Stateline casino revenue drops, statewide it’s up

Gaming revenues were off by 2 percent in Stateline for November compared to 2012. But that’s an improvement over the 23 percent drop in October.

The South Shore casinos collected $17 million.

The Nevada Gaming Control Board on Monday said revenues increased 11.9 percent statewide for the month. Gamblers lost $875.9 million.

Revenue in Reno was up 17 percent or $43 million.

– Lake Tahoe News staff report

Olympic celebration at Sugar Pine Point

Ed Z’berg Sugar Pine Point State Park will host an Olympic Heritage Celebration Jan. 11-19 to honor the 1960 Games at Squaw Valley.

Opening ceremonies are set for 11:30am Jan. 11.

There will be a guided ski/snowshoe tour of Olympic trails.

On Jan. 18 from 10:30am-2pm there will be a ski-and-shoot biathlon on the same terrain Olympians competed on in 1960.

The events are free, but parking is $10.

Tahoe Tails – Adoptable Pets in South Lake Tahoe



Turbo

Orange cats are different from other cats. Some say they are three times as likely to be male, but the main difference is in their personalities – orange cats are frequently described as more friendly, goofy, and people-oriented than other cats. They love to sit on your lap and are happiest while you are petting them.

And Turbo fits this description. Plus, he is leash trained.

Turbo is 2 years old, neutered, microchipped, and vaccinated. He is at the El Dorado County Animal Services shelter in Meyers, along with many other dogs and cats who are waiting for their new homes.

Go online to see photos and descriptions of all pets at the shelter.

Call (530) 573.7925 for directions, hours, and other information on adopting a pet.

For spay-neuter assistance for South Tahoe residents, go

online.

—Karen Kuentz

SnowGlobe rocks South Lake Tahoe



SnowGlobe will be rocking South Lake Tahoe for three nights – Dec. 29-31. Photos/Kathryn Reed

By Kathryn Reed

Most SnowGlobers were bouncing to the music blasting from the speakers on Day 1 of the three-day South Lake Tahoe music festival, but plenty more were chilling in the warming tent.

A sea of bodies at the three stages moved to the music supplied by bands and disc jockeys. While the temperature felt warmer this year, more people were fully clothed than the last two years.

Inside the warming area the sounds from the main stage were crystal clear. People were sprawled on what is normally the turf of Lake Tahoe Community College's soccer field. A full bar warmed people in other ways. The only thing that could have made this more ideal would have been screens to see the action going on outside.

While the number of noise complaints is considerably less than the first year, the bass is louder than last year.

"There is considerably more bass and noise than last year," a resident of Pioneer Village told *Lake Tahoe News* at 4:15pm Sunday. The concert had started an hour earlier.

Bijou Park closed



Gibbz entertains the crowd at the main stage Dec. 29 at SnowGlobe in South Lake Tahoe.

"Like last year the park is utilized for SnowGlobe staff and equipment parking. South Tahoe Middle School is the nearest offsite parking for vehicles traveling to SnowGlobe.

> The park will reopen to the public on New Year's Day."
> —— *Lauren Thomaselli, South Lake Tahoe recreation manager*

"(The) first year was awful and very unnerving. We had pictures fall off the walls. Last year was better. We'll see what this year brings," the resident added.

About 15 noise complaints were filed with the city the first night.

"Sound monitoring is being conducted throughout the event. No violation of permissible sound limits has occurred thus far," Police Chief Brian Uhler told *Lake Tahoe News*.

It's likely the lack of snow contributed to the sound not being absorbed. Plus, as the wind shifted, the noise drifted.

But for those at the concert, other than it being difficult to have a conversation at times, the sound was what they came for.



Daniel Rave and Kati Green show some of the unique clothing worn at SnowGlobe.

Lisi McMadden came up from Santa Barbara for her first SnowGlobe – and her first trip in Lake Tahoe. She will be back the next two nights. She's already been snowboarding several days.

"My dad proposed to my mom in South Lake Tahoe. It's a beautiful, magical place," McMadden said.

She was waiting for Star Slinger to take the stage in the Sierra Tent. On New Year's Eve she is looking forward to Snoop Dog.

Miasam Oeli made the trek from Los Angeles for the second year in a row.

He was enjoying the Polish Ambassador.

"It's a relatable vibe," Oeli told *Lake Tahoe News*. He described the DJ as reggae with a funky feel.

The only thing he liked better last year was the snow. The snowpack this year has Oeli questioning where he'll hit the slopes while he's here.

