Basics of Prayer class

Unity at the Lake is offering “Basics of Prayer” classes.

The class will be taught by Stew Bittman, Unity’s co-spiritual leader, and will be offered March 25 from 11:30am-1pm and March 29 from 6:30-8pm.

Classes will be in the annex at Unity’s spiritual center, 1195 Rufus Allen Blvd., South Lake Tahoe.

For more info, call (530) 544.2266.

Tahoe City transit center on course to open in fall

Construction on the Tahoe City Transit Center will resume this spring, with the opening set for fall.

Site work is nearly complete and building construction is well under way.

The opening of the transit center was delayed from its anticipated December 2011 opening due to contractor/supplier issues, combined with the short Lake Tahoe construction season. Construction will resume with roof installation and final building finishes that require higher daytime temperatures.

The Transit Center opens is designed to provide a modern, convenient and comfortable location for Tahoe Area Regional Transit passengers to transfer between buses and to wait for arriving buses. It will include an indoor, heated waiting area

with restrooms and a covered outdoor waiting area with bench seating.

In all, 130 parking spaces will be provided. Several enclosed bike lockers with an electronic pay per use system will be available along with more traditional bike racks.

A state-of- the-art display system will be installed in the building to alert passengers to the arrival time of their bus. The system, known as Nextbus, has been implemented on the TART bus system and is now available to the public. The system provides online real-time location of on-route buses and predicted arrival times of TART buses at all stops on all routes. The information can be accessed via text messaging or smartphone web access.

The Tahoe City Transit Center is a $4.5 million construction project funded largely by federal and state transportation grants, along with Placer County Transient Occupancy Tax funds.

The other Adams who photographed the West

By Claire O’Neill, NPR

I don’t know if I can directly answer the latter question. But certain curators like Joshua Chuang at the Yale University Art Gallery are determined to answer the former: Who is Robert Adams?

Chuang, now probably the leading Adams expert, started asking that himself, back when he was a student of photography. He

picked up one of Adams' books – with characteristically dense writing and arguably unapproachable photos. "It took me a couple years to really get it," he says over the phone.

But now, it seems, he gets it. In 2004, Yale inherited a huge trove of Adams' work, and Chuang has been processing it since then. "There was not a single bad image in the group," Chuang says with a genuine deference. "His standards were so high and his editing of his own work was so rigorous." The fruits of their joint labor are in a traveling exhibition, The Place We Live, now at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA).

The basics: Adams can most succinctly be described as a photographer of the American West. He was born in New Jersey, but his family moved westward to mitigate his issues with asthma, and he has remained there. Only after getting a Ph.D. in English did he really begin photographing, and he has been at is since, but quietly. He doesn't email, he rarely takes interviews, and he lets Chuang come to him.

Maybe it helps to set the stage. When Adams picked up his camera, the most recognizable images from the American West were those sublime landscapes of Ansel Adams. To a large degree, that's still the case.

But where Ansel had a moral mission (to conserve nature by presenting it to the public in its pristine form), Robert's approach has been more clinical: He observes the interaction of man with land as objectively as possible. Where Ansel's photos say, "Look at what we should cherish!" Robert's say: "Here is what we are doing, and make what you will of it."

Read the whole story

25th annual Booster Club Golf Tournament

The 25th annual Booster Club Golf Tournament is May 5-6 at Edgewood Tahoe in Stateline.

Edgewood donates the course so all funds raised benefit South Tahoe and Whittell high schools.

Entry fee is $125, which includes 18 holes of golf, golf cart and lunch. Or play both days for $225.

Each day is an individual tournament with a scramble format. Individuals, couples, and foursomes are welcome. Trophies will be awarded to the top the teams each day.

Registration and raffle ticket sales open at 9:30am, the tournament begins with a “shotgun” start at 11am. Lunch will be provided as golfers pass between the 9th and 10th holes.

To register or for questions, call Kevin Kjer at (775) 588.6354 or email KJKjer@aol.com.

Petition aims to raise casino tax rate

By Bill O’Driscoll, Reno Gazette-Journal

A petition drive to raise taxes on Nevada’s biggest casinos has met swift resistance from the gaming lobby through a lawsuit filed in Carson District Court.

Advocates of the plan want to see the top rate in the multi-tiered tax on gross gaming revenue be raised from 6.75 percent to 9 percent. Rates in other states range from 8 percent in New Jersey and Mississippi to 50 percent in Illinois.



The gaming lobby is fighting a petition to raise the tax rate on Nevada's casinos.

But observers say if enacted, the outcome, amid recession that helped Nevada’s casinos amass a record $4 billion loss in fiscal 2011, could be far from bountiful for the state’s sparse coffers.

In the past decade, the number of slot machines statewide has gone from 217,000 to 187,000, said David Schwartz, director of the Center for Gaming Research at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

“I don’t know why you’d want to hitch your wagon to a horse when that horse is shrinking,” he said. “We’re already seeing casinos default. Even if you raise the tax 100 percent, Nevada’s footprint is still shrinking. Adding more to the tax burden isn’t going to help them.”

