STAR installation dinner

South Tahoe Association of Realtors Annual Installation & Awards Dinner:

Date: Jan. 8

Time: 6pm no host cocktail hour; 7pm buffet dinner

Where: Edgewood Tahoe

Special guest speaker: Jim Hamilton, C.A.R. Past President

Cost: $40 per person if paid by Jan. 5; $55 per person as of Jan. 6

Kollar appointed sheriff of El Dorado County

By Kathryn Reed

It took an hour of discussion today before Fred Kollar was appointed interim sheriff of El Dorado County.

Kollar, who was appointed undersheriff by Sheriff Neves when he took office, will fill out the rest of Neves' term. Neves' resignation is effective Dec. 26.



Fred Kollar

It was a 3-2 vote Dec. 10 to appoint Kollar. Supervisors Ray Nutting and Ron Briggs voted no.

“Bottomline, in times like these, we need continuity, and Kollar not only provides this continuity, but also has the proven leadership skills to move forward during this time of transition,” Supervisor Norma Santiago told Lake Tahoe News.

Kollar has worked both sides of the county. He lived in South Lake Tahoe for a number of years.

One of the strengths he brings is familiarity with budget issues – which is needed in these economic times.

Kollar also is not running for sheriff.

The primary is in June. Candidates cannot officially declare until next year, but seven people have expressed interest in the job. If no one wins the primary outright, the runoff will be in November.

Burn ban in Truckee Meadows

Nasty air in the Truckee Meadows has prompted Washoe County officials to ban the use of wood stoves and fireplaces.

The last time officials issued such a burn ban was in 1994.

People with breathing problems are advised to stay indoors. Strenuous outdoor activity is also being frowned upon in that area.

More information can be obtained by calling (775) 785.4110.

USFS Federal Advisory Committee meeting

Lake Tahoe Basin Federal Advisory Committee (LTFAC) is scheduled to meet from 1-4pm Dec. 14 at the U.S. Forest Service, Emerald Bay Room, 35 College Drive, South Lake Tahoe.

LTFAC will address issues related to federal activities at Lake Tahoe. Items on the agenda include: aquatic invasive species management; environmental improvement plan update; forest management on the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, and public comment.

For more information on the Lake Tahoe Federal Advisory Committee, visit the Forest Service website at http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/ltbmu/.

Attorney faces new court test to represent Nancy Garrido

By Sam Stanton, Sacramento Bee

It all began with a couple of slugs of Jack Daniel’s whiskey on a leisurely Friday afternoon.

The bar tab at the Cold Springs Golf and Country Club came to $10.50, Gilbert Maines says, and he has sworn statements from the bartender and another club member that he was never drunk, loud or out of line.

But the events of that day, the Friday before Halloween, so far have overshadowed the pending court case against Phillip and Nancy Garrido, the accused kidnappers of Jaycee Lee Dugard.

Read the whole story

Idea for helping Coats for Kids program

From an avid *Lake Tahoe News* reader: “For those who want to help the Coats for Kids program, an ad last night on TV – Old Navy is selling fleece jackets for $5 Saturday only.Â Normally I wouldn’t suggest people go off the hill, but it may boost donations to this program.”

SMG tourism conference

Technology has impacted tourism marketing in a multitude of ways, inherently changing the marketing landscape. Tourism executives need to stay informed and understand how these

changes affect their marketing strategies, and how using technology can positively impact their bottom line.

The SMG Tourism,Technology + Marketing Workshop will provide hands-on sessions ranging from social media to SEO basics. With two different tracks, for beginners and more advanced technology users, the workshop will provide valuable basics for those unfamiliar with online

technologies, as well as more advanced strategies for those who are already implementing online marketing programs.

For more information, including speakers, agenda, registration and more, visit www.smgtourismtechnologymarketing.com.

When: March 17, 2010

Where: Embassy Suites, South Lake Tahoe

Time: 8:30am-2:30pm

Nevada gaming revenue slump continues

There is no bright spot in the figures released today

by the Nevada Gaming Control Board regardng October’s gaming revenue.

Stateline casinos saw a drop of 24 percent from October 2008 compared to October 2009.

Statewide, casinos won about $800 million from gamblers in October, down 11.6 percent from a year ago.

This is the 22nd month in row Nevada casinos have recorded a year-over-year decline.

October revenues dropped more than 10 percent on the Las Vegas Strip, 16 percent in Reno and downtown Las Vegas, and 19 percent in Laughlin.

Olympic pipe dreams

By Hayley Mick, Globe and Mail

Halfpipe snowboarding is not often associated with discretion. The sport's superstars have a reputation for being highly paid hotdoggers, and there is probably no group of athletes – with the possible exception of skateboarders – that takes more delight in videotaping and broadcasting their tricks.

Which is why the buildup to the first Olympic qualification event at Copper Mountain in Colorado this weekend is so remarkable – world-class snowboarders will finally have to reveal their hands after months of self-imposed secrecy.

Read the whole story

Lake Tahoe ski report, Dec. 11



This in from Alpine Meadows: Due to recent snow storms resulting in as much as 5 feet of accumulation, Alpine Meadows Ski Resort will open more terrain and chairlifts to skiers and snowboarders. Summit high speed express chairlift will open today for the season, offering access to the mountainâ€™s summit. Starting Dec. 11, Alpine Meadows will open additional chairlifts including Hot Wheels triple chair and Kangaroo double chair.

Read the full ski report to know what’s going on at all the resorts in Lake Tahoe – all of this brought to you by Curtis Fong, the Guy from Lake Tahoe.