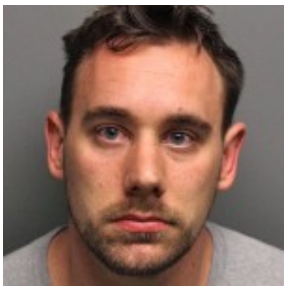
Placerville man accused of propositioning minor

A Placerville man was arrested by Placer County sheriff's detectives Monday night for allegedly communicating with a minor for sexual purposes.



Shawn Michael Roediger

Shawn Michael Roediger, 26, was arrested without incident in Placerville after he placed an online ad July 29 seeking a sexual relationship with a "young girl" who would be his "sex pet", according to deputies.

A sheriff's detective responded to the ad as a 13-year-old girl and they corresponded for one week.

Roediger faces charges of attempted lewd and lascivious acts with a child; communicating with a minor for purposes of committing a sexual act; and distributing harmful matter to a minor.

His bail was set at $100,000.

– Lake Tahoe News staff report

Truckee man reported missing



Eusebio Nunez

Eusebio Nunez, 49, of Truckee has not been seen since July 25 at 8:30am.

The local business owner was last seen leaving his home that Friday.

Nunez was seen wearing gray dress pants. He is Hispanic, 6-feet tall, weighing 175 pounds, with brown hair and brown eyes. He was driving a gray 2001 Honda CRV, California license plate 7BDN819.

Anyone who may have seen Nunez or his vehicle since July 25 is urged to contact the Placer County Sheriff's Office, at 530.581.6330 or 530.581.6321.

– Lake Tahoe News staff report

Record year for bear cubs at LTWC



Cinder is expected to have a full recovery after being rescued from a wildfire in Washington. Photos/LTWC

Lake Tahoe Wildlife Care is rehabbing a record number of bears this summer –11.

The latest bear was brought in Aug. 6 by California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

“This one is – they are fairly certain – the third cub of the two that we already received from the Paradise area,” Tom Millham with LTWC said.

The 11 cubs came from and/or are nicknamed:

Tahoe – from the Humboldt Redwoods State Park
Meyers – from Meyers
Conway (2) – from Conway Summit near Mono Lake
Bieber (2) – from Bieber on Highway 299 between Redding and Alturas
Paradise (now 3) – from Paradise
Brockway – from Brockway Summit
Cinder – from Washington state, burned in a fire in Methow,

Wash.



Cinder’s paws were burned in a fire.

Cinder came to the center via airplane in the last week. Its paws were burned in a wildland fire. Veterinarian Kevin Willitts used Furazone to help them heal.

Lake Tahoe Wildlife Care in a nonprofit that has existed for more than 30 years on the South Shore. It is the only facility in California that rehabilitates injured or orphaned cubs. Most of the animals are returned to the wild.

The center hopes to move into a new, larger facility next year off Al Tahoe Boulevard. Currently, animals are cared for in cages in the Millhams’ backyard.

For more info about LTWC, go online.

– Lake Tahoe News staff report

Milfoil found at mouth of Upper Truckee River

Eurasian watermilfoil has been found in the Upper Truckee River near its outlet to Lake Tahoe.

The 1- to 2-foot wide by 50 yard infestation was discovered by an Eyes on the Lake volunteer. Eyes on the Lake is a collaborative effort of the Lake Tahoe Invasive Species Program.

According to the League to Save Lake Tahoe, “The infestation originates from a pipe that drains from the entrance road to the Tahoe Keys Marina. A piece of milfoil may have been rinsed from a boat and washed down the pipe or inadvertently introduced from a kayaker or rafter floating the river, where it lodged in the river bank and began to grow. Nutrient-rich stormwater running off the roads likely fed the invasive weed allowing it to flourish and spread more quickly.”

Volunteers organized by the League plan to remove the infestation this month.

Future of Regan Beach being

decided

South Lake Tahoe’s Parks and Recreation Commission is hosting an interactive workshop about the future of Regan Beach on Aug. 12 at 5:30 pm at Regan Beach.

The commission is asking community members to provide input on future improvements to Regan Beach.

For more information, contact Lauren Thomaselli at lthomaselli@cityofslt.us or 530.542.6197.

