



Town of Mammoth Lakes

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Town News

Town e-News – Week of January 21, 2013

News from the Town Manager

Town Council Meeting – Jan. 23

The next regular meeting of the Mammoth Lakes Town Council will be held on Wednesday, January 23, 2013 beginning at 5:00 p.m. with a workshop. Visit the [Streaming Media Archive](#) to review the previous meeting minutes or view the webcast Town Council meeting.

Town Expands Parking Options for MLK Weekend

In an effort to provide additional parking for Village patrons this Martin Luther King Holiday Weekend, the Town will temporarily remove parking restrictions on Hillside Drive and Berner Street. The following changes will be made to allow restricted parking from January 17, 2013 through January 21, 2013. The existing no parking signs will be covered or bagged, with new signs placed allowing 2-hour parking from 6:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m.

- Parallel parking will be permitted where signed along the easterly side of Hillside Drive from the Westin Entrance to Canyon Blvd. Parking will be restricted to 2-hours from 6:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m.
- Parallel parking will be permitted where signed along the westerly side of Berner Street from Forest Trail to the 90 degree turn across from the Mammoth Brewing Company. Parking will be restricted to 2-hours from 6:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m.

These experimental holiday parking changes will be reviewed over several holiday periods to determine the effectiveness of the program, and to identify any issues or opportunities. Depending on the outcome of the parking program, a resolution may be presented to Town Council to consider and potentially adopt this temporary parking program.

Mammoth Lakes Police Recruitment for Police Officers

As a result of several actual and anticipated police officer vacancies, the Mammoth Lakes Police Department (MLPD) is initiating a recruitment drive for police officers. Existing P.O.S.T. certified officers (lateral) are encouraged to apply. Applications will also be accepted from entry level police officer candidates.

This is an opportunity for a challenging career in law enforcement in one of the most beautiful environments in the United States.

Anyone interested in being part of the future of the MLPD can obtain more information by contacting the Police Department Recruiter, Sergeant Marc Moscowitz, at (760) 934-2011 ext. 68.

Calls For Service/Officer Observations

136, Including 2 Business/Building Checks

Crime/Incident Reports

27 Reports, Including 7 Arrests

Traffic Stops/Citations/Traffic Collisions

14 Stops; 2 Citations; 8 Parking Citations; 0 Skate Park Citations; 3 Collisions

Animal Control Incidents

0 Incidents; 0 Reports

Wildlife

0 Calls; 1 Report

Projected Average Resort Occupancy

Friday, January 18, 2013 - Sunday, January 20, 2013 = 77%

(30% same weekend in 2012, up 47% in 2013)

Monday, January 21, 2013 - Thursday, January 24, 2013 = 32%

(19% same midweek in 2012, up 13% in 2013)

Hotels/Motels/B&B: 85% (Friday-Sunday) 30% (Monday-Thursday)

Condos: 69% (Friday-Sunday) 33% (Monday-Thursday)

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

Disclaimer: Social media communications regarding Town business may be subject to disclosure. Social media is not the official method of communicating with the Town. Please contact Town staff via telephone, in writing or in person.

Community News

Boxer Applauds President Obama for Signing the 'Mt. Andrea Lawrence Designation Act'

U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA) today praised President Obama for signing her bill, the Mt. Andrea Lawrence Designation Act, into law. This legislation will name a mountain peak in Mono County "Mt. Andrea Lawrence" in honor of the renowned conservationist, three-time Olympian and former member of the Mono County Board

of Supervisors who passed away in 2009. The bill passed the Senate by unanimous consent, and passed the House on a 408 to seven vote.

"I am so pleased that President Obama signed this bill honoring the life and contributions of one of Mono County's most distinguished residents," Senator Boxer said. "Andrea Lawrence dedicated her life to protecting the treasures of the Eastern Sierra. Her passion and achievements were larger than life, which is why I cannot think of a more fitting tribute than to name this majestic peak in her honor."

Andrea Mead Lawrence was a three-time Olympian who remains the only American double Olympic gold medalist in alpine skiing. She was inducted into the U.S. National Ski Hall of Fame in 1958 at the age of 25, and in 2002, sports writer and documentary filmmaker Bud Greenspan called her "the greatest Winter Olympian of all time."

