



Town of Mammoth Lakes
P.O. Box 1609
Mammoth Lakes, CA, 93546
Ph: (760) 934-8989
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Town News

Week of August 22, 2011

News from the Town Manager

Town Council Meeting – Sept. 7

The next regular meeting of the Town Council will be held on Wednesday, September 7, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. in Suite Z in the Minaret Village Mall. Visit the [Streaming Media Archive](#) to review the previous meeting minutes or view the webcast Town Council meeting.

Calls for Service/Officer Observations

183, including 2 business/building checks

Crime Incident Reports

25 reports, including 3 arrests

Traffic Stop/Citations/Traffic Collisions

23 stops; 2 citations; 0 parking citations; 0 skate park citations; 3 collisions

Animal Control Incidents

6 incidents; 0 reports

Wildlife

15 calls; 1 report; 1 citation

Projected Average Resort Occupancy

Friday, August 19 - Saturday, August 20 = 61%
(64% same weekend in 2010)

Sunday, August 21 - Thursday, August 25 = 38%
(37% same midweek in 2010)

Twitter

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

Community Development

Caltrans Eastern Sierra Road Work Schedule - August 21-27

State Route 89 (Monitor Pass) near Coleville from Junction US 395 to the Alpine County Line. Paving Operation – both directions will have one-way traffic control. Expect delays of up to 20 minutes.

State Route 203 from 1.1 miles east of the Madera County line to 0.1 miles east of 203/395 separation. Lane closures both directions. Expect minor delays.

State Route 203 Intersection with US 395 Northbound on/off ramps. Paving Operation in both directions, #2 lane and right shoulder closed.

US Highway 395 (Mono County) intersection with US 395. Paving Operation in both directions, #2 lane and right shoulder closed.

U.S. Highway 395 (Mono County) near Hilton Creek from 0.1 mile north of Crooked Creek bridge to 0.4 mile south of Obsidian Dome Road. Pavement Rehabilitation. No delays expected.

U.S. Highway 395 (Mono County) Deadman Summit (post mile 36.1 to 40.336) Highway Striping both lanes, moving traffic control.

U.S. Highway 395 (Mono County) Walker Canyon pavement preservation. Both directions. Expect delays of up to 20 minutes.

State Route 136 & 168 (Inyo County) 0.2 miles west of Death Valley Rd & near Lone Pine. Paving Operation in both directions. Expect delays of up to 20 minutes.

State Route 190 (Inyo County) 10 miles east of Keeler at various locations from 5 miles east of Route 136 to 1.5 miles west to Talc City. One lane reversing traffic controls. Expect delays of up to 20 minutes.

Unexpected schedule changes may occur. For current information on roadwork, delays, road conditions and emergency closures, call the voice-activated Caltrans Highway Information Network (CHIN) at 800-427-7623 or visit the Caltrans website at: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/>

Public Comment Meeting for Trails System Master Plan EIR – Aug. 24

The Town of Mammoth Lakes will hold a public comment meeting for the Trails System Master Plan (TSMP) EIR as part of next week's Planning Commission meeting, at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 24, 2011 in Suite Z, Minaret Village Shopping Center. The meeting is an additional forum for the public to provide comments on the Draft EIR during the public review period, which officially closes on Thursday, September 1, 2011. Comments can be provided during the meeting, or may be provided in writing during this period and submitted via mail, email or fax to:

Ellen Clark, Senior Planner
Town of Mammoth Lakes
PO Box 1609
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546
Phone: 760-934-8989 ext. 269
Fax: 760-934-8608

email: eclark@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us

The Draft EIR is available on-line at <http://www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us/index.aspx?NID=371>, at the Mammoth Lakes Library, and at the Town offices.

Community News

Mammoth Festival

A celebration of wine and live music by the Goo Goo Dolls, Michelle Branch, Parachute and more...all in a beautiful mountain setting begins this Friday, August 19, 2011. Live Music features on Saturday at Sam's Wood Site (ticket booth opens at 10:00 a.m.) between 12:00 – 9:00 p.m. Wine Tasting in the mountain air, surrounded by towering Jeffery pines with 40 vintners will be pouring between 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. Picnic in the Pines at the outdoor food court featuring a sampling from Mammoth's best restaurants is scheduled from 12:00 – 6:00 p.m., and peruse the Art Expo featuring crafts and fine art by Sierra artisans between 12:00 – 6:00 p.m. Call 800-MAMMOTH for tickets and information.

