Douglas County library events

“Make a Splash – Read!” is the theme of the Summer Reading Program for kids at the Douglas County Public Library.

Registration starts June 7. The program continues through Aug. 7.

Children will explore water through stories, songs, crafts, and other activities about oceans, rivers, lakes and the creatures that live there. The library has scheduled a variety of programs to keep kids reading all summer. The children’s program is open for ages infant to 12.

At the C.V.I.C. Hall in Minden on June 15 at 3-8:30pm is the Books are Fun Book Fair. Purchases help support the library. The Fratello Marionettes perform “The Frog Prince” at 6:30pm; the Library Foundation Ice Cream Social and Raffle runs from 7-8:30pm.

The Douglas County Public Library is located at 1625 Library Lane in Minden; and at 233 Warrior Way in Zephyr Cove.

For more information, call (775) 782.9841 or visit douglas.lib.nv.us.

International action sports film festival at MontBleu

After a hugely successful 10th anniversary in Salt Lake City earlier this year, X-Dance, the world’s premier international action sports film festival, is taking its award-winning films on the road – including being on the South Shore June 10-12.

XDance will screen top award-winning international films that feature wakeboarding, mountain biking, surfing, skateboarding, skiing, snowboarding and alpine adventure. In addition, X-Dance will host off-the-charts parties and incredible music to celebrate action sports culture.

Warren Miller, the godfather of action sports films, will attend the festivities at MontBleu in Stateline.

On June 10, 968 Park Hotel in South Tahoe will host a VIP event at the hotel to honor Miller.

For more information on the event and tickets, click here.

Events:

June 11:

$25 retail, $15 Wholesale

Screening Location – MontBleu showroom

5-9:45pm: Screenings, Entertainment and Awards

11pm-3am Vex Night Club After Party

June 12:

$35 Retail, $25 Wholesale

Screening Location – MontBleu showroom

5:30-9pm Screenings, Entertainment and Awards

9-11:30pm Live Music with Shcwayze

11:30pm-3am After party at Opal Ultra Lounge in MontBleu.

EDC Fair promises a ‘World of Fun’



Got the travel bug but not the cash? Have an itch to see the world but not the time? No worries, the folks at the El Dorado County Fair are working hard to bring the world to you –o r at least a few choice destinations. Planned for June 17-20 at the fairgrounds in Placerville, the fair’s theme this year is “A World of Fun at the El Dorado County Fair.”

“We figured that a lot people just don’t have the money right now, or the time for that matter, to take an extended family vacation. So, why not stage a vacation right here at home?” said Jody Gray, the fair’s chief executive officer. “It’s all part of our goal to create the ultimate ‘faircation’ for individuals and families, right here in El Dorado County.”

Some of the highlights of “A World of Fun at the El Dorado County Fair” include themed areas of popular vacation destinations taking people from Graceland to Hawaii. Then, jump over to Bourbon Street in New Orleans for Mardi Gras and on to Mexico and more. These themed areas offer fairgoers the chance to experience the sights, sounds, and tastes (food and drink) of other places without leaving home.

The four-day El Dorado County Fair also features all the favorite and traditional activities that people have come to know and love, from carnival rides to wine tasting and wheelbarrow racing to team penning.

Enjoy a full schedule of music ranging from classic rock to blues and jazz to country. Music highlights include the “Ultimate Elvis Experience” with Charlie Franks and headliner Lou Gramm, lead singer of the band Foreigner. A Vaudeville

cowboy show, Nevada gunfighters, Polynesian dancers, the destruction derby (additional charge), and a hypnotist, all help to round out a full schedule of entertainment.

Of course, no fair would be complete without animals. Traditional livestock competitions and exhibits, including the Mother Lode Fair Circuit Horse Show, take place throughout the fair's four-day run. Or, if you have something more exotic in mind, check out the menagerie of creatures in Planet Animal.

El Dorado County Fair is not simply a spectator sport. The fair features contests galore. Whether you prefer mutton bustin' or photography, hay bucking or winemaking, the fair offers plenty of opportunities to get involved. A couple of highlights this year include the El Dorado County Fair Idol contest and the Battle of the Bands just for young musicians (high school and younger).

Visit www.eldoradocountyfair.org for guidelines on how to enter the many contests and other events at the fair, as well as to view a full schedule of activities.

Truckee film company scores big at Houston festival

Eureka Productions of Truckee won six awards this month at the 43rd annual Worldfest-Houston International Film festival.

"We are delighted to say that your Remi Award assumes a very special significance this year, as more than 4,200 category entries were competing from 32 countries," Hunter Todd, director of WorldFest Houston, said in a press release.

Eureka Productions' awards include "how-to" instructional videos, a screen play and a documentary about world peace. The complete award list is below, and samples of Eureka Productions videos may be viewed on Youtube.

