

Proposed FCC rules would limit how Internet service providers can use data

By Jim Puzzanghera, Los Angeles Times

Internet service providers would face tough new restrictions on how they could use the personal information of their customers, including their Web-browsing activity, according to privacy regulations proposed this month by a top federal regulator.

In most cases, cable and wireless companies that offer broadband service would need permission from customers to use or share the vast and potentially lucrative trove of data collected about them as they surf the Internet, send email or use mobile apps, the Federal Communications Commission said.

“Simply by using the Internet, you have no choice but to share large amounts of personal information with your broadband provider,” FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler wrote in article on the *Huffington Post*.

Read the whole story

SLT Library hosting 2 history programs

South Lake Tahoe Friends of the Library has two history events planned for early April.

On April 2 at 11am, curator Mark Jensen returns to share more stories from Carson Valley's historic Dangberg Home Ranch. Jensen will tell tales using the park's historic artifacts, photographs and documents.

On April 5 at 6pm, Lake Tahoe's Railroad History will come to life with a presentation by Jerry Blackwill, vice president of strategic planning for the Truckee Donner Railroad Society. Blackwill will tell the story of the Lake Tahoe Railway and Transportation Company, and how Duane L. Bliss, William Seth Bliss, Walter D. Bliss, Duane L. Bliss Jr. and Frank Titus built and ran this tourist system, laying the foundation for Lake Tahoe's present day tourist industry.

Both event are free. The library is at 1000 Rufus Allen Blvd., South Lake Tahoe.

Nevada's high-tech twist on adventure tourism

By Benjamin Spillman, Reno Gazette-Journal

As co-founder of the social media photo competition Reno InstaGrammys, Natalie Handler is used to toting a camera everywhere she goes.

But one of her latest projects was unusual: The camera wasn't in her mobile phone; it was a 40-pound behemoth she hoisted onto her back. The 15-lens camera designed to capture 360-degree images was part of the Google Trekker project, which collects Google Street View-style images for places cars can't drive.

Handler was hauling it through the International Car Forest art installation near Goldfield as part of a partnership between Google and the Nevada Division of Tourism. Travel Nevada, the colloquial name for the division, is scheduled to announce the launch of the Trekker program on Tuesday.

The mission was a chance for Handler to do more of what she loves, exploring the dusty corners of Nevada and sharing them with others. It was also a modern update in the efforts to promote adventure travel throughout Nevada.

The Nevada Division of Tourism will post online unique footage generated by the Trekker at the car forest and about 20 other destinations and distribute the content to a social media audience that's been steadily building for the past three years.

Since summer of 2013, when the division launched the "A world within, a state apart," campaign, the Travel Nevada Instagram account has grown from 362 to about 15,500 followers.

On Facebook in the past month, Travel Nevada has reached more than 1.7 million people in the United States alone – almost all of them in the attractive 18-34 demographic, and many in the key markets of Los Angeles, Phoenix, Sacramento, San Francisco and Salt Lake City.

[Read the whole story](#)

Tahoe Tot Spot changes hands



Coral Bloch tests her skills at Tahoe Tot Spot. Photo/Chris Bloch

Tahoe Tot Spot was recently saved from closing its doors.

Julie Paradysz, who a year ago this month bought the South Lake Tahoe business from Amy Thompson, sold it to Jen and Chris Bloch. Paradysz was planning to move out of the area the first week of the month. It was on Feb. 18 she received the offer from the Blochs.

The Blochs relocated to South Lake Tahoe three years ago from the Bay Area in search of more trees and less cars. They have two kids, ages 3 years and 8 months. Chris Bloch is a fire captain with Contra Costa County Fire Department and Jen Bloch is a licensed clinical social worker with El Dorado County Mental Health and volunteers at the Tahoe Warm Room. They are keeping those jobs, “just committing to drinking a lot more coffee”, they said.

They were professional rock climbers pre-parenthood and aspire to climb again.

“We love the Tahoe community and wanted to be a part of it by keeping Tahoe Tot Spot open and increasing enrichment activities for our valuable youth,” they told *Lake Tahoe News*.

Immediate changes include being open seven days a week from 10am-2pm for open play.

For more information, go **online**.

