



Town of Mammoth Lakes

P.O. Box 1609
Mammoth Lakes, CA, 93546
Ph: (760) 934-8989
Fax: (760) 934-8608

Town News

Town e-News – Week of November 18, 2013

News from the Town Manager

Town Council Meeting – Nov. 20

The next regular meeting of the Mammoth Lakes Town Council has been scheduled for Wednesday, November 20, 2013 in the Minaret Village Mall, Suite Z. Visit the [Streaming Media Archive](#) to review the previous meeting minutes or view the webcast Town Council meeting.

December Commission/Committee Meetings

- Dec. 2: Mammoth Lakes Recreation (MLR) Steering Committee Meeting, Ste. Z, 3:00PM
- Dec. 3: Joint Meeting of the Recreation Commission and Measure U Application Committee Meeting, Ste. Z, 2:00PM
- Dec. 4: Town Council Meeting, Suite Z, 6:00PM
- Dec. 9: Mammoth Lakes Trail System Coordinating Committee Meeting, Suite Z, 1:30PM

For a complete listing of Town meetings, please visit: <http://www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us/calendar.aspx>

Town Channel 51 is Moving!

Mark your calendars for Tuesday, December 3, 2013 when the Town's dedicated channel, TV 51 moves to Channel 18. The move was necessitated by Suddenlink and their local programming needs. TV Channel 18 will still continue to provide access to all the Town's meetings with live and taped coverage of Town Council, and advisory body meetings such as the Planning and Economic Development Commission and Recreation Commission. For meeting dates and times, please visit: www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov.

Mammoth Lakes Police Department Swear In Two Reserve Police Officers

On Tuesday, November 12, 2013 the Mammoth Lakes Police Department swore in two Level One Reserve Police Officers. Mike and Ingrid Braun, both retired from the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), bring the number of MLPD Reserves to four. Ingrid retired as a Lieutenant after 21 years of service, and Mike retired as a Senior Lead Officer with 26 years of law enforcement experience.

Level One Reserve Officers are able to work unsupervised after completing field training. In addition to working patrol shifts and special events, Ingrid will assist with follow-up investigations and Mike will help coordinate a Neighborhood Watch Program.

The Brauns join Level One Reserves Karen Smart and Dick Worcester. Chief Dan Watson said, "One year ago we didn't have any Reserve Officers. These four will help us get through what we hope will be a busy winter season. All of our Reserves are retired law enforcement officers and they bring a wealth of experience to the MLPD."

MLPD – Community Hispanic Advisory Committee Meeting – Nov. 15

The Mammoth Lakes Police-Community Hispanic Advisory Committee has finalized plans for the next Town Hall meeting scheduled for Friday, November 15 at 4:30 p.m. The Town Hall meeting will be held in the Emerald Room at the Grand Sierra Lodge, 1111 Forest Trail.

Presentations will be on the following topics:

- Assembly Bill 60, signed by Governor Brown, which will allow for drivers licenses for undocumented residents.
- Assembly Bill 4, signed by Governor Brown, which impacts notifications to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) for arrested persons
- MLPD on-line crime reporting system
- The Affordable Care Act
- Domestic Violence Prevention
- There will also be an Open Forum where questions can be asked of representatives of the Mammoth Lakes Police Department and the Mono County Sheriff's Department.

Interpreters will be present and it will be possible for attendees to ask questions anonymously by way of using index cards. Food will be provided and there will be supervised child care.

The Hispanic Advisory Committee was created in late 2010 in an effort to build trust and improve communications between the Police Department and the Hispanic community of Mammoth Lakes.

Town Staff Participating In Statewide Medical And Health Exercise – Nov. 21

Town offices will be closed on Thursday, November 21, 2013 from 8:00 a.m. to noon to allow Town staff to participate in a 2013 Statewide Medical and Health Exercise facilitated by the Mono County Health Department (MCHD). In 2012, it caused a total of 19,531 infections, 4,563 hospitalizations, and 68 deaths in our country. It's not a pandemic flu, West Nile, whooping cough, measles, meningitis, or bioterrorism. It is foodborne associated illness, and is the topic for the 2013 Statewide Medical and Health Exercise.

This year's exercise will focus on Homeland Security Target Capabilities:

- Communications
- Medical Surge
- Emergency Operations Center Management
- Emergency Public Information and Warning
- Epidemiological Surveillance and Investigation

The purpose of this exercise is to provide participants with an opportunity to evaluate current response concepts, plans, and capabilities for a response to a foodborne associated disease.

Please contact Town of Mammoth Lakes Public Information Officer, Stuart Brown at (760) 934-8989 ext. 210 or Debbie Diaz Mono County Health Department, Statewide Exercise Coordinator at (760) 924-1829 for additional information about this exercise.

