

the sheet

News, Views & Culture of the Eastern Sierra



Sierra Classic Theatre's production of "King Lear" opened Wednesday. From left: Jamie Howard, Roger Rea, David Baron and Sam Taylor. See Lunch's review on p. 14

Saturday, August 8, 2026

FREE

Vol. 24, No. McHale

AIMING TO AGE GRACEFULLY

By Fisher

The Mono County Board of Supervisors has an aging problem. Don't worry, I'm not making a joke about the demographic of its members.

Rather, going into the FY 2026-27 budget discussions (for which they plan to ultimately approve a budget in September) on Tuesday, the board became overwhelmed at the number of projects on the docket falling under the category of "deferred maintenance."

Deferred maintenance is the practice of putting off necessary repairs, upkeep, or equipment replacements to a future date. Mono County's Budget Policy

states that any additional general purpose resources shall be split 35% toward this purpose.

This year, that split gives the county about \$731,866 for deferred maintenance projects, but staff identified roughly \$920,000 in suggested upgrades, meaning there will be, gasp, some projects deferred even longer.

Items on the docket include improving community centers, such as adding an HVAC system to the June Lake Community Center (\$50,000), upgrading windows at the Crowley Community Center (\$20,000), and repainting the Walker Community Center/

more SUPES, pg. 6

CHRIS BUBSER RESIGNS

By Fisher

Mammoth Lakes Town Councilmember Chris Bubser resigned from Town Council on July 28, leaving the council with a vacancy it must fill before the end of September.

"I am writing to inform you of my resignation from Council, effective immediately," Bubser wrote in her resignation letter. "Serving on the Council has been the honor of my lifetime. I am grateful to you, the staff, the other council members, commissioners, and the entire community for allowing me to serve our community."

Bubser's resignation came shortly after the Town of Mammoth Lakes selected her husband, David Baron, as its first Arts and Cultural Manager. In that capacity, he will oversee operations of the Mammoth Arts and Cultural Center (MACC), a \$20 million project currently under construction on College Parkway.

Town Attorney Andy Morris said Baron's appointment to this role created a financial conflict-of-interest, forcing her resignation. Bubser, however, has not publicly stated a reason for her departure and did not respond to The Sheet's request for comment.

Why Baron needs to fill the position now when the MACC is far from finished has also not been addressed.

Bubser was elected to the Mammoth Lakes Town Council in 2022 and served as mayor in 2025.

The Town Council discussed options for filling the vacancy during its Wednesday meeting, as Morris told the council that state law requires the vacancy to be filled within 60 days.

"The only qualifications for someone serving on the council by appointment is that they have to be registered to vote in Mammoth and be 18," Morris said.

The council cannot call a special election because the



required timeline does not align with the upcoming November election.

Because the November election is less than 114 days away, the council must appoint someone to serve the remainder of Bubser's term.

The council directed staff to publicize the vacancy and accept applications from interested residents.

The appointed councilmember will serve until candidates elected in the Nov. 3, 2026 election are sworn into office.

The deadline for candidates to file for the November election is next Wednesday.

Three seats are up. No incumbents are running. As of press time, candidates include Cory Rice (husband of current Councilmember Amanda Rice), Tarek Nuttall and Stacey Slichta.

CAUGHT AT EMERALD



Whitney Foehl of Truckee, Calif. took this shot a few weeks ago. She writes, "We had an excellent early morning swim at Skeleton Lake and looped around by Emerald, where I caught this fly fisherman. The crest above was stunning."

TAGGERS GET TAGGED

At 8:40 pm on August 3, Mammoth Lakes Police officers were dispatched to the area of Horseshoe Lake for a report of an alleged vandalism in progress.

Upon arrival, officers contacted a male and female subject in the parking lot; both subjects were from Los Angeles. A check of the area revealed significant spray paint or "tagging" damage to a historic cabin.

Following an investigation by responding officers, the two subjects were booked into the Mono County Jail under charges of felony vandalism.

They are:
Sarah Alexis Medrano, 23, of South Gate and ...
Axel Donovan Sanchez, 21, of La Puente

Yard Sale!

Give me Snaxx!

Cage Match

Condos go negative

Sign curve

p. 8/

p. 9/

p. 4/

p. 2/

p. 5/

BIPPITY BOPPITY BOO

One wonders if the clock has struck midnight for Mono County Library Director Joe Bopp.

After the publication of last week’s front page story, I was forwarded a story which appeared in the July 8 issue of the Central Oregon Daily News.

It had announced that Joe Bopp (pictured inset) was one of two finalists to become Director of the Deschutes Public Library system, and that Bopp and the other finalist Julie Sowles of Rancho Cucamonga had been present for a public forum on July 7 in Bend, Ore. At that forum, each candidate made a presentation and answered questions from the library board and general public.

The next day, the Deschutes library board, via Facebook, announced it was extending its search, so clearly, neither candidate sealed the deal.

Looks like Joe Bopp will be here awhile longer.

The following letter came in this week from Gary Nelson of Mono City:

A newly elected leader brings in a tech savvy boss. He starts getting rid of long time employees who basically ran things for decades, as well as serving as approachable liaisons to citizens. Sound familiar?

Well I guess DOGE must be contagious because the Mono County Office of Education (MCOE) seems to have a bad case of it. It is absolutely disgraceful the way some of the county’s finest citizens including a former Mayor, College Instructor, State Park Ranger, scientist, and National Park Superintendent have been treated by the current Mono County Libraries Director. Is he afraid of supervising people more knowledgeable than himself? Is this a “get away with it while you can” budget slash? Or does his tech background ominously herald the onset of AI controlled Librarobots?

Why Mono is the only County in the State where the Office of Education runs the Library system remains a question forever seeking a logical answer. The Libraries are overseen by the Library Authority Board i.e. the MCOE Board, and the Mono County Schools Superintendent which is an elected position. Thus, the MCOE Board cannot suspend, fire or remove her. Like many of her predecessors, the current Superintendent ran unopposed. This executive job security gives her broad powers, including hiring department heads with tyrannical supervisorial skills. Sound familiar?

