

# Tahoe woman nods off, crashes vehicle

Chemicals from a vehicle were cleaned up before they reached Lake Tahoe after a single-car crash on July 8 in Tahoe Vista.

Placer County Office of Emergency Services reported cleaning up 55 gallons of isocyanate,

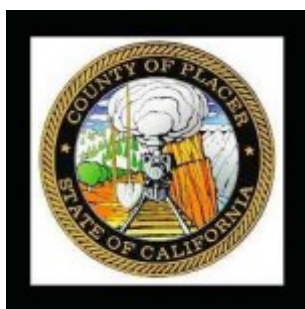
Jessie Fidler, 24, of Tahoe City was going east on Highway 28 about 3:50pm Wednesday when she dozed off, according to the California Highway Patrol. Her vehicle ran into the back of a parked trailer, which then caused the chemicals to leak.

Fidler sustained minor injuries, but declined going to the hospital.

*– Lake Tahoe News staff report*

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## Snippets about Lake Tahoe



• Placer County Board of Supervisors this month adopted an ordinance that will prohibit camping on most county-owned properties beginning Aug. 6.

• Construction of Bijou Bike Park in South Lake Tahoe starts next week.

• El Dorado County Auditor-Controller Joe Harn has been dismissed from the Kelly Webb lawsuit.

- Local historian Dave Long will give a free public presentation on the role of fish hatcheries and sport fishing in the Lake Tahoe basin on July 11 from 10am-noon at the UC Davis Field Station in Tahoe City.

- Tahoe Cross Country is naming the top of the Lakeview Trail “Kevin’s Crest”, in memory of Kevin Murnane. Murnane, who was general manager of the ski area, died earlier this year.

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## **Senators lobby for dollars to protect Lake Tahoe**

The Lake Tahoe Restoration Act of 2015 was introduced today by the four senators representing California and Nevada.

The bipartisan legislation was crafted to protect the Lake Tahoe region by improving water clarity, reducing wildfire threat, jumpstarting innovative transportation and infrastructure projects, and combating invasive species.

The federal legislation would bring \$415 million to the basin over the next 10 years. The money would be spent on:

- Wildfire prevention – Provides \$150 million for fire risk reduction and forest management.

- Environmental improvement program – Provides \$80 million to jumpstart projects spanning from new bike trails to creek restoration and fire treatment.

- Invasive species management program – Provides \$45 million to prevent the introduction of the quagga mussel and manage other harmful invasive species like the Asian clam.

- Storm water projects – Sets aside \$113 million to implement storm water management, erosion control, and watershed restoration projects.
  - Lahontan cutthroat trout recovery program – Allocates \$20 million to recover the Lahontan cutthroat trout – a federally threatened species and Nevada’s state fish.
  - Increases accountability and oversight – Provides \$5 million to ensure projects will have monitoring and assessment in order to determine the most cost-effective projects and ensure dollars are properly utilized.
  - Overall management improvement – Sets aside \$2 million to cover the cost of land exchanges and sales on the California and Nevada sides of the Tahoe basin that will improve efficiencies of public land management.
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# Drought changes kitchen habits

By Kim Severson, New York Times

SANTA CRUZ – Andrea Nguyen, who writes cookbooks for a living, knows that making pho in a pressure cooker is not the solution to California’s drought. Still, developing a reasonable version of the Vietnamese noodle soup that can be made in less than an hour, with half the water, matters to her these days.

“We’re all trying to do what we can,” she said. “It’s all about consciousness.”

Across California, home cooks and restaurant chefs are adjusting to a new reality in kitchens where water once flowed

freely over sinks full of vegetables, and no one thought twice about firing up a big pot of water for pasta.

The state is in the fourth year of a severe drought, but the reality of living with less water began hitting hard in the spring. For the first time, state officials ordered residents of every city and town to conserve water or face consequences.

Some residents had already taken the punishment into their own hands with drought shaming, using social media to call out people with well-watered lawns or other outward signs of excessive water consumption.

A culinary equivalent has yet to pop up, probably because running a kitchen is not as water-intensive as maintaining a yard or using the bathroom, where a bucket to collect water as the shower heats up has become an accepted part of home décor.

Yet the drought's impact is being keenly felt in culinary matters, from how Californians cook and clean, to how they shop and even what foods they can find at the market.

**Read the whole story**

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## **What would minimum wage hike mean to Nev?**

**By Megan Messerly, Las Vegas Sun**

Hot on the heels of San Francisco and Seattle, Los Angeles became the most recent city on the West Coast to pass a \$15-an-hour minimum wage.

Los Angeles' increase, which won't be fully instituted until

2020, is the latest in a trend of minimum wage increases across the nation. In 2014, lawmakers in 10 states and Washington, D.C., raised the minimum wage, and voters in four more states approved increases through ballot measures.

