

Tahoe resident part of federal investigation into CalPERS

By Dale Kasler, Sacramento Bee

Federal officials are investigating possible ties between CalPERS' former chief executive, a controversial former board member and a financier who just pleaded guilty in a New York pension fund corruption case.

Court records show the Securities and Exchange Commission issued a subpoena in June to financier Elliott Broidy, who pleaded guilty Thursday to felony charges that he showered nearly \$1 million in illegal gifts on state officials in New York.

The federal enforcement agency demanded records of any contacts Broidy had with former CalPERS CEO Fred Buenrostro and former CalPERS board member Alfred Villalobos, among others.

[Read the whole story](#)

South Tahoe workforce housing project receives state funds

South Lake Tahoe's Redevelopment agency is about to have \$2.1 million from the state.

California's Department of Housing and Community Development

approved the Aspens Multi-Family Housing Development.

The workforce housing will be next to Fire Station No. 1 on Pioneer Trail, have 48 lower-income units, eight moderate income units, have a 1,800-square-foot community building, a 1,600-square-foot playground facility, and all buildings will be LEED certified.

Total project cost is \$16 million. This includes the \$2.1 million from the state, a city RDA loan of \$1.5 million and tax credits of approximately \$2 million.

The city, in a press release, said it intends to use all legal means to encourage the developer to purchase building supplies locally and hire qualified local residents during construction phase of the project.

The next steps for the project are City Planning Commission review on Dec. 10 and TRPA Governing Board review later this month.

Lego competition leads to creation of fire camera

Publisher's note: *The first prototype camera was installed this week. A handful more will put on Lake Tahoe mountaintops this summer.*

By Jenifer Gee, Auburn Journal

Six kids from Meadow Vista have designed one project that just might change the world.

Recently, Sony Europe announced the test launch of the Forest

Guard system, which was an idea that originated from members of the Lego Guards team in Meadow Vista.

In May 2009, the team traveled to Denmark and won an international competition for their idea on how a combination of cameras and screen savers can help residents in wooded areas keep an eye out for wildfires in the forests surrounding them.

[Read the whole story](#)

Reno airport increasing number of flights

Reno Gazette-Journal

The Reno-Tahoe International Airport will add eight new flights, and some will start this month.

Four flights will be added on a seasonal basis for holiday and ski travel through the first quarter of 2010, and four more will be added on a year-round basis, airport officials said.

In January, the number of flights from Reno-Tahoe will grow to 63, marking the first increase in the number of departures since the jet fuel crisis began in July of 2008.

[Read the whole story](#)

Media outlets sue for access to Garrido parole files

By Sam Stanton and Denny Walsh, Sacramento Bee

The *Bee* sued the state corrections department today along with two other news media, seeking to force the release of documents outlining how parole agents supervised accused kidnapper Phillip Garrido over the course of 10 years during which he allegedly held Jaycee Lee Dugard as his prisoner.

The suit, filed in Sacramento Superior Court this afternoon, is the latest effort by the newspaper to gain access to the documents, which corrections officials have refused to release since August.



Phillip
Garrido

KCRA-TV (Channel 3) and the *San Francisco Chronicle* joined the *Bee* in the suit against the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and the California Inspector General's office.

Read the whole story

Wild weather moving into LT Basin

By Jeff DeLong, Reno Gazette-Journal

Snow showers and plummeting temperatures are expected in the Reno-Tahoe area Saturday as a major shift in the weather pattern takes shape for next week.

A second, significant snow-producer is possible Monday, while a warmer storm packing plenty of subtropical moisture is expected later in the week. "It's definitely a change.

"We haven't had warm and wet like that yet," said Shane Snyder, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Reno.

[Read the whole story](#)

Roberson jury to resume deliberations Monday

By Kathryn Reed

Jurors in the Ulysses Roberson murder trial retired midday Thursday and are expected to resume deliberations Monday.

The 12-member panel had a little drama this week when juror Katie Ross was dismissed without reason given. Replacing her is Chris Cefalu. Six alternate jurors have been part of the process since the trial started in early October.

El Dorado County Superior Court Judge Suzanne Kingsbury is

presiding.

Closing arguments wrapped up Tuesday morning, with the jury getting the case that afternoon. Jurors can set their own schedule for deliberations, thus the reason for having today off.