Calls For Service/Officer Observations

113, including 0 business/building checks

Crime/Incident Reports

15 reports, including 6 arrests

Traffic Stops/Citations/Traffic Collisions

37 stops; 9 citations; 0 parking citations; 0 skate park citations; 0 collisions

Animal Control Incidents

1 incident; 0 reports

Wildlife

7 calls; 2 reports

Projected Average Resort Occupancy

Friday, November 15, 2013 - Saturday, November 16, 2013 = 21%

(14% same weekend in 2012, up 7% in 2013)

Sunday, November 17, 2013 - Thursday, November 21, 2013 = 17%

(19% same midweek in 2012, down 2% in 2013)

Hotels/Motels/B&B: 31% (Friday-Saturday) 21% (Sunday-Thursday)

Condos: 11% (Friday-Saturday) 12% (Sunday-Thursday)

Community News

Sierra Classic Theatre Presents "White Ribbon of Death" – Nov. 10

The fine folks at the Dyin' Lyon Pub are worried about the future as doom looms and they dangle precariously from the end of a blood stained....White Ribbon of Death.

Dates & Venues:

- November 10th: The Lakefront Restaurant at 5pm - Tickets \$70
- November 11th: The Lakefront Restaurant at 7pm - (760) 934-2442 - \$70
- November 12th: Jimmy's Taverna at 7pm - \$50
- November 13th & 14th: Tom's Place at 7pm - (760) 935-4239 - \$40
- November 15th: Lakanuki at 7pm - (760) 709-6756- \$40

Contact Each Venue Directly for Tickets. For more information please visit: www.Facebook.com/SierraClassicTheatre or contact Allison at Ph: (323) 646-5055 and Email - almcdon@earthlink.net.

Friends Of The Inyo To Host Wild & Scenic Film Festival – Nov. 22

Join Friends of the Inyo when they host the Wild and Scenic Film Festival On Tour in the Eastern Sierra. Films will be showcased in Mammoth Lakes at the Edison Theatre on Friday, November 22, in Bishop at Cerro Coso Community College on Saturday, November 23 and in Lone Pine at the Lone Pine Film Museum on Friday, December 6. Doors open at 6:15 p.m. for all showings; films begin at 7 p.m.

The Wild & Scenic Film Festival features a collection of films from the annual festival held each January in Nevada City, CA. In the Eastern Sierra, the festival brings together two programs of inspiring and visually stunning films, which speak to the environment, outdoor exploration, and celebrations of our planet. One film program will screen in Mammoth Lakes and Lone Pine, and the second film program will be shown in Bishop. The entire Eastern Sierra community is invited to enjoy food, drink, and great raffle prizes while supporting Friends of the Inyo and your public lands.

"We're excited to host the Wild & Scenic Film Festival locally for a seventh year," said Laura Beardsley, Friends of the Inyo's executive director. "This year's films highlight the beauty of our world and inspiring stories of people making a difference for its future."

This year, Sanctuary will be shown in all venues. The film highlights a local movement near Taos, New Mexico to help the Carson National Forest recover from almost being loved to death.

In Mammoth and Lone Pine audiences will enjoy a variety of short films including The Last Ice Merchant, a story of cultural change and three brothers raised harvesting the ice in Ecuador; Last Light a chronicle of the search for magic lines in the powder and alpenglow of Haines, Alaska; and Chasing Water, an intimate look at the Colorado River watershed from land and air. Other films tell the story of a poacher of sea turtles who had a change of heart, of inspiring youth working for change in their communities, of a young woman's attempt to connect with her meals, and of girls skateboarding in Afghanistan.

Bishop's centerpiece film, A Changing Delta, tells the story of the people of the Colorado River Delta in Mexico, and their efforts to reconnect an iconic American river to the sea and restore a once vibrant wetland from decades of neglect.

Also in Bishop A Desert Life, a portrait of a man who lives his passion amongst the soaring sandstone of Indian Creek, Utah; Dancing Salmon Home a story of the Winnemem Wintu people's pilgrimage to New Zealand to connect with their surviving salmon relatives, and Cafeteria Man showcasing one man's mission to makeover meals in Memphis schools. Other films will explore sky islands in Yosemite National Park, youth working to save the public lands they love, coastal tribes adapting to climate change, and the beauty and imagery of one man's life as a wildlife photographer in the Selkirk Mountains.

Hosting the Wild & Scenic Film Festival is a natural extension of Friends of the Inyo's work to inspire people to care for and preserve the outstanding natural beauty, recreation opportunities, and natural resources that surround us on the Eastern Sierra's public lands. As a non profit founded in 1986, Friends of the Inyo has connected thousands of people to their public lands – locals and non-locals alike – through hikes, tours, volunteer opportunities, habitat restoration, trail maintenance, film presentations, and meetings.

The Wild & Scenic Film Festival was started by the watershed advocacy group, the South Yuba River Citizens League (SYRCL) in 2003. The festival's namesake is in celebration of SYRCL's landmark victory to receive "Wild & Scenic" status for 39 miles of the South Yuba River in 1999. The four-day event features over 100 award-winning films and kicks off the national tour to over 100 communities nationwide. It is building a network of grassroots organizations connected by a common goal of using film to inspire change. With the support of their National Partners: Patagonia, CLIF Bar, Sierra Nevada Brewing and Mother Jones, the festival reaches audience in tour venues coast to coast.

EVENT DETAILS:

- Friday, November 22, Mammoth Lakes, Edison Theatre, 100 College Parkway, 7 p.m.
- Saturday, November 23, Bishop, Cerro Coso Community College, 4090 West Line Street, 7 p.m.
- Thursday, December 6, Lone Pine Film Museum, 701 South Main Street, 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$12 each night or free with the purchase of a new or renewed Friends of the Inyo membership.

