Library selling books to raise money

Friends of the Library book sale is Aug. 18 from 10am-3pm.

Members get in a 9am. Membership is $10.

The Friends are paying for many of the new book purchases, for the children's programs and special programs.

This is the only book sale of the summer. This is a "bag sale", so all the books, DVDs, and more that you can get into a paper bag will be yours for $10.

If you have something to donate, call (530) 544-0938, ext. 3 or drop them off at the county library on Rufus Allen Boulevard in South Lake Tahoe.

Tahoe-ites to compete in MMA fight at MontBleu

MontBleu is teaming up with the WFC World Fighting Championships to present MMA at the Lake on Aug. 18.

It will feature 10 amateur MMA fights at the Stateline casino.

Doors open at 7pm, fights start at 8pm.

WFC will showcase the up and coming talent of local and regional amateur MMA fighters. Headlining the show will be South Lake Tahoe's own Ryan McCarthy. McCarthy is coming off a

string of victories, including a title win over Sean Shamrock, the son of UFC Legend, Ken Shamrock.

In a special attraction, JJ Torres, the son of local World Champion Juan Torres, will be making his MMA debut in the same theater as his dad fought in in 1995.

The Torres family called South Lake Tahoe home for more than 20 years, where they groomed three World Champions: Hector, Alejandro, and JJ's father, Juan.

Also featured at MMA at the Lak are locals Cris Montenegro, Chris Cocores and Leo Rodelo.

Tickets start at $25 and are available by calling 888.829.7630. This show is all ages.

Snippets about Lake Tahoe



• Squaw Valley President and CEO Andy Wirth received the honor of the Chairman's Outstanding Service Award from the Reno-Tahoe Airport Authority board of trustees.

• Secret Cove on the Nevada side of Lake Tahoe is listed as one of the top 20 awe-inspiring U.S. beaches by SmartTravel.

• John Preston, 62, of Shingle Springs has been appointed by Gov. Jerry Brown to the California Board of Psychology.

• The annual Oscar de la Renta fashion show fundraiser for the League to Save Lake Tahoe raised a half million dollars for the group. The show moved to Incline Village after controversy arose over the former site in Tahoe City.

• Preschool Storytime is a fun-filled half hour of stories, games and crafts suitable for ages 3-5 on Sept. 14, Sept. 21 and Sept. 28 at 11am at the South Lake Tahoe branch library, 1000 Rufus Allen Blvd.

Lakeview Commons – proving South Shore has spunk

Live at Lakeview returns today with another free concert at Lakeview Commons in South Lake Tahoe starting at 4pm.

More boats keep showing up, so organizers have a speaker just for them.

While cigarette and marijuana smoke have been problematic, the air was more the traditional mountain freshness last week. Many who were told this is a non-smoking event extinguished their smoke and took their butts with them.

A mix of locals and tourists sway to the various bands breathing life into the South Shore. Bring food or buy it there. Bike valet is free.

– Lake Tahoe News staff report



Estimates are more than 1,000 attend the Thursday concerts.



Plenty of ways to stay cool at Lakeview Commons every Thursday night. Photos/Kathryn Reed



Rules to follow.

Norah Jones serenades Harveys with range of tunes

By Susan Wood

STATELINE – From the moment she walked onto the stage filled with suspended seagulls and began her concert wearing cowboy boots and a bright, strapless dress, it became clear that Norah Jones would not be pigeonholed as an artist.

The singer, musician – who entertained a crowd of more than 4,000 Sunday night at the Harveys outdoor arena for the Lake Tahoe Summer Concert Series – allowed many songs off her new album "Little Broken Hearts" to dominate the performance.

She launched the concert with a slow, haunting "She's 22," which asks the listener: "Does she make you happy," when she's "so blue?" The mood set the stage for the rest of the evening, providing a moody haze that graced the Tahoe sky with a glorious sunset.



Norah Jones delivers a variety of music to fans Aug. 12 at Harveys.

Photo/Jim Grant/Harveys-Harrah's

Mother Nature cooperated. And the crowd of wine-toting baby boomers politely accepted the musical journey Jones took them on.

