

Free garden, composting class

Join UC Davis, the Tahoe Resource Conservation District and Master Gardeners for a free Green Thumb Gardening class on July 10 from 2 to 5pm at the Tahoe City Field Station (Historic Hatchery) for backyard composting, vegetable gardening Tahoe style and free native plant drawing.

Tail & Ale Fest in Crystal Bay

The dog-friendly Annual Tail & Ale Festival is July 8 from 5-9pm at the Tahoe Biltmore in Crystal Bay.

Guests taste beer, get a commemorative glass and a sample platter of fish tacos, jambalaya and grilled salmon. Tickets are \$30.

All proceeds benefit the local humane society.

For more information, go online.

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Census: 2nd year for businesses to hire fewer people

In 2009, businesses with paid employees numbered 7.4 million, a decline of 168,000 establishments from 2008, marking the second consecutive year of decline, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

Further, between 2008 and 2009 employment dropped 5.3 percent, a decrease of more than 6 million employees, for a total of 114,509,626.

In 2008, the number of establishments decreased by about 104,000, although the number of employees increased by almost 300,000.

These findings are from County Business Patterns: 2009, which provides the only detailed annual information on the number of establishments, employees, and first-quarter and annual payroll for most of the 1,100 industries covered at the national, state and county levels.

The statistics are broken down according to employment-size classes (for example, number of establishments with one to four employees) and legal form of organization (for example,

corporations and partnerships).

“During the early years of the decade, the nation saw steady, if moderate growth in the number of establishments year to year,” William Bostic Jr., associate director for economic programs at the U.S. Census Bureau, said in a statement. “In contrast, the years 2008 and 2009 coincided with the recession and showed declines. In 2009, we also saw a drop in the number of employees.”

Between 2008 and 2009, all states showed declines in the number of establishments, led by Arizona, which lost 6,000 establishments (4.3 percent) and more than 200,000 employees (9.1 percent). Only Alaska (1.8 percent) and the District of Columbia (0.1 percent) gained employees from 2008.

Retail trade was the sector with the largest number of establishments (1.1 million). Next were professional, scientific and technical services (842,566 establishments); health care and social assistance (799,271); other services (except public administration) (722,701); construction (712,977); and accommodation and food services (635,239).

All five of these sectors showed declines, led by construction with a 7.8 percent decline in the number of establishments and a 15.3 percent decline in the number of employees.

County Business Patterns excludes those who were self-employed, employees of private households, railroad employees, agriculture production workers and most government employees.

Richie cancels South Shore concert

Lionel Richie canceled his July 4 show with the Boston Pops.

The significance of not doing the televised performance from the East Coast is the singer is supposed to be on the South Shore this month. Reports are he injured his throat.

He has also canceled the July 16 show that was part of the Harveys Outdoor Concert Series.

Martina McBride subbed for Richie in Boston. It's not known if Harveys will be able to get a sub for Ritchie. The South Shore is expected to be hopping with people that weekend because the next day is the final round of the American Century Celebrity Golf Tournament at Edgewood Tahoe.

– *Lake Tahoe News staff report*

Suicide likely cause of death at Horizon

While the investigation of the death of Loretta Sangara, 68, of Placerville is ongoing, preliminary findings indicate her fall from a Stateline casino balcony was an intentional act of suicide, Douglas County deputies report.

Investigators with the Douglas County Sheriff's Office have determined Sangara, who suffered from medical problems, made elaborate arrangements with friends and family members regarding the disposition of her estate and funeral

arrangements, and appears to have been planning to commit suicide for some time.

Her body was discovered July 1 below a 14th story balcony at the Horizon casino.

An autopsy was conducted by the Washoe County Coroner's Office, and investigators are awaiting the results of the autopsy and toxicological examination before making a final determination.

– Lake Tahoe News staff report

49 arrests in Douglas County during long weekend

With the exception of a few altercations in the casino core area of Stateline, Nevada Beach and Zephyr Cove Beach, the Fourth of July crowd was well-behaved, according to Douglas County sheriff's officials.

During the weekend, 49 people were arrested on charges including strongarm robbery, assault, battery, theft, vandalism, trespassing, threats/harassment, indecent exposure, possession of a controlled substance, DUI, child endangerment and probation violation.

The celebratory crowd in the Stateline, Round Hill and Zephyr Cove areas of Lake Tahoe seemed no larger than in past years, deputies said.

– Lake Tahoe News staff report

Anderson creating line of snowsports clothing

By Nicole Dreon, ESPN Action Sports

Renewing her contract with Billabong earlier this month to include a signature streetwear line, Jamie Anderson, 20, now joins a select group of women who have created a market for signature snowlines with big brand companies. "I always felt that Billabong made really cute clothes," says Anderson, "but now I am more involved. I am not just wearing some jacket they give me, I am designing something that fits my style."

For Anderson, who will release her streetwear collection in 2012 and her expanded outerwear collection this fall, one of the best creative freedoms Billabong has given her is choosing her own materials. "It is important to me that we use as many eco-friendly materials as possible, like organic cottons."

There are also the financial perks that come with having your own clothing line versus a standard sponsorship. "If you are designing good products and your product sells," says Anderson, "then you get a percentage of those sales."

Read the whole story

T-storm rolling into South

Shore

Those are no ordinary dark clouds rolling into the South Shore.

The National Weather Service in Reno had issued a severe thunderstorm threat for northeastern Amador, east central El Dorado and west central Alpine counties for Tuesday afternoon. Quarter-size hail and damaging winds in excess of 60 mph were associated with the storm in the Highway 88 area.

At 3:55pm the Doppler radar showed the storm in that area had subsided.

However, the NWS says, "Very heavy rainfall with occasional lightning is still expected with this storm. Ponding of low lying areas is possible."

Lightning can strike out to 15 miles from the parent thunderstorm. If you can hear thunder, you are close enough to be struck by lightning, according the Weather Service.

It's recommended to be off any body of water and to seek shelter – including a vehicle – until the storm passes.

A 30 percent chance of heavy rain is in the forecast Wednesday for the Lake Tahoe Basin, including Truckee.

– Lake Tahoe News staff report

Tahoe Rim Trail Endurance Run

needs volunteers

Volunteers are needed to help at the finish line of the July 16-17 Tahoe Rim Trail Endurance Run.

This nonprofit run is put on completely by volunteers.

With the race being 30, 50 and 100 miles, volunteers staff the route from that Saturday from 9am through Sunday at 4pm.

Volunteers are needed July 16 from 10am-5pm and 5pm-midnight; July 17 from midnight-6am. Contact Renee Gorevin at rgorevin@yahoo.com to volunteer.

Proceeds from this event benefit the Tahoe Rim Trail Association trail maintenance program, Lake Tahoe Nevada State Parks backcountry mountain bike patrol, South Tahoe and Carson City high school cross country teams, Carson City Boy Scouts and Carson City American Legion and other groups.