



Town of Mammoth Lakes
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Town News

Week of April 18, 2011

News from the Town Manager

Town Council Meeting– April 20

The next meeting of the Town Council will be held on Wednesday, April 20, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. in the Minaret Village Mall. Visit the [Streaming Media Archive](#) to review the previous meeting minutes or view the webcast Town Council meeting. Some of the agenda items include:

5:00PM – Closed Session: Conference with legal counsel – existing litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 subdivision (c) with regard to Case No. C059239 being held in the Court of Appeal of the State of California Third Appellate District, Mammoth Lakes Land Acquisition v. Town of Mammoth Lakes.

6:00PM – Regular Meeting

1. Planning Commission Update
2. Public Presentation: Report regarding fuels reduction presented by Chief Brent Harper, Mammoth Lakes Fire Protection District.
3. Public Hearing: Resolution approving the application for funding and the execution of a grant agreement, and any amendments thereto, from the Planning Technical Assistance Allocation of the State Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program.
4. Policy Matters: 1) Town Manager Employment Agreement, 2) Wildlife Specialist Agreement, and 3) Mid-year budget review and fiscal year 09-10 audit.

Town Council Selects Permanent Town Manager

The Town Council of Mammoth Lakes has selected Dave Wilbrecht as the permanent Town Manager. Mr. Wilbrecht currently serves as Mono County's administrator, and is well known in Mammoth Lakes both due to his current position with the county and previous service with the Town. Mr. Wilbrecht's employment agreement is scheduled for approval by the Town Council in an open session on Wednesday, April 20, 2011. His first day on the job is going to be Wednesday, June 1, 2011.

Interim Town Manager Marysheva-Martinez will stay on until the end of her contract, June 30, 2011, to assist the incoming Town Manager and the Town Council with current and emerging challenges, such as the settlement of the \$30 million development judgment, development of a budget that takes into account the judgment's impact on the Town, and creation and implementation of policies and procedures concerning finances and personnel.

Town of Mammoth Lakes has Completed Review of its FY2010/11 Financials

The Town of Mammoth Lakes has completed a comprehensive review of its financials for Fiscal Year 2010-2011, which will end on June 30, 2011. The process involved all department directors and many other Town staff, who reviewed every line item in the Town's budget, both for revenues and expenditures. Given a recent and considerable staff turnover in the Town's financial leadership, this all-inclusive process helped existing Town staff to fully understand what is included or not included in the budget, and which budget assumptions are real and which turned out to be unrealistic. As a result, the financial review (released to the public today and to be presented to the Town Council on April 20) offers a comprehensive look at the Town's finances. Highlights are as follows:

The Town ended the last year (Fiscal Year 2009-2010) with a surplus in the General Fund, and an overall fund balance of \$14 million. Of the \$14 million balance, however, the majority of funds are yet to be received and may not be collected for many years, if at all. (For example, annual subsidies to the airport are recorded as notes, but the airport simply does not make money to pay the Town back; and money fronted to the Development Impact Fee funds is not likely to be seen until the Town sees a surge in large development projects.) The General Fund Reserve for Economic Uncertainty is only \$1.3 million, representing 7% of the General Fund budget, below the 25% goal set by the Town Council.

The Fiscal Year 2010-2011 General Fund revenues are projected to be \$2.3 million above the budget, thanks to the Town Council's conservative action to trim the revenue estimate and to cut General Fund spending early in the fiscal year. Most of the \$2.3 million revenue surplus is from Transient Occupancy Tax, due to a high snowfall this year and correspondingly high hotel occupancy rates.

The higher General Fund revenue, however, is almost entirely offset by increased General Fund expenditures. The \$2.1 million expenditure increase from the budgeted level is due to three factors: (a) higher Transient Occupancy Tax receipts lead to \$0.8 million in additional transfers of this revenue to Tourism, Transportation/Transit, and Workforce Housing; (b) the original Fiscal Year 2010-2011 budget contained erroneous revenue assumptions and/or unrealistic savings estimates in a couple of departments, with year-end actuals likely to be nearly \$1 million higher than the budgeted estimate; and (c) higher than expected spending occurred in the airport due to litigation costs, and police due to staffing changes and corresponding payouts.

Even with higher than budgeted expenditures, the General Fund is expected to end the year with a \$0.4 million surplus, increasing the Reserve for Economic Uncertainty to 9%.

