

K's Kitchen: Simple lettuce wraps

By Kathryn Reed

Lettuce wraps are really just tacos without the carbs. They are often smaller, which might have people eating less.

While I used what I call “fake meat” because I’m a vegetarian, it would be possible to use ground beef, pork or even fish. You’ll just need to cook them. Using the microwave works for the “fake meat” because it just needs to be heated, not cooked.

This recipe is flavorful, but not spicy. All of that can be changed based on seasoning.



Lettuce Wraps

1C white vinegar

1C water

$\frac{1}{4}$ C granulated sugar

2 tsp kosher salt, divided

1 C carrots, matchstick

6 garlic gloves, minced

1 jalapeno, thinly sliced

12 ounces “fake” ground beef

$\frac{1}{2}$ tsp cumin

$\frac{1}{4}$ tsp chili powder

8 butter lettuce or Bibb lettuce leaves

$\frac{3}{4}$ C cilantro, chopped

$\frac{3}{4}$ C white onion, chopped

$\frac{1}{4}$ C Mexican crema

In small sauce pan combine vinegar, water, sugar, and half teaspoon salt. Bring to a boil; stir until sugar dissolved. Remove from heat.

Place carrots, garlic, and jalapeño slices in a medium bowl; pour liquid mixture over vegetable mixture. Let stand at room temperature.

Combine “meat,” onion, cumin, chili powder, and remaining salt in a medium bowl; mix well. Heat in microwave until hot.

Place lettuce leaves on a large serving platter. Divide “meat” mixture evenly among lettuce leaves.

Drain liquid from vegetables. Top each wrap evenly with mixture. Sprinkle cilantro evenly, then drizzle crema on top.

Duffy: Most experience of any

sheriff candidate

Publisher's note: *Four people are running for the position of sheriff of Douglas County Sheriff's Office. Their profiles will run May 4 and May 5.*



Joe Duffy

Name: Joe Duffy

Age: 48

Occupation: Patrol division captain, Douglas County Sheriff's Office

What groups, nonprofits, other civic involvement are you part of outside of work?: I am the first vice president of the FBI National Academy Associates/Nevada Chapter and I am a member of the International Footprint Association-Minden Chapter 72. I am not part of any other service clubs currently, however I have supported them during my career here at the sheriff's office by supporting and/or participating in events they host. I have been a coach in recreation basketball and Carson Valley Little League baseball. I am a member of St. Gall's Catholic Church.

What is your opinion about teachers having guns at school?:

The sheriff's office has no say or control over school policies and procedures. However, my personal opinion is that I do not think teachers should be carrying guns in schools. If the school district decided to employ that tactic, I would strongly recommend teachers go through the same annual and quarterly firearms training that a law enforcement officer does.

Vacation rentals are allowed at Lake Tahoe. Should they be allowed everywhere in Douglas County? Why or why not?: This is not in my sphere of responsibility, however as your sheriff, I will make sure no matter what housing exists, the citizens of Douglas County will be protected.

How best to enforce vacation home rental regulations?: If there is a complaint of a crime or excessive noise, residents should always call the sheriff's office to handle those situations. In regards to other non-criminal vacation home regulations, those would be a civil matter in which case a deputy could still respond to write a report or the matter would need to be handled between the owner and the renters.

Why do you want to be sheriff?: I want to be sheriff because it is a passion of mine and I want to help people who cannot help themselves. As a young boy, I always knew that when I grew up I wanted to be a law enforcement officer. At age 20, I became a deputy with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and I have been in law enforcement for all of my adult life, working my way up through the ranks to my current position of captain. With Sheriff [Ron] Pierini retiring, I am taking the opportunity to use my extensive training and experience to advance to the next level in law enforcement. I will continue to bring the best law enforcement services to the citizens in Douglas County and I will ensure our community stays safe and gang and graffiti free. Lastly, I love where I live. I raised my son here, my brother, his family and my parents all live here, and I enjoy being part of this community. I want to be sheriff because I care. I care about

our quality of life and I care about the people who live and work here. I want to ensure we keep Douglas County one of the safest communities in the state.

