# Snippets about Lake Tahoe



• The November issue of *Ski* magazine lists the 10 Best Mountains You've Never Skied and Probably Haven't Even Heard Of. *LTN* thinks people should get out more. Kirkwood and Mt. Rose are on that list.

• Do you want to see winter recreational activities offered at the Tahoe City Golf Course this winter? Then attend the Tahoe City Parks and Rec committee meeting Nov. 14 at 8am where a proposal will be presented from a concessionaire to offer winter recreation. This proposal will go to the full board Nov. 16 at 8:30am. For more info, call (530) 583.3440.

• Gov. Jerry Brown has appointed Jim Clark, Kris Hartnett and Robert Levy, all of Markleeville, to the 18th District Agricultural Association, Eastern Sierra Tri-Counties Fair Board.

• Expect many local, state and federal offices to be closed Nov. 12 in recognition of Veterans Day.

• Here are the Caltrans roadwork schedules for the Sierra and El Dorado-Tahoe for the coming week.

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# Fundraiser set to help

# Whittell athletic director

Red Hut is hosting a fundraiser for Whittell High School athletic director Kathy Bluethman.

Bluethman has stage 4 breast cancer. The goal is to raise $10,500 (not just at this one fundraiser) so she can receive specialized care at the University of Texas, MD Anderson Cancer Center. That is the down payment required.

The Red Hut on Ski Run Boulevard in South Lake Tahoe on Nov. 15 from 11am-8pm is offering a burger and chips for $10, with the money going toward Bluethman's care. Tickets may be bought at Whittell or South Tahoe high schools.

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# Comments being taken on draft EIR for Truckee CHP project

The Truckee Town Council on Dec. 19 will discuss the draft environmental impact report that has been prepared for the California Highway Patrol Communication Facilities Replacement Project.

The project would replace and upgrade the CHP telecommunications facilities at the Truckee area office on Highway 89. This is the communications hub that serves South Lake Tahoe, Truckee, Gold Rush and Donner Pass inspection facility as well as a portion of Sierra, Nevada, Placer, El Dorado and Alpine counties.

Right now the Truckee office only has one line to a CHP

facility out side the area. If the Donner beacon goes down or the microwave dish at the Truckee office is out, there is no way for the Truckee CHP office to communicate with the rest of California.

Here is a link to the draft EIR, which includes more specifics about what is being proposed. Comments are being taken until Dec. 21.

The town council meeting is at 6pm Dec. 19 in council chambers, 10183 Truckee Airport Road.

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# STHS students putting on 'White Christmas'

The ultimate Christmastime crowd pleaser show is taking place at the Viking Theatre at South Tahoe High School's Tahoe Arts and Design Academy – "White Christmas".

Shows are Dec. 7, 8, 14 an 15 at 7pm and Dec. 9 and 16 at 2pm.

The cast features student talent Alec Niven, Ben Eliot, Emily Dawes, Korrigan Zwijacz, Jessica Robberson and Emery Mulligan in the leading roles, plus more than 40 actors, singers and dancers in the musical chorus.

The show is directed by Liz Niven, with choreography by Marcia Sarosik, vocal music direction by Bob Grant, and sets by Drake Niven.

The production also features a full orchestra conducted by Casson Scowcroft, including students and professionals.

Tickets are $15 for general admission, $10 for senior citizens and $5 for students 18 years of age and younger. Tickets will go on sale after Thanksgiving. For more info, call (530) 541.4111, ext. 222.

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# Dog doo-doo fouling waterways

**By Clara Vaughn, Capital News Service**

When you fail to pick up after your pooch, you may be doing more than irking the next-door neighbors.

Studies conducted over more than a decade in watersheds across the state have found that pets produce up to one-third of bacterial pollution in waterways near developed areas. That’s right. Dog poop is the source of startling amounts of E. coli, Giardia, salmonella and other microscopic pathogens in local waters.

In extreme cases, 68 percent of bacterial pollution in the Severn River watershed of Maryland has been recorded as coming from pet waste. And a whopping 87 percent of bacterial pollution in the Magothy River’s Forked Creek tributary has been traced back to pets.

