

MAMMOTH ICE RINK



Enjoy outdoor ice skating with your family and friends at the Mammoth Ice Rink. Amenities include: skate rentals, lessons and limited snack & beverage services.

Rates: Adults skate for \$10.00 with rentals, youth (5-15) \$8.00, and kids 4 and under skate free with a paid adult.

Holiday Hours: 11:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m., 3:00–6:00 p.m. and 6:30–9:30 p.m.

Holiday Stocking Stuffer: If you're looking for that unique stocking stuffer, purchase a 10 use punch card for only \$50 for adults or \$35 for youth without skates, and watch the smiles grow wide!

See you on the ice!

(760) 934-2505

www.visitmammoth.com/ice



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

County-wide recreation plan gets \$15,000 boost

Mono County

County may have to monitor its groundwater

Mammoth Lakes Trails and Public Access and Friends of the Inyo got a promised \$15,000 boost from the Mono County Board of Supervisors Dec. 15. The money was originally promised in May and will be used for the first phase of the organizations' efforts to gather the data that they feel is critical to establishing a comprehensive recreation plan and database of information for the Eastern Sierra. The money will be matched by another \$15,000 from the Local Transportation Committee. More help is also expected to come from federal grants that will support plans to create a federally designated Scenic Byway destination for U.S. 395. – WG

Mono County's board of supervisors is frustrated by what they call yet another "unfunded mandate" from the state of California, this time regarding groundwater monitoring. The new law was signed into law on Nov. 6 and requires the county to create a groundwater monitoring plan by 2012, or possibly face a loss of grant money to actually do the monitoring, according to county officials. The board took no action on the issue, but did express frustration with the fact that there is no clear source of funding to set up the program, yet another case of the state requiring the California counties to assume more duties with less money.

The supervisors directed county staff to keep them updated about the bill and its requirements. In September, the state also mandated that the county institute a low-water landscaping ordinance without designating a funding source. – WG

Supervisors opt to wait on renaming Walker Senior Center

A request to rename the Walker Senior Citizen Center after former Mono County District 4 Supervisor Bill Reid is still up in the air, after the county supervisors decided the subject needed more community input. A group of Walker-area community members approached the board on Dec. 15 with a collection of signatures indicating some community support for renaming the center.

But according to District 5 Supervisor Byng Hunt, the supervisors' discussion on the agenda item revealed that other citizens might not necessarily be behind renaming the center and instead preferred other methods to honor Reid, such as possibly a memorial plaque. In the end, the supervisors took no action and will refer the issue to the various community groups from Reid's district for further discussion. – WG

Walker River talks continue

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When Mono County found out earlier this year that it had not been notified that its Bridgeport area streams and rivers were included in a Congressional bill that could allow the water to be sold or leased to preserve Walker Lake, county officials were not happy, especially because they had been assured that California waters were exempt from the bill. However, the lack of communication issue has now been solved and the county is part of ongoing talks about the bill, according to Supervisor Byng Hunt. The county now has a staff attorney following the issue very closely and Hunt said the state of California is now also involved in conversations regarding the bill. – WG

Swall Meadows emergency route controversial

A possible emergency escape route out of the Swall Meadows community area was the source of some controversy Dec. 15 as residents concerned about wildlife, private property rights and resource issues collided with fire officials and other residents equally worried about providing an escape route in case of fire or other disasters. Fire and county officials suggested improving an existing unmaintained and informal gravel and dirt route that could connect the community to the Lower Rock Creek Road. The rough route crosses both private and federal lands, according to county officials.

But some residents said the route would be almost impossible to actually build and keep open, due to its complicated ownership patterns, its steep grade and the cost of bringing the route up to code. The issue was not settled and discussions will continue, according to District 5 Supervisor Byng Hunt. Hunt and the rest of the county supervisors attended the evening meeting in Swall Meadows. – WG

*Merry Christmas
and a
Blessed New Year!*

from
*Cameron N. Hopkins, D.D.S.
Brian C. Carkeet, D.D.S.
and dental team*

<i>Cori Plakos, RDH</i>	<i>Melody Bain, RDH</i>
<i>Jenna Lucas, RDH</i>	<i>Becky Johnson, RDH</i>
<i>Linda Jones</i>	<i>Alisha Ehlinger</i>
<i>Cathy Thompson</i>	<i>Sherrie Skare</i>
<i>June DeMoss</i>	<i>Madi Taylor</i>
<i>Debbie Hopkins</i>	