Public Lands Partnership Program Restructuring following Government Cutbacks

The Eastern Sierra Interpretive Association announced today a restructuring effort of its Public Lands Partnership Program. The new program, which was launched in February 2010 in partnership with the Inyo National Forest and the Bishop Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management, will lose its federal funding at the end of this month and discontinue its day-to-day operations.

ESIA and government agency partners are working to establish an agreed upon strategic direction for the future of the program, including a secured funding mechanism. In the meantime, the partners have committed to continuing to provide an annual partnership forum following the success of the first two held in the spring and fall of 2010.

The Eastern Sierra Interpretive Association was recognized last winter by Inyo National Forest as "the public lands partner of the year" due to its efforts coordinating the Partnership Program which was originally financed by the Inyo National Forest with the intent to provide seed money for the first three years to help establish the effort. The Bureau of Land Management Bishop Field Office also committed financial support. However, with recent federal budget cutbacks, the funding was allocated to other key areas and the Partnership Program became one of the many casualties of the shrinking federal budget. For more information, contact Debbe Eilts, ESIA Executive Director at 760-873-2411 or Nancy Upham, Inyo National Forest Public Affairs Officer at 760-873-2427.

Early Bird Pricing ends Sept. 1 for 12th Annual Mammoth Lakes Foundation Golf Classic

Registration for the Golf Classic is just \$100 for individuals and \$400 for foursomes until September 1. After September 1, 2011 individual registration is \$125 and foursome registration is \$500. All participants receive greens fees and cart, use of chipping and putting greens, lunch, tournament gift, awards party and silent auction, and the opportunity to support higher education and cultural enrichment in Mammoth.

Highlights of this year's Golf Classic include four player scramble format, closest to the pin on all par threes, \$5,000 putting contest, hole-in-one award, raffle, and silent auction. New this year is the Super Ticket raffle with a grand prize of seven nights' accommodations in Belize donated by Jeff and Denise Boucher. Super Tickets are just \$25 per entry, which also includes one "tee shot" mulligan and five regular raffle tickets. Only one Super Ticket will be sold per person so the odds of winning are outstanding.

Started in 2000, the Golf Classic has been an integral way for the Mammoth Lakes Foundation and its supporters to raise money for local student scholarships, the operation of South Gateway Student Apartments, support of the Mammoth Ski Museum and Mammoth Lakes Repertory Theatre, and planning for a proposed Mammoth Arts and Cultural Center.

The Mammoth Lakes Foundation would like to thank tournament sponsor Mr. Bob Hart. Tee sign and in-kind merchandise sponsorships are still available. Give your game some distance – play the 12th Annual Mammoth Lakes Foundation Golf Classic! To register or find out more about the Golf Classic please call (760) 934-3781 or email Maya@MammothLakesFoundation.org.

Community Police Academy – Sept. 15

The Mammoth Lakes Police Department will be hosting its second Community Police Academy starting on September 15, 2011. The Community Police Academy is open to community members who are interested in learning more about how the Mammoth Lakes Police Department operates.

The goal of the Community Police Academy is to form and maintain partnerships between the community and the Police by educating residents about the role of law enforcement. Participants will have the opportunity to see the criminal justice system as only an insider could; learn about the day-to-day operations of the Police Department, Detectives, Narcotics Enforcement, DUI and Traffic Enforcement, police equipment, training, tactics, and much more. Participants will also tour the Mono County Superior Court in Bridgeport, the Mono County Jail and Dispatch Center, and have hands-on experience with police firearms at the Firing Range.

