

Tahoe Tails – Adoptable Pets in South Lake Tahoe



Mashona

Mashona is a white Chihuahua who is about 5 years old. She walks nicely on her leash and she loves to cuddle. She does well with other dogs and loves to play.

Mashona is spayed, microchipped, tested for heart worm, and vaccinated. She is at the El Dorado County Animal Services shelter in Meyers, along with many other dogs and cats who are waiting for their new homes. Go to the Tahoe animal shelter's Facebook page to see photos and descriptions of all pets at the shelter.

Call 530.573.7925 for directions, hours, and other information on adopting a pet.

For spay-neuter assistance for South Tahoe residents, go online.

– Karen Kuentz

Aspirational R.S.V.P.: Saying yes when you mean no

By Henry Alford, New York Times

Let's call it the aspirational R.S.V.P. – when someone replies yes to an invitation, even though he knows, or is fairly certain, that he can't or won't attend.

“Aspirational R.S.V.P.s have become rampant, thanks to Facebook,” said the painter and translator Daisy Rockwell. “Very often when I post an event there, people will choose ‘Join’ simply as a show of solidarity. If you ask them if they really plan to come to your Massachusetts event all the way from California, they are affronted, as though you are criticizing their noble sentiment.”

Reservations-making without commitment is the apotheosis of digital glibness; it's a vote of confidence built on rickety scaffolding.

Read the whole story

South Shore ready for annual fireworks

Lights on the Lake, the largest Fourth of July fireworks display in the west, will fill South Shore's night sky for 25 minutes.

Now in its 34th year, the holiday tradition is synchronized to a soundtrack of familiar songs by pop legends and from music

acts that will be at Harveys this summer. It is simulcast on KRLT-FM 93.9 and KOWL-AM 1490.

The show starts at 9:45pm.

Same product, different price for women

By Shelby Slade, Deseret News

Does packaging an item in pink turn it into a luxury item? Some think so.

As if women weren't already making less money, 78 cents for every dollar a man earns because of the wage gap, the "pink tax" may be overcharging women at the store too.

Studies show that women are paying more for everyday items and services, like deodorant, razors, shaving cream and dry cleaning, than for comparable items marketed to men.

Some manufacturers of shampoo and deodorant said the reason their products for women cost more was because they cost more to produce than the men's versions, the *Huffington Post* reported.

Read the whole story

Aerosmith dusting off rarities for new tour

By ABC Radio

Aerosmith will get back in the saddle and launch its 2015 Blue Army Tour tonight with a show in Glendale, Ariz. Guitarist Brad Whitford says fans who come out to see the band won't necessarily witness the same old song and dance, as the rock legends are planning to introduce some rarely performed tunes into their set.

"We have so many songs in our catalog and there's a lot of songs from the early days that we kind of just like to take out and dust 'em off and try and keep it interesting," Whitford tells ABC Radio. "The hard thing about our show is we...have a bunch of hits that we feel like we have to play and feel like people want to hear, [but we also want] to intersperse the show with stuff that may be a little more eclectic."

Brad says that because Aerosmith's audience these days is comprised of older and newer fans, the band tries to "take care of everybody." He adds that the longtime fans, especially, "love to hear some of the earlier material, from the first couple of albums."

Aerosmith will be at Harveys Outdoor Concert Series on July 3.

Read the whole story

Saving water doesn't have to be painful

By Rene Lynch, Los Angeles Times

Ripping up the lawn is the single best way to save water, but doing that can take weeks, if not months, of consideration and planning. And then there's the cost.

Many of us are just not ready to take that step.

So what else can we do to help fulfill California Gov. Jerry Brown's executive order mandating a 25% cut in urban water use?

We've compiled 43 wallet-friendly tips for reducing your water footprint. Some of these steps are obvious but bear repeating, like No. 25. And we know that some of these tips save water at the expense of using another energy source.

