All things wildfire part of Tahoe expo

Local fire agencies are hosting a Wildfire Safety Expo on June 21 from noon to 3pm at the TJ Maxx parking lot in South Lake Tahoe.

The event will include information on creating a home evacuation plan, preparing for fire, creating defensible space around your property and more.

The Wildfire Safety Expo will provide fun for the entire family and special appearances by Smokey Bear and Lake Tahoe Humane Society's Hopeful Henry will be in attendance.

Participating agencies include: South Lake Tahoe Fire Department, Lake Valley Fire Protection District, U.S. Forest Service Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, CalFire, California Tahoe Conservancy, Lake Tahoe Master Gardeners, Tahoe Resource Conservation District, American Red Cross, El Dorado County Sheriff's Department, California Conservation Corps, Lake Tahoe Humane Society, and South Tahoe Public Utility District.

Foldable kayak demonstration at Kings Beach

The Oru kayak uses an origami-inspired design to transform from a compact box into a high-performance 12-foot boat.

The creative team behind the San Francisco-based startup will

be putting on an on-the-water demo at Kings Beach on June 14 from 11am to 2pm. The event is open to the public and attendees will be able to test paddle the kayak.

While it was originally conceived as an easily storable kayak for urban apartment dwellers, the applications for a folding boat are practically endless. The Oru kayak can be packed in the coat closet of a small apartment, stowed below deck on a sailboat for quick trips to shore, or kept in a car trunk for spur of the moment paddles. Paddlers can hike it through backcountry to remote waters, or check it as luggage on a commercial flight. It weighs 26 pounds.

Fundraiser benefits Tahoe Derby Dames

Tahoe Derby Dames is having a pancake breakfast fundraiser on June 29 from 8am-noon.

It is a pancake breakfast is at the American Legion in South Lake Tahoe.

The funds raised will support the South Shore roller derby team’s 2014 season. Cost is $8 for adults, $5 for kids.

For more info, go online.

Mark A. Smith – 1927-2014

By Robert D. Dávila, Sacramento Bee

Mark A. Smith, a world-class adventurer and 4×4 motorsports pioneer who organized the first gathering of Jeep owners for an off-road trek along the torturous Rubicon Trail over the Sierra Nevada, died June 9 at 87.

The cause was a stroke, said Pearse Umlauf, vice president of Jeep Jamboree USA.



Mark A. Smith

Mr. Smith was a legendary outdoorsman who was widely credited with launching 4×4 off-roading as a sport more than 60 years ago and popularizing Jeeps as recreational vehicles. After settling in Georgetown in 1951, he worked with the local Rotary Club on a plan to bring visitors to the rugged El Dorado County community for an outing in Jeeps to boost the economy.

In 1953, he launched the Jeepers Jamboree, which drew more than four dozen 4×4 vehicles and 155 revelers for camping and driving along the Rubicon Trail, an old wagon route between Georgetown and Lake Tahoe. Today, the annual event draws enthusiasts from all over the world in Jeep Wranglers – and Jeep-like Toyota Cruisers and British Land Rovers – that crawl over granite slabs and boulders to Rubicon Springs.

Read the whole story

Book details where farm-to-fork fell short

By Chris Macias, Sacramento Bee

The feel-good nature of farm-to-fork is hard to deny.

But imagine a time when tomatoes aren't grown every year, or a spring that passes with no strawberries at the downtown farmers market – all so secondary crops flourish and the area can retain the richest possible soils.

This sounds like sacrilege, but for Dan Barber, author of "The Third Plate: Field Notes on the Future of Food," (Penguin Press, $29.95, 496 pages) this scenario brings the farm-to-fork ethos to its proper fruition.

Despite the good intentions of farm-to-table, Barber writes that the movement "celebrates a kind cherry-picking of ingredients that are often ecologically demanding and expensive to grow. … It makes good agriculture difficult to sustain."

Barber knows what it is to be a locavore cheerleader, and he still is in many ways. Barber's the chef/co-owner of Blue Hill, a Michelin-starred New York City restaurant that's been tagged as "farm-to-table" for more than a decade. He also oversees Blue Hill at Stone Barns, an educational center and nonprofit farm in Pocantico Hills, N.Y. But he explores a much more nuanced take on farm-to-fork in "The Third Plate," one that challenges the movement for enabling farming practices that value consumerism over the best use of the land.

