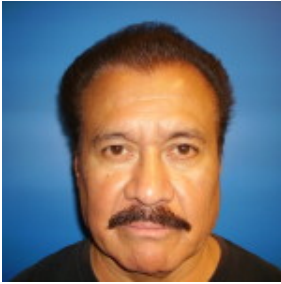


SLTPD looking for convicted sex offender

Rafael Corea, a convicted sex offender, is wanted by the South Lake Tahoe Police Department.



Rafael Corea

In 1995, Corea was convicted for lewd and lascivious acts with a teenager. This conviction requires him to register as a sexual offender for the remainder of his life. Last fall he failed to register with the South Lake Tahoe Police Department as a sexual offender.

Failure to register is a felony.

Detectives discovered Corea moved out of his former residence in South Lake Tahoe, and his current whereabouts are unknown.

Anyone who may have information about Corea is asked to call 530.542.6100, or remain anonymous by calling Lake Tahoe Secret Witness at 530.541.6800.

– *Lake Tahoe News staff report*

Popular vet killed self before sex crimes investigation completed

Well-known Carson Valley veterinarian Lance Gorrindo was under investigation for sex crimes with a minor before he committed suicide on Monday.

“At the time of Lance Gorrindo’s death he was the sole suspect being sought by the Douglas County Sheriff’s Office in connection to an active lewdness with a minor investigation. The identity of the victim is confidential by law and not subject to disclosure,” the sheriff’s department said in a statement April 8.

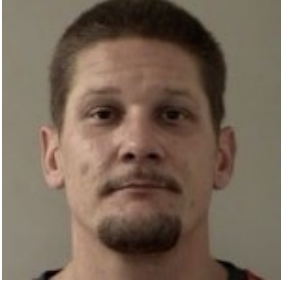
Gorrindo worked at Carson Valley Veterinary Hospital in Minden, where he had a number of Lake Tahoe clients.

The 39-year-old graduated from Douglas High School in 1995.

– Lake Tahoe News staff report

King Fire arsonist going to prison for 20 years

Wayne Allen Huntsman is going to prison for 20 years for starting the destructive 2014 King Fire.



Wayne Allen
Huntsman

In El Dorado County Superior Court in Placerville on Friday he changed his plea to guilty. Judge Daniel Proud handed Huntsman, 38, the maximum sentence. He was also ordered to pay \$60 million in restitution.

In addition to the more than 97,000 acres that burned that fall – mostly in the Eldorado National Forest – 12 houses and 68 outbuildings were destroyed at a loss of \$6.5 million. The fire started near Pollock Pines and spread rapidly from there in a northeast direction.

One firefighter was hurt fighting the blaze that took 27 days to contain.

Smoke from the fire could be seen from the Lake Tahoe Basin that fall.

Huntsman took video of himself at the scene became evidence.

The Pollock Pines man was tearful April 8 as he admitted to the crimes he was charged with.

“I’m pleading guilty because I’m guilty,” Huntsman told the court.

This **video** from the El Dorado County District Attorney’s Office shows how the investigation unfolded.

– Lake Tahoe News staff report

Spotlight on mental health on the South Shore

Publisher's note: *Beginning today Lake Tahoe News will be delving into the topic of mental health in the Lake Tahoe Basin. This is the first of several stories that will be running through October.*

By Jessie Marchesseau

Considering one in five adults experiences some sort of mental illness in any given year, it's no surprise this subject hits close to home for so many.

Yet even with such high numbers, mental illness still carries a stigma. Doing away with this stigma is a key factor to ensure people receive the necessary treatment, explained Michael Ward, project facilitator for the Mental Health Cooperative on the South Shore. He said mental health needs to simply be considered a part of the health system as a whole, not a separate issue.



"We're not going to make real progress without helping our community to understand that it's OK to talk about these problems," said Rhonda Sneeringer, chief medical officer for Barton Health.

Barton hosted its third annual mental health forum on April 7 at Lake Tahoe Community College.

About 70 people attended, and nearly everyone seemed

passionate about the topic. Many were industry professionals such as doctors and therapists; some were employees and volunteers for local health organizations. Representatives from area schools attended, as did the South Lake Tahoe chief of police and community members whose lives have been affected by friends or family with mental illness.

And over the last few years local entities have been joining forces to make that a reality.

Progress so far

Talking about and recognizing mental health issues are some things health service providers have been encouraging within the community, especially with the younger generations. The fact that 50 percent of chronic mental illness begins by age 14 and 75 percent by 24 are reasons to make sure kids and teens are informed, too. This is partly why local schools were prolific recipients of the Barton Foundation's community health grants last year.

Kindle Craig, Barton Health's director of Strategy and Development, took a moment to acknowledge the grant recipients which also included Live Violence Free, NAMI (National Alliance for Mental Illness), Sierra Child and Family Services, and the South Tahoe Drug Free Coalition, as well as funding for brochure racks displaying informational mental health brochures.

Craig explained to *Lake Tahoe News* there is a waiting list to receive mental health treatment in South Lake Tahoe for all ages. Wait time depends on the specific circumstances of each individual, and navigating the system to find the correct type of treatment can be difficult.