Roberson is accused of killing his 4-year-old son at a house in the Tahoe Keys in South Lake Tahoe in late 1985 or early 1986. Alexander Olive's body has never been found.

Throughout the trial Roberson has been draped in Muslim garb, with a skull cap and flowing robe-like garment. He faces two enhancements to the murder charge – that the crime was racially motivated and one of torture.

The boy's mother, Judy Olive, is white. She has been in court most days and was one of the nearly 60 witnesses to take the stand.

If convicted, Roberson faces life in prison without the possibility of parole.

Legal experts discuss attempt to oust attorney in Dugard case

By Sam Stanton, Sacramento Bee

The images conjured up by the allegations against Nancy Garrido's attorney are almost laughable: a lawyer drinking in his country club bar and boasting about the huge case he's been handed.

But are they enough to warrant his removal from the case?

That was the issue legal experts were considering this week as Gilbert Maines fought to stay on one of the biggest cases of any lawyer's career.

Read the whole story

South Tahoe treasurer resigns

By Kathryn Reed

Effective today, Stephen Wysong has resigned as treasurer of South Lake Tahoe, a position he has had since 1990.

Wysong is the second person to have this elected position – the other being John Upton. When the city was first incorporated in 1965 the treasurer position was not part of the mix.



Stephen Wysong

For a while, the treasurer attended City Council meetings. When Wysong realized no one was asking questions, he opted not to attend the lengthy sessions.

Wysong did not return calls or an email. He has been ill for a number of months.

"I was referred to Hospice care on November 24, 2009," Wysong wrote in his resignation letter. "My oncologist indicates I likely have three months or less to live."

The certified public accountant worked for the Internal Revenue Service before opening his own practice in South Lake Tahoe.

He and his first wife, Linda, raised their two children here. Andrew and Kelly were valedictorians of their classes at South Tahoe High School. Both went on to graduate from Cal.

"He never missed a Cal football game. He was very much a family man," said Jean Burns, who is a neighbor of Wysong and his wife, Robyn.

Burns said she is used to seeing Wysong out walking the family dogs.

"He is very much an animal lover," Burns said. "Their front door mat says 'this household is run solely for the comfort of our pets'."

Kiwanis has been a huge part of Wysong's life. Dave Borges met Wysong in 1985 in the service club.

"He has helped this community socially and economically," Borges said. "He is very unpretentious. If something needs to be done, he rolls up his sleeves and does it."

Borges relayed the story of how when Wysong was young he didn't do well in school until someone told him he needed glasses. His family was too poor to buy them. The Lions club came through with glasses and Wysong started producing A's in school.

Ron Weibel has also been a member of Kiwanis of Lake Tahoe with Wysong.

"He has been the backbone of the Kiwanis club for quite some

time,"Weibel said.

One trait Weibel said Wysong has is being a "tremendous listener". He also praised how good a father Wysong is.

He liked to play sports with his kids and continued to do so after they left home. Wysong was an avid skier in the winter and liked to be out on the lake in the summer.

As city treasurer, his main duties were to invest the city's funds.

The city has 30 days to appoint a replacement. If this doesn't happen, a special election must be called. This would likely cost about \$25,000.

Deputy City Treasurer MaryAnne Brand will fill the role until a permanent replacement is named. She is the person Wysong recommends serve out his term that expires at the end of 2010. She works in the city's finance department as well.

The council next meets Dec. 8 and the issue is on the agenda. If a decision is not made Tuesday, it's likely a special council meeting will need to be called.

Federal tourism act could benefit Tahoe

By Ray Hagar, Reno Gazette-Journal

Pending federal legislation that would establish a national visitors commission to promote the United States as a premiere international travel destination could be a boon for Nevada tourism, experts said.

“This is a great idea, and we do need to drive international travelers,” said Krys Bart, president and CEO of Reno-Tahoe International Airport. “We know that international travelers stay longer and spend more money.”

The Travel Promotion Act would establish a public-private entity similar to the convention and visitors authorities in Reno and Las Vegas. The new national travel commission would drive \$4 billion in new consumer spending and create 40,000 new jobs, according to Oxford Economics, which is a leading economic forecasting consultancy.

Read the whole story