Giffords breathing on her own, moving both arms

By Thomas H. Maugh II and Seema Mehta, Los Angeles Times

TUCSON – U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords is breathing on her own and is moving both arms, both very encouraging signs of recovery, physicians at University Medical Center in Tucson said Tuesday.

In an interview, Dr. Peter Rhee, the chief of trauma at the medical center, said Giffords was moving both arms, although her left arm was more active than her right, and moving her eyes. Previously, doctors had said that she was moving only her left arm, which is controlled by the right hemisphere of her brain – the side that was not penetrated by the bullet.

The fact that she was able to move her right arm, which is controlled by the injured hemisphere, suggested that the damage was not as bad as surgeons had initially feared.

Read the whole story

Youth hockey tournament in South Tahoe

The South Tahoe Amateur Hockey Association's 6th Annual Lake Tahoe Invitational Hockey Tournament is Jan. 14-17.

This youth hockey tournament features 18 teams from California playing in three age divisions at the South Lake Tahoe Ice Arena.

The action starts Jan. 14 at 9am, with the last game of the day at 8pm. Games run all day Saturday and Sunday from 6am to 10:30pm.

The division championship game is Jan. 17 for the Mites, Squirts and PeeWees.

For more information about the free tournament, call (530) 542.6056.

Fact v. fiction lecture about Lake Tahoe

Explore Tahoe Winter Speaker Series continues with “Fibs, Fakes, and Falsehoods ~ Mistaken Tahoe.” Learn what is fact and what is fiction when David Antonucci, author and speaker, presents the answers to many myths and questions about Lake Tahoe.

The presentation will be Jan. 13 at 6pm at Explore Tahoe Vistor Center located in the Heavenly Village at 4114 Lake Tahoe Blvd., South Lake Tahoe.

Special rate in the parking garage $5 flat rate after 4pm. Refreshments will be provided and a $5 donation is requested. Call (530) 542.4637 for more information.

Gaming win down throughout most of Nevada

Stateline's gaming intake followed the state's trend by sliding in November compared to the previous year.

On the South Shore the revenues fell 6.42 percent compared to a 5.9 decrease throughout Nevada. On Jan. 11 state regulators said casinos in Nevada won $822 million in November.

North Las Vegas and the Carson Valley were the only places to report gains.

– Lake Tahoe News staff report

Ski report: Snow is on the way



The National Weather Service says there is an 80 percent chance of snow today in the Lake Tahoe Basin, 90 percent chance tonight. Full sun is not expected all week.

Here is the ski report from Curtis Fong, the Guy from Tahoe.

Sandoval releases salaries of his staff

By Cy Ryan, Las Vegas Sun

CARSON CITY – Breaking with tradition, Gov. Brian Sandoval on Monday released the salaries of his 16 staff members, the highest being the annual $124,988 earned by Heidi Gansert, his chief of staff.

The breakdown shows senior adviser Dale Erquiaga will earn $119,997 and deputy chief of staff Ann Wilkinson will earn $103,815.

All staff members are subject to a 4.6 percent reduction from the listed salaries, which affects all state employees. In the past the pay of those working in the governor's office was kept private.

Sandoval's general counsel, Lucas Foletta, will be paid $89,993; Executive Assistant Carrie Lipparelli, $67,692; Constituent Services Officer Christina Davis, $57,774; and Press Secretary Mary-Sarah Kinner, $74,980.

Read the whole story

Burst pipes damage LTCC's

student center

By Kathryn Reed

Lake Tahoe Community College's student center remains closed this week and culinary classes are being taught at South Tahoe High School while damage to the area is fixed.

A maintenance worker on New Year's Eve noticed ice and water on the floor in the culinary area from ruptured pipes.



Pipes are exposed in the kitchen area of LTCC. Photo/Kathryn Reed

When the power went out in the Al Tahoe area of South Lake Tahoe during the holidays it was also out at the college. The main hot water circulation pump was cut off at this time.

"The air handling unit remained in service so it brought really cold air into the building," explained Christina Proctor, spokeswoman for the college.

She said no structural damage occurred.

"There may be more problems as we troubleshoot and try to correct the problems," Proctor said. The cost to repair the damage has not been determined. It will be covered by insurance, Proctor said.

Classes for winter quarter started as normal on Jan. 3, though the food courses moved to the high school. They are expected to be back at LTCC next week.

The coffee cart is temporarily in front of the bookstore.

LTCC has a back up generator for emergency lights, but it does not have enough juice to keep things functioning for an extended period of time. The college had been closed for two weeks for the holidays when the pipes burst.

The lack of power also meant the servers that handle online registration were out of service.

History: The winter of ’52 started Jan. 11

Publisher’s note: ***This is from the November-December 1972 Lake Tahoe Historical Society newsletter.***

By Marie Walsh

Some 100 persons turned out to hear Tahoe’s fabled ‘Winter of 1952’ described at the October meeting of the Lake Tahoe Historical Society.