Read the whole story

Snippets about Lake Tahoe



• South Lake Tahoe author Todd Borg will discuss his 12th book of the Owen McKenna mystery series on July 30 at 6:30pm at the South Lake Tahoe Library, 1000 Rufus Allen Blvd. The book will be for sale and he will sign copies.

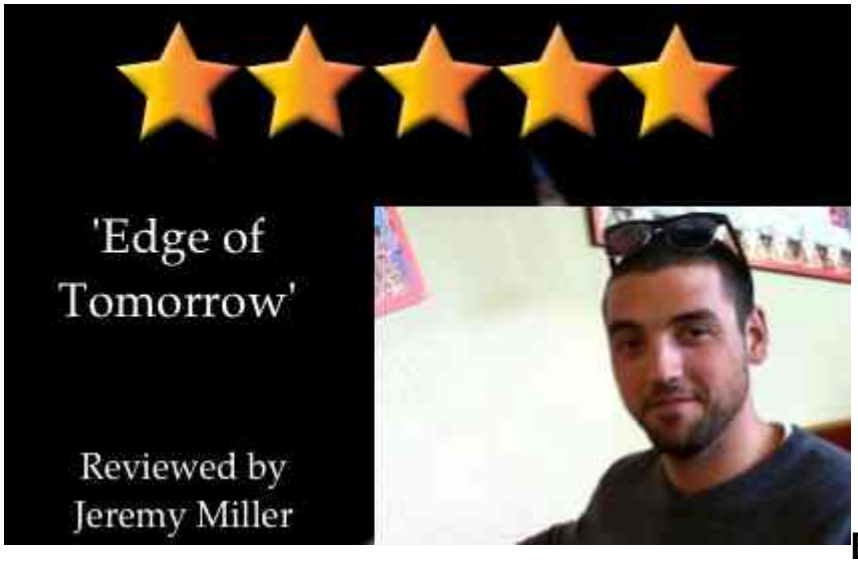
• The natives and adapted natives workshop will cover the importance of using natives and adapted natives while landscaping and what specific plants do best in Tahoe's climate. The free classes are from 5:30-6:30pm on July 21 at Lake Tahoe Community College Demonstration Garden in South Lake Tahoe and July 22 at the TERC Tahoe City Field Station.

• Lake Tahoe South Shore Chamber of Commerce's July 1 Tech Tuesday is Constant Contact. The 5-7pm class at the chamber's office in Stateline is free for members, $15 for non-members.

• Lake Tahoe Community College is offering a Spanish camp for kids in August. For more info, check out this flyer.

• Why do bad things seem to linger in our minds longer than the good things? Recent work suggests that negative thoughts are cognitively "stickier" than positive ones. This will be the subject of a July 17, 5:30-7pm talk at Sierra Nevada College in Incline Village. Cost is $5. For more info, email klpoole@ucdavis.edu.

‘Edge of Tomorrow’ – the summer blockbuster



By Jeremy Miller

“Edge of Tomorrow” is the first blowout blockbuster of the summer. It stars Tom Cruise, Emily Blunt, Bill Paxton and Brendan Gleeson.

Earth has been invaded by a relentless alien race referred to as “mimics” and they’re a seemingly undefeatable force. Man unites and wins one battle against them via superstar soldier Rita Vrataski (Blunt). With their recent victory, our armed forces decide to attack again in an all-out assault to end the war once and for all.

Maj. William Cage (Cruise) is a PR rep for the military, spinning the stories in the news to give society some hope that we’ve got a shot against them. He is called upon by Gen. Brigham (Gleeson) to give the people a first-hand depiction of battle by storming the front lines in combat. Of course Cage refuses, due to his lack of experience and even less courage, which of course doesn’t fly with the general.

Next thing he knows, Cage wakes up at an outpost preparing for battle. Unable to convince the cutthroat Master Sgt. Farell (Paxton) of his true identity, Cage winds up in an airship

heading to battle. He lands on the beach and has no clue how to use his weapon riddled mechanical suit and ends up dying within minutes; only to wake up once again at the base he was at earlier. He relives this several times; when finally he realizes that no matter what he does he relives that day over and over.