Financials in the non-General Funds are overall positive, although negative balances exist in the Development Impact Fee funds, which owe money to the General Fund, and some assessment districts.

The Town acknowledges that while the financial review was likely the most comprehensive exercise of this sort in the Town's recent history, uncertainties remain, given the complexity of the Town's budget with numerous transfers in and out, incomplete understanding of the Town's budget by the current staff, and the limited time available for this review. The Town's leadership has shifted focus on the development of the next budget, for the fiscal year that begins on July 1, 2011. Town staff hopes to simplify the Fiscal Year 2011-2012 financials and correct some of the issues discovered in the current budget.

The Town Council is scheduled to see preliminary financials for the Fiscal Year 2011-2012 budget on May 18, 2011, and must adopt the new budget by June 30, 2011. While it is too early to tell what the next year's financials will reveal, Town staff has been warned of the high likelihood of losing up to \$1.8 million in property tax-related funding due to specifics in the State law that impact only a handful of cities and counties in California. The Town continues to explore options to keep this funding intact, including contacts with State legislators through our lobbyist firm.

Next year's General Fund budget will also suffer from the loss of the Utility Users Tax of \$0.9 million, which becomes restricted in July 2011. Lastly, next year's budget needs to allow for some payment on the \$30 million development judgment. Settlement discussions are about to begin.

There is no doubt that the Town will need to creatively approach next year's budget, as resources will be extremely limited while demand for scarce funding will increase. The Town is exploring, among other creative solutions, options to increase collection of the Transient Occupancy Tax through enhanced monitoring and enforcement. The Town Council is scheduled to see preliminary financials for the Fiscal Year 2011-2012 budget on May 18, 2011 and must adopt the new budget by June 30, 2011.

The public can review the April 20, 2011 Town Council Policy Item: "Mid-year Budget Review and Fiscal Year 09-10 Audit" by logging onto: <http://www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us/index.aspx?nid=84>.

FAA Investigation Finds MMH Compliant with Federal Regulations

The Town of Mammoth Lakes is pleased to announce a positive outcome of a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) investigation relating to an allegation by a former employee that the Mammoth Yosemite Airport (MMH) failed to carry sufficient amounts of fire suppressing agent and failed to notify air carriers of the insufficient amounts in October 2010.

A letter sent by the FAA to the Town is attached. While lengthy in its discussion of the history that led to the complaint and the applicable requirements, the letter concludes with a statement that the investigation has been closed after "[the FAA] has given consideration to all available facts" and "corrective actions were taken by the airport".

The letter points out to two specific requirements with which the airport currently complies (to FAA's satisfaction following their February 28, 2011 surveillance inspection), and must comply in the future: (1) Ensure sufficient amount of fire suppressing agent on each ARFF and in reserve; and (2) Ensure that airport firefighters receive an acceptable level of training. The airport is updating its internal policies to address future compliance with item #1, and will be sending appropriate staff to an off-site training in the future to address item #2. If you have questions regarding this matter, please contact Airport and Transportation Director Bill Manning at (760) 934-8313, or interim Town Manager Marianna Marysheva-Martinez at (760) 934-8989, extension 226.

MADD California Recognizes MLPD Officer Art Torres

The California chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) recently honored over 100 law enforcement professionals from around the state, and their departments, for outstanding effort in 2010 to get impaired drivers off the road and reduce the number of drunk driving related accidents, deaths and injuries statewide.

The Mammoth Lakes Police Department (MLPD) is proud to announce that Officer Arturo Torres was one of the honorees at the awards dinner held in Sacramento on March 26, 2011. This is the second year in a row that Officer Torres has been selected as MLPD's top DUI enforcer by MADD. Officer Torres made 20 DUI arrests in 2010.

According to the California Office of Traffic Safety, DUI related fatalities decreased again in 2010, for the second straight year. OTS credits the strong enforcement effort statewide for the drop, with the goal of zero deaths. According to OTS director Christopher J. Murphy, "no one knows when their lives and futures were saved" due to law enforcement's actions in combating impaired driving. MADD, formed 31 years ago nationwide, has the mission of stopping drunk driving, supporting the victims of drunk driving related crime, and preventing underage drinking.