Trail race at Kirkwood, plus kids’ run

The 34th annual Kirkwood 5K/10K Adventure Trail Run is Aug. 30.

There are 1 mile and half mile fun runs for kids starting at 9am. The 5K and 10K will start after the fun run.

Tahoe Mountain Milers Running Club and Kirkwood Volunteer Fire Department present the races under special use permit from the U.S. Forest Service.

The 5K runners will loop through the neighborhood on paved road and cross a meadow with a short section of trail. The 10K runners will test their aerobic fitness on the adventure trail run. The course will follow Red Cliffs bike trail up the mountain behind the main lodge, cross under Chair 2 and wind down the mountain on dirt roads and single-track trails. The

half mile and one mile Kids Fun Runs will be on paved road.

Race registration forms are available at: CV Sports in Carson City; Kahle Community Park in Stateline; South Lake Tahoe Recreation Center; Eclipse Running and Reno Running Company in Reno; or by calling 775.588.2864, or go online. Pre-registered runners postmarked by Aug. 16 will be guaranteed a T-shirt.

Lahontan letters mandate Tahoe Keys Marina owners, employee comply with permit

By Kathryn Reed

Owners of the Tahoe Keys Marina and the general manager received certified letters this week from the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board putting them on notice that ongoing violations must end.

“The purpose of requiring the technical report from them is to get information from them relating to when the violations will be corrected and get information on why certain issues took a little longer than what may be considered normal to correct,” Eric Taxer with Lahontan told *Lake Tahoe News*.

The offenders have until Sept. 2 to respond to Lahontan in writing.

Letters were sent to Donna and Robert Krilich, Robert Krilich Jr., Jean Merkelbach and Robert Spinnato. The latter is the general manager whom Lahontan has been dealing with. None of them was available for comment.

Some of the issues relate to the July 22 inspection by Lahontan. But state inspectors were back out at the site July 28 only to find things had not been fixed or more issues had come up.

“Typically what we see is dischargers will fix things as expeditiously and practically as they can in a timely manner,” Taxer said.

The Tahoe Keys is not typical.

One thing Taxer observed was spilled anti-freeze on rocks that had not been cleaned up in the last 11 days. When he pointed this out to Spinnato, Spinnato ordered an employee to deal with it immediately.



Mulch has been placed by the CTC on the dirt, while the marina has added rock next to the parking lot driveway. Photo/LTN

One of the new issues for Lahontan is the illegal grading of vegetation, which is compounded by being so close to Lake Tahoe.

Representatives of the California Tahoe Conservancy were at the marina when Taxer and another Lahontan employee arrived July 28. CTC owns the land. They have placed mulch on the 11,000-square-feet and fiber rolled wattles to act as berms to prevent runoff from reaching the lake. They will be billing

the marina for this expense.

The creation of the illegal, unpermitted, unauthorized dirt parking lot on state property is part of Lahontan's latest report on the marina. This agency will be monitoring what goes on at the site.

CTC spokeswoman Victoria Ortiz told *Lake Tahoe News*, "We're still in talks about exactly how it will proceed, but we did receive a letter from TKM indicating their intention to rectify the situation as soon as possible. The fence will be replaced and the property that was graded will be revegetated at their expense in conformance with Conservancy and TRPA requirements."

Julie Regan, spokeswoman with Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, told *LTN*, "We are still working through our process internally but should have an indication as to whether to pursue a monetary violation within a week. The first priority was to get an approved site restoration plan, which we now have."

A California Highway Patrol officer was out inspecting the site and taking pictures this week, since it is state property. No one from the local CHP office returned calls.

South Lake Tahoe police officers have submitted a report to the El Dorado County District Attorneys Office for possible prosecution in regards to violating the city's grading ordinance.

It would be up to the Lahontan board of directors if fines were to be levied against the marina's owners. They could face a penalty of $10,000 per day for violating Lahontan's permit. The sewage pump would fall under that category.

The marina on Aug. 5 said the sewage pump is operational. It was not operating July 28 during Lahontan's last inspection.

The law is every marina on the California side must provide a

working pump every day for vessels to extract their sewage.