I feel that the citizens of Mono County deserve a Libraries Director who can communicate rather than intimidate.

In other news ... Matthew Lehman’s August 1 real estate market report for Mammoth Lakes showed that the median price for condos has gone negative for the year (median sales price is down 1.5% year over year).

The median price for a single family home had been 80% higher at the beginning of the year. That has now fallen to a still impressive 39%.



the
sheet

News, Views & Culture of the Eastern Sierra

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

JACK LUNCH

PUBLISHER

In the aftermath of the Bluesapalooza weekend that wasn’t, Michael Raimondo of Old New York Deli called to ask what the economic impact was to town in not having the festival.

He said he was down 14% year-over-year for the four days. So I made a few calls.

Stacy Schaubmayer at the Alpenhof texted, “It’s the first weekend of this summer that we weren’t even close to booked out.”

Tom Cage at Klittredge Sports said he was down a modest 5-7% - likely due to not selling the last minute lawnchairs, water bottles, sunscreen, et al.

Sure seemed like a trend, and if I’d stopped there, it would’ve told a story.

But maybe not the right story.

Occupancy rates, according to Mammoth Lakes Tourism CEO Brian Wright, were about the same as last year.

And some businesses, like Burgers Restaurant, were way up. “We shoulda canceled Bluesapalooza a long time ago,” joked owner Ed Hurley.

The theory is that 5,000 patrons who’d normally be a captive audience at the Woodsite were now free for lunch and dinner.

Whereas there was no longer the same pressure to get in and out of the Deli and then to the Woodsite to secure a spot for your chair/blanket.

Finally ... At 10:36 a.m. on Saturday, Bishop Police Department investigated a bomb threat at 137 S Main Street, the Salvation Army. Bishop Police Chief Nate Derr later determined that there was no active threat to the public. A 23-year-old Bishop resident, Jonathan Kelley, was taken into custody and is facing pending charges related to the incident.

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If one has to take a tumble...

Dear Editor,

If one has to take a tumble, may I suggest that you do it in Lee Vining, Calif. I tried it out, on Sunday, July 26.

I tripped right in front of Latte Da Coffee shop, and smacked the sidewalk with my head. A guest, sitting in those nice red chairs, heard the sound of my hitting the ground and called 911.

Within about a minute, my County Supervisor, **Paul McFarland** was standing over me. Just happens that Paul, who must have plenty to do, was volunteering at the Lee Vining Fire Station on this sunny Sunday morning.

Within three minutes, a team of medics was kneeling all around.

One, a young Mr. Brad Beaver, asked, "Do you know your name? Do you know your year of birth?" An embarrassing 1937... making me rather grown up. They all helped mop me up (and later, the sidewalk, with a bucket of water). A nice young woman was taking notes.

If you need attention, try a fall in Lee Vining. The ride in the Ambulance, with **Mr. Kyle Rose** at the wheel, is a really fun way to go straight into emergency at Mammoth Hospital. **Aaron Rowley** was with me every mile of the trip, taking vitals and using gauze ...

the worst blood flow comes from the head, I learn.

Have you, dear editor and visitor (all local residents must know this already) ever been to any other hospital's emergency room in the USA?

Well, in Mammoth you enter a calm quiet emergency room, everyone busy at computers, and go right into a peaceful curtained area with a nice bed and pillow. Sort of like a 4 Seasons Resort.

You are greeted by gentlemen nurses **Paul and Forrest** (the latter looks 18, but assures me he is 30). I kid you not. More vitals, and lots of removing grit from my head.

Doctor **David Bassler** sews me up ... eight stitches. "Good as new," he tells me, with a smile. Two days later I have a "wound" appointment , and five days later **Lana** takes the stitches out... really better than new.

My family has owned cabin in June Lake for almost 50 years, every one of our kids has been to Mammoth Hospital Emergency, so it was definitely my turn, and I had the best care ever.

The help I received in Lee Vining was kind, thoughtful and professional. I highly recommend an accident in Lee Vining to all your readers, well, only if you happen to have one!

Jil Stark
June Lake

CAGE MATCH



PHOTO: Martha Buckley

On July 25th at Twin Lakes Chapel officiated by the Honorable Judge Stan Eller, Rebecca Cage married Matt Sanders. The reception was held in the Knolls in Kathy and Tom Cage's backyard with a live band, great food (Latin Market), beautiful flowers (Red Lily) and 10 specialty cakes made by LeaAnn Eller and Julie Thompson. Specialty cocktails were created by Noah Dach (Local Mixologist) and Erik Muntean (of the Tavern). Green Fox handled coordination and Mammoth Mountain and Eastern Sierra Transit provided transportation. A fun time was had by all with friends and family from across the country in attendance. Al & Eileen Sanders and Tom & Kathy Cage were thrilled with the support of friends and family for making this all happen on a perfect Mammoth Day.

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**FACILITIES OPERATED IN PARTNERSHIP
WITH INYO NATIONAL FOREST**
Events subject to change.

LOCAL NEWS

THE LONG GOODBYE TO POLE SIGNS

By Fisher

On Wednesday, Mammoth's four remaining Town Councilmembers weighed how to handle six remaining nonconforming pole signs.

A pole sign is a tall, freestanding outdoor sign elevated high in the air by one or more visible metal poles, like you might see in front of a McDonald's.

The effort to remove pole signs dates back nearly 40 years, when the town began regulating signs as part of its broader effort to beautify Mammoth. Early town ordinances attempted to phase out nonconforming signs, but deadlines were repeatedly extended.

In 2011, the town revisited the issue during a comprehensive sign code update.

After extensive discussion of options including attrition, amortization and compensation for sign removal, the town adopted a 15-year amortization period for existing nonconforming signs.

That period ended in July 2026, giving the town legal authority to begin the abatement process.