The findings come from more than 50 studies by the Maryland Department of the Environment and Salisbury University tracking waterborne bacteria back to its sources. Acting as poop sleuths, scientists have been able to determine whether waste came from humans, livestock, wildlife or pets based on a bacteria’s unique patterns of resistance to antibiotics.

That’s because different antibiotics are used to treat people and various animals, said Mark Frana, professor of biology at

Salisbury University, who has been involved with the studies since 1999.

“If fecal material gets into water systems, there’s an increased risk to human health,” Frana said.

In addition to carrying a host of disease-causing bacteria and parasites, untreated doggy doo is rich in nutrients that foster algae blooms and contribute to oxygen-depleted dead zones downstream, including the Chesapeake Bay.

So why don’t more people bag their dogs’ bunk? A 1999 study by the Center for Watershed Protection found that 41 percent of bay-area dog-owners rarely or never pick up after their pets.

Most people simply don’t make the connection between pet waste and water quality, said Suzanne Etgen, Watershed Stewards Academy Coordinator at the Arlington Echo Outdoor Education Center.

Etgen recently taught a Watersheds Steward Academy class on behavior change where she had her students survey their communities to find out why people don’t pick up after their dogs.

“Most people said that they do pick up their pet waste when they’re out in public, but not when the dogs are just in their backyard,” Etgen said. “People don’t really perceive that it’s that important when it’s just ‘poop in the woods.'”

But that waste is carried downstream during rainstorms and enters waterways as runoff or through storm drains. The influx of untreated dog logs contributes to spikes in overall bacteria after rainfall, often causing recreational areas to close.

After rainfall, all Anne Arundel County beaches are under a no swimming or water contact advisory for two days due to high bacteria levels.

“Wherever that waste lands, there’s a potential for it getting into water systems,” Frana said.

People like Carolyn Ricketts, a master watershed steward and graduate of the Chesapeake Bay Voices Program, are working to raise awareness of the problem of dogs’ unbagged bits in their local communities.

“Most people are not aware that pet feces contain such a high level of pathogens – bacteria that are not being treated. And it does impact our water systems, and eventually the Chesapeake Bay,” Ricketts said.

She and several other graduates of Etgen’s course are circulating flyers outlining the health risks of dog waste in Annapolis.

Waste disposal stations equipped with bags for picking up your pooch’s piles are also in the works, as is a mobile phone app mapping their locations in the city.

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# Then and now: From Park Avenue to Heavenly Way




Businesses along the old Park Avenue. Photo/Rich Jamieson



Heavenly Cinema on what is now Heavenly Way. Photo/Bill Kingman

Before it was renamed Heavenly Village Way, the photo to the left shows what was Park Avenue in the former Crescent V Center.

The 1968 photo shows a portion of the Crescent V Annex building. Through the years the annex housed a Greyhound bus depot, U.S. post office, Martha Washington's Ice Cream, Monk's Pizza, Stateline Cinema, El Pavo Mexican Restaurant, Jimmy Valentine's "Records" (later relocated and became The Dead Head), Jerry & Phyllis Gelb's Western Auto, a veterinary clinic, and KTHO, among other businesses.

Today, Heavenly Village Cinema entirely covers that site.

*– Bill Kingman*

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# Housing indicators in S. Tahoe following national trend

**By Theresa Souers**

According to the National Association of Realtors, the median sales prices increased in the third quarter compared to the same period last year in 120 of 149 metropolitan areas.

In fact, home prices rose in 81 percent of U.S. cities. While not quite there yet, South Lake Tahoe's home prices are showing signs of a similar trend.

When comparing the sales for the month of October 2012 to 2011, the median home price rose from $236,000 to $270,000 and the percent of sales to list price rose from 95.7 percent to 96.8 percent.

When looking at the average median home prices for South Lake Tahoe for the past 12 months (Nov. 1 – Oct. 31) there is an overall decrease in value from $285,000 in 2011 to $239,450 in 2012. However, the median home price for the past three months has steadily risen from $234,000 in August to the reported $239,450 at the end of October.

The National Association of Realtors also reported that foreclosures and short sales, in which the price is less than the mortgage balance, accounted for 23 percent of third-

quarter deals, down from 30 percent a year earlier. The numbers reported for South Tahoe again represent similar trends.