Tickets can be purchased at the door or in advance at The Booky Joint in Mammoth, Wilson's Eastside Sports and Friends of the Inyo in Bishop. For more information, visit www.friendsoftheinyo.org or call (760) 873-6500.

MAGIC Happens On Dec. 7

The 23rd Annual Friends of the Foundation Celebration is one way for the Mammoth Lakes Foundation to say thank you to its donors, supporters and volunteers for their support throughout the year. Please join us at the Sierra Events Center for the tasty cuisine of Matt Toomey, wine and beer, awards, and...MAGIC! Renowned Magician Arthur Trace returns to mesmerize and amaze us.

Tickets to the event are available at \$99 per person. A special raffle is also being held (1 for \$20/ 3 for \$50/ 7 for \$100). Event tickets include food, wine, special presentations, and MAGIC!

Mark your calendar for Saturday, December 7, 2013 where we will also honor the Volunteer of the Year and the Founder of the Year. Book early, only 120 seats available! Sponsorship opportunities available. Contact Nora Urdi at (760) 934-3781 or via email.

DSES Event Goes Mardi Gras ON Dec. 13

Save the date, because this year, everyone's favorite fundraiser, Disabled Sports Eastern Sierra's Island Extravaganza 2013, is going Mardi Gras with special musical guests Gator Nation (formerly known as Gator Beat) on Saturday, December 14, 2013 from 6:00 – 11:00 p.m. at Canyon Lodge. The event is bigger and better than ever with new features and returning favorites! SECURE ONLINE TICKET SALES are available NOW at <https://dses.webconnex.com/islandextravaganza>, so make sure to get yours before they sell out! Includes dinner and a raffle ticket. Call with questions! 760.934.0791 Online Sales Close at 5 p.m. on Friday, December 13.

Recreation Department Highlights

Mammoth Ice Rink To Open For Thanksgiving

The Mammoth Ice Rink is scheduled to open to the public on Friday, November 29, 2013 (weather permitting). The Mammoth Ice Rink is an outdoor facility located at 416 Sierra Park Road adjacent to the Mammoth Lakes Library and opposite Mammoth High School. The facility offers public skating sessions, pick-up hockey, skating lessons every Friday night and is available for rental by the hour. Amenities include skate sharpening, skate rentals, snack and beverage services, restrooms and a fire-pit.

"Guests will be surprised to see the many improvements made this fall at the Mammoth Ice Rink," stated Stuart Brown, Recreation Manager for the Town of Mammoth Lakes. "Compliments of Measure R, a trailer is now on-site providing a warm place to leave your personal items while you skate, new propane heaters, along with a fire-pit provide a warm ambience, new hockey glass was installed and the replacement of the header pipe from the chiller wraps up the \$60,000 of improvements."

Adults can skate for \$10.50/session with rentals, youth, seniors and military personnel pay only \$8.50/session with rentals and kids 4 and under skate free with a paid adult. This winter get your 6th Skate FREE with the Five Skate Pass (5SP), Seniors and college students skate mid-week for half-price, and local students skate for only \$2.00 per session (including skate rentals).

Pick-up hockey is programmed during non-holiday periods for men every Tuesday and Thursday evening, open pick-up hockey is on Sunday from 8:00 – 9:30 a.m., youth hockey is 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. every Saturday, Hockey League night is on Monday, and new this year, Beginner Stick Time is scheduled every Wednesday evening from 5:30 – 9:00 p.m.

The Mammoth Ice Rink is owned and operated by the Town of Mammoth Lakes through a partnership with Mammoth Unified School District and Mono County Office

of Education. The facility is drug-free, smoke-free and pet-free. We accept cash, credit cards, and personal checks with a valid driver's license.

For the complete winter schedule, rates and special promotions visit www.mammothicerink.com, see our rack card in all Certified Racks located throughout Mammoth Lakes, or call the Mammoth Ice Rink at (760) 934-2505 during operating hours.

We'll see you on the ice!

'Hot Shots' Youth Basketball League is Underway!

Register your 3rd through 5th grade student for "Hot Shots"! This Co-ed basketball league will improve everyone's techniques through shooting, dribbling, passing, offense, defense, and the rules. Parents are welcome to participate actively as coaches, scorekeepers or referees. Come one, come all! Play begins Tuesday evening at the Middle School gym, November 5 through January 30, from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. Sign up at the Parks and Recreation Office. Cost is only \$40, or register online at www.mammothrecreation.com for the early bird price of \$32. Please call John at (760) 934-8989 x234 for more information or to volunteer.

Gymnastics/Tumbling Program Is Back!

This year-round program is designed to introduce children from 3-18 years old the wonderful and exciting sport of gymnastics. Participants will learn to tumble and more in a safe and structured environment. This program is also a recipient of Measure R funding with over \$7,000 of gymnastic equipment. Three age sessions are available at the Community Center on Forest Trail.

- 3 yr. olds – Saturday: 8:45 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
- 4-5 yr. olds – Saturday: 9:30 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.
- 5-8 yr. olds – Saturday: 10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.
- 8-12+ yr. olds – Wednesday: 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. & Saturday: 11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- 8-12+ yr. olds – Tuesday: 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. – Invitation only.

