# Calif. lawmaker lobbies for scaled down water bond

**By Barry Eberling, Fairfield Daily Republic**

State Sen. Lois Wolk has proposed a $5.6 billion state water bond, one that includes no money for the controversial proposal to build twin tunnels to take water exports under the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

Instead, Wolk, D-Vacaville, proposes to spend $1.5 billion on safe drinking water projects, $1.8 billion on water quality and watershed projects, $1.3 billion on flood control and $1 billion for water system operations improvements such as groundwater storage and recycled water storage.

Senate Bill 42 prohibits using bond money to build or do mitigation for a new water conveyance project.

Wolk wants this $5.6 billion bond to replace the $11 billion state water bond scheduled to go before voters in 2014. The state Legislature agreed to that $11 billion bond measure in 2009.

But Wolk has long criticized the 2009 bond measure, saying items got added by the Legislature in the middle of the night to win passage. It has such items as $3 million for a Lake Tahoe water taxi. Wolk last year said her bond proposal wouldn’t be a Christmas tree or bloated.

**Read the whole story**

# Incline ski resort to be site of hazmat drill

There will be a regional hazardous materials exercise taking place at Diamond Peak Ski Resort on Aug. 15.

The exercise will begin at 8am and last most of the day. The drill is being organized by the 92nd Civil Support Team from Las Vegas. Other entities participating will be the 9th Civil Support Team from Los Angeles, Placer County HAZMAT Team, Tahoe Douglas Bomb Squad, Washoe County Consolidated Bomb Squad, and North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District.

There will be a large number of emergency vehicles and military vehicles involved during the drill.

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# 5% containment of American Fire

The American Fire has burned 3,050 acres in a remote area of the Tahoe National Forest.

Smoke from it is drifting east and causing irritation for some people who live in the Lake Tahoe Basin, Truckee, Reno and other locales.

Officials this morning said moderate fire behavior was observed overnight, with the north end of the fire being most active. A defensive backfire used along Deadwood Road.

The fire that started Aug. 10 is 5 percent contained.

The cause remains unknown.

*– Lake Tahoe News staff report*

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# Californians use less electricity than rest of U.S.

**By Brad Plumer, Washington Post**

The average Californian uses about 33 percent less electricity at home than the average American in the rest of the country. That shouldn't be overly surprising, given the state's mild weather.

What is surprising, though, is that California's electricity use has basically stayed flat for the past four decades, in stark contrast with the rest of the United States.

Since 1960, household electricity use in the rest of the United States has more than tripled, climbing past 12,000 kWh per person on average (although it has plateaued of late). By contrast, in California, electricity use per capita doubled in the 1960s but then more or less stopped growing for the next four decades.

Why would that be? One popular theory is that California's particularly aggressive green policies should get credit. Back in the 1970s, the state began adopting stringent standards to promote energy-saving appliances and home insulation. Then, in 1982, California tweaked its utility regulations, in a policy known as "decoupling." Power companies would no longer get paid based on the number of electrons they sold. Instead, they'd have incentives to promote efficiency.

**Read the whole story**

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# Snippets about Lake Tahoe



• The Coalition to Protect Lake Tahoe has been formed to fight development in the basin. Members include the Sierra Club, Friends of the West Shore, Friends of Tahoe Vista, North Tahoe Citizen Action Alliance, North Tahoe Preservation Alliance, Washoe Meadows Community and Earthjustice.

• Nevadans will soon be able to have specialty license plates that benefit the Air Force Thunderbirds and Nevada Health Centers.

• After 55 years, the country's largest professional organization for physicians, the American Medical Association, will no longer publish its news magazine.

• Through October, Liberty Utilities will pay people $35 to pick up an old refrigerator. For more info, call 877.289.8260.

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# Incorporating town could thwart plans to add lodging,

# retail to Squaw Valley’s base

**By Ed Fletcher, Sacramento Bee**

Concerned by a major development proposal, a group of Squaw Valley activists say they have more than enough signatures needed to start the process of turning the tiny ski resort community into the new city of Olympic Valley.

The process is expected to cost in excess of $100,000 and take at least two years.



Owners of Squaw Valley want to further develop the base area. Photo/LTN file

“I don’t see big obstacles once we become a town,” said Fred Ilfeld, one of the lead proponents of cityhood.

Olympic Valley might be a small town, but it’s a community filled with people who have accomplished much in their lives, said Ilfeld. He did not foresee problems electing a capable council.

Incorporation is a response to the December 2011 announcement by Squaw Valley’s owners of a proposed phased development of 101.5 acres, adding more than 1,000 lodging units and 47,000 square feet of commercial space.

Squaw CEO Andy Wirth said while his organization doesn’t have

an official position on incorporation, he has concerns.

