

2-day music-beer festival at Squaw Valley

The 15th annual Brews, Jazz and Funk Fest will be Aug. 13-14 at the Village at Squaw Valley.

Proceeds from the event benefit the Humane Society of Truckee-Tahoe, a nonprofit dedicated to saving and improving the lives of animals. Last year's festival raised more than \$20,000.

The festival is 2-8pm both days, with a \$5 entry fee each day.

Breweries from across California and the west will be in attendance, as well as several international breweries. Following are participating breweries: 101 North Brewing Co., Alaskan Brewing Co., Bear Republic Brewing Co., Carlsberg, Deschutes Brewery, Firestone Walker Brewing Company, Gordon Biersch/Wildcide Hard Cider, Kostrizter, Kronenbourg Brewery, Mad River Brewing Company, Mendocino Brewing Company, New Belgium Brewing Company, New Glory Craft Brewery, Out of Bounds Brewery, Ruhstaller, Six Rivers Brewery, Tahoe Mountain Brewery Co., Trumer Pils, and Yolo Brewing Company. The breweries will be selling 16 ounce beers for \$5 each. Additional breweries will be added in the coming weeks.

The artist lineup includes headliners Marc Broussard, a southern rock-soul artist, and the Main Squeeze. Musical groups JC Brooks & the Uptown Sound, Eli Paperboy Reed, and Polyrhythmics will also be playing.

Show on motorcyclists will reveal Nevada to Australians

By Richard N. Velotta, Las Vegas Review-Journal

They're called "temporary Australians," a derogatory term cooked up in the 1920s for wandering motorcyclists who headed out on the dusty back roads of Australia and didn't seem to have a lick of sense about distance and direction.

"It's meant as an insult, but we embraced it because we have the same kind of sense of humor that you seem to have here in Nevada," said Greg Hirst, the executive producer and host of a television series shown Down Under that's now in its fifth season.

The show is called "Temporary Australians" and the Nevada Commission on Tourism is embracing it as a means to show off the state to thousands of viewers half a world away at relatively low cost.

Read the whole story

Calif. household mosquito could amplify Zika virus spread

By Sammy Caiola, Sacramento Bee

A mosquito that's common in California has become the latest identified carrier of the Zika virus, potentially multiplying the population of vectors capable of spreading the disease.

Until last week, researchers believed the virus could only be spread by two types of aedes mosquito much rarer in California and the U.S. But new research by a UC Davis ecologist and a top Brazilian science institution pins the southern variety of the culex mosquito – known as the southern house mosquito – as a potential vector of the disease, which can only be transmitted when a mosquito bites an infected person and then bites someone else.

Walter Leal, a chemical ecologist at UC Davis and a collaborator on the research, helped make the finding while testing mosquitoes in the northeastern Brazilian city of Recife. Zika, an often symptomless illness, has been blamed for a neurological defect called microcephaly in hundreds of babies around the world and has reached epidemic levels in Brazil.

Read the whole story

Snippets about Lake Tahoe

· Ehrman Mansion on the West Shore is having a living history day on July 30. There will be family lawn games, open house tours, children's activity zone, blue grass music, a car show, an art exhibit, and an auction. All events are free from 11am-4pm.

· "Up" (rated PG) will be shown July 30 at 2pm in the Minden Library meeting room. The movie and popcorn are free. The Minden Library is located at 1625 Library Lane.

- South Lake Tahoe is offering users of the Heavenly Village garage the opportunity to set up an **online** account to pay for a monthly or annual pass.
 - Sugar Cane Experience + Moonbase will be playing July 28 at Lakeview Commons. The free concert is from 4:30-8:30pm.
 - Friends of the West Shore is having a fundraising pizza event Aug. 17 at West Shore Pizza in Tahoma from 5-8pm. RSVP to jmtornese@aol.com.
-

Letter: Kirkwood workers help at Bread & Broth

To the community,

Hosting their fourth Bread & Broth Adopt A Day of Nourishment dinner this year, Kirkwood Mountain Resort's \$250 sponsor donation fed 92 guests at B&B's dinner on July 18.

B&B's partnership with Kirkwood has provided so many meals to the food insecure of our community and has helped eased the struggle many face every day to secure nutritious and filling food.