Lawrence was also a committed conservationist who worked to protect and restore Mammoth Lakes, Mono Lake, Bodie State Historic Park and other important natural and cultural resources of the Eastern Sierra. She served for 16 years on the Mono County Board of Supervisors as well as on the Great Basin Air Pollution Control District and in 2003 founded the Andrea Lawrence Institute for Mountains and Rivers to promote environmental protection and economic vitality in the region.

Peak 12,240, previously identified only by its elevation, is located in Mono County near the Tuolumne County border. It is on the border of the Ansel Adams Wilderness, just east of Yosemite National Park. The John Muir trail passes close to the peak.

Senator Boxer and Congressman Buck McKeon (R-Santa Clarita) – who sponsored identical House legislation – first introduced the legislation during the 111th Congress. Supporters of this bill include Andrea Lawrence's family, the Mono County Board of Supervisors, the Wilderness Society, the Sierra Club, the Mono County Democratic Central Committee, the Mammoth Town Council, the Mono Lake Committee, the Andrea Lawrence Institute for Mountains and Rivers, the Sierra Nevada Alliance, the Mammoth Mountain Ski Area, Town of Mammoth Lakes Council Member Wendy Sugimura and former Mono County Supervisor Tim Alpers.

Robert Picardo And Linda Purl Are Coming To The Edison Theatre – Jan. 18/19

The Mammoth Lakes Repertory Theatre in cooperation with the Mammoth Lakes Foundation welcomes two Hollywood stars who bring added shine to its "Evening with the Stars" event taking place January 18 and 19, 2013 at the Edison Theatre.

"The play is Bernard Slade's 'Same Time, Next Year' that had a successful Broadway run and was also made into a successful film. As an added attraction Dubrovner has two levels of ticket prices. The staged reading alone is \$35 per person; add in wine and hors d'oeuvres and the ticket price is still a modest \$55 per person with the proceeds benefiting the theatre's programming and ultimately cultural enrichment in Mammoth.

Robert Picardo is a highly recognizable star from his work in television on "Star Trek Voyager" as the Emergency Medical Hologram, also known as The Doctor; as Mister Cutlip in "The Wonder Years," and as Dr. Dick Richards on ABC's "China Beach," as well as films including "Gremlins." While attending Yale, he landed a role in Leonard Bernstein's "Mass," a musical theater piece originally commissioned for the 1972 opening of the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. In 1974, armed with Yale B.A. in Drama, he enrolled at the Circle in the Square Professional Theater Workshop (a

fellow alumnus is Kevin Bacon). His theatrical work prospered (in 1976) when he appeared in the David Mamet play "Sexual Perversity in Chicago," and with Diane Keaton in "The Primary English Class."

In 1977, Picardo made his Broadway debut in the leading role in the comedy hit "Gemini" with Danny Aiello then went on to co-star with Jack Lemmon in Bernard Slade's "Tribute" in 1978 on Broadway and in a west coast run which brought him to Los Angeles, where he decided to try out film and TV.

Linda Purl is just as highly recognizable from numerous television appearances, most recently in recurring roles on "True Blood," "Homeland," and "The Office." She has starred in over 40 made-for-television movies, and is known for her series roles as Charlene Matlock on "Matlock" and Ashley Pfister, Fonzie's fiancée, on "Happy Days." Broadway credits include "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer." Purl is the founder of the California International Theatre Festival and has appeared in numerous regional theatre productions including at the Rubicon Theatre in leading roles in "A Streetcar Named Desire," "Love Letters" (*with Stacy Keach*), and "The Tempest." As a film actress, she has appeared in Disney's "Mighty Joe Young," among others.

Purl currently tours with her solo concert *Come Rain or Come Shine*, and her recordings include the solo albums "Alone Together" and "Out of this World: Live with special guest Desi Arnaz Jr." Born in Connecticut, Purl grew up in Japan, becoming the only foreigner to have trained at the Toho Geino Academy. Her studies continued at LAMDA, Neighborhood Playhouse and Lee Strasberg Institute.

Evening with the Stars takes place at the Edison Theatre across from Cerro Coso College at 100 College Parkway. Tickets may be purchased online at the theatre's website, www.EdisonTheatre.org, or by calling (760) 934-6592.

Birthday Celebrations at the Mammoth Lakes Library – Jan. 20-26

The Mammoth Library turns 5 on Sunday, January 20, 2013 and their having a week-long celebration. Participate in Fine Forgiveness, raffles & contests, and enjoy Birthday Cake on Thursday, January 24, 2013 at 4:00 p.m.

