

Douglas County sheriff's colleagues unknowingly part of kidney swap

By Jaclyn O'Malley, Reno Gazette-Journal

Two and a half weeks ago, four Northern Nevadans traveled to San Francisco to partake in a kidney-swapping transplant surgery that would end their days on dialysis and help them regain their lives.

The donors volunteered to give their kidneys to either their spouse or friend, but their kidney was not a match. So, they were all put in a database at California Pacific Medical Center that matches kidneys according to blood type and best genetic match.

The local groups who entered the program included a married couple from Gardnerville and two good friends from Carson City and Minden. In a conference room Thursday at California Pacific Medical Center, they and other donors and recipients got to meet for the first time.

But Walter Cooling of Gardnerville had actually known his secret donor, David Brady, of Minden, for 17 years. Brady was a reserve for the Douglas County Sheriff's Office while Cooling had been a deputy.

"I'm gonna pay for this for the rest of my life," Cooling joked to Brady. "Thanks buddy, you saved my life ... I was on dialysis for two years. This man saved my life. It's a miracle."

All gave each other big, lasting embraces and endless smiles.

While Diane Cooling, 55, of Gardnerville, was not a match to donate her kidney to her husband, 67, she was able to give her

kidney to Christina Abeyta, 43, of Newman, in the San Joaquin Valley.

The women held hands and beamed.

"It's exciting to be part of this and to help two people at once," Cooling said. Because she agreed to donate her kidney to a stranger, her husband was able to be in the swapping program.

Steven Katznelson, medical director of the center's kidney transplant program, said everyone was ahead in their recoveries and were part of creating awareness of the ability of live donation to hasten waiting list times. He said their recoveries should take about six weeks. Brady has already been working out, running.

Diane Cooling said she learned about the kidney swapping program through the hospital. She said the surgery was fairly easy and she's struggling to do the doctor-recommended "taking it easy."

"Once I learned about the program, I said, 'Sign me up,'" she said.

Abeyta's husband, Gilbert, 40, had wanted to donate his kidney to his wife, but it wasn't a match. Like Diane Cooling, he knew that if he donated to a stranger in the swapping program, his wife would get matched. His kidney went to Bonnie Morrissey of California.

"I'm blessed," Christina Abeyta said.

Brady has been friends with Reagan Eilers, 57, of Gardnerville for 27 years, meeting through softball. When Eilers' kidney began failing, Brady wanted to donate to him. But they weren't a match. Like Cooling and Gilbert Abeyta, he knew by donating to a stranger his friend would get his much needed kidney.

He never would have imagined his kidney would go to his old

friend Walter Cooling.

"We saw each other in the hospital ,and I secretly hoped he would get mine because then he'd owe me," Brady joked. "I'm thrilled to be able to make a contribution."

Monterey Morrissey, 61, of Santa Rosa, Calif., had intended on donating his kidney to his wife, Bonnie, 61. But they didn't match. He was a match for Eilers.

"I feel great," Eilers said. "Dialysis is no fun. I had too much stuff to do for the next 25 years."

Eilers said his kidneys began failing within in the last six to seven months.

"When the doctor said I needed a transplant, I talked to Dave, and he said he wanted to donate right away," he said.

Brady, like Diane Cooling, said the decision to donate was an easy one.

"The opportunity to make a difference in someone's life was my primary drive," he said. "Giving it to (Cooling) is like the icing on the cake."

Dave's wife, Mary, said his kidney donation was "just like Dave to do. I wasn't surprised."

She said that she can see a dramatic change in Eilers, down to his coloring, energy and mood.

"There's a lightness about him," she said.

Eilers' wife said the transplant has ensured that her husband will be able to walk their daughter down the aisle as she marries later this summer. He's also regained his sense of humor and the couple have been going out on walks together.

"I hope that people hear this story and it encourages others to look into donating," she said. "It's life changing. Look at

what it does. And it helps more than one person.”

Diane Cooling saw a similar change in her husband.

“I watched my husband the last two years as his kidneys failed, trying to work through dialysis,” she said. “It’s not a great quality of life ... this has given him a new opportunity to move forward in his life, because it was on hold. He had no freedom on dialysis. Now he has the freedom to travel and live a normal life. You can’t measure that.”

Harriette (Hap) McCallum – 1930-2012

Harriette (Hap) McCallum passed away unexpectedly on June 6, 2012.

Harriette Florence Porter McCallum, born in San Francisco to Bennie and Dorothy Porter on March 30, 1930, was nicknamed “Happy” by her father at birth. “Hap” began a true love for animals and raised and showed Boston Bull Terriers as a young lady in Ojai.

