

Reno Air Races to be featured in IMAX documentary

By David Hagle, Reno Gazette-Journal

The National Championship Air Races and Air Show is joining the ranks of volcanoes, whales and space travel with a large-format IMAX documentary film about the event, slated for release in February.

Pretend Entertainment producers Raul Leckie and Christian Fry labored a half dozen years to share this local spectacle.

"The first time I went I was aware that this was just such a unique event," Fry said. "This is a story that really needs to be brought to a broader audience."

Fry, a recreational pilot, knew racers who flew every September in the Air Races at the Reno Stead Airport.

He was familiar with the event and the area thanks to family ties – his grandfather, Dick Graves, owned the Nugget in Sparks before John Ascuaga.

After attending in 2003, his connections helped him get to know the Reno Air Racing Association, which runs the Air Races.

[Read the whole story](#)

Toccata brings music to

Tahoe, Reno

The Tahoe Symphony Orchestra (Toccata) continues 2011 Big Blue Summer MusicFest with a series that celebrates Baroque Masters. The program includes works by G.P. Teleman, Handel, Vivaldi, and features J.S. Bach's Cantata No. 140 – "Wachet Auf" featuring the Toccata Chorus and vocal soloists.

Concerts are:

Aug. 13 at 7:30pm at St. Patricks Episcopal Church in Incline Village

Aug. 14 at 3pm at St. Theresa Catholic Church in South Lake Tahoe

Aug. 16 at 7:30pm at St. Thomas Aquinas Cathedral in Reno

Aug. 21 at 4pm at Trinity Episcopal Church in Reno.

Tickets are \$25 adults, \$20 seniors, (62 and up), and \$5 students. Preferred seating is \$35. Children under 12 enter free with a paying adult. Tickets can be purchased in advance by credit card online or at the door by cash or check.

For more information, call (775) 313.9697.

Relay for Life returns to South Shore

South Shore Relay for Life is Aug. 13 from 11am-11pm at Kahle Community Park.



The schedule:

11am – Opening Ceremony

11:30 – Survivor/Caregivers Celebration Lap

noon – Music, games and fund-raising begins, silent auction, water balloon toss and wet T-shirt pass

1pm – Kickball tournament

2pm – Island lap/Hula Hoop contest

3pm – Survivor Lunch/BBQ, \$10 donation from non-survivors

4pm – TBA

5pm – TBA

6pm – TBA

7pm – Dog Walk Lap (only time pets can be at park), \$10 donation

8pm – S'mores at the Pavilion, closing of silent auction

9pm – Super Hero Lap

10pm – Luminaria Ceremony, Silent lap with main lights out

11pm – Closing Ceremony.

Feel free to set up tents and stay the night. Clean up at 8-9am with coffee and pastries.

For more information, contact Michelle Hale with the American Cancer Society at (775) 828.2203.

Lady A concert blurs lines between country and rock

By Kathryn Reed

STATELINE – If the phone rang at a quarter after one Saturday morning, blame it on Lady Antebellum. As an encore to their 17-song concert Friday night, the trio delivered their most recognizable song “Need you now.”

And to make sure the audience knew the lyrics, they were asked to sing the chorus as their own encore. After all, many at the sold-out concert at Harveys had been singing most of the night.

It's a quarter after one

I'm all alone

And I need you now

Said I wouldn't call

But I've lost all control

And I need you now



Lady
Antebellum

plays a sold-out show July 29 in Stateline.
Photos/Kathryn Reed

The ballad earned Lady A, as fans call them, Song of the Year honors at this year's Grammy Awards. They collected four other statuettes that night – Record of the Year, Best Country Performance by a Duo or Group with Vocals, Best Country Song, and Best Country Album.

Having released their first album just three years ago, they aren't slowing down. Their next album "Own the night" will be in stores Sept. 13. They played songs from it, including the title track.

"That's the whole concept of the next album – own the night. Live in the moment," vocalists Charles Kelley told the crowd.

Hillary Scott and Kelley's voices are much more powerful live than recorded. Watching the two of them interact on stage is a bit like a music video with the subtle choreography.

Dave Haywood, while he sings, is better known for the work he does with his hands – whether it's stroking the keyboard, guitar or mandolin.

They write most of their work, though sometimes record songs from others. "Hello world" is one of those songs, which they executed so well midway through the concert.

Scott rivaled Sara Evans' rendition of "A little bit stronger" – and with good reason, Scott penned the lyrics.



