shelter (760) 935-4734

KLUSMIRE

SUMMER BRAIN SIZZLE

It went from a pleasant, spring-like 80 to a blistering 90 degrees in a day. Then, just in case the message was muddled, it hit 100. Hello sweltering summer, screw the calendar, and forget about the cosmic solstice timeline. It's sizzling. My swamp cooler is roaring. I can barely touch the steering wheel in my car in the afternoon. I've already seen enough ugly toes and hairy feet in sandals and flip-flops to make me dread the next three sweaty months.

The only vaguely satisfying ritual marking the arrival of summer is buying new, light, short-sleeved shirts (actually, that should read, "letting my dear sweetheart pick out stylish short-sleeved shirts"). We got good ones at The Toggery and Eastside Sports.

A revelation arrived after venturing into Elevation in Lone Pine, thanks to the label on the very hip Sportiva shirt, designed in Italy. There were two sizes on the tag: US: Large. Europe: X-Large. That confirmed that Americans are lardasses compared to sleek and slender Europeans. Must be the free universal healthcare, locally sourced food, months of vacation time, ample parental and pregnancy leave, walkable cities, and all those other elements of a Democratic Socialist Paradise.

Meanwhile, in the US most folks are

working two jobs eating bologna and Big Macs.

Thank you for reading my Ted Talk on global economics.

Back to summer in the U.S. of A. The early arrival of flop sweat also enhances the "joy" of graduation season. Usually, I like to offer some thoughtful, soul-revealing advice to new graduates. But I'm out of material.

I was thinking of what to say to the 5th grade graduates and could only come up with, "this is the lowest rung on the educational ladder, children, hope to God you haven't peaked at age 10."

Then come the Junior High graduates: "don't get too cocky, there's really not much to celebrate here, kids, this will barely get you a job a McDonalds serving Big Macs."

As for high school graduates, there's nothing to say that hasn't been said by parents and family and friends ad nauseum on the positive side - "go live the rest of your best lives; you have unlimited potential and can do whatever you want; chase your dream; live your dream; watch out world; the possibilities are endless. Enjoy."

No one mentions the negative take on the end of high school and the start

of adult life: fun's over, time to get a job, slog away for the next 40 years doing something for money that leaves a small portion of your soul intact and only turns half your brain to mush. Enjoy."

Or move to Europe.

Oops, got a little overheated.

So it's time for ice hockey, right?

A random scroll through TV channels (the original time suck) and I landed on the NHL Stanley Cup games. To my delight, the first thing on the screen was a hockey fight. Grown men with missing teeth smashing each other in the head. Mixing violence and thuggery with the thrill of victory and the agony of defeat makes hockey unique.

But times change.

There used to be real hockey fights. No gloves. Bare-knuckle fistfights, resulting in bloody broken noses and gashes above the eyes. The real brawlers would pull the sweater (not jersey) over the opponent's head and just hammer away with upper cuts and jabs. Excellent TV. Made up for the fact you could never actually see the puck during the game.

This recent "fight" didn't have any of that pugilistic mayhem. The players didn't take off their helmets and face

shields or their gloves. They were just pushing their padded gloves into each other's faces and wrestling. No blood. No puck. No luck. No more hockey for me. Besides, when did ICE hockey put teams in winter sports hotspots, literally, like Las Vegas and Carolina?

Next are the NBA finals. I never watch regular season pro basketball. Horrid games. Defense is like matadors waving the bulls through. On offense, it's two passes, a screen and a three-point shot, or quick drive and kick-out for a three, or a lob pass and dunk. Snore. Only the flops are sort of entertaining. The regular season is like a make-work project for millionaire athletes.

The playoffs are much better. They play defense, and body slam, and set screens like linebackers and use their elbows like weapons. Basically, they play hard all game long.

The Knicks won the title. Whoopie.

Now we can enjoy professional basketball players playing hard and fast with skill and precision and passion during regular season games by watching the WNBA.

Jon Klusmire of Bishop will watch World Cup soccer because he can see the ball.

HANTAVIRUS UPDATE

THE RECENT NEWS VS. LOCAL RISK

Eastern Sierra Hantavirus is NOT the same as the recent cruise ship outbreak. It does NOT spread person to person — and Mono County has been case-free for over a year. Let's keep it that way.

