

# Golf tourney benefits Barton Foundation

The 24th annual Barton Foundation Golf Tournament at Lake Tahoe Golf Course is June 1.

All proceeds from the event benefit the health and well being of local residents via Barton Foundation's Community Health Endowment, which supports community health programs and facility improvements within Barton Health.

Check-in and breakfast start at 7am, and a shot gun scramble format begins at 8am.

Tickets for the golf tournament may be purchased **online**. Tournament registration includes continental breakfast, golf, golf cart, drink tickets, and a buffet lunch.

Prizes will be awarded for best costume, team spirit, and best tournament score. Registration for individuals is \$185. For more info, call Jenny Taylor at 530.543.5909.

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## Short-term lodging, and who is renting them

By Sage Sauerbrey, Moonshine Ink

Short-term rentals have rapidly become a polarizing topic. While property rights advocates argue for the freedom to utilize their homes as assets and housing advocates point to a decline in long term rental inventory being a result, the local jurisdictions are caught in the crossfire and have thus

far been treading carefully and cautiously.

It's a heated discussion, and in fact multiple sources requested not to be named in this story for that very reason. But, people are speaking up, and it appears that action to find a balance between these two schools of thought may be on the horizon.

The short-term rental market has skyrocketed locally and nationally in a few short years. In Truckee, the number of Airbnb units is currently growing at 65 percent a year, according to AirDNA. Strict rental ordinances recently were put in place nearby in South Lake Tahoe, and across the country, sister mountain hamlets have approached the pros and cons associated with the house sharing economy in diverse ways. All of these factors have thrown the issue into sharper focus as communities scramble to address the issue.

**Read the whole story**

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# Opinion: California save the queen

**By Joe Mathews**

*MEMO*

*To: Queen Elizabeth II*

*From: Joe Mathews*

*Re: Mutual respect*

Your majesty, I don't mean to rush someone who just turned 92.

But it's high time that you showed California proper appreciation—by making our entire state an honorary member of the British royal family.



Joe Mathews

Perhaps that seems a bit much, but ask yourself, ma'am: Does your family have a more devoted servant than the Golden State?

None of your public relations vassals has been as effective at telling your family's story over the last century as the folks in Hollywood.

In more recent years, British royalty and Hollywood have converged, with an avalanche of productions about your clan. "The King's Speech," about the stuttering struggle of your father, won the best picture Oscar. (Investigative reports suggest you may be the only woman that its producer, Harvey Weinstein, ever treated with respect.) The Academy gave Helen Mirren the best actress award for playing you in "The Queen." Even Silicon Valley has been in your (streaming) service, with Netflix casting the charismatic Claire Foy as a young you in another award-winning series, "The Crown."

These and numerous other productions would be enough to humanize most families. But you require more. So now California is giving you our own flesh-and-blood, a glorious child of Los Angeles: actress Meghan Markle. She is to marry Prince Harry on May 19.

Markle brings your clan a new level of diversity (she's biracial), education (an international relations degree from

Northwestern), and beauty (those teeth!). She is marrying your less accomplished younger grandson, best known for having dressed up like a Nazi for a party.

And as matter of foreign policy, this classy California girl has impeccable diplomatic timing. She provides a crucial boost to the faltering special relationship between our two countries, while also giving your nation a gorgeous distraction from the self-inflicted consequences of Brexit. Not since FDR has an American performed so great a rescue of the U.K.

If there is something already regal about her, that's no accident. As the child of a cinematographer and as a student at a snooty private girls' school, she grew up around wealth and celebrity in Southern California, about as royal a milieu as you can find outside of Buckingham Palace.

Indeed, California has taken the lead from you in advancing monarchical ideals for the 21st century. Our wealthy folks live like royal—behind gates and high on hills. Many of our wealthiest are Anglophiles—keeping apartments in London, playing polo in Santa Barbara, or even hunting in the countryside with hounds, through clubs like the Santa Fe Hunt in Riverside and San Diego counties. Like any good aristocracy, they make sure job opportunities stay in the family. Drew Barrymore and Emilio Estevez have had film careers, so they don't call it Hollywood royalty for nothing.

And in the Bay Area, our tech lords are catching up to royal standards. Did you catch Zuckerberg's congressional testimony? His upper lip was even stiffer than yours.

One dirty secret about California is that, for all our populist culture and direct democracy, we're soft on monarchs. We've granted the Queen Mary, the ocean liner named after your grandma, a permanent berth in Long Beach. We Californians also have a demonstrable weakness for elderly leaders who refuse to

abdicate—like your generational cohorts Jerry Brown and Dianne Feinstein.

Now, even as I hereby request gratitude from a queen, I also must thank you. These days, California could use a good wedding that celebrates our state's diversity and glamor. These strengths of California are now mocked by a president who wishes to divide the country and stir resentment. It feels good to have at least one country that welcomes us, even if that country is not our own.