1. Platinum Remi Award: "Breath through the Pain" category 109A Television Live

2. Silver Remi "Forging a Cherokee Life" category 219 How to Instruction

3. Silver Remi "Tapping into the Collective Unconscious" category 307 documentary under 60 min.

4. Bronze Remi " World Peace Tour" category 255 World Peace and Understanding

5. Bronze Remi " A Pilgrimage Journey Three Generations" category 103 A Cultual

6. Bronze Remi "All American Boy" category 702 Biographical

Eureka Productions also has an office in Mendocino. The film company specializes in martial arts and social issues documentary videos. Martial arts production department focuses on cutting edge presentations of qigong, meditation, healing, and the internal martial arts.

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16 scholarships awarded to South Shore students

By Laurie Brazil

Soroptimist International of Tahoe Sierra hosted an early

morning breakfast to award 16 scholarships and most improved distinctions to local students.

Students were represented by St. Theresa, South Tahoe Middle, South Tahoe High and Whittell High schools.



Some of the students honored by SITS.

The early risers attending last week included awarded students, family, faculty, administrators, counselors, local dignitaries and Soroptimist members. Each recipient had to be nominated, while the college-bound scholarships were based on applications submitted with academic achievements and honors, athletics, extra-curricular activities, community service, grade point average, letters of recommendation and national tests scores.

Meritorious awards went to most-improved: Steve Huerta, Wendy Cervantes, Ileana Peredo and Michael Pesci from STMS; Catherine Montgomery from St. Theresa, Kevin Shirley and Amy Fullbright from STHS and Corinne Novotny, Josh Peterson, Julian Washalesky and Phil Gielow from WHS.

Monetary scholarships were lauded to Victoria Lenstrom, Ashley Killeen, Sarah Breisacher and Melissa Ewing from STHS and Lauren Andrew from WHS. This last group of awardees were incredibly accomplished, gifted and well-rounded and will be attending colleges from UNR, UC Santa Cruz, UC San Diego and Saint Mary’s.

The annual Elegant Evening fundraiser is the event that garners the majority of the funding for these valuable and necessary programs for our youth.

For more information on any of the Soroptimist International of Tahoe Sierra programs check www.sitahoesierra.org or become a fan on Facebook www.facebook.com to be informed of all events and club happenings.

Laurie Brazil is a member of Soroptimist International Tahoe Sierra.

Smoke detectors key to saving lives

By Christina Hansen

For any family, safety is paramount – especially related to fire and carbon monoxide poisoning. With their proven ability to double a family's chance of surviving a residential fire, smoke detectors are one of the most valuable fire safety tools on the market – yet we tend to take them for granted. And, carbon monoxide – appropriately dubbed "the silent killer" – also gets little or no attention in many homes.

Smoke alarms are such a common presence in our homes that it's easy to just expect them to work every time. But like many other devices and appliances around the house, smoke detectors require regular cleaning and maintenance to function effectively. Many models on the market offering smoke and carbon monoxide detection – an often overlooked consideration.



Change smoke detector batteries annually.

To ensure the best family fire safety, smoke and carbon monoxide detection possible, consider these tips:

Easy Fire Safety Strategies:

• If you have children in the house, always store candles and matches well out of their reach, either in a locked drawer or on a high shelf.

• Always keep space heaters a minimum of 3 feet away from flammable materials like paper, clothing, bedding and draperies.

• Never leave food that’s being cooked on the stovetop or under the broiler unattended – if you need to leave the kitchen, turn off the heat source.

• Keep a small multipurpose fire extinguisher (one that’s approved by a testing laboratory) in your home for putting out small fires.

• If you have a fireplace, be sure to have it cleaned by a professional once a year to remove flammable soot, and always keep screen in place to catch flying sparks.

• When grilling outdoors, always use the appropriate type of lighter fluid, and never add more after the fire is lit – this can cause flames to flare up and spread to other objects or

areas.

Smoke Alarm Maintenance Musts:

• Keep them clean. Use your vacuum cleaner’s upholstery attachment to clear way dust and cobwebs. And if the manufacturer’s instructions say that it’s safe to, gently vacuum inside the detector as well.

• Change the batteries once a year. Choose a date that’s easy to remember, like a birthday, anniversary, or the day you switch over to daylight-saving time.

• Test your smoke detectors every month. Just press the test button – if the alarm sounds, it works. Want to be extra sure? Light a candle, blow it out, and then hold it below the detector – the trailing smoke should set the alarm off.

Facts to Know About Carbon Monoxide:

• Carbon Monoxide (CO) is produced when wood and fossil fuels like oil, natural gas, charcoal, kerosene and gasoline don’t burn completely.

• CO can’t be seen, smelled, or tasted – that’s why its nickname is “the silent killer.” Only a carbon monoxide detector can warn you that CO is present.

• CO poisoning often feels like the flu, with symptoms like fatigue, muscle aches, nausea and headache, but can progress to disorientation, elevated heart rate, convulsions, organ damage, and even death.

• Carbon monoxide harms people by blocking oxygen from entering the bloodstream. CO bonds to the hemoglobin in blood, preventing it from doing its job: carrying oxygen throughout your body.

• When you’re asleep, you can’t feel CO symptoms. Make sure that carbon monoxide detectors are installed in all bedrooms

and sleeping areas of your home – they save lives.