Participants must be 18 years of age or older and live or work in the Mammoth Lakes area. The class will be limited to a maximum of 15 students. Classes will be held every Thursday from 6 p.m. until 9:15 p.m., beginning September 15 and ending on November 10, 2011. Applications are available at the Mammoth Lakes Police Department (568 Old Mammoth Road) Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For additional information, please contact Officer David Scobie at (760) 934-2011 X55, or at dscobie@mammothlakespd.org.

Mammoth Lakes Police Community Hispanic Advisory Committee Meeting – Oct. 18

The Mammoth Lakes Police Community Hispanic Advisory Committee will be holding another Town Hall on Tuesday, October 18 at 6 p.m. at the Grand Sierra Lodge, Emerald Room. Presentations will be made by representatives from the Mexican Consulate, Child Protection Services, the Mono County District Attorney, the Mono County Superior Court, and the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). There will also be an Open Forum where questions can be asked of representatives of these agencies along with the Police and Fire Departments of Mammoth Lakes 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. 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.

Recreation Highlights

We Want to Hear From You!

The Recreation Department would like to hear what you have to say about our products and programs. If you participated in one of our many youth and adult programs, or enjoyed one of our parks or facilities, please take the time to complete the Customer Satisfaction Survey online at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/PZ3JCYQ>. Customer Satisfaction Survey's are also available for collection from the Recreation office located in the Minaret Village Mall, above Giovanni's. Please call (760) 934-8989 ext. 222 for additional information. We look forward to hearing from you!

Showboat Youtheatre is Underway!

The workshops, sponsored and invited by the Town of Mammoth Lakes Recreation Department are underway at the Community Center. Children from 5 to 10 years of age will be working on "Alley Katz" from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. and the more advanced thespians from 10 and up will be working on the classic, well known musical "Bye Bye Birdie". The production of "Alley Katz" is scheduled for Friday, August 26, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. and performances for "Bye Bye Birdie" are scheduled on Saturday, August 27 at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. All performances will be held at the Mammoth Lakes Arts Center. Donations are encouraged and applause is appreciated! Please contact the Recreation Department for the revised schedule at (760) 934-8989 ext. 222.

Whitmore Pool Closes for Public Swim Saturday – Aug. 20

The Whitmore Pool closes for recreation swim and American Red Cross swim lessons this Saturday, August 20, 2011. Lap Swim continues five mornings a week, Monday through Friday from 6:30 - 8:30 a.m. until September 9, 2011. Cost is only \$4/swim. Thank you for you patronage and we hope to see you next summer! For more information call the pool during open hours at (760) 935-4222.

Coed Softball Tournament – Aug. 20-21

The Town of Mammoth Lakes Recreation Department will be hosting a softball tournament at Shady Rest Park on Saturday and Sunday, August 20-21, There is a 4 game guarantee and 1st and 2nd place will receive trophies, custom team t-shirts, and an MVP award. A sportsmanship award will be awarded to a team in each of the 3 pools as well. Join us Friday afternoon/evening on the 19th for Mammoth's first annual Hitting Accuracy contest. \$10 to enter and the overall winner will receive a brand new bat. Roller bags will be awarded to both a male and female runner up.

Don't miss it! Contest starts at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, August 19, 2011. The tournament begins at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday the 20th. More information and pictures from the Men's Tournament are available at www.mammothsoftball.com or just search "Mammoth Softball" on Facebook. There are a few open slots remaining for local teams (Bishop, Mammoth & June) to get signed-up- don't delay! \$100 deposit guarantees your team's spot. The balance of the \$350 entry fee for your

team can be paid the day of the tournament. For registration please email or call Tourney Director, Grover Swick, at [760-96 4902](tel:760-96-4902) or hardlinedrives@gmail.com. The Mammoth Lakes Women's Club will be staffing the snack bar, so any food you buy will support a great cause!

ESV Reverse Century Ride – Aug. 21

As a warm up for the Sierra Fall Century on September 11, [Eastside Velo](#) rides the route counter clockwise on Sunday, August 21, 2011. The ride leaves Whitmore Field on Benton Crossing Road at 8:00 a.m. and heads north over Waterson Summit, Wild Rose Summit and eventually west on Highway 120 and over Sage Hen to Highway 395. The whole grand boucle is 95 miles. It's a big hand-full but it's a fun way to do this route and it makes for an easy Fall Century two weeks later. This ride is free to ESV club members. We welcome non-members on any of our supported rides for a \$15 one day fee.

