

International action sports film festival at MontBleu

After a hugely successful 10th anniversary in Salt Lake City earlier this year, X-Dance, the world's premier international action sports film festival, is taking its award-winning films on the road – including being on the South Shore June 10-12.

XDance will screen top award-winning international films that feature wakeboarding, mountain biking, surfing, skateboarding, skiing, snowboarding and alpine adventure. In addition, X-Dance will host off-the-charts parties and incredible music to celebrate action sports culture.

Warren Miller, the godfather of action sports films, will attend the festivities at MontBleu in Stateline.

On June 10, 968 Park Hotel in South Tahoe will host a VIP event at the hotel to honor Miller.

For more information on the event and tickets, [click here](#).

Events:

June 11:

\$25 retail, \$15 Wholesale

Screening Location – MontBleu showroom

5-9:45pm: Screenings, Entertainment and Awards

11pm-3am Vex Night Club After Party

June 12:

\$35 Retail, \$25 Wholesale

Screening Location – MontBleu showroom

5:30-9pm Screenings, Entertainment and Awards

9-11:30pm Live Music with Shcwayze

11:30pm-3am After party at Opal Ultra Lounge in MontBleu.

EDC Fair promises a 'World of Fun'



Got the travel bug but not the cash? Have an itch to see the world but not the time? No worries, the folks at the El Dorado County Fair are working hard to bring the world to you – or at least a few choice destinations. Planned for June 17-20 at the fairgrounds in Placerville, the fair's theme this year is "A World of Fun at the El Dorado County Fair."

"We figured that a lot people just don't have the money right now, or the time for that matter, to take an extended family vacation. So, why not stage a vacation right here at home?" said Jody Gray, the fair's chief executive officer. "It's all part of our goal to create the ultimate 'faircation' for individuals and families, right here in El Dorado County."

Some of the highlights of "A World of Fun at the El Dorado County Fair" include themed areas of popular vacation destinations taking people from Graceland to Hawaii. Then, jump over to Bourbon Street in New Orleans for Mardi Gras and on to Mexico and more. These themed areas offer fairgoers the chance to experience the sights, sounds, and tastes (food and drink) of other places without leaving home.

The four-day El Dorado County Fair also features all the favorite and traditional activities that people have come to know and love, from carnival rides to wine tasting and wheelbarrow racing to team penning.

Enjoy a full schedule of music ranging from classic rock to blues and jazz to country. Music highlights include the “Ultimate Elvis Experience” with Charlie Franks and headliner Lou Gramm, lead singer of the band Foreigner. A Vaudeville cowboy show, Nevada gunfighters, Polynesian dancers, the destruction derby (additional charge), and a hypnotist, all help to round out a full schedule of entertainment.

Of course, no fair would be complete without animals. Traditional livestock competitions and exhibits, including the Mother Lode Fair Circuit Horse Show, take place throughout the fair’s four-day run. Or, if you have something more exotic in mind, check out the menagerie of creatures in Planet Animal.

El Dorado County Fair is not simply a spectator sport. The fair features contests galore. Whether you prefer mutton bustin’ or photography, hay bucking or winemaking, the fair offers plenty of opportunities to get involved. A couple of highlights this year include the El Dorado County Fair Idol contest and the Battle of the Bands just for young musicians (high school and younger).

Visit www.eldoradocountyfair.org for guidelines on how to enter the many contests and other events at the fair, as well as to view a full schedule of activities.

Happy Trails event in South Tahoe

Happy Trails Event – Explore Tahoe An Urban Trailhead celebrates National Trails Day on June 5 with a variety of guided trail experiences, including kayaking, hiking, biking, bird watching, trail building and children's nature art.

For Happy Trail details, visit www.recreationintahoe.com/exploretahoe or call Lauren at (530) 542.4637.

Cops ready to paint over work of graffiti artists

By Kathryn Reed

Creating “art” on public structures without permission is illegal. That is why this month crews from South Lake Tahoe Police Department will return the underpass of Trout Creek to its natural color.

A myriad colors fill nearly every space under the Highway 50 structure that covers sand. The side where Trout Creek is running through at a good clip is partially covered in graffiti. People had good balance, didn't mind getting wet or were in there when the water was lower to reach those walls.



Graffiti fills
the underpass
of Trout Creek
in South Tahoe
beneath
Highway 50.
Photos/Kathryn
Reed

Even the ceiling has been tagged.

Some of the walls leading into the covered area have been hit with spray paint. These markings are less colorful than the ones below.

Pictures, names, bubbly lettering – to the uniformed eye it all looks tame. A few gang symbols are obvious, but it's not what dominates these slabs of concrete.

It appears to be a place where presumably young people can let loose with their artistic prowess on a large canvas.

It seems to be a game of sorts with officers. Both sides seem to have their color of choice – drab for the officer, colorful for the youths.

"Maybe they will put it on the list of murals to be painted. Caltrans could give them permission just like with the power boxes," South Lake Tahoe police Lt. David Stevenson said.

It's been about a year since community service officers last covered up this area.

“We cover everything that is reported to us. There are no places we just leave,” explained Bob Albertazzi, community service officer. “We cover it up as weather permits.”

Stevenson said, “With the gang staff, we don’t want them to have an outlet for that anywhere.”

When the days and nights are warmer, the underpasses are known hangouts for youths and homeless people. Fires in the area are always a threat.

On this particular day in May the sand is as pristine as any beach on the South Shore. Cigarette butts are the biggest components of litter. A small piece of glass shines. If this is a party spot, the evidence is missing.

In many ways it’s the ideal place to hang – the noise of the highway knocks out anything anyone below is doing, at night it’s dark, what’s going on below isn’t visible from the street level.

But officers know about this place, so it’s not secluded. And the bike patrol has easy access to this and all locations off the beaten path.

“We don’t like people hanging out under there,” Stevenson said.

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Fire Academy graduation at

LTCC

Lake Tahoe Basin Fire Academy graduation at the Duke Theatre at Lake Tahoe Community College in South Lake Tahoe on June 26 at noon.

Blood drive in South Tahoe

Barton Auxiliary blood drive at El Dorado County Library in South Lake Tahoe on June 7 from 11am-6pm.

‘Footloose – the Musical’ at LTCC

“Footloose – The Musical” at the Duke Theatre on the campus of Lake Tahoe Community College. Tickets are \$12 general admission, \$7 seniors, children and with student body card. Call (530) 541.4660, ext. 207 for information or box office hours.

LTCC graduation

Lake Tahoe Community College graduation is June 25 at 6pm near the ball fields on the South Lake Tahoe campus.

LTCC Rhythms and Wine

Lake Tahoe Community College Foundation's Rhythms and Wine and Microbrew, too.

July 10 from 6-9pm at Lake Tahoe Community College.

Ticket sales support the Lake Tahoe Community College Foundation Annual Fund and student scholarships. Call (530) 541.4660, ext. 245 for tickets or information.

Cost is \$60.

Workshop teaches customer retention techniques

Lake Tahoe South Shore Chamber of Commerce Customer Loyalty & Retention Workshop is June 3 from 8-9am at the Econo Lodge meeting room, 2659 Lake Tahoe Blvd., South Lake Tahoe.

Looking for new ways to keep your business booming this summer? Understanding the differences between customer loyalty and customer satisfaction is critical to an organization's

ability to grow their customer base. Attendees will be provided with tools to assess their customer loyalty program and its effectiveness, as well as tips for improving the bottom line.

Janet Nelson, president of J Nelson Enterprise LLC and OQL Solutions, specializes in operations, quality and customer loyalty improvements.

RSVP requested – (775) 588.1728.