# Hockey season starts in S. Tahoe this week

Lake Tahoe Blue’s first home game is Oct. 4 at South Lake Tahoe Ice Arena.



South Tahoe hockey players prepare for the season that starts Oct. 4. Photo/AJ Marino

There will be 21 home games. Here is a copy of the schedule.

Lake Tahoe Blue will play their inaugural Junior A hockey season in South Tahoe as part of the Pacific Division of the Western Conference of the Western States Hockey League.

Season tickets are available by calling (530) 544.4625 or in person at the Ice Arena. Single game tickets will be available at the arena beginning Oct. 1 at 9am and also at the door one hour prior to each game.

Season ticket are $160 for adults, $112 for students with ID and $80 for kids under 10. Single game ticket prices are $10 for adults, $7 for students with ID and $5 for kids under age 10. Kids aged 2 and under are free.

# Snippets about Lake Tahoe



• Johnny Poland, convicted felon and former South Lake Tahoe police officer, will be able to keep his taxpayer-funded retirement – just not at the full rate.

• Floppy's on Kingsbury Grade has new owners – Zion Finck and Courtney Benvenuto. The grand reopening is Oct. 3 from 4:30-6:30pm.

• Truckee photographers and gallery owners Elizabeth and Olof Carmel have released their 2014 landscape photography calendars and Elizabeth Carmel photographic DVD.

• Tahoe National Forest has lifted its fire restrictions.

• There will be a meeting about incorporating Olympic Valley on Oct. 6 at 3pm at PlumpJack in the Squaw Valley Village.

# 3 speakers slated for Good Morning Truckee

Good Morning Truckee is a community forum presented by the Truckee Donner Chamber of Commerce to provide timely, relevant information on a variety of topics and create a networking opportunity.

The Oct. 8 7-8am event features Jack Thomassan talking about the 2014 HGTV Dream Home being built in Schaffer's Mill, Janet Phillips talking about the Tahoe-Pyramid Bikeway and Lisa Wallace speaking about the Truckee River Watershed Council.

The forum is to the public for a $10 fee, $8 for chamber members. It includes a continental breakfast at the Truckee Airport.

For more information, contact the chamber at (530)587.2757 or info@truckee.com.

---

# SAT scores reveal students not ready for college

**By Justin Doubleday, Chronicle of Higher Education**

Less than half of the students who took the SAT in 2013 are ready to succeed in postsecondary education, according to a report released on Thursday by the College Board, which owns the SAT.

Only 43 percent of the test takers this year met or exceeded the benchmark score of 1,550 out of a possible 2,400, the same proportion as last year.

Those who reach that number, according to the College Board, have a greater chance of attaining a B-minus average or higher during their first year of college and persisting to graduation. The mean score for 2013 was 1,498.

In a conference call with reporters on Tuesday, College Board

officials said the number of students reaching the benchmark score had remained virtually unchanged over the last five years. “We are just not moving the needle as aggressively as it needs to be moved,” said Cyndie Schmeiser, chief of assessments.

For more test takers to reach a score of 1,550, rigorous coursework will have to become more widely accessible, said David Coleman, president of the College Board.

Coleman plans to better align the SAT with the Common Core State Standards, which he helped write. They prescribe what students should learn, in English and mathematics, from kindergarten through high school. His proposal to make the essay portion of the SAT more analytical has been met by a mix of applause and apprehension.

The SAT results show that more must be done in elementary and secondary schools to prepare students for college and careers, Coleman said on Tuesday: “We at the College Board consider this a call for action.”

**Read the whole story**

---

# Free shuttle eases Apple Hill congestion

El Dorado Transit will operate the free Apple Hill Shuttle every Saturday and Sunday from Oct. 5-27 (weather permitting) between 10am and 5pm.

Parking for the shuttle services will be available at Schnell School in Placerville and the U.S. Forest Service Ranger

Station on Eight Mile Road in Camino.

For more information on the Apple Hill Shuttle, call (530) 642.5383.

---

# Man killed in motorcycle accident identified

**Updated: Sept. 30 8:45am**



El Dorado County search and rescue helped with the accident, including getting debris that was on the other side of the embankment. Photo/Provided

A 61-year-old Rancho Cordova man died Friday morning when the motorcycle he was riding drove head-on into a Jeep Liberty.

According to the California Highway Patrol, David White was going east on Highway 50 near Echo Summit when he crossed the double yellow line and hit the Jeep being driven by Arthur Schallock.

Shallock, 89, and his wife, Dona, 86, sustained minor injuries. The Sonoma couple was transported to Barton Memorial Hospital.

The cause of the accident is under investigation. Alcohol does not appear to be a factor.

*– Lake Tahoe News staff report*

---

# Stateline casinos do worse than rest of state

While the state gaming numbers were good in August, the same cannot be said for Stateline.

The Nevada Gaming Control Board on Monday said statewide winnings were up 11.2 percent in August compared to the prior year. On the South Shore they were down 2.7 percent. The state win was $955 million; Stateline was $21 million.

There was a time when August was the busiest month in the Lake Tahoe Basin. With schools starting before Labor Day, that has changed.