Volunteering their personal time to crew at Kirkwood's AAD dinner were mountain dining management members Christian Anderson, Kirkwood Inn general manager; Jason Burholz, executive chef; Jonathan Frick, general store manager; Sean Groover, dining assistant manager; and Scarlett Mellin, dining director. With all that management skill and enthusiasm, this team did a fabulous job, which is greatly appreciated by the B&B volunteers.

“Always a pleasure to participate in a Bread & Broth Monday evening meal,” was the collective comment of the Kirkwood team. “What a great group effort with lots of happy customers. Thank you for having us.”

Bread & Broth couldn't be happier having the ongoing support of Kirkwood Mountain Resort and is extremely appreciative of this very special partnership.

To partner with B&B as a donor or sponsor, contact meat carolsgerard@aol.com or 530.542.2876.

Carol Gerard, Bread & Broth

Nev. has one of highest proportions of female lawmakers

By Michelle Rindels, AP

Nevada is among the states with the greatest proportion of female lawmakers, although women are still underrepresented in the Legislature and in many of the highest elected offices.

Women accounted for one-third of the 63 members in the Legislature last session. That ties the state for fifth place in terms of female representation, according to an analysis by the Associated Press of data collected by the National Conference of State Legislatures.

Colorado leads the pack with 42 percent female legislators, while Vermont, Arizona and Washington come next and Minnesota ties with Nevada's 33 percent. Utah and a handful of Southern

states have 15 percent or less female representation, and Wyoming is at the bottom with 13 percent.

Women in Nevada politics point to a variety of reasons the state has a relatively high proportion of female lawmakers. Republican state Sen. Patricia Farley said legislative leaders who recruited her to run in 2014 agreed to work with her schedule as a single mom of two school-age girls, keeping her evenings mostly clear and ensuring meetings ended in time for her to pick up her children from school in the afternoon.

“Running for office isn’t necessarily set up for a mom, and much less a single mom,” said Farley, who represents a Las Vegas-area district. “There was a lot of effort to help support me running for office.”

But she said diversifying the Legislature and bringing more women and mothers into the process is a worthy goal.

“It makes a difference in the tone and tenor of legislation,” she said. “When we bring our gifts forward, maybe we reduce unintended consequences.”

Erin Bilbray, who founded the Emerge Nevada organization that trains women to run for office, said the relatively high number of women in the Legislature may have to do with working conditions that women might accept more readily than men. Lawmakers meet in regular session for four months every two years, and are paid less than \$9,000 in salary, plus a per diem allowance, for that service.

“There’s a correlation between how little we pay our legislators and how many women are in the Legislature,” Bilbray said.

In local government, women hold some prominent posts. Carolyn Goodman is mayor of Las Vegas, while Hillary Schieve is mayor of Reno.

But a gender gap persists in other offices. Three of the four Nevadans in the U.S. House of Representatives are men, and the state's only had three women representatives in its history.

The first was seven-term Republican Rep. Barbara Vucanovich, who took office in 1983, while the other two were seven-term Democratic Rep. Shelley Berkley and current 1st Congressional District Rep. Dina Titus, a Democrat.

Nevada is one of 23 states that has never elected a woman as governor. It's also one of 22 states that has never had a female senator, although Democratic Senate candidate Catherine Cortez Masto could change that.

Bilbray said external and internal obstacles perpetuate the gender gap.

"You have to ask a woman, on average, eight times before they run for office," said Bilbray, who ran in Nevada's 3rd Congressional District in 2014 but lost to Rep. Joe Heck. "They tend to think they're not qualified."

Schieve said she tries to plant the idea of public service early, telling young girls she meets that they look like a future mayor.

"I look at it as part of my position to do that," she said. "To show, 'Look, if I can do it, anyone can do it.'"

Farley said women still feel they have to compete with men, working 14 hours a day and never taking time off, to be taken seriously in their careers. She said women need to stand up for their family obligations to change the culture in politics.

"What women need to do is say this job of raising my kids is just as important, if not more important," she said. "More and more people need to believe they can ask for it and get it."

Placer selling excess water to feds

Placer County Water Agency is doing so well with water supplies that it has surplus for sale.

The board of directors is selling up to 20,000 acre-feet to the Bureau of Reclamation. The cost is \$300 per acre-foot.

Transfers are rather routine in non-drought years.

PCWA officials said the transfer will allow it to increase its hydroelectric output for the rest of the summer.

