

Incline murder victim related to suspect

The man who was killed last month in Incline Village has been identified as the father-in-law of the suspect.

David Rivas-Rodriguez, 70, died from multiple stab wounds, according to Washoe County sheriff's detectives.

Deputies were called to a residence in the 700 block of Southwood Boulevard at 10am Jan. 23. Rivas-Rodriguez was dead when they arrived.

The suspect is Ismeal Resendiz-Moreno. He is being held in the Washoe County Detention Facility on a charge of murder.

This is an ongoing investigation.

– Lake Tahoe News staff report

Outfitting athletes for the Winter Olympics

By Susan L. Sokolowski, The Conversation

At the first Winter Olympics, in Chamonix, France, in 1924, athletes competed in uniforms made from natural material resources like wool, cotton and leather; some had sport-specific modifications to aid in performance (like impact protection or warmth) or appearance (like a coat or skirt that would flare when spinning).

They did include colors and badges to signify the countries

their wearers represented, but overall their dress could have largely passed for everyday clothes.

Since then, athletes' uniforms have changed substantially.

Read the whole story

Susan L. Sokolowski is the director and an associate professor for sports product design at the University of Oregon.

The Three Dot brotherhood in Kings Beach

By Sean McAlindin, Tahoe Weekly

Lake Tahoe has always attracted those with big dreams and the imaginative bent to make them a reality. Yet for every C. F. McGlashan or Alexander Cushing there have been scores of unknowns who banded together to build something from nothing.

It's common for Tahoe locals to start their own businesses on the side to supplement their incomes as they scrape out a living in this beautiful place. Still others dive in head first staking their livelihood and reputations on the line as they pursue their passions.

One studio in King's Beach is setting a model for strategic partnership in the world of craftsmanship. Hidden high on Speckled Avenue on the north end of the grid is a unique space known as Three Dot Studios.

Read the whole story

Sierra to host retro ski clothing day

Sierra-at-Tahoe is partnering with Shinesty, a clothing company specializing in retro ski gear and party suits, to host a Throwback Day on Feb 24.

This is a free event to guests of all ages, taking place from 9am-4pm in the base area of Sierra.

Guests are encouraged to wear their best retro outfits and vintage attire. Those who dress up will have a chance to win prizes. Other activities will include a Hot Doggin' Eating Challenge, Spread Eagle Tournament, plus games and live music provided by DJ Conqu3st.

Workshop in El Dorado County about reforestation

UC Cooperative Extension, Northern California Society of American Foresters, El Dorado County Resource Conservation District, CalFire and the Natural Resources Conservation Service will be hosting a series of one-day workshops aimed at land owners, foresters and others who are involved in planning and executing tree planting and reforestation projects.

It may also be of interest to personnel working for agencies serving these clients. Reforestation at multiple scales from

the residential forest parcel to the landscape will be addressed.

There will be a workshop on March 7, 9am-4pm at the El Dorado County Resource Conservation District, 100 Forni Road, Placerville. The objective will to outline the process of forest regeneration from tree loss and removal, site preparation, tree planting and ongoing forest management including:

- How to prepare the planting site
- How to identify and procure appropriate planting stock
- How to plant trees
- Alternatives for management of planted stands
- Additional topics that will be covered include planting practices to achieve vegetation goals and to adapt to a changing climate. Attendees will also discuss financial assistance available to private landowners for undertaking forest restoration.

There is no cost to attend these workshops, but **registration is required**.

Brace yourself for more extreme weather

By Karen Kaplan, Los Angeles Times

Scientists have some sobering news about the future of our planet: Even if humans manage to meet the temperature target set forth in the Paris climate change agreement, record-breaking weather events will become increasingly common around the world.

And that's the good part.

The Paris plan seeks to keep Earth's global average temperature within 2 degrees Celsius of pre-industrial levels by getting people to reduce their carbon emissions. According to the United Nations, 174 countries have signed on to the agreement.

However, the actual commitments made by these countries would probably allow the global average temperature to rise by as much as 3 degrees Celsius. In that case, extreme weather events would become much more commonplace almost everywhere on the planet.

Read the whole story

WCSO removing lieutenant from Tahoe office

Changes are coming to the Incline Village substation of the Washoe County Sheriff's Department.

It will no longer be led by a lieutenant as of Feb. 19.

However, a sergeant and four deputies will continue work from the Tahoe facility.

The change is for financial reasons.

– Lake Tahoe News staff report

Comments being taken on Sierra Blvd. project

People have until March 7 to comment on the mitigated negative declaration for the **Sierra Boulevard Complete Streets Project** in South Lake Tahoe.

The document is available **online**.

This project consists of planning, design, and permitting for full rehabilitation of Sierra Boulevard, an approximately 0.63-mile long arterial road. Sierra Boulevard will serve as a tie in location for the planned South Tahoe Greenway Shared Use Trail being implemented by the California Tahoe Conservancy.

The project will also incorporate Caltrans' planned intersection improvements at Sierra Boulevard and Highway 50, which is scheduled for construction in 2018-19.

Bone-chilling cold weather coming to Tahoe

Caltrans is alerting motorists to be prepared for winter driving conditions Sunday through Tuesday with the arrival of cold winter temperatures for the Northern California area.

