

Tahoe Tails – Adoptable Pets in South Lake Tahoe



Waldo

Waldo is a very photogenic brown tiger and white domestic shorthair cat.

He is about 2 years old and very friendly. Waldo's adoption fee has been paid.

Waldo is neutered, microchipped, tested for FIV, and vaccinated. He is at the El Dorado County Animal Services shelter in Meyers, along with many other dogs and cats who are waiting for their new homes. Go to the Tahoe animal shelter's Facebook page to see photos and descriptions of all pets at the shelter.

Call 530.573.7925 for directions, hours, and other information on adopting a pet. For spay-neuter assistance for South Tahoe residents, go **online**.

– Karen Kuentz

Opinion: LTN owner says goodbye

By Kathryn Reed

Saying goodbye is never easy, but that's exactly what I'm doing.

After nine years of owning/operating *Lake Tahoe News*, it is time to move on. This will be the last month of the news site (unless it sells – **here is the listing**).

The coverage will be sporadic until the end of the month.

LTN started on Labor Day 2009 with the Jaycee Lee Dugard parade. What an introduction.

Every day since then we have been providing a variety of news. We have broken a slew of stories, often being the only publication to write about a topic. We weren't afraid to upset people, even advertisers. We were never bought by anyone. For our travel pieces we won multiple awards.

I'm proud to say we never charged for an obituary. We were innovative in how we eliminated the trolls by creating a policy to charge for comments – something I wish we'd done sooner. The nights when we picked who to endorse in the various political races were some of the best political discussions I've been involved in. Thank you to everyone who volunteered to be part of that important endeavor. The various series we did from the five-year anniversary of the 2007 Angora Fire, to South Lake Tahoe turning 50, to mental health, to looking at affordable housing in 2017 were accomplishments that everyone who was involved in them can look back on with pride. That is what true journalism is about.

So many of the stories we wrote were ideas provided by

readers. You were wonderful sources. Some sent in tips, photos, asked about something that led to a story. It really was a group effort in so many ways.

It hasn't just been hard news. We published incredible feature stories on people, places and organizations – with more to come this month. We tried to provide a mix of stories, to be a community newspaper – just online. I believe we achieved that goal.

I started *Lake Tahoe News* because I was frustrated with all the news I knew was not getting published and couldn't imagine what I didn't know that should see the light of day. This is an incredibly rich area for news. I was never at a loss for something to cover; just disappointed not to be able to get to everything. Before *LTN* I had been freelancing for publications like the *Tahoe Mountain News*, *New York Times*, *Reuters* and *Sacramento Business Journal*. This was after being fired as managing editor of the *Tahoe Daily Tribune* because I wouldn't blur the lines between advertising and editorial. I came to Tahoe from San Francisco where I had been an editor at the *San Francisco Chronicle*. The *Trib* was where I started my journalism career as a reporter out of college.

There are so many people who have made *Lake Tahoe News* what it is. If it weren't for you readers, it wouldn't matter what we do every day. You have kept me going on days when I was ready to chuck the computer out the window. You made me realize what we were doing was worth it, that it was important, that we were making a difference.

And while all of that is still true, it is time for me to move on, to explore new challenges, pursue new dreams. I've been in the news business since graduating from college 30 years ago; even before that if you count high school and college papers as well as summer internships. The grind, especially these last nine years of working every day, has me wanting and needing to take a break.