Today, the remaining non-compliant pole signs belong to Mammoth Liquor, Shell Gas Station, Schat's Bakery, Motel 6, Spa Creations (formerly Mammoth Properties) and Holiday Haus.

Two of the signs may qualify for a waiver if they meet criteria for "special topographic circumstances," where a conforming sign would impair visibility or the business's ability to communicate with customers.

In public comment, the owner of the Shellmart, Ken Sample, made a plea to keep his sign intact.

"The biggest problem that people that work with corporations like Shell have, is that mothership Shell has its opinion of what they think is wonderful, and the Town of Mammoth Lakes has what it thinks is wonderful," he said. "Sometimes it creates a giant headache for the person who has to engage with both parties and make them happy."

The council broadly showed little interest in immediately forcing removal.

Instead, they directed staff to meet with affected businesses to explore voluntary compliance, potential exceptions for businesses where visibility challenges exist, and whether existing signs should be allowed to remain.

So, for the time being, you won't see any cranes taking down those signs.

Town Hires Consultant to Analyze Mammoth Crossing

Also on Wednesday, the council authorized a professional services agreement with Kosmont Companies to provide financial advisory services related to the proposed Mammoth Crossing project and a potential tax-sharing agreement with the developer.

A tax-sharing agreement works by allowing a developer to retain a portion of tax revenue, typically Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT), over a set period of time to offset a project's financing gap (see April 4, 2026 issue for further explanation).

But the town hasn't agreed to that yet.

The hiring of the consultant is an information-gathering step and does not commit the town to approving the project or entering into a development agreement.

The consultant will work with the developer's financial team to evaluate the project's "feasibility gap," which is the difference between the project's projected value and the cost required to make it financially viable, and establish a baseline for any future negotiations.

Council directed staff to work with the

consultant to ensure the scope of work addresses council's requested analysis and approved the agreement with Kosmont Company.

The developer is required to fully reimburse the town for the consultant's work.

Another Raise!

Lastly, the council unanimously approved a future salary increase that will raise councilmember compensation from \$1,131.90 to \$1,245.09 per month, amounting to an extra \$1358.28 per year.

Law prevents the council from raising Town Council salaries more than 5% each year. This specific raise covers the past two years.

In order for the salary increase to take effect, there has to have been a new election, and new council members have to be seated. The increase will not apply to current council members and cannot take effect until after the November 2026 election and the seating of the new council.

The raise was approved without discussion.



Sierra STEM Days

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8:00pm Event wraps up

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FOOD TRUCKS

LOCAL VENDORS

LOCAL BREWERIES

LIVE MUSIC

RECZONE ENTRY

Photos: Mammoth Lakes Tourism
Samantha Lindberg & Kim Espinosa

SUPES
continued from page 1

Senior Center (\$85,000).

But with those priorities at hand, the board was split over whether upgrading aging facilities is the best long-term investment at all.

The June Lake Community Center has never had air conditioning, for example. "If we haven't had it so far, is that the consensus of the world that we need it?" Supervisor Lynda Salcido said.

Staff said the question is both about comfort and about how community facilities are used today.

"It becomes over 85 degrees there when meetings are happening," Finance Director Stephanie Trujillo said. "It can't be used as a cooling place if it's not cooling."

The supervisors generally agreed that the role of community centers has expanded, particularly as extreme weather, power outages and wildfires become more frequent. The facilities could serve as cooling and heating centers during outages, as well as emergency shelters during wildfire events.

"And I think that's the goal, that these are becoming heating and cooling centers when there are so many power outages there," Trujillo said.

Supervisor Paul McFarland added that upgraded HVAC systems with air filtration could improve the county's ability to use the facilities during wildfire smoke events.

The county is looking into grant opportunities, including potential funding for community resilience centers, to help pay for improvements, Trujillo said.

But most of the board acknowledged that creating consistent standards across all county facilities will require a broader plan.

"This is a great opportunity to say, what are all the things that are expectations in our community centers, or our road shops, or those different things?" Trujillo said. "So that we can say, okay, well, the expectation is that you're going to have air conditioning."

McFarland said that the list at hand was not exhaustive.

"I think many of us know individual projects that could be added to this, because they may be deferred maintenance, but they may not be classified as that internally," he said.

But Supervisor John Peters questioned whether repairing aging facilities is even worth it.

"I mean, we're spending hundreds of thousands of dollars to 30-, 40-, 50-, 60-year-old facilities that are, in some cases, falling apart," Peters said. "At what point, for the community's needs, are these community centers becoming obsolete?"

He also questioned a \$500,000 proposal for restroom and ramp renovations at Bridgeport Marina, which would account for nearly half of the deferred maintenance funding under discussion.

"I mean, some people wouldn't drive on it with their boat, because it's not a road anymore," Peters said of the access road. "I don't know where that number came from and how that got prioritized onto this list."

Staff clarified that the list was not final and was intended as a starting point for board discussion.

Will the Loop be duped?

The deferred issue of childcare also surfaced during Tuesday's budget discussions when the Little Loopers, a June Lake-based nonprofit, asked the Board of Supervisors for \$15,000 to help secure housing for a prospective in-home childcare provider.

The request came as northern Mono communities continue to struggle with limited (or no) childcare options. But rather than focusing solely on the proposal, supervisors questioned whether it could be viable countywide.

"I think there was some staff concern that this was kind of a one shot in one community," Supervisor Jennifer Kreitz said. "There are needs for this throughout the county, and we should consider more of a broader policy analysis"

She also brought up the role of the Mono County Childcare Council, which already provides licensing assistance, counseling and support for in-home daycare providers.

"I would like to be able to offer this level of care to anyone who came forward wanting to do this," Lynda Salcido said. "But it's kind of a lack of policy."

Loopers President Kirstie Butler told supervisors the nonprofit was created by local working parents who wanted to address a childcare shortage in June Lake. Seven residents originally formed the nonprofit and helped establish a daycare program nearly a decade ago. The organization has since expanded to nine board members.

Butler said the nonprofit previously covered a childcare provider's rent for a full year to help launch the program, but rising housing costs have made that increasingly difficult.

