

Snippets about Lake Tahoe

- The Loft in South Lake Tahoe is hosting a free Halloween party on Oct. 28 from 9pm-2am.
 - Veterans Healing Camp is having a special flag raising ceremony with bagpipe music and free concert on Nov. 18 from noon-3pm at the Veterans Healing Camp property located at 1775 Highway 50 in Silver Springs.
 - El Dorado County residents can sign up **online** to get emergency notifications.
 - Florence Biennale, a renowned international art exhibit, recently awarded first-place recognition in the mixed media category to Marcio Decker, Decker Fine Arts and co-owner of Truckee-based Aspen Leaf Interiors.
 - The Douglas County Public Library Foundation and the Friends of the Douglas County Public Library are having a book sale Nov. 11 from 9am-5pm and Nov. 12 from 9am-2pm at the C.V.I.C. Hall in Minden.
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Man who threatened Tahoe officials going to prison

Former South Lake Tahoe resident Ty Robben will be going to prison for the next seven years for making threats to public officials.



Ty Robben

Robben, whose full name is Todd Christian Robben, received the maximum sentence on Oct. 27.

On Sept. 25 he was found guilty in Sacramento County Superior Court of eight felonies involving threats and attempted threats against El Dorado County judges, a lieutenant from the South Lake Tahoe Police Department, an investigator from the State Bar, the city attorney from South Lake Tahoe, and a local attorney who represented the defendant on a misdemeanor appeal.

All the El Dorado County judges had recused themselves.

– Lake Tahoe News staff report

With Calif. drought over, fewer Sierra pines dying

By Gabriela Quirós, KQED

After five years of drought in which more than 100 million trees died in California – mostly ponderosa pines attacked by tiny bark beetles in the Sierra Nevada – aerial surveys this summer revealed fewer dead pines than last year, a positive turn that researchers hope will continue if the state has another wet winter.

“We’re all hoping for another wet year that would really get us out of this situation,” said Jeffrey Moore, aerial survey program manager with the U.S. Forest Service in Davis.

Results from the most recent aerial surveys won’t be available until November, said Moore. But the aerial surveys he and his team started in early July reveal that fewer ponderosa pines have died this year than in 2016, when a total of 62 million trees are estimated to have died. The majority of dead trees in California since the drought began have been ponderosa pines. Sugar pines, Jeffrey pines, white firs, oaks and incense cedars have also died.

Read the whole story

Tahoe women place 2nd in Ariz. tennis tourney



Kae Reed reaches for a backhand with Sharla Freeman in the finals on Oct. 27. Photo/Barbara Cooper

TUCSON, Ariz. – It came down to a tiebreaker to decide who would win the 4.0 division at the Meet, Play, Love tennis tournament on Oct. 27, with the Tahoe Tough team based in Zephyr Cove coming up short.

The eight women associated with Zephyr Cove Tennis Club reached the finals on Friday against a team based out of the Willamette Valley in Oregon.

Tahoe finished the three-day tournament in first place, having beaten the other eight teams in each contest. Two were 3-0, while six were 2-1. This meant Tahoe Tough won 18 of 24 individual matches.

The finals were a duel between the top two teams.



Christy Funk and Kathy Wharton in the finals for Tahoe Tough. Photo/Barbara Cooper

The lone winners in the final round for Tahoe were Kae Reed and Sharla Freeman who won 6-7, 6-1, 10-3. (A 10-point tiebreaker is played in lieu of a full third set.) Freeman went the whole tournament undefeated.

With the Oregon team winning the contest against the Tahoe duo of Kathy Wharton and Christy Funk 6-4, 6-1, it came down to the final court to decide who would leave the desert as champions.



Tricia Ward and Karen Diehl kept their opponents guessing most of the tournament. Photo/Kathryn Reed

The final match was a fierce battle until the end. After Oregon took the first set 6-1, Tahoe's Tricia Ward and Karen Diehl took the second in a tiebreaker. The third set tiebreaker went to Oregon 10-3.

Rounding out the Tahoe team were Barbara Cooper and Becky Smothermon.

Also representing ZCTC were the Tahoe Blue Angels. They placed third in the 4.0-4.5 division. Players were Holly Rittiman, Joyce Youngs, Jenny Bentley, Claire Perry, Krista Kip, and Mona Smith.

– Lake Tahoe News staff report

Truckee family's dog rescued from stolen vehicle in Reno

By Cathy Locke, Sacramento Bee

A dog taken when thieves stole a pickup truck in Truckee on Saturday has been reunited with his family after he was found inside the vehicle in Reno on Tuesday.

The vehicle, a 2016 Dodge Ram, was reported stolen Saturday evening from in front of the owner's home in the downtown Truckee area with the family dog, Albus, inside, according to a Truckee Police Department Facebook post.

Officers found the pickup a few blocks away and attempted to stop it, but the pickup headed onto Interstate 80.

Read the whole story

Incline Village bike park opening

Incline Village's community bike park will open Oct. 28.