Open House on Airport Expansion

The airport held five open houses over a two day period to present to the public the concept of a new commercial terminal building (see attached drawings). The architect, Terry Van Zant of the Van Zant Group and consulting airport engineer, Reinard Brandley of Brandley Engineering participated in all the sessions. While very early in the process, the airport is already soliciting feedback from the public, Alaska Airlines, United Airlines, and airport vendors. At the events, feedback was positive and the public was pleased to learn that the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) will fund up to 85% of the cost of a new terminal and 95% of the cost of improvements to the ramp. The balance could be paid with a combination of the Airport's FAA entitlement money and airline passenger facility charges.

Airport Maintenance Coordinator Recruitment

The Airport Maintenance Coordinator recruitment period closes on Friday, April 15, 2011. Thus far, 41 applications have been submitted to the Human Resource Department for consideration. Candidate selection and interviews will take place in the upcoming weeks, using HR Best Practices to assess the applicant pool and finalize the hiring process.

Disabled Sports / Tip-A-Cop Fundraiser a Huge Success

Thanks to the generosity of all who attended the Mammoth Lakes Peace Officers Association Tip-A-Cop fundraiser at Angel's in Mammoth on April 6, Mammoth Lakes Peace Officers raised \$2,028.00 for Disabled Sports Eastern Sierra (DSES). Our gracious hosts, owners Todd and Melanie Nagy of Angel's, along with their fantastic staff, made sure Mammoth Lakes Police Department's volunteer waiters looked good and got everyone's order right. They also contributed to the total donation made by pledging 10 percent of the night's receipts. Kathy Copeland of DSES, who stopped in to supervise the proceedings, promised the money will be put to good use in making Mammoth's amazing winter and summer outdoor recreational opportunities available to all. The Officers Association wishes to thank everyone who turned out to support such a great cause. We hope you had fun.

Calls for Service/Officer Observations

156, including 0 business/building checks

Crime/Incident Reports

38 reports, including 11 arrests

Traffic Stops/Citations/Traffic Collisions

26 stops; 7 citations; 6 parking citations; 0 skate park citations; 2 collisions

Animal Control Incidents

6 incidents; 1 report

Wildlife Calls/Reports

3 calls; 1 report

Community Development

Reduced Prices at Aspen Village

Mammoth Lakes Housing, Inc. recently reduced the price of the Aspen Village Town Homes which has caused a lot of sales activity on these energy efficient condos. There are only THREE Two-Bedroom units left at the Aspen Village complex. The units have Energy STAR appliances, efficient forced air heating, under structure parking, amazing views, low HOA's and are Brand NEW! There is down payment assistance available to eligible buyers. Contact Mammoth Lakes Housing, Inc. at (760) 934-4740 for more information.

Mobility Commission Meeting – April 19

The next regular **Mobility Commission** meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 19, 2011 at **4:00 p.m.** in the Town Council Chambers – Suite Z of the Minaret Village Shopping Center.

Sign Code Update – Public Hearing April 27

The Planning Commission public hearing for the Sign Code Update will be held on April 27, 2011 at 2:00 p.m. in Suite Z! Check out the Sign Code Update webpage at www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us/index.aspx?NID=387. For more information, please contact Associate Planner Jen Daugherty at (760) 934-8989 Extension 260 or jdaugherty@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us.

Sierra Valley District Plan - Public Workshops

The next Sierra Valley public meetings have been scheduled where we will look at existing conditions in greater depth and begin to identify options for the neighborhood. Two meetings will be held one in English only, and one in English and Spanish; both meetings will cover the same topic:

Meeting in English Only

Wednesday, April 27, 2011

5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Suite Z, Minaret Village Shopping Center

Meeting in English and Spanish

Thursday, April 28, 2011

5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Mammoth Lakes Library, 400 Sierra Park Road

For additional information, please contact Senior Planner Ellen Clark at (760) 934-8989 Extension 269 or eclark@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us

Final Downtown Concept for Main Street – Now Available!

The Town Council unanimously accepted the Downtown Concept for Main Street - Downtown Neighborhood District Plan (DNDP) in September 2010. A final version (clean, not redlined) is now available on the Town's website at <http://www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us/index.aspx?nid=133>. For additional information, please contact Associate Planner Jen Daugherty at jdaugherty@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us, or at 934-8989, ext. 260.

Community News

The Bears are Back!