Why should someone vote for you over someone else?: I have the most experience as a full-time law enforcement officer over any other candidate running for the office of sheriff. I have worked for the LA Sheriff's Department for five years and I have been at the Douglas County Sheriff's Office for over 23 years. I have worked every division at DCSO, including: patrol, jail, investigations, administration, plus a wide variety of collateral duties including: K9 handler, SWAT, internal affairs and gang investigations. I have been a captain for the last eight years and have managed three different divisions during that time: Those being, administration, the jail and I am the current patrol captain for the last 2½ years. I am also the captain of our 16-person SWAT team, our six-person K9 unit and our honor guard. I am a graduate of the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Va., and have taught thousands of officers and civilians in my career on the topic of gangs, including military and law enforcement officers overseas. I am the only candidate with my executive POST certificate. I have managed budgets, handled difficult personnel issues and have a true understanding of what the role of sheriff of Douglas County entails. Two of my opponents don't have POST certificates, so they would have to go to the POST academy. The other opponent, Capt. [Dan] Coverley has less experience at the command level. This is not a popularity contest, this is the highest law enforcement officer responsible for the safety and security of the county and should not be handed to someone who is inexperienced and would not be able to hit the ground running as your sheriff. We need positive, productive change in the sheriff's office, not the same old thing. We must do a better job of serving our community in new and different ways. I will have a great undersheriff in Jim Halsey, a 30-year Navy veteran, who also has almost 30 years in law enforcement experience as well. Jim

Halsey is the current jail division captain and we are a great team. Together we will recruit, hire and retain the best deputy sheriff's to serve our community. Douglas County needs leaders to be involved in their communities and be invested in it, not just the title. It takes leadership, accountability and experience to be a successful sheriff, not endorsements.

How are you going to deal with people driving under the influence of marijuana?: Many of the same techniques used in determining if someone is driving under the influence of alcohol are used for driving under the influence of marijuana, or other drugs. The deputy administers a series of field sobriety tests to the driver. If the driver shows impairment during those tests, which the officers are trained to detect, the suspect is placed under arrest and a warrant is requested from a judge to draw two samples of blood to be analyzed. The case is then submitted to the DA's Office for prosecution and the DMV is notified for the suspect's license to be suspended. If someone is impaired while driving, it doesn't matter the substance, impaired is impaired and they are unsafe to operate a motor vehicle.

What do believe is needed for a good relationship between the sheriff's department and county commissioners?: I believe good and consistent communication is needed between the sheriff and the county commissioners. It is vital to keep the commissioners updated on current trends in law enforcement, and what the sheriff's office's needs are to most effectively serve the citizens of Douglas County. We are all working toward a common goal of keeping Douglas County a great place to live and work. We must work together as a team and that starts with good communication.

If the commissioners cut your budget by 10 percent, what program or people would you cut? Please be specific.: A 10 percent cut in the sheriff's budget would be detrimental. Our current yearly budget is approximately \$6.5 million. Out of that, approximately 82 percent is in salaries and benefits,

leaving 18 percent in services and supplies. A deputy sheriff position with salaries and benefits is approximately \$100,000 per year. A 10 percent cut in our budget would mean having to lay off approximately seven deputy positions. I would be forced to eliminate our Street Enforcement Team which is made of up three detectives, plus a fourth narcotic detective assigned to the Tri-Net, and I would eliminate three general investigator positions. This would ensure that our jail division, which we are mandated by law to operate, would continue to function normally and that our patrol division would continue to operate normally enabling us to still respond to calls for service as quickly as possible. Our three remaining investigators would be burdened with many additional cases and we would have no one working undercover narcotics. We would become more reactionary in our law enforcement and less preventative.

What is your relationship with businesses at Lake Tahoe that work with the sheriff's department on various events? If anything, what would you consider changing?: We currently work with the Tahoe Chamber of Commerce and the Tahoe Visitor Authority on events like the Amgen bike race and other race events that come to Tahoe every year. We also work with the Lake Tahoe casinos for the annual concert events, 4th of July, and New Year's celebrations and also the annual Edgewood Celebrity Golf Tournament. Our deputies provide the security for these events and we currently enjoy a very good working relationship with these businesses. I think we do a very good job and I would ensure we keep ourselves and our business partners up to date on current trends in law enforcement and use best practices to ensure we provide the best law enforcement services possible to the public. When I was the patrol captain at the lake, I was very involved in the chamber and with all the casinos and local businesses. Since leaving that position, I believe the sheriff's office has not been as actively involved or invested in the lake. I would ensure that the lake has a sheriff's office presence and we would become

re-invested in the lake and all its activities and businesses.

