

Shuttle service added between Carson Valley-Reno

Beginning Monday there will be public transit between the Carson Valley and Reno.

Amador Stage Lines will provide the Carson Valley Airporter service. It is being subsidized by \$365,000 in federal transportation funds administered by the Nevada Department of Transportation.

Stops include: Gardnerville Community Center, Carson Valley Inn, Minden Holiday Inn, Courtyard Marriott in Carson City, Carson City transit center, Reno-Tahoe International Airport and the National Bowling Stadium.

The cost is \$16 one way between Carson City and Reno, and \$24 between Douglas County and Reno.

Nonprofits benefit from celebrity golf tourney

Twenty-two nonprofits are sharing \$48,000 from the 2014 American Century Championship.

Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority in partnership with NBC Sports and American Century Investments previously directed an additional \$67,200 through on-site volunteer organizations and other efforts during tournament week to area high schools, Soroptimist International of South Lake Tahoe, South Lake Tahoe Booster Club, Boys & Girls Club of South Lake Tahoe, and the Gene Upshaw Scholarship.

From the \$48,000, local cancer support programs involving Barton Memorial Hospital Foundation and the Cancer League received \$13,000.

Grants of \$3,000 went to Assistance League of Sierra Foothills, Christmas Cheer Food Bank, Food Bank El Dorado County, Suicide Prevention Network, and Tahoe Arts Project; with \$2,000 each to Douglas County Parks & Recreation: Kahle Community Center, Lake Tahoe Educational Foundation, and Live Violence Free.

Programs receiving \$1,000-\$1,500 included Bringing Arts to Schools, El Dorado County Search and Rescue, Juvenile Service Council, Lake Tahoe Community College Foundation, Tahoe Basin Senior Citizens Center, Tahoe Community Church Food Pantry, Tahoe Magic, Tahoe Prosperity Center, Tahoe Regional Young Professionals, Tahoe Senior Plaza and Whittell Boosters Club.

The 26th annual American Century Championship is July 14-19.

Then and now: Evolution of Crescent V



Perry Boys' Smorgy
Photo/Private Collection

Perry Boys' Smorgy in the 1960s offered cafeteria-style lunch for \$1.15 and dinner for \$1.75 in the Crescent V Center near the state line.

Next door to the right was Raley's Supermarket and Lawrence's Department Store.



Modern day businesses.
Photo/Bill Kingman

That same corner location today offers pizza and art in the remodeled and renamed Village Center.



Sizzler left in 2003.
Photo/Bill Kingman

Years after Perry Boys, Sizzler Restaurant also occupied that corner in 2003, just prior to the remodeling of the center.

– Bill Kingman

Experiments test budding scientists' theories



Marcus Haven explains which elements rust first in water. Photos/Kathryn Reed

By Kathryn Reed

It's possible many of the adults in the room were not smarter than a first-grader – at least on Friday.

Pink volcanoes, bottles of unknown substances, melting candy and crayons. Rows of tables with trifold cardboard displays

explain what all of this is about.

“We wanted them to *do* science,” Shaina Lucas told *Lake Tahoe News*. “Why shouldn’t first-graders be able to do projects?”

Lucas is the first-grade teacher at Bijou Community School who last year started what is now an annual science fair.

Students worked on their projects for five weeks, focusing on a question and hypothesis. All last week they presented their experiments to their classmates, explaining the question they were asking, and then conducted the experiment or showed the finished product.

The culmination was Nov. 14 when they all had to answer questions for parents, staff and other adults.



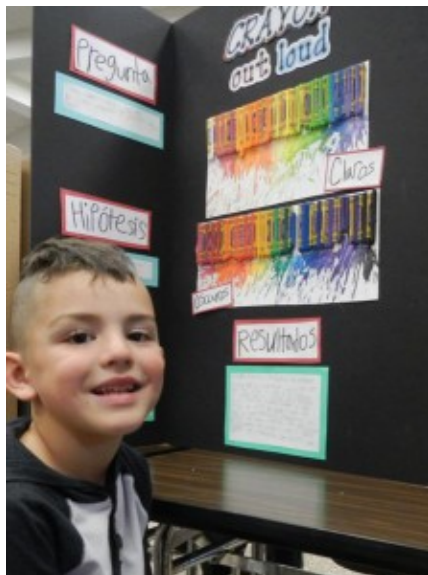
Bijou first-graders show off their science experiments Nov. 14.

