

# Washoe County SWAT training today

The Washoe County Sheriff's Office is hosting the 2nd Annual Northern Nevada SWAT Challenge Oct. 2 at various locations in the community. The event is geared to building camaraderie and familiarizing our local SWAT team operators with each other and with their team capabilities.

SWAT Operator and Organizer Marc Bello explained in a statement, "Special Weapons and Tactics teams are called in to handle the most serious, high stress and often life threatening situations. It is important for our team operators to build rapport and confidence in each other before they are called out to a serious incident."

The events begin with SWAT training at the Regional Public Safety Training Center from 7:45 to 9:25am where the teams will suit up in the appropriate gear and go through numerous scenarios.

The second phase is fun team building opportunity where the team operators are put through an adventure type race with various mental and physical events such as "the mud crawl", "the card shoot", "rope agility course", "tire flip", "Yahtzee", and even a "Mystery Challenge".

These events take place from 11am to 3:30pm at various locations

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# Garrido's attorney speaks out after suspect sends letter to TV station

By KCRA.com

PLACERVILLE – Phillip Garrido's attorney broke her silence Thursday, outlining the sensitive nature of the case and her client's communication with KCRA 3.

Public Defender Susan Gellman had so far refused all requests for interviews about a case that's drawn worldwide attention.

Gellman's client is accused of kidnapping Jaycee Lee Dugard from her home near Lake Tahoe in 1991, then keeping her in a backyard compound and fathering two children with her.

[Read whole story](#)

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## Travails of owning a small business



Listen to Julie Threewit, CEO of Meyers-based The Appointment Biz, talk about the good and bad of being a small business owner in this economy. She will be on KTHO AM-590 ([www.kthoradio.com](http://www.kthoradio.com)) on Saturday at 10am and Monday at 6pm.

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# Will Giants veterans play Celebrity Golf one day?



Tim Lincecum  
pitches  
Thursday,  
while Rich  
Aurilia plays  
first for the  
Giants.  
Photo/Kathryn  
Reed

By Kathryn Reed

SAN FRANCISCO – Nostalgia filled AT&T ballpark Thursday afternoon as the San Francisco Giants wrapped up their last home game with a 7-3 win over the Diamondbacks.

The Rockies won too – they’ll be headed to the playoffs, while the Giants have spring training to look forward to when the season ends Sunday.

Yesterday it was Rich Aurilia who received the most applause – not for what he did this particular day, but for his career as a Giant. This is likely the 38-year-old’s last

season.

He is the only player on the team who was on the 2002 World Series squad. (Ironically, catcher Bengie Molina was on the winning Anaheim Angels at the time.)

Aurilia has always been one of my favorite Giants. He started in 1995 at shortstop. He left after the 2003 season, returning in 2007. His second stint saw him more in a backup role and often at first base.

It's hard to watch players age, lose a step, swing a bat a little slower. Through it all Aurilia showed class. He's one of those players you'd want your son or daughter to emulate " someone who demonstrates sportsmanship, someone never associated with steroids despite playing on the same team as the king of the steroid scandal.

I've been part of a season ticket group since the giants moved to their current ballpark in 2000. I was there for one of the World Series games seven years ago. I never get tired of going to this ballpark, watching the orange and black.

I remember one of Randy Johnson's first games in the National League. It looked like the pitcher had never swung a bat before. I was glad he was on the opposing team.

He didn't have to swing yesterday. All the 300-game winner had to do was get three outs in the top of the ninth. No problem. Not bad for a 46-year-old who just came off the disabled list. As a Giant this season, I was rooting for him as he hurled pitches against his former teammates.

This might be his last season, too.

Fans appropriately gave standing ovations to these two veterans, while at the same time giving just credit to winning pitcher Tim Lincecum whose stats are worthy of another Cy Young.

Perhaps as the veterans leave the sport of baseball, theyâ€™ll take up golf and one-day play the American Century Celebrity Golf Tournament at Edgewood Tahoe in Stateline.

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## **Bread & Broth 20th anniversary**

The Bread & Broth Program at St. Theresaâ€™s Church in South Lake Tahoe is observing its 20th anniversary of serving by celebrating its volunteers through the years with a special dinner Oct. 26 from 4-5:30pm in the Church Hall.

Every person who has volunteered their time to the program since it started in 1989 is invited to join other community members at the regularly scheduled Monday serving.

Along with the special invitation extended to the Bread & Broth volunteers, Mondayâ€™s meal is open to all members of the community, just as it has been every Monday at Grace Hall since 1989.

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## **Soroptimist looking for members**

Learn about the benefits of joining Soroptimist International of Tahoe Sierra during tea on Oct. 17 from 2-4pm at 3311 S. Upper Truckee Road in South Lake.