Read the whole story

Burning Man isn't all about roughing it



Life doesn't have to be uncomfortable at Burning Man. Photo/Burner Bungalows

By Megan Willett, Business Insider

Burning Man – the annual weeklong festival that draws wealthy techies and artists alike to a stretch of desert 120 miles north of Reno – is coming up in August, which means attendees are starting to think about how to build their elaborate camps.

The idea behind Burning Man is for tens of thousands of campers to come to the dessert and build a new arts-focused, DIY metropolis that functions without the use of money. They'll erect tents, temporary buildings, stands, and outposts to live in and create their own creative, artistic, and out-there community.

These so-called burners spends months leading up to Burning Man getting their costumes, decorations, and living areas prepped – but some are opting to get ready-made storage container camps from a company called Quick Space instead of constructing their own from scratch.

Read the whole story

Paisley's guitar prowess takes center stage



Brad Paisley delights the crowd at Harveys on June 11.
Photos/Kathryn Reed

By Kathryn Reed

STATELINE — Brad Paisley was crushin' it at Harveys on Thursday night.

The three-time Grammy winner had the crowd at the outdoor arena on its feet for most of the 1 hour, 40 minute-concert.

Besides being a singer and song writer, Paisley is a phenomenal guitarist. He and Keith Urban are the premier guitarists in the world of country; and both could hold their own against colleagues in any genre.

His fingers rarely stopped moving across the strings all night. He didn't interact with the crowd much; instead letting his fingers do much of the talking. Segues from one song to the next were him playing a riff.

The night started with "River Bank" off his 2014 album "Moonshine in the Trunk". It was the start of an evening of guitar-dominating dynamics. While it's one thing to hear his songs recorded, the live version is so much richer. His picking is sensational and is what makes his live performance worth seeing.



Brad Paisley is a renowned guitarist who uses a variety of the instruments throughout his performance.

Paisley switches guitars – sometimes mid-song – as often as Cher does wardrobe changes. He is the owner of two less guitars after the June 11 concert, though. This is something he is accustomed to. Early on he singled out a little girl in a pink cowboy hat. He autographed it and then later called her

up to the side of the stage, handed her his guitar, shook her hand and got a “thank you” from her. Later in the show 7-year-old Cayden was brought to the stage to play Mario Kart 8, which was then projected on the screen that was much larger than the normal movie screen. Paisley and his six-member band rocked out while this took place. The youngster, who set a new top score, walked away with a guitar practically as tall as he is.

It was the diversity of songs that brought the fans out – not his goodwill.

Paisley blends old-style country with quirky tunes like “Celebrity” (about selfies and other narcissistic behavior) and “I’m Gonna Miss Her” (where fishing is his priority and not his woman).



A youngster in the crowd goes home with a Brad Paisley guitar.

It wasn't until he slowed things down with "She's Everything" that the crowd sat down. The ballad showed his sentimental side.

He saved the love song "Then" off the 2009 "American Saturday Night" album for his first of two encores.



Brad Paisley and Justin Moore use a fan's phone to take a selfie.

Mickey Guyton and Justin Moore, the two opening acts, each sang a duet with Paisley. It won't be surprising if one day each is a headliner on this stage.

The only disappointment was how few people were in attendance at the 7,500-seat venue. Considering Paisley sold-out the 17,000-plus seat Hollywood Bowl and filled the 20,000-seat Sleep Train Amphitheater in San Diego earlier this month, it's not about his popularity. Maybe it was the fact the Warriors were playing or that Paisley has now been here three of the last four years.

Future concerts at Harveys:

July 3 – Aerosmith

July 18 – Imagine Dragons

July 21 – Train, opening are The Fray/Matt Nathanson

July 22 – Kenny Chesney, opening Chase Rice

Aug. 7 – Jackson Browne

Aug. 8 – Elton John

Aug. 13 – Slightly Stoopid, opening are Dirty Heads/Stick Figure

Aug. 23 – Dierks Bentley, opening are Kip Moore/Maddie & Tae/Canaan Smith

Sept. 5 – Sammy Hagar and the Circle, featuring Michael Anthony, Jason Bonham and Vic Johnson

Sept. 9 – Dave Matthews Band.

