

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

Town News

Week of March 7, 2011

News from the Town Manager

Town Council Meeting- March 16, 2011

The next meeting of the Town Council will be held on Wednesday, March 16, 2011 beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Minaret Village Mall. Visit the <u>Streaming Media Archive</u> to review the previous meeting minutes or view the webcast Town Council meeting.

Vacancy on the Mobility Commission

There is a vacancy in one unexpired term on the Mobility Commission, because of a resignation; the term will expire on July 31, 2014. The vacancy has been advertised; the deadline for application is Monday, March 7, 2011. To apply, contact the Town Clerk at (760) 934-8989, ext 267 or at jgray@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us.

Cell Phone Use/Texting While Driving

Just a reminder that California is one of the states where it is illegal for an adult (18 or older) to use a cell phone while driving, unless the phone is truly a hands-free device. Drivers younger than 18 cannot use a phone at all while driving, even if it has a hands-free option. The juvenile driver section was added to the Vehicle Code in 2008 in an attempt to reduce in-car distractions for young, inexperienced drivers. It is also illegal for a driver of any age to be using a wireless communication device to write, send, or read a text-based communication. Of course, someone needing to dial 911 from a moving vehicle is exempt from punishment.

Calls for Service/Officer Observations

238, including 9 business/building checks

Crime/Incident Reports

29 reports, including 8 arrests

Traffic Stops/Citations/Traffic Collisions

48 stops; 10 citations; 34 parking citations; 0 skate park citations; 6 collisions

Animal Control Incidents

3 incidents; 0 reports

Third Shady Rest Recreation Planning Meeting Postponed

The Inyo National Forest received an OHV grant from the State of California to support recreation planning efforts for the "Shady Rest" area within the Town of Mammoth Lakes. The planning process is designed to address year-round motorized use while considering the needs of non-motorized users in the immediate and surrounding area, and the potential impact of proposed geothermal development. The desired outcome of the planning process is to design, review, and approve the development of a new motorized staging area.

Planning meetings held on February 10 and 17, 2011 were well attended, highly productive, and have achieved the goal of identifying several potential sites to design and construct a motorized staging area. The Forest Service, in consultation with meeting attendees, has elected to cancel the third meeting planned for Thursday, March 3, 2011. In the coming weeks Forest Service staff will be using information generated from the two planning meetings to develop a proposed action to be released to the public in the spring or summer of this year. Upon release of the proposed action, a scoping meeting will be held and the public will be invited to review and discuss the proposed new staging area and alternatives prior to conducting environmental analysis as required by the National Environmental Policy Act. Questions about the project can be directed to District Recreation Officer, Jon Kazmierski, by calling (760) 924-5503 or jkazmierski@fs.fed.us.

Egress Route from Sherwins to Public-Access Easement at Ranch Road Gate is Ready to Go!

Thanks to a partnership between The Chadmar Group (developer of Snowcreek VIII), the Town of Mammoth Lakes (TOML), and the Mammoth Lakes Trails and Public Access Foundation (MLTPA), a legal route leading backcountry skiers and snowboarders from the base of the Sherwin Range back to town has been marked with directional signage. The egress proceeds along a designated route across the Snowcreek Golf Course and terminates on the north side of the gate across Ranch Road via a public easement around the gate's west side. Winter recreationists are urged to follow this legal route across the Snowcreek Golf Course, as it is the sole legal egress route to town from the Sherwin Range between Mill City to the west and the Borrow Pit to the east. Travel across any other portion of the Snowcreek Golf Course, which is a private holding, is prohibited and users may be cited for trespassing. The Snowcreek egress route is the result of a two-year decision-making process and is a component of the adopted Snowcreek VIII Master Development Plan. Please respect the rights of homeowners and private-property interests and assist your fellow backcountry enthusiasts in reinforcing the value of this route for the long term by following the installed signage across the Snowcreek Golf Course as you exit the Sherwins.

March 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 open to snowshoers and skiers that would like to enjoy an easy trek lasting about 2 hours with a concentration on conditioning, technique and learning. Sunday is for strong beginners through experts on cross-country skis and snow shoe, usually 6 to 8 miles off track. 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.