I know it's always dangerous to start naming people because inevitably someone will be left out, but here goes. Sue Wood – thank you for being with *LTN* from the first story and to the end with more coming this month. Your words, counsel and support have been invaluable. Lisa Tolda was also there on Day 1, shooting the parade, and has been a stalwart supporter of true journalism; Kim Wyatt for endless conversations, being my go-to sounding board who talked me off the ledge so many times; Carolyn Wright for making me understand copyright law and upping the level of photography to a professionalism that is off the charts; Dave Gill for being my IT guru who saved me when the site had some serious technical troubles and who will be there until the end and beyond; Joann Eisenbrandt puts more time and research into a story compared to anyone I know; Jessie Marchesseau, Linda Conaboy and Terra Breeden who are still writing for *LTN* – covering a diverse lineup of stories that shows their range; Karen Kuentz who unfailingly provides the weekly pet of the week even when out of town; Anne Knowles was there early on, covering mostly Douglas County issues before getting a full-time job elsewhere; Kat Hill who covered the North Shore before buying her own publication; Pat Banner who from Washington state reads *LTN* after the fact for typos and other corrections; Lisa Huard for your stint at selling ads; Denise Haerr for taking photos when I couldn't and providing so much cultural content; and the writing and photo interns who also taught me, with one being responsible for getting *LTN* on Instagram. I could go on and on about each person; they all deserve their own story about what they mean to me and the impact they've had on *Lake Tahoe News*.

I am so grateful to *LTN's* advertisers. South Tahoe Refuse, Sierra-at-Tahoe, Lake Tahoe Community College, Barton Health and the city of South Lake Tahoe took a chance on *Lake Tahoe News* in 2009 when none of us was really sure what the news site was going to be. They have continued to support *LTN* to this day. There were plenty of other advertisers through the years – thank you.

And thank you to the many individuals who donated to *LTN*, especially to those who did so with commenting not being the reason to do so. Your support of community journalism is admirable.

While I move on, I hope the void created by *Lake Tahoe News*' absence won't last long. There needs to be a watch dog. Without an informed citizenry, we all lose. Public agencies need to be held accountable. The public should demand accurate, unbiased new coverage – not merely settling for press releases being regurgitated or stories that favor chamber-backed businesses. It takes time, work and money to put out a publication. Support the media you read by buying an ad or telling an advertiser you saw their ad. When you see that donate button, don't ignore it; subscribe to publications, don't just read the allotted number of free articles and move on until the next month.

I leave being proud of what I created with *Lake Tahoe News*. We made a difference. Thank you for being part of this incredible journey.

Kae

Signatures lacking for TWC ballot initiative

On first count the ballot initiative submitted by Tahoe Wellness Collective does not have enough signatures to qualify for the November election.

Cody Bass, who owns the medicinal marijuana shop in South Lake Tahoe, was seeking to have voters decide if his facility could

be grandfathered in and for it to be able to sell recreational pot.

This would bypass anything the City Council is trying to do.

In May, Bass submitted 1,615 signatures. Last week the El Dorado County Elections Department said the requisite number of valid signatures had not been submitted. However, this was based on a sampling of signatures, not all of them.

“I am confident we will pass with full count,” Bass told *Lake Tahoe News*.

– *Lake Tahoe News staff report*

Snippets about Lake Tahoe

- Grover Hot Springs State Park is looking for volunteers to help remove invasive plants on July 3 from 8am-noon. RSVP to parkchampionken@gmail.com.
- Here are the **El Dorado-Tahoe** and **Sierra** roadwork schedules for the week from Caltrans.
- The South Lake Tahoe Library will host magician Brian Scott on July 6. The free outdoor show starts at 2pm at 1000 Rufus Allen Blvd. Scott combines magic, comedy, and pure fun. Bring the whole family for this outdoor performance.
- At Emerald Bay State Park volunteers are needed to remove invasive plant species and plant native plants at the Vikingsholm Gardens on July 13, 8:30am-12:30pm. Volunteers 16 and older welcome (minors must be accompanied by a legal guardian).

Fire burning near Mount Rose Wilderness



The Evans Fire is burning in rugged terrain near Mt. Rose. Photo Copyright 2018 Carolyn E. Wright

The Evans Fire started July 1 about 8am in Evans Canyon near the Mount Rose Wilderness Area.