Early years of S. Lake Tahoe come to life



Laurel Ames, Betty Mitchell and John Cefalu talk June 10 about the early days of South Lake Tahoe. Photo/Kathryn Reed

By Kathryn Reed

Nuggets of South Lake Tahoe's 50-year history were uncovered Wednesday night as three longtime locals bantered about days gone by.

Laurel Ames, Betty Mitchell and John Cefalu spoke about the early days of the city and how some things are better, and some not so much. They weren't the only ones who remembered what it was like. About a dozen people in the audience raised their hands when asked who was around when the incorporation took place.

Ames and Mitchell were two of the powerhouses behind the two-year process that led to the eventual incorporation of the city in November 1965. They said it was a group effort to pull it off – with many of the 14,000 people living here at the time volunteering to do whatever was needed.



These were the days before computers, the ability to mail merge, and adhesive stamps. Addressing parties were necessary to get information to people. It meant addressing envelopes by hand, licking stamps, licking envelopes. At that time so many people were not registered to vote because they feared getting called for jury duty, which would have meant driving to the courthouse in Placerville.

One of the first issues to be dealt with was what area should the city occupy. There was no money for a survey, so the South Tahoe Public Utility District boundaries were used. The only time this was expanded was when the city took over the operation of Lake Tahoe Airport from El Dorado County.

"Heavenly Valley was pure politics. (Owner Hugh) Killebrew came to us and said, 'If you keep me in the boundary, I'll sue you'," Ames recalled. That is why the California Base Lodge is in the county. Incorporation proponents didn't have the means to fight a legal battle.

Cefalu remembers being at the old high school for the Caltrans meeting to discuss the agency's proposed freeway through town.

"The fact that the freeway was to have an off-ramp into Harrah's parking lot aggravated Harvey Gross, (owner of Harveys casino)," Cefalu said.

He said if the freeway had been built, it would have been a disaster for the community.

Folks in Placerville didn't want much to do with those in the Lake Tahoe Basin, other than to collect the tax revenue, while returning little of it.

Mitchell recalled the time she and her husband were going to put an addition on their house. They tried to get a permit, even wanted to pay for it.

"They said you don't need it; that no one would come to

inspect it," Mitchell said.

This, though, led to a lot of the funkiness of the city and poor craftsmanship in some cases.

Ames misses the big trees that used to line Highway 50, adding this is one of the sadder changes.

Signs were an early bugaboo for officials. That is one ordinance that remains contentious today, primarily because of the lack of enforcement.

Harrison Avenue came about after parking was eliminated along Highway 50. Frank Globin, according to Cefalu, created a 1-foot easement on the Caltrans side so there would always be a buffer. This property came into play during the recent Harrison Avenue upgrades.

Cefalu said for years the city endured the wrath of the state transportation department because the electeds voted against the freeway and the citizenry said the same.

The good ol' boy network was established before incorporation became a reality. There was a group called the Roosters.

"Five of those folks were elected to the City Council so you can see where the influence started," Cefalu said.

Kings Beach offering summer of free music

Music on the Beach, the free seven-week concert series at Kings Beach State Recreation Area, kicks off June 19 from 6-8:30pm.

It will continue every Friday evening until Aug. 7, excluding July 3. A variety of music genres, with mostly local and some regional performers, will be featured including the first three concerts with North Tahoe's own, Drop Theory on June 19, funk-soul band Groove Foundry on July 26, and Honky Tonk/Rock & Roll band Miss Lonely Hearts on July 10.

"Music on the Beach is a great way to get your summer weekend started and has a laid-back feel in one of the most beautiful, natural settings with spectacular sunsets unlike any other Tahoe/Truckee music venue," explains Joy Doyle, executive director of the North Tahoe Business Association. "If you haven't experienced Music on the Beach, add it to your summer bucket list," Doyle urges.

Food will be available for purchase. The North Tahoe Business Association will be serving Sierra Nevada beer on tap, wine and non-alcoholic beverages.

Bring a low-back beach chair and blankets.

For more information about Music on the Beach, go online.