Schedule of events:

- Tuesday, Jan. 22 - Fine Forgiveness, Guess How Many? contest & raffle drawing Cookies! @ 4 pm
- Wednesday, Jan. 23 - Fine Forgiveness, Guess How Many? contest & Raffle drawing Treats! @ 4 pm
- Thursday, Jan. 24 - Fine Forgiveness, Guess How Many? contest & raffle drawing, Birthday Cake! @ 4 pm
- Friday, Jan. 25 - Fine Forgiveness, Guess How Many? contest & raffle drawing, Cookies! @ 4 pm
- Saturday, Jan. 26 - Fine Forgiveness, Guess How Many? contest & raffle drawing Treats! @ 2 pm

Raffle details:

- Enter every day, from Jan 14-26. Entry forms will be at the library front desk. One winner will be drawn at 4 pm each day from Jan. 22-26, 2013
- Raffle prizes:
- Books, book bags, book marks, book lights, Book Chalet Gift certificates & more!
- Guess How May? Details:

- Guess how many jellybeans, paperclips, chocolate chips, sunflower seeds, etc...
- A new contest every day!

Each day's raffle & contest winners will be announced the following morning on Facebook and our new website: www.monocolibraries.org

MCOE Winter Adult Education Classes

Early Childhood Parenting Made Fun®

Day: Wednesdays, January 23 – March 13

Time: 3:00-5:00 pm

Location: Mono County Office of Education

Info: This class is for parents or childcare providers with children ages 0-5 yrs old.

Cost: \$8 for the workbook.

Becoming a Love and Logic Parent®

Day: Wednesdays, January 23 – March 13

Time: 6:00-8:00 pm

Location: Mono County Office of Education

Info: Love and Logic® provides simple and practical techniques to help parents with kids of all ages.

Cost: \$8 for the workbook.

For more information, contact Laura Timpano at ltimpano@monocoe.org or (760) 934-0031.

Open House for State of California Off-Highway Vehicle Grant Requests – Jan. 23

The Inyo National Forest and Bishop Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will be requesting grant funds from the State of California Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation division March 4th for the purpose of enhancing and managing motorized recreation in this area. The agencies will hold an informal Open House from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday January 23, 2013 at the Forest Service/BLM office located at 351 Pacu Lane in Bishop. Representatives from the two agencies will be available to answer questions about potential grants and to receive your ideas about the types of projects and other opportunities which you would like to see funded through these grants.

For more information, or to submit your ideas through other means, or if you have special needs for accommodation to participate in this Open House, please call Marty Hornick, Forest Trails Coordinator, at (760) 873-2461; or Rich Williams, BLM Recreation Planner, at (760) 872-5033.

Chamber Music Unbound presents "Fire & Ice" – Jan. 26

On Saturday, January 26, 2013, from 7:30 p.m. at Cerro Coso College, Mammoth Lakes, Chamber Music Unbound presents The Felici Piano Trio in a concert entitled "Fire & Ice." Music by Louise Farrenc, Rachmaninoff and Brahms. Tickets (\$25 Adult, \$17 Senior) are available online (www.ChamberMusicUnbound.org), at the Booky Joint, the Inyo Council for the Arts, or at the door on concert nights.

Time to Get Serious

Influenza is hitting the nation harder than it did at this point last year, and it could be peaking in some parts of the country, but it has not yet reached its peak in California.

Persons who have not yet gotten vaccinated against seasonal influenza should do so, and sooner rather than later. In addition to just beating the anticipated peak, the supply is barely keeping up with the increased demand. Influenza vaccine makers were expected to supply the US market with some 135 million doses. As of January 4, roughly 128 million doses had been distributed. Given reports of spot shortages, vaccine seekers may have to call more than a single healthcare provider to receive their dose. Try your healthcare provider, a pharmacy, or the health department.

The effectiveness of the current seasonal influenza vaccine is 62%, which means that 38% of us who get vaccinated could still contract influenza. These are still good odds, with this vaccine being a perfect match for circulating strains of the flu virus. The flu vaccine is far from perfect, but it is the best tool by far for preventing the flu. It is well worth the effort, and decades of experience show that it is very safe.

Fear of "Bad Year" Becoming a Reality

In early December 2012, the CDC said that given the early onset of the 2012-2013 influenza season and the particular mix of viruses in circulation, this could be a bad year. The ensuing weeks have proved them right. Patients presenting with influenza-like illness (ILI) have flooded hospital emergency departments in the Northeast, for example — so much so that public health emergencies have been declared in Boston, New York State, and Indiana.