Now that Spring has arrived, the black bears who call the Mammoth Lakes area their home are coming out of hibernation, and they are hungry! It's time to remind all our residents and visitors that it is our responsibility to KEEP WILDLIFE WILD. The best way of doing this, and preventing bears from becoming dependent on humans for food, is to follow these common sense rules:

- Never feed any wildlife, or 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!
- Always deposit trash in a bear proof trash can or dumpster
- Keep your car locked and your garage door closed
- Close and lock ground floor windows when no one is home

It is not unusual to see black bears wandering through town. Enjoy them, but keep your distance. If you see a bear that is misbehaving, such as trying to get into a trash dumpster, vehicle, or building, call 911 immediately. The Town's Wildlife Specialist and police officers are trained to handle situations such as this.

Bears are shy and generally afraid of people. If you feel threatened by a bear, yell or bang on something to scare the bear away. If by chance a bear enters a structure looking for food while you are inside, make a lot of noise and go into another room, close the door, and call 911. The bear will most likely be more frightened than you and leave. It's also time to remind everyone that wildlife, including deer, are on the move. When driving, especially at dusk and dawn, be on the lookout for wild animals crossing the roadway. Striking a deer or bear can be fatal – not only to the animal, but also to people in the car.

For more information on co-existing with wildlife in Mammoth Lakes, contact the Town's Wildlife Specialist Steve Searles at (760) 937-BEAR or Lieutenant John Mair at (760) 934-2011 ext. 44.

Dial M for Murder Continues at Edison Theatre – Ends April 17

A must see for the whodunit fans. Written by Frederick Knott and directed by Shira Dubrovner, Dial M enjoyed a long run on Broadway before it was transformed into the infamous Hitchcock thriller released by Warner Brothers in 1954. Mammoth's Clay Tyson stars as Tony Wendice, a retired professional tennis player with a jealous penchant for killing his wealthy wife, Margot Wendice (Jessica Blum). Tony hires con-artist Captain Lesgate (Scottie Marzonie) to off his wife, but there's no such thing as a perfect murder. Margot's lover Max Halliday (Ted Carleton) and Inspector Hubbard (Grant Bentley) bring nail biting resolve. Dial M is Mammoth Lakes Repertory Theatre Artistic Director Shira Dubrovner's most recent suspense thriller since she directed the highly reviewed Los Angeles run of Ira Levin's Veronica's Room in 2006. **Showtimes: March 31 - April 17, 2011, Thurs. - Saturday 7:00 p.m. & Sunday matinee at 4:00 p.m.** Tickets: General admission: \$20.00, Seniors and students: \$18.00 Group rates available. Call (760) 934.6592 for details and reservations.

Annual Forest Service Vehicle and Equipment Internet Auction – April 18

The annual US Forest Service used vehicle and equipment auction is taking place this month. More than 100 vehicles will be sold to the highest bidder by way of an online auction through the GSA website www.gsaauctions.gov. Bidders must register on the website for sale number 91QSC1-11-221. Bidding closes Monday April 18, 2011.

30 vehicles are located at the White Mtn. Ranger Station of the Inyo National Forest, 798 N. Main Street in Bishop. Sixty vehicles are located at an Eldorado National Forest facility, 2350 Carson Road in Camino, California. Fourteen vehicles are located at a Tahoe National Forest facility, 12019 Charles Drive in Grass Valley, California.

Potential bidders can inspect the vehicles on Monday April 11 through Friday April 15, from 9:00 am to 3:30 pm. For additional information regarding vehicles located on the Eldorado and Tahoe National Forests contact Mike Heckendorn at (530) 621-5289. For vehicles on the Inyo National Forest contact Dan Dummer at (760) 873-2429.

Projected Average Resort Occupancy

Friday, April 15 - Saturday, April 16 = 47%
Sunday, April 17 - Thursday, April 21 = 39%

Twitter

Follow 'TownofMammoth' daily on Twitter at www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us.

Recreation Highlights

RecStrats Workshop Updates

The RecStrats interactive workshops resumed this week with "Winter Recreation + Trails" on April 13, 2011 and "Non-Winter Recreation + Trails" held on April 14, 2011. Attendance was high with a total of 68 recreation enthusiasts participating in a robust discussion of products, programs, and facilities that they would like to see in Mammoth Lakes. Workshop notes will be made available on www.recstrats.com and additional comments or suggestions can be included in the discussion by completing a survey in either English or Spanish online at: <http://recstrats.com>. The public is also invited to complete a survey at key locations around town including the Mammoth Lakes Library, Mammoth Lakes Post Office, and Snowcreek Athletic Club.