– *Lake Tahoe News staff report*

Guided hike to follow Emigrant Trail

There will be a Historic Emigrant Trail Trek out of Sorensen's Resort on Aug. 11 and Sept. 15.

Participants will feel the strain and celebrate the triumphs of the emigrants who crossed the Sierra Nevada during the 1849 Gold Rush. On this walking, hiking, and driving tour the same paths where emigrants led their oxen-pulled wagons through the seemingly impassable canyon of the Carson River and up and over the treacherous Devil's Ladder, now known as Carson Pass will be explored.

The program starts the evening before each hike with a free slide show and talk focusing on early trailblazers including Kit Carson, John C. Fremont, and Joe Walker.

The next morning, the excursion leaves from Sorensen's at 8:30 and returns by 4pm. Bring sunblock, extra water, hat, and a light jacket. Participants may be asked to drive their own vehicles.

Cost is \$60 for Sorensen's guests, \$95 for non-guests, \$30 children ages 6-13; price includes snacks, beverages, and trail lunch. For reservations, call 530.694.2203.

Meyers nonprofit has money for local projects

The Meyers Community Foundation is seeking grant applications to fund projects that enhance and enrich the community of Meyers.

The grant process involves submitting a short application and attending a board meeting to make a presentation.

The MCF was founded in 2011 by three Meyers residents and business owners who were looking for ways to build community and improve Meyers. The organization received 501(c)3 status in 2014 and has since expanded to a six-person volunteer board.

The group began with a holiday tree lighting and Santa drop, which is now an annual event. Other events include a fall gear swap and this year's inaugural OMG Fun Run on the Old Meyers Grade.

Proceeds generated by the MCF-sponsored events fund the grants; general donations are also accepted year-round and are tax deductible.

To apply for a grant or for more information about the MCF, go **online**.

Fire prevention critical when living in a forest

By Kathryn Reed

An ember should be able to hit a house, drop and not start a spot fire. That's called defensible space.

John Pickett, forester with Tahoe Douglas Fire Protection District, talked recently about all things fire and what homeowners can do to make their home less combustible.

Five feet from the structure is the most critical. Pickett said there have been too many times when firefighters have needed to use a chain saw to cut the deck from the house. When it comes to the 5-foot space, it includes that distance from the deck. In the fire world the deck is a structure.

Pine needles under a wood step are an accelerant. While they may be a pain to dislodge, the alternative could be destructive, even deadly.

Homeowners in the basin are discovering that without defensible space they are unable to get insurance.

Pickett said 350 dwellings in his district in Nevada were dropped from State Farm. The fire department worked with the

homeowners and insurance company to get 300 of them to retain their coverage.

He said Hartford is no longer writing policies in Tahoe Douglas and that USSA is studying the area.

A woman at the talk sponsored by the South Lake Tahoe Friends of the Library said she was unable to get AAA. However, a AAA rep in Carson City told *Lake Tahoe News* the company has an aggressive fire line underwriting restriction, but policies are still being written throughout the South Shore.

AAA was one of the better companies during Angora.

It was nine years ago this summer those 254 houses on the outskirts of South Lake Tahoe went up in flames in the Angora Fire. Six weeks later five houses were lost on the West Shore in the Washoe Fire when a gas barbecue was left on.



While all fire cannot be prevented, there are steps that can be taken to make individual properties less combustible.

Photo/LTN file

Most wildland fires are human caused – as were these two. Angora was from an illegal campfire at Seneca Pond that wasn't fully extinguished.

Besides residents needing to do their part, fire agencies in the basin are doing theirs, too. Part of this includes working with locals by doing inspections. Tahoe Douglas inspects every house on a four-year rotation. While they can't go on the property without permission, a lot can be seen from the road. The goal isn't to issue fines – though, that's possible – but instead to get people to comply.

Fire departments throughout the Lake Tahoe Basin will do a defensible space inspections for residents for free. It's all about creating a fire adapted community. More information is available **online**.

In Tahoe Douglas the Zephyr Fire Crew is responsible for keeping the forest healthy through controlled burns and thinning the forest.

"It is not a haphazard sport. We take the time to do it right," Pickett said after he showed a video of the crew starting a prescribed fire.

These weren't slash piles, but instead underbrush that was deliberately set on fire. It's a low intensity fire that consumes the ground fuels. Like a surgeon the marks left behind are deliberate and well thought out.