Five session Punch Cards are available for \$60. Private lessons are available upon request, please inquire with the instructor. Drop-ins cost \$15 per session are welcome and encouraged - First one is FREE! Please call (760) 934-8989 ext. 222 for more information or to register your aspiring Gymnast!

Recreation Department Launches Online Registration

In an effort to improve customer service and streamline operations, the Recreation Department – compliments of Measure R, has partnered with the Active Network to provide 24/7 web-based activity and facility reservations. To begin, visit us online at www.mammothrecreation.com, click on the *Online Activity/Facility Reservations* tab and your first step is to **"Request Account."** All you need is an email and password. The system will allow you to register online for an activity, reserve a facility or request Measure R equipment...it's fast and easy! Please drop by the office or call us at (760) 934-8989 ext. 222 if we can be of assistance to you.

Notify Me!

Receive updates sent directly to your email or phone from the Town of Mammoth Lakes by subscribing to "Notify Me." Found on the left side of www.ci.mammoth-

lakes.ca.us, stay current with Public Service Announcements, Emergency Alerts, Town e-News, Recreation This Week, No Burn Announcements, DNDP updates, bid postings, news flash, calendar items, and more! Make smart decisions, subscribe today!

Public Service Announcements

Mammoth Gateway Project Recognized With Prestigious Award

After three years of meticulous planning, indomitable fundraising and generous contributions from the entire community, the Mammoth Gateway Project is now complete and has been awarded the 2013 "Putnam Award for Excellence" from the League of California Cities.

"The Mammoth Gateway Community Project illustrates how cooperation between local, state and federal agencies as well as business and community volunteers can help make a lasting first impression for visitors in a town where the local economy is highly dependent on tourism," stated Elizabeth Tenney, Planning and Economic Development Commissioner.

A representative from The League of California Cities personally presented the award to the Mammoth Lakes Town Council and the project partners on Wednesday, October 16, 2013. This prestigious award was established in 1982 by the League of California Cities to recognize outstanding achievements made by cities that uniquely contribute to community residents and businesses.

The purpose of the Helen Putnam Award for Excellence is to promote the outstanding efforts and innovative solutions by city governments to:

- Improve the quality of life in local communities
- Implement efficiencies in service delivery and operations
- Provide services responsive to the local community

"The Town's award, in the category of City-Business Relations, highlights the unique cooperation between the public and private sectors to construct an iconic symbol representative of the rugged character of the region and resilience of the community," stated Jessica Morriss, Transportation Planner for the Town of Mammoth Lakes.

Spearheaded by long-time local and Planning and Economic Development Commissioner, Elizabeth Tenney, The League's award recognizes the collaborative partnership required to make the Gateway Project a reality. The Town would like to recognize the following local, state, and federal agencies, as well as volunteers and private sector donors, including: Inyo National Forest - Mammoth-Mono Ranger District, County of Mono, Mammoth Lakes Town Council, Town of Mammoth Lakes Public Art Fund, WalkerOne Creative Workshop, Woodward Architecture, Mammoth Mountain Ski Area, The Chadmar Group/Snowcreek Resort, Mammoth Community Water District, Mono County Superior Court, Mammoth Lakes Chamber of Commerce, Mammoth Lakes Tourism and the many other donors (large and small) who contributed money and expertise.

The Gateway monuments, which were completed in the Spring of 2013 after almost three years of planning, design, and construction, have become a source of pride for the community and clearly demonstrates that Mammoth Lakes is still moving forward. Designed and built to last a hundred years or more, the Gateway to

Mammoth Lakes became a popular visitor photo opportunity even before it was finished.

The Gateway's north side on US Forest Service land, with the cooperation of Jon Regelbrugge, District Ranger, Inyo National Forest, has been landscaped with native plant seed and boulders. An abstract graphic of mountain slopes in raw steel is being fabricated by Mammoth Mountain Ski Area and will be installed on the west side of the north monument. The graphic complements the John Muir quote departure message "Going to the mountains is going home. See you again soon." on the south monument.

Around the south monument, plant varieties in the drought-tolerant demonstration garden have been labeled for ready reference by homeowners, condo managers and landscapers. The Gateway demonstration garden was commissioned by Mammoth Community Water District and designed and installed by Bob Weiland, Weiland & Associates, Inc. Mono County Superior Court is supplying the water from the Court's dedicated irrigation meter.

Additional information regarding this prestigious award by the League of California Cities can be viewed online at: www.cacities.org/Top/Partners/Helen-Putnam-Awards.aspx, or by contacting Jessica Morriss, Transportation Planner for the Town of Mammoth Lakes at (760) 934-8989 ext. 225.

SBA Offers Disaster Assistance to California Small Businesses Economically Impacted by the Rim Fire

The U. S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is offering low-interest working capital federal disaster loans to small businesses economically impacted by the Rim Fire that began on August 17, U. S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Acting Administrator Jeanne Hult announced today. SBA acted under its own authority to declare a disaster in response to a request SBA received from Gov. Edmund G. Brown's designated representative, Mark Ghilarducci, Director of the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services, on September 24, 2013.

The disaster declaration makes SBA disaster assistance available in Mariposa and Tuolumne Counties and the neighboring counties of Alpine, Calaveras, Madera, Merced, Mono and Stanislaus.

