Theater workshop for grades 1-9

A youth theater workshop will be July 12-24 on the South Shore.

Past participants have gone on to leading roles in high school, college and professional productions. Everyone in the workshop will be cast in the sock hop/soda shop musical “The Nifty ’50s”. Participants will work on acting, singing, dancing, improvisation, auditioning and other theater skills.

The workshop is being presented by the Sierra Tahoe Children’s Theater Company, under the direction of Liz Niven and Marcia Sarosik; technical direction by Bob Grant.

Time: *9:30–11:30am for those entering 1st and 2nd grade in the fall;

9:30am–12:30pm for those entering 3-9 grades in the fall.

Cost: $140 for the younger group; $155 for the older group.

Click on workshop for more information.

Snoop Dogg, Ice Cube at MontBleu

Snoop Dogg and Ice Cube will be in the house at MontBleu Resort in Stateline on July 17, enabling new and old schoolers to get down.

Known for his ultra-smooth, laid back raps and melodic

rhyming, Snoop delivers iconic “double speak” lingo – adding “izzle” to his music. His success has spanned the last two decades in the rap music industry with multiple platinum albums, including hits like “Gin and Juice,” “Drop It Like It’s Hot,” “Signs” and “Beautiful.”

Ice Cube will bust out hits like “It Was a Good Day” and “Check Your Self.” His solo career in music launched after leaving the rap group N.W.A (comprised of Dr. Dre, Eazy-E, MC Ren and DJ Yella) in 1989. He’s also been a successful actor, screenwriter and producer.

General admission tickets are $49.50 plus tax and available by calling MontBleu at 800.be.lucky and at www.ticketmaster.com.

Doors open at 8pm, and the show starts at 9pm.

Barton Foundation tries to hook people into golf tourney

Mulligan’s are allowed during Barton Foundation’s 16th annual Golf Tournament at Genoa Lakes – The Lakes Course on July 23, but only if you pay for them.

Proceeds from the tournament benefit the foundation’s community health endowment fund.

Registration, mulligan and raffle ticket sales begin at 6:45am. The fun, scramble golf tournament starts at 8am. Competitions throughout the course give golfers the chance to take home special prizes. As the golfing ends, guests join the awards party, barbecue and announcement of raffle prize winners.

Golfers also have the opportunity to win a car with a hole-in-one, courtesy of Cardinale Way, as well as other prizes for holes-in-one on additional holes. Everyone will compete in the closest-to-the-hole and longest drive competitions.

The $175 per person entry fee, of which $100 is tax deductible, includes green fees, cart, golfer amenity package, a barbecue lunch and no host bar.

Each year Barton has made changes to enhance the tournament and draw greater interest for returning golfers as well as for new supporters.

Over the years, more than $520,000 has been raised from the golf tournament.

All proceeds help build Barton Foundation's Endowment Fund. Endowment investment earnings have allowed the Barton Foundation to fund various hospital projects including construction of the helipad in 2001, fund the Hospice program and Health Resource Center in 2002, purchase automated external defibrillators for El Dorado and Douglas counties, pay for Life-Line units for Hospice and fund the hospital's Healing Design program.

Tournament sponsors include Aflac, Relay Health, Northern Trust, State Farm Kingsbury Grade, Dennis and Kathy Cocking, El Dorado Savings Bank, Tahoe Telephone Directories, Harrah's/Harveys Resort, Secure Medical Systems, HRS Erase, Western Sign Company, G.L. Hicks Finance, California Healthcare Insurance Company, Marquee Fire Protection, Lakeside Inn, McKesson and Charter Business.

To register, call (530) 543.5614 or go to www.bartonhealth.org/events. Search for Golf Tournament.

Upper Truckee River users fail to practice ‘leave no trace’

By Austin Fay

On a four-hour hike from Lake Tahoe Golf Course to where the Upper Truckee River ducks under Highway 50, *Lake Tahoe News* spotted three Coors Light cans, 10 empty bottles, two red plastic cups, one-and-a-half pairs of shoes, a black overturned grill, 14 golf balls outside the course, as well as a cigarette box and other micro-trash along the sweeping riverbanks.

A sort of tree-house platform was also found built into an overhanging tree midway through the Upper Truckee’s journey around the east side of the airport on California Tahoe Conservancy land.

Weaving and meandering through lush meadows, with quaking aspens and willows drooping and sliding into the chilly winding waters, the Upper Truckee River eventually empties into Lake Tahoe.



Steve Ashcraft of South Tahoe

checks out the treehouse on the Upper Truckee River's edge. Photos/Austin Fay

Beyond being an eyesore, garbage can also end up in the lake. With much of the river being a wildlife corridor, what humans leave behind is never good for animals.

In addition to the walking, bicycling and hiking trails that stretch through the river's floodplain, kayaking, rafting or just floating makes the river a popular recreation destination.

Much of the trash was found at the river entrance near the intersection of Elks Club Road and Highway 50.

Since May 3, the Tahoe Flea Market has been every Sunday in the parking lot near the most popular entrance point to the river for recreationists. According to Bruce Eisner, acquisitions manager for the California Tahoe Conservancy, the flea market's participants are responsible for the condition of the parking lot.

Many locals don't want to see the natural beauty of the land depreciated. Steve Ashcraft, a 31-year South Tahoe resident, walks his dogs up and down the Upper Truckee River several times a week and values the shared land and its single-track trails.

"I see a couple soda cans here, some clothes there, a raft here and that's with light usage (of the river). How bad is it going be on a long 4th of July weekend?" Ashcraft wonders. "It's just an ongoing thing."