– *Lake Tahoe News staff report*

Letter: Kirkwood workers dish up at B&B

To the community,

Bread & Broth would like to thank Kirkwood Mountain Resort for the ongoing support of our Monday evening meal program at St. Theresa Church Grace Hall. Kirkwood's Adopt a Day sponsorship provided the funds for the filling and nutritious meal prepared by B&B's talented volunteer cooks at B&B's March 14 dinner. That evening the dinner guests enjoyed spaghetti with meatballs dinner that was served with sautéed asparagus, green salad, fruit salad, garlic bread and assorted desserts.

Helping at the dinner were Kirkwood Mountain Resort team members Carolyn Reuter, retail area manager; Craig Schroeder, rentals coordinator; produce, sales and serves manager Jarrett Morgan; and supervisor Christian Neville.

B&B volunteers would like to extend our thanks to these four sponsor volunteers. They were a very energetic group, and put a lot of effort and caring into helping the B&B volunteers and interacting with the dinner guests.

"This experience was personally humbling in many ways; realizing how much we take for granted, how seldom we recognize the hunger in our towns and communities, and how

much more we can do to help,” commented Reuter. “The quantity and quality of the food we served tonight and distributed was impressive. It was awesome to see and hear so many thankful folks with full stomachs and smiles on their faces.”

B&B would also like to acknowledge and thank Ashlee Schouten for bringing a wide assortment of gently used clothes for our dinner guests. Schouten, a South High School student, has been having clothing drives for the past several years as a community project to benefit the needy of our community.

Carol Gerard, Bread & Broth

‘Rumors’ coming to STHS’ stage

“Rumors”, playwright Neil Simon’s fast-paced comic farce set in the late 1980s, is coming to South Tahoe High School.

The premise is guests have arrived for a 10th wedding anniversary and are met with mayhem. The play is best for middle school age and up.

The play is March 24, 25 and 26 and April 1 and 2 at 7pm.

Cost is adults \$10, 18 and under \$5.

Summer is the new winter at ski resorts



Heavenly will be expanding its summer specific activities this year. Photo Copyright 2016 Carolyn E. Wright

By Megan Michelson, Outdoor

With shrinking visitor numbers and low-snow seasons afflicting ski areas around the West, resort owners are realizing that attracting wintertime guests alone isn't enough to survive.

The impetus for the change came in 2011, when President Obama signed a bill, sponsored by then Colorado Sen. Mark Udall, which amended a previous law from the 1980s that restricted

ski areas on Forest Service land from offering any recreation besides skiing. The amendment, called the Ski Area Recreational Opportunity Enhancement Act, allowed resorts to provide summer activities like zip lines, mountain bike parks, Frisbee golf, and ropes courses, so long as they were in harmony with the natural environment. (Water slides, big roller coasters, and golf courses are still prohibited.)

A series of dismal winters followed, and resorts once known as snowy epicenters rapidly started changing their business plans. Squaw Valley has proposed building an indoor-outdoor recreation center, complete with climbing walls and ziplines, that would turn its winter village into a year-round destination.

Vail Ski Resort has operated at a loss during the summer months, according to its fiscal documents, but it has a new strategy to close that gap: this summer, it's launching a program dubbed Epic Discovery that will boost summer offerings like ropes courses, an alpine coaster on elevated rails, and hiking trails with educational signage. The program will also debut at other Vail Resorts properties, including Heavenly Mountain Resort this summer and Breckenridge Ski Resort in 2017.

Read the whole story

Raised beds an alternative for gardens



Raised bed gardens with benches make it easier to plant, maintain and harvest.
Photo/Bonnie Plants

By Melinda Myers

Raise your garden to new heights for easier access and greater productivity. Raised beds allow you to overcome poor soil by creating the ideal growing mix, plus make gardening time more comfortable thanks to less bending and kneeling.

Whether you purchase a kit or build your own, there are a few things to consider when creating a raised bed garden.

Locate the garden in a sunny area if possible. Most plants require at least six hours of sun, and vegetables like tomatoes, peppers and melons produce best with a full day of sunlight.

Select a long-lasting material such as interlocking block, fieldstone, plastic lumber or naturally long lasting wood like cedar. The material selected will influence the shape and size of your garden. Some materials allow for curved beds while others are limited to squares, rectangles and other angular shapes.

Design your raised bed to fit your space and your needs. A 3- or 4-foot width makes it easy to reach all parts of the garden for planting, weeding and harvesting. Raising your planting

bed at least 8 to 12 inches improves drainage and provides an adequate space for most plants to root and grow. If you want to minimize bending, go higher. Add benches to increase your gardening comfort and ease.