Lake Tahoe

Historical
Society

“It started to snow on the 11th of January and then it just didn’t quit,” recalled Mrs. Bernhardt. “Even today it’s hard to visualize how deep the snow really was, but to give you an idea – you couldn’t see the houses from the streets, and people were actually skiing off second-story roofs!”

When it first started snowing, Mrs. Bernhardt said that the locals’ main concern was keeping Echo summit open. “We sent the rotary plow up there, but that was to no avail because it got stuck, and Echo was thus closed indefinitely. We then were left with only once plow in the entire South Tahoe area – a push plow–and this was used to keep Hwy. 50 plowed from the Tahoe Sierra Market at the Y, to the Kingsbury Grade intersection. None of the side streets were open during this time, nor was Kingsbury, because that just would have been impossible!”

“With all roads into and out of the basin closed,” she added, “we didn’t have any fresh bread, milk, produce or vegetables. Most of the shelves were bare, but despite this, there was no panic – we didn’t rush off to the store and buy everything in sight like we tend to today because in those days we always used to stock up well in advance of winter. And, no one went hungry because the women baked bread everyday and, most of all, everyone shared. We did a lot of cross-country skiing that winter!”

Among those in the audience who stressed how helpful and cooperative people were that winter was Marie Plimpton, who told of the time that a local resident was thought to have had appendicitis, Mrs. Plimpton said that after Dr. Neff had skied over to the home of his patient, and had found her condition to be serious, he notified the Coast Guard – it was then that 150-200 residents all went out to beat down a path out to the lake so that Betty Hogan could be transported to the waiting

plane in a toboggan.

Del Laine mentioned that “people on the outside were more nervous than those stranded at the lake.” She said that one of Bob Wakeman’s favorite stories of that winter concerns the time that several of the locals were down a Fenn Barkley’s market when, all of a sudden, they saw a plane circling overhead. After a packaged bundle was dropped in the woods behind the market, those that ere there put on their skis and took off to see what it was, thinking perhaps that it might be fresh meat. “It wasn’t meat at all, but bundle of the Lake Tahoe News [which were then printed in Minden, Nev.] telling us we were snowed in.”

And Ann Celio, who was one of those actually ‘snowed-out’ during those 28 days, spoke of the time that she and her husband were told that Echo was finally going to be opened. “We made it as far as Frog Pond, to about where Echo Creek crosses the highway, and found that the plow hadn’t opened the road any farther east. Norm go out of the car and asked the snow plow operator if he could ride with him to our home so that he could get his plow and help clear out more of the area. When they reached the corner of Sawmill Road and Highway 50, they came across 16 or 17 cars buried in the snow, an filled with half-frozen people.”

“Evidently,” Mrs. Celio continued, “quite a few residents had been stranded inside Ethel’s Pie Shop that snowy afternoon, and when the fuel oil inside the building had run out, they’d all gotten into the cars and turned on the motors to keep warm. By the time the two men had found the cars, though, the snow had just about buried the cars and the gasoline was exhausted. Norm said the visibility was zero, and that it took from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. to get those cars out.

“Many still ask if we were frightened that winter,” said Mrs. Bernhardt. “There were a great many hardships, I’ll admit, but I guess we were just having too much fun to worry.”

“As I look back on it, I remember it as a time of sharing, real neighborliness and a time of getting together and doing things with all our friends. Sometimes it takes a catastrophe to get people to live this way, but of course a winter like this would never happen again because of our modern snow plow equipment.”

North Shore community service award nominations sought

Businesses and organizations may nominate outstanding employees, volunteers and others to be recognized at the 57th Annual North Lake Tahoe Community Service Awards Dinner scheduled for Feb. 16 at the Resort at Squaw Creek, 400 Squaw Creek Road in Olympic Valley.

The annual event, produced by the North Lake Tahoe Chamber of Commerce, recognizes Small Business of the Year, Large Business of the Year, Citizen of the Year, Positive Environmental Impact Award Individual or Business/Organization, Arts Supporter of the Year, Non-Profit Organization of the Year, and Hospitality Award Business/Organization. The chamber is also accepting nominations for Volunteer and Employee of the Year for individual businesses and organizations. The deadline for nominations is Thursday, January 20.

To download a nomination form, click to www.NorthLakeTahoeChamber.com and then Programs and Documents, or contact North Lake Tahoe Chamber of Commerce Manager Kym Fabel at (530) 581.8764 or kym@puretahoenorth.com.

Important – Keep gas meters clear of snow

To the community,

As we have seen in recent years, large amounts of snow can be potentially dangerous if we do not take certain precautions. The fire department would like to encourage all South Lake Tahoe residents to clear snow away from natural gas meters and propane regulators in the event they become buried.

You can avoid a deadly catastrophe by clearly marking all gas meters and regulators and maintaining their access during periods of large snow accumulations.

Thanks for helping keep our community fire safe.

Sallie Ross-Filgo, South Lake Tahoe Fire Department