

Fighting genetically modified seeds via petition

To the publisher,

We the people have another opportunity to let our voices be heard with a petition via Organic Consumer's Association concerning genetically modified alfalfa.

It's simply amazing the reach of Monsanto. They have modified all sorts of seeds to be "Roundup Ready" to accommodate their favorite weed killer. Yes, they put this into the seeds of all sorts of crops so that they recognize it and won't be killed off with the unwanted weeds when they're sprayed.

Alfalfa is the latest and perhaps our best tool at the moment to prevent Monsanto's next mutation.

Please go to Organic Consumers Association and you'll find a link to sign the petition and other helpful tools.

Sincerely,

Peggy A. Cooley, South Lake Tahoe

Bowls of chili benefit CASA

On March 4 from 5-10pm Coyote Grill will serve \$1 bowls of chili with proceeds going to CASA.

The restaurant is in the Round Hill center by Safeway.

CASA will be sharing information about its upcoming new advocate training that begins March 9.

For more information, call Kelly Parker or Amanda Morozumi at (530) 573.3072.

Avalanche at Squaw forces competition changes

An avalanche at Squaw Valley on Sunday postponed the Tram Face competition. [Click here to see video.](#)



Squaw Valley's
Tram Face.
Photo/Provided

The event is expected to resume today on Silverado.

Lake Tahoe ski report, March 1



Today's warm temperatures will disappear when winter returns on Tuesday. Here is the ski report from Curtis Fong, the Guy from Tahoe.

Clarification about comments

To LTN readers,

Some people who have left comments on *Lake Tahoe News* stories have indicated the "Bill" who has commented is South Lake Tahoe City Councilman Bill Crawford. This is not true. Crawford has not made any posts to this site.

As much as it would be great for everyone to put their first and last names to add legitimacy to your words, I realize you won't do that. But at the same time, for truth and accuracy, please don't guess or assume who has posted, who is reading, or who isn't reading the comments or LTN.

Thank you for your continued support and contribution to LTN.

Kathryn Reed, LTN publisher

Northstar improves mountain, not overall experience

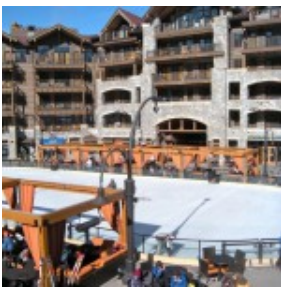
By Kathryn Reed

TRUCKEE – Magic Moguls – that's the one run I always want to

do at Northstar.

Each season the rollers off Vista Express are a little different. Each season it's worth having some fun on them. It reminds me a bit of when I was a kid and we'd ski here as a family. My friend Darla would take me all over the mountain, over little jumps we'd go, so sure we had gotten some big air.

Seeing what boarders and skiers do these days, I'm not even sure we got any air back then.



Northstar-at-Tahoe Village

These Magic Moguls aren't anything compared to what is in the terrain park that the lift crosses over. The features in there look pretty intense – especially for non-aerialists.

It was a week ago today that Sue and I spent the day at Northstar-at-Tahoe. Having the luxury of being able to stay at my sister's place made the experience all the more enjoyable.

Fortunately, we arrived mid-morning. This meant missing the single-digit temperatures on the mountain that fellow skiers had experienced.

The snow on the front side was good. (I wish we were there today for the freshies from this past storm.) The back side, though, was slick, hard and unforgiving.

It reminded me a bit of the men's downhill course at Whistler, just not as steep. It was like this area didn't get any of the fresh snow that had sprinkled the rest of the mountain the

previous couple of days.

This area didn't even exist when I was kid. Only the front side of the Comstock lift was inbounds.

It's the backside and Lookout Mountain where the bulk of the black diamonds are. In the past I've had some fun skiing the trees at Lookout Mountain. The conditions didn't allow for it this particular day, but still, the groomers kept us entertained.