“I thought the steel and aluminum would rust first,” Marcus Haven told *Lake Tahoe News*. His reasoning was “those were two metals.”

The steel was rusting after having been in water four days.

Marcus put glass, galvanized steel, aluminum, copper, wood, steel and plastic in water to see which would rust first.

Others asked questions about oil and water, and what happens when distilled water is mixed with baking soda.



Kayden Morales tests the speed at which crayon colors melt.

Kayden Morales wanted to find out if different color crayons melt at the same rate. They don't. Lighter colors melt faster.

He used a blow dryer to test his theory.

He and his mom correctly predicted the outcome, while his dad and sister thought the darker colors would melt faster.

For Krystal Octavo it was all about finding the M&M that melts the fastest. The first test was to put six colors on her palm, the second to hold them while making a fist. Both times the brown one melted first.

For students who are in the two-way immersion program they had to present their experiments in Spanish.

Highway 28 to receive nearly \$24 mil. in upgrades

Eleven miles of Highway 28 will be getting about \$24 million worth of improvements.

Washoe County commissioners on Nov. 12 approved a \$12.5 million Federal Lands Access Program agreement for the corridor from Incline Village to the Highway 50 junction.

The funding will be targeted toward safety advances, expanded transportation options, an enhanced visitor experience, increased economic vitality and improved water clarity.

"This is the single most significant project on the Nevada side of Lake Tahoe in decades," Marsha Berkbighler, Washoe County commissioner and Tahoe Transportation District board member, said in a press release.

The Federal Lands Access Program was established to improve transportation facilities that provide access to high-use federal recreation sites.

The remaining comes from: \$2.3 million from Nevada Department of Transportation; \$3.5 million from Nevada Question 1 – voter-approved funding for the Lake Tahoe Bike Path; \$1 million from State Lands Tahoe Bond Act; \$800,000 from Tahoe Fund for the Lake Tahoe Bike Path; \$2 million Federal Scenic Byways; \$150,000 Federal Recreation Trails Program; \$650,000 Federal Transportation Alternative Program; and \$1 million from Washoe County Tahoe Air Quality Mitigation funds and Washoe County Question 1 – voter-approved funding for the Lake Tahoe Bike Path.

Highway 28 segments in Washoe, Carson and Douglas counties will feature three miles of new off highway bike path from Lakeshore Drive to Sand Harbor, additional and improved East

Shore Express transit stops, expanded off-highway parking, a park-n-ride lot near U.S. Highway 50, guardrail improvements, emergency pullouts, and environmental improvement projects such as storm water collection and filtration. Construction of these improvements will begin with the first mile of off highway bike path in summer 2015.

STHS, Truckee win state soccer titles

South Tahoe and Truckee high schools are Division 1-A state soccer champions.

The girls from South Tahoe beat Sierra Vista 3-2 in overtime on Nov. 15 to claim the crown. This is the fourth state title in five years. The team will lose 11 seniors.

That game as well as the boys' final were played in Henderson.

The Truckee boys needed a shoot out to beat Chaparral. The score was 5-3.

– Lake Tahoe News staff report

Incorporate Olympic Valley

faces uphill battle

By Melissa Siig, Moonshine Ink

The struggle between Squaw Valley Ski Holdings and Incorporate Olympic Valley over the future of the valley may be playing out publicly in newspaper ads and editorial pages, but behind the scenes another battle is brewing – one that involves hundreds of thousands of dollars, multiple attorneys and consultants, and a complex political process that pits a grassroots effort against a million dollar corporation.

In the latest chapter of this saga, the ski resort and the anti-incorporation group it funds, Save Olympic Valley, won out in their request that an environmental impact report (EIR) be conducted for the proposed town. Incorporate Olympic Valley, which will have to pay for the study, claims this is part of an ongoing strategy by SVSH to draw out the incorporation process and force it to exhaust its financial resources. The ski area, however, states that it is merely exercising its legal rights and abiding by state laws, unlike IOV. Whether you see this story as a modern day David versus Goliath or the majority protecting itself from minority interests, Squaw Valley Ski Holdings is making incorporation supporters work hard to achieve their goals.

