

CHP rescues rock climber near Tahoe City

By Thomas Oide, Sacramento Bee

After a rock climber fell in the Twin Craggs area near Tahoe City on Thursday, the California Highway Patrol used a helicopter to help save the man.

The CHP received a call about 11:10am to request help. The victim, a man in his 20s, fell about 20 to 30 feet and sustained serious lower-body injuries, according to a CHP news release.

[Read the whole story](#)

Cancer leads to opportunity to help other dogs



It is a dog party/fundraiser at Basecamp Hotel for a canine nonprofit. Photo/Justine Lureva

By Terra Breeden

The C word isn't just something that afflicts humans. Dogs, too, can get cancer.

Victoria Rhodes knows this all too well.

Rhodes founded Wild Blue Dogs this year after losing her Welsh terrier Willy to canine cancer. Willy was diagnosed with cancer six years ago and given just six months to live. But Rhodes refused to accept that sentence. She spent a lot of time researching treatments for canine cancer, from oncology to homeopathy and provided Willy with the most advanced treatments and care for his cancer.

"My dog's six-month sentence turned into 3½ years because of the care he received," Rhodes told *Lake Tahoe News*.

Through the process of saving her dog, Rhodes discovered the

devastating effects that cancer was having on canines nationally.

Six million dogs are diagnosed with cancer in the U.S. each year. One in every three dogs in the U.S. gets cancer and most of the dogs who are diagnosed don't survive the year.



Willy's cancer diagnosis led Victoria Rhodes to help others. Photo/Justine Lureva

"You're talking a very short life expectancy once diagnosed," Rhodes said. "And a lot of people's dogs are their companion. Over 70 percent of Americans own a pet and it's a part of their family."

One of the reasons canine cancer is causing such a high number of fatalities is because treatments like radiology and chemotherapy are so expensive. Most people don't have health insurance for their dog and can't afford to provide the care needed to extend their pet's life.

Cancer treatment for dogs generally runs between \$5,000 and \$25,000. It's extraordinarily expensive.

Alpine Animal Hospital in South Lake Tahoe works directly with

Wild Blue Dogs to fully fund treatment for dogs with cancer and families who need help providing treatments for their beloved pets.

“Wild Blue Dogs is a really cool program because it focuses on getting treatment to the families who need it and supporting the community,” Rhodes said. “I really feel strongly that people should be able to keep their families together and my goal is to treat every dog that needs it.”

Through her experience with her dog Willy, Rhodes saw there were no resources to help people whose pets had contracted cancer. So she decided to start the Wild Blue Dogs nonprofit.

“If people have kids, homes and bills, Wild Blue Dogs will help. It’s a need-based provider not income-based,” Rhodes said. “I feel you should be able to keep your life intact and still provide care for your animal.”

Rhodes is passionate about helping dogs with canine cancer and she wants to do it in the Lake Tahoe community. Wild Blue Dogs helps fund treatment for Lake Tahoe dogs whose people need financial help.

“I want to help this community because I spent the last 20 years vacationing here with my dogs and I love it here,” Rhodes said. “Lake Tahoe is a dog-loving community, but there aren’t a lot of resources.”

Now she needs the community’s support to raise money for the nonprofit. On July 17 and Aug. 21 Basecamp Hotel in South Lake Tahoe is hosting Yappy Hour from 4:30-7:30pm.

“The money raised at Yappy Hour goes directly to treatment of dogs in the Lake Tahoe community and helps dogs in need here,” Rhodes said. “You’re raising money to help your neighbors.”

The event at Basecamp Hotel features drinks and yard games for guests, a photo-booth where you can take a glamour shot with

your canine companion, and a chance to meet with other likeminded dog lovers in the South Lake Tahoe community.

“It’s the most fun cocktail party in the world. You get to go with your dog and believe me, the dogs have the most fun, this is their social hour,” Rhodes said.

Basecamp Hotel will donate a percentage of sales from food and drinks sold at Yappy Hour to Wild Blue Dogs. People may also donate directly to the nonprofit.