She married Walter McCallum while working at the Presidio in San Francisco, and after a few years in Berkeley, moved to Shasta Avenue in Napa in 1957 with their four children and then to “The Farm” on Hagen Road in 1960.

Farm life transitioned this adventurous city girl into an active 4-H leader, surrounded by vegetable gardens and farm animals. Hap could be found around the barns at fair time every year, prepping kids and animals for show-ring events and the livestock auction.

The family moved to Salem, Ore., in 1969, where Hap began a 30-year career in real estate.

After building a property management business in Santa Rosa, she returned to Napa to be closer to her children. She became involved in breeding and showing Miniature Pinschers, with a number of champions to her credit.

She will be truly missed by her children, Patrick McCallum (deceased) of Napa, David and Dorothy (Glaros Wagner) McCallum of Napa, Susan and Russell Markishtum of Manteca, and Judi McCallum of Camino; grandchildren, Stavros, Jennifer, Kimberly, Kelly, Corey, along with her many devoted cousins and friends.

A celebration of life will be at Tulocay Cemetery Chapel/Reception Room, 411 Coombsville Road, Napa on June 16 at 11am.

Please feel free to sign the online guestbook.

Donations to the Miniature Pincher Club of America, Northern California MPCA Rescue are greatly appreciated. Contact: Patti Williams at patti_cacka@yahoo.com or the Internet Miniature Pincher Services (IMPS).

Tahoe City museum to feature bear exhibit

Bears are coming to the Gatekeeper's Museum in Tahoe City this summer.

The museum's new exhibit – Ursus Among Us: The American Black Bear in the Tahoe Basin – is slated to open July 1. The

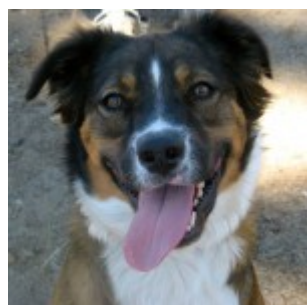
exhibit will consider two main topics regarding Tahoe's ursine residents: Bears Up Close and Personal: Bear Facts and Observations Bears and People: It's Complicated.

The exhibit will feature information about bears and bear-human interaction in multiple modes – audio, visual and tactile. The exhibit will feature a taxidermy bear and provide information about bear life cycles. Museum visitors can observe how the Washoe people interacted with bears. An antique bear trap similar to those used by early Euro-American settlers will also be on display. Additionally, there will be replica skulls and claws to examine and craft projects providing experiential fun. Recent "Bear Aware" films produced by regional California Department of Fish and Game staffers will also be featured.

For more information, call (530) 583.1762.

Tahoe Tails – Adoptable Pets in South Lake Tahoe

Bongo is a very sweet Australian shepherd mix who is only about 9 months old, but he is already house trained and has great manners.



He loves to play with other dogs, and is very friendly with people. Bongo is ready to go to training classes to learn about walking on a leash instead of running, and would do best in a household where he would get lots of exercise.

Bongo is neutered, microchipped, and vaccinated. He 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 online to see photos and description 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

Guitarist to play at El Dorado County winery

Up-and-coming national recording artist Zach Heckendorf will play at Busby Cellars in Somerset on June 29.

The 19-year old singer-songwriter-guitar player from Denver is in the process of completing the recording of his second album in Los Angeles.

His style is completely original, yet seemingly familiar, according to winery owners Elliot and Sherrie Graham. "If you enjoy the music of Dave Matthews, John Mayer, Jack Johnson, and Jason Mraz, you are sure to love the music of Zach Heckendorf."

The free concert begins at 7pm.

An optional gourmet, catered, barbecue meal is available for

\$15 from 5-6:45pm.

An RSVP is required by June 22 – (530) 344.9119.

A book all about Tahoe that goes beyond the ordinary

By Kathryn Reed

Say “Lake Tahoe” and people will have a story to tell. It’s just that captivating. But it’s not always the lake that is the story.

A sampling of what *the lake* means to people came to life Friday night during the launch of “Tahoe Blues” – a collection of 60 short essays about this spot on a map that divides California and Nevada. But what rang out from the nine authors who read June 8 is that the lake is a unifier.

With essay titles like “Powder Day”, “A Hike to Scott’s Lake”, and “Chain Monkey”, these stories will resonate with the people who call Lake Tahoe home or come here to sample what others devour year-round.

But it’s not all about the outdoors. It’s about life. The good, the bad, the sad, the real – sometimes all of the above.