The National Weather Service has forecast significant drops in both day and nighttime temperatures, with mountain temps down to single digits. The cold weather system is expected to

arrive Sunday morning and continue through Tuesday night. While snow accumulations over the passes Sunday evening and Monday morning are not expected to be significant (2-4 inches), the severe cold will create very slick and icy conditions for mountain roadways.

Strong winds are also forecast throughout the area. With below freezing temps predicted, gusty winds will result in wind chills below zero in the mountains.

Chain controls on Interstate 80 over Donner Summit and Highway 50 over Echo Summit should be anticipated Sunday night through Monday morning.

SLT struggles to cultivate workable pot regulations

By Kathryn Reed

The future of recreational marijuana and even expanded medicinal offerings in South Lake Tahoe remains hazy.

It might become a littler clearer after Tuesday's cannabis workshop being led by the City Council. The focus is on retail sales in the city limits. The meeting begins at 5pm Feb. 20 at Tahoe Beach Retreat.

The community cannabis subcommittee delivered recommendations to the City Council on Feb. 6. Not all of the electeds were enamored with what was presented. That subcommittee has met at least twice since then. Members are expected to be at the workshop to share tweaks they've made, answer questions and provide information.

Some of the subcommittee recommendations include:

- All shops should sell marijuana for recreational and medicinal use.
- Delivery should be allowed if tied to a storefront, with GPS tracking.
- No outdoor cultivation.
- Maximum grows of 5,000 square feet.
- Local tax of at least $3\frac{1}{2}$ percent of gross receipts, with tax question going to voters in November at the earliest.
- Allow three retail licenses.
- No one with a felony allowed to open a shop.
- Prefer local operators.
- Provide a place for people to consume the pot so it's not being done illegally at a tourist accommodation; and provide a shuttle service.
- Allow local law enforcement enhanced access to the facility and books.

Some of the issues brought up by the council and/or the public centered on the distribution regulations and whether to allow microbusinesses.

It is ultimately up to the City Council to decide what to do. It can adopt some, all or none of the subcommittee recommendations.

The state has a number of rules that are already in place that can only be changed by the city by making them stronger, more restrictive.

The council has an urgency ordinance in place regarding

recreation pot. It was first approved in December and then extended in January by 10 months and 15 days per state law. The plan was to amend it on Feb. 6 to allow for development agreements. However, the city was provided with inaccurate legal advice by interim City Attorney Nira Doherty at the second January meeting. She said it would be fine to amend the ordinance in February. That would have been illegal. So, the ordinance as first approved is what is in effect.

The whole urgency ordinance could be replaced and then the urgency measure would be disbanded. This is the likely scenario as the city moves forward with the recreational ordinance.

Barton Health was asked to participate and chose not to.

"Barton participates in the Community Health Advisory Committee, a group of local health and wellness organizations facilitated by the Barton Foundation that identifies unmet health needs in the community. This group is working to make a recommendation to City Council that a portion of tax revenue generated by the sale of cannabis be used for education, awareness and prevention surrounding minors and cannabis use," Barton spokeswoman Jenna Palacio told *Lake Tahoe News*.

It's not clear if Councilman Jason Collin will be able to vote his conscience for the city or be beholden to the stance his employer takes if they are different.

While the subcommittee started with 15 members, there have only been 13 who have actually participated. The other two were Barton employees.

It's expected that recreational facilities would also be allowed to sell medicinal marijuana. The current medical marijuana ordinance only allows for three such establishments in the city, with the council needing to sign off on all future ones. Today there is only one such business.

Tahoe Wellness Cooperative was one of the original three. It has been on tenuous footing with the city for a while. Litigation is ongoing regarding the validity of the permit. It keeps being a closed session discussion with the council, with no reportable action being taken Feb. 6.

Cody Bass, who runs TWC, told *Lake Tahoe News* that he presented a settlement agreement to the council at that meeting. The council didn't bite.

When asked why the agreement was rejected, Mayor Wendy David told *LTN*, "This information is privileged and confidential."

Bass is barely operating because he has not been able to restock his shelves with most products since the first of the year. This is in large part because the city told the state he doesn't have a valid permit. It's a technicality in that the court has allowed him to stay open as the dispute lingers.

"With regards to commercial sales of cannabis, Tahoe Wellness Cooperative has been engaged in commercial cannabis sales since we opened in 2009 and begin collecting sales tax, of which we've collected over a million dollars in sales tax to the state of California for commercial cannabis sales," Bass told *Lake Tahoe News*. "The [state Bureau of Cannabis Control's] statement is accurate and all commercial cannabis sales in the state of California will now be through for profit entities with no requirement to operate on a not for profit basis. The problem for TWC is that we cannot engage with other licensees as the bureau stated, therefore we cannot acquire the medicine our members require for their ailments, greatly hindering the products we carry for the sickest of our members. Something that happened only because of the chief of police writing a letter. The misinformation that was spread around that the city can't authorize a for profit use because it is not written in their current ordinance is very inaccurate, and now even the city attorney agrees it's inaccurate. State law allows for local authorization through a

‘permit’ or ‘other authorization,’ which in this case is clearly the stay from the superior court, not a statement saying there is ‘no authorized cannabis use in the city of South Lake Tahoe’ as the chief wrote to the bureau.”

That letter the police chief sent has nearly put TWC out of business.