This makes South Lake Tahoe's mental health needs seem dire. But as part of the larger picture, she said, in relation to the rest of California, South Lake's situation is comparatively not bad. However, being in a rural community

means that even one tragic mental health crisis, such as a suicide, can affect a large portion of the population.

These are some of the reasons Barton Health chose to lead the effort to improve the state of the local mental health system. But Craig stressed they are not doing it on their own; this is a collaborative effort between Barton, El Dorado County and other area health providers.

“We have a collective awareness of the issue, and we all have a collective buy-in,” Craig said.

She described it as all the entities extending their reach a little bit, and together they can fill in the gaps. This idea has proved effective, and the system has come a long way in recent years, thanks, in part, to annual forums like this one.

Last year’s forum was a full-day workshop out of which came the Mental Health Cooperative and a long list of goals for the following six months. Among those goals were a wellness service directory, securing new leadership for the local NAMI chapter, developing two new transition houses for those in need and opening a warming room for the homeless. Ward announced 95 percent of the dozens of goals on the list were completed within the specified timeframe.

After seeing how far the mental health arena has come, the focus turned to what will be coming up.



Barton Health's annual mental health forums are making a difference on the South Shore. Photo/Jessie Marchesseau

The future

First on the radar for the upcoming year is Mental Health Awareness Month in May. Entities all over town will be hosting events, some attendees even created events on the spot. A calendar will be available online within the next couple weeks. Buttons depicting green ribbons were distributed to wear, and residents were encouraged to raise awareness via social media throughout the month of May using the hashtag #eachmindmatters.

As for the Mental Health Cooperative, its list of initiatives for the upcoming year is lengthy but revolves around three main topics: access, awareness and resources. One of the first orders of business, however, is a trip to Washington, D.C., where representatives will be seeking grant money from the national Health Resources and Services Administration with which to implement these initiatives.

Barton is also making efforts to provide more access to mental health services. It has increased the number of available social workers and counselors, and will be hiring a psychiatrist this summer.

Even though substantial progress is being made, there is a long way to go. It is still essential for individuals to do their part.

How we can help

Sabrina Owens, program manager of El Dorado County Mental Health in South Lake Tahoe, gave a short presentation to educate viewers on how to recognize and take proper action when it comes to mental health issues. She pointed out how symptoms can often be vague and overlap from one illness to another. Symptoms such as excessive sleeping, dropping grades

in students and unusual behavior could be signs of a greater underlying problem.

Being able to diagnose the issue is not the goal, simply acknowledging an issue and encouraging the person to seek further evaluation is what is important. Time is of the essence in mental treatment, so she encouraged people to be diligent and not just let possible symptoms slide by.

The forum wrapped up with an interactive exercise where the room broke into groups, each with a specified “patient.” The groups then had the task of talking through the chain of events leading to recovery and identifying the issues that could arise along the way.

Obstacles including insurance, education, misdiagnosis, avoiding treatment and navigating the system were identified, among others. The exercise opened eyes and discussions about where the system can fall short, what could use more improvement, as well as how we can all help loved ones and others in our community get the treatment they deserve.

In the end, attendees from all walks of life left educated, inspired and motivated.

“We’re all just trying to create a vibrant, healthy community,” Ward said.

Anti-LGBT bill prompts business to relocate to Nev.

By Samantha Rea, Las Vegas Sun

In January, Georgia introduced the Religious Liberty Bill.

Known officially as the First Amendment Defense Act, it aims to “prohibit discriminatory action against a person who believes, speaks or acts in accordance with a sincerely held religious belief or moral conviction that marriage is or should be recognized as the union of one man and one woman.”

In other words, it allows business owners to refuse to serve same-sex couples.

When Kelvin Williams, founder of Atlanta-area telecommunications company 373K, found out about the bill, he announced on Twitter: “It’s time to relocate.”

Georgia Gov. Nathan Deal vetoed the Religious Liberty Bill on March 28, but the House speaker and lieutenant governor vowed to revive a version of the measure.

Williams said he planned to move his company to Delaware and Nevada.

Read the whole story

Tahoe Queen pays penalty for hydraulic leak

Aramark, the parent company of the Tahoe Queen, has paid the fine for releasing hydraulic fluid into Lake Tahoe last year.

The spill occurred at the Ski Run Marina in South Lake Tahoe on March 5, 2015. Nine gallons leaked from the vessel, with 4 reaching the lake.

Lahontan Regional Water Control Board could have fined the company \$10,000. Instead the penalty was \$4,983.

Nev. may be on verge of a lithium rush



Canada-based Pure Energy Minerals drills to test lithium levels in the groundwater near Tonapah. Photo/Provided

By Daniel Rothberg, Las Vegas Sun

About five years ago, prospectors rushed to Nevada seeking a key component of the batteries that power the modern economy, one reliant on cellphones and laptops.

The rush made sense, at first. The state was home to the only active lithium extraction operation in North America. Unlike in other regions with known lithium deposits, like South America and Australia, Nevada's deposits are easier to reach for executives at mining companies, most of which are headquartered in Canada. The state also has a stable regulatory process.