How It Spreads: Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome (HPS) is a serious illness carried by local deer mice. The virus spreads through droppings, urine, and saliva, becoming airborne when disturbed. This is almost always an indoor issue; outdoor risk is very low.

Prevent & Clean Safely



Seal cracks and holes in homes and outbuildings to keep rodents out.



Keep your eyes open in and around your home and workplace for signs of mice droppings and nests.



If there are signs of mice, open doors and windows for at least 30 minutes before cleaning.



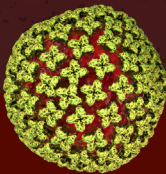
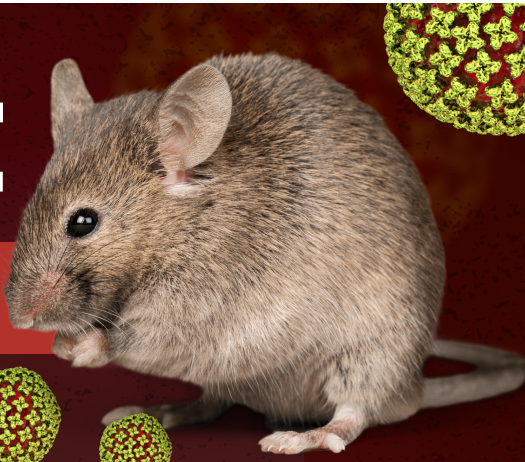
Do not sweep or vacuum rodent droppings. Instead, spray with bleach or other disinfectant that kills viruses, and wipe clean.



Wear gloves and an N95 or better mask when cleaning rodent-infested areas.



Mono Public Health offers free N95 masks.



More Info:
Contact Mono County Public Health at (760) 924-1830 or monocounty.ca.gov/hhs/page/monogram



OP/ED

A PURPOSEFUL LIFE

By Steve Shatkin

A Purposeful Life Brings Joy to the Self and Light to Others

There’s a line by Jack Kerouac that I recently read that stopped me in my tracks:

“I hope it is true that a man can die

and yet not only live in others but give them life, and not only life but that great consciousness of life.”

It’s haunting, hopeful, and deeply human. Kerouac was writing about a kind of immortality that has nothing to do with fame or legacy and everything

to do with vitality, with how our energy continues to ripple through others long after we’re gone. It’s the idea that a life fully lived can awaken others to live fully too.

For me, this idea resonates on every level, spiritual, scientific, artistic, and personal. I am not religious, but I am deeply connected to the people who have shaped my life.

I carry the precision and curiosity of my father, an aerospace engineer who worked on the Saturn V rocket, and the creative grounding of my mother, an artist, a woman of the earth who lived through color, texture, and intuition. Their influences form a kind of orbit around my life: one reaching toward the stars, the other rooting me in the soil.

Kerouac’s words remind me that meaning isn’t found in the pursuit of greatness for its own sake, but in how we transfer energy to others, through love, purpose, and generosity. I believe that a purposeful life not only brings joy to yourself, but inspires and lifts others to do the same. It’s in how we show up each day, how we serve, how we create moments that matter.

This belief guides how I move through every part of my life, in my marriage to Tracie, in how I love and support my children, and in how I lead my teams and community. Tracie and I share a partnership built on balance and gen-

erosity, each of us giving energy to the other so that we can both grow stronger. We have faced deep challenges, celebrated glorious victories, and learned that love is not static, it’s something we actively give every day.

With my children, I strive to offer more than guidance; I try to give them the tools to see life deeply, to find beauty even in struggle, and to discover meaning in service to others. I want them to feel that great consciousness of life that Kerouac described, that sense that they are part of something vast, mysterious, and full of possibility.

In my work, I see hospitality as a “spiritual” practice, a way of giving life, of awakening that same awareness in others. A simple meal, a moment of kindness, or a shared story can remind someone that they are seen, that they belong, that life is still beautiful.

Kerouac hoped that a person could live on in others. I believe we can, and that it happens every time we act with purpose and love. Because in the end, it isn’t about how long we live, but how deeply we make others feel alive.

A purposeful life brings joy to the self and light to others.