The CDC's latest weekly surveillance report of influenza activity, covering the first week of 2013 and ending January 5, continues to support the "bad year" outlook. According to the report, 47 states reported widespread geographic influenza activity, which is 6 more than the week before. In comparison, no state reported widespread geographic influenza activity for the first week of 2012. 20 children have died so far in this influenza season. Although California is one of the 3 states only reporting regional activity, emergency department visits in San Diego for influenza-like illness have doubled in the last reporting week, evidence that things are beginning to happen in Southern California. We all recognize that whatever happens in Southern California, happens in Mammoth within a few weeks. We are seeing signs that the flu has reached Mono County, and is expected to continue to increase over the next few weeks.

The CDC also said the ILI trend suggests that influenza is peaking or waning in some states. However, the findings for the last week of 2012 preclude certainty because they can represent an artificial holiday spike. Americans make fewer trips to physician offices in December for routine matters such as check-ups, so the patients who do end up in the waiting room "have a different pattern of illness." As a result, the ILI rate can swell up. It will take a few more weeks of influenza surveillance and more data points to confirm the trend.

Predominant A(H3N2) Virus Associated With More Severe Flu Seasons

Of the influenza viruses in circulation as of January 5, the most common is A(H3N2). Influenza seasons tend to be more severe when this virus predominates. The United States has not experienced a major A(H3N2) outbreak since the 2007-2008 season. This may explain why this year's spread is so extensive. The once dreaded pandemic influenza A(H1N1) virus from 2009, and a Type B virus, are both circulating in small numbers. All 3 of the circulating types are included in this year's vaccine.

Predicting when, where, and how bad a flu season will become is about like predicting earthquakes. We know that influenza viruses in a given country, city, or region will vary from year to year in unpredictable ways. We just do not know why. Stay tuned, and follow these tips:

Flu Season is Here -Take Action Now

Do your part to protect yourself and others against the flu.

If you have the flu,

- Stay home
- Follow your health care provider's recommendations
- Prevent the spread of the flu with these flu-fighting tips.

If you don't have the flu, it's not too late to get a flu shot! The best protection against the flu is to get the vaccine. Seasonal flu vaccines have a very good safety record.

Recreation Highlights

Recreation Commission To Begin Recreation Facilities Planning Process

The Recreation Commission is developing a long-term (5+ years) capital investment program for recreation and the arts. This plan will guide future decisions as it relates to not only top-tier projects, and the Town's Capital Investment Program (CIP), but future recreation asset management strategies, and programming needs for both residents and visitors of Mammoth Lakes.

A three phase process has been established that will solely focus on recreation and at a later time, the Recreation Commission will replicate the process for the cultural arts and entertainment component. The first workshop is scheduled to commence on January 22, 2013, and culminate with a presentation to Town Council in the fall/winter of 2013. All Commission meetings and workshops will take place in the Town Council Chambers (Suite Z), located in the Minaret Village Mall at 2:00 p.m.

A dedicated page on the Town's website has been developed that will be used to advertise the process and provide information to the public. It will also include relevant information, reference documents and updated key findings. Please visit: <http://www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us/index.aspx?nid=512>.

Comments regarding the planning process or any of the cited planning documents can be directed to Stuart Brown at sbrown@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us. The public is also welcome to attend any of the scheduled workshops identified in Phase 1.

Phase 1 – Review of Existing Plans (3-4 months)

Phase 1 will take into consideration the vision and strategies of RecStrats, including recommendations identified in the Parks and Recreation Master Plan (PRMP), Trail System Master Plan (TSMP), and other adopted or relevant planning documents. Two-hour Workshops will be scheduled every month to dedicate time to review the documents, identify key findings, with adequate time to receive input from the public.