But admittedly, the tunes she won five Grammy awards for and sold more than 25 million copies of spun the audience's biggest applause. It was as though the fans remained hungry for those sultry, jazzy numbers from a decade ago off the "Come Away With Me" album. The compilation made her an instant success. Her second album "Feels Like Home" brought out the 33-year-old singer's country flair, while the third "Not too Far" followed by "The Fall" began dropping Jones into a more alternative sound.

It's no wonder the award-winning singer was tagged earlier this year performing incognito in a blonde wig with punk rock band El Madmo, CapitalNewYork.com reported. She wants to do her own thing.

Jones has been known to be open to many sounds in whatever venue. The transformation begs the question: To what extent does an artist cave to audience demands in giving them the familiar as opposed to opening their eyes and ears as an ambassador for new music at any cost?

Jones seemed to pull off the latter based on the foundation of respect she's received in the music world.

New haunting tunes of love lost, risk and even murder off "Little Broken Hearts" accompanied that soft, finely-tune voice. The upbeat, bouncy "Say Goodbye" declared: "Don't you miss the good old days when you let me misbehave?" Then, the creepy "Miriam" hushed the Tahoe crowd with a tale of fatal jealousy.



Norah Jones and her band play one of two encores. Photo/Kathryn Reed

She even threw in “The Long Way Home,” a country tune by offbeat singer Tom Waits off the “Feels Like Home” album. Her tribute to the man who could cross as an everyday, gritty barfly gave the audience an inner look into her own soul searching for something interesting and unique.

Jones’ show (priced from $39.50 to $69.50) provided a journey of peaks and valleys, slow and fast, soft and hard – with some extremes from her four-man backup band engineered so hot it was difficult to hear that award-winning voice. At times, the pulsating bass was loud enough to vibrate the floor.

But no sooner than the crowd may have pondered chair dancing, she sat at the piano for an honest calling for her love’s “heart to be true” with the bluesy “What Am I To You” off “Feels Like Home.”

The most memorable song of the night was not dedicated to any man, but to her dog – with her canine’s ultimatum: “It’s him or me.” She, in turn, rewarded him in lyrics written specifically for any red-blooded, canine-loving Tahoe female. “You never lie, you don’t cheat,” and have “no baggage on your four feet.”

The crowd erupted in applause and laughter with a thorough understanding of the message.

“I guess this is the right audience for this song,” she said with a big smile.

The audience stayed fully engaged for the next tune – her biggest hit from 2002, “I Don’t Know Why.”

And still, there was a two-song encore with another smash hit from the “Come Away With Me” ensemble – “Lonestar,” written to match her Texas roots. Then, the band stood side-by-side again for the feel-good plucking number “Creepin In” from “Feels Like Home.”

It appeared Jones felt like home in Tahoe, telling the crowd: “It’s nice to be here,” while appreciating “the lake is so clear.”

Indeed, Jones may say she’s her own tough act to follow. And given the dynamic performance by Cory Chisel and the Wandering Sons, she may say the same thing about her opening band.



Cory Chisel and the Wandering Sons are destined to be the lead act one day. Photo/Kathryn Reed

“We’re happy to be in Tahoe for the very first time. We’re the mood setters. That’s our job,” said front-man Chisel, who added he was grateful to have their three-person ensemble’s “voices bounce off these beautiful mountains.”

The singer, guitarist donning a Jason Mraz-type hat delivered tunes both sentimental and introspective – bouncing from a love song to “the right person at the wrong time” to a caring tune about his new home state of Tennessee from “some natural

born Yankees.” The song resembled a light kiss, and the emotion seemed real all over his face. The set ended with a rousing blues gospel tune.

Chisel’s sound and heart-felt messages are reminiscent of Bruce Springsteen or even the legendary poet, singer Neil Young – who appropriately so, packed the house last week with 6,500 fans on a weekday in Tahoe.

