

Carlile delivers eclectic selection of music to adoring fans

By Kathryn Reed

STATELINE – A combo of Johnny Cash and Joan Jett is how my friend Kim described Brandi Carlile after seeing her at MontBleu on Aug. 2.

Carlile is hard to pigeonhole into a particular genre of music. It's a little of this and little of that, making it all Carlile. The energy of this 30-year-old is only overshadowed by her incredible vocal range.

To hear her live in her prime is phenomenal. She sounds so humble and real. Stardom does not seem to have struck this Seattle singer-guitarist-pianist.



Brandi Carlile
plays to an
appreciative
MontBleu
audience Aug.
2.
Photo/Kathryn
Reed

She was complimentary of the near-full crowd at the Stateline

showroom, changed up the song lineup to accommodate requests and sent more picks into the audience than are the norm.

A cellist, female drummer, a pair of twins and a guy dividing his time between guitar and piano make up the band that brings her music to life.

And, yet, she could probably do without them because of her stellar musical abilities. She might do like Jewel did at the same venue four summers ago and just bring a guitar on stage with her next time.

While their music is not the same, and Carlile has a bit of maturing to do on the stage, she is well on her way to leaving her mark on the music world.

After all, in 2005, Carlile was named one of *Rolling Stone's* "10 Artists to Watch." She had signed with Columbia Records the year before.

While she doesn't have any more Nevada tour dates for this year, she will be in California in September.

All-day seminar to empower middle school girls

Studies show girls' self-esteem drops significantly once they enter middle school and continues to drop as they push through to high school. Girls face fears such as bullying, relationship drama, grades, and body image to name a few.

Fortunately, girls who participate in sports and other extracurricular activities experience increased confidence and self-respect.

On Aug. 22 from 8am-8pm, South Lake Tahoe Women's Center is sponsoring a Girls' Empowerment Project for girls entering 6th, 7th and 8th grads. The project is designed to foster independence, empowerment and positive self-image through exciting workshops and hands on activities. Girls who participate will have the opportunity to learn skills and try activities they might not otherwise have access to.

Volunteers from the community will be teaching the following skills:

How to stay safe with self-defense

How to feel self-confident through dance

How to make a difference in their community with empowered leadership

How to create something new with something old

How to bring out their inner beauty with self-care

How to care for and protect both wild and tame animals

Registration is limited. Cost is \$15 and includes three meals and a snack. Some scholarships are available so please call Lisa at (530) 544.2118, ext. 7628.

History: Recollections of people on the West Slope

Publisher's note: *This is reprinted with permission from the February 1976 Lake Tahoe Historical Society newsletter.*

On January 29, members had the pleasure of meeting Betty

Yohalem who is collecting oral histories from pioneer families to be published as the El Dorado County Bicentennial book entitled *I Remember ...*



Upon their retirement from their motion picture work, Mrs. Yohalem and her late husband, George, settled in Placerville where he established the Pioneer Book Shop and she became a reporter with the Mountain Democrat, writing the "Our Yesterdays" column. Mrs.

Yohalem is now at the El Dorado County Chamber of Commerce where her love affair with Mother Lode history is finding expression in her writing of this book.

Mrs. Yohalem displayed a collection of fascinating pictures obtained along with diaries and other documents from families she has interviewed. She also played excerpts from some of her tapes, including description by Amy Drysdale, 84 year old former editor of the Georgetown Gazette, of the fire and explosion in Georgetown during July 1897; recollection of such escapades as hiding slot machines from the sheriff by Irma Lawyer, also 84, who lives at the Temperance Hotel in Lotus but spends each summer at Uncle Tom's Cabin; and recollections of early days in Placerville by Lloyd Raffetto, founder of the Mother Lode Bank.

One of Mrs. Yohalem's favorite interviews was with Ruth Ward Corker, now in her eighties, a native of Georgetown, who is the granddaughter of Jonathan and Mary Ann Smith, who crossed the country by wagon. During a brief stop by a stream, Mrs. Smith was shot in the back by an Indian while nursing her baby. The bullet went through her body and landed in the front of her dress. Surviving the incident, she continued on to settle in the Mother Lode area with her husband and children.

Mr. Yohalem also interviewed Rhoads Grimshaw who, until his recent passing at 84, was the oldest living helicopter pilot. He had the distinction of having set his helicopter down in

the tracks of the wagon train in which his grandfather, one of the three founders of Placerville, had crossed the plains.

She also displayed pictures of Indian Diggings, now only a few shacks and an old cemetery off the Omo Ranch Road, but once a thriving community of 3000 with four hotels, nine saloons, and three grocery stores. Cone Jenny, the last Indian in the area who refused to go when the other Indians left, was over 100 years old when she was found dead at her little cabin in Indian Diggings.