Ashcraft also has a problem with CTC's way of doing things.

“I’m just surprised with the millions and millions they budget for realigning the river and all those cans and bottles are sent out into the lake,” he said.

Of the 63 tributaries of Lake Tahoe, the Upper Truckee River watershed makes up 18 percent of the total watershed drainage into the lake.

Danny Cohen, a one-year South Lake Tahoe resident looking a little sunburned as he took his cooler and rafts out of the river Wednesday night, has floated a section of the river at least 20 times in the last 30 days.

“For the most part it’s pretty clean right now, but the river’s been flowing pretty strong,” Cohen said. He and the three friends he was with reported seeing a few golf balls and a stranded paddle during their float.

“Compared to the rest of California, it’s not that much trash,” said Joy Eichnerlynch, a four-year South Lake Tahoe resident.

Eichnerlynch was out for a sunset stroll with her husband, Walter, and their two wet dogs, Jesse and Gregor, on June 30. They live near F Street and think the litter is worse there than the Upper Truckee because of a nearby sledding hill.

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I-80 construction could make travel painfully slow

By Reno Gazette-Journal

Caltrans is asking motorists to avoid driving on Interstate 80 between Truckee and the Nevada border during peak hours this weekend, due to lane restrictions and narrow lanes.

Caltrans officials said motorists should find alternate routes due to delays of up to 45 minutes during the Fourth of July weekend. Motorists will want to avoid I-80 between 2pm and 9pm Friday, and between 10am and 6pm Sunday and Monday.

Read the whole story

Eldorado National Forest gears up for busy weekend



The Eldorado National Forest is preparing for one of the biggest recreation weekends of the year. Other than the Wrights Lake, Woods Lake and Blue Lakes campgrounds, all recreation facilities in the forest will be open.

“It is important that we all take responsibility to keep wildfire out of the forest,” Fire Prevention Officer Barbara Rebiskie said in a statement. “Visitors need to know that all types of fireworks are illegal in a National Forest. Citations will be issued to violators that have any fireworks.”

Wood, charcoal, and propane fires are allowed in the Eldorado National Forest with a 2010 California Campfire permit at this time. These permits are free and can be obtained at any U.S. Forest Service, CalFire, or Bureau of Land Management office. Visitors must completely extinguish their campfire if they are not in camp. They can also help by educating others about fire danger and reporting abandoned or illegal fires to 911 or to

the nearest ranger.

The Eldorado will be staffing extra patrols and patrolling after dark this weekend.

Motor vehicle use on the Eldorado National Forest is allowed only on the designated routes displayed on the free Motor Vehicle Use Map that is available at all Eldorado National Forest offices. Visitors planning to camp outside of developed campgrounds must park their vehicle on or within ne vehicle length of a system route.

More information on recreation opportunities and fire restrictions is available on the Eldorado National Forest website: www.fs.fed.us/r5/eldorado.

Dugard to receive $20 mil. from state

By Dan Walters, Sacramento Bee

The state Legislature voted this morning to give kidnap victim Jaycee Lee Dugard $20 million to head off a potentially larger judgment against the state for failing to adequately supervise her alleged kidnapper, prison parolee Phillip Garrido.

The $20 million was placed into an otherwise routine “ciaims bill,” Assembly Bill 1714, on Wednesday. It passed the Senate 30-1 and the Assembly 62-0 sending it to Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger. Because the bill would clear the Legislature in the new fiscal year and the state has not approved a budget, the governor will have to formally request that the measure come to his desk.



Jaycee Lee Dugard

Dugard was 11 years old when she was kidnapped off the street near her home in South Lake Tahoe in 1991, and authorities say she was held prisoner for nearly two decades in Garrido's Antioch home. He and his wife, Nancy, face numerous charges relating to the case and potentially face life in prison.

Read the whole story

Guilty verdict in murder case tried in South Tahoe

A South Lake Tahoe jury this week found Kenneth Sharonoff guilty of second-degree murder in the killing of Clark "Otto" McCabe.

The two men had been arguing when Sharonoff used a crossbow to kill McCabe on Jan. 23 in Placerville at a homeless encampment.

The case was tried in Tahoe at the El Dorado County Superior Courthouse, with the verdict being rendered on June 29. The jury of nine women and three men also found Sharonoff guilty of a felon being in the possession of two firearms and elder abuse. The victim was 68.

Sharonoff is also charged in the case with two prior strike convictions, which will be the subject of a court trial on July 15. A sentencing date will most likely be set then as well.

He faces a term of 15 years to life.

Angora: Three Years Later forum

Assemblyman Ted Gaines, R-Roseville, is hosting a forum titled Angora: Three Years later on July 14 from 6:30-8pm at Lake Tahoe Airport.

He is scheduled to give a legislative update on the Blue Ribbon Fire Commission.

Gaines will take questions from the audience.

For more information, call (916) 774.4430.

Thunder Valley turns parking lot into concert venue

By Carla Meyer, Sacramento Bee

Thunder Valley Casino Resort has taken a parking lot and put up what might be paradise for fans of intimate concert venues.

To help celebrate its expansion, the Lincoln casino has temporarily converted a section of blacktop into a 4,800-capacity amphitheater offering chair and bleacher seating, and a designated area for food and crafts vendors.

Lionel Richie’s nearly sold-out show tonight will mark the official opening of the casino’s new hotel, pool and spa. Sacramento’s Tesla plays Friday, Dwight Yoakam on Saturday and the band America, appropriately, on July 4.

Read the whole story