If enough signatures are gathered by November, the initiative, launched last month by the Las Vegas-based group Nevadans For

a Fair 9 percent Gambling Revenue Tax, would go before the 2013 Legislature. If lawmakers reject it or fail to act, the issue would go before voters in 2014.

Read the whole story

Clean energy companies thrive

By Melanie Turner, Sacramento Business Journal

Clean-energy markets continued to expand last year, even with a tough economic and political climate, increased industry consolidation and downward pricing pressures on manufacturers, according to a new report.

Combined global revenue for solar, wind and biofuels rose 31 percent over the prior year, growing to $246 billion in 2011 from $188 billion in 2010, according to the Clean Energy Trends 2012 report released by clean-tech research and advisory firm Clean Edge Inc.

Double-digit growth rates for both wind and solar globally drove much of the expansion.

Still, the report says it’s less likely 2011 will be remembered for the industry’s robust growth and more likely it will be remembered for the Solyndra bankruptcy. Solar, wind and biofuels all reached new market records in 2011.

Read the whole story

Get ‘egged’ by Tahoe Derby Dames

The Tahoe Derby Dames flat track roller derby team is raising money by “Egg’n” people’s houses March 25 through April 7. For a $20 donation, the Dames will place 25 plastic eggs containing discounts and coupons from local businesses on lawns and porches throughout South Lake Tahoe. Some lucky houses will win gift certificates and other prizes. Desks can also be egged with 15 eggs with a $15 donation.

Participating businesses include Meeks, Beach Hut, Overlands Meat and Seafood Co, Pet Station, Fox and Hound, Rubicon Heating, Safe Haven Chiropractic, Kahle Community Center, The Skatehouse and more.

Visit the team’s website to sign up.

Truckee Tahoe Air Fair

The Truckee Tahoe Airport is soaring to new heights with the inaugural Truckee Tahoe Air Fair & Family Festival in July.

The last air shows at the airport were from 1974-96.

On July 7, from 7am to 4pm there will be periodic fly-bys; large static aircraft displays; pilot docents; hot air balloons (weather permitting); free Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) Chapter 1073 Young Eagle flights for youths ages 8 to 17; live music; kids activities; a food court, beer garden, souvenir and craft vendors and more family fun.

Scheduled to be on display are a large variety of aircraft from military, experimental and general aviation. Several of the original Tuskegee Airmen will attend as grand marshals.

The Truckee Tahoe Air Fair is looking for interesting aircraft to put on static display in addition to vendors. To participate, contact Tim LoDolce at flyingtiger17@gmail.com or phone (530) 386.3100.

This event is free, and all proceeds from sponsorships and vendor sales go toward local youth programs, activities and scholarships.

The event will take place at the Truckee Tahoe Airport located at 10356 Airport Road, Truckee.

Snowboarder who died at Sugar Bowl identified

Justin McCollum, 20, of Roseville, has been identified as the snowboarder who died March 19 at Sugar Bowl.

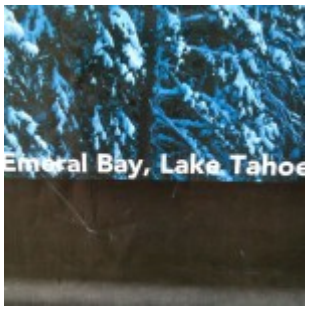
He was an employee of the Lake Tahoe area resort.

Placer county sheriff’s officials said McCollum was snowboarding with a group of friends on the double black diamond Strawberry Fields run. When he didn’t meet them at the bottom, they took the lift back up to look for him. Deputies said the friends found McCollum’s snowboard protruding from a tree well.

Life-saving techniques were unsuccessful.

– Lake Tahoe News staff report

Snippets about Lake Tahoe



• A banner on the parking garage at the Reno-Tahoe International Airport has Emerald Bay spelled incorrectly. (See photo.)

• The annual Douglas County lake schools fundraiser 'Treasures of Zephyr Cove" is April 21 at 6pm at MontBleu in Stateline. For more information, click on the poster.

• Tahoe Best Friends' youth and adult dog six-week training class begins March 22 at 6pm. Call (530) 542.2336 for reservations.

• Sorensen's Resort on March 30 at 5pm is offering a food and wine class taught by Anne Wiles of Anne Wiles Gourmet. All courses are paired with a selection of wines from Sorensen's wine list. Bring a cutting board, apron, and good knife. Cost is $95. Call 800.423.9949 to reserve a spot.

• Three South Shore kids – Logan Chapman, Drue Champan and Lacey Robinson – will be in "My Son Pinocchio … Geppetto's Musical Tale" at the Brewery Arts Center in Carson City in April and May.

• LTUSD Performing Arts presents Spring String Fling on March 21 at 7pm. The concert with more than 100 students is free at South Tahoe Middle School.