Schedule:

- January 8 – Review and confirm phased planning process (Staff will supply a standardized template for the Commission to utilize when reviewing planning documents).
- January 22 – Workshop: RecStrats II Implementation Strategy review
- February 5 – Update on process – additional review in necessary
- February 19 – Workshop: PRMP & TSMP Review
- March 5 – Update on process - additional review in necessary
- March 19 – Workshop: TOML General Plan, DRCEDS & South Gateway Master Plan
- April 9 – Review of Phase 1 process - additional review in necessary
- April 23 – DRAFT 5 YR CIP Review & Additional Plans
- May 7 – Commencement of Phase 2; develop agenda and tasks for May 21 workshop
- May 21 – Workshop: Elements of Phase 2
- June 4 – Review of Phase 2 process; develop agenda and tasks for June 18 workshop
- June 12 – Joint workshop with Planning Commission to discuss findings and next steps.
- June 18 – Workshop: Elements of Phase 3
- July 9 - Review of Phase 3 & next steps.

Phase 2 – Consolidation of Plans (2 -3 months)

Phase 2 is the consolidation of all the planning documents into one succinct document that identifies the key findings and recommendations from each plan. It will also identify the following:

- Planning gaps, and discuss tactics to acquire necessary information. Includes any future plans (Special Event study).
- A determination as to whether specific master plans need to be completed for each recreation facility.
- Role of public and how they will engage in the process.
- Required resources, funding and process for progression to Phase 3.
- Role of Commission, level of availability and participation by Town Staff in Phase 3, and a determination as to whether the final document can be produced by Town Staff or a consultant.
- Development of timeline for completion & Town Council presentation.

Phase 3 – Final Document (TBD pending level of detailed scope of work)

This document identifies the deliverables and the key objectives of a long-term Capital Investment Program for recreation. The plan should articulate and demonstrate the following:

- Demand for facilities (needs assessment/use data)
- Current Inventory of facilities
- Current asset management plan and budget (O&M)
- Recreation Level of Service (LOS) standards
- Future capital facility demand
- Future capital facility projects – integration with Draft 5 yr. CIP
- Future capital facility costs including O&M.
- Identification of potential partners, revenue sources and financing plans for construction, operations and maintenance of the proposed facilities. Includes: project feasibility and proposed project milestones.
- Next steps

Please contact Stuart Brown, Recreation Manager and Public Information Officer at email: sbrown@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us or (760) 934-8989 ext. 210 for additional information regarding this recreation planning process.

Mammoth Ice Rink Now Open

Get Your Skates on Mammoth Lakes, the Mammoth Ice Rink is now OPEN. The Mammoth Ice Rink is an outdoor facility located at 416 Sierra Park Road adjacent to the new Mammoth Lakes Library offering public skating sessions, hockey clinics, pick-up hockey, Friday night lessons and is available for rental. We ask for your patience and consideration during efforts to re-open the facility after a winter storm.

Admission

Adults skate for \$10.00 with skate rentals, youth (5-15) for \$8.00 with skate 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).

Friday Night Lessons

Ice skating group lessons are scheduled every Friday night at the Mammoth Ice Rink. Lessons are scheduled for 45 minutes for a cost of only \$10 per student with a maximum of 8 students per session. Friday night lesson times are 6:00 – 6:45 p.m. for Elementary age children, 7:00 – 7:45 p.m. for Middle/High School age skaters, and 8:00 – 8:45 p.m. for adults. Purchase five lessons in advance and get the 6th Lesson FREE! Ice skates are not included in the fee, but are available for rental. Private lessons are available for \$25/hour.

Ice Hockey

Pick-up Ice Hockey is programmed at the Mammoth Ice Rink for the entire season (includes holiday periods). Please refer to the schedule for details. Fees are \$10 for adults or \$5 for youth per session, or \$150/\$100 for an Adult or Youth Season Pass.

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, or call the Mammoth Ice Rink at (760) 934-2505 during winter operating hours.

We'll see you on the ice!

Gymnastics/Tumbling Program

NEW SCHEDULE: Through March 2013, Saturday Gymnastics will begin at 11:30 a.m. We apologize for any inconvenience. Beginning October 19, 2012, the Wednesday session will now take place on Friday. No class on October 26 – join us at the Halloween Party at the Mammoth Roller Rink!

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 programs are available:

- 3 yr. olds – Saturday: 11:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
- 4-5 yr. olds – Saturday: 12:15 – 1:00 p.m.
- 5-8 yr. olds – Saturday: 1:00- 2:00 p.m.
- 8-12+ yr. olds – **Friday:** 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. & **Saturday:** 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.
- 8-12+ yr. olds – Tuesday: 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. – Invitation only.

Five session Punch Cards are available for \$60 for the first family member and \$55 for each additional family member. 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!