Letter: Seeking justice at the federal level

To the community,

My company has a set of guidelines for both personal and professional standards one can function and operate within life and society. One of those is, “All you have are your own ideas and the confidence to write them down.”

So, on June 26, as a private citizen or a “common man doing an uncommon thing,” I walked into the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas in the Earle Cabell Federal Building in Dallas and under my constitutional rights brought a federal complaint against the U.S. Department of Justice and Rod Rosenstein, acting attorney general. I filed the complaint, 3-17CV-1680-D, asking why, Robert Mueller, special counsel appointed to investigate the Russian involvement in the 2016 elections and former director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Special Order No. 3915-2017 should not immediately recuse himself or be immediately terminated for a conflict of interest provided by Code of Federal Regulation

(CFR) 660.7(d).

After receiving an order from the court on July 5 allowing me to amend my complaint, meeting the criteria set forth by U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas; Judge Sydney Fitzwater issued summons on July 6 in Mark Johnson vs. Rod J. Rosenstein, acting attorney general and the Department of Justice; Jeff Sessions, attorney general of the United States; and U.S. Attorney of the Northern District of Texas John Parker. Service of summons began the following day.

My motivation to file this complaint was the discovery of the overwhelming conflicts of interest within the Department of Justice (DOJ), the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Special Counsel investigation and those individuals involved in Criminal No 1:12CR3. This pathway was deemed necessary as to the severity of the accusations, the parties involved as well as the complexities of this complaint being brought forth.

I am one American trying to do my patriotic duty; "a little revolution now and again is a healthy thing." I was able to use my own research and come to my own conclusions over the last 12 months. I have not had any contact with the parties involved in these cases. I have not had any contact with any official from the current administration, DOJ or FBI. I have not had any contact with anyone from the media prior to my filing. This is about what is right and what is wrong; the value of trust and our justice system for which the United States of America was founded.

In my complaint, I am asking the court to have the DOJ show why Robert Mueller, former director of the FBI and special counsel appointed by Rod J. Rosenstein, acting attorney general, to investigate the Russian involvement in the 2016 elections, Special Counsel Investigation Order No 3915-2017, should not immediately recuse himself or immediately be terminated for a conflict of interest provided by Code of

Federal Regulation (CFR) 660.7(d). The special counsel may be disciplined or removed from office only by the personal action of the attorney general. The attorney general may remove a special counsel for misconduct, dereliction of duty, incapacity, conflict of interest, or for other good cause, including violation of departmental policies. The attorney general shall inform the special counsel in writing of the specific reason for his or her removal.

Based on Director Mueller's involvement as director of the FBI and supervisor of the special agent in charge in Criminal No. 1:12CR3, this presents a direct conflict of interest with the open federal grand jury indictment and this matter. This special counsel investigation could lead to Director Mueller, as well as other former United States attorneys general and former FBI directors and/or special agents in charge and investigating the above mentioned case being called before congressional committees or federal grand juries as witnesses and/or defendants in the Special Counsel Investigation Order No. 3915-2017 and any other future investigations or congressional committees. Being that there is a high probability that he could himself become a witness, should recuse himself or immediately be terminated based on CFR 600.7(d).

Anyone within the FBI, DOJ, Department of State or former employees of any other public or private entities who had involvement with or was related to Criminal No. 1:12CR3 in U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia United States should recuse themselves or be terminated as well as consider themselves possible witnesses in the current DOJ's investigation into the Russian involvement into the 2016 United States election.

Any future DOJ special counsels, investigation staff, attorneys general and/or staff positions should be required not to have participated or been affected by Criminal No 1:12CR3.

