November Gallery Auction Friday, November 15th; 10 am Preview:

Sunday, November 10th; 10 am - 5 pm Thursday, November 14th; 10 am - 5 pm Friday, November 15th; 9 am - end of auction

**December Fine Auction** December 16th; 10 am

December Gallery Auction Sunday, December 8th; 10 am - 5 pm Thursday December 12th; 10 am - 5 pm; Friday, December 13th; 9 am - end of auction







All lots will be offered in our December Fine Auction

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# San Francisco Chronicle

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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2024

CONTAINS RECYCLED PAPER

Once decimated, state's population of gray wolves has soared, inspiring conservationists but frustrating cattle ranchers



# Comeback for packs

By Kurtis Alexander

QUINCY, Plumas County -Everyone cheered. Except the cowboys.

On a balmy night in this rural northern Sierra town, a California wildlife official announced at a conservation forum that the state's new population of wolves was growing "exponentially." After years of uncertainty, he said, the animals were thriving.

The crowd of locals, which included college students and outdoorsy types, largely welcomed the report. But not those in the wide-brimmed hats and dusty ball caps. The few dozen or so unexpected guests at the recent Audubon Society speaker series in Quincy waited for the presentation to finish, then lobbed grievances toward the stage.

"These wolves are eating more



Kent Laudon/California Department of Fish and Wildlife ABOVE: A wolf pup from the Lassen Pack's first litter in 2017 is photographed by a trail camera in Lassen County.

**TOP:** Richard Egan moves his cattle to pasture in Plumas National Forest. The Lassen Pack of wolves has grown in the area, angering local ranchers over cattle kills.

farm animals than they are wild animals," one rancher called out.

"We're losing cattle daily," another protested.

"It's like having some burglar come into your yard every night," another shouted. "And we're getting no support."

Gray wolves, wiped out in California by hunters and trappers a century ago, have been trickling back in over the past decade: a lone wolf here and a pack there, mostly near the Oregon border. In the past year, however, the population has soared, with at least eight packs — the latest documented just this month — now established as far south as Tulare

looking to start new packs. The recently discovered pack was confirmed on trail-camera footage in Lassen National For-

County and untold numbers

Wolves continues on A18

## **Missed** deadline kills plan for tower

Peskin had opposed Telegraph Hill project backed by billionaire

By Laura Waxmann

At the start of the year, a proposal for a 17-story condo tower sent a shock wave through San Francisco's Telegraph Hill neighborhood, known for its iconic views and aversion to new development.

The 112-unit condo project, proposed by former San Francisco Building Inspection Commission President Angus Mc-Carthy and backed by billionaire investor Michael Moritz, sought to replace a historic building at 1088 Sansome St. with a development rising 200

The project would have taken Tower continues on A17

### **Protests** at rural abortion clinic rise

By Kevin Fagan

REDDING - Damian Roberts glared at the man standing before him.

"What you have here is crap," he yelled, pointing to the man's pickup truck, parked a few feet away with a giant wooden cross fixed to the bed. A string of posters set up alongside the truck proclaimed, "You're going to hell," plus other slogans railing against abortion.

"You people are how we wind up with babies in dumpsters, coat-hanger abortions and women throwing themselves down stairs," Roberts snapped.

Clinic continues on A11

#### How Tahoe lost cherished ski resort this winter

**By Gregory Thomas** 

October is a time of optimism in the skiing industry, the month when hopes for a bountiful winter run high as resorts across the country begin to ramp up for the season ahead.

So it came as a shock to many Lake Tahoe locals to learn abruptly that their cherished local ski hill, Homewood Mountain Resort, will not be opening this winter.

In an Oct. 11 announcement, Homewood leadership said a key financier who had been subsidizing the ski area was pulling out, in part because of a delay in permitting approvals for a redevelopment plan it has been pursuing for 14 years.

Homewood has been in de-

cline for more than a decade, with business operating at a loss year after year, according to its owners. The redevelopment plan — which would add more than 100 homes, a new hotel, a mountain gondola and more was billed as a way to restore the resort to its former glory.

"We understand the deep disappointment this announcement will cause," the resort's statement read. "It goes without saying that this decision was not made lightly."

Though stunned by the move, many of Homewood's devoted skiers, as well as former resort employees and skiing industry experts in California, say they have presumed that such a drasoutcome could

Resort continues on A15



Brian Walker/Special to the Chronicle

This season's abrupt closure has thrown Homewood Mountain Resort's long-term future into uncertainty.