Now, some are wondering: Is Nevada next? The minimum wage here is \$8.25 an hour for employees who aren't offered employer-sponsored health insurance and \$7.25 for those who are.

This year's legislative session saw various pushes to change the state minimum wage.

**Read the whole story**

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## Library to host magician

Magic Dan brings a fast-paced program that is educational and fun to the Douglas County Public Library Lake Tahoe Branch on July 16.

He fills his performances with positive messages that reinforce reading and self-esteem.

Magic Dan is celebrating 20 years as a magician. He has entertained thousands of children of all ages. \

The show starts at 1:30pm at 233 Warrior Way in Zephyr Cove.

For more info, call 775.588.6411.

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# Study: Heightened imagination for smell may drive food cravings

By Los Angeles Times

Close your eyes and imagine the smell of baking bread, of a pungent curry dish, of popcorn at the movies or a bouquet of freshly cut tea roses.

If these prompts send you into swoons of olfactory delight, there's a good chance that upon opening your eyes, an obese person could be staring back at you in the mirror.

Research has found that compared with people of normal weight, obese people conjure up more vivid images of aromas. The ability to experience sensory fantasies so richly, said researchers at Yale School of Medicine, may make some people more vulnerable than others to following food cues, even when they're not hungry.

**[Read the whole story](#)**

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## Wacky weather to linger for a couple more days



Hail gathers along Highway 89 in Truckee on July 8. Photo/LTN

**By Kathryn Reed**

Rumbling, crackling and flashes of white light. It's just another day in Lake Tahoe. Oh, and there is fresh snow on Tioga Pass.

Hail has been common with this series of storms that is now in its second week. On July 8 golf-ball size hail was recorded in South Lake Tahoe. More typical has been marble-size hail. It has gathered in places to the point it looks like snow.

While summer thunderstorms are not uncommon in the region, they usually don't hang around this long or come at all hours of the day and night.

"This pattern has been very persistent in that it hasn't shifted," Alex Hoon, meteorologist with National Weather Service in Reno told *Lake Tahoe News*. "A high pressure over the Great Basin brings moisture up from the south." These are monsoon-like storms.

In the last 36 hours a low pressure has come over California, which is cooling things down.

South Lake Tahoe's high on Wednesday was 69, while it was 85 in Reno. Normally these two cities are 80 and 91, respectively. Today's high in the city is slated to be 65 degrees, while it may reach 78 in Reno.

South Lake received 0.39 inches of rain on July 8 and 0.05 inches on July 7. Truckee on Wednesday recorded 0.11 inches. In Little Valley, which is on the other side of Diamond Peak between Incline Village and Washoe Lake, the rain total was 0.57 inches.

Douglas County on Wednesday issued a disaster declaration for parts of the valley because of the flooding. The declaration will allow the county to call in additional crews to help clear roads, remove debris and repair public infrastructure that continues to be damaged as repeated storms cause flash flooding.

The most recent flash flood was primarily concentrated in the Stephanie Lane and Johnson Lane areas. Approximately 141 homes have been recorded as possibly having water and structural damage and an unknown number of homes with landscape damage, according to the Douglas County Sheriff's Department.

The Johnson Lane Firehouse Station 6 is being used as the local field office for citizens to report damage. Sandbags are available at Fire Station 6 on Stephanie Lane.

While the moisture is welcome in this fourth year of drought, it is wreaking havoc on traditional summer businesses in Tahoe. Ski resort gondolas and trams can't run when there is even a threat of lightning, and boat-paddle-bike rentals come to a grinding halt.

Thunderstorms are still in the forecast and remain so through the weekend, though with a diminishing chance.

By next week the weather is expected to return to normal – dry, a little breezy and in the 80s at the lake.

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# Opinion: Don't give the homeless sympathy

By Zócalo

It doesn't take more than a stroll down a city street to see that America has a homelessness problem. The guy tucked into in a stained blanket on the bench, the woman pushing a cart filled with everything she owns – from New York to Los Angeles, there are more than half a million people sleeping outside or in some form of transitional housing.

While this number is lower than it was during the recession, homelessness is still on the rise in many of the country's major cities. New York City's homeless population jumped 10 percent over the past year; LA's jumped 12 percent. With housing costs continuing to skyrocket in these cities, there aren't signs of this trend changing anytime soon.

Has progress been made? Or are more Americans simply bound to find themselves without a bed? In advance of the Zócalo/UCLA event "What Keeps the Homeless Off the Street?", we asked people who study, write about, and are deeply engaged with the homeless:

**What have large American cities done that has successfully reduced the number of people living on the streets?**

**Brenda E. Rosen: Provide supportive housing**

In New York City, the answer to reducing our chronically homeless population is supportive housing:

permanently affordable homes with on-site social services.