In battle he sees the heroic Rita and attempts to save her. After living the battle so many times he comes to know what's coming and ends up saving her life. She catches on to what's happening and tells him to find her when he wakes up.

Easier said than done.

Each time he wakes up again, he maneuvers himself through the day figuring out how he can land a conversation with the illustrious heroine. He finds that like him, she once relived the same day over and over, dying each time to wake up again at the beginning.



In order to outsmart the enemy they form an alliance and relive the day over and over getting closer to victory each time.

The plot of this flick is what really caught me. The story is edgy and more fun than I've had in a sci-fi flick in a long time. The dialogue was spot on, it never got cheesy, it never lost me, and it was complex enough to keep me focused without

totally spinning me out either. Tom Cruise made the movie. It's really nice to see him in his element again. He made the character totally believable and proved once again why he'll go down as one of the great action heroes of our time. Much of his power came from his co-star. Emily Blunt was the meat and potatoes of the story. She gave it the touches it needed to be perfect. She brought comfort, sex appeal and at times some much needed comic relief to an otherwise dark story. She played her part perfectly.

I loved that it never became solely about love, nor was it solely based on defeating the enemy. It was a perfect balance of comradery, desperation and love. One could expect that director Doug Liman would really pull out all the stops following his success with the "Bourne" franchise and he did exactly that. The special effects were mind blowing.

It was as if "Elysium" and "Battle LA" met, fell in love, and had a baby that grew to be a success its parents only dreamed of being. The cinematography was gripping and only a few times did it move too fast to follow. The battle scenes were adrenaline fueled and epic every single time.

Anytime an action movie has soldiers storming a beach I'm excited. There's just something about it. This one was great because we got to relive it a few times with different angles and more progress made each time. It's easy to assume that reliving the same day over and over again would get rote for an audience, but it never did, which is pretty impressive.

An absolutely killer cast with explosive chemistry, amazing special effects and battle sequences, perfect cinematography and a refreshingly original premise land this one a five on the Miller Meter.

South Lake Tahoe resident Jeremy Miller has more movie reviews online.

Bona Fide creating new works with old presses



Bona Fide HQ becomes a print shop twice a month. Photos/Kim Wyatt

By Liberty Zikos

MEYERS – It all started with the word “Handglovery” painted in black on a plain white wall. It’s a word that designers used in the past when creating new font or typeface, and ever since Kim Wyatt, owner and publisher of Bona Fide Books, put it up in her office last fall, special things have happened.

Bona Fide HQ’s atmosphere is inviting and peaceful, with shelves stocked with books and handmade zines and plenty of

comfortable seats covered in bright animal patterns. But these days a visitor's attention is more likely to be directed to the print shop.



Composing stick

Bona Fide Books is an independent press that started in 2009 and publishes three to four books a year. It's also home to the Center for Wayward Writers, a public space for creative people that is well used by local writers and artists.

By way of donations a print shop was born in summer 2013, when painter and Wyatt's friend Ken McNutt pulled up to the office and said, "You gotta look at this." Inside his car was a book press that he had rescued from a friend's barn. The compact piece of machinery was so heavy that it took two strong twentysomethings to wrestle it inside. But the timing was right. A monthly print club began with community members creating Christmas cards and later fine art. Now they are experimenting with wood block prints.

The arrival of the book press was followed closely by an etching press, and then a proof press was donated in January. It was used from the mid- to late 1950s at the *Tahoe Daily Tribune.* The proof press found its home at Bona Fide when Del Laine, who was once a columnist for the *Tribune*, donated it.

"When Kim showed interest in the hand presses it seemed that it was the home for it [the proof press]. We were happy to know that Kim had it and would be using it as much we had," Laine said. It wasn't just the space that compelled Laine to

entrust the proof press to Bona Fide. “The fact that Kim sees the value of the printing press shows the value that she brings to this community – more than just a printed page, but the crafted printed page.



Steve Robison at the letterpress.

