Snippets about Lake Tahoe

â€¢ David Anderson won the Tahoe Writers Works flash fiction contest for with his piece “Sweet Chariot.” His short story will be printed in â€œEDGE Vol. 5â€ to be published in 2011.

â€¢ Steve Weissinger is in trouble with the law again. He will be in court in Minden on April 12 to face drunken driving charges after being arrested earlier this month. The Carson Valley Chamber of Commerce president-elect in 2003 pleaded no contest to taking $100 from the Raleyâ€™s in South Lake Tahoe where he worked. He was on the Douglas County Commission at that time.

â€¢ Tracy Mimmo of Peppermill Casino in Reno is slated to leave that post in March to take over as general manager of Red Hawk Indian casino in Shingle Springs.

â€¢ B Gorman, president and CEO of the Lake Tahoe South Shore Chamber of Commerce, was among 31 chamber executives to graduate this month from the Western Association of Chamber Executives.

â€¢ A Verizon wireless store is moving into the old Re/Max building in South Lake Tahoe.

Senator: Water is jobs

By Dianne Feinstiein

This is a make-or-break moment for California’s agricultural economy.

After three years of drought, winter storms have boosted storage capacity at key reservoirs and replenished the Sierra Nevada snowpack to between 90 and 129 percent of average.

Yet hundreds of family-owned farms in the Central Valley still don’t know if they’ll be able to plant, hire and harvest this year because they may not get sufficient water allocations. Thousands of farm industry workers could again be standing in food lines in towns with



Dianne Feinstein

unemployment rates as high as 40 percent.

Read the whole story

Guided TRT through-hike sign

ups

Join the Tahoe Rim Trail Association for the 10th Annual Through Hike on the 165-mile Tahoe Rim Trail.

This 15-day backpacking trip will begin July 24 or 25 and end Aug. 7 or 8.

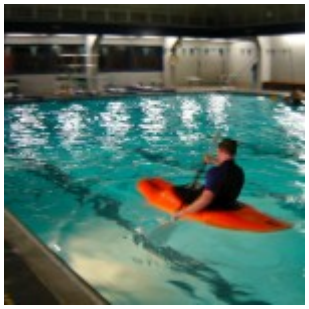
There will be two groups of 15 people, and each group will have two or three experienced guides.

One thing that sets this backpacking trip apart from others is the support. Your support comes from â€œTrail Angelsâ€ who appear every one to three days with food, fuel and water. Trail Angels also reward you with cold beer, warm pizza and lots of other scrumptious treats along the way.

This event is also the TRTAâ€™s largest fundraising effort, and the $1,750 from each participant directly contributes to the education, outreach and programs that are offered each year.

Space is limited. Registration is now available here. For more information or questions, call Emily Williams at (775) 298.0231 or email emilyw@tahoerimtrail.org.

Drop-in Kayak Roll classes



Drop-in Kayak Roll sessions run March 19-May 7 from 6:30-8pm at the South Lake Tahoe Recreation & Swim Pool Complex.

Enjoy the 80 degree water while you improve your rolling and paddling.

Cost is $5 per boater per date; you need your own kayak. Lifeguard is on the deck.

Program is co-sponsored by Kayak Tahoe, (530) 544.2011. Call Kayak Tahoe in advance for instruction and availability of rentals.

If there is an interest, we will try to offer a one evening Introduction to Kayak Rolling class (date and cost TBD upon interest and instructor availability). Students must provide own kayak. Class emphasizes: equipment, paddling, bracing, rolling and rescues. Space limited.

For more info on Kayak Rolling and other activities at the South Lake Tahoe Recreation & Swim Pool Complex, drop by 1180 Rufus Allen Blvd. South Lake Tahoe, call (530) 542.6056, or click here.

Little-known vehicle law costing drivers money, points

By Kathryn Reed

Drivers failing to slow down or move into an unoccupied lane when emergency vehicles are on the shoulder with lights on could face a hefty fine and several points on their record.

“Move-Over” is the law in 48 states, including California and Nevada.



Not slowing down when an officer has his lights on could be costly.

The problem is not many people know about it.

It’ been on the books in California for several years, but was set to expire Dec. 31, 2009. Lawmakers renewed the bill and included Caltrans workers in the language. Nevada has had the law for about six years.

Although every state has different nuances to the regulations, the gist is drivers must go into the left lane when there is one and it’s safe, or slow down while passing emergency vehicles with lights on.

In Nevada, it’s the law on all roads. In California, it’s just on freeways. In the greater Lake Tahoe area that would be west of Fresh Pond to Placerville on Highway 50 and then outside of Placerville headed west. All of Interstate 80 would be subject to this law.