Additionally, an amended motion to show cause was filed with the amended complaint. Judge Fitzwater denied this motion without prejudice allowing it and its contents to be brought in at the appropriate time. The motion to show cause points out that there are direct ties between congressional members who have possible complicity in this matter and the handling of the federal grand jury indictment. Additionally, it points out which congressional districts represent the members of the Motion Picture Association of America who were harmed by the actions for which this federal indictment arose. As an example, four of these studios reside in California's 28th Congressional District represented by Adam Schiff. These studios include Walt Disney Studios and Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc., which is located in Burbank; Paramount Pictures Corporation is located in Hollywood; and Universal Studios LLC is located in Universal City. You can find Mr. Schiff on any one of these subsidiaries' nightly and/or Sunday news shows being a huge proponent of the "Russian's did it" story while having knowledge of this active federal indictment. Mr. Schiff, being a former prosecutor for the area and former Congressional colleague to former Sen. Chris Dodd, now CEO of the Motion Picture Association of America, the Congressman would be fully aware if there is a defendant that could have evidence and information on the hacking or stealing of information from the Democratic National Committee (DNC) during the election that counters the "Russia did it story," thus creating an illusion of truth to the American public for his constituents, the studios of Motion Picture Association of America.

When this complaint prevails in showing a conflict of interest between the special counsel and the federal grand jury indictment, anyone who has willingly and knowingly promoted the "Russians did it story" with knowledge of this grand jury investigation should have immediate action taken to relinquish, suspend or remove him/her from all congressional committees or investigations he/she might be a part of. This

will help to determine if they too, could be considered witnesses and/or defendants in a federal grand jury or congressional investigation regarding this investigation. Anyone who is complicit in the conspiracy to promote or investigate the "Russians did it story" while knowing this federal grand jury indictment could have direct ties to the charge of the special counsel should consider themselves future defendants or witnesses in treasonous charges that would be associated with this type of federal felony crime.

It is my hope the federal justice system will act accordingly as well as allow for any further investigation and/or prosecution of the crimes that have been committed by people associated with this particular federal grand jury indictment and/or special counsel order.

I can't explain how I got from a few predictions posted on Facebook last year to attempting a written explanation for my 85 year old father to understand, ended up with filing a federal complaint pro se against an acting attorney general of the United States and Russia's supposed involvement in our 2016 elections. Although this is not out of my realm of capabilities to this point, I am far beyond any realm I could ever imagine by taking an action like this under these circumstances. It is only by god's grace and the holy spirit that I got here today and it is by his strength and will that enables me to press on.

God bless America.

Mark Johnson, former South Lake Tahoe resident

Kingpin ski binding off the market pending lawsuit

By John Clary Davies, Outside

German manufacturer Marker DE has stopped selling the beloved Kingpin ski binding in response to a finding from a patent infringement lawsuit brought forth by G3 Genuine Guide Gear Inc. According to legal documents, Marker stipulated in court in May, agreeing that it had infringed on one of three patent claims that G3 asserted against them.

Subsequent court dates will determine whether Marker infringed on two other infringement claims, as well as the damages G3 will be awarded.

In the fall 2015, Marker, who elected not to comment on the matter, introduced the Kingpin binding to great fanfare.

[Read the whole story](#)

SLT firefighters dealing with poor judgment



Hot vehicles and dry gas are
not a good combination.
Photo/LTN

Common sense has been missing when it comes to fire safety.

On July 14 a South Lake Tahoe battalion chief had to inform Southwest Gas employees that parking on grass is not a smart idea. The heat from under a car can spark a fire.

The gas company crew was working on equipment along Linear Park.



Smoke fills the Al Tahoe
neighborhood on July 15.
Photo/SLTFD

On July 15 it was poorly discarded briquettes that made the better part of Kubel Avenue look like a smoker.

The barbecue remnants had been placed near a shed in a yard full of pine needles. That's not the proper way to dispose of them.

Firefighters were able to get a handle on things before there was a real disaster.

– *Lake Tahoe News staff report*

Where did the U.S. summer jobs go?

By Karl Vick, *Time*

It's not like the jobs aren't there. The ice cream still needs scooping. A Tilt-a-Whirl doesn't run itself. And that floppy, weirdly heavy rubber frog that somersaults toward the rotating lily pads? Hit or miss, someone's got to bring it back to the catapult for the next lucky player. The work of an American summer remains, sticky and sweet as cotton candy, which doesn't sell itself either.