Wyatt, whose great-grandmother was a typesetter for a West Virginia newspaper in the 1900s, started Bona Fide to promote new voices and to build community through storytelling. Although the space typically hosts writing workshops and art receptions, a new sort of creative expression has developed. Letterpress printer Steve Robison found his way to Bona Fide through his wife, Karen Cutter, a book arts artist. The couple moved from the Bay Area to be closer to their Meyers family, and Cutter dropped into Bona Fide one afternoon. After talking with Wyatt, she brought in her husband. Robison had his first printing press experience at 7 years old, and has been hooked ever since.

“I talked to Kim and said, ‘If you’re interested in equipment I can bring some up. Maybe we could create a little space for that.’ I told her I’d teach classes,” Robison said.

Bona Fide now hosts a twice-monthly book arts club led by

Cutter, and recently started offering letterpress classes taught by Robison.

Three of the seven presses date to the 1800s. Wyatt said she would welcome more.

In the age of information, what is the appeal of a heavy, time-consuming printing press?

“The presses, to me, represent the intersection of democracy, writing, and art —there’s nothing better,” said Wyatt, citing the long tradition of print to change the world. Johannes Gutenberg’s innovations in movable type and printing made information widely available to people of all social classes, and beyond borders.

“Those who embrace [the printing press] embrace a hands-on form of communication, one that has been replaced by fast communication,” Laine said. “The printing press takes time and it’s checked and rechecked before it hits the public. It’s a thoughtful form of communication.”

Many people are also seeking ways to build relationships away from social media and text messaging, and the community that has started gathering at Bona Fide wants connection — with materials and with each other. People come to Bona Fide to work with their hands, to learn a craft and also for camaraderie.



Ed and Del Laine’s proof press.

“It’s like the church of ink,” Wyatt said.

Robison believes the hands-on experience is part of the draw to letterpress printing. “When people get involved in the craft of it – I know for me it’s something I get lost in – the pressures of the day disappear.”

Bona Fide’s print shop gives people the chance to slow down and put some time into a well thought-out project while learning to set type.

“Letterpress is crisper, clearer. It has a tactile feel to it. It’s sort of otherworldly and like finding an artifact, and people are drawn to that,” Robison said. Drawing on problem solving abilities and creativity, the process requires attention to detail, and in the end you make something exceptional, one-of-a-kind. Robison says, “With letterpress you can see every single step of the way, and there’s no mystery at all. It’s just honest.”

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Notes:

• Bona Fide Books is located at 1069 Magua St., No. 4, Meyers.

• For more information about the Bona Fide print club, book arts club and letterpress class, go online or call 530.573.1513.

Liberty Zikos is a student at UNR working on her undergrad in English writing.

Letter: Bike donation helps Boys & Girls Club

To the community,

Thank you to One Medical Group for donating 15 bikes to the Boys and Girls Club of Lake Tahoe.

We were lucky enough to receive eight girls bikes and seven boys bikes with matching helmets. They are single-speed Huffy bikes.

We plan to utilize these during our summer program to teach the members bike safety and how to properly ride a bike as well as integrating them into our programs. Often during the summer months the members enjoy riding their bikes at the club, however many either do not have properly working bikes or do not have the ability to transport their bike to the club for the day. With this generous donation, more kids will be able to ride bikes at the club and develop proper bike riding skills and knowledge.

We would like to express our gratitude to One Medical Group for this generous donation, and for giving the youth of South Lake Tahoe this great opportunity.

Kelly Garrity, Boys & Girls Club

Snippets about Lake Tahoe



• Merry Gold, left, is one of many bands that will be playing at Heavenly Village for free this summer.

• Barton Ranch is on the June 12 South Lake Tahoe Planning Commission agenda. Staff is recommending indefinite postponement of the item so all sides can come to a resolution about the historic buildings near the Y.

• Lake Tahoe South Shore Chamber of Commerce is putting on a networking session for professionals at Base Camp Pizza in Heavenly Village on June 17 from noon-1pm. Cost is $15, which includes lunch. For more info, email searley@tahoechamber.org.

• South Lake Tahoe-based website Stepdadding.com has been added to VoiceBoks.com’s list of top step-parenting sites.

• South Lake Tahoe Police Canine Association is having a logo design contest for the September K-9 Trial. The deadline is July 18. For more info, email logo@sltpca.org.