Bona Fide Books Publisher Kim Wyatt on June 8 launches the company's latest book -- "Tahoe Blues" -- at Lake Tahoe Community College. Photo/Kathryn Reed

"So Close to Home" by Sherry Sellars encompasses so many emotions. It's about a woman working with babies all day who is having a hard time conceiving her own child and how she is unconsciously transformed from despair to joy just by looking around at the place she calls home.

"Tahoe Blues" is the third book published by Bona Fide Books in Meyers. Kim Wyatt, owner of the publishing house, received more than 200 submissions for this "short lit on life at the lake" and picked 60 to print.

"I expected skiing and bears, but I did not expect such depth. But if we are talking in metaphors, the lake is deep," Wyatt told *Lake Tahoe News* before the June 8 event at Lake Tahoe Community College.

The writers chosen to read Friday night had a connection to Lake Tahoe Community College – either by being a student (current or past) or an instructor. The event was the final one of the school year for the Writers Series that is run by Suzanne Roberts.

Most of the writers who complete the collection live in the greater Lake Tahoe area or have some connection to the region.

Wyatt came up with the idea of “Tahoe Blues” from a colleague in Alaska who published a book of flash fiction, micro essays.

“I thought, Tahoe needs one,” Wyatt said.

The range of writers and stories comes through in the selection that was read on this opening night. What also came through so clearly is the quality of writers Tahoe has.

The subject of Krista Lukas’ essay perhaps captured it best – “You Don’t Seem Like You’re From Tahoe”. She delves into how people can’t believe she was born and raised here. She knows it’s a backhanded compliment.

“Reading and writing may be what turned me into someone who surprises people by being from Tahoe,” she writes.

Wyatt liked the idea of providing the opportunity to expose readers to a slew of writers instead of just one, as is the case with most books.

“The biggest challenge to this book was the organization, creating a table of contents,” Wyatt said. “The obvious way to organize it was by shades of blue.” That is reflected in the nine title chapters – all shades of blue.

The only thing that disappoints Wyatt is not receiving one submission about mountain biking. But maybe that will be for the second edition.

“I would love to do another collection. I have to see if people like this one,” Wyatt said.

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Notes:

- “Tahoe Blues” may be purchased online, or at Gaia-Licious in

South Lake Tahoe, Angora Lakes Resort, and Bespoke in Truckee. Books are \$15.

Future readings:

- June 20, 6:30pm: Sundance Books, Reno
- July 2, 3pm: Explore Tahoe, South Lake Tahoe
- July 28, 7pm: EDAC ArtSpace, Placerville
- Sept. 7, 7pm: Sierra Nevada College Literary Lollapalooza, Incline Village
- Sept. 14, 7pm: Celebration of Writers, Valhalla, South Shore.

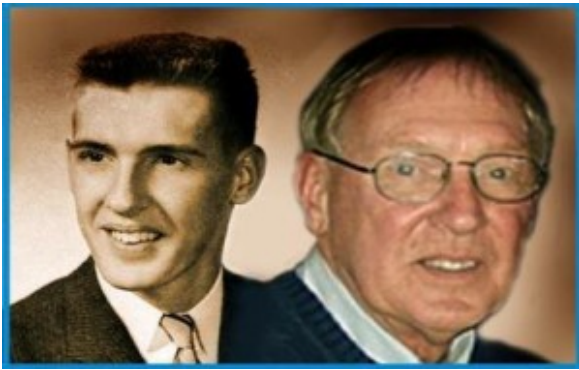
Dave Bartholomew – 1940-2012

David C. Bartholomew passed away at the age of 71 on Feb. 13, 2012, in Sun City, Ariz., after a year and a half battle with cancer.

He was born in Geneva, Ill., on May 13, 1940, and grew up in Oswego, Ill.

He is survived by his wife, Carol; son Chris of Novi, Mich.; daughter and son-in-law Carey and Tim Dahlstrom and three grandsons of Litchfield Park, Ariz.; and sister and brother-

in-law Sue and Marv Worthen of Sun City, Ariz.



Dave Bartholomew

An alumni of the University of Nevada, Reno class of 1963, Dave was an English teacher at South Tahoe High School from 1965 to 1988. He was also the assistant football and basketball coach and athletic director. Dave also ran a construction/remodeling business in South Lake Tahoe for many years.

A celebration of life will be July 7 at 3560 Ralph Drive, South Lake Tahoe. Please email Carey Bartholomew-Dahlstrom at careyd@cox.net or call (623) 523.1412 to RSVP for the service.

In lieu of flowers donations can be made to South Tahoe High School Boosters Club, P.O. Box 14303, South Lake Tahoe, CA 96151 or the Lake Tahoe Education Foundation, P.O. Box 14387, South Lake Tahoe, CA 96151.