Officials with the South Lake Tahoe marina also face a potential civil liability of $1,000 per day for failing to provide the technical report that is due in early September.

Opinion: Laura’s Law is not the answer

By Joseph Bochner

With San Francisco, Los Angeles, Nevada, Yolo and Orange counties having implemented Laura’s Law (“LL”) – the newest of this state’s compulsory psychiatric treatment regimes – Placer County is set to become the sixth California jurisdiction to start court-ordered drugging of mental health patients. Promising to make our lives safer, cheaper and just-plain-more better, Placer County Supervisor Jennifer Montgomery wrote a recent opinion piece touting LL’s “voluntary” nature and sciency creds as an important “tool.” In almost Machiavellian fashion, elected local politicians will fulfill these promises the way pickpockets get at your wallet: by misdirecting attention.



Joseph Bochner

Dirge rather than fanfare accompanies this social engineering experiment. LL's namesake Laura Wilcox, a young mental health worker, died in 2001 after a madman shot her at her desk. Her distraught parents dedicated themselves to AB1421, a statute that on its face and via court order, permits county authorities to force psychiatric treatment on people labeled mental, but unwilling. Hence madness, crime, death, and sadness aren't inevitabilities of the human condition; authorities will identify at-risk individuals, intervene, and stop them before they offend. (Think: the PreCrime Unit in "Minority Report.")

Accusing the innocent

Of course, perfectly "sane" people commit substantially all crimes. Indeed, the most recent scientific study disproves any causal connection between crime and mental problems. In an upcoming publication, "How Often and How Consistently do Symptoms Directly Precede Criminal Behavior Among Offenders With Mental Illness?", researchers studying over 400 crimes and 143 offenders were unable to show any real link.

"When we hear about crimes committed by people with mental illness, they tend to be big headline-making crimes so they get stuck in people's heads," said lead researcher Jillian Peterson. "The vast majority of people with mental illness are not violent, not criminal and not dangerous." Translated: even if mental disorders went away entirely, the crime rate wouldn't change much. Though psychiatric cases are overrepresented in the criminal system, it's largely because they simply have nowhere else to go.

If diagnosed mental patients aren't dangerous, why does forced treatment seem to help? Prestidigitation provides the answer. Compulsory treatment has two parts: treatment and compulsion. Treatment seems to help; compulsion, not so much.

Tom Burns, researcher and professor at the University of

Oxford, helped write the UK's analogue to LL. He designed a study to tease out the differences between compulsion and treatment components, hoping that the compulsion he'd advocated would produce salutary results. It didn't.

Here's what he says of LL: "The evidence for the effect of AOT [assisted outpatient treatment] or Laura's law is inversely proportional to the scientific rigor with which it is collected. When biases are removed there is no evidence of effect. It is not really true that it has been proved to have effect in all the [American] states mentioned [by Supervisor Montgomery] – the effect of targeted services and the effect of the law are not distinguished. When they are the effect disappears. Good services work, compulsion adds nothing."

Treatment or cause?

While scientific evidence proves LL doesn't really work, Supervisor Montgomery tells the story of a relative of hers who refuses treatment and exemplifies the need for government-ordered intervention. Although it's just as irrelevant, for decades, along with my family, I successfully urged my own mother to accept psychiatric treatment (read: pills). For about 60 years now she's pretty consistently taken one or a cocktail of prescribed psychotropic medications. Now in her 80s, she's in a board and care home and getting county assistance. Did drugs make her better, and did they save public money? When common side effects come home to roost – known and profound effects like weight gain, diabetes, weird (and permanent) involuntary movements called "dyskinesia," brain shrinkage, and more, it's possible to speculate, but impossible to know. Long-term psychiactric studies usually span weeks or in rare instances a few years. Seeing my mom now after a lifetime of meds, I'm not sure if they helped, hindered or perhaps both (depending upon perspective).

Anecdotes are one thing, scientific study is another. Like me, science writer Robert Whitaker thought meds – really the only

state-of-the-art treatment for mental problems – could help in the long run. However, when Whitaker began researching psychiatric drugs in large populations over long time periods, he discovered a disturbing paradox: consistently, the more meds, the worse the long-term outcomes. Whitaker published his findings in "Anatomy of an Epidemic" (2010). His hypothesis that present "treatment" strategies may make matters worse deserves more rigorous scientific study. LL essentially legislates the status quo, rather than letting the science work itself out, beginning with truly voluntary doctor-patient relationships.