Steve Shatkin is the Chef/Owner of Mammoth Coffee Roasting Co. and Ursa Kitchen

Hi from Ellie!

She’s a smart young lady who will pick up your pace whether walking, jogging, or sitting on the couch. And she’s ready to learn more. Well mannered, good with people and other dogs.

You can meet Ellie and others like her in search of their forever home – at the Inyo County Animal Shelter, located at 1001 County Road in Big Pine.

For more information, call (760) 938-2715.

To see more dogs available for adoption, visit www.easternsierradogrescue.com



WOOF!



Save a life. Adopt a shelter dog.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE, BECOME A VOLUNTEER TODAY!

VULCANIA
by the Voltaggio Bros.

Wine MAMMOTH WEEKEND
PRESENTED BY MMCF



Vulcania Tasting Experience

Mingle with celebrity chefs Bryan and Michael Voltaggio and experience an evening of culinary magic. Enjoy an Italian tasting-style menu complemented by wine.

Enhance your evening with a discounted Wine Walk ticket at checkout.

Early Bird Tickets

\$159 PER PERSON
+ Tax. Includes Gratuity

Scan the QR code or go online to lock in the lowest price today. Prices go up July 1.



Saturday, August 15
Doors Open at 3PM • 21+

MAMMOTHMOUNTAIN.COM/EVENTS

FACILITIES OPERATED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH INYO NATIONAL FOREST
EVENTS SUBJECT TO CHANGE



TOWN OF
Mammoth Lakes

DID YOU
KNOW?



Did You Know the Town of Mammoth Lakes has a year-round Host Program?

The concept for the “Trail Host” program developed following the rapid growth of multiple user groups on the Mammoth Trail System.

HOSTS HELP TRAIL USERS HAVE FUN BY:

- Welcoming visitors and helping them find trails, parks, lakes, and outdoor activities that match their interests and abilities.
- Answering questions about trail conditions, maps, safety, local rules, and recreation opportunities around Mammoth Lakes.
- Encouraging visitors to follow Leave No Trace principles and respect wildlife, trails, and public lands.
- Monitoring trails and recreation areas, reporting maintenance needs, safety concerns, and other issues.
- Supporting community events, volunteer projects, and stewardship programs.
- Collecting visitor feedback and recreation data to help improve trails, amenities, and outdoor experiences for all.

TownofMammothLakes.ca.gov

Town of Mammoth Lakes

NO KINGS

continued from page 1

“To make our country a better place.”

“I’m an Amy vet; he’s tried to privatize the Veterans Administration and cut veterans benefits during both his terms,”

“There aren’t enough negative words or pejoratives to describe the Trump Administration.”

“Trump’s a chump, says my sign, because it’s hard to put all the dirty words on it.”

“Trump’s an embarrassment and a bully.”

“Republican legislators you have the power, do the right thing, impeach now.”

“Many more young people need to show up; it’s important that we do because we are the future of the country and we need to show up.”

“Because I care very much about my county.”

“Mr. Trump is a very sick man who is not interested in the country, he’s just interested in himself.”

“An abomination.”

“Let’s impeach the convicted criminal.”

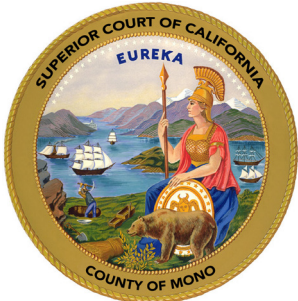
“What I have to say is not printable.”

“Thanks, Trump, for messing up our 4th of July, he makes a mess of everything.”

“Some people young people like me want to push the Baby Boomers out of the way but look who’s showing up here.”

“I’m doing this for the world, the critters, the land, the people, the future.”





**SUPERIOR COURT
OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF MONO**

IMPROVE YOUR GOVERNMENT

APPLY FOR THE 2026-2027 CIVIL GRAND JURY

“Join us in safeguarding justice and accountability: your voice matters in shaping our community's future.”

- Dr. Chris Comfort, 2023 -2023 Mono County Civil Grand Jury Member;
2024-2025 Mono County Civil Grand Foreperson

Mono County needs your participation.