For more info, email [evelynyonker@gmail.com](mailto:evelynyonker@gmail.com).

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# Retreat with Venerable Sumati Marut

4th Annual Thanksgiving Retreat with Venerable Sumati Marut,  
"De Lam, Steps of the Path to Bliss"

WHERE: Zephyr Point Presbyterian Conference Center, 660  
Highway 50, Zephyr Cove, NV 89448

COST: Sliding Scale \$300-\$350

WHEN: 2pm Nov. 26 to 2pm Nov. 29

CONTACT: David Fishman, [davidbfishman@gmail.com](mailto:davidbfishman@gmail.com)

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## STPUD candidates square off

By Kathryn Reed



STATELINE — Eight of the 11 candidates for the South Tahoe Public Utility District board boasted about their expertise and reasons voters should elect them during a noon hour forum

Wednesday.

Soroptimist International of South Lake Tahoe gathered the group at Harveys to discuss water issues. Nearly 70 were in attendance to hear what the candidates had to say.

Jimmy Martin running for Seat 1 had an emergency that prevented him from attending, firefighter Scott Swift (Seat 5) had to work, and Eric Schafer (Seat 5) had former board member Chris Strohm sit in for him because he is out of the country.

Three seats are open on the Nov. 3 ballot, with all incumbents trying to retain their position.

Seat 1 pits incumbent Ernie Claudio against John Adamski, Chris Cefalu and Martin.

Seat 2 has incumbent Jim Jones challenged by Kenny Curtzwiler, John Runnels and Tod Williamson.

Seat 5 Schafer's domain, with Peggy Cocores and Swift wanting to unseat him.

All candidates were allowed to introduce themselves and then were asked the same questions before giving a short closing statement.

California mandated water meters and the Porter-Cologne Act, which requires wastewater to be shipped out of the basin, were wrapped into one question.

Seat 5 candidates went first, with Strohm (aka Schafer) passing.

Cocores worries about what it would cost to keep wastewater here and how difficult it would be to get the federal legislation changed. She recognizes meters are a reality residents are going to have to live with based on the state regs.

Jones pointed out exported water can be used for fire protection. He said public hearings are planned in the coming months to address rates as they relate to metered customers. "Eighty-two percent of the cost of providing water is fixed. It has to be paid for by everybody," Jones said.

Seat 2 candidates Runnels said it's necessary for the district to continue to look for grants to defer the expense of meters away from ratepayers. As the largest user of electrical power in the basin, Runnels said he'd like to see the district's wastewater converted into electricity. But he's also in favor of investigating if the water could be used for snowmaking and irrigation.

Williamson wants to ensure locals are not saddled with the meter bill, since right now second homeowners are subsidizing locals to a great extent because of the flat rate system. When it comes to recycled water, he is worried about what it would do to Lake Tahoe.

Curtzwiler said his rates doubled when a meter was put in. He wants to take the fight to Sacramento. He believes the treated water is so clean it should be used in the basin. He said to overturn the act "it will take a lot of tenacity and bull headedness, which I have."

Seat 1 candidate Adamski said the focus needs to be on upgrading the water system, not keeping gray water in the basin. He would also like to see that water turned into electricity. He said the district has known about the metering for a while, and that it will take a lot of work between STPUD and ratepayers to make it work.

"The district has the flexibility to set the rates to meet the needs of the community," Cefalu said in regards to meters. He likes how the wastewater is being sent to Alpine County.

Claudio talked about how the district has tried to get out of the meter regulations because of being in a Nevada watershed

instead of California. He is in favor of continuing to work on seeking an extension because of the short building season.

Salaries – that was the subject of the second question.

Claudio explained employee salaries were set based on surveys. “During the Angora Fire, firefighters never ran out of water because of the employees,” he said, pointing to their ability to do their job under pressure.

Cefalu said salaries will always be contentious in a down economy, and that there is a fine line between paying a person their worth and being overpaid.

Adamski is a former employee of STPUD who said, “It’s important not to overpay, but it’s more important to pay for experience. The district has more important issues than salaries.”

Curtzwiler explained the average compensation package is \$111,000.

Williamson also said it’s a fine line, adding, “You can’t bring in new people and pay them less and expect the same quality.”

Runnels said, “Salaries need to be reflective of the community, not the state.”

Jones is in favor of keeping salaries at a rate that will allow the district to recruit and retain qualified personnel.

Cocores recognizes nothing can be done about salaries now, but it’s the future that needs to be considered. “If salary increases cause rate increases, we need to look at it,” she said. “(Salaries) can’t be adjusted on the back of ratepayers.”

Strohm (Schafer) said the district is competing for employees with other agencies so it’s important to have competitive

salaries. "Eric is uniquely qualified with his CPA background," Strohm said of Schafe's ability to handle financial issues.

