

Tahoe volunteer immersed in Rio Olympics



Signs of the Olympics are prominent. Photo/Louise Feller

Louise Feller from Stateline is in Rio volunteering at the Olympics.

She was featured in a recent story on *Lake Tahoe News*.



Many countries make it known where they are staying. Photo/Louise Feller

This is a dispatch from her at the Games:

“Had a great day but raining. The pictures are from inside the village. So many buildings, but USA doesn’t have any signs on their building so I don’t which is theirs. They have a game room with lots of things to do like video games, ping pong and comfortable seating. Look at the McDonald’s and the line even athletes eat it.

“My job is helping athletes in Taekwondo with training schedules, transportation, and general questions. They don’t

have many volunteers. Most Brazilians want to be paid, which the government is doing. But I have met some volunteers from USA; they understand the meaning of volunteering.

“The language is a problem because if you aren’t a college graduate, they don’t know English at all. I used Uber which is working well. As long as your information is written down.”



Even athletes are willing to wait to eat at McDonald's.
Photo/Louise Feller

DEA: Marijuana has no medical value

By Rob Hotakainen, McClatchy News Service

Delivering a big blow to backers of pot legalization, the Obama administration said Thursday that it would keep marijuana classified as one of the nation's most dangerous drugs, similar to heroin and LSD.

The long-awaited decision by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration keeps intact a 1970 law that lists marijuana as Schedule 1 drug, one defined as having no medical value. That runs counter to decisions made by 26 states that have already approved use of the drug as medicine.

The DEA's ruling shocked legalization supporters, many of whom had considered Obama an ally after the Justice Department decided in 2013 to allow Washington state and Colorado to sell recreational marijuana.

Read the whole story

Mountain bike training for female students

Middle and high school girls who want to improve their bike skills and learn race strategies and tips are invited to a series of clinics presented by Bike Like a Girl.

They are Aug. 17, Aug. 22 and Sept. 12 at North Tahoe High School from 5:30-7:30pm.

Bring your bike, helmet, gloves, snack and water.

The clinics are free, though organizers are asking for a \$25 donation per session to benefit girls cycling.

To register, email colleenwanty@gmail.com. Provide your name, age, team, and location.

TOCCATA putting on 3 free performances

TOCCATA-Tahoe Symphony Orchestra & Chorus is putting on three free concerts featuring Northstar Winds.

The series kicks off Aug. 13 at 4pm at the St Patrick's Episcopal Church, located at 341 Village Blvd. in Incline Village.

Works to be performed include the "Divertimento in B flat" by Joseph Haydn, "Woodwind Quintette" by Jean Francioux and a premiere of a new composition by UNR composer William Montgomery.

Northstar Chamber players include Allison Smith, flute; Kelsey Edmondson, oboe; Jennifer Day, clarinet; Eric Fassbender, bassoon; and Bruce Kanzelmayer, french horn. An additional quartet of players, Nita Tune, oboe; Darrell Moore, clarinet; David Schwartz, bassoon; and Jessica Baronet, horn, join the others for a performance of Mozart's "Serenade in E flat" for woodwind octet.

The concert will be repeated Aug. 15 at 7pm at Steinway Gallery in Reno, 500 East Moana Lane and Aug. 17 at 7pm in the Shepherd of the Sierra Lutheran Church in Carson City,

3680 Highway 395 South.

These concerts are offered free of admission charge, but the suggested donation is \$20.

For more info, call 775.787.602-2121.

Snippets about Lake Tahoe

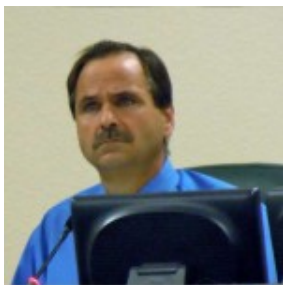
- South Lake Tahoe has introduced the rate of \$5 after 5pm at the Heavenly Village parking garage.
- Tech Insider compiled a list of the most beautiful libraries in each state. The Prim Library at Sierra Nevada College in Incline Village was singled out for the Silver State.
- The 19th annual Tahoe Forest Stewardship Day is Sept. 10 from 8:30am-2pm. It will be in the Angora burn area. Volunteers of all ages and skill levels are invited to this hands-on restoration day. Participants will be conducting plant treatment and trail restoration to protect the Lake Tahoe watershed in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service. Lunch and refreshments will be provided. For more info, email marilee@keeptahoeblue.org.
- The League to Save Lake Tahoe is having a beach cleanup day Sept. 5 from 8:30am-2pm at Nevada Beach. For questions or more information, email events@keeptahoeblue.org or call 530.541.5388.
- The inaugural Coyote Classic Golf Tournament is Sept. 7. This supports the men and women's soccer programs. Tee time is 2pm at Lake Tahoe Golf Course in Meyers. For more info, go **online**.

