

CCC members from Meyers going to Louisiana

A dozen corps members from the California Conservation Corps in Meyers will spend the next month in Louisiana aiding residents with flood cleanup efforts.

The group, supervised by staff member Zach McHenry, are among six crews from CCC locations throughout the state dispatched to Louisiana to help after the severe August flooding. They leave on Friday.

The work will focus on “mucking and gutting” buildings impacted by the floods: removing carpet, drywall and flooring and other wet or moldy material.

NHP on track to equip officers with body cams

By Sean Whaley, Las Vegas Review-Journal

CARSON CITY – Nevada Highway Patrol troopers soon will have another set of eyes on their interactions with the public.

Nevada’s 465 uniformed patrol officers who deal directly with the public are on track to begin wearing body cameras by a January deadline, joining Las Vegas police in the full use of the devices.

Requests for proposals by companies to provide the cameras to the NHP were submitted late last month, and the Nevada Board of Examiners is expected to award a contract for the devices, associated recording equipment and training in early December.

The cameras are required as a result of the passage of Senate Bill 111 during the 2015 legislative session.

Read the whole story

Comments sought on Meyers roundabout enviro docs

Comments are being sought on the environment document for the Meyers roundabout.

Caltrans is proposing to install a three-legged roundabout at highways 50 and 89. The initial study/proposed negative declaration is the draft environmental document. Caltrans has studied the effects the project may have on the environment and determined the project will not significantly affect the quality of the environment.

The document is also available **online**. For more information about this project, contact Rod Murphy at 530.741.5127 or rodney.murphy@dot.ca.gov

Written comments should be sent to Maggie Ritter at maggie.ritter@dot.ca.gov. The deadline to do so is Nov. 5.

Hobart Mills trailhead in Truckee opening

The U.S. Forest Service, assisted by Truckee River Day volunteers, will dedicate the Hobart Mills Trailhead at 11am Oct. as part of the Truckee River Day event.

In conjunction with Caltrans, efforts to close a user-created parking area adjacent to Highway 89 and Prosser Creek will begin on Tuesday.

Historically used to access the Commemorative Overland Emigrant Trail, the popularity of this trailhead prompted natural resource and safety concerns. The USFS designed and implemented the construction of a spacious new trailhead around the corner from the user-created access off of Hobart Mills Road. The new trailhead is open and available for use.

The new parking area is designed to provide users with a more safe and expansive area for loading and unloading, with less adverse impact on natural resources in the area.

Tahoe National Forest lifting fire restrictions

Fire restrictions in the Tahoe National Forest will be lifted Oct. 11.

When restrictions are lifted, recreationists may have campfires outside of designated campgrounds with a valid California campfire permit, smoke outside of designated sites, and operate internal combustion engines off forest roads and

trails where designated.

Campfire permits are free of charge from any Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, or CalFire office.

CalFire continues to have a statewide burn ban.

Tahoe Tails – Adoptable Pets in South Lake Tahoe



Porky

Porky is one of two cute male kittens waiting at the shelter for their new homes. Both boys are 2- to 3-months-old, and very playful.

These kittens, along with four other older and very nice cats, are ready to move out of the shelter environment and into new homes.

Porky and the other cats are spayed/neutered, microchipped, tested for FIV, and vaccinated. They are 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

Editorial: Vote no on Measure T

Publisher's note: *The following endorsement is from Lake Tahoe News after a team of seven community members gathered to discuss Measure T.*

It was in 1911 that California became the 10th state to offer the initiative process to voters. Now 24 states allow initiatives on the ballot.

At the state level it has evolved into a business where companies – for a price – will gather signatures, provide legal oversight, consulting and even campaign for the cause. In California it's big business. The Nov. 8 state ballot has 17 statewide initiatives.

A variety of reasons exist for people to want to use the initiative process. The basic reason is to get a topic before the voters that the electeds can't or won't address. It's also a way to circumvent the normal legislative process.

At the local level it is still very much a grass-roots process.

South Lake Tahoe voters next month will be asked a question about the loop road that was brought forward by a group of citizens who are against the project. The goal of Measure T would be to force the city to go back to the voters once a preferred alternative is chosen to ask them to vote yes or no on the loop road.

Writing the rebuttal to the initiative were Steve Teshara, as interim CEO of Lake Tahoe South Shore Chamber of Commerce – though he is also the chair of the Tahoe Transportation District board, and Sharon Kerrigan, executive director of the South Lake Tahoe Board of Realtors. Their argument has more to do with why they like the loop road than whether the voters should have a voice, or even anything to do with the actual ballot question.