Zumba Fitness

Party yourself into shape with Zumba® Fitness offered by Kaysie Williams from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Mammoth Lakes Community Center, 1000 Forest Trail. Cost: 10 punch-\$77.50; 5 punch-\$42.50; Drop-In rate \$10 per class and your first class is only \$5!

Sports & Recreation Calendar

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|-----------|--|
| ▪ CLOSED | Reds Meadow, Tioga, Sonora and the Lakes Basin |
| ▪ Nov. 8 | Mammoth Mountain Opening Day! |
| ▪ Nov. 17 | Tamarack Cross Country Ski Center Opening Day |
| ▪ Dec. 14 | Mammoth Ice Rink Opening Day! |
| ▪ Dec. 20 | Snowmobile Adventures Opening Day |
| ▪ Dec. 21 | Woolly's Tube Park and Snow Play Opening Weekend |

Public Service Announcements

Time to Hunker Down – Influenza Has Arrived!

It's been a little over a month since our last Mono-Gram discussed the probability of an early and bad flu season. Well, it is now happening.

Across the country, influenza activity continues its sharp rise, with reports of influenza-like-illness nearing what have been peak levels during moderately severe seasons. So far, there is no peak in sight, and this is predicted to be the worst flu season in decades. States in the west and southwest, including California, have lagged the rest of the nation in flu activity. This only means that we get a sneak peek at what we will be facing in the weeks to come.

In the reporting period ending Jan 4, 2013, 42 states reported geographically widespread flu activity, 7 had regional activity, and one reported sporadic activity. During the previous week, 31 states reported widespread flu activity. The H3N2 strain -- typically associated with more-severe seasons – continued to dominate, constituting 98 percent of influenza A viruses that were subtyped, with the other 2 percent being pandemic 2009 H1N1. The circulating strains continue to be well matched to the strains in the flu vaccine, and no resistance to antiviral drugs has been detected. The CDC reports that there have been 18 pediatric flu deaths so far

this season. A number of otherwise healthy teenagers and young adults have died within 48 hours of becoming ill.

Southern California health departments have reported marked increases in visits to emergency departments and doctor's offices for respiratory illness during the month of December, much of which has been respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) instead of influenza. It appears that levels of influenza in Southern California were still low during the recent 2 week holiday period, sparing us a large influx of sick visitors. But that is changing.

Both visitors and locals returning from recent travel have brought the virus into our area in recent days. This is evidenced by a half dozen positive flu tests since the first of the year at Mammoth Hospital, and anecdotal reports from healthcare providers of increased respiratory illness, and of increased requests for Tamiflu at our local pharmacies. Therefore, we know the virus is here, and the most efficient spreader of the virus – kindergarten – is now back in session as of yesterday!

What should be our response locally?

- While the influenza vaccine is not perfect, and needs to be given every year, it is the best protection people have against acquiring the infection. Since the "flu season" has just begun locally, there is still time to be vaccinated. Contact your healthcare provider, pharmacy, or health department.
- Wash your hands often, and keep them away from your mouth, nose, and eyes.
- If you get sick, cover your cough, stay home, drink plenty of fluids, and get plenty of rest. Contact your healthcare provider if you have concerns.
- Remember, you do not catch a cold or the flu from being out in the cold – you must be around someone who gives it to you. So, eat well, drink plenty of fluids, dress warmly, and get plenty of exercise while you enjoy the beautiful outdoors!

Winter Parking Ordinance – Nov.1 – April 30

The Mammoth Lakes Police Department would like to remind residents, visitors, and business owners that parking is prohibited on Town streets between November 1 through April 30. Obstructing snow removal equipment is also prohibited.

The Police Department only enforces these sections when it is snowing, or after a storm while snow removal equipment is in operation. Motorists should be aware of weather forecasts and make sure their vehicles are off the street when snow removal equipment is operating or may be operating. Any accumulation of snow means the plows will be out and the snow removal is not complete until the snow blowers have removed berms created by the plows.

Vehicles should always be parked behind the snow stakes. Operating snow removal equipment is complicated and when there are heavy accumulations of snow, vehicles parked partially on the street side of the stakes cannot always be observed. A passenger vehicle struck by snow removal equipment can receive substantial

damage and if the vehicle is parked on the street side of the stakes, the accident is the fault of the driver of the illegally parked vehicle.

Please help the Town of Mammoth Lakes in its snow removal operations by parking legally during Winter months.