It is estimated to be 60 acres and 5 percent contained. It is burning west of Reno in the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest's Carson Ranger District. Large plumes of smoke are visible from the Caughlin Ranch area, though no houses are threatened.

It is burning in an area that is extremely dense with vegetation and timber. Hand crews and air tankers are working the blaze.

The cause is unknown.

– Lake Tahoe News staff report

Legal marijuana celebrates its first year in Nevada

By Chris Kudialis, Las Vegas Sun

The Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health, which regulated medical marijuana when the first dispensary in Nevada opened in July 2015 to the end of 2016, is now only in charge of registering and issuing medical cards to patients.

Though recreational buyers are charged 10 percent more for the same product at dispensaries as registered medical patients, Nevada's medical cardholders decreased from a peak of 27,000 in May 2016 to less than 20,000 per most recent tallies.

State Sen. Tick Seger-blom, who championed state legalization of the plant as a state senator, said the drop in medical patients is likely spurred by the anonymity of buying the

plant recreationally. Medical cardholders must be registered with state authorities, while recreational buyers are not required to submit any personal information to the state.

Read the whole story

Summer care for perennial gardens

By Melinda Myers

Keep your perennial gardens looking their best throughout the hot summer months with a bit of midsummer grooming and care. Investing time midseason means you'll be enjoying beautiful gardens now through the end of the growing season.

Start by deadheading, removing faded flowers, to improve the plants' overall appearance. It won't extend bloom time on all perennials, but will keep some like bergenia, lamb's ear, peonies, and perennial geraniums looking neat and tidy throughout the summer. Deadheading will encourage an additional flush of flowers on many perennials including bee balm, coral bells, daylilies, fringed bleeding heart, phlox, purple coneflowers, salvia, veronica, and yarrow.



Removing faded flowers before they can set seed, also known as deadheading, encourages an additional flush of flowers on many perennials including daylilies. Photo/Melinda Myers LLC

Cut spent flowers back to the nearest set of side shoots with flower buds or healthy leaves on perennials like coneflowers, catmints, salvias, shasta daisies, turtlehead and veronicas.

On daylilies and balloon flowers, remove individual flowers on the flower scape (stem) as they fade. Once all the individual flowers have faded and been deadheaded, remove the whole flower stem.

Prune flower stems back to a rosette of leaves at the base of the plant on coral bells, hosta and lamb's ear to keep these plants looking their best.

Shearing a plant, also called cutting back, is a pruning method that removes large amounts of plant material in one fell swoop. This method is useful for plants with an abundance of small flowers such as creeping phlox, rock cress and threadleaf coreopsis. Also consider digging and dividing threadleaf coreopsis every few years to promote continuous bloom.

Keep mums and asters pruned to 6 inches throughout June and stop the beginning of July. Complete pruning by the beginning of July on late summer and fall blooming perennials. Early season pruning encourages more compact growth and can be used to stagger bloom times. Manage flopping growth on plants such as Walker's Low Catmint (Nepeta) by cutting the plants back halfway. Cut back salvias and Veronicas after the second flush of flowers to promote compact growth and additional

bloom.

Thin out overcrowded plants by removing some stems to the ground. This increases light penetration and airflow to the plants, reducing the risk of disease.

Use ground level pruning on bleeding heart and other perennials that dieback midseason.

Dead leafing, a technique used to remove or trim back discolored foliage, allows the flowers to remain the center of attention.

Stake plants in need of support to prevent perennials from flopping. This will reduce disease and increase beauty.

Although it's always best to put stakes and supports in place as plants emerge in spring, you can still add a bit of support mid-season. Use bamboo stakes and ties, twigs woven into stems or other attractive or virtually invisible stakes. Then mark next year's calendar to remind yourself to put stakes in place in spring as plants emerge.

Spread a thin layer of mulch such as shredded leaves, evergreen needles, twice shredded bark or other organic material over the soil surface. Mulching conserves moisture, suppresses weeds, keeps roots cool during hot weather and improves the soil as it decomposes.