Supportive housing is a time-proven, cost-effective strategy that gives the homeless a second chance at life. But they can't be forced into it. My organization, Common Ground, is a "Housing First" adherent, which means there are minimal requirements to move into the housing we provide. Asking someone to get sober while they are living on the streets is a recipe for failure. We believe the process begins when someone chooses to come inside, and are then given the tools they need to succeed.

New York has long been a leader in this approach. In 1990, when Common Ground was founded, Governor Mario Cuomo enacted the first "New York/New York" agreement, which made affordable housing central to how government can improve the lives of underserved individuals. Thousands of supportive housing units have been built under this program, and in the past year, New York City has actually recorded a decrease in the number of unsheltered homeless people on its streets.

Recently, New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio launched a separate plan to build 200,000 units of affordable housing, including units specifically set aside for homeless people.

These plans are not only humane; they will achieve long-term public savings. For every chronically homeless person given housing and support, we save \$10,000 each year, because they're not cycling through hospitals and jails.

But our work isn't over. In a city built out to its edges, the cost of land is skyrocketing. It is critical that we continue to invest in supportive housing, create incentives for for-profit developers to build affordable housing, and use our scarce city-owned land to maximize housing options for vulnerable New Yorkers – including giving priority to non-profits.

*Brenda E. Rosen is president and CEO of Common Ground, a New*

*York City-based nonprofit that develops and sustains high-quality, affordable supportive housing. Prior to Common Ground, she worked at New York City's Department of Homeless Services.*

### **Mark Loranger: Provide jobs**

In Los Angeles, the homeless crisis reflects a challenge that virtually every city, large and small, is experiencing across the country: How can we house the neediest among us in a humane, safe manner, while encouraging personal responsibility and accountability?

The root causes of homelessness are complex and interrelated: lack of affordable housing, job loss, economic inequality, poor decisions that result in prison sentences, physical and mental health challenges, and ineffective public policy have all contributed to the problem. But my experience working with the homeless suggests that there is a solution that is effective, at least for those that are ready, willing, and able to work: it's called a job.

A job brings hope and dignity, in addition to a paycheck. Rigorous evaluations of programs like ours at Chrysalis demonstrate that formerly homeless individuals that hold a job for at least six months are significantly more likely to stay out of prison, maintain stable housing, have better health incomes, and significantly decrease their reliance on public support.

Organizations like the Center for Employment Opportunities and the Doe Fund in New York City, the Cara Program in Chicago, and the Women's Bean Project in Denver all view employment as a key part of the solution to ending homelessness and poverty.

Investment in, and expansion of, successful programs that bring economic hope and opportunity to our communities will help us solve this crisis.

*Mark Loranger is the president and CEO of Chrysalis, a Los*

*Angeles-based nonprofit that works with the homeless and those in poverty to help them find and retain employment.*

### **Alicia Horton: Provide career training**

Homeless people are not “hanging out” in the streets; they are living in the streets. They are conducting their lives in the only place available to them. I can assure you they would rather not sleep, eat, meet friends, and drink a beer there. They would rather have a place to go, something constructive to do, and a safe space where they could relax and reassemble their lives. Sound familiar? Most of us call it home.

But, because a home can be such an elusive goal for so many in today’s economy, a city’s capacity to keep people off of its streets is directly correlated with its ability to provide the range of services required to fully engage and support someone experiencing homelessness. One such program in Washington, D.C., the Real Opportunities Employment Training program, provides 20 weeks of culinary arts training. During the training, clients are given intensive case management, housing assistance, a stipend, and transportation assistance. Clients can also utilize all of the other services offered by the agency, including showers, laundry, phones, hot meals, pantry services, computer access, and a mailing address. In this comprehensive approach, there isn’t even any time to conduct life on the street. The program addresses basic needs, while supporting a client’s ability make the changes necessary to step out of their homelessness.

So, if we don’t want people living in the street, then we had better get about the business of providing them with a somewhere to live, where they can conduct their lives privately and with the appropriate supports, like those of use lucky enough to have a place we call home.

*Alicia Horton is the executive director of Thrive DC, a homeless and low-income service organization dedicated*

*to preventing and ending homelessness.*

**Tamera Kohler: Encourage collaboration between governments and communities**

In 2005, Utah launched a 10-year plan to tackle “chronic homelessness” – the state of being homeless for longer than a year or four times within three years and having an assessed disabling condition. That year, 1,932 individuals experienced chronic homelessness in the state.