**Read the whole story**

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# ‘Good Girls Revolt’ details groundbreaking sex discrimination case against Newsweek

**By Kathryn Reed**

Where would women journalists be today if it weren’t for a group from *Newsweek* who decided to sue their bosses for discriminating against them?

That’s a hard question to answer. What is easier to discern is their lawsuit had a lasting impact on how men in newsrooms treat women.

“The Good Girls Revolt: How the Women of Newsweek Sued Their Bosses and Changed the Workplace” is a book by Lynn Povich that came out in 2012. She was one of the women who sued.

It was a long, arduous process that in March 1970 started with 46 staff members filing a complaint with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission saying they had routinely been discriminated against when it came to hiring and promotions.




Secretaries and researchers. That's about all women were good for, according to most men in that era.

Considering Katharine Graham was president of the company that owned *Newsweek*, one might think the women would have had an easier time. Not so. Povich said Graham asked which side she was supposed to be on.

It took multiple complaints to be filed for the culture to finally change in earnest.

A big sea change was when Povich in 1975 became the magazine's first female senior editor. But the fight wasn't over. When she found out her male colleagues were making more money, she fought for and won equal pay.

Pay equity in most every profession is still an issue between the genders – with women making pennies on the dollar compared to their male counterparts.

I remember in 1988 when I was hired as a reporter at the *Tahoe Daily Tribune* right out of college that I found out how much a male colleague was making – someone who was hired after me. I was making $7 an hour and the new guy $8.50. I confronted the managing editor at the time. He said he thought the new reporter had a family so he was getting paid more than me.

Being in my early 20s, I knew this wasn't right, but I didn't know what to do. If only there had been a "good girls revolt" at the *Trib* – I would have been part of it.

While it's still a male-dominated profession and one with plenty of testosterone, there are women on the mastheads of

magazines and newspapers like never before.

Still, the book points out how women – even at *Newsweek* – who as recently as 2007 were not on equal ground with the men.

Povich does an excellent job of crafting a story that, while historical in many ways, is relevant today. She interviewed dozens of people instead of merely relying on her memory. A nice addition is at the end of the book she gives a synopsis of where the key people are today.

"The Good Girls Revolt" is a must-read for any woman of any age who works as a journalist and for those who are concerned about equal rights among the sexes, especially in the workplace.

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# Editorial: Feds need to leave California alone

**Publisher's note: *This editorial is from the Aug. 5, 2013, Sacramento Bee.***

We Californians should overhaul our initiative system. We should update and perhaps scrap some initiatives California voters approved years ago.

Additionally, we Californians should take second looks at some of the environmental laws approved by past legislatures to make certain they make sense in 2013.

The operative words are "we Californians" – definitely not some United States senator from, of all places, Louisiana.

But as the *Los Angeles Times'* Evan Halper reported last week,

Sen. David Vitter, R-La., and Sen. Frank Lautenberg, D-N.J., reached a compromise before Lautenberg died in which the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency would gain more authority to regulate chemicals.

**Read the whole story**

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# ‘McConkey’ movie tickets on sale

The documentary film “McConkey” will go on the road this fall with one-night screenings in more than 20 locations, including a special film tour premiere in Shane McConkey’s hometown of Squaw Valley.

Tickets are on sale for the Oct. 5 5pm screening.

Attendees are advised to dress in warm clothes because it’s an outdoor venue. Blankets and chairs are welcome. After the movie, the night will be topped off with a live musical performance by a surprise guest artist. Tickets are $15. In the event of cancellation due to inclement weather, a backup screening will be scheduled indoors on Oct. 6 at Olympic Valley Lodge.

No outside alcohol will be permitted into either venue.

On Oct. 8, “McConkey” will be released for digital download and rental.

# Ride with pro cyclists to raise cash for regional trail

Cycling enthusiasts are invited to meet and ride with Tour de France champion Andy Schleck and cycling legends Jens Voigt and Frank Schleck at two events to show support for the Tahoe-Pyramid Bikeway and the Tour de Nez.

The athletes will be in the Tahoe-Reno area to train for the USA Pro Cycling Challenge in Aspen.

The cyclists will be at the old Reno Arch at the Siena hotel Aug. 15 from 8-9am. The ride departs the Siena at 9am and takes a scenic tour through Reno at a leisurely pace (15 mph) and concludes at Galena Market on Thomas Creek Road.

A donation of $25 for the ride and $100 for ride and photo opportunity is suggested and benefits the Tahoe-Pyramid Bikeway.

Advanced riders can go with the pros up Mt. Rose Highway.

On Aug. 16 at 9am will be a meet and greet the pros at the Homewood-West Shore Café parking lot; then a ride with the pros for the first 20 miles of their training ride.

A donation of $25 for the ride and $100 for ride and photo opportunity is suggested and benefits the Tahoe-Pyramid Bikeway.