Deputies use targets to practice marksmanship. Is there a better way to train people so not so many unarmed people are being shot? Please elaborate.: We currently utilize the Virtra Force Simulator that all deputies here at the sheriff's office attend on a regular basis. The Virtra system is a state-of-the-art video simulator, enabling officers to train for the most difficult real-world situations, including ambushes, active shooters, and maintaining full situational awareness during extreme stress. Officer presence, communication skills training, tactical de-escalation training, Taser, and deadly force, are all available for simulation using standard-issue weapons.

If you could make the rules for New Year's Eve at Stateline, what would they be?: As sheriff, I would continue with what we currently do now. Our goal is to protect the citizens and tourists in Douglas County year-round. My rule would be for the public to celebrate the New Year peacefully, respect one another, and not drink and drive. I would assist in helping to acquire free transportation "dial-a-ride" so we can help prevent drunken drivers. We are there to work with our partners the casinos and I would be open to any new and different suggestions they might have that would help them and their businesses be successful on New Year's.

Douglas County sheriff's deputies make less than South Lake Tahoe police officers and El Dorado County sheriff's deputies. Does this hamper efforts to recruit employees?: No.

Do you believe deputies should be paid more? Why or why not? If yes, how would you go about getting them more money?: Nevada has no state income tax which helps to offset the higher pay in California, that does have an income tax. I believe the deputy pay scale is competitive, and our officers top out at a very similar rate as our neighboring agencies. The problem is the initial pay that we offer to new officers

is \$2-\$3 less than neighboring jurisdictions. I would like to see our deputies starting wages be more competitive. The collective bargaining unit needs to negotiate these terms. As sheriff, I would do everything in my power to support that.

What is lacking in the department right now in terms of personnel or equipment or other resources? How would you address those needs?: With the ever increasing mental health population in Douglas County, I would have the Mobile Outreach Safety Team (MOST), increase its services from one day a week to three-five days a week to keep up with the demand. The MOST Team is made up of a specially trained deputy in dealing with the mentally ill, a paramedic and a social worker. They currently work one day a week and visit with a case load of mentally ill people in Douglas County. The MOST team is currently funded under a grant and I would seek to increase funding through additional grants to keep the MOST team available more often.

What do you think is the biggest issue facing Douglas County Sheriff's Office and how do you plan to resolve it?: I think our mentally ill population is our biggest concern. The mentally ill population is on the rise in Douglas County and I believe in order to stay proactive in addressing that issue, our MOST Team is our greatest tool.

Body cameras are about to be required throughout Nevada. What are the pros and cons?: The pros are that they bring accountability and transparency to incidents where force is used and have shown to have a reduction in complaints from citizens. The cons are that the upfront costs are very expensive and the videos are expensive to store. There are also privacy concerns. The public is now on film and may be less likely to come forward to give information for fear of being on film.

Tell us something about yourself that people might not already know?: I am an artist. I draw, airbrush and paint and I also

am an avid wood-worker. I also enjoy, running, jet skiing, fly fishing, snowboarding, camping and hiking. I am also an abalone diver, spear fisherman and scuba diver.

Opinion: Protect public records requesters

By David Snyder

The First Amendment Coalition supports a bill to be heard next week in the California Senate Judiciary Committee that would help prevent abusive litigation by public agencies against members of the public who request records under the California Public Records Act (CPRA).

SB1244 would amend the CPRA in two important ways. First, it would make clear that a public agency cannot bring a lawsuit against a member of the public in order to force that person to return records the agency inadvertently released. Second, it clarifies that—with one narrow exception—a public agency is not entitled to recover its attorneys fees against a member of the public after CPRA litigation.