Charles Kelley
and Hillary
Scott

Kelley spent most of the time interacting with the audience, crooning to those in the front row as he paraded around the stage in jeans that left nothing to the imagination and a tight V-neck T-shirt.

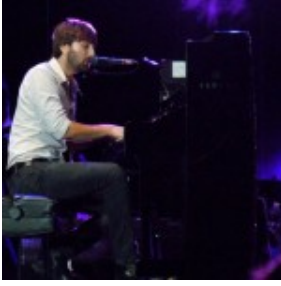
"This is the most beautiful area I've ever seen. It's gorgeous," Kelley said.

Scott, too, played to the crowd. In particular she singled out 8-year-old Mackenzie, saying how "American honey" reminded her when she was the youngster's age.

Despite this being their third time to play the South Shore, most in the audience were first-timers to see the group live. Three years ago they made an appearance at the Hark Rock. In May 2010, Lady A opened for Tim McGraw. By that time they were winning Grammys and Country Music Awards. It's hard to know if that concert sold-out because of Lady A or McGraw.

While Troy Olsen put on a good 30-minute act before Lady A took the stage, he clearly was the warm-up guy.

The whole night started a half hour late to accommodate Mother Nature who thought it a good idea to unleash a downpour as thousands of people were making their way to the outdoor venue.



Dave Haywood

Despite all the cowboy hats, at times it felt and sounded more like a rock concert with the five-member back-up band and the lights.

While all of this brought a tremendous amount of energy to the show and had people dancing more than sitting, the rock overpowered the country.

Being confused about the genre of music was reinforced when they played Aerosmith's "Sweet Emotion" and Prince's "Kiss."

After their 90-minute performance, my mom said, "It was good, but that was not country."

Playing Lady Antebellum's "I need you now" album in the car while waiting 50 minutes (no exaggeration) to get out of the parking garage had her back believing they are country artists.

Harveys Outdoor Concert Series has five more shows:

Aug. 9 – Phish – sold out

Aug. 10 – Phish – sold out

Aug. 13 – Big Four

Aug. 19 – Miranda Lambert with Little Big Town

Sept. 10 – Sammy Hagar & The Wabos.

Lecture and hike about Tahoe's volcanic history

Professor Frank DeCourten is giving a lecture one day and leading a hike the next about the volcanic rocks in the Lake Tahoe region.

He plans to reconstruct the volcanic history of the area in non-technical terms.

The Aug. 6 hike will provide opportunities to directly explore the volcanic rocks and landscape features along the portion of the Pacific Crest Trail between the trailhead on Old Highway 40, through the Sugar Bowl ski area and along the Judah Loop to Roller Pass.

The lecture is Aug. 5 at the Olympic Village Lodge, Squaw Valley. No-host bar social hour begins at 6:30pm, with the program at 7pm.

It is free for Squaw Valley Institute members, \$10 for others.

The hike begins at 8:30am at the Pacific Crest Trailhead parking area off Old Highway 40 (Donner Pass Road). The fees are the same as the lecture.

Space is limited. Tickets may be purchased online.

Cat adoption fee reduced in El Dorado County

El Dorado County Animal Services is temporarily reducing the adoption fee to half price for kittens and cats due to an unusually late kitten season and a recent surge in the number of felines at its shelters. The fee to adopt a cat or kitten, which is normally \$80, will be reduced to \$40 through Sept. 30.

Adoptable felines are vaccinated, spayed or neutered, and have a microchip. The kittens are also litter box trained and socialized.

The animal shelters are located at 1120 Shakori Drive in South Lake Tahoe and 511 Placerville Drive in Placerville. They are open Monday through Saturday from 9:30am-noon and 1-4:30pm.

Pictures of adoptable pets can be found online via Animal Services' website.

To reach the shelters with questions about adoption, call (530) 573. 7925 in South Lake Tahoe and (530) 621-5795 in Placerville.

Golf tourney helps fund cancer center in Truckee

Tahoe Forest Health System raised more than \$119,000 to benefit Tahoe Forest Cancer Center at its annual Gene Upshaw Memorial Golf Classic charity event. The cancer center is projected to open in 2012.

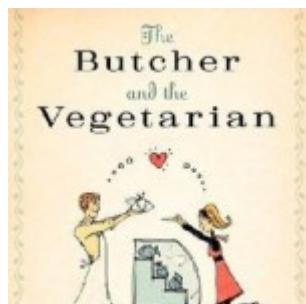
Support for fundraising events like this one assists in gaining awareness for the ongoing need to support local cancer programs.