"The U. S. Small Business Administration is strongly committed to providing the most effective and customer-focused response possible to assist California's small businesses with federal disaster loans. We will be swift in our efforts to help these small businesses recover from the financial impacts of this disaster," said Acting Administrator Hult.

"Beginning Tuesday, October 1, SBA customer service representatives will be on hand at the following SBA Disaster Loan Outreach Centers to help small businesses impacted by the Rim Fire," said SBA's Fresno District Director Carlos Mendoza. "SBA representatives will answer questions about SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loan program, explain the application process, and help each business owner complete their application," he continued. The centers will be open on the days and times indicated. No appointment is necessary.

Mono County
Lee Vining Community Center
296 Mattley Avenue
Lee Vining, CA 93541

Open: Tues. Oct., 1 & Wed. Oct. 2
Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

"Small, nonfarm businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture and most private, nonprofit organizations of any size may qualify for Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) of up to \$2 million to help meet financial obligations and operating expenses which could have been met had the disaster not occurred," Mendoza said.

"These loans may be used to pay fixed debts, payroll, accounts payable and other bills that can't be paid because of the disaster's impact. Disaster loans can provide vital economic assistance to small businesses to help overcome the temporary loss of revenue they are experiencing," Mendoza added.

Eligibility is based on the financial impact of the disaster only and not on any actual property damage. These loans have an interest rate of 4 percent for small businesses and 2.875 percent for private, nonprofit organizations with terms up to 30 years, and are restricted to small businesses without the financial ability to offset the adverse impact without hardship.

Applicants may apply online using SBA's secure Web site at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>.

Disaster loan information and application forms are also available from SBA's Customer Service Center by calling (800) 659-2955 or e-mailing disastercustomerservice@sba.gov. Individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing may call (800) 877-8339. For more information about SBA's disaster assistance programs, visit <http://www.sba.gov/disaster>.

The deadline to return economic injury applications is June 26, 2014.

Winter Air Service To Mammoth Lakes Begins December 19

Winter air service to Mammoth Lakes resumes on December 19, 2013. Offered by both United Airlines and Alaska Airlines, connections are available to Mammoth Yosemite Airport through Los Angeles, San Francisco, San Diego and Orange County.

The flight schedule for winter/spring 2013-14 will benefit several markets with additional daily flights, making it easier for snow enthusiasts to enjoy more time in the mountains. Daily non-stop service to and from San Diego will now be offered by Alaska with an earlier arrival scheduled for Saturday mornings. Weekend flight service on United out of Orange County will add a Monday and Thursday flight, allowing guests additional travel flexibility.

"The air travel experience to and from Mammoth Lakes is a breeze now," said John Urji, executive director, Mammoth Lakes Tourism. "We have flights connecting through all of California's gateway airports. A traveler from almost anywhere on the east coast, the south, or in the midwest can now make it to Mammoth with one easy connection. It translates to more time on the snow and less time in the air."

United service also includes non-stop flights daily throughout the winter from San Francisco with a second flight four days per week. Daily non-stop Alaska Airlines service from LAX will resume November 15th with a second daily flight (other than Saturdays) beginning December 19th.

"The theme here with the added flights and adjusted times is ease. It's easier to get here, and to spend more time on travel days on the mountain," said Erik Forsell, Mammoth's chief marketing officer. "Once you land, you're basically here. The Mammoth airport is five miles outside of town, with free transport into town and it's a small airport so lines are minimal. You can be on the chairlift within an hour of landing in Mammoth, no problem."

Mammoth Lakes Yosemite airport is just 15 minutes from Mammoth Mountain Resort. Complimentary airport shuttles are available to all guests who book their stay at Mammothmountain.com or through 800.MAMMOTH.

For more information about the new flights on United or to reserve a seat visit www.united.com. For more information on Alaska Airlines service visit <http://www.alaskaair.com>. For more information about Mammoth Lakes go to <http://www.visitmammoth.com> and <http://www.mammothmountain.com>.

Black Bear Activity Is On The Increase

The black bears in the Mammoth Lakes area have become very active over the past few weeks and the drought conditions mean that there will be high activity for the next three months. Recent sightings have been observed throughout Town, and second year cub has been very active in the Old Mammoth Area. Unfortunately, some residents have been encouraging bad bear behavior such as not properly securing their vehicles or residences. Some have also been reluctant to report problems with the bears to the Police Department or its Wildlife Specialist, Steve Searles.

Mammoth Lakes has a very successful bear management program that includes public education and aversive conditioning for bears. It's especially important for young bears, such as the one causing havoc in Old Mammoth, to be "taught" that certain behavior, such as entering cars or buildings for food, is unacceptable. The Wildlife Specialist spends many hours during the day providing public education and interacting with the bears, but he and the officers of the MLPD need to be informed when a bear is misbehaving.

Another big problem is created by unsecured dumpsters. It is vitally important for businesses, residents, and visitors to always properly secure dumpsters. All food, ice chests, and sweet smelling products like shampoo should never be left outdoors or in a car overnight. Bears are highly intelligent animals and when they see an ice chest they know it may contain food. So if a bear sees an ice chest in the back of a car or truck, they will figure out a way to get into the ice chest, and it's usually an expensive repair.