Continue to remove weeds throughout the season to eliminate competition for water and nutrients. Removing weeds before they form seeds eliminates hundreds of weeds you'll need to pull in next year's garden. Weeding also reduces the risk of insects and disease in your garden since some weeds attract pests and serve as host for diseases that can damage perennials.

Plant perennials or annuals to fill voids or mask declining spring bloomers. Water new plantings often enough to keep the

roots moist for the first few weeks. Eventually switch to thorough, less frequent watering to encourage deep drought tolerant roots. And don't forget to mulch the soil right after you plant to keep roots cool and moist.

Once your perennial gardens are spruced up, it's time to sit back and enjoy the beauty you've created.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including "Small Space Gardening." She hosts the Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" DVD series and the nationally syndicated "Melinda's Garden Moment" TV and radio segments.

State of Jefferson putting on fundraiser

The inaugural El Dorado County State of Jefferson Business Showcase & Fundraiser will be July 10 from 4-8pm at the American Legion Hall in Placerville.

This is an opportunity to visit with local business owners, participate in games of chance, the dessert auction and more.

No cost to attend.

Food and beverages will be available to purchase.

Proceeds from the event will be donated to Citizens for Fair Representation.

K's Kitchen: Many flavors of paprika

By Kathryn Reed

All paprika is not the same. There is hot, smoked and sweet. But what about that Hungarian paprika that is in stores?

Hungarian, as far as what is sold most places in the United States, is the hot variety.

I started doing a little research on paprika after my friend Carolyn brought me sweet and hot varieties of the spice back from her trip to Hungary.

Paprika is made from grinding bonnet peppers, so it stands to reason the heat factor would vary. The redness also adds color to dishes.

I used my gifts in the following potato concoction. I've started sprinkling it in various veggie dishes, too. Until the gift, I was rather sparing in when I would use paprika. It's becoming a go-to spice.



Paprika Laced Potatoes

3 pounds small round or fingerling potatoes

4 T butter

2 T kosher salt

2 T red wine vinegar

1 tsp chili powder

1 tsp garlic salt

1 tsp hot paprika

1 tsp sweet paprika

1 tsp onion powder

1 T fresh chives, chopped

Preheat oven to 500 degrees.

Put potatoes in large saucepan; add water so it covers them by 1 inch. Bring to boil, then reduce to medium. Simmer until potatoes are tender. Drain and let stand.

Melt butter in microwave.

Place potatoes on rimmed pan. Pour melted butter over potatoes. Toss to coat.

Roast potatoes in oven for about 15 minutes.

In small bowl mix remaining eight ingredients.

Transfer potatoes to large bowl. Pour spices over potatoes. Mix/stir and serve.

‘Snow White’ auditions on the

South Shore

Tahoe Arts Project will be bringing the Missoula Children's Theater back to Tahoe the week of July 9-13.

Auditions for "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" will be July 9 at the South Tahoe Middle School multi-purpose room from 10am-noon. Plan to stay for the full two hours.

Some of the cast members will be asked to stay for a rehearsal immediately following the audition.

Among the roles to be cast are Snow White, her friends Phineas, Foxy and Fernando, queen, seven Dwarfs, the forest animals, Black Forest creatures, a magic mirror, bats, henchmen and the king. No advance preparation is necessary.

Assistant directors will also be cast to aid in rehearsals throughout the week and to take on essential backstage responsibilities.

All students entering first grade through grade 12 are encouraged to audition. Must be 5 and have completed kindergarten to participate. There is no guarantee that everyone who auditions will be cast in the play.

Auditions are free. If cast, there will be a fee of \$50 per child fee to participate in this weeklong theater program. A limited number of scholarships are available.

For more info, call Peggy Blowney at 530.542.3632.

"Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" will be presented July 13 at STMS at 3 and 5:30pm. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children and seniors.