While the bulk of the project would be in the city limits, the Stateline casinos would also be impacted. Both state transportation departments would be involved and the feds are the lead because this is a project spearheaded by the Tahoe Transportation District. Really, anyone who ever drives Highway 50 through the South Shore would be affected if this project goes through. The proposal is to take the highway behind Harrah's and MontBleu, then turn the current highway from about Pioneer Trail to Lake Parkway into a city-county street.

The project is complex and is more than just rerouting a road. But the merits of the project are not what Measure T is about.

Measure T would bind the hands of the city when it comes to staff and electeds being able to do their jobs. We have a problem with that. We need to allow our elected representatives to do just that – represent us when it comes to the loop road and the sundry of other issues.

That is why it's important to have people on all elected bodies who represent your beliefs, why it's important to make

your beliefs known to the electeds and to the public, and why being engaged early and not just at the eleventh-hour is important.

By saying no to Measure T *Lake Tahoe News* is not taking a stance on the loop road itself. Nor would the voters.

We are saying no to Measure T because it is poorly worded, is open to litigation, has and will continue to cost the city (which is the taxpayers) money that could be spent for better uses, it's a waste of time, and the ultimate outcome is meaningless. If it passes, there will be a court hearing Dec. 5 to address the lawsuit brought to stop Measure T.

If Measure T is upheld by the court and therefore a special election would be required down the road, at a minimum that would cost the city \$10,000.

And while money should not be the overriding reason not to pursue one's beliefs, the cost involved in terms of real dollars and time spent is a waste with no benefit to the residents of South Lake Tahoe.

We say this because even if Measure T passes and the next question is a direct yes or no to the loop road, it won't matter. TTD and the state transportation agencies can do what they want without the city's blessing.

For those wanting to stop the loop road, it would be better to lobby the individual members of the TTD board, get in front of the people who have the money, and go to the state transportation agencies.

Deaths from hospital superbugs going unreported

By Melody Petersen, Los Angeles Times

Many thousands of Californians are dying every year from infections they caught while in hospitals. But you'd never know that from their death certificates.

Sharley McMullen of Manhattan Beach came down with a fever just hours after being wheeled out of a Torrance Memorial Medical Center operating room on May 4, 2014. A missionary's daughter who worked as a secretary at Cape Canaveral, Fla., at the height of the space race, McMullen, 72, was there for treatment of a bleeding stomach ulcer. Soon, though, she was fighting for her life.

On her medical chart, a doctor scribbled "CRKP," an ominous abbreviation for one of the world's most lethal superbugs, underlining it three times.

Doctors tried antibiotic after antibiotic. But after five weeks in the hospital, mostly in intensive care and on morphine because of the pain, McMullen died.

Her death certificate does not mention the hospital-acquired infection or CRKP, however. Instead, her doctor wrote that McMullen had died from respiratory failure and septic shock caused by her ulcer.

An epidemic of hospital-acquired infections is going unreported, scientists have found.

Read the whole story

No charges filed against former Truckee hospital chief

By David Bunker, Moonshine Ink

The Nevada County District Attorney's Office has closed its two-year investigation into former Tahoe Forest Hospital CEO Bob Schapper. District Attorney Cliff Newell said his office will file no charges in the case and will pursue no further action regarding the investigation.

Newell launched his investigation following the July 2014 publication of a *Moonshine Ink* article titled New Revelationsthat investigated the ties between Bob Schapper's leadership of the public hospital and his wife's decade-long employment and contractual relationship with the organization.

The article and Newell's investigation focused on whether Schapper violated a California conflict of interest law related to public contracts. The law, California Code 1090, makes it illegal for public officials to influence a contract that he or she has a financial interest in.

[Read the whole story](#)

Firefighters busy with 3

wildland fires in 2 days

Three wildland fires have burned on the South Shore in a 24-hour period.

Late this afternoon the U.S. Forest Service was busy with a quarter-acre fire in Rabe Meadow in Stateline. The cause is under investigation. Tahoe Douglas crews were first on the scene to suppress the fire.

The other blaze on Oct. 9 was contained to 10 feet x 10 feet. An abandoned camp fire on private land near Genoa Peak started that fire.

On Oct. 8 crews worked a fire that afternoon in Van Sickle Bi-state Park. It was a quarter-acre in size. The cause is under investigation.

Investigators are still pursuing an arsonist in the area who they believe has set a slew of fires on state and federal lands in the South Shore since late summer.

– *Lake Tahoe News staff report*