George's Triathlon – Aug. 21

George's Race (in honor of George Fowler) is this Saturday, August 21, 2011. Gail puts this one on so email her at snapevents@yahoo.com for more information or just show up with your mountain bike - it's off road: Horsehoe Lake swim, Horseshoe Lake Trail mountain bike and McCloud Lake and beyond trail run - super fun course!

Final Youth Rock Climbing Camp – Aug. 22&23

The SRCS (Sierra Rock Climbing School) youth climbing camp is a unique and special opportunity for young people to learn about rock climbing from expert professional rock-climbing guides, in a safe as possible and non-competitive atmosphere. Our youth rock climbing camps are for beginner through advanced climbers. The focus of the camps will be on having fun and climbing safely; nevertheless, participants will learn valuable technical climbing techniques. The experience of climbing with others will also help participants develop valuable skills in group dynamics, leadership, team building and interpersonal communications. SRCS is proud, as well as excited to be offering these climbing camps through Mammoth Lakes Recreation. Our guides look forward to meeting you and getting to know all of you. We hope you will join us for an excursion full of rock climbing. Camps will run on Mondays and Tuesdays throughout the summer from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. on the following dates: August 22-23, 2011. Cost is \$150.

Mammoth Mud Run – Aug. 27

Stomp through mud pits! Crawl on your hands and knees underneath obstacles! Haul your body up and over walls! And that's just a partial listing of what you'll have to do. The 1st Annual Mammoth Mud Run tests your endurance and strength in a series of obstacles, mud pits and more over a span of 5 kilometers. It's fun. It's dirty. It will leave you breathless. Join us for the highest Mud Run in California on Saturday, August 27, 2011 at the Village at Mammoth/Canyon Lodge. Tony Horton, the master behind the best selling fitness program in America P90X® is hosting warm-up sessions at the start so don't miss out! For more information and to register visit www.MammothMountain.com/MammothMudRun.

Mammoth Lakes Farmers Market

Farmers Market is back in Mammoth every Wednesday between 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. until the end of summer. Grab your re-usable shopping bag and get over to the Luxury Outlet Mall on Main Street for some home grown produce, arts & crafts,

entertainment and more. For vendor information contact:
info@greenfoxevents.com, (760) 709-6744 or Facebook us.

Contact Us

All the summer, fall, winter and Spring events, programs and activities are listed on www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us and in the 2011-12 Annual Mammoth Recreation Guide. Please call the Recreation Department at (760) 934-8989 ext. 222 or visit us in the Town Offices – Minaret Village Mall (above Giovanni's) to register for a program, for additional information or to forward your comments and suggestions.

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!

ON-GOING RECREATION PROGRAMS...

Sharpen Up Your Stroke at the Community Center Tennis Courts

Tennis lessons are now being offered by USPTA Tennis Professional Tom Sherry at the Community Center Tennis Courts. Clinics, camps, and private lessons for all ability levels are scheduled every Tuesday through Thursday that emphasize stroke production and strategy. The Mammoth Lakes Tennis Club (MLTC) has programmed a number of special events hosted at the Community Center Tennis Courts, including the new "Sunday Social" beginning on June 19, 2011. Socials get underway from 9:30 a.m. till 12:00 p.m. with snacks provided by the MLTC. For more information about the tournaments and socials, contact MLTC president Gail Lonne at (760) 934-0150 or glonne@verizon.net. To purchase your tennis lesson punch cards, please call (760) 934-8989 ext. 222, visit www.townofmammothlakes.com or pick up a copy of the new 2011/12 Annual Mammoth Lakes Recreation Guide available throughout town. Tennis Lessons will be unavailable on Thursday, July 7 and 14, 2011. Sorry for any inconvenience.

Party Yourself into Shape!