"We're not afraid to say we don't have that capacity in this day and age, with rental and housing prices," she said.

The Loopers have already committed \$12,000 of their own funds toward supporting a new provider, including \$1,000 monthly payments during the first year and a three-year agreement designed to help the provider become established.

The prospective provider hopes to operate a larger in-home daycare and eventually hire an additional staff member.

Currently, June Lake's existing childcare provider can serve up to eight children, or six if caring for children under age two. The proposed expansion would increase capacity.

Butler said the organization's mission extends beyond June Lake and that it is open to supporting childcare solutions in other northern Mono County communities if opportunities arise.

Supervisors praised the group's initiative and suggested the Loopers could serve as a model for other communities.

"I'm in support of the idea," Supervisor Rhonda Duggan said. "Find ways to connect this back and offer this beyond this one community — on a countywide basis."

Lunch takeaway: It appears Supervisors are not inclined to fund the request, punishing an organized and motivated community group.



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Mammoth Community Water District

Level 0

2026 WATERING SCHEDULE

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EVEN Address							
ODD Address							

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JUNE

- 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
- 30 TRASHY THURSDAYS
- 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
- 27 TRASHY THURSDAYS
- 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
- 24 TRASHY THURSDAYS
- 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
- 12 NIGHT OF LIGHTS



SCAN HERE for more details & events
or go to [VISITMAMMOTH.COM/EVENTS](https://www.visitmammoth.com/events)

*ALL EVENTS SUBJECT TO CHANGE AND/OR CANCELLATION



A YEAR-ROUND YARD SALE

Schwartz opens new boutique in Mammoth

By Lunch

For those of you who don't mind a bit of a treasure hunt, plug Yard Sale Boutique into your Google maps and trek over to Mammoth's newest (and at this point only) women's boutique.

It is located at the corner of Sierra Manor and Sierra Nevada Rds., a stone's throw from Roberto's and perhaps a few hundred yards from Vons.

The proprietor is Stephanie Schwartz, who owned Isla boutique in Laguna Beach for eight years before running across the ubiquitous Shields Richardson on the beach at Emerald Bay. They got to talking, he mentioned he had a rental in Mammoth, and the next thing you know, he had a renter as well.

Schwartz has been here ever since.

At first, she had a remote corporate job, but the itch to return to running her own business has proven too strong.

It's a cute little spot - just 250-square feet (Schwartz keeps the bulk of her inventory at home), and carries apparel, jewelry, hats ... Schwartz holds up a small bottle of EarthTonics, a skin care product out of Santa Ynez. "No one else is going to carry this," she says.

She also carries the same denim (Flying Monkey) that Tonik used to carry.

Schwartz then told me her shop has "approachable pricing."

Lunch: What does that mean?

Schwartz: You can afford it.

She's open 11 a.m. 'til 5:30 p.m. six days a week (closed Wednesdays).

The schedule is designed to allow for



her morning snowboard obsession this winter. Schwartz is a solo act, save help from one part-time employee, Jocelyn Campos.

Her clientele ranges in age from teens

to seniors.

If you can't get to the shop, you can find her on Instagram @yardsalemammoth where she displays product and if you'd like to order something, you can simply DM her with a size.

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WHO WILL SAVE YOUR SOL?

Jewel of a shop opens in Mammoth
By Fisher



From L-R, Leslie Maldonado, Chexy Maldonado (Leslie's daughter), and Claire Petrovich

If you've felt your energy has been misaligned lately or can't quite pinpoint why the stars don't seem to be in your favor, The Sacred Sol might be where you find those answers. It's one of those spots where incense fills the air and everyone speaks in calm voices. Every day, owner Claire Petrovich said, they "cleanse the energy of the space." Petrovich and her business partner, Leslie Maldonado, opened The Sacred Sol about a month ago after years of pursuing spirituality, wellness and creative work.

Maldonado, who was raised in Mammoth, had long wanted to open a crystal shop in town. She became a Reiki master, certified sound bath practitioner and has practiced energy work for about six years. She also has experience making jewelry and previously operated a crystal resale business. The two met less than a year ago after Petrovich attended an energy work session with Maldonado at SoHo House, a private social club in Los Angeles. Petrovich has a background in business, including beauty merchandising and marketing, brand development, makeup artistry, OSHA and labor law. She said spirituality has always been part of her life, but a two-week yoga retreat in Thailand last October helped her reconnect with what she was passionate about. Around that time, she began receiving energy work sessions from Maldonado while working

through personal challenges. During one session, Petrovich said she told Maldonado she wasn't sure what she wanted to do with her life, and that conversation eventually led the pair to open The Sacred Sol. The store offers jewelry and crystals, ranging in price from \$5 palm stones to \$10,000 crystal slabs. The store's goal is to be more than a retail shop by creating a community gathering space. The store offers Reiki, tarot and oracle readings, breathwork, meditation, sound baths, DIY jewelry classes and other wellness events. "I don't really care if people buy anything," Petrovich said. "I just want it to be somewhere where they feel safe." The store's event space officially launched Wednesday with its first sound bath. The pair are also planning four-day women's retreats beginning in November focused on inner-child and shadow work. They hope the space can provide local practitioners with a place to host events and sessions without the cost of maintaining their own offices. The Sacred Sol is located at 6201 Minaret Rd #206 at The Village at Mammoth and open daily from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

THE SNAXX SISTERS

By Fisher

For years, Mammoth residents looking for Mexican snacks like tostilocos, chicharrones, corn cups and aguas frescas had to make the drive to Bishop. Sisters Kathy and Joanna Medina wanted to change that. The sisters, both born and raised in Mammoth, opened Frezita Snaxx after spending last summer as weekend pop-up vendors at Village events.