The best way of preventing bears from becoming dependent on humans for food is to follow these common sense rules:

- Never leave food out for bears or other wild animals
- Securely store food and fragrant items such as shampoo and deodorant in an airtight container. When camping, use a bear-proof box
- Don't leave food, even in a cooler, in a car, tent, or other unsecure location
- Don't leave pet food outdoors or use a bird feeder. Bears love bird seed!
- Put away picnic leftovers and keep barbecue grills clean
- Always deposit trash in a bear proof trash can or dumpster
- Keep your car locked and your garage door closed and locked
- Never leave food on or near a window sill or on a counter near an open window

- Close and lock ground floor windows when no one is home and at night

Bears that have been conditioned to rely on humans for food become unmanageable and unfortunately, sometimes have to be destroyed. Please help to keep our bears healthy. Enjoy their presence, but do not encourage behavior that is harmful to them. DON'T FEED OUR BEARS!

For more information on co-existing with wildlife or to report a bear problem, contact the Town's Wildlife Specialist Steve Searles at (760) 937-BEAR.

Town Amends Mammoth Lakes Municipal Code Regarding Woodstove Inserts

On March 20, 2013, Town Council adopted a resolution amending the Town ordinance establishing standards for new and reconstructed woodstove inserts. Over the last several decades, large numbers of open fireplaces in town have been modified by the installation of woodstove inserts. However, neither the Town nor the fire district nor the woodstove insert manufacturers have had clear and consistent standard governing how the inserts must be installed. The result has been installations that have been demonstrated to be unsafe by a number of fires occurring around woodstove inserts in town.

The fire district and Town staff jointly developed installation standards for woodstove inserts, which are contained in the new ordinance. The ordinance also contains a list of approved woodstove insert manufacturers, but allows contractors and homeowners to request the building official to add other manufacturers.

The amended ordinance would require all new woodstove insert installations to meet the new standards. Recognizing that reconstruction of existing woodstove insert installations can cost several thousand dollars, the ordinance does not require immediate removal and reconstruction of existing inserts. Instead, the ordinance requires nonconforming inserts to be removed or reconstructed upon sale of the residential unit, or by October 31, 2022 if no sale of a particular unit has occurred before then.

Because the woodstove insert installation standards constitute a local amendment to the requirements of the California Mechanical Code, the ordinance includes the specific findings necessary for such local amendments. The findings acknowledge that the unique climatic, geological, and topographical conditions in Mammoth require these amendments. Please contact Town of Mammoth Lakes Senior Building Inspector, Johnny Goetz at (760) 934-8989 ext. 244 for additional information.

Mammoth Lakes Police Department Implementing Reserve & Volunteer Program

In an effort to off-set some of the impact resulting from the loss of 7 sworn officers, the Mammoth Lakes Police Department has been moving forward on developing Reserve and Volunteer Programs, and evaluating various forms of technology to help make the MLPD more efficient and effective. The following are some of the programs the MLPD is moving forward on:

RESERVE OFFICER PROGRAM

On February 6, the Town Council approved the establishment of pay scales for Reserve Officers. The pay will be:

- Level 1 Reserve - \$25/hour
- Level 2 Reserve - \$23/hour

- Level 3 Reserve - \$20/hour

Providing pay for Reserve Officers will make the MLPD competitive with other local agencies that have reserve programs and serve as a recruitment and retention tool.

Anyone interested in learning more about the MLPD Reserve Program should contact Sergeant Marc Moscovitz at (760) 934-2011

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Many police departments benefit from active volunteer programs where trained volunteers assist police personnel by staffing front counters, completing reports, and providing community patrols. Retired Sergeant Karen Smart has agreed to manage the MLPD's volunteer program. At some time in the future, information will be released about the types of volunteer work available and the selection criteria. Anyone interested in volunteering with the MLPD should be on the look-out for a news release announcing the start of the program.

TECHNOLOGY

The MLPD is moving forward with technological advances on several fronts. They include:

- An on-line reporting system where certain crimes can be reported on-line.
- An on-line crime and traffic report purchase program where victims of crimes and parties in traffic collisions can purchase copies of reports on-line.
- Access to surveillance cameras at the North Village.
- Surveillance cameras at the Volcom Brothers Skatepark.

The MLPD is also exploring other technology that will make the Police Department more effective in addressing crime, the fear of crime, and quality of life issues.

Free, Real-Time Property Information Now Available!

The Town of Mammoth Lakes and Mono County are proud to present ParcelViewer, the Town and County's official web-based property information system. This free, public, on-line service can be relied upon to provide convenient, accurate and up-to-date information, based on the official Assessor's data-base. Use ParcelViewer to view and print customized parcel information and maps, including:

- Zoning Information
- Property Addresses
- Complex Names/ Condo Unit Numbers
- Parcel Lines*
- Valuation Data
- Acreage
- Aerial imagery of surrounding properties and more!

Visit Parcel Viewer today at <http://gis.mono.ca.gov/parcelviewer/>

California Mandates Recycling for Business and Multi-Family Residential Locations

A new State of California Bill (AB 341) directed by CalRecycle mandating commercial recycling in California goes into effect July 1, 2012. The Town of Mammoth Lakes will be providing education and outreach to help the community comply with the new regulations.

