

Lego party at South Lake Tahoe library

The South Lake Tahoe branch library is putting on a Lego Block Party the last Saturday of each month (adjusted for holidays). Those dates are: March 31, April 28, June 30, July 28, Aug. 25, Sept. 29, and Oct. 27.

Design, build, and invent with Legos. The whole family is welcome. Lego creations will be displayed in the library until the next month's party.

The library is at 1000 Rufus Allen Blvd.

For more information, call (530) 573.3185.

Help for first time homebuyers in El Dorado County

With mortgage interest rates below 5 percent and housing prices at record lows, local first time house hunters with modest incomes may benefit from El Dorado County's First Time Homebuyer Loan Program.

The El Dorado County Health and Human Services Agency's Housing Program has received \$800,000 from the state's Home Investment Partnerships Program fund to provide low-interest rate deferred payment loans to eligible homebuyers to help with the purchase of a home in the unincorporated areas of El Dorado County. Funding for this program is provided through

the California Department of Housing and Community Development HOME Program and the County's revolving housing loan fund.

Eligible applicants must provide a down payment, the greater of \$2,500 or 2 percent based on the purchase price of a home. Individuals must also qualify for a fixed-rate 30-year first mortgage through a commercial lender and have a total household income at or below 80 percent of the area median income based on household size. With a few exceptions, eligible applicants cannot have owned a home or been on title to real property within the last three years. Current annual maximum household income limits are: one person, \$42,650; two persons, \$48,750; three persons, \$54,850; four persons, \$60,900; five persons, \$65,800; six persons, \$70,650; seven persons, \$75,550; eight persons, \$80,400.

The loan program includes loan amounts up to \$80,000 at 3 percent interest with payments deferred for 30 years. Loans are available while funding lasts to eligible buyers on a first-come, first-served basis after completing an application process.

For more information about this program, go online or call (530) 642.4864.

Concert to benefit Sierra Nevada Alliance

On March 31 at the American Legion in South Lake Tahoe dance into spring with Bison and the Smugglin Hooch Jug Band.

This is a benefit for the Sierra Nevada Alliance.

Suggested donation is \$10.

Event starts at 7:30pm.

For more information, email Carissa@sierranevadaalliance.org.

Nevada seeks comment on Tahoe state park plan

The Nevada Division of State Parks is starting the planning process for updating the Lake Tahoe Nevada State Park's general management plan and is seeking public input on planning issues, user needs and potential park management or development opportunities.

The first public workshop is March 21 from 6 to 8:30pm at the PEBP multipurpose room in the Richard H. Bryan Building at 901 South Stewart St. It will begin at 6pm with a presentation on the planning approach, followed by issues and comments with state park staff.

Contact Jay Howard for more information: (775) 831.0494, ext. 229.

Realtors meeting about TRPA

Regional Plan

The South Tahoe Association of Realtors' Government Affairs Director Hayley Williamson will give a presentation on Tahoe Regional Planning Agency's draft Regional Plan update and how changes impact homeowners and the real estate community at an April 3 lunch.

Those interested in attending should call (530) 541.7007 or send an email to STAOR@STAOR.org.

The lunch meeting is from 11:30am-1:30pm at Harveys in Stateline. Cost is \$10 for STAR members, \$15 for non-members.

6 weeks of classes for aging population

A series of six-week classes will cover a variety of topics designed to inform and educate the aging population, and offer practical knowledge and guidance to caregivers.

Each class will feature professionals in their field of expertise. Classes will begin April 2 and continue for six consecutive Mondays through May 7.

El Dorado County Family Caregiver Support Program is putting on the Spring Caregiver Series 2012 in collaboration with Senior Health Education Program, Senior Legal Services of El Dorado County, Barton Home Health and Hospice, and Alzheimer's Association of Northern California and Nevada.

All classes will be at the Embassy Suites Lake Tahoe Resort, 4130 Lake Tahoe Blvd., South Lake Tahoe.

To register, contact Tammy Bragg at (530) 621.6151.

El Dorado County needs grand jurors

The 2012-13 El Dorado County Grand Jury is looking for members.

Applicants must be U.S. citizens, at least 18 years of age, have resided in the county for at least one year at the time of the swearing-in date, and cannot hold an elected office.

Judges of the Superior Court shall select names from those submitted, as well as other nominees, and currently seated grand jurors who wish to be held over, to be put into the jury pool. Nineteen jurors are then selected in a random drawing from this pool. Final selection will take place in late June. Jurors are expected to be present. Jurors serve for a period of one year, commencing July 1.

The El Dorado Civil Grand Jury is an investigatory body created for the protection of society and the enforcement of the law.

Jurors can typically expect to serve a minimum of six hours over two days per week. Investigative committee chairs and the foreperson may expect to serve 10-20 hours per week.

Meetings are compensated at the maximum rate of \$15 per day of meeting; mileage is compensated at the rate payable to employees of El Dorado County for each mile actually and necessarily traveled for purposes of said sessions or committee work. No other compensation is provided.

Qualified citizens who have an interest may pick up an application form at the Superior Court, 495 Main St., Placerville or call (530) 621.6451. The deadline to apply is May 11.

Stories and crafts at Zephyr Cove library

The Douglas County Public Library, Lake Tahoe branch is presenting Saturday Stories and Crafts on March 24 at 1pm.

Children ages 3 and up may choose a craft to make. All supplies will be provided. Younger children should be accompanied by an adult.

Register for this program by March 23 by calling (775) 588.6411.

LTCC to be site of home and garden show

Lake Tahoe Home and Garden Show will be April 27 and 28 in the gym at Lake Tahoe Community College in South Lake Tahoe.

Vendors and sponsors are being sought for this event put on by Golden Bear Events.

The Friday event is from 4-8pm and Saturday from 10am-6pm.

For more information, call JoAnn at (530) 544.7412 or email jctahoewriter@hotmail.com.

Library uses music to engage young readers

Musical Storytime at South Tahoe library is about music, movement, puppets and singing to capture the attention of your young child as they shimmy their way into literacy.

This free event is the fourth Saturday of each month, with the next one March 24 at 11am.