After hearing repeated requests from customers for a permanent location, they decided to turn the side business into a storefront. "We kept hearing, 'When are you guys going to open a shop?'" Kathy said. The sisters began looking for a location in November, and eventually chose a space in the Mammoth Mall. The business started as a passion project, with Kathy initially planning to run it herself before inviting Joanna to become a co-owner. When they opened the storefront, Kathy left her job as a patient access representative at Mammoth Hospital to run Frezita Snaxx full-time, and Joanna continues working in reservations while handling payroll, emails and other administrative responsibilities. The shop's menu combines traditional Mexican snacks with viral food trends popularized through social media, like Buldak ramen and Dubai chocolate strawberries. Kathy, who is 23, keeps an eye on

emerging food trends, while Joanna, 31, focuses on keeping the business organized behind the scenes. "We just want to keep growing and giving Mammoth something new," Kathy said. Frezita Snaxx is located at 126 Old Mammoth Road and open Tuesday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.



Joanna (left) and Kathy Medina (right)

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

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WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S

KING LEAR

directed by Aurora Locria

Sierra Classic Theatre

POWERED BY MLR

Aug 5th-16th | OUTDOORS AT EAGLE LODGE

WEDNESDAYS-SUNDAYS @ 7PM | PRE-SHOW INTRO @ 6PM

\$20 suggested donation/ VIP \$45

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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. 12*
Outlaw Saloon Happy Hour Monday through Friday from 4-6 p.m. *More info: See ad p. 2*
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
Whitebark @ The Westin. Half-off lounge menu and drinks daily from 4-6 p.m. and 9-close.
Mountainside Bar and Grill (Mammoth Mtn. Inn) happy hour daily 4-6 p.m. and 9 p.m. to close. *See ad p. 15*

Friday, August 7/
Kickoff of Tropical August nights @ Wanaaha Casino in Bishop. Every Friday night in August features live DJ, food & drink specials, and don tropical attire for \$10 in free play.
Bob Snow plays the Bishop Country Club patio party. Time: Happy hour. Start your weekend right!

August 7-8/
Mammoth Margarita Festival @ the Village at Mammoth.

Saturday, August 8/
Woolly's After Hours takes place every Saturday from 4-6 p.m. at Woolly's Adventure Summit. Save on activities, enjoy live music and food & drink specials. *More info: See ad p. 4*

Sunday, August 9/
Live music Sundays @ Cardinal Village (Aspendell). Time: 12-3 p.m. This week: Hay Blackbird

August 9-10/
Deltaphonic (Internationally touring southern swamp rock) plays Liberty in Mammoth - note Sunday/Monday dates. Time: Starts ~ 9:30 p.m. No cover.

Monday, August 10/
Open mic Mondays @ Distant Brewing (568 Old Mammoth Rd.) Time: 6-9 p.m.

Wednesday, August 12/
Elizabeth Petra plays locals' night @ the Mountain Rambler Brewery in Bishop. Starts 7 p.m.

August 14-15/
Mammoth Wine Weekend, highlighted by the Village wine walk on the 15th. More info/tix: www.mammothwineweekend.com

TOWN STUFF

August 7-9/
Sierra Classic Theatre's summer Shakespeare production of "King Lear" opens and runs through August 16. Wednesday-Sunday. Showtime at 7 p.m. Suggested donation. *See ad p. 9.*

Saturday, August 8/
Mono Lake Committee guided canoe tours. \$. Time: 8-9 a.m. Visit monolake.org to reserve your spot.
June Lake Fire Department annual BBQ @ Gull Lake Park. *More info: See ad p. 2*
Bodie Fest @ Bodie State Park just south of Bridgeport off Hwy. 395. Tours, vendors, food, live music. Event is free but day-use fee at gate still required. Time: 9-6.
Hobo Day and Train Rides @ Laws Museum (just east of Bishop on Hwy. 6). Dress in your finest hobo duds and receive a souvenir wooden nickel, and ride the historic Death Valley railcar. Marimba music at the Laws Library and Art Center at 1 pm. Come early. Once it hits the triple digits, the Brill Car returns to the Engine House.

Tuesday, August 11/
Inyo County Supervisors meet. Public session starts 10 a.m. Location: Board Chambers, 224 No. Edwards in Independence, or online via inyocounty.us.
Long Valley RPAC special meeting to discuss state law alignment re ADUs. Time: 6:30 p.m. Location: Crowley Lake Community Center.

TOWN STUFF

Tuesday, August 11 (cont.)/
Mono County Supervisors meet. Time: 9 a.m. Location: Board chambers @ Bridgeport courthouse or online via monocounty.ca.gov

Wednesday, August 12/
Inyo County Supervisors special meeting to discuss the '26-'27 budget. Time: 8:30 a.m. Location: Board Chambers, 224 No. Edwards in Independence, or online via inyocounty.us.
Sierra Classic Theatre's summer Shakespeare production of "King Lear" continues and runs through August 16. Wednesday-Sunday. Showtime at 7 p.m. Suggested donation. *See review p. 14*
Mammoth Market at Outbound Mammoth (164 Old Mammoth Road). Time: 4-7. Local farmers, ranchers and makers.

Thursday, August 13/
Sierra Summer Nights @ Mammoth Creek Park. Time: 4-8 p.m. Fun, free community event featuring live music by The Felt Cutouts, free play in the RecZone and more. **There will also be Distant Beer! (but you do have to pay for that).* *Info: See ad p. 5*
Farm to Table Market @ the Methodist Church (205 N. Fowler) in Bishop. Time: 4-7 p.m. Live music, demos, workshops, more.

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Monday-Thursday, 11am-2pm

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Lunch Specials!



Happy Hour Specials!

HAPPY HOUR

Monday - Friday
3-6 PM

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



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- Housekeeper
- Environmental Services Tech
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Mammoth Hospital offers; success sharing incentives program; staff development program; generous retirement match and PTO Accrual.

For questions, please email hr@mammoth.org. To view more positions and apply, pls.visit www.mammothhospital.org/jobs



Behind every great community is a great team! The Mammoth Lakes Chamber of Commerce is looking for an Operations Assistant to help keep the Chamber running smoothly while supporting our local business community. Position is year-round, part time (20 hours/week) and in-office. Details can be found on the Chamber's website: mlchamber.org. Send resume and cover letter to Brianna Goico at bgoico@mlchamber.org.