The goal of AB 341 is to increase the statewide recycling rates to 75% by 2020. Starting July 1 2012, businesses and public entities that generate four cubic yards or more of waste per week, including multi-family units of five or more will be required to recycle. The purpose of this new law is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by diverting commercial solid waste to recycling efforts while expanding opportunities for additional recycling services and recycling manufacturing facilities in California.

Please use the following link for additional information provided by CalRecycle that addresses the "Frequently Asked Questions:"
<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/climate/Recycling/FAQ.htm>.

The Town of Mammoth Lakes (TOML), Sierra Conservation Project (SCP) and Mammoth Disposal (MD) are taking active steps to assist businesses and multi-family residences to comply with the new regulations.

Brian Robinette, owner of Sierra Conservation Project commented, "This is a big step in the right direction for recycling and diverting recyclables from our local landfills. The new regulation will give the extra incentive needed to make recycling programs a reality at all Mammoth Lakes business and residential locations."

The TOML, SCP and MD have been working together for several years to develop and grow recycling programs here in the Town of Mammoth Lakes.

Johnny Goetz, Town of Mammoth Lakes Senior Building Inspector states, "Now is a great time for local businesses to take advantage of the numerous recycling opportunities we have available in Town. Condominium complexes can also take advantage of the TOML and SCP's recycling programs which are currently providing start-up infrastructure to the complex at no cost - while supplies last."

The TOML and SCP have applied for additional grant money to continue to offset the start-up cost for multi-family and businesses here in town. Bear proof recycling containers are provided to participating condo complexes, and are serviced by SCP.

Pat Fenton, General Manager of Mammoth Disposal added, "Recycling is at the core of the company's goal of sustainability, and it's the core of our commitment to business owners and the Town of Mammoth Lakes to meet this mandate."

The following recycling programs are currently available within the Town of Mammoth Lakes:

- Commercial cardboard recycling
- Restaurant and bar programs
- Lodging and hospitality programs
- Business recycling
- Office recycling
- Residential recycling
- Aluminum, plastic, and glass
- E-Waste
- Used oil and batteries

Some of the benefits of recycling identified by CalRecycle are creating jobs in California, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, keeping valuable materials out of landfills, and creating a healthy environment for the community and future generations by recovering natural resources.

For more information regarding recycling programs and opportunities within the Town of Mammoth Lakes, contact Johnny Goetz at (760) 934-8989 ext. 244 or jgoetz@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us.

Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) Frequently Asked Questions

Some of the most frequently asked questions about legal rentals and Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) are:

1. What is a transient rental?

A transient rental is any unit that is occupied for the purpose of sleeping, lodging, or similar reasons for a period of 30 consecutive days or less in exchange for a fee or similar consideration.

2. Can I rent my unit as a transient rental?

Only some zones within the Town of Mammoth Lakes permit transient rentals. The following zones permit transient rentals:

- RMF-2 (Residential Multi-family 2)
- CL (Commercial Lodging)
- CG Commercial General)
- R (Resort, including master plan areas)
- SP (Specific Plan, including North Village and Clearwater)

This list is intended as a guide only. Although the above zones permit transient use generally, other regulations, such as those found in master plans, CC&Rs, or project conditions of approval may prohibit transient rental within a particular development. Generally, transient rental of single family homes is prohibited. A zoning map can be found on the Town's website.

3. What is transient occupancy tax (TOT)?

Transient occupancy tax, or TOT, is a 13% tax that is charged "for the privilege of occupancy of any transient occupancy facility." The tax is required to be paid to the operator of the transient occupancy facility at the time the rent is paid. It is the operator's responsibility to remit the TOT to the Town.

4. Do I need to pay TOT?

If you are renting your unit as a transient rental, even if it is only for one weekend a year, you need to pay TOT. This includes single family homes and other units that are not permitted to rent nightly, but may be doing so illegally. TOT shall be remitted for each night the unit is rented.

5. Do I need a business tax certificate?

Yes, if you are renting your unit on a transient basis.

6. Do I need a transient occupancy tax certificate?

Yes. You are required to purchase a transient occupancy certificate for each rental unit to post in your transient rental property. This is included as part of Schedule E or F in the business tax certificate application.

7. What is the difference between a business tax certificate and a transient occupancy tax certificate?

Business tax is an annual tax and is required for all business activity. The transient occupancy tax certificate is a one-time purchase that is non-transferable. This certificate is required to be posted in your transient rental unit.

8. Do I need a business tax certificate if all of my rentals are handled through a reservation company?

If all of your rentals are handled through a reservation company, most reservation companies will purchase the transient occupancy tax certificate and collect and remit the TOT to the Town. You may wish to check with your reservation company to confirm that this is being taken care of. If you rent your unit by owner in addition to renting with a property management company, you are also required to obtain a separate business tax certificate and transient occupancy tax certificate.

9. How do I apply for a business tax certificate?

The Town's website contains information regarding business tax certificates, including an application for a business tax certificate: <http://www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us/index.aspx?NID=182>. Transient Rentals fall under schedule F for condominium rentals and schedule E for hotels, motels, lodges, and campgrounds. This application can be mailed back to the Town, or submitted in person. The total cost for one unit is \$118.00 (\$65.00 application fee, \$5.00 planning review fee, \$25.00 fee to rent one unit, \$23.00 TOT certificate fee). Additional costs apply for additional units. Business tax certificates are required on or before the first day business commences; penalties will apply for late filings. If you have additional questions regarding this process please contact the Finance Department at (760) 934-8989 x245.