The views into the Martis Valley and into the wilderness are spectacular. Lake Tahoe is visible from other areas of the mountain, which always confounds me because that big body of water is not where I think it should be.

From the mid-mountain lodge the Ritz-Carlton peaks out among the trees. They've done a good job to not make it obtrusive. It's open to the public and could be skied to for lunch. A free gondola takes riders between the village and Ritz.

The village at the base is a great spot to rest. Cushy seating around massive fire pits beckon. An ice rink sits in the middle of everything so free entertainment is available, even if it means watching a woman be carted off on a stretcher after blowing out her knee on the ice.

One of the things about staying at Northstar is being able to access the free bus service. Our bus-mate in the morning, though, said all the changes to the area in the last few years have meant having to wait longer for a ride. It took 20 minutes for a bus to arrive to haul us to the village.

Back at the village after showering we looked around for a place to eat. Our choices were upscale, Japanese or pizza. We picked the latter. And it was yummy. But the options were obviously limited.

Most of the shops were closed as we walked around at 6pm. It

was dead.

All of this was rather disappointing since we'd had a great mid-week village experience at Whistler a month earlier.

Northstar was once known as a family destination. In talking to people visiting the resort some still see it that way. Their conclusion is families don't do villages.

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Scholarships for students pursuing tourism careers

Cowboy Country, the tourism organization that promotes northeastern Nevada, is seeking high school seniors in Nevada who plan to pursue a degree in a tourism-related field to apply for a \$1,000 scholarship. The deadline to apply is March 8.

The June Stannard Memorial Scholarship was established in 2008 at the Nevada Commission on Tourism's (NCOT) Rural Roundup conference. June Stannard was operations manager for the Winnemucca Convention Center and a longtime supporter of tourism in Nevada.

Cowboy Country is one of Nevada's six "territories" that work under the umbrella of NCOT to promote tourism to their areas. Cowboy Country comprises the communities along the Interstate 80 corridor from Lovelock to West Wendover and north to Jarbidge and Jackpot. It celebrates the western heritage of Nevada, from cowboys and ranchers to railroad workers and Basque sheepherders.

The June Stannard Rural Tourism Memorial Scholarship will be awarded to a Nevada high school senior who is pursuing higher education in hospitality, travel or tourism. The recipient will be announced at the 20th Annual Rural Roundup in Winnemucca March 24-26.

For details on how to apply, contact Sheree Tibbals at (775) 623.2220.

Gas station's groundwater permit up for renewal

Interested parties have until March 26 to comment on whether Mike's Gas-A-Mart on Kingsbury Grade in Stateline should have its groundwater discharge permit renewed.

Since 1995 the station has operated a groundwater remediation system to address a previous release of gasoline. Remediation includes groundwater extraction, air stripping and carbon absorption. Treated groundwater is then discharged into the Douglas County Sewer and Improvement District's system for further treatment.

To comment on the renewal application, call (775) 687.9424 or email mkaminsk@ndep.nv.gov.

Mancuso returns to home turf of Tahoe

By Susan Voyles, Reno Gazette-Journal

Skier Julia Mancuso did a little podium dance and jingled her two Olympic silver medals as if to tease a welcome-home party of several thousand gathered today at Northstar ski resort.

“I want to show you something,” she said on the stage at the village ice rink and then raised her arms to show off an Olympic medal dangling from each hand. “I’ve got three Olympic medals, one gold and two silver. And it all came from skiing every day here at Squaw Valley



Julia Mancuso
Photo/John
David
Mercer/US
Presswire

and the mountains.”

Read the whole game

EDC wants old gas mowers

The 14th Annual Mow Down event where El Dorado County residents are eligible to trade in their old gasoline mower and purchase a reduced-priced cordless mower is March 27.

First come, first served registrations for the new rechargeable mowers is March 17 beginning at 11am by clicking [here](#) or by calling 888.742.7683.