

Mountain biker rescued from Mt. Rose Wilderness

A 72-year-old man who wrecked his mountain bike off a trail in the Mt. Rose Wilderness was rescued late Tuesday evening.

At approximately 9pm April 5, Washoe County sheriff's deputies received a call from the victim who said he had also become disoriented and lost. Volunteers with the sheriff's HASTY Team, Washoe County search and rescue, and specialized vehicle unit responded to a gravel road on Mt. Rose Highway approximately one mile east of Sunridge Drive and began a search of the area.

The subject was located within 30 minutes. Other than being cold, hungry and tired, it was determined that the subject was unharmed. Based on his age and the steepness of the terrain he needed assistance back to the trailhead. The safest route took approximately four hours.

– Lake Tahoe News staff report

Cars damaged, people not hurt in pile up



Inattentive driving is being blamed on this April 2 accident on Echo Summit.
Photo/CHP

An accident on Echo Summit became a literal pile up.

According to the California Highway Patrol, Ray Garcia, 48, of South Lake Tahoe was busy looking at one crash when he caused a three-vehicle collision. His Subaru went under one driven by Sharon Tryhane, 59, of Folsom. Her car in turn rammed a Mazda driven by Alexis Midon, 36, of San Francisco.

No one was injured in the April 2 accident on Highway 50 near Old Meyers Grade.

CHP officers said Garcia was speeding and not paying attention while driving.

– Lake Tahoe News staff report

Calif. braces for large

primary turnout

By Phil Willon, Los Angeles Times

California elections officials are anticipating a surge in voter turnout for the June 7 presidential primary election.

More than 600,000 Californians have registered to vote online or updated their registration in just the last three months, and county election agencies may be overwhelmed by the volume of people who show up, Secretary of State Alex Padilla warned Gov. Jerry Brown.

Voter registration application cards are in high demand statewide, he wrote in a letter Monday to the governor. Padilla also wrote that “one campaign” alone recently requested 200,000 registration forms to sign up voters, although he did not specify which candidate’s campaign made it.

Read the whole story

Snippets about Lake Tahoe



- Ski Run farmers market in South Lake Tahoe is moving to Harrison Avenue this summer because there are issues with the fire lane and safety.

- Tahoe Regional Community Job Fair is April 12, 3-6pm at Harrah’s Convention Center in Stateline.

- America's Most Beautiful Bike Ride is June 5. More info is **online**.
 - Tahoe Prosperity Center received an award from the Placer County Economic Development Board for Best Collaboration to Encourage a Prosperous, Sustainable and Healthy Lake Tahoe Basin.
 - Tahoe Truckee Earth Day celebration is April 16 from 11am-5 pm at the Village at Squaw Valley.
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NV Energy decreases rates for all customers

NV Energy, which provides electricity to people on the Nevada side of the Lake Tahoe Basin, lowers rates by more than 3 percent effective April 1.

The company said it did so mostly because fuel prices had dropped. This is the fourth rate decrease since July. It equates to a savings of approximately \$18 in those nine months for residential customers.

A typical bill is \$141.55 month for a family using 1,141 kilowatt hours. That bill will now drop to \$136.29.

"NV Energy remains committed to providing stable or even lower prices for our customers. As a matter of fact, residential customers' bills are even lower today than they were five years ago," Paul Caudill, NV Energy president and CEO, said in a statement.

– Lake Tahoe News staff report

Calif. State Fair launches new student competition

The California State Fair is expanding the Youth Art Competition and Industrial & Technology Education Competition to create the California Student Showcase Competition.

California students from kindergarten through community college may submit works in the areas of fine art, science, creative arts, innovations and future economics, and industrial and vocational skills. Home school students, community clubs/groups and independent study students are welcome to participate.

Cash prizes and/or ribbons will also be awarded.

Accepted submissions will be on display during the 2016 California State Fair, July 8-24.

Competition handbooks are **online**. The deadline to enter is April 27. The entry fee is \$9 per submission.

Incline classic music fest releases line up

Classical Tahoe, formerly Lake Tahoe SummerFest, will bring together 40 nationally recognized musicians to Lake Tahoe for a three-week festival running July 26-Aug. 13.

Under the direction of Joel Revzen, the 11-concert series is designed to support Tahoe's cultural growth while bringing together an all-star assembly of musicians from the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra, San Francisco Symphony, Seattle Symphony, LA Phil, Reno Phil and other orchestras throughout the world.

The name evolution from Lake Tahoe SummerFest to Classical Tahoe was completed to highlight the true focus and caliber of music performances this festival is noted for.