Buddies Andrew Laufer and Alex Jasmund also came up from Southern California. Jasmund did some research on the lesser known acts so he would be familiar with them.

They are both looking forward to Kaskade, who will be the last act on the main stage tonight.

Single-day and three-day tickets were still being sold Sunday. The last two years the event sold out.

“I noticed many hotels still had vacancies, so my guess is the extra visitors for the event is critical to businesses,” Uhler said.

Editorial: Rain dances are not a winning water strategy

Publisher’s note: ***This editorial is from the Dec. 22, 2013, Fresno Bee.***

People are uttering the D-word again.

Sen. Dianne Feinstein, Rep. Jim Costa and many other lawmakers in the Democratic and Republican parties want Gov. Jerry Brown to declare a state drought emergency.

The first 10 months of 2013 were the driest on record in California, dating to 1895, according to the National Climatic Data Center.

That record follows two years of dry conditions, so several Northern California reservoirs are now at less than 40 percent of capacity, including Shasta and Oroville at 37 percent, and Folsom at 21 percent.

Read the whole story

2013 SnowGlobe

SnowGlobe 2013 returns to the ball fields next to Lake Tahoe Community College. The three-day event culminates New Year’s Eve.

NV Energy rates going up Jan. 1

By Madison Corney, KRNV-TV

NV Energy residential customers will see an increase on their monthly gas and electric bills Jan. 1.

In June 2013, NV Energy submitted a legally required electric and gas general rate case to the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada. Last week the rate case was approved.

Starting on Jan. 1 a typical residential electric customer will see about a 3 percent increase on their monthly statement, which comes to about $2.84. A typical gas customer will see about a 5 percent increase which comes to about $2.43.

Read the whole story

Sotheby’s giving back to community

Sierra Sotheby’s International Realty made donations to Sierra Nevada College of Incline Village and Mt. Tallac Continuation School in South Lake Tahoe.

Incline Village agent Terry Barbery established the Terry Barbery Scholarship Fund for deserving Sierra Nevada College students. The $1,000 scholarship will be applied to the student’s tuition and financial needs for the semester.

Future contributions from Barbery include 5 percent of his commission from every sale and 15 percent of his earnings from clients with ties to Sierra Nevada College.

Sierra Sotheby’s International Realty South Lake Tahoe agent Thane McCall makes his contribution to education in Lake Tahoe this season with $50 dollar gift certificates to each of the 56 students at Mt. Tallac High School. McCall also pays the students a personal visit at the high school and provides the students a party with homemade food. This is the second year of McCall’s donation to students of the school.

Sierra Sotheby’s International Realty is also accepting clothing donations for the Good Shepherd’s Clothes Closet, a Reno nonprofit that clothes the needy, through the beginning of the year. Go online for a list of most needed donation items. Donations may be made Sierra Sotheby’s International Realty locations in Squaw Valley, Incline Village, Zephyr Cove and South Lake Tahoe.

Flu strain hits young people, healthy adults hardest

By Cynthia H. Craft, Sacramento Bee

Just days after a Christmas Eve federal health advisory, a top public health official warned Friday of a sudden increase in local influenza activity, possibly led by a strong resurgence of a version of the virus behind the 2009 worldwide flu pandemic.

Olivia Kasirye, the Sacramento County's public health officer, said the viral strain known as influenza A pH1N1 is atypical because it tends to hit young people and healthy adults the hardest. In 2009, the H1N1 virus caused more illness in children and young adults, compared to older adults.

State and federal officials confirmed that the pH1N1 virus is the "predominant strain" circulating so far this season nationwide. Statewide, no influenza outbreaks have been reported to date and only local – as opposed to regional – cases have popped up, according to data collected by the state up to Dec. 14.

Read the whole story

Meeting to focus on Placer

County’s plans for Tahoe

Placer County will host a town hall meeting to gather public comment on the recently released Community Plan Policy Framework – a document that includes draft goals and guiding policies that will frame the Tahoe Basin Community Plan, and to provide North Shore residents with an update on the work Placer County has accomplished to date.

The meeting will be Jan. 29 at 6pm at the North Tahoe Event Center, 8318 North Lake Blvd., in Kings Beach.

The county is asking for feedback on the goals and guiding policies in the policy framework document. Comments received before Feb. 1 will be considered in preparation of the public review draft of the community plan policy document.

There will be additional opportunity for residents to comment on policies after publication of the draft Tahoe Basin Community Plan Policy document in the spring.

For more information, call Crystal Jacobsen at (530) 745.3000.