Dinner to raise money for Truckee Donner Land Trust

Sugar Bowl Resort is hosting Saturday dinners this summer at its exclusive Lake Mary Cabin. On July 17 from 5:30-9pm, 5 percent of the gross earnings will go to the Truckee Donner Land Trust.

Enjoy French inspired California cuisine and spacious, patio-style dining with views of Lake Mary, the Palisades and Mt. Disney.

For reservations, call (530) 426.7002.

Witness dies before trial of 1989 South Tahoe teen's killing

By Deborah Circelli, News Journal

DAYTONA BEACH – A former local investigator for the state Department of Children & Families who was a key witness in an ongoing serial-murder case has died.

Cheryl Rose, 52, was found dead in her home in Ocala on Tuesday, according to the Marion County Sheriff's Office.

She had several medical issues and was prescribed numerous medications, and the Sheriff's Office is awaiting toxicology results to determine whether she could have died from an overdose, according to Detective Ryan Robbins.

Rose, who was an investigator in Daytona Beach for five years before being fired for poor conduct in April 2009, was the key witness in a trial in California against her ex-husband, Joseph Nissensohn, involving the 1989 murder of a 15-year-old South Lake Tahoe girl. The trial was set for January. He is also charged with murdering two other teens in 1981, before he met Rose, a prosecutor said.

Read the whole story

Snippets about Lake Tahoe



• The Melissa Lanitis Gregory Poetry Prize through Bona Fide Books in Meyers is open through Aug. 31. Click here for details.

• Traveling on the North Shore just got easier. The Tahoe Trolleys is free from 7pm to midnight. It takes riders from Squaw Valley to Incline Village with pick-ups along the way. There's the free Northstar Night Rider Shuttle from Northstar to Crystal Bay, as well as the Blue Warrior Water Shuttle. Click to www.GoTahoeNorth.com for more information.

• Follow Tahoe City endurance swimmer Karen Rogers on Facebook or via her website. She is trying to secure a boat so she can attempt the Pacific Ocean swim later this month.

• The U.S. Postal Service wants to raise the price of a stamp two cents to 46 cents starting Jan. 2. The last increase was about two years ago.

• Tahoe Youth & Family Services needs host home families.

These families house youth from two days to two months. For information, call (530) 541.2445.

• Preferred Timeshare Resales has moved back into the Ski Run Center in South Tahoe.

• Lisa Granahan, formerly the assistant to Douglas County's manager, is now the economic vitality manager. For more information of the county's economic vitality efforts, visit the county's website.

K's Kitchen: Tofu salad worthy of an entree



By Kathryn Reed

Reading this month's issue of *Cooking Light* magazine took me back a bit as I read the calorie intake for several items on a Thai menu. Naively, I think of all Asian food as being rather healthy.

Thai food often contains coconut milk – not exactly a slimming agent. Fish sauce and curry paste could put you over your daily sodium needs.

Sometimes you just have to say to heck with nutrition, I want to eat what I want. But it's that awareness that is so important – that you know what you are consuming.

I was at Orchids Thai restaurant in South Tahoe recently for a business lunch. I ordered one of my favorites – Tofu Salad. (It's much better than it sounds.) I tried making it at home once before, but had not marinated the tofu long enough for it to absorb the flavors of the marinade.

I decided to try again. By no means is the recipe below Orchids' recipe. Theirs is made with cilantro and has a sweet taste to it. Plus, the tofu is deep fried. While I can see the benefit of deep frying the tofu – a firm, crispy finish – I just don't deep fry food.

How healthy is my version? Probably not very. But it is one of those salads that can be a meal. It would also work well as a side dish.

One of the nice things about what I came up with is that the marinade is used as the cooking liquid and then as the dressing.

I had a bunch of red leaf lettuce, so that's what I used. With the farmers' markets having fresh greens, I'd suggest using those. Also, I think peanuts or cashews could easily be substituted for the pecans. I happened to have an open bag of pecans, so that's why I chose them. Just remember that some nuts come with a ton of salt.

Tofu Salad

1 package firm tofu

1 bunch basil

1/8 C soy sauce

1/4 C sesame oil

3/8 C rice vinegar

2 T hot chili oil

1 bunch lettuce

6 baby carrots

1/2 C pecans

Drain tofu and cut into cubes. Place single layer in baking dish. Add chopped basil and liquids. Gently toss so all pieces of tofu are covered. Cover, marinate overnight or for several hours. Toss pieces every so often so marinade soaks in to each side of tofu.

Pour tofu mixture, including liquid, into skillet or wok on high heat. Gently stir. (Tofu may break apart a bit.) Cook until heated all the way through.

Put bite-size lettuce pieces in serving bowl. Add carrots that have been cut into matchsticks. Add chopped pecans.

If serving salad immediately and you want to serve a warm salad, pour tofu mixture over greens. If you want to serve later or a cool/room temperature salad, let tofu mixture cool.

Dugard case should be a wake-up call

Publisher's note: ***This editorial is from the July 11, 2010, Reno Gazette-Journal.***

The kidnapping of 11-year-old Jaycee Dugard off of a street in South Lake Tahoe in 1991 turned the young girl's world upside down.

It affected the lives of her parents, her friends and family

over the next 18 years until she was discovered living as a captive, and a mother, in the San Francisco Bay area.