Roughen or loosen the existing soil surface if your bed is built on compact, slow-draining soil. This will allow water to readily move from the raised bed into the soil below. Cover the bottom of the bed with newspaper or cardboard, if needed, to suffocate existing weeds and grass.

Line the bottom of your raised bed with hardware cloth to reduce the risk of animals burrowing into your garden. Lay the hardware cloth over the ground and bend it up along the inside of the raised bed walls.

Fill the bed with a quality growing mix that is well drained but also able to retain moisture and nutrients. This may be a mixture of quality topsoil and compost, a high quality potting mix, or a planting mix designed specifically for raised bed gardens.

Grow any plants that you normally would grow in ground. Just make sure the plants are suited to the growing conditions (such as sunlight, heat and wind) in your area. Since the soil mix and drainage is ideal in a raised garden, you will be able to grow more plants per square foot. Just be sure to leave sufficient room for plants to reach their mature size.

Keep your plants healthy and productive with proper watering. This is critical for growing any garden, but even more crucial in a fast-draining raised bed. The simple act of raising the garden height increases drainage, and a raised bed filled with planting mix means more frequent watering. Consider using drip irrigation or soaker hoses for watering ease. Always water thoroughly when the top inch of soil is dry.

Add some mulch to help reduce watering and the need for other garden maintenance. Spread a layer of evergreen needles, pine

straw, shredded leaves or other organic matter over the soil surface. This helps conserve moisture, suppresses weeds and adds nutrients to the soil as it decomposes. You'll spend less time watering and weeding throughout the season.

Add an organic fertilizer at planting if your planting mix does not already contain one. Apply again mid-season if the plants need a nutrient boost. Always follow the label directions on the fertilizer container.

The time and effort invested in creating raised beds will be returned many times over with years of healthy and productive gardens.

Melinda Myers has more than 30 years of gardening experience has written over 20 gardening books.

Douglas County Library lending mobile devices

Douglas County Public Library is lending iPad Air 2, Samsung Galaxy Tab 4, and Nintendo 3DS devices. A selection of games are available for checkout with the Nintendo 3DS.

People must be at least 18 years old to rent a device, have a Douglas County library card in good standing, and present a valid government issued identification. A mobile device use agreement must also be signed.

One-hour reserve-a-tech sessions are available to those unfamiliar with the devices.

Mobile devices check out is for three weeks and cannot be renewed. For more information on how to check out a mobile

device, call the library at 775.782.9841.

ZC Tennis Club plans slew of events

With spring finally here, Zephyr Cove Tennis Club anticipating all the courts will be ready for action on April 1. Throughout April there is no cost to play.

The club officially launches the season with Viva La Tennis on May 28 at noon. This social gathering is an opportunity to play doubles with other members. It is open to current, new and perspective players of all levels and ages. The kickoff party is free for 2016 club members, \$10 for others. It includes a barbecue and lots of tennis. Anyone paying membership dues that day will have the event fee waived. Participants are encouraged to bring a side dish or dessert, as well as beverage of choice.

Fees are the same as last year – \$80 for the season. It's possible to lock in rates for two or three years at once by paying in for those years in advance.

Membership includes access to the six lighted courts at Zephyr Cove Park nearly seven months a year depending on the whims of Mother Nature, monthly socials, members' only doubles tournament, drop-in events, individual lessons, and competitive USTA leagues.

This is the third year the nonprofit Zephyr Cove Tennis Club Foundation has operated the facility under a contract with Douglas County. An all-volunteer board is in charge, with members volunteering to help in various aspects.

The money collected all goes back into the facilities and programs. One of the big-ticket items this year is resurfacing the courts. Several fundraisers will take place this season to pay for this work that is scheduled to begin at the end of May.

Improvements in the past two years include building a pro shop, removing trees for safety reasons, adding viewing areas, and creating a more robust juniors program.

ZCTC events this season include:

- May 28, Viva La Tennis and Membership Kick-Off Day at the courts
- June 8, Hump Day
- June 24-26, ZCTC Doubles Tournament
- July 6, Hump Day
- July 9, Breakfast at Wimbledon
- July 28-31, Tahoe Tennis Classic
- Aug. 10, Hump Day.

More details about the events will be able on the club's website as the dates get closer, or email zctennis@gmail.com.

Zephyr Cove Tennis Club is on Warrior Way off Highway 50 in Zephyr Cove.