The remaining RECSTRATS topic-specific workshops are as follows:

- Wednesday, May 11, 2011 - Special Events
- Thursday, May 12, 2011 - Arts & Culture
- Wednesday, June 8, 2011 - High Altitude Training & Trails
- Thursday, June 23, 2011 - Linkages & Priorities

For additional information, please visit www.recstrats.com or call the Town of Mammoth Lakes Recreation Department at (760) 934-8989 Extension 222.

2011 Volcom Peanut Butter + Rail Jam Championships – April 16

After kicking off the 2011 Peanut Butter and Rail Jam at Mammoth, with 16 stops in between, Volcom is back in the Eastern Sierra for the PB&RJ Championships this Saturday, April 16, 2011. Come to Main Lodge, catch some rays on the sundeck and watch the finalists battle it out for the 2011 Volcom Peanut Butter & Rail Jam title! Riders are invite only but spectators are more than welcome to watch the action!

Peanut Butter + Rail Jam is Volcom's amateur snowboard contest series! Deviating from the way most snowboard contests are run, the crew at Volcom put their heads together and came up with a fresh jam format contest. Instead of having three rails in a row, we put them side by side to create a rail zone. This boosts the energy level and fun nature of the contest because everyone is together, riding, hiking, and watching in a big group.

The "Felici & Friends Fundraiser" – April 16

Join supporters of the Felici Trio on Saturday, April 16, 2011 from 5:00-9:00 p.m. at the home of Betsy and Henry Thumann, 205 Juniper Road, Mammoth Lakes. The "Felici & Friends Fundraiser" features Brian and Rebecca of the Felici Trio plus special guests performing entertaining string quartets while you enjoy drinks and appetizers donated by our local restaurants. Reservations (\$30 per person) and the silent auction support Chamber Music Unbound's education and performance programs. For reservations, visit: www.ChamberMusicUnbound.org or call CMU at (760) 934-7015.

Active Brodown Showdown – April 17

Burton Snowboards is invading South Park on Mammoth Mountain with the Active Brodown Showdown, an amateur slopestyle contest on Sunday, April 17, 2011. Top amateur riders are invited to showcase their talents on a custom built course full of

jumps, bumps, jibs and rails for a chance to win over \$5000 in cash and prizes! The competition will consist of a two-hour jam format qualifier and a 45 minute jam format final with 12 on-course judges comprised of pros, team managers and media moguls.

This event is limited to 100 riders so get there early! Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. at Chair 4. There is a \$35 entry fee and discounted lift tickets will be available to ALL competitors. Helmets are not required but are recommended. Qualifiers kick off at 10:00 a.m., Finals at noon.

Casa Diablo 4 (geo plant) Public Comment Period is OPEN – April 18/19

The Notice of Intent has been filed for the Casa Diablo 4 project (geothermal plant) and the public comment period has officially opened. Two public scoping meetings hosted by the CD4 agency partners (Bureau of Land Management, Inyo National Forest, Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District, and consultant ESA) are scheduled next week:

- Monday, April 18, 2011, at 6 p.m., Crowley Lake Community Center
- Tuesday, April 19, 2011, at 6 p.m., Mammoth Lakes Community Center

Please note that these are scoping meetings ONLY (same information at both) and are designed to be strictly informational in nature. While you may ask questions, comments made during this meeting will NOT be included in the record of official public comment. Nonetheless, it is strongly suggested that you or a representative of your organization attend so that you are familiar with all of the project's pieces and updates. The Public Comment period closes on may 9, 2011.

Sierra Club, Range of Light Group Potluck & Social – April 19

Listen to the "The Sierra Nevada Red Fox" with Sherri Lisius, Wildlife Biologist, Bridgeport Ranger District, Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest on Tuesday, April 19, 2011 beginning at 6:30 pm, Crowley Lake Community Center. The Red Fox was long thought to be extinct in the Sierra Nevada, but it is now clear that a remnant population exists. Sherri will discuss the status of this rare creature and the ongoing multi-agency monitoring and research efforts. She will also update us on FS projects in the Bridgeport district. Please bring your own non-disposable table setting and a special dish to share for 6-8 people.