Both changes are necessary to protect the public against efforts like that of the Newark Unified School District, which recently sought a court order requiring a member of the public to pay almost a half million dollars in attorneys fees. Fortunately, that effort failed because, as FAC and the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) explained to the court, the CPRA explicitly protects the public from efforts by public agencies to seek financial revenge for the act of seeking

information about the government.

The CPRA is designed to protect the public from efforts like that of the Newark school district, but unfortunately there is language in the current law that has been exploited in order to attempt to intimidate the public. SB1244 helps clear up this language, and so the Legislature should not hesitate to pass this bill.

Public agencies in recent years have brought lawsuits against records requesters seeking to “claw back” records the agency inadvertently released, thus exposing those requesters to costly and time-consuming litigation.

FAC strongly believes that members of the public should not have to shoulder the burden of litigation brought on by the mistakes of public agencies and, thus, supports SB1244. If you agree, we urge you to contact your legislator and tell them to support protection for public records requesters.

SB1244 is set to be heard on May 8 at 1:30pm in the Senate Judiciary Committee. Don't know how to contact your legislator? Enter your address to find your representative's contact info [here](#).

See [here](#) for a copy of FAC's letter in support of SB1244.

David Snyder is executive director of the First Amendment Coalition. The First Amendment Coalition is an award-winning, nonprofit public interest organization dedicated to advancing free speech, more open and accountable government, and public participation in civic affairs.

Calif. ruling a 'seismic shift' for gig economy workers

By Associated Press

A California Supreme Court ruling that would limit businesses from classifying workers as independent contractors who aren't eligible for certain benefits and employment protections was hailed as a big victory for labor and could shake up the state's so-called gig economy.

The unanimous ruling Monday in a case involving package delivery drivers adopted a broad definition for those who qualify as employees in a lawsuit likely to expand the number of workers eligible for minimum wage, rest breaks and other benefits under state wage laws.

[Read the whole story](#)

The bike share oversupply

By Alan Taylor, The Atlantic

Last year, bike sharing took off in China, with dozens of bike-share companies quickly flooding city streets with millions of brightly colored rental bicycles.

However, the rapid growth vastly outpaced immediate demand and overwhelmed Chinese cities, where infrastructure and regulations were not prepared to handle a sudden flood of millions of shared bicycles.

Riders would park bikes anywhere, or just abandon them, resulting in bicycles piling up and blocking already-crowded streets and pathways.

Read the whole story

David DeWitt – 1932-2018



David DeWitt

David Leroy DeWitt passed away on April 22, 2018, in South Lake Tahoe. He was 85.

David was born in Corona on Nov. 22, 1932. He attended school in Corona.

He started classes at Riverside City College before enlisting in the U.S. Air Force. David served four years in the USAF as a radar technician at Eglin AFB in Florida, reaching the rank of staff sergeant.

David married Joyce Self on July 11, 1953, while in service.

Returning to California, David worked for more than 35 years as a customer engineer at IBM, retiring in 1991.

David and Joyce moved to South Lake Tahoe in 1996.

A true blue Dodgers fan, David could rarely be found without his Dodgers cap.

David is survived by his wife of 64 years, Joyce; sons David (Sue) and Mark (Andrea) and his daughter Susan (Lynn).

Nev. gaming regulations to address sexual harassment

By Richard N. Velotta, Las Vegas Review-Journal

A comprehensive written plan to prevent sexual harassment may soon be required of Nevada's gaming licensees.

The state Gaming Control Board will conduct a public regulation workshop Thursday at 1:30 p.m., to consider a 2½-page amendment to Regulation 5. The regulation encompasses the rules that spell out operations in gaming establishments and disciplinary actions that can be taken against licensees, including license suspensions, revocations and fines.

The amendment would take effect upon passage by the five-member Nevada Gaming Commission. It's unclear how long it would be before commissioners take up final adoption of the amendment since more workshop meetings could be scheduled.

Read the whole story

Diaper drive under way in South Lake Tahoe

Recognizing the fact that one in three American parents struggle to afford diapers, Choices for Children is hosting a Mother's Day diaper drive for the month of May.