H.E.A.R.T.S Connection Family Resource specialists in Inyo & Mono Counties is hiring!

- *PT - 25 hrs./week
- *Hybrid work environment
- *Providing support & resources to families who have children in Special Ed.
- *Bilingual a plus
- *Must live in Inyo/Mono

Contact Ann Bason @ 661.531.3498/Ann.Bason@heartsrc.org

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

Hilton Creek Community Services District in Crowley Lake seeks a **PT Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator I, II or III.** Salary \$65,000-\$85,000 negotiable, based on experience. For more information visit <https://www.hiltoncreekcsd.com/employment>, email info@hiltoncreekcsd.com or call (760) 965-9696

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.

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

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

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



MAMMOTH COMMUNITY WATER DISTRICT'S Finance Department is currently recruiting for one permanent Principal Finance Analyst position.

FOR APPLICATION INFORMATION/TO APPLY: Please see the District website at <https://mcwd.dst.ca.us/employment/>.



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Todos los domingos a las 4:00 p. m. Conéctate por Zoom y en vivo en Mammoth Sierra Wellness Center, 181 Sierra Manor Rd.



Mammoth talk to a member (760) 914-4327

Meetings and information



Bishop talk to a member (760) 873-6700

Bishop meetings and information



aa-intergrup.org find a meeting 24hrs a day any Language.

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

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

HARTLEY

DO YOU KNOW CUJO?

NFL training camps are in progress. Here is a crib sheet for all the news you'll hear ...

1. _____ will be ready week 1 despite tearing his achilles last week. His recovery is way ahead of schedule and the team is encouraged by his hard work.

2. _____ is tearing up training camp and looks like he will be a league star despite not being drafted and being a 145-pound linebacker who runs a 4.9 forty. The way he is shining while they are in shorts and t-shirts is amazing. They found a diamond in the rough. UNTIL THEY PUT ON PADS AND THE BIG, FAST ATHLETES POUND HIS LITTLE ASS.

3. _____ said he is blown away by the talent on his team. He thinks they have the best offense in the league hands down ... we are Super Bowl caliber. Forget that we were 3-14 last year. This is a quote from a backup player on a lousy offense that just trashed a more lousy defense in practice.

4. _____ believes he is the best (insert position here) in the league ... he just needed 6 years and 4 different teams cutting him to be able to prove it. This is his year.

5. (Insert overpaid NFL insider here) "believes" the team and _____ are on a collision course for the franchise tag next year. He doesn't "believe" the team and _____ will reach an agreement on a long term contract with only one month left. News Update six hours later. (Insert the same overpaid NFL insider here) is the first to report that the team and _____ have in fact reached an agreement as he thought they would. _____ was just too valuable to the team and important to their success to not settle on a deal. It was a no-brainer.

searching NFL metrics and which WR produced the most yards of separation per route run and the most Fantasy Points over expected ... I don't even know what that means but it must mean something. Then I get all these recommendations for podcasts from Hayden and Cletus of their FantasyPhenom podcast. Cletus is doing his part from his kayak fishing in the Chattahoochee River and Hayden is skinning a deer. Hilarious.

Michael Penix, the black oft-injured left-handed QB of the Atlanta Falcons cannot practice in training camp due to injury recovery. Tua, the black-looking Samoan, left-handed oft-injured QB of the Atlanta Falcons is not able to practice in training camp due to injury. Lesson: The best way to protect yourself from having a hurt QB is to sign another perennially hurt QB to back him up. How could that go wrong? Let me see. How about I was married to a complete bitch, just a pain in the ass and I knew it when we met but the sex was tremendous. Guess what, I am dating her identical twin sister now. That should work out.

New York Giant RB Cam Skattebo (Skattebum) is recovering from a very bad leg injury and his rehab includes ... doing backflips. This guy is a buffoon.

more HARTLEY, pg. 13

PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice of Vacancy

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Tuesday, September 22, 2026, beginning at 12:00 p.m., at Fire Station 1, 3150 Main Street, Mammoth Lakes, the Mammoth Lakes Fire Protection District Board of Commissioners will hold a public hearing on proposed Ordinance 2026-02: Establishing a schedule of fees for recovery of costs for services provided and repealing MLFPD Ordinance 2026-01. The fee schedule includes: fees for plan checks, occupancy inspections, emergency medical services, and apparatus and personnel reimbursement.

A copy of the proposed ordinance and supporting data are currently available to the public at Fire Station 1, 3150 Main Street, Mammoth Lakes, Monday through Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Any person who has an interest in the proposed ordinance may appear before the Board at the September 22nd meeting and be heard.

TS #2026-0100

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

The Lodge at North Village

Mammoth Hospitality Management LLC
10001 Minaret Rd.
P.O. Box 24
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

This business is conducted by a limited liability company. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein in 1980. This statement was filed with the Mono County Clerk on June 24, 2026

File Number 2026-0071
TS #2026-0097
(8/1, 8/8, 8/15, 8/22)

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

North Village Hotel

Mammoth Hospitality Management LLC
10001 Minaret Rd.
P.O. Box 24
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

This business is conducted by a limited liability company. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein in 1980. This statement was filed with the Mono County Clerk on June 24, 2026

File Number 2026-0072
TS #2026-0095
(8/1, 8/8, 8/15, 8/22)

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

Mammoth Luxury Home Rentals

Mammoth Hospitality Management LLC
10001 Minaret Rd.
P.O. Box 24
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

This business is conducted by a limited liability company. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein in 1980. This statement was filed with the Mono County Clerk on June 24, 2026

File Number 2026-0072
TS #2026-0094
(8/1, 8/8, 8/15, 8/22)

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

Navia Electric Inc.