Easter Egg Hunt and Play Day – April 22

Join the Mammoth Lakes Easter Bunny and Recreation Department staff for a fun, festive and free community Easter Egg Hunt on Friday, April 22, 2011, at the Mammoth Lakes Community Center. Activities begin promptly at 3:00 p.m., so don't be late! Bring your own basket to fill with eggs and goodies, as prize eggs will be hidden for each age group.

Annual Pond Skim & Spring Fest Kick Off Party – April 24

Sunday, April 24 is the day you've all been waiting for: The Annual Spring Fest Kick Off Party & Pond Skim at Mammoth! Come and join the crowds as they fill up Canyon Lodge to watch the craziest of our Mammoth guest's straight line it on their skis/snowboards across the 110ft pond! It's one of the most entertaining events you'll see all Spring! Come and spectate, or why not give it a shot?! The Pond Skim is open to the public. Registration begins at Canyon Lodge at 11:00 a.m. The Skim

starts at 2:00 p.m. There is no pre-registration, the first 50 (fifty) guests IN
COSTUME will be entered to Skim.

June Lake Triathlon Training Camps

2-time Ironwoman Alana Levin and 9-time Hawaii Ironman Chris Morgeson are hosting Triathlon Training Camps in preparation for the July 9, 2011 "Toughest Race in the Most Beautiful Place," June Lake Triathlon. Session 1 (base, technique skill & strength building) is scheduled from April 5 - May 14; Session 2 (skill & technique development, power and speed) from May 17 - June 25, 2011. The Camp meets Tuesday nights from 5:30-7:30 p.m. & Saturday mornings from 9:00-11:00 a.m. (will move earlier as temperatures warm up). The fee is \$200 for HSTC members or \$250 for non-members. Contact Alana at (760) 717-0176 for more information or to register.

April Activities for the Sierra Club, Range of Light Group

The Sierra Club - Range of Light Group hosts Winter Outings every Thursday and Sunday. Thursday is a cross country ski outing for 3-5 miles, about 2 1/2 hours. Sunday is 6-8 miles, back about 3:00 p.m. Intermediate or advanced-beginner skill levels and endurance required. Snow shoe-ers must be able to keep up. Often off groomed trails. If you are unsure of your abilities try a Thursday morning trip first. Participants are asked to meet at M.L. Union Bank parking lot at 10:00 a.m. Abominable weather cancels. Contact: John Walter (760) 934-1767 or Jean Dillingham (760) 648-7109.

Open Gym at the Mammoth High School

The Recreation Department in collaboration with the Mammoth Unified School District (Thanks Rich!) is hosting open basketball at the Mammoth High School Gym every Sunday (excluding April 24) from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Additional programming is being developed and we welcome any programming suggestions. Cost is \$2.00 per participant. Please contact John at (760) 934-8989 ext. 234 for additional information. Hoop it up!

Get Gymnastics Fever!

This year-round program is designed to introduce children from 3-18 years old the wonderful and exciting sport of gymnastics. Offered by Michelle DeJong, a level 8 competitive gymnast and Level 1-5 gymnastics coach, participants will learn to tumble and more in a safe and structured environment. This program is also a recipient of Measure R funding with \$7,000 of gymnastic equipment. Three age sessions are available at the Community Center on Forest Trail and are all on schedule for February, 2011.

- 3-5 yr olds – Saturday: 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 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.

Fees are only \$50/month (8 sessions) for residents and \$60/month for non-residents. Five session Punch Cards are available for \$50 and Private lessons are available upon request at \$20 for 30-45 minutes. Drop-in's are welcome and encouraged - First one is FREE! Please call (760) 934-8989 ext. 222 for more information or to register your aspiring Gymnast!

Gymnastic Schedule Changes

The following changes have been made to the Wednesday gymnastics session at the Community Center. Sorry for any inconvenience.