Zumba® Fitness is offered every Monday by Kaysie Williams from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Mammoth Lakes Community Center, 1000 Forest Trail (near The Village). Zumba® Fitness is an exhilarating, effective, easy-to-follow, Latin-inspired, calorie-burning dance fitness-party™ that's moving millions of people toward joy and health. Participants don't even have to know how to dance. Just move your body and follow the instructor's lead. It's easy! Participants can purchase a 10 class punch card for \$77.50 or a 5 class punch card for only \$42.50. The Drop-In rate is \$10 per class. For more information or to register call (760) 934-8989 ext. 222. Feel the music and let loose!

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.

- 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!

Sports & Recreation Calendar

- On-going: Gymnastics/Tumbling Program at the Community Center
- On-going: Zumba Fitness at the Community Center
- On-going: The Whitmore Pool is open – swim lessons...
- On-going: Tennis Lessons every Tuesday/Thursday
- On-going: Main Street Farmers Market every Wednesday
- On-going: Footloose Sports Tour of Mammoth Bike Challenge
- On-going: Coed Softball League
- On-going: Men's Softball League
- August 10-12: Wave Rave KONCRETE KOMMANDOS Skate camp
- August 12-14: Disabled Sports of the Eastern Sierra Pedal/Paddle Ride Fundraiser
- August 13: Mammoth Lakes Summer of Stewardship 2011 Trail Day
- August 13: Crowley Lake Stillwater Classic Fly-Fishing Competition
- August 13-14: WHITMORE CLOSED for Mammoth Lakes Annual Scholarship Swim Meet
- August 15-19: AYSO Advanced Soccer Camp
- August 15-19: Wilderness Camp III
- August 15-27: Showboat Youtheatre Drama Camp
- August 15-19: Youth Tennis Camp
- August 18: Mammoth Trails Meeting
- August 19-21: Mammoth Festival
- August 20: Last public swim day at Whitmore pool
- August 20-21: Adult Co-Ed Softball Tournament
- August 21: Eastside Velo High Sierra Reverse Fall Century
- August 21: George's Triathlon
- August 22-23: Youth Climbing Camp III
- August 24: Public meeting for TSMP EIR
- August 25: MUSD first day of school!
- August 26-27: Showboat Youtheatre performance: *Alley Katz* and *Bye Bye Birdie*
- August 26-28: Mammoth Rocks
- August 27: Mammoth lakes summer of Stewardship 2011 Trail Day
- August 27: Wave Rave/Volcom Skateboard Competition
- August 27: Mammoth Mud Run
- Sept. 3: Mono County free Fishing Day
- Sept. 3-4: June Lake Horseshoe Tournament
- Sept. 3-5: Mammoth Lakes Tennis Club Labor Day Doubles Tournament
- Sept. 4: Ned's Mammoth Rock Race
- Sept. 5: Mammoth Lakes Cricket Invitational
- Sept. 9: Whitmore Pool closes for the season

- Sept. 9: High Sierra Fall Century Bike Race
- Sept. 10: Mammoth AYSO Fall Soccer Season begins (ends October 2, 2011)

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 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>.

The Bears are Back!

It is 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 unsecured 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 is also time to remind everyone that all 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 Extension 44.

New Rule Before School Opens in the Fall!

All students entering grades 7-12 this fall must provide proof of having immunization against whooping cough ('Tdap') before starting school. In light of California's recent and ongoing whooping cough (pertussis) epidemic, there is no reason to wait for the

new school year. Besides, the first day of school is busy enough as it is without having to "get shot"!

This new school requirement applies to all public and private schools, and includes students who are home schooled. California's parents are being urged not to wait for the new fall school year, since there will be no grace period. Under the new law, students will not be allowed to start school without proof of vaccination. All schools will be subject to selective review and audit.

If a child does not have health insurance, or is only partially insured, your child's doctor or the Mono County Health Department can provide information about the Vaccines for Children Program which provides free or low-cost vaccines. The Tdap vaccine is also available at Von's.

Be sure to add this to your "to do" list, and have your child vaccinated before you get distracted by all the fun summer activities. The first day of school will arrive before you know it! For more information, please visit www.ShotsforSchool.org, or call us at (760) 924-1830 for more information.

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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.