“We are moving forward but against strong headwinds,” Fred Ilfeld, chairman of the IOV Foundation, told *Moonshine Ink*.

Squaw Valley Ski Holdings has been pushing since April for the Placer County Local Agency Formation Commission to require an EIR as part of the incorporation process. An EIR, as required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), identifies a project’s significant environmental impacts and ways to avoid or mitigate those impacts. The ski area believes that an EIR is necessary because the proposed town would result in a change of wildfire fighting responsibility from the state to

the new town, as well as shift transit occupancy tax (TOT) dollars away from public transportation.

“The IOV incorporation may result in a potentially significant adverse impact by reducing wildland fire response times and thereby exposing people and structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death,” wrote law firm Remy Moose Manley, on behalf of SVSH, in an April 4 letter to LAFCO.

“Incorporation could also result in a reduction in TOT revenue needed to ensure continuation of basic TART [Tahoe Area Regional Transit] levels of service.”

Additionally, SVSH hired Environmental Science Associates, which stated in an Aug. 11 letter to LAFCO that an EIR is needed because of the vagaries of climate change. The environmental science and planning firm claims that because the town’s income would be dependent on the ski industry, the town will have to diversify its economy, which would result in “additional development and land use changes.”

IOV, on the other hand, argues that an EIR is not necessary because no land is being disturbed in the decision to form the town of Olympic Valley.

“We are not turning a spade of dirt,” Ilfeld told *Moonshine Ink*. “It has no effect on the environment.”

IOV points to a 2008 article written by lawyer Julie Biggs, who has represented numerous California community incorporation attempts – some successful, some not – such as Goleta, Caramel Valley, Wildomar, and East Los Angeles. Biggs argued that, as decided by the Monterey County Superior Court in 2008, an EIR is not required when forming a city because incorporation of a new city alone does not constitute a project under CEQA. In other words, the decision is who should govern, not what will be constructed.

Read the whole story

Expect smoke from controlled burns

The North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District and the U.S. Forest Service will continue prescribed fire operations in the Round Hill, Zephyr Heights, Incline Village, Slaughterhouse Canyon, Christmas Valley, Ward Canyon, McKinney Rubicon areas and on various urban lots near Heavenly.

Operations will last through the next several weeks as conditions allow.

Smoke from prescribed fire operations is normal and may continue for several days after an ignition depending on the project size.

Before prescribed fire operations are conducted, the agencies post road signs around areas affected by prescribed fire, send email notifications and update the local fire information line at 530.543.2600, No. 6. To receive prescribed fire notifications, send an email to pa_ltbmu@fs.fed.us.

High Roller Hold'Em returning to Heavenly

Three Olympians from the inaugural U.S. slopestyle snowboarding team will compete in the High Roller Hold'Em at

Heavenly Mountain Resort on April 4.

Gold medalist Sage Kotsenburg will place his bets against fellow Olympians Billy Morgan and Chas Guldemon, as well as High Roller Hold'Em veterans Gjermund Braaten and Eric Willett.

High Roller Hold 'Em combines the thrill of snowboard big air with the strategy of high-stakes poker into an event that sends the winner home with \$50,000.

This year the stakes are even higher, with the overall winner receiving automatic entrance to the 2016 X Games big air event.

Competitors will be dealt three cards per hand with each card featuring different tricks based on the face value of the card. From there, each rider will discard two cards, and bet accordingly on the final card in their hand. Once all bets are in, the riders who haven't folded will head to the top of the course, where the rider who lands the trick with the highest level of difficulty will win the round and qualify for the \$50,000 super final.

It will take place on World Cup run. It is free for spectators.

NLTRA seeks marketing committee members

The North Lake Tahoe Resort Association is accepting applications for three open seats on the association's marketing committee.

Appointments will be made based on marketing experience, type of business the member is affiliated with and the portion of North Tahoe the member represents. New members will be appointed at the January board meeting and will serve a three-year term through 2017.

Applicants should submit a letter of interest and their resume to Anna Atwood of the North Lake Tahoe Chamber/CVB/Resort Association by Nov.28, via email at Anna@GoTahoeNorth.com, or by mail at Attention: Marketing Committee Application, North Lake Tahoe Chamber/CVB/Resort Association, P.O. Box 5459, Tahoe City, CA 96145.