Concerts begin at 7pm and are at the Festival Pavilion at Sierra Nevada College and at the Cornerstone Church, both in Incline Village. Full orchestra ticket prices are \$25, \$50, \$75 and \$100. Season subscribers get all 11 concerts for the price of six concerts. Meet the Musicians chamber concerts are \$30 general admission. Student tickets are offered at a 50 percent discount off regular ticket pricing.

For tickets and more information, call 775.298.0245.

The next step in California's drought

By Scott Smith, AP

Some residents of drought-stricken California who let their lawns turn brown and took shorter showers could soon get some

relief, while others may continue to feel the pain. In the coming months, state officials will undertake a monumental task of rewriting conservation orders for a fifth year of drought.

The challenge for state regulators will be treating millions of residents fairly, unlike the El Nino storms that soaked Northern California with considerably more rain and snow this winter than the drier Southern California. Here are some things to know:

A year ago, Gov. Jerry Brown ordered more than 400 cities and water agencies throughout California to save water by 25 percent, compared to use in 2013. In the nine months ending in February, Californians came close, using 23.9 percent less water. The standard was later relaxed, requiring them to use at least 20 percent less water, and now it is set to change again.

One possibility officials propose is taking a regional approach to water conservation. That may mean relaxing, or dropping, emergency drought orders for El Nino-soaked Northern Californians, where much of the wet weather hit and some reservoirs are spilling over the top. Strict rules for residents of drier Southern California may stay in place.

This winter's El Nino failed to erase four years of exceptional drought. It left a nearly average amount of rain and snow, not enough to help California recover from the previous four dry years. California's wet season typically ends around April 1, with shrinking chances of significantly more rain and snow.

The State Water Resources Control Board later this month will gather in Sacramento for a public workshop to consider the next steps for conservation. Officials say they'll take suggestions from the public and work out a plan in May. Changes will likely go into effect in June.

NDOT finishes Incline road improvements

The Nevada Department of Transportation has completed the installation of pedestrian and safety enhancements on Highway 28 in Incline Village.

The project relocated a crosswalk on the highway west of Village Boulevard so it is closer to an existing bus stop and pedestrian crossing points. Pedestrian crossing warning signs equipped with rapid flashing beacons activated when pedestrians push the crossing button were added to crosswalks on either side of Village Boulevard. Street lighting and sidewalk ramps were also added, along with enhanced pedestrian crossing signs in advance of the crosswalks. Left turn lanes from Country Club Drive to Highway 28 were also installed with new traffic detection systems to help drivers most efficiently and safely get through the intersection.

Construction on the nearly \$300,000 project began Sept. 8.

EDC revs up discord with SLT over ambulances

By Kathryn Reed

El Dorado County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday ratcheted up

the turmoil with South Lake Tahoe.

The supes in closed session discussed what to do about ambulance service on the South Shore. In California it is a county's responsibility to provide that level of medical care.

Interim County Counsel Michael Ciccozzi reported out of closed session on April 5 that the supervisors unanimously authorized retention of outside counsel, and the initiation of litigation against the Cal-Tahoe JPA and South Lake Tahoe if it becomes necessary.

Supervisor Sue Novasel, who represents the basin, was not available for comment.

South Lake Tahoe and Lake Valley fire departments formed a joint powers authority to bid on the ambulance contract. While the JPA was awarded the latest contract in 2011, for the past two years there has been much discontent. Even so, the city reps on the JPA – Wendy David and Tom Davis – last year voted to extend the contract to 2019 when it could have expired this year.

The agencies are disgruntled about the compensation from the county, and now the **city wants out** of the ambulance business.. Lake Valley would like to run it, but can't afford to.

Discord between the two departments – mainly the electeds – has escalated because South Tahoe pulled firefighters off the ambulances in favor of only medical personnel. Lake Valley believes a firefighter-paramedic is the better course for ambulance staffing.

Nothing came of the special JPA board meeting last week. April 11 is the next regular meeting.

The normal first step would be for the JPA, which is comprised of two elected officials from each jurisdiction, to come to consensus, and then for the county to get involved.

“What are they litigating is my first question,” Jeff Meston, SLT fire chief, said when *Lake Tahoe News* informed him of the supervisors’ vote. “I’m confused because they are not directly involved at this point.”

Mayor David said the threat of a lawsuit makes a complicated situation even dicier.

Dave Huber, Lake Valley’s longtime rep on the JPA board, was not available for comment.