Navia Electric Inc. – Ivan Avalos
1407 Rocking W Dr., Bishop, CA
P.O. Box 8146
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

This business is conducted by a corporation. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein on March 3, 2022. This statement was filed with the Mono County Clerk on June 26, 2026

File Number 2026-0077
TS #2026-0101
(8/8, 8/15, 8/22, 8/29)

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

The Hotel at North Village

Mammoth Hospitality Management LLC
10001 Minaret Rd.
P.O. Box 24
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

This business is conducted by a limited liability company. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein in 1980. This statement was filed with the Mono County Clerk on June 24, 2026

File Number 2026-0073
TS #2026-0099
(8/1, 8/8, 8/15, 8/22)

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

North Village Hotel & Resort

Mammoth Hospitality Management LLC
10001 Minaret Rd.
P.O. Box 24
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

This business is conducted by a limited liability company. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein in 1980. This statement was filed with the Mono County Clerk on June 24, 2026

File Number 2026-0073
TS #2026-0098
(8/1, 8/8, 8/15, 8/22)

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

North Village Inn

Mammoth Hospitality Management LLC
10001 Minaret Rd.
P.O. Box 24
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

This business is conducted by a limited liability company. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein in 1980. This statement was filed with the Mono County Clerk on June 24, 2026

File Number 2026-0071
TS #2026-0096
(8/1, 8/8, 8/15, 8/22)

Liberty Sports
BAR
& GRILL
FREE LIVE MUSIC
9:30PM

8 / 1

BLACK MARKET '11

Internationally Touring Raw Blues

8 / 2 SUNDAY COMEDY 7pm

CASEY SKINNER

Seen on Netflix, Discovery, & HBO MAX

SUNDAY 8/9 & MONDAY 8/10

DELTA PHONIC

Internationally Touring Southern Swamp Rock

8 / 14 & 8 / 15

SHAKEY FEELING

Soaring Jam Band Grooves

ROAD TO JAMFEST

8 / 21 & 8 / 22

RENEGADES OF RAGE

Epic Rage Against The Machine Tribute

8 / 28 & 8 / 29

COLD WITHOUT PANTS

The West's Favorite Party Band!

liberty_sports_bar_and_grill

MAIN STREET PIZZERIA

MONSTER

Red Bull

HARTLEY

continued from page 12

Guys like this don't last. Acting like an aging Frat Boy who keeps showing up at football weekend tailgates will be his legacy. The best part is how smug he was before doing the backflip and the twist of the cap and all to get ready. Then that idiotic look on his face and the embarrassed response to yell WHOOOOOO while flexing. Complete jackass. But it doesn't faze him. According to Skattebooboo, "It ain't gonna change who I am," Skattebo said. "I had an injury, you know, it is what it is. I've still got plenty of football left, plenty of life left, I'm not going to let this little ankle thing bother me. I'm going to get back [to] running people over like you see on the videos. It's going to be normal Cam Skattebo from here on out."

Oh, he wasn't done.
He also said: 'I'm just going to keep being me, and if they want to say I'm brain-dead, and I don't have no brain, then who cares, f— it,' he said on a panel at Fanatics Fest.
F it indeed.

Ryan Clark got fired from ESPN, as Disney continues to purge talent after buying the NFL Network. I guess I shouldn't say TALENT when talking about Ryan Clark's analysis of anything football. He has a high football IQ. Those seem to be his only IQ points however. He is one of the worst on TV. He started off well, but I am shocked he lasted this long. He said this recently about Robert Griffin III:

"If you're RG3, when is the last time within your household you've had a conversation about what [Angel Reese, outspoken, black WNBA player] is dealing with? You haven't been able to do that because in both of your marriages, you've been married to white women."

"When I worked with RG3, he would make all of these sort of corny jokes about milk and how much he loved it and how important it was. And he always points out on social media the color of his wife's white skin. As if the color of her skin is what makes her special. As if the color of her skin is what makes her a good wife."

Classless. Just trying to create clickbait. He should have been fired long ago. But Clark left in the humble, graceful manner in which he went about his job saying of himself: "A company [ESPN, aka Disney] which is going to have the Super Bowl this year, which truly wants to put their best foot forward to the entire world and have the best people talking about football, wouldn't fire, in my opinion, this is my opinion, and it seems to be the opinion of many others, the best football analyst in the world."

Time for some STUPID people stuff. The stuff that makes me laugh and makes me glad my kids didn't turn out like some of the dregs of society.

First story is about an old jackass who gets stranded on an island and uses a flare to signal for help. The flare starts a fire. He then he carves out a gi-

ant SOS in the charred land. So he was attempting to get rescued and nearly killed himself instead before settling on f'ing up the ecology on an island. Well done. I hope he gets charged with a lot of stuff.

But there's more. This wasn't his first rescue of the month. For this one, his boat ran aground on the island. A week earlier, the same moron wrecked his boat and had to be rescued from another island.

This jackass should be fined for all the time and effort that was wasted to save him TWICE and for the damage he did.

It does make you wonder why obtaining a driver's license is relatively stringent compared to a boating license, which apparently only requires a cooler-full of Pabst Blue Ribbon and White Claws. Go get 'em Cletus.

Other stupid people. People with dogs who:

1. Take their dogs to markets, festivals, beaches when it's 100 degrees outside. The pavement and sand are hot as hell. The people are wearing shoes and carrying water bottles but their dogs don't have shoes or water. And they are telling the dog to be still because he is tapping his toes and wiggling around - at least at first, because he had hot paws. Give it a few hours. No more tapping. Doggy heat stroke. Dumbasses.
2. Put dogs in strollers. They have four legs. If they are able to walk, they should walk. What is wrong with you

people?
3. Bring dogs to public places when they know their dogs are not friendly. Then they say to their dog after they go after another dog or bark at someone ... You need to stop doing that! Bad dog! Here's a thought. Keep Cujo at home. Some of you are too young to remember or know Cujo. You can look him up. He was the original Bad Motherf'ing dog ... before the iconic rise of the Pit Bull. Poor Pit Bulls, that breed has been ruined by morons with little man syndrome and low self esteem. Add those jackasses to the list.