Forgive me, but I must lobby you on one thing. Can you do better for our Meghan than the titles currently being talked about in the British press? We read that you might make her just another duchess. Or she could lose her name to her husband and become, weirdly, Princess Henry of Wales.

This may break protocol, but it would be delightful if you could make her Princess Meg of Windsor Hills. That's the predominantly African-American, upper-middle-class South L.A. neighborhood, where her mother lives. Such a title would beautifully bind together a California community and your family name.

It'd also be cool if the organist could play Tupac's "California Love" during the ceremony. But that's not a priority. It's far more important for you to acknowledge what this wedding really is: the official consummation of a longstanding partnership.

Most Californians can't make the wedding, so please pass on our best wishes to your entire family. Mazel tov, Meg and Harry! And God save the Queen!

*Joe Mathews writes the Connecting California column for Zócalo Public Square.*

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# Housing discrimination thrives 50 years after Fair Housing Act tried to end it

By Prentiss A. Dantzler, *The Conversation*

In the midst of riots in 1968 after civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. was slain, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Fair Housing Act.

The federal legislation addressed one of the bitterest aspects of racism in the U.S.: segregated housing. It prohibited discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion and national origin when selling and renting housing.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development, or HUD, has administered the act with some success. From 1970 to 2010, the share of African-Americans living in highly segregated neighborhoods declined by half. But in areas that remained highly segregated in 2010, there were no signs of improvement. In several cities, such as Baltimore and Philadelphia, average levels of segregation had actually increased.

My scholarship on public housing and residential mobility demonstrates that where African-American people live is often still limited by discrimination.

Meanwhile, HUD – the department charged with ending housing discrimination – has shifted much of its focus away from that core mission to instead promote economic self-sufficiency.

The effect of this change could mean the discrimination that continues to exist will remain, and people of color will

continue to have limited options for housing, attend lower-performing schools and experience poorer health outcomes.

## **Refocusing HUD's mission**

The Fair Housing Act's dual mission was to eliminate housing discrimination and to promote residential integration. The communities its authors imagined were desegregated and open to all people.

The first HUD secretary, Robert C. Weaver, believed such places would allow for a diverse mix of people and housing options. This founding tenet is reflected in the mission statement HUD has used since 2010: "HUD's mission is to create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and quality affordable homes for all."

However, HUD's current secretary, Ben Carson, appointed by President Trump, has proposed a new mission statement. It reads: "HUD's mission is to ensure Americans have access to fair, affordable housing and opportunities to achieve self-sufficiency, thereby strengthening our communities and our nation."

One of the key differences between these two mission statements is the goal. While the former focused on building inclusive communities, the new mission focuses on individuals being self-sufficient. This shift reflects an age-old debate about the role of the government in helping poor people secure housing. Recent actions by conservatives suggest they are interested in decreasing government assistance for housing to poor people.

For example, the White House's fiscal year 2019 budget proposal called for slashing HUD's funding by \$8.8 billion. Shortly thereafter, HUD Secretary Carson tweeted, "The proposed budget is focused on moving more people toward self-sufficiency through reforming rental assistance programs and moving aging public housing to more sustainable platforms."

On March 23, in lieu of a government shutdown, Congress passed an omnibus bill that actually added money to HUD's budget. Yet, there is still a possibility that the White House will rescind some of these increases. Conservatives are still split on whether or not they should go against their deal with liberals to save money. This could drastically change the way HUD operates over the next year.

### **Diminishing role of government**

Such efforts to diminish the government's role in providing housing assistance to the poorest populations is based on historic ideas on the causes of poverty.

Poverty, some people argue, is caused by an individual's lack of motivation. Blaming other factors out of their control, according to this line of thinking, is a way of not accepting responsibility. This idea is now being translated into housing policy.

The focus on economic self-sufficiency is not new. Starting in the 1980s, HUD linked housing programs and policies with efforts to increase an individual's ability to support themselves without government assistance.

Promoting self-sufficiency isn't a bad idea. Raising the income levels of low-income people is a useful endeavor, since housing is often the largest expense among families.

But here's the problem with focusing on self-sufficiency: It creates the illusion that where people live is solely their choice. It's not. The market dictates where people can live, and so does discrimination by landlords and mortgage lenders.

Incomes in the U.S. are not increasing at the same rate as housing costs. And as the economy is bouncing back from the Great Recession, housing is becoming increasingly unaffordable for people at nearly all income levels.

So getting people off of housing assistance, while providing training so they can get higher-paying jobs, does not mean they can find affordable housing in the neighborhood of their choice.

To be effective, housing policies must address, not ignore these challenges. A full return to the spirit with which the Fair Housing Act was passed could be a step in the right direction.

If the Fair Housing Act has taught us anything in the last 50 years, it has highlighted that attaining affordable housing is a problem for many people. Focusing on self-sufficiency and turning a blind eye to housing discrimination shifts the focus of housing policy in the United States away from building “inclusive and sustainable communities free from discrimination.”