But that didn’t hurt Reno casinos this year where the win was 9.7 percent higher than a year ago for a total of $54 million.

*– Lake Tahoe News staff report*

---

# Early winter bookings follow strong summer tourist season

Lodging properties in 17 Western mountain resort destinations, including Lake Tahoe-Truckee, wrapped up the summer through August with a 5.5 percent increase in actual occupancy and a 6 percent increase for the past six months compared to 2012, according to the most recent data released by Denver-based DestiMetrics.

The results are through Aug. 31. The robust number of overnight visitors led to the record-breaking summer occupancy that surpassed prerecession figures.

As mountain destinations shift their focus to winter reservations and the ski season, bookings for the upcoming six months are continuing the summer's strength.

"At this early stage, winter bookings are pacing well ahead of last year and signs are pointing toward continued momentum, but we will be keeping an eye on economic and political news that can shift travel dynamics quickly," Ralf Garrison, director of DestiMetrics, said in a statement.

September is continuing the upward trend with on-the-books occupancy up 6.6 percent compared to last September and revenues up 13 percent for the month.

The economic indicators that may influence consumer travel behavior are the stock market, consumer confidence, unemployment, room rates and the price of airline tickets.

# Court commissioner seeks El Dorado judgeship

**By Kathryn Reed**

El Dorado County's lone court commissioner is running for Superior Court judge.

Dylan Sullivan, 47, started with the El Dorado County court system in September 2011 after having spent a number of years with the state Parole Board.

Judge Daniel Proud is retiring, thus creating the vacancy. The primary will be in June 2014, with a runoff in November if necessary.



Dylan Sullivan is running for El Dorado County Superior Court judge. Photo/Provided

"I encourage voters to spend some time looking at who has the capacity to make difficult decisions for the community because the decisions that come through the judicial branch go to the heart of what happens in everyday life," Sullivan told *Lake Tahoe News*. "It's important to have somebody in the judicial role who can look at facts, be unbiased and understand the dispute and give a fair proceeding."

As a court commissioner Sullivan does the work of a judge, but is officially a rung below that level. Plus, it is not an elected position.

Sullivan works in the South Lake Tahoe courthouse where she hears family law, Child Protective Services, unlawful detainers, traffic, and restraining order cases.

“It’s basically the tough cases – CPS, people getting kicked out of their homes, some domestic violence and some drug addiction,” Sullivan said.

She said her experience with the Parole Board has helped her with her current position, adding that this is a different side of what is often the same problem.

“Nothing in the courtroom is shocking,” Sullivan said. “It makes me want to work with community service providers to see how we can better deliver services. If we do a better job collectively upfront to work with families to get through a crisis better, we are better off as a community because less people will be depending on government and more will be able to contribute and be able to live without abuses and dysfunctions.”

Outside of work Sullivan also gives back. She is a member of the El Dorado County Child Abuse Prevention Council, an advisory member to the board of the El Dorado County Big Brothers Big Sisters, on the committee for the Department of Justice’s local Safe Haven grant, a Kiwanis member, and volunteers as the Teen Court judge in South Lake Tahoe.

She also teaches judges in the state for the Committee on Judicial Education and Research.

It was that sense of wanting to give back that led Sullivan to go to law school.

Before getting into law Sullivan was in the medical field. She

earned a bachelor’s in physiology from UC Davis in 1988. She worked in a trauma center and then in medical sales when she was in her 20s. Corporate America is not where she wanted to be.

In 1997, she graduated from McGeorge School of Law with honors. She started in private practice doing civil litigation and criminal defense. From there she went to the Parole Board where she was a deputy commissioner.

Half the time at the parole board she conducted hearings to decide if someone should be granted parole. Mostly it was murderers she was dealing with. Sullivan also managed people who did the hearings, and worked at headquarters on policy and litigation.

When the commissioner position opened in El Dorado County she knew it would be the logical next step in her career – and a way to give back. Plus, she liked the idea of “the everyday give and take in the courtroom.”

Of the eight Superior Court judges in El Dorado County there is one woman. If Sullivan were elected, she would bring the percentage to 25, still below the state average where 33 percent of the bench is female.

She’s worked in a male dominated field her whole career. Plus, she’s already an integral part of the court dynamics. She doesn’t see how things like gender have any bearing on one’s ability to do a job.

“As judges we are people and we bring who we are,” Sullivan said. “We learn how to put our personal ideas about life at the door so we can objectively evaluate the facts and apply it to the law.”

The only downside Sullivan sees in being elected is the position is on the West Slope, so it would make sense to move from Tahoe to the other side of the county. She enjoys calling

Tahoe home – taking advantage of the hiking and playing in the snow. But she knows she can always make the short drive to Tahoe to play on her day off.

---

# Tahoe Tails – Adoptable Pets in South Lake Tahoe



Aslan

Aslan is a beautiful orange long-haired boy who is about 6 years old.

He is very affectionate with people and doesn't mind other well-mannered cats. Aslan is declawed on his front paws, so he needs an indoor only home.

Aslan is 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.

*— Karen Kuentz*