But when Jenkinson's Boardwalk went looking for seasonal employees last year, the response was not at all what the company expected. To fill some 1,200 summer vacancies, an Easter-time job fair drew just 400 people. Applications did bounce up this year, but not nearly enough to reverse a grave trend that summer employers have noticed well beyond the Jersey Shore.

"It is getting harder to find students that will work," says Toby Wolf, director of marketing at the boardwalk. "Each year it's getting harder and harder. None of us has been able to pinpoint why. Is it a change in society as a whole?"

The numbers are not encouraging. Forty years ago, nearly 60 percent of U.S. teenagers were working or looking for work

during the peak summer months. Last year, just 35 percent were.

Read the whole story

CHP to conduct DUI checkpoint on South Shore

Updated July 15 6pm:

The DUI checkpoint will be at Highway 50 east at Apache Drive in Meyers.

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The Meyers office of the California Highway will be conducting a sobriety checkpoint in the east area of El Dorado County on July 15 from 9pm-2am.

Officers will be controlling traffic, evaluating driver's sobriety, and hand out literature warning of the dangers of drinking and driving. Driver license checks will be conducted and appropriate enforcement action will be taken.

Mulder enters final round of ACC in first place



Mark Mulder, who won the ACC in 2015 and 2016, is leading going into the final round. Photo/Kathryn Reed

Reigning ACC champion Mark Mulder will go into the final round on Sunday with a three point lead.

After two days of play, the former Major League pitcher has 48 points. (The American Century Championship uses the Stableford format for scoring.) Tied for second are Mardy Fish and Derek Lowe. Lowe was atop the leader board after play on July 14.

Chad Pfeifer and John Smoltz round out the top five.

Here's what the NBC broadcasters had to say:

- Steve Sands: "Mark Mulder sitting atop the leader board once again just like he did in 2015 and 2016, when he won in back-to-back fashion."
- Peter Jacobsen: "I'm impressed with (Derek Lowe's) attitude this week. He's smiling, having a good time."

Let's see how he handles the pressure on Sunday."

- Jimmy Roberts: "You guys know how I love a good story. This story of Mardy Fish is a remarkable one. Had to pull out of the 2012 U.S. Open with an anxiety disorder. He has gotten his life back together, and is quite a golfer. Having a great time this week."

Quotes from players:

- Stephen Curry speaking with NBC's Michele Tafoya on 17: "It is always fun the people you play with, the courses that you get to see. Obviously I'm competitive so I like to challenge myself. Just have a passion for it and every time I get to play I love it."
- Justin Timberlake speaking with Tafoya on 17: Tafoya – "A little birdie told me that you are back in the studio. What are you working on?" Timberlake: "I was mostly making excuses for my golf game [to NBC's Charlie Rymer] but yeah I have been in the studio for a month straight mixing what maybe something coming soon."

Play starts at 7:30am July 16. Curry, Timberlake and Tony Romo will again be a threesome. They are set to go at 9:30am. All the pairings may be found **online**.

– Lake Tahoe News staff report

Tahoe City to host national sailing race

More than 120 people representing five countries will be in Tahoe City July 19-23 for the U.S. Laser National Championships.

More than 25 local Tahoe Laser sailors will be competing in the event.

There are two divisions: the original more powerful standard rig for bigger sailors, and the smaller sail Radial rig for youth and lighter sailors.

The Laser is the most popular sailboat in the world. It is a single-handed, one-design class, which means that all of the boats are identical and cannot be modified. With every boat the same, it comes down to the sailors' skill and athletic ability to win regattas.

Scam artists targeting Liberty customers

Telephone scammers are posing as Liberty Utilities' collections representative and threatening to shut off people's power if payment is not made within a specified period of time.

Sometimes the caller has specific customer information such as last payment amount. Liberty is unaware of how this information has been obtained.

Liberty Utilities warns its customers not to respond to a payment demand of this type. Liberty Utilities representatives do not place such calls or send emails to customers demanding payment.

Liberty encourages customers who receive such a call or call 800.782.2506.

The number of the scammer is 888.244.2532.