Nutting files lawsuit against ex-EDC colleagues

By Kathryn Reed

Former El Dorado County Supervisor Ray Nutting is suing past colleagues and staff because he believes his constitutional rights were violated.

“The reason why I filed a claim is so they cannot do it ever, ever again to someone else,” Nutting told *Lake Tahoe News*. “If they did it to me, they can do it to other people. Someone has to stand up to them.”



Ray Nutting

Named in the lawsuit that was filed in U.S. District Court in Sacramento are: Ron Briggs and Norma Santiago, former supervisors; Ron Mikulaco and Brian Veerkamp, current supervisors; Pam Knorr, human resources director; and Ed Knapp, former county counsel.

The lawsuit says, “To date plaintiff still believes he is the duly elected county supervisor ousted from office, denied the enjoyment of his office without any due process.”

Nutting’s problems came to a head in 2014. That May he was convicted on six misdemeanor counts relating to obtaining

illegal loans from a county employee. A Superior Court judge found Nutting's misconduct in office warranted his removal. The Third District Court of Appeal then upheld that. The California Supreme Court that August denied Nutting's request to stop the September special election and block his removal from office.

The lawsuit pertains to the Fifth, Eighth and Fourteenth amendments of the U.S. Constitution – mostly due process issues. Nutting contends his colleagues on the Board of Supervisors did not give him a hearing and that the judge never had the jurisdiction to remove him from office.

The suit says, "These unenumerated right to serve and hold office lodged with the United States Constitution can not be abrogated or abridged by a letter from a judge, or by an exparte hearing, motion of resolution, by the defendants acting as the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors. These arbitrary and capricious actions by defendants and each of them show the complete disregard for the Constitution and plaintiff's rights."

The court documents paint a picture of the 56-year-old not being treated fairly while in office, including being targeted by District Attorney Vern Pierson because they were "political enemies."

In this civil suit Nutting wants the judge to consider punitive damages of \$100,000 against each defendant.

Opinion: Americans mostly

kill the ones we know

By Scott H. Decker

Turn on your television in the coming months, and you will see and hear just how much Americans fear strangers and guns.

Yet when it comes to violent crime, especially murder, Americans are at much greater risk of falling victim to someone they know, perhaps someone they know intimately. And these kinds of murderers are less likely to commit their crimes with guns.

A homicide detective once told me, "Familiarity breeds attempt." The fact is that most victims and their killers are at least passingly familiar with each other. Intimates interact often, and those interactions often lead to disputes and disagreements. Those disputes and disagreements can lead to violence. People who don't see another way to resolve these disagreements often have a dispute resolution mechanism such as a gun, a knife, or a blunt object handy.

Typically, criminologists categorize victim-offender relationships as strangers (individuals who don't know each other), acquaintances (individuals who are familiar with each other, have met, or are aware of each other, but are not close), and intimates (family, lovers, and the like). Most victims of property crime (burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft) are strangers. But homicide, which is defined by the FBI as "the willful (non-negligent) killing of one human being by another," is different. This antiseptic definition hides the emotion and will that need to be generated to shoot, stab, choke, or beat an intimate to death. Nineteen percent of all homicides involve intimates.

Motives for violent crime are generally broken into two categories: instrumental and expressive. Instrumental motives are ascribed to events that are designed to produce a material

advantage for the offender. Robbery—such as the killing of a storeowner for the cash in the till—is the perfect example of this.

Expressive violence is different; it is designed to make a statement or communicate a strong emotion like love, hate, or resentment. Domestic homicides, in which one intimate partner kills another, are the prototypical form of expressive homicide.

Instrumental violence typically occurs between strangers and involves the use of only enough force or violence to “get the job done.” In instances of expressive violence where individuals know each other, emotions run high, and the nature and level of violence is often exaggerated more than is necessary to “get the job done.” In these cases, the violence makes a statement that reflects the large emotional overlap between victims and offenders.

A majority of homicides involve offenders and victims who share a large number of characteristics. The most typical homicide involves a victim and offender who are similar in age, race/ethnicity, gender, and prior involvement in the criminal justice system. They also typically have other background characteristics in common: educational attainment, employment history, and poverty levels. The familiarity that breeds contempt is not an emotional familiarity based on association, but a familiar set of background and experiential characteristics, including involvement in crime, gangs, and urban gun culture.