*Prentiss A. Dantzler is an assistant professor of sociology and urban studies at Colorado College.*

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## Snippets about Lake Tahoe

- This week Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit OK'd **proposed improvements** to existing skiing and snowboarding terrain at Heavenly Mountain Resort. Work could begin this year.
- Wanderlust, producers of the largest yoga lifestyle events in the world, returns to Squaw Valley July 19-22.
- Proscenium Players Inc. is having a workshop about light and sound on May 5 from 9am-3pm at the Brewery Arts Center in Carson City. Cost is \$15-\$20. More info is **online**.

· California taxpayers saved an estimated \$17 million last year thanks to the tireless efforts of the state's Adopt-a-Highway volunteers.

· The Minden Library will be showing "Star Wars: The Last Jedi" (rated PG-13) on May 5 at 10am. The movie and popcorn are free.

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# **Human trafficking presentation in S. Lake Tahoe**

South Lake Tahoe Police Department and Live Violence Free are partnering for a community presentation on human trafficking on May 18 at 6pm at Sierra Community Church.

Author John Vanek will be the featured speaker. Vanek is a leadership, collaboration, and anti-human trafficking consultant and speaker working with law enforcement agencies, non-governmental and community-based organizations, academic institutions and private sector companies.

Vanek is a nationally recognized authority on human trafficking and the response to modern-day slavery. He managed the San Jose Police Department Human Trafficking Task Force from 2006-11.

Some material may not be suitable for children.

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# A different ski experience after Tahoe resorts close

By Benjamin Spillman, Reno Gazette-Journal

There are two ways to think about ski resorts closing when there's still plenty of snow on the ground.

One way is to consider it a problem or unfortunate turn of events.

People who choose this route will shrug, hang up their skis in the garage and maybe even leave a frowny face emoticon on the resort's social media page.

The other way to think about it is to consider it an opportunity.

People who choose to do this can be rewarded with some of the best skiing of the year.

**Read the whole story**

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## Meetings all about cannabis cultivation in Placer County

Placer County staff will host three drop-in meetings in May to answer questions about rules for cannabis cultivation, and the county's compliance and enforcement process.

Placer's cannabis ordinance, allowing limited cultivation for

personal use only, became effective in January 2017. It allows cultivation of up to six non-medical plants on 50 square feet or cultivation of 50 square feet of medical cannabis for personal use, but bans all commercial activity related to cannabis including cultivation, processing, manufacturing, delivery and distribution.

Fines for non-compliance range from \$500 per plant over the six plant limit up to \$5,000 a day for commercial activities including cultivation, manufacture or distribution.

Session details:

Sheridan – May 4, noon-3pm, Stewart Hall, 6005 Camp Far West Road, Sheridan

Auburn – May 11, noon-3pm, Placer County Community Development Resource Agency, Cypress Room  
3091 County Center Drive, Auburn

Alta – May 18, noon-3pm, Alta Community Center, 33950 Alta Bonny Nook Road, Alta.

An evening session will be scheduled in the near future to accommodate those working traditional business hours.

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## **K's Kitchen: A healthy salad dressing**

**By Kathryn Reed**

Blue cheese is normally my go-to salad dressing. Nothing about it is healthy. And that usually doesn't matter.

But it does matter if salads are a staple in one's diet. I go in waves of eating salads on a regular basis. It means the blue cheese should stay in the fridge.

Changing the greens, what's added to it and the dressing can keep it fresh – an healthier.

The idea for this dressing came from wanting to use the tahini I had that had not been touched in a while.

The salad was simple, but delicious with the dressing. I used spinach, carrots cut into match stick pieces, and a chopped apple.



**Tahini Salad Dressing**

1/3 C tahini, well stirred

1/3 C water

$\frac{1}{4}$  C lemon juice

1 tsp garlic salt

Mix all ingredients in bowl. Make sure the tahini is well blended. Pour over greens.

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# Letter: Casino workers help at Bread & Broth

**To the community,**

The HEROs from Harrah's and Harveys lived up to their name and mission by hosting a Bread & Broth dinner on April 16. HEROs, a Caesar Entertainment employee organization, is committed to having members volunteer at charitable causes and give back to their community.

Through their generosity, they are heroes to those who benefit from their support and concern.

Representing the casinos and their fellow HEROs members at the their Adopt A Day dinner were Jacalyn Andrews, Jeff Colameco, Pat Frega, Veronica Vilaseca and Darlene Winkelman. These five were a vibrant and helpful group. From packing the giveaway food bags to cleaning up after the dinner, the HERO volunteers were there for the benefit of the evening's guests.

"This is such a heart-warming experience," said Winkelman. "It was truly my pleasure to serve those less fortunate than myself. This experience has warmed and filled my heart with joy!"

The HEROs have been long time supporters of the B&B dinner program and generally sponsor two Adopt A Day of Nourishment dinners annually. B&B truly appreciates the HEROs commitment to our program and their help in continuing B&B's role of providing nutritious and well-balanced meals to those in on Lake Tahoe's south shore who struggle with filling the basic needs I their lives.

**Carol Gerard, Bread & Broth**