It’s not just all law enforcement vehicles with lights on – fire trucks, ambulances, and the amber lights of tow trucks and highway workers count, too.

“Primarily the reason why it was adopted in our state and other states is because officers were struck and killed doing their job,” Nevada Highway Patrol Trooper Chuck Allen said. “You have to reduce your speed to less than what is posted.

There is nothing more irritating than walking back to the patrol car and a vehicle zooms by and there is a free travel lane.”

Fines vary in different jurisdictions, but law enforcement contacted by *Lake Tahoe News* said to expect to pay several hundred dollars and have multiple points on your driving record if caught not slowing down or moving over.

Officers recognize that it can be difficult to catch people in the act because they are working a stop and because the slowing down part is subjective.

Lt. Tim Malone with the California Highway Patrol said it’s easy enough for officers to radio a colleague about a driver who has violated the law.

“I can’t tell you how many times our cars have been hit while parked,” Malone said.

Lt. Les Lovell with the El Dorado County Sheriff’s Department is in favor having California’s law more stringent like Nevada’s.

“The reality is I think it should be applied to every thoroughfare. This is a good public safety law that keeps people from being injured,” Lovell said.

For more information about Move Over, click here.

Nevada wildlife officials

want $1 mil. to fight conflicts

By Jeff Delong, Reno Gazette-Journal

Nevada wildlife officials are preparing a $1 million-plus proposal to respond to growing conflicts between people and wildlife but acknowledge the stateâ€™s budget woes could mean the idea is dead on arrival.

Bears are continuing to raid garbage and break into homes. Coyotes carry off pets. Raccoons make themselves a mask-faced nuisance. All are situations that have people asking for help that often isnâ€™t available, said Rob Buonamici, chief game warden for the Nevada Department of Wildlife.

Read the whole story

Bay Area developer with ties to NV casinos raided by feds

By John Simerman, Josh Richman, Robert Salonga and Lisa Vorderbrueggen, Contra Costa Times

CONCORD â€” Federal agents raided the headquarters of the Seeno family development empire Thursday, hauling out stacks of documents from two office buildings at the heart of a 70-year-old home-building dynasty that has shaped much of East Bay suburbia.

About 30 agents from the FBI, the Internal Revenue Service criminal investigation division and the U.S. Secret Service

served search warrants about 8 a.m. at the offices of Discovery Builders and the Albert D. Seeno Construction Co., both in the 4000 block of Port Chicago Highway.

Outside, an FBI spokesman declined to discuss the nature of the probe or what type of records the agents sought, but said they made no arrests. The IRS often joins in investigations

that involve possible financial crimes, said spokesman Joseph Schadler. He said he could not say why the Secret Service was involved. Secret Service officials acknowledged assisting in the raid but referred questions back to the FBI.

Read the whole story

Water agency threesome alleged in court documents

By Denny Walsh, Sacramento Bee

Threatened with the loss of her job, the former administrative manager of the El Dorado County Water Agency entered into a long-term sexual relationship with her boss, former agency General Manager William T. Hetland, the woman claims in a lawsuit filed Friday in Sacramento federal court.

The relationship evolved into three-way sex, commonly referred to as a mÃ©nage a trois, involving Cathy A. Monaghan, her husband Daniel E. Monaghan II, and Hetland, Monaghan alleges in the suit filed on her behalf by civil rights attorney Johnny Griffin III.

Read the whole story

Nevada casinos post annual loss – only second time in history

By Cy Ryan, Las Vegas Sun

CARSON CITY â€“ For only the second time, Nevada casinos posted a loss â€“ but this time it was the biggest.

The state Gaming Control Board today released its â€œGaming Abstractâ€ for fiscal year 2009, which ended June 30, showing a net loss of $6.7 billion among the 260 major casinos in Nevada.

Clubs along the Las Vegas Strip, which makes up 53 percent of the gambling revenue in Nevada, registered a $4.1 billion loss. The only bright spot, from a financial standpoint, was that people drank more. Sales of booze rose by 2.5 percent while revenue tied to casinos, rooms and food dropped. But 36 percent were recorded as â€œcompâ€ drinks.

Read the whole story

Learn about trout and fly fishing

On March 4 at 6pm Jenny Hatch, program manager of the Northern Sierra Regional Cal/Trout Organization, will provide an in-

depth look at the condition of native trout throughout the region.

Then Victor Babbitt of Tahoe Fly Fishing will give a fly tying demonstration and ask for public participation.

This event is free at Explore Tahoe in the Heavenly Village in South Lake Tahoe.

For more information, call (530) 542.4637.