10. Do I have a business tax certificate?

To find out if you have a valid business tax certificate on file, please contact the Finance Department at (760) 934-8989 x245 or your property management company.

11. What is illegal rental activity?

Illegal rental activity is any rental activity that is not consistent with the Town's Zoning Ordinance, or any rental activity that is not compliant with the Transient Occupancy Tax Ordinance. This can include transient rental of units located in zones that prohibit transient rentals. It can also include transient rentals in a zone where it is permitted, but when the TOT is not remitted to the Town.

12. How can I report illegal rental activity?

If you suspect illegal rental activity, you may submit an anonymous tip via the Town's TOT hotline at (760) 934-8989 x275 or on the Town's website via the Transient Occupancy Tax information page. Please include any information that you have that would substantiate the claim, along with the property address and owner's name if you have it. You may also email

tot@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us. Note that emails are not anonymous, however, staff will do its best to keep your information private.

13. Questions & Anonymous TOT Hotline

If you have questions about TOT enforcement, or if you would like to report suspicious activity or rental advertisements please contact our anonymous hotline. The Town will follow-up on any reports submitted. The Hot Line Number is (760) 934-8989 ext. 275 or email your information to: TOT@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us.

Register for CodeRED

Residents of Mono County can register their cell phones to receive emergency CodeRED (reverse 911) alerts from Mono County. This is a county public service available to all Mono County residents so please tell your friends and neighbors in Mono County that they can register for this service. CodeRED announcements are for personal notification and will not replace CERT CAHAN notification. Here is how to sign register/sign up using the INTERNET:

1. Go to monosheriff.org
2. scroll down left side panel to CodeRED community notification system;
3. click on it and follow directions.

Leash Law Reminder

Mammoth residents and visitors are reminded that the Town has a leash law, and it is a violation of the ordinance to allow your dog to run loose off of your property. While budget cuts eliminated the Animal Control Officer position, the laws pertaining to controlling your pets did not change, and you can still be cited by Mammoth Lakes Police Department officers if your dog is at large. The PD is currently receiving a large number of complaints from several neighborhoods, and will be targeting patrol time in those areas when possible to apprehend loose dogs and to cite their owners. In addition to the citation fine, you could also be charged boarding fees by Mono County Animal Control if we choose to impound your dog at the Whitmore Shelter.

At-large dogs are a traffic hazard, and even the most well behaved dog can bite if provoked. If your loose animal causes a traffic collision or injures/bites someone, you would likely be liable for damages, which could add up to thousands of dollars. Please respect your neighbors, AND your pet and obey the leash law.

Carbon Monoxide Detectors Save Lives

The Town of Mammoth Lakes has launched a community outreach effort to inform community residents that on July 1, 2011 many homes will be required to install carbon monoxide detectors.

The Federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate that carbon monoxide kills approximately 500 people each year and injures another 20,000 people nationwide. In an effort to prevent these accidental deaths and injuries, the California legislature enacted SB 183 (Lowenthal) which mandates owners of dwelling intended for human occupancy to install carbon monoxide devices in existing dwelling units having a fossil fuel burning heater or appliance, fireplace, or attached garage.

CO devices must be installed in all specified single-family dwellings by July 1, 2011.

All other specified dwelling units must have CO devices installed by January 1, 2013.

The Office of the State Fire Marshal (SFM) has developed a list of certified CO devices that meet the requirement specified within the Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Act of 2010.

For a complete list of currently approved devices please visit the SFM's website at http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/licensinglistings/licenselisting_bml_searchcotest.php. Under the search categories provided select Carbon Monoxide Alarms and Carbon Monoxide Detectors for a complete list of devices.

Further details contained within the Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Act of 2010:

- Owners shall install CO devices in a manner consistent with building standards applicable to new construction for the relevant type of occupancy if it is technically feasible. See the 2010 California Building Code, Section 420.4, and the 2010 California Residential Code, Section R315.
- CO devices shall produce a distinct audible alarm.
- CO devices may be combined with a smoke detector, if the combination device meets all specified SFM listing and approval requirements.
- Violation of Health & Safety Code Section 17926 is an infraction punishable by a maximum fine of two-hundred dollars for each offense.
- A local enforcement agency shall provide the property owner a 30-day notice to correct.
- Local jurisdictions are authorized to adopt ordinances requiring CO devices if the ordinance is consistent with the requirement of this bill.

For a full list of this legislation's stipulations please review the Department of Housing and Community Development's Information Bulletin 2011-01 at <http://www.hcd.ca.gov/codes/shl/infobulls/IB2011-01.pdf>.

Town Outdoor Lighting Ordinance

In 2003, the Town implemented an outdoor lighting ordinance to eliminate light pollution and preserve views of our starry skies. The outdoor lighting ordinance was adopted to encourage residents to administer a lighting system that not only promotes public safety and night-time ambiance but to maximize energy conservation. To eliminate glare and light trespass into neighboring properties and roadways, the outdoor lighting fixtures on your property should be shielded and re-directed to shine downward or changed out to a lower wattage. More information about responsible lighting can be found at www.crlaction.org.