During the third quarter of 2012, distressed sales made up 39 percent of the overall purchases. This number is down from the 46 percent in the third quarter of 2011.

As of Oct. 31, there were 237 homes for sale in South Tahoe as compared to 408 the previous year.

*Theresa Souers is on the South Tahoe Association of Realtors board.*

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# Letter: Heavenly employees dish it up at Bread & Broth

**To the community,**

During the Oct. 15 Adopt A Day dinner, Heavenly's director of snow surfaces, Barrett Burghard expressed his thoughts on the evening's events: "It's an eye-opener to see the need in the community. Glad to have the opportunity to help."

Burghard, along with Jo Hearn, greeter/host supervisor; Jennifer Story, store manager at Embassy Suites; and Steve Turner, director of food and beverage made up the Heavenly Mountain Resort's AAD volunteer crew. Many of the Heavenly's crew members have volunteered frequently over the past year at the monthly AAD sponsorships hosted by Heavenly.

Heavenly is consistent with time and financial donations to B&B's Adopt a Day program. Bread & Broth is sincerely grateful for their commitment to providing healthy, tasty meals to those in need.

If your are interested in donating $250 to sponsor a Monday evening meal, contact me at (530) 542.2876 or carolsgerard@aol.com.

**Carol Gerard, Bread & Broth**

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# No uniform necessary to be affected by military service

**By Kathryn Reed**

It was 1942 and Irene Morris was going to junior college in Southern California. With books in hand, a woman about her mom's age told her she should be helping her country. The woman talked to Morris about the plant where parachutes were being made. As someone who had been sewing since she was 10, Morris knew she would be qualified.

Her first day on the job was that next day.

Morris made $1 an hour to look for errors in the stitching of those parachutes. By the time the war was over three years later, she was making $1.25 and had $800 in a savings account.



Scout Pack 592 members Zane Smith, from left, Noah Lyle and Jayden Degregory present the colors Nov. 8 at the start of the Soroptimist meeting. Photo/Kathryn Reed

From grandparents born in the United States who were sent to internment camps to a father-in-law being put on the front line ahead of his Caucasian comrades because of his Mexican heritage to having a husband who jumped out of planes in Afghanistan to render aid to injured soldiers, the women of South Lake Tahoe are well aware of the meaning of Veterans Day.

The Nov. 8 Soroptimist International Tahoe Sierra meeting was all about veterans.

Morris and Sue Jackson were the guest speakers. Jackson spoke of how she got interested in the military when she joined the Civil Air Patrol in high school in Woodland. Sitting on the tallest building – all two stories – they used binoculars to look for planes and logged all they saw by hand in a notebook.

While in nursing school at CSU Chico, she joined the Navy because the military would help with tuition. She was enlisted from 1958-62, spending two years in San Diego, but no time abroad.

Then everyone in the room decided to tell their stories about

how they have a connection to the military – most are through a male relative. Reflections brought forth tears, quivering voices and a sense of camaraderie in this impromptu morning of sharing.

Laurie Brazil's brother wanted to be a conscientious objector to the Vietnam War. It requires going before a tribunal of sorts. Their father had been an officer in the military. He had to speak at the hearing – saying he didn't believe in what his son was doing, but believed is was the correct thing for his son.

"It was heart-wrenching for everyone," Brazil said.

One woman's husband was on an aircraft carrier during the Korean War. He was supposed to catch the planes as they landed. It was tough when the planes that took-off never returned.

A half-brother was in the Marines during World War II. No word for months. Then suddenly he showed up at the front door for a two-week stay before returning to places unknown.

Growing up in Elko, going to Vietnam was the norm. One woman dated a boy who went to war.

"I don't know what happened to him. I never heard from him again," she said with sorrow in her voice.

Trudy Mills was a Navy pilot's wife.

"I remember the Navy chaplain's car would come in. Everyone would hold their breath to see where it would go," she recalled.

# STHS volleyball team snares state title

South Tahoe High School’s volleyball team became state champions on Nov. 10.

This video from KTVN-TV has highlights.

The Vikings beat Chaparral High in a contest played in Reno.