It is located within Incline Park, on the west side of the entrance for the Incline Village Recreation Center.

A celebration of the first phase completion will begin at 11am with a short ceremony, ribbon cutting, food, and riding.

The park offers a pump track; beginner and intermediate flow lines.

Book review: A glimpse into what could have been

By Kathryn Reed

My favorite books are ones that educate (in a non-academic way) or entertain. Educate this did.

Before going further, let me state that I am not a Hillary Clinton fan, but I did vote for her.



For those who sat out the election last year, voted third party or cast a ballot for Donald Trump as an “anyone but that woman” vote, this book is really for you. It’s not for Clinton supporters. They know much of what lies on those pages and then some. I doubt, though, that many who didn’t vote for Clinton will take the time to read this book.

“What Happened” (Simon & Schuster, 2017) came out in September. It’s more than a rehashing of the 2016 campaign and what has gone on in the months since her bid to become the first female president of the United States went up in smoke.

This is a history lesson. And that’s what made the book so riveting to listen to. I was on a road trip last month and opted for the audio version to make the time go by. It did. Making it more interesting is that Clinton reads the book. So, the inflection is real, the emotion heartfelt, the energy

palpable, and the anger edgy.

Yes, she goes into the whole email issue in detail and in more than one chapter. It got repetitive, but then so did the issue when it was in the news.

Speaking of the news, she skewers the media for its coverage of the presidential campaign and rightly so. If only issues had been brought to the forefront more and not abhorrent behavior. Yes, the behavior needs attention, but there is so much more to being president of the United States.

Most of the voting public needs to be spoon fed facts because they won't seek them out on their own. Policy statements, though, don't make for interesting sound bites or headlines. Too bad. I'm a firm believer the media needs to give people what they need (hard news) and not just what they seem to want (fluff).

In the book Clinton delves into those ideas that seemed to garner no ink when it mattered.

She points fingers at herself where she failed and should have done things differently. She was campaigning old school. She points fingers at others.

Clinton has a lot to say about the Electoral College, and rightly so. She won the popular vote by millions; bringing into question such an antiquated system.

Her family's history – extended as well as immediate – are significant parts of the book. If you don't think Clinton is warm, listen to her talk about her daughter and grandchildren.

She is a complex woman, brilliant, with ideas that perhaps had they been delivered by a different messenger, would have resonated more with people.

I'm sure the book was cathartic for her to write. Clearly, it was also difficult. There is no second place in a two-person

race, only last.

If people want a platform from which to build on for 2018, the book could be it. It has more substance, though, than most people will want to stomach – whether they agree with the words or not.

Study: Few women in gaming leadership roles

By Michael Scott Davidson, Las Vegas Review-Journal

Twenty years ago, Valerie Murzl became Station Casinos' first female executive to work in corporate offices.

Murzl said the male-dominated leadership welcomed her. But when she became pregnant later that year, she was reminded Las Vegas had a long way to go in bettering conditions for its working women.

Fast forward to 2017, and Murzl says she's seen some important improvements. Many casino companies have opened in-house child care facilities for employees and have created private spaces for breast-feeding.

But a study published this month shows the industry has to do more to reach gender equality.

Read the whole story

North Shore film series starts with climber Nettle

Alpenglow Sports' 12th annual Winter Film Series begins Nov. 16 at 7pm at Squaw Valley's Olympic Village Lodge.

The free, five-show series kicks off with Winter Film Series co-founder Dave Nettle's "Double Trouble: A World Traveler's Quest for the Vertical World." Nettle will highlight journeys to Patagonia, Morocco, and the Swiss Alps through a series of spectacular images and humorous narrative, complete with a sampling of alpine climbs from each destination.

Other speakers in the series include elite high-altitude mountaineer Adrian Ballinger, adventure and surf photographer Chris Burkard, big mountain skier/climber Hilaree O'Neill and "the Bonatti of the Rockies," alpinist Barry Blanchard.

The speaker series is designed to inspire, motivate, and educate the North Lake Tahoe mountain community.

Each show is free and raffle prizes from industry sponsors are used to raise money for local nonprofits.

Doors open at 6:15pm and an early arrival is encouraged in order to assure good seating. Fireside Pizza will be on-hand with dinner offerings to enjoy before and during the show.

Series of climbing films at

LTCC

Get ready for some of climbing's greatest stories, stars, and sends in the Reel Rock Film Tour.

Short films include Margo Hayes, the first woman to climb 5.15; Brad Gobright, an up-and-coming free soloist with a doughnut addiction; the return of Chris Sharma to the deep water soloing stage, and more.

The tour is a Tahoe Adventure Film Festival presentation.

It will be Nov. 15 at 6:30pm at the Duke Theatre on the campus of Lake Tahoe Community College in South Lake Tahoe. Doors open at 5:45pm. Tickets sold at the door.

For a full lineup of films, go **online**.

Doors open at 5:45pm and show starts at 6:30pm. Tickets sold at the door.