Another of Mrs. Yohalem's favorite stories was her seeking out of a black man, Mr. Burgess, in Sacramento. Now nearing his 90th birthday, he was readily able to identify his father in a well known photograph of the Sutter Mill in Coloma.

One of Mrs. Yohalem's treasures was a copy of an 1897 issue of the San Francisco Examiner relating an interview with John Mattison (Matt) Harbin, who came to California with Dr. John Marsh in 1844. Calling himself the "King of the Mountain", Harbin related his naming of Donner Lake as Little Truckee Lake and Tahoe as Big Truckee Lake. He also claimed the honor of being the first millionaire in California. After spending some time in Mexico, he finally settled in Shingle Springs. His descendants, the Grays of Gray's Meadows, will be interviewed for the book.

Publication of *I remember...* is projected for this coming summer. Copies may be ordered in advance from the El Dorado County Chamber of Commerce at a pre-publication price of \$20.00 plus tax for the first edition (\$25.00 when published). Also, a Limited Edition of 750 numbered copies, with special binding and slip case, including inserts of diaries, documents, and map, is available, pre-publication, at \$30.00 plus tax (\$35.00 after publication). Remittance should be enclosed with order to The Chamber at 542 Main Street, Placerville, California 95667.

Artist in residence at Tallac Site

Kit Night will be the Artist in Residence at the Viking Room on the Tallac Site on the South Shore from Aug. 12-17 from 10am-4pm.

Night is an award-winning painter and member of Oil Painters of America. She's known for her uplifting and radiant color. Her work, which is influenced by jazz, redefines how we think of contemporary still life, which includes large oils of glasses. She will also be showing smaller work in a variety of subjects including some new plein air landscapes.

Carson City walking tour highlights areas history

Aberations await and spirits linger during a two-hour walking tour Aug. 20 and Sept. 24 through the historic district of Carson City.

History and storytelling are the orders of the day on this tour through Victorian-style homes and neighborhoods, where reality and legend come together, leaving ghost walkers to wonder what is truth and what is fiction.

Tickets are available at the Visitors Center, 1900 South Carson St. or call (775) 687.7410. Tours depart from 3rd and

Carson streets next to the St. Charles Hotel (Firkin & Fox Pub) at 6:30pm. Cost is \$20 per a person.

Tour guides will tell colorful stories about the buildings and its owners inside the humble and not-so-humble abodes, of yesteryear while walking along the historic Kit Carson Trail featuring 1800s Victorian-style homes. Some of the stops along the tour include:

- Ferris Mansion, home of George Ferris Jr., inventor of the Ferris Wheel for the Chicago World Columbian Exposition in 1893.
 - Orion Clemens House, home of Mark Twain's older brother who served as secretary to Territorial Gov. William Nye, was built in 1863 and was called "the Governor's Mansion," though the real Governor's Mansion wouldn't be built until 1909.
 - Rinckel Mansion, built by the fortune of Mathias Rinckel, a forward-looking meat magnate who struck it rich supplying Gold Rushers and Lake Tahoe lumbermen.
 - Lee House, also known as Judge Clark J. Guild home, Lee, a prominent doctor and surgeon for the Virginia & Truckee Railroad, built the home from the lumber of the razed school on the same sites.
 - St. Teresas Catholic Church, the first in Carson City, which was built in 1871.
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'DURGA and the Story of the

Drum' at LTCC

DURGA, featuring Liz Broscoe, will be presented at the Duke Theatre on the Lake Tahoe Community College Campus on Aug. 18 at 7:30 pm.

Tickets are \$15. Doors open at 6:30pm.



Liz Broscoe

Tickets are available by phone or in person at GaiaLicious, 987 Tallac Ave., South Lake Tahoe, (530) 542.4244.

Tickets will be available at the door the night of performance.

“DURGA and the Story of the Drum” is a multi-media “drumaganza.” The show teaches the rich history of universal connection that no other instrument conveys more powerfully than the drum. Showcasing film, narration and performance, DURGA celebrates community, unity and life because life is rhythm.

Broscoe created this original production.

CalFire: Evacuation plans, emergency kits save lives

Publisher's note: *This is the third of three articles from the Amador-El Dorado Unit of CalFire regarding the "Ready-Set-Go!" fire and life safety campaign.*

By Teri Mizuhara

CAMINO – "Leave your home before you are ordered to evacuate. You will not only be giving your family the best chance of surviving a wildfire, but you will also be helping emergency service vehicles by keeping the roads clear. Plan today and have at least two escape routes out of your neighborhood. Drive them in the day and night so you are comfortable with the routes. You don't want to guess how to get out of your neighborhood when heavy smoke and flames are surrounding you," says CalFire's Amador-El Dorado Unit Chief Kelly Keenan.