The 10-year plan centered on collaboration between local and state governments and communities, caring community support, and champions who built up local resources to improve services for the homeless across the state.

By January 2015, a count showed 178 people were experiencing chronic homelessness in Utah – a 91 percent decrease in 10 years. All 178 of these people are known by name. They have been professionally assessed, and we can help them move out of chronic homelessness if they choose. Utah is the first state to have a system in place capable of serving all of its chronically homeless individuals.

The reduction in Utah’s chronic homelessness is primarily due to the provision of permanent housing using a “Housing First” approach, which includes supportive treatment services in mental and physical health, substance abuse, education, and employment.

Today, the number of individuals and families experiencing homelessness in Utah is well under the national average: 14,516, based on the 2015 count. This is an 8.54 percent drop from the number of people experiencing homelessness in the state just last year, due to the availability of additional resources and outreach programs.

*Tamera Kohler is the interim director of the Housing and Community Development Division at Utah’s Department of*

*Workforce Services.*

### **Matthew Doherty: Don't get stuck in "pilot mode"**

The United States Interagency Council on Homelessness just launched an amendment to Opening Doors, the federal strategic plan to prevent and end homelessness, and we did so with more confidence than ever in the nation's ability to end homelessness for all Americans. We are seeing progress in many communities across the country, which both demonstrates that ending homelessness can be a reality and helps to provide a road map of strategies and practices for other communities to learn from and replicate.

Strategic approaches that I've seen in action in communities that are making the most progress include:

- Challenging the status quo and embracing evidence-based practices across the full range of homeless programs and services, and using Housing First approaches to link people to permanent housing as quickly as possible.
- Strengthening collaborations and building teams that draw on resources from across systems, agencies, and programs.
- Never getting stuck in "pilot mode." Pilot programs can be useful in demonstrating successful strategies, but too often that success doesn't result in further action or systemic change.
- Building in mechanisms for accountability and evaluation.
- Keeping the focus on people experiencing homelessness, making person-centered planning a centerpiece in system design and quality improvement efforts.
- Leaving no one behind, by performing comprehensive outreach and providing immediately available interim housing options, with clear paths to permanent housing.
- Staying in it for the long haul, recognizing that

housing is not the endpoint for people, but an intervention to be used as a platform for community involvement and contribution.

With these approaches, achieving an end to homelessness is within reach. The more we can learn from each other, the more success we will have in ensuring people have safe, stable places to call home.

*Matthew Doherty is the executive director of the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness. Matthew is responsible for the implementation of the Opening Doors plan.*

### **Amy Turk: Fund affordable housing units**

We're at an important juncture in Los Angeles, where homelessness is publicly acknowledged as a crisis, and there is much debate about what the solution or solutions should be.

At the Downtown Women's Center (DWC), we have seen how an apartment and a supportive environment can transform a woman's life and keep her from returning to the streets. We know this is the solution. Housing and supportive services are critical to ending the cycle of homelessness. But the problem is there is not enough housing.

Our organization has been working in Skid Row since 1978, addressing the needs of homeless women through basic services and permanent supportive housing. DWC was founded at a time when more and more women were ending up on the streets of L.A. with nowhere to go for meals, showers, clean clothes, or safety.

Today, nearly 40 years later, we continue to meet the needs of homeless women in downtown L.A. When one in every four homeless individuals is a single adult woman, we see a high demand for our services – and for the permanent supportive housing that gives women a place to call their own.

However, without the adequate funding for housing and increased committed action from our community and leaders, we cannot make a dent in decreasing the number of homeless individuals in our city. We need full funding for tens of thousands of affordable housing units across the city and the county. People are on the streets because they don't have a home. The answer: let's give them homes and support them on the path to stability. It's that simple.

*Amy Turk is the chief program officer at the Downtown Women's Center in Los Angeles. She provides oversight of DWC's clinical health services, vocational education, social enterprises, day center, and permanent supportive housing.*

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# The science of 'Inside Out'

**By Dacher Keltner and Paul Ekman, New York Times**

Five years ago, the writer and director Pete Docter of Pixar reached out to us to talk over an idea for a film, one that would portray how emotions work inside a person's head and at the same time shape a person's outer life with other people. He wanted to do this all in the mind of an 11-year-old girl as she navigated a few difficult days in her life.

As scientists who have studied emotion for decades, we were delighted to be asked. We ended up serving as scientific consultants for the movie, "Inside Out," which was recently released.

Our conversations with Mr. Docter and his team were generally about the science related to questions at the heart of the film: How do emotions govern the stream of consciousness? How do emotions color our memories of the past? What is the

emotional life of an 11-year-old girl like? (Studies find that the experience of positive emotions begins to drop precipitously in frequency and intensity at that age.)

**Read the whole story**