4. On a side note, with all the dog protection and coddling, how long will it be before there is a seatbelt law for dogs? Or dogs can't be put on a leash in the back of the truck and left unattended when the length of the leash would allow the dog to jump out and hang himself? Hmm. Chew on that one for awhile. I knew a kid in high school who had a dog and they put it on a leash in the backyard. Problem was the leash was just the right length so that the dog, when it managed to climb or jump over the fence, was stuck hanging. So sad. Actually died.

Harold E. Hartley Jr., who served for eight years on U.S. Naval nuclear submarine, lives in Charleston, South Carolina.



Matthew Lehman
REAL ESTATE



ROCKSPRING
MAMMOTH LAKES



SNOWCREEK
RESORT



Alpenhof
Lodge



CatBev



AUGUST 21ST 22ND

MAMMOTH ROCKS

CLASSIC ROCK MUSIC FESTIVAL

FRIDAY The Village SATURDAY

8:00pm
PRINCE AGAIN
A TRIBUTE TO PRINCE

5:30pm
BOYS OF SUMMER
EAGLES TRIBUTE

4:00pm
ELIZABETH PETRA


@MAMMOTH.ROCKS

6201 Minaret Rd.
MAMMOTH LAKES
CALIFORNIA

8:00pm
RAGDOLLS
AEROSMITH TRIBUTE

6:00pm
80's DAZE
THE HIT DANCE CRAZE

4:00pm
CATCH A WAVE
BEACH BOYS TRIBUTE



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THEATER

SCT PRODUCTION OF "KING LEAR" OPENS AT EAGLE

By Lunch

The Sierra Classic Theatre (SCT) summer Shakespeare production of "King Lear" opened on the slope at the backside of Eagle Lodge on Wednesday.

The production comes on the heels of the untimely death of David Page, husband of SCT's Artistic/Executive/Managing Director Allison McDonell Page, so there is a palpable sense of cast and crew wishing to "win one for The Gipper" in her absence.

And certainly, in the best spirit of community theater, the cast gamely leans into this dark Shakespearean tragedy, where virtually everyone dies, often bloodily (but to pretty damn good special effect).

In particular, Skyler Kenny (Edgar), Amanda Smith (Edmund) and David Baron as Lear stand out. Kenny was absolutely committed in every sense. The best I've seen him.

Page, the producer of the show, had been slated to play Goneril, Lear's eldest daughter, prior to her husband's death in a car accident on July 7.

Associate Producers Susan Dalian and Kenny have stepped into the production breach in Page's absence. And the show's director, Aurora Locria, took over the role of Goneril.

In brief (and it never hurts with Shake-



Back, from left: Howard, Rea, Vanderhurst, Miller, Baron, Locria and Needham. Kneeling is Bassler and Kaysa

speare to read a plot synopsis beforehand), an aging king decides to divide his realm amongst his three daughters.

He banishes the honest one (Cordelia) and embraces the two sycophants (Regan and Goneril), who then betray him, driving him literally crazy.

On a parallel track, there's the Earl of Gloucester's illegitimate son Edmund, who schemes, schmoozes and seduces his way into Regan AND Goneril's good graces.

And then there's Cordelia, who marries the King of France, and then attempts to rescue her father as war is

waged between England and France.

**This is important because the second act starts with warfare and in the moment, I was baffled as to why - this is the tough part about editing a four-hour play down to two.*

Quite honestly, it's tough to follow. It's Shakespeare. That's a given.

I hesitate to criticize too much because productions evolve and grow over the course of their runs.

That said, a weakness of this production (as of the final dress rehearsal) is the sound. As in, there's too much of it. An

overproduction. I don't need the sound to cue me at every turn. What I need is to be able to hear the actors, because it's tough enough to follow as it is.

Also ... it has been and is still called "Shakespeare in the Woods" for a reason. Because I want to occasionally space out and listen to the wind in the trees

In my notes is written, "They absolutely need to remove the constant low rumble from the speakers - I have no idea what it's supposed to represent."

Another weakness (which I acknowledge will likely ebb in time as the actors become more comfortable) is in volume. As in, the actors defaulting to raising their voices to display anger versus conveying their emotions in subtler ways.

There was one point in the first act where Lear warns, "Do not make me mad!" And I thought to myself, make you mad? You've been mad the whole damn time! By intermission, I was wondering how the hell Baron (as Lear) would garner any sympathy from me, but his portrayal was far more nuanced and vulnerable in the second act. You root for him in the end. As you root for the entire cast. These are your friends and neighbors laying it out for you. Definitely worth an evening.

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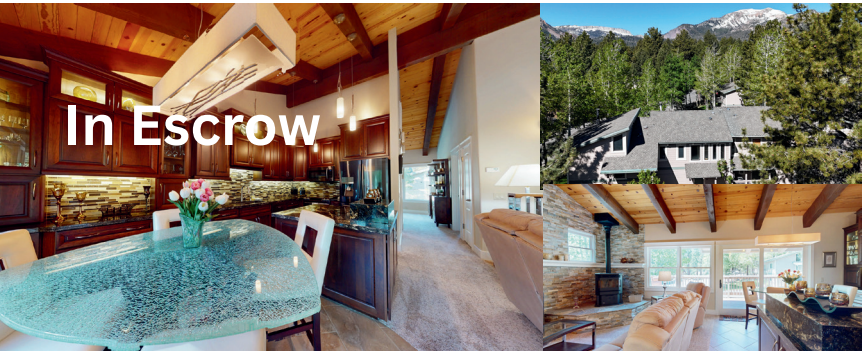


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CONDO
BEDS: 3
BATHS: 3.5
SQFT: 2251



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CONDO
BEDS: 3
BATHS: 3
SQFT: 1572



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CONDO
BEDS: 3+Loft
BATHS: 2.75
SQ FT: 2111



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CABIN
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BATHS: 1
SQ FT: 687



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