Country music superstar Toby Keith also delivered that many on a recent weekday night. Harrah’s-Harveys spokesman John Packer told *Lake Tahoe News* the concert series is “going great.”

“It’s better than last year,” Packer said.

And it’s not over.

The old lounge blues mixes with the 1980s pop blues when Joe Cocker and Huey Lewis and the News team up Aug 17. The next day, country sensation Sugarland – with its toe-tapping, finger-snapping style – will also play in Tahoe. Cabo Wabo’s own Sammy Hagar rounds out the summer Sept. 1 with the Red Rockers.

Sierra Club’s annual bash is Aug. 16

Tahoe Area Sierra Club’s annual fundraiser is at Regan Beach in South Lake Tahoe on Aug. 16 from 5-8pm.

Tickets are $40 at the door.

For more information, call Bob Anderson at (530) 577.2000.

Severe thunderhead over Truckee; flash flooding possible

At 4:58pm Aug. 15, trained weather spotters reported a severe thunderstorm capable of producing quarter size hail four miles south of Boca Reservoir.

Locations affected include Interstate 80 near the reservoir, Truckee Airport, Alpine Meadows and Boca campgrounds, Glenshire-Devonshire and Hirschdale.

This storm is producing heavy rainfall. Watch for ponding of water on roads.

Hail up to one inch in diameter and heavy rainfall of up to two-thirds of an inch in 20 minutes was recently reported in Glenshire-Devonshire, according to the National Weather Service in Reno.

Officials are warning people to seek safe shelter and stay away from windows.

Expect isolated thunderstorms into the evening Wednesday throughout the Lake Tahoe Region and farther into western Nevada.

“Main concerns with thunderstorms will be strong outflow wind gusts, locally heavy rainfall, and a potential for flash

flooding," the Weather Service said.

– Lake Tahoe News staff report

Fens subject of tour of Washoe Meadows State Park

Internationally known wetlands authority Jerry Qualls will be leading a tour Aug. 18 in Washoe Meadows State Park to educate people about fens.

The event is at noon. Meet at 758 Little Bear Lane, South Lake Tahoe.

Wear comfortable trail walking shoes and bring something to drink. The walk will take about 2.5 to 3 hours and will cover about 3 miles.

Qualls is an associate professor in the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Science at UNR.

Questions about the event? Contact Lynne at LCPaulson@comcast.net or call Krissi at (530) 307.1357.

Marijuana grow found in

Douglas County; suspects wanted

A substantial grow of mature marijuana plants were discovered in the Toiyabe National Forest the northeast sector of Douglas County near Jacks Valley.

No arrests have been made, however it is believed the suspects involved in cultivating the plants are hiding in the nearby forest. The suspects are described as three adult male Hispanics.

U.S. Forest Service rangers and Douglas County sheriff's investigators are eradicating the grow. Washoe County sheriff's helicopter crew and K9 units are assisting.

The suspects may emerge at any of the surrounding residential areas of Alpine View Estates, Jacks Valley, Genoa, Clear Creek Road or Glenbrook; or anywhere along Highway 50 between Carson City and Spooner Summit.

The Douglas County Sheriff's Office is asking anyone who sees any suspicious people or vehicles in these areas to call (775) 782.5126.

Deputies said more information would be provided when it's available.

– Lake Tahoe News staff report

Pedestrian killed in South Lake Tahoe

A 49-year-old South Lake Tahoe man was killed Tuesday night when a van struck him as he walked along Highway 50.

The victim’s name has not been released pending notification of next of kin.

The highway was closed from Pioneer Trail to Midway Avenue for about three hours starting at 9:15pm Aug. 14.

“The pedestrian was found to be at fault in this collision. He was wearing dark clothing during hours of darkness and was illegally crossing U.S. 50 from the south curb line to the north, outside of a crosswalk,” Sgt. Brad Williams said in a press release.

Witnesses told officers they saw another vehicle narrowly miss the man before he was fatally struck.

Anyone with information regarding this accident is encouraged to call the South Lake Tahoe Police Department, at (530) 542.6100.

– Lake Tahoe News staff report