Preparation is the key to a smooth evacuation. Make sure your evacuation kits are prepared for every member of your family now in the event you have to evacuate later this summer. Your kit(s) should have enough supplies for a minimum of 72 hours (three days) without any outside assistance. Plan for a minimum of a gallon of water per day per person, non-perishable food, medications, clothes, toiletries, flashlights with spare batteries, radio, first aid kit, etc.

Don't forget about your family pets, they too will need their own evacuation kits with water, food, cages, crates, collars-leashes, etc. You can find more information at our website, FEMA, and the Humane Society.

"Don't forget to practice your evacuation drill. Everything you are planning on taking should fit in your smallest vehicle since you may not have your larger vehicle at home at the time

of an emergency. Review your plans, phone lists, meeting areas and other important details with your family members. Post instructions and lists in a highly visible area of your house and never stay behind and hide, it is the quickest way to becoming a fire victim. Remember, disaster preparedness begins and ends with you. Thank you for planning to survive,” Keenan adds.

For more detailed information on what you have read, visit CalFire’s website or call (530) 644.2345 to receive a free brochure on the Ready-Set-Go program and evacuation tips for your family and pets.

Young Shakespeare Program on stage throughout region

This month the Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival proudly presents the D.G. Menchetti Young Shakespeare Program – celebrating its 10th anniversary of entertaining families and connecting young audiences to the classics.

An interactive, free and family-friendly performance adaptation of William Shakespeare’s “Twelfth Night” designed to complement the festival’s main stage production – with the young audience member in mind, the D.G. Menchetti Young Shakespeare Program runs through Aug. 11 at Sand Harbor State Park and at venues throughout Tahoe-Reno.

Co-directed by Joe Attack and Michelle Calhoun-Fitts, this season’s production features a fun-filled adventure set in the early 1900s. “Twelfth Night” tells the tale of young Viola who, after being shipwrecked on an island and having lost her twin brother Sebastian, must disguise herself as a man to

survive in a unknown, new world. Widely regarded as one Shakespeare's greatest comedies, "Twelfth Night" brims with mistaken identity, larger than life characters and swashbuckling swordplay. Audiences will be involved in the action as well when an extraordinary company of professional and young actors, acting side-by-side on stage, bring many of Shakespeare's most memorable characters to life.

The D.G. Menchetti Young Shakespeare Program serves as an internship program for young and aspiring actors/artists. The program is modeled after a fully professional production process, complete with a rigorous rehearsal period and a full company of professional actors, designers and production team members. Each young actor is mentored by a professional artist beginning in rehearsal and carrying through to performance – receiving hands-on instruction in acting, movement, stage combat and voice – with an emphasis on Shakespeare's language.

All performances of the D.G. Menchetti Young Shakespeare Program's production of "Twelfth Night" are free to young people of all ages and their chaperones. Seating is on a first-come, first-served basis and reservations are required. Please note that the parking fee at Sand Harbor State Park performances is \$10 (in-state) and \$12 (out-of-state) per vehicle. Call (775) 831.0494 to reserve parking and make arrangements for buses.

To reserve tickets, go online.

Program calendar:

Aug. 2-4: Warren E. Trepp Stage (Sand Harbor State Park), 10am

Aug. 5: Tahoe Tallac Site, Boat House Theatre (South Lake Tahoe) at 11am and 2pm

Aug. 8: Robert Z. Hawkins Amphitheatre (Bartley Ranch, Reno) at 7pm

Aug. 9-11: Warren E. Trepp Stage (Sand Harbor State Park) @ 10am.

Tahoe Tails – Adoptable Pets in South Lake Tahoe

Smoky is a very nice medium hair cat. She is 2 years old and is an indoor cat.



She has lived with other cats, dogs and children, and so would fit into most homes. She loves to play with laser pointers and dangling toys.

Also, the shelter is currently running a special – there are so many adult cats at the shelter, that the adoption fee has been lowered to \$40 to increase the chances of adult cats of finding a new home soon. Consider adopting an adult cat this week.

Smoky is spayed, microchipped, 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.

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

Music on the beach supports TAP

Tahoe Arts Project is having an evening of music on the beach on Aug. 4 from 7-9pm.

Lakeshore Lodge and Spa in South Lake Tahoe is hosting this benefit for Tahoe Arts Project that will feature the music of Niall McGuinness, Trey Stone and Rocky Sleight. Bring blankets and low back chairs, but no pets.

Hot dogs, sodas and baked goods will be available for sale. A suggested donation of \$10 per person will support Tahoe Arts Project's mission of bringing professional performing arts into the schools and community of South Lake Tahoe.

Call (530) 542.3632 for more information.