'We're from the government, and we're here to help'

If none of this sounds especially Machiavellian, consider counties that for decades have neglected mental health services are today the same ones championing LL's compulsory treatment regime. For the majority of people suffering severe mental disorders – often without housing, insurance or any visible means of support – mental health services simply aren't available. Tellingly, some reports suggest that Laura Wilcox's disturbed killer Scott Thorpe repeatedly tried to get psychiatric treatment; officials turned him away. There's something highly cynical and even shameful about denying services to mental health sufferers who cry out for help, only to compel such services if and when authorities see fit.

Inexplicably, the "we'll starve you until we think you need force-feeding" crowd insists that Laura's Law isn't really compulsory. They sugar-coat legal compulsion, lamely calling it "Assisted Outpatient Treatment." Supervisor Montgomery goes even further: "Laura's Law is voluntary," she writes.

The statute itself makes plain the true equation: "'Assisted outpatient treatment' shall be defined as categories of outpatient services that have been ordered by a court…." Cal. Welfare & Inst. Code § 5345 subd. (b).

If, like Supervisor Montgomery, you slept through high school civics, court orders are neither voluntary nor even assisted, they're imperative. LL says that defiance of a court order isn't necessarily contempt of court, but it also specifically mentions section 5150, California's involuntary commitment law. IOW, officials can put away people labeled mentally ill, and do all the time, usually on just the word of a psychiatrist or law enforcement.

(Make no mistake: when the government forces people into locked facilities against their will, they've been put away.) Faced with that, folks get all kinds of "voluntary." So accept any "assistance" ordered, or else.

Centuries ago, Machiavelli wrote a rather cynical little book advising a young prince how to govern without regard to ethics. Today, after decades of neglect, cuts in social services, and increasing onus on the "mentally ill," LL arrives as just another county government "tool." Are words what they mean, are results what they say? History will judge the matter harshly. With crime unaffected, causes and treatment uncertain, and little hope or help for the vast majority of those afflicted, critics may call Laura's Law Machiavellian. They'd be right but for two truths: Machiavelli was clever. And he knew what he was doing.

Joseph Bochner practices law in South Lake Tahoe and is an avid skier, licensed pilot and computer geek. A volunteer with the Sierra Nevada Alliance, he graduated from UC Berkeley with a political science degree and holds a juris doctor from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law.

Snippets about Lake Tahoe



• Ritz-Carlton, Lake Tahoe is hosting the Art of the Cocktail on Sept. 5 from 4-5pm. Participants will journey back to pre-Prohibition days when cocktails were the highlight and beer, wine and other beverages were not in fashion. This is part of the Autumn Food and Wine Festival. Tickets are $40.

• The Labor Day weekend outdoor art show has changed locations. It will be at South Tahoe Middle School on Aug. 30-Sept. 1, 10am-5pm. There are also art shows Aug. 7-10 at STMS, Aug. 15-17 at the American Legion in South Tahoe, and Aug. 22-24 at Round Hill Square.

• Tahoe Environmental Research Center has a new website.

• "Soils – Digging Up the Dirt on Soil" is an instructional video from the California Water Board about what people can do to change how stormwater leaves landscapes and how to be stewards of watersheds.

• Douglas County is looking for youth flag football players and adult coaches. Click here for more info.

LTN subscriber wins Giants tickets

Bob Sweatt of South Lake Tahoe is going to the Sept. 9 San Francisco Giants game thanks to *Lake Tahoe News*. The game is just two days after we celebrate our five-year anniversary.
The tickets are a gift from us to one of our supporters.

Sweatt has been a subscriber to *Lake Tahoe News* for several years.

“I love your news service and your willingness to put things in that are community related,” Sweatt said.

If you would like to become a supporter of *LTN*, please fill out the paid subscriber form. Subscribers have the opportunity to win tickets and other things. It is also a way to ensure Lake Tahoe’s only daily news source stays in business.