It is important to note that firearms are involved in about two-thirds of homicides in the U.S. That said, murders between intimates are more likely to involve “hands-on” violence, such as choking, beatings, or violence where the perpetrator physically touches the victim. Guns are more likely to be involved between perpetrators and victims who are strangers, or who know each other only in passing, like rival gang

members.

Most homicides also occur within relatively close proximity to the residences of victims and offenders. And most cities have highly concentrated patterns of crime, particularly violent crime and homicide. Criminologists have observed across the past several decades that “crime causes crime,” a hypothesis that works at two levels: the individual and the neighborhood.

When crime is committed at the individual level, individual offenders or victims create motives for their family members or friends to commit “reciprocated” crime. Many homicides are linked through patterns of revenge from a victim’s family or friends who become perpetrators in an effort to obtain justice for their slain family member.

When crime is committed at the neighborhood level—more often perpetrated by strangers and acquaintances—fear is spread within the community, breaking down social structure and impeding the ability of the police to make arrests and solve crime.

There is emerging evidence that the decades’ long “great crime decline” has leveled off, and that homicide rates may be increasing. The initial evidence comes from cities that traditionally had high homicide rates, according to the National Institute of Justice. These cities are characterized by very high levels of concentrated poverty, particularly among minority residents.

Rising homicide rates in these parts of the country are of particular concern because they come at a time when law enforcement resources are stretched thin, thanks to recession cutbacks. The police make an arrest in about two-thirds of homicides. This leaves one-third of homicides unsolved, with offenders free in the community and the needs and desires of families and friends of victims unaddressed. Unsolved homicides often create their own “crime wave” as the families

and associates of victims seek to exact justice on their own, putting the police under still more stress.

Recent increases in homicide are troubling. It remains to be seen if such increases signal the onset of a new wave of crime. Understanding the nature and patterns of homicide is key to formulating effective responses. To be successful, such responses must place more responsibility on communities for identifying disputes at an early stage in their development, before they turn fatal.

If the police are the only institution responsible for producing reductions in crime, we are in for a dangerous time.

Scott H. Decker is foundation professor at the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Arizona State University and affiliated faculty at the Center for the Study of the Future of War.

Education savings account challenge costs Nev. \$545K

By Neal Morton, Las Vegas Review-Journal

Nevada taxpayers will spend more than half a million dollars to defend the state's contested education savings account program.

The total price tag reached \$545,000 on Tuesday as the state Board of Examiners voted 2-0 to approve a \$125,000 extension to a contract with the out-of-state law firm Bancroft PLLC, led by former U.S. Solicitor General Paul Clement.

Since October, Clement has assisted the state attorney

general's office in crafting its defense of Senate Bill 302, which authorizes a voucher-style program for parents to spend per-pupil state funds on private school tuition.

Read the whole story

Concours d'Elegance – a classic wooden boat show

On Aug. 12-13, more than 60 of North America's rarest and finest classic wooden boats will be on display at the historic Obexer's Boat Company on the West Shore.

In its 44th year, the Concours d'Elegance is celebrating the anniversary of a boating icon: Chris-Craft Racing Runabouts. These boats have a rich history that pre-dates World War II. The featured Marque for Concours is the 19 foot split cockpit model Chris-Craft Racer built from 1947 to 1954. These boats were designed for speed. This Marque Class will be one of the largest collections of pristine Chris-Craft Racing Runabouts ever assembled in one location.

In addition, the show will host a wide range of other wooden boats with a variety of style and history. All of the events are open to the public.

For more information, go **online**.

Noncompete ruling favors Nev. casino worker

By Daniel Rothberg, Las Vegas Sun

In 2012, after several years working as an executive casino host for the Atlantis Casino Resort Spa in Reno and at Harrah's before that, Sumona Islam took a job with the Grand Sierra Resort three miles away. One problem: Islam had signed a noncompete agreement preventing her from taking the job.

Not long after Islam defected to the Grand Sierra, Atlantis sued. Its lawyers alleged a violation of the agreement and said Islam had copied and altered the casino's proprietary customer information. The case went to trial and was appealed to the Supreme Court of Nevada, which ruled last month that the noncompete was unreasonable, a ruling that could have broad implications for businesses in Nevada.

The court's order in late July, which has flown largely under the radar, represents a "paradigm shift," argued Howard Cole, a Lewis Roca Rothgerber Christie partner who has drafted several noncompetes.

In question before the court was whether Atlantis could enforce a noncompete agreement prohibiting Islam from employment at a gaming business within 150 miles of Atlantis for more than one year after working at the casino. In a narrow 4-3 ruling, the court found the clause "overbroad." Favoring employee interests, the court majority refused to modify the contract and said the entire agreement was invalid.

Read the whole story