Reds Meadow Area Open for Winter Use

Logging operations in the Reds Meadow Valley have been completed for removing down trees from the wind event of last November 30, 2012. Consequently, the area closures in the Reds Meadow Valley will no longer be in effect. While the Reds Meadow Road is closed to wheeled motor vehicles for the season due to snow, access to Reds Meadow Valley will now be open to winter public use, including snowshoer, skier, snowmobile and pedestrian traffic.

Before travel into the Reds Meadow Valley, visitors should be aware of winter conditions and hazards in the area. The Reds Meadow Road is not maintained during winter, and may be subject to avalanche hazard. No services are available in Reds Meadow Valley during the winter. In case of need for emergency communication, public pay phones are located at the Reds Meadow Resort, Devils Postpile National Monument Ranger Station, and across from the Pumice Flat Group Campground.

For more information, please call the Mammoth Lakes Welcome Center at (760) 924-5500 or visit the Welcome Center at 2510 Hwy 203 next to the Mammoth Ranger Station.

Help Keep Mammoth's Air Clean This Winter

When the Town of Mammoth Lakes experiences periods of clear, cold, and calm weather with minimal breeze, the air quality deteriorates. Wood smoke from fireplaces and stoves cannot dissipate, and sometimes builds up to unhealthy levels that could have serious health consequences. 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 of Mammoth Lakes 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 sign up for air quality notifications via the Town's Notify Me feature at <http://www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us/list.aspx>. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Town And Partners Begin Construction On The Mammoth Gateway Community Project!

The Town and its partners have begun construction on the Mammoth Gateway Community Project, which is a citizen-initiated, public-private partnership, to construct a gateway entry on Main Street. The Project, which was spearheaded by local citizen Mrs. Elizabeth Tenney, involves a number of partners that have contributed many hours and resources, including Snowcreek (Chadmar), Mammoth

Mountain Ski Area (MMSA), Mammoth Community Foundation (MCF), Mono County, Mammoth Community Water District (MCWD), the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), the United States Forest Service (USFS), and the Town of Mammoth Lakes, as well as a number of local citizens.

The Project, which was designed by local artist Larry Walker, (architectural services were provided by architect Bruce Woodward), is intended to reflect the unique environment, culture, and heritage of Mammoth Lakes, and serve as a welcome to visitors and residents. Construction is expected to be completed in mid-November.

For additional information below on the gateway project, please visit the dedicated webpage: http://mammothgateway.org/Construction_Updates.html.

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
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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.

Town & MLFD Identify Potential Safety Issue

The Town of Mammoth Lakes Community Development Department (Town) and Mammoth Lakes Fire Department (Fire District) have identified an issue with inserted wood burning fireplace installations in town. If you have either a pellet/gas insert installation or a masonry flue/chase, these types of appliances or installations are not an issue. The issue is that wood burning inserts placed into zero clearance fireplace boxes (fireplace) with factory built metal flue pipes and wooden chases may not have adequate clearance to combustible materials (wood, plywood, and/or sheetrock behind the rock, brick, metal and/or wooden material that doesn’t allow you to see on the interior surface of the fireplace façade). This issue can exist in all types of residential occupancies, from single family to multi-family projects. As a result of the clearances that may not have been met, combustible materials are igniting and several fires have resulted around town. Thus far there have been no

injuries, but both the Town and Fire District feel that we cannot wait until something tragic occurs before we take necessary action. At this point both agencies are hoping to educate the town population to the concern.

The original fireplace contained fires that never obtained very high burning temperatures, due to the amount of heat that went up the flue. Once the insert was installed, the appliance burned much more efficiently causing the combustibles surrounding the original installation to be exposed to significantly greater heat levels. Another factor is the amount of use the insert is experiencing. The issue is occurring throughout town; no certain complex, no certain installer, no certain type of product, nor any other common characteristic that allows the agencies to narrow down the likely installations of concern. One complex in town had 23 of 60 units show some sign of heat damage to combustibles.

Permitted installations during the last 18 to 24 months that followed the manufacturer's installation instructions have been installed correctly. The Town and Fire District do not mean to alarm anyone, but strongly believe that this situation is serious enough to inform the public on the use and installation of these types of wood burning installations. If you need any further assistance or have any questions, please contact the Fire District at (760) 934-2300 or Town at (760) 934-8989, ex 244. For more information: <http://mammothlakesfd.intuitwebsites.com>

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.