Creating an Escape Plan:

Does your family know where to go and what to do if your smoke alarm or carbon monoxide detector goes off? If not, now is the time to make a plan.

• Walk through your home with your children and point out all possible exits, like doors, windows and fire escapes.

• Sit down together to draw a map of your home, and mark the shortest escape routes from each room.

• Choose someplace safe and familiar outside your home where family members can meet in an emergency, such as a neighbor's house, a nearby street sign, or a lamp-post.

• Pair young, elderly, or handicapped members of your household with an "escape buddy" who can help them safely leave the house during a fire or any other emergency.

• Hold practice escape drills every few months, both day and night, so that your family is extremely familiar with the procedure should an emergency ever occur.

Christina Hansen is a product specialist at CableOrganizer.com.

AAUW home tour in Angora burn area

For the 2010 Home Tour, South Lake Tahoe AAUW Branch is featuring seven rebuilt and renovated homes in the North Upper

Truckee Road neighborhood. Ranging from cozy to spacious, these homes are filled with carefully thought out details, fine craftsmanship, and environmentally friendly features. Light refreshments will be served in the garden of an eighth home.

Early on the windy Sunday afternoon of June 24, 2007, what came to be called the Angora Fire erupted near Seneca Pond. When it was over, 254 homes in nearby neighborhoods were destroyed and more than 3,000 acres of forest land burned. The residents never gave up and by this winter a majority of the homes had been rebuilt.

Proceeds from the tour benefit camperships and scholarships for local girls and women.

When: June 26

Time: Noon-4pm

Tickets:$20 in advance – $25 on tour day. Sold by AAUW members, and at vendors in town before the tour,and at featured homes on tour day.

More info: Contact Kay at kmhende@charter.net

Tickets go on sale June 1 at the following South Shore outlets:

Alpaca Pete’s, 3008 Highway 50, Meyers

Visitor Center, 3066 Lake Tahoe Blvd., South Lake Tahoe

Curves, 2482 Lake Tahoe Blvd., South Lake Tahoe

Explore Tahoe, 4114 Lake Tahoe Blvd., South Lake Tahoe

Or mail ticket orders to:

AAUW Home Tour

c/o Bonnie Driscoll

P.O. Box 18523

South Lake Tahoe, CA 96151

Tahoe added to firm’s list of destinations

Rocky Mountain Vacation Rentals added Lake Tahoe this month to its inventory of vacation rental units.

“By extending our online availability to these new locations, our customers will gain access to an additional 2,000 rental units that can all be reserved online,” Rocky Mountain Vacation Rentals owner and founder Tommy Z. Hoffman said in a statement. The rentals will be accessible online 24 hours a day where potential and returning customers may browse, view, and reserve vacation condos, townhomes, lodges, and private homes.

The addition of online booking for the new markets will be accessible this summer.

Rocky Mountain Vacation Rentals’ current online inventory includes vacation rentals in Vail, Beaver Creek, Aspen, Snowmass, Breckenridge, Keystone, and Copper Mountain resort markets.

In addition to Lake Tahoe, the new areas include Crested Butte, Jackson Hole, Park City, Mammoth and Whistler vacation rental markets.

Geotourism meeting in Tahoe City

The National Geographic Society has partnered with the Sierra Nevada Conservancy and Sierra Business Council to capture the history and heritage of the Sierra Nevada in order to create an interactive Web site and print map. The project partners are inviting the public to make nominations inspiring history buffs and adventurers, backpackers and foodies, birders and sightseers to discover unique destinations in the Sierra Nevada.

The Sierra Nevada Geotourism project is an effort designed to create consumer awareness of sustainable destinations in the region by engaging local communities in defining those places. The project aims to stimulate rural development, cultivate local pride and foster stewardship of the region's unique natural and cultural assets by identifying, documenting and sharing them through print and online media.

Nominations can be made by attending a regional forum or by visiting the Sierra Nevada Geotourism website.

What: An insider's view on submitting successful nominations followed by networking reception

Where: Granlibakken Conference Center & Lodge, Tahoe City

When: June 2, 3:30pm

Celio property focal point of annual garden tour

The Lake Tahoe Historical Society's 7th annual Garden Tour is likely to prove to be a bit different, according to organizers.

The event is July 31 from 10am-4pm. All gardens are in El Dorado County. Five of the eight gardens are on land once owned by the Celio family.

"We will tell the story of this pioneer family and refreshments will be served at the Celio ranch. The Celios are very protective of their property, and it is a real privilege to experience the ranch," organizer Lynne Bajuk said. "Two of the gardens have amazing vegetable plots. All are owner created. Our theme is cowboy/ranching."

The reception will be outdoors and does not include visits inside any of the Celio buildings.

Tickets are $20 and may be purchased after July 1 at the museum at 3058 Lake Tahoe Blvd., South Lake Tahoe and at Aspen Hollow, Tahoe Outdoor Living, Nel's and SunBasin. Tickets are limited and last year it sold-out.

For more information, call (530) 541.5458.