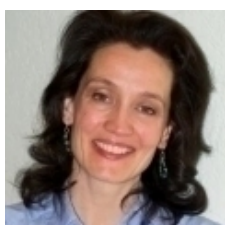
Having purpose in life gives meaning to life

By Mandy Kendall

Do you ever notice that some days you leap out of bed looking forward to the day and other days not so much?

It could be that your purpose for that day was the reason you had that feeling of anticipation and, dare I say it, excitement.

Asking someone what their purpose in life is can fill some people with dread, whereas others seem to know exactly what their purpose is and, if they are really lucky, they are in the process of fulfilling it.



Mandy
Kendall

The word “purpose” can be a multipurpose term used for a number of purposes (case in point) but generally is used to describe; the reason for which something exists or is done, made, used, etc. as well as; to set as an aim, intention, or goal for oneself.

If you don’t already know what your purpose in life is, it can be quite a daunting prospect to try to figure it out. Where do you start? How specific or general do you have to be? How big or small should it be? The answer is, there is no right answer.

Your purpose should be what makes you happy. It should be the thing that has you leaping out of bed in the morning. It should give you the reason to go forward when everything seems to be pushing you back. It should be as grand or simple as makes you happy. It should be your thing.

Now I know we all have responsibilities that might stop us from totally engaging in our purpose, our passion in life, but that shouldn't stop us from finding out what it is and at least acknowledging it. Sometimes just recognizing and embracing our purpose can open up doors to opportunities we may never have seen.

Your purpose should give you great joy and be derived from what you most value. It is not meant to be a life sentence where you give up things you enjoy for things that seem more worthy.

Your passion, your purpose should be your own. It might not be obvious immediately, it might be somewhat elusive, but it might be as plain as the nose on your face if you just look for it.

As the late Steve Jobs stated; "If you haven't found it yet, keep looking. Don't settle. As with all matters of the heart, you'll know when you find it. And, like any great relationship, it just gets better and better as the years roll on. So keep looking until you find it. Don't settle."

So here are a few *Qwik-e* tips to help set you on the path toward finding your passion.

Write a list of all the things that interest you – Think about all the things you do in your spare time, and at work, that you love doing, i.e. what kind of books you read, what articles you are drawn to in magazines, what do you look forward to doing most, what gives you that 'I'm glad to be alive' feeling? Take time on this as you may be surprised by some of the things on your list. Then ask yourself why they interest you. Digging deeper into what is it about these things that interests you will take you closer to figuring out your purpose?

Find your genius – Make a list (yes another one) about all the things you do naturally without thinking about them, or things

that are enjoyable and effortless for you. (It's a good idea to ask other people too as they often see skills in us that we don't necessarily see in ourselves). These talents can be used to help determine and fulfill our purpose.

Design your purpose – By combining things from the “what do I love doing” list with talents from the “genius” list our purpose can manifest itself and appear pretty obvious (and sometimes the more the obscure the combination the better).

List everything you want to achieve in your life – Try not to let reality limit this list. Don't worry about the how. Dream big. Imagine there were no limits, what would you spend your time doing? Then ask yourself why you want to do these things. This can give you real insight into what it is you really want to achieve and this understanding of why can give you powerful motivation to follow your purpose.

Until next time.

Mandy Kendall operates Health Connective in South Lake Tahoe. If you have any questions, would like some advice, or would like to request some Qwik-e tips on any health and wellbeing topic, please feel free to drop me an email at healthconnective@gmail.com, visit us on Facebook, or keep an eye out on Lake Tahoe News for regular Qwik-e tips on how to make healthy changes one Quick and Easy step at a time.

\$20 mil. for West Shore house designed by Julia Morgan

The historic West Shore “Bow Bay” estate designed by legendary Hearst Castle architect Julia Morgan is on the market for \$20 million.

This is also the former home to a Schilling spice and coffee heiress.

The house has nine bedrooms, eight bathrooms and more than 4,000-square-feet on 7 acres. It comes with about 400 feet of beach on Rubicon Bay.

The property was designed by Morgan in 1939 and built in 1944 as the summer home for Else Schilling, spice and coffee company heiress and a friend of Morgan’s from San Francisco.

Borg’s book translated into French; next installment to be released

A Paris publisher has just come out with the French translation of Lake Tahoe author Todd Borg’s “Tahoe Hijack” in hardcover. The French title is “Tahoe, L’enlèvement”.



The paperback rights have also been sold to another French publisher, which due out in a year.

“Tahoe Hijack” is also a finalist for Best Mystery of the Year in the Next Generation Indie Book Awards.

The 10th book in the Owen McKenna series – “Tahoe Trap” – is set to be released in August.