Donations of any size of diapers may be dropped off this month at the following locations:

- South Lake Tahoe Library
- Jubilee Kids Academy
- Under the Magic Pine Tree
- Step by Step Early Learning Center
- Tahoe Douglas Christian Preschool
- Nicole Gordon, DDS
- Tahoe Mountain Academy
- Lake Tahoe Child Development Center
- South Lake Tahoe Recreation Center
- Boys and Girls Club of Lake Tahoe
- Lake Tahoe Preschool
- Lake Tahoe Community College Child Development Center
- Choices for Children.

This program allows families in need to receive diapers, baby wipes and formula once a month. This program is funded by the El Dorado Community Foundation, Soroptimist International of Tahoe Sierra, Tahoe Magic, the Kiwanis Club of Lake Tahoe and donations from community members.

Snippets about Lake Tahoe

- The Superior Court of El Dorado County will celebrate Juror Appreciation Week, May 7–11, to recognize the service and participation of jurors from the community.
 - Tahoe Trout Farm in South Lake Tahoe is open for the season. No fishing license is required and all ages are welcome. Unwanted fish will be donated to Christmas Cheer and Lake Tahoe Wildlife Care.
 - Douglas County Sheriff's Office received a \$500 grant from Soroptimist International of Carson City for the Explorer Post.
 - Permits are required for yard debris burning in Truckee. Stop by any fire station to get a free permit.
 - Comedian and actress Amy Schumer brings her act to Harveys on Aug. 12 at 8pm. Schumer's "friends" are yet to be announced. Tickets range from \$62-\$132.
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3 people vie for SLT interim city manager

By Kathryn Reed

While the interim city manager position was on two agendas of the South Lake Tahoe City Council this week, no one has been hired to do the job.

Six people initially applied for the position, with three backing out before there were interviews on April 30 during

the special council meeting.

At that meeting each of the three gave a brief overview about themselves before being interviewed in closed session. That item was then continued to the regularly scheduled meeting the following day. No reportable action was taken in closed session May 1.

No one is saying what the delay is – whether background checks are being conducted, or maybe a decision was really made in closed session and negotiations are under way with that person and the council doesn't want to let the others know they weren't the first choice in case they eventually get selected, or maybe the council is divided on who to select since only four were debating the matter. (Councilman Jason Collin was only at the Tuesday meeting until about noon.)

The process has been a bit awkward. On Monday's agenda was a proposed salary and cost of benefits that the council had never discussed and therefore never approved. It was much like what the previous city manager was making and her benefits.

It wasn't until Councilwoman Brooke Laine asked for the council to discuss the whole thing in closed session on April 30 that the council then decided to have some of the interview process in closed session – which is normal.

While it's not known what was discussed in that initial session, based on the fact that at the May 1 meeting the salary and other benefits had been changed, the compensation package was likely a topic on Monday. One would think there was reportable action from Monday's closed session based on what transpired in open session Tuesday.

Tom Stuart, human resources chief for the city, on Tuesday said he had researched city manager salaries from about a dozen California cities and came up with a range South Lake Tahoe should offer the interim – between \$14,583 and \$15,833 a month. (The previous day the recommendation was for a monthly

salary of \$14,616.70.)

Direction from council was for the top amount to also include a housing allowance if one is negotiated. The car allowance is likely not to exceed an additional \$400/month.

It's possible the city could be out more than \$20,000/month for the interim city manager once other benefits/costs that are routine for most employees are factored in. This will then require an adjustment to the budget because what was proposed at the mid-year budget review said there would be no additional expenses for city manager.

Where that money comes also has not ever been discussed in open session. The city has a healthy pot of cash in excess reserves, so it could come from there as a one-time expense.

Interim city manager candidates are:

- Dirk Brazil – recently retired Davis city manager
- Bob Perrault – most recently was interim city manager for Willits, prior to that was city manager of Grover Beach for 10 years
- James Hock – (interviewed via Skype) – city manager of Joliet, Ill.

The hope of the council is that whomever is selected will be able to assume the role quickly.

The city is in need of the top executive because the council for reasons that have never been disclosed paid the previous city manager nine month's salary for her to not have the job. Fire Chief Jeff Meston then assumed the role of acting city manager. He told the council he wanted out.