Another forum will be at the South Lake Tahoe Public Utility District office – 1275 Meadow Crest Drive, South Lake Tahoe on Oct. 6 from 6-9pm.

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## **Douglas Explorers 2nd overall at regional competition**



Cadets of Douglas County Sheriff's Office Explorer Post No. 2015 won numerous top honors at a Law Enforcement Explorer Cadet competition in Paso Robles Sept. 24-26.

The 10th Annual Central Coast Law Enforcement Explorer Competition hosted 521 law enforcement explorer cadets from 47 various law enforcement agencies throughout California and Nevada.

The competition was extremely demanding; testing the physical capabilities and operational expertise of competing Explorer Cadets.

The Explorer Cadets competed in a variety of law enforcement related scenarios, including: Felony Suspect Detainment and Arrest, Vehicle Traffic Enforcement Stops, DUI Investigations, Vehicle Searches, Building Searches, Domestic Violence Investigations, Suspect Interview and Interrogation, Emergency Medical Aid, Patrolling, and a host of other law enforcement

related tasks. Additionally, cadets competed in individual and team physical agility tests.

The Douglas County Sheriff's Explorer cadets garnered wins in the following categories:

1st Place: DUI Investigation

1st Place: Emergency Medical Aid

2nd Place: Obstacle Course

3rd Place: Building Searches

4th Place: Felony Stop/Investigation

4th Place: Hazardous Response

The Douglas County Sheriff's Explorer Cadets came in second place overall out of 47 competing teams; an outstanding achievement in light of an extremely competitive field of explorer teams, including teams from LAPD, CHP, and several other large California law enforcement agencies.

In addition to the competition awards won by the DCSO Explorers, DCSO Explorer Sgt. Brian Sanchez was selected as the top cadet, winning a \$2,000 academic scholarship and a new laptop computer.

The competition was the culmination of several months of training conducted with the explorers by DCSO Youth Service Deputies Chris Griffith and Teresa Duffy.

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# Schwarzenegger's office speaks out on water issues

**Publisher's Note:** *The following text is all from Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's staff.*

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger on Wednesday issued the following statement after U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar and Obama administration officials announced federal actions that will be taken to address California's water crisis:

“Californians are suffering from an extreme water crisis due to a three-year drought and two federal biological opinions that have shut off the water pumps to parched families, farmers and workers. (Wednesday's) announcement shows that the federal government recognizes the significance of California's water crisis and the role our farmers play in feeding the nation. I applaud Secretary Salazar and the Obama administration for calling upon the National Academy of Sciences for an independent review of the biological studies that put a tiny fish over hard working Californians and urge them to approve my request for a disaster declaration for Fresno County to relieve the suffering in the near-term.”

On Sept. 1, Schwarzenegger asked Salazar and U.S. Secretary of Commerce Gary Locke to take a second look at two recent biological opinions that protect threatened fish species in the Delta. Yesterday the governor's request was granted.

Salazar announced the departments of Interior and Commerce have agreed to have the National Academy of Sciences independently review the science used for these biological opinions to see if there are ways to provide greater flexibility for our water systems while protecting the environment.

It was also announced that six federal agencies have signed a

memorandum of understanding that reestablishes federal leadership on California Bay Delta issues, including active involvement in on-going state efforts, such as the Bay Delta Conservation Plan, to help provide an assured water supply while restoring the environmental integrity of the Bay Delta.

Schwarzenegger is committed to ensuring that California's farmers, ranchers and residents are protected from the most devastating effects of our three year drought. Some of the governor's most significant actions this year include:

• On Feb. 27, the governor proclaimed a state of emergency and ordered immediate action to manage and combat California's third consecutive year of drought.

• On June 19, the governor issued Executive Order S-11-09 authorizing funding under the California Disaster Assistance Act (CDAA) to provide temporary supplemental assistance to local governments and nonprofit organizations that provide food and other aid to those impacted by the drought statewide.

• On July 16, the Department of Finance approved nearly \$4 million in funding for the Department of Social Services to provide food for a minimum of five weeks to the drought victims in Fresno County.

• On July 21, the governor proclaimed a State of Emergency in Fresno County and directed Cal EMA to provide local government assistance under the authority of the CDAA.

• Beginning July 28, drought related food distribution centers were scheduled by the Fresno Food Bank for every first and third Thursdays in Huron, first and third Tuesdays in San Joaquin, second and fourth Fridays in Firebaugh, second and fourth Tuesdays in Mendota, and second and fourth Thursdays in Selma.

• On Aug. 24, the governor submitted California's appeal of the denial for a major disaster declaration due to severe

drought conditions in Fresno. The governor's original request dated June 19, was denied on July 24. FEMA's response to the appeal is still pending.