And now it's cost the taxpayers of cash-strapped California $20 million in a settlement of a claim filed by Dugard's family that argued that state officials failed to supervise her alleged kidnapper.

Read the whole story

Trash bin laws to deter bears not uniform in region

By Jeff Delong, Reno Gazette-Journal

Bear season is approaching its peak, and Washoe County will let another summer pass without a law controlling management of the trash responsible for worsening human-bear conflicts.



While a showcase ordinance does control how people handle their garbage at Lake Tahoe's Incline Village – nothing is on the books for many other bear-prone places in Washoe County, including Verdi, Washoe Valley, Sky Tavern, Galena and Caughlin Ranch.

"The lack of an ordinance in Washoe County is an exasperating problem," said Carl Lackey, a biologist and bear expert with the Nevada Department of Wildlife.

"They're not helping the situation at all, they're really not," Lackey said. "They need to deal with it."

Read the whole story

Tahoe festival imparts info about going green

By Carla Roccapriore, Reno Gazette-Journal

KINGS BEACH – Information about solar energy, energy sustainability, shopping and local dining abounded this weekend on Lake Tahoe's North Shore.

The Sierra Green Building Association's second annual Tahoe GreenFEST was Saturday and Sunday at the Kings Beach Plaza and the North Tahoe Events Center.

Donna Walden, association executive director, said at least 50 vendors were in operation.

Read the whole story

Ed center exposes public to importance of Tahoe wetlands

By Stephen Ward

TAHOE CITY – Each facet of the Eriksson Education Center seems meticulously designed to accompany a paramount theme of the project, which is the importance of wetlands in the Tahoe area. An example of this attention to detail is the ovate pathway that makes up the outdoor section of the exhibit, consisting of pavers resting on layers of rock and soil so the

ground remains permeable and doesn’t act as a blockade for stormwater.

The pathway isn’t the only interesting aspect of the outdoor display. Six cedar wood-framed information tablets resting atop wrought iron legs highlight the emphasis of each section of the track, with facts and data about topics ranging from native plants and wildlife to how wetlands filter the water that eventually runs into Lake Tahoe.



People are eager to learn at the Eriksson Education Center. Photo/Jim Markle

One of the information tablets explains the removal of the concrete weirs in the stream, a small section of Polaris Creek, and the use of the willow logs as check dams for grade control.

The UC Davis Tahoe City Field Station was filled Saturday with tables displaying information and soliciting activities meant to engage children in the more gripping sides of science, all the while showing minute traces of the lab work normally orchestrated in the facility, such as sediment traps pushed aside and closets containing scuba gear sharing a section of the space rife with traffic.

The most riveting spectacle of the day was the unveiling of the prestigious Eriksson Education Center. The UC Davis annual Children's Environmental Science Day dovetailed into the occasion.

While giving an extensive tour of the center, Heather Segale, education and outreach coordinator for the UC Davis Tahoe Environmental Research Center, described the overall message of the exhibit.

"In the end, our choices affect the environment," Segale said. "The wetlands are an important part of keeping Lake Tahoe blue."



Ericksson Education Center Photo/Jim Markle

The perimeter of the outside exhibit is decorated with painted cardboard fish cutouts made from old political signs, a joint effort between Tahoe Lake and Kings Beach elementary schools.

The remainder of the center is indoors, with the lineage of the Eriksson Education Center being told through a dark blue wave-shaped timeline that circles the room. The timeline includes information about the history of the Tahoe City Fish Hatchery that once occupied the facility, along with the vast species of fish that have inhabited the wetlands near the building.



Visitors peruse the information booths at the Ericksson Center on July 10. Photo/Stephen Ward

Opening day marked the celebration of a project that has been in the works for many years. The building has been in the process of renovation since 2008 and took nearly 14 years to be completely funded.

The Eriksson Education Center at the UC Davis Tahoe City Field Station is open Saturdays from 1-5pm during summer months or by appointment. For more information, click here.

Wind, humidity levels combine for red flag warning

The National Weather Service in Reno has issued a red flag warning for Reno, Carson City, Minden and the surrounding foothills for July 12 from 3-9pm.

A red flag warning means that critical fire weather conditions

will occur.

Winds will be from west at 15 to 25mph, with gusts as high as 35mph. Humidity levels will drop to 10-15 percent.

The combination of dry fuels, gusty winds and low humidity will create critical fire weather conditions.

Lake Tahoe Basin Prosperity Plan meeting

The North Lake Tahoe Chamber of Commerce is a sponsor of the Lake Tahoe Basin Prosperity Plan Community Meeting on July 15 from 2-3:30pm at the North Tahoe Event Center, 8318 North Lake Blvd. in Kings Beach.

Attendees will hear a presentation on the draft of the Lake Tahoe Prosperity Plan, a collaborative project undertaken by the five counties, South Lake Tahoe, the North Lake Tahoe and the Lake Tahoe South Shore chambers of commerce and education partners.

The plan provides a strategic road map for the future prosperity of the Lake Tahoe Basin, building upon the region’s tourism assets and envisioning the region as a world-class center of innovation for a green and sustainable economy. The goal is to foster living wage jobs and opportunities for entrepreneurs, local businesses, and workers to thrive, while protecting and renewing the treasure of Lake Tahoe and the basin’s precious natural assets.

For more information about the event, contact Trish Kelly of Applied Development Economics at (916) 448.2456, or

Kelly@adeusa.com.