- May 11 to May 10, 2011
- June 8 to June 7, 2011

Sports & Recreation Calendar

- On-going: Gymnastics/Tumbling Program at the Community Center
- On-going: Open Basketball at the MHS Gym, 6:00-8:00 p.m.
- March 31-April 17: Dial M for Murder
- April 1: Mammoth Value Pass (MVP) on sale
- April 5-May 14: June Lake Tri Camp – Session 1
- April 13-17: Far West Masters Finals
- April 16: Volcom's Peanut Butter & Rail Jam Championships
- April 16: Tamarack Cross Country Ski Center Closing Day
- April 16: Mighty Mite World Championships
- April 16: MMST Footloose Mogul Bash
- April 16: The "Felici & Friends Fundraiser"
- April 17: MMST Jr. Village Championships
- April 17: Active Brodown Showdown
- April 17: [Proof of Life / Round Valley Ride](#)
- April 19: Sierra Club, Range of Light Group Potluck & Social
- April 19: Casa Diablo 4 (geo plant) Public Scoping Meeting
- April 19-24: USSA Far West Speed Finals
- April 22: Recreation Dept. Easter Egg Hunt & Play Day @ Community Center
- April 24: Bunny Hop: Mammoth's Largest Easter Egg Hunt
- April 24: Annual Pond Skim & Spring Fest Kick Off Party
- April 24: Canyon Lodge, Eagle Lodge and Village Gondola Closing Day
- April 24: Mammoth Snowmobile Adventures Closing Day
- April 24: June Mountain Ski Area Closing Day
- April 26-29: DSES Springtacular!
- April 30: Opening Day of Mono County Fishing Season
- May 3: Recreation Commission Meeting

Public Service Announcements

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 Police Department 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.

Town Council Provides Assurance to the Community

The Mammoth Lakes Town Council is continuing to take action to manage the impact of the "Hot Creek" decision on the community. Concern had been raised by some members of the community that the decision could negatively impact critical services or that the Town would assess new taxes or fees to cover the cost.

NO NEW TAXES: The Town Council has very limited powers to raise taxes and assessments, and can only do so with approval of the voters. Voters in other communities have generally opposed the concept of raising taxes to pay a judgment, and this option is not being pursued by the Town Council.

CRITICAL SERVICES WILL BE MAINTAINED: Although it is acknowledged that the judgment could have service impacts similar to those experienced during the recession, the Town Council will maintain critical services such as snow removal and police protection. There are provisions in the California State Code and Municipal Bankruptcy Laws that are specifically designed to protect the public in the event of a financial calamity. The experience in other communities that have had these types of problems demonstrates that critical services will be protected.

The Town Council is pursuing all other available options, including:

- Retaining the largest firm in the nation specializing exclusively in appellate litigation to petition the California Supreme Court for review,
- Challenging the denial of the insurance coverage of the damages,
- Seeking legal advice on municipal bankruptcy options, and
- Actively pursuing settlement negotiations.

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 TownofMammothLakes.com, 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!

Speed Limit in Snow

When CalTrans or the Town of Mammoth Lakes have imposed chain restrictions on US 395, SR 203, or Town roads, speed limits do change from the regularly posted limit. The California Vehicle Code allows the State and the Town to determine the safe speed for any stretch of roadway that can be affected by snow and ice. The Town has chosen to set a 25 mph limit on all local roadways, including SR 203 (Main Street) in the incorporated part of Mammoth. CalTrans has chosen to maintain a 35 mph limit on SR 203 on the outskirts of town, and on US 395 in Mono and Inyo counties. Drivers need to remember, however, that they have an obligation to travel only at a speed safe for roadway conditions. In very bad weather or on extreme ice, this often means slower than these reduced limits. Sometimes 10 mph or less is truly a safe speed. How your car is handling on the roadway should be the deciding factor in slowing down below the limits shown under chain restrictions.

Air Quality Monitoring

The Town monitors air quality during the winter season in cooperation with the Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District. The focus of this monitoring effort is particulate matter or PM10, which is generated from wood smoke and dust from road cinders. PM10 can pose a health hazard, especially to children, the elderly, and people with existing heart or lung problems. Poor air quality is usually associated with clear, cold, and calm winter days when wood smoke from fireplaces and stoves cannot dissipate. To keep our air as clean as possible, please do your part by following these simple steps:

- Only burn clean and hot fires
- Check your chimney periodically for emissions (if smoke is clearly visible, then your fire needs more air, the wood is not dry enough, or the wood is not split small enough)
- Call (760) 934-1010 for any wood burning restrictions
- Abide by the "no wood burning" days restrictions

The Town continually monitors air quality, and will announce "no wood burning" days when air quality is forecast to approach unhealthy levels. To find out if wood burning restrictions have been announced, please call (760) 934-1010, listen to local radio announcements, or watch Mammoth Lakes Community Channel 51. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation. If you have questions, please contact Jen Daugherty, Associate Planner at (760) 934-8989 ext. 260 or jdaugherty@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us.

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.