<http://www.mono.courts.ca.gov/generalinfo/jury-grandjury.htm>

Email Mono County Civil Grand Jury at GJ@mono.courts.ca.gov for more information

**The 11 open seats will be filled as applications are accepted.
Submit your application today.**



**SERVING THE MAMMOTH LAKES COMMUNITY
FOR THE LAST 10 YEARS**

6/26 & 6/27

ANTHONY CULLINS BAND

**CRUSHING BLUES ROCK
GUITAR PHENOM**

**FEEL GOOD FEST
AFTERPARTY**

**250 YEARS
OF THE
UNITED STATES**

YOUR Mountain Home IS CALLING

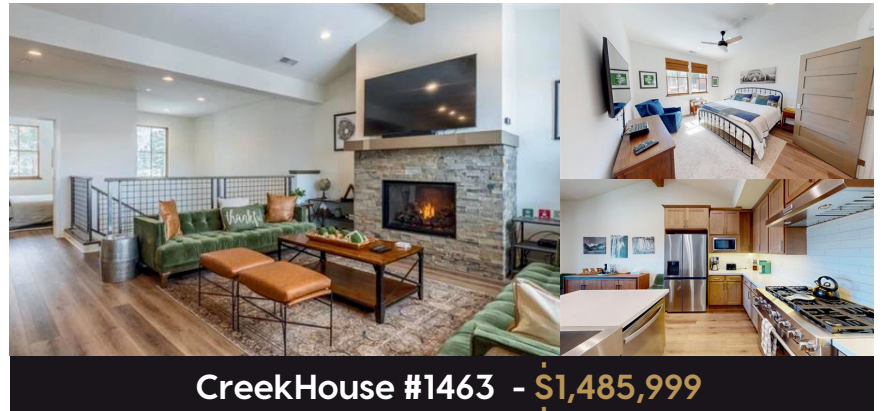


NEW!

4500 Lake Mary Rd. #24 - \$399,900

Rare opportunity in the secluded NFS Upper Falls Tract! Charming 2-bedroom, 1.5-bath cabin with expansive view decks, classic mountain character, custom furnishings, and unbeatable access to Twin Lakes, Horseshoe Lake, and Mammoth adventures.

NFS Cabin
BEDS: 2
BATHS: 1.5
SQFT: 1016



CreekHouse #1463 - \$1,485,999

Stunning view town home in the popular CreekHouse community! This home boasts modern construction complete with 2 large decks, a gourmet kitchen, open floorplan and more!! Move in before summer!

CONDO
BEDS: 3
BATHS: 2.5
SQ FT: 1696



1310 Timber Creek Rd - \$1,799,000

Mountain views and abundant natural light highlight this beautifully appointed, spacious CreekHouse retreat featuring soaring ceilings, wrap-around deck, gourmet kitchen, en-suite bathrooms, two-car garage, and proximity to amenities and bike path.

CONDO
BEDS: 3
BATHS: 3.5
SQFT: 2251



IN ESCROW!

Snowcreek V #745 - \$1,790,000

Rare Mammoth Lakes gem set on the Snowcreek Golf Course's 3rd green with sweeping views of Mammoth Rock and the Sherwin Mountains. 2260 Square feet featuring two levels, four bedrooms, three baths, and easy access to year-round recreation.

CONDO
BEDS: 4
BATHS: 3
SQFT: 2260



Snowcreek Fairway Homes #851 - \$757,000

Bright, single-level 2-bed, 2-bath condo in Snowcreek Fairway Homes Phase V. Sunny with mountain views, open layout, newer FAU and furnishings. Well-maintained. Great retreat or investment. Sold furnished.

CONDO
BEDS: 2
BATHS: 2
SQ FT: 1348



The Lodges #1105 - \$899,000

Beautiful single-level residence in The Lodges featuring warm wood floors, gourmet kitchen, and spacious great room. Large laundry/mudroom and single-car garage add convenience. Enjoy a peaceful deck with mountain views and soothing water feature. A MUST SEE!

CONDO
BEDS: 2
BATHS: 2.5
SQ FT: 1867



LISTING DETAILS! CA DRE #01812140

The Snowcreek Property Company
5 Fairway Drive, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546
(760) 934-3334
info@snowcreekproperty.com
www.snowcreekproperty.com



THE SNOWCREEK
PROPERTY COMPANY