The Gene Upshaw Memorial Golf Classic originated three years ago to provide a source of funding for pancreatic cancer research through the Tahoe Institute for Rural Health Research, and to honor the death of sports legend Gene Upshaw who died of pancreatic cancer at the age of 63. Upshaw fought his battle with pancreatic cancer at Tahoe Forest Hospital in Truckee. He was a founding member of the golf club at Gray's Crossing, where the golf tournament is played each year, and was an avid lover of the Truckee/North Tahoe area and lifestyle.

‘Butcher and the Vegetarian’ – a delicious read

By Kathryn Reed

Our relationship with food seems to always be evolving. Tastes change. New foods are incorporated into our repertoire. Friends and eating are woven together.



All of these concepts and so much more are melded into the pages of “The Butcher and the Vegetarian” by Tara Austen Weaver.

The 228-page hardcover from 2010 is one woman’s struggles to figure out what diet is best for her to be healthy.

She grew up as a vegetarian, with her mother still not putting meat products past her lips. But then doctors tell Weaver eating meat will make her healthy.

Weaver is reluctant to embrace her doctor's theory. But finally she gives in. Her description of trying to figure out what meat to buy, let alone how to cook it is comical – and yet so believable.

She calls bacon “the gateway drug.”

Her quest takes her beyond the butcher shop and to the land where her meat is coming from.

She doesn't let cookbooks alone teach her how to prepare meat, but instead gets lessons from a barbecue master.

It's the honesty in her words that comes through – the struggles of her childhood, ethical choices about meat and eating locally, and deciding to listen to her body above all else.

It's one of those books that is not geared to a specific category of food eater. Meat and non-meat eaters who have given an ounce of thought about what they eat and where it comes from will be able to relate to most aspects of the book.

Weaver does not lecture. It's her reality she is writing about. Mostly she does so in a light-hearted, captivating manner that keeps the pages turning.

Great Gatsby Gala is a trip

back in time

Put on your Glad Rags for the Great Gatsby Gala on Aug. 13 at MontBleu in Stateline.

Attire is 1920s. Free Charleston lessons will be given.

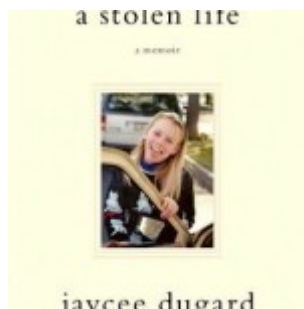
Cocktails are at 6:30pm, dinner 7pm, dancing at 8pm. Dinner and dancing is \$60; just dancing is \$20.

Tickets are available at both Tahoe Youth & Family Services offices, 1021 Fremont Ave., South Lake Tahoe (530) 541.2445 or in Gardnerville at 1422 Mission St. (775) 782.4202. Tickets may also be purchased online. All proceeds go to Tahoe Youth & Family Services.

Dugard's book breathing life into publishing world

By Ben Schenkel, Sacramento Bee

Jaycee Lee Dugard's memoir, "A Stolen Life," has been zipping off bookstore shelves since its release two Tuesdays ago.



Orders for new copies from Amazon.com are taking up to two months to fill. If that wait is too long, resellers at the website will sell you the tell-all – for nearly twice the price.

That's right, used.

That blockbuster of a book, along with George R.R. Martin's "A Dance With Dragons," has energized summer sales in an industry beset by upheaval.

Just last week, Borders announced the liquidation of its big-box stores, including five in the Sacramento area and the Carson City store. Amazon is resisting having to charge its California customers the state sales tax. Ironically, independent bookstores are holding their own in this morphing landscape, despite predictions to the contrary.

Though not exactly "beach reads," with their dark and complex premises, the Dugard and Martin books have transcended expectations for how they would sell and be read – and by whom.

They have seemingly little in common, besides their July 12 release date and their status as the top best-sellers nationwide.

"A Stolen Life" (Simon & Schuster, \$24.99, 288 pages) is the harrowing account of the 18 years the author spent in captivity and the abuses she endured.

"A Dance With Dragons" (Bantam, \$35, 1,040 pages) is the long-awaited fifth part of a fantasy series called "A Song of Ice and Fire." Its narrators are many and its conflicts all too unreal.

Retailers and publishing veterans say the books have attracted readers who wouldn't normally gravitate to those genres – or to any book whatsoever.

Read the whole story