But when it comes to lithium, Nevada has been a double-edged sword. The quality of the lithium here is believed to be higher than in other areas, but the concentration of it is lower, making it more difficult to obtain large quantities through conventional extraction methods.

Read the whole story

EDC supes side with developer, not residents



This is a rendering of Dollar General that will face Main Street in Georgetown, though there is no entrance here.

“Like sex on an elevator, this project is wrong on so many levels.”

—Ron Sheckler, engineer

By Joann Eisenbrandt

PLACERVILLE – The El Dorado County Board of Supervisors chambers was filled April 5 with residents of Georgetown and

surrounding communities who had come to show their disapproval of the project that would allow construction of a Dollar General store on Main Street in downtown Georgetown.

They left even more frustrated after the board voted 4-1 to allow the store to move in.

Who is Dollar General?

Dollar General is a national chain offering lower-priced general merchandise and groceries in thousands of stores throughout the country, many of them situated in small rural communities like Georgetown. Their proposal to construct a 9,100 square-foot store on three combined parcels on Main Street reached the final step in the county approval process Tuesday. It was originally approved at staff level by El Dorado County Development Services Director Roger Trout. That approval was appealed to the Planning Commission. When the Planning Commission denied the appeal, that decision was appealed to the Board of Supervisors.

Does it fit in historic Georgetown?

There are several distinct layers to this controversial project. First, as evidenced by the impassioned pleas of residents to the board this week, is the appropriateness of the project at the proposed location. Georgetown is a historic former mining community located in one of the county's Rural Centers between Placerville and Auburn. Board-adopted Historic Design Guidelines say that new buildings in historic areas such as Georgetown should "generally conform to the types of architecture prevalent in the gold mining areas of California during the period of 1850 to 1910."

County planning staff found that the Dollar General project did "substantially conform to the HDG and would be compatible with the surrounding residential, community, park, and commercial uses within the Georgetown Main Street commercial area." Dollar General responded to citizen concerns about the

building design, changing it a number of times.

For many in Georgetown, however, that wasn't enough. Dave Souza, of the Georgetown Preservation Society, who filed the appeal of the Planning Commission's approval of the project, expressed the view of many when he said, "Put it somewhere else, just not on Main Street."

One area resident characterized the design changes this way: "It's like putting lipstick on a pig."

At 9,100 square feet, the building is almost twice the size of the largest building in the area, the Georgetown Post Office located directly behind the site. The remainder of Main Street is dotted with a mix of historic buildings and residences from the Gold Rush era.

May Harms of Garden Valley said emphatically, "We don't want Dollar General housed in its fake Gold Rush building."

Because of its size the building had to be configured with its public entrance on the side of the building, unlike other existing buildings that open directly onto Main Street. A loading dock, trash enclosure and truck turnaround area will face Main Street.

Janie Johnston expressed the concern that, "many residents might not realize that we will be looking at a loading area and a trash collection area."

Speakers told the board this project would forever alter the historic Gold Rush ambience and character of Georgetown; those things that make it a special place to live and which draw tourists to come and visit. Kat Mendenhall, an active member of what's known as the Divide community, acknowledged that Georgetown has struggled economically but felt Dollar General would not be a positive economic addition. She told the supervisors, "People don't come here to see what is new. They come here to see what is old."

A number of speakers referenced the generations-long residency of their families in the area. "It's a matter of the heart. The project may be legal, but for all the commenters it's like stabbing all their relatives in the heart," Ken Deibert of Garden Valley told the board.

Another tearful commenter said, "It would break my heart if this went into our town."

Economic impacts of the project

Sabrina Teller, an attorney from Remy, Moose, Manley who represents the project applicant Simon CRE, pointed to economic studies done by Dollar General that showed it will be an economic boost to the community, saying, "It won't (negatively) affect the economy of the community." Seven to 10 full- and/or part-time jobs will be created.

Leon Alevantis, who owns the historic Schmeder House and American River Inn properties directly across Main Street from the proposed site, disagreed, saying these properties will be most affected. His home and others in the area are currently being used as residences, but are actually zoned commercial.

"My property would have to be changed to commercial (use) because I could no longer use it as residential," he said, adding, "This is probably the best looking Dollar General in the country, but the footprint is not consistent with the size of the surrounding historic buildings."

The only speaker during the public comment portion of the meeting that spoke in favor of the project was El Dorado County Chamber CEO Laurel Brent-Bumb.

"Dollar General is trying to make the project fit into the surrounding area," she told the board. "It provides new opportunities for the community – jobs and the availability of products."

An audience member responded vocally to Brent-Bumb's comments, "Do you own property in Georgetown?"

Environmental issues

In addition to the emotional "compatibility" issue, there is a second, more technical layer. Were the environmental impacts of this project adequately examined and were sufficient mitigation measures proposed for such impacts that would reduce them to "less than significant"? The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) lays out the requirements for studying the environmental impacts of projects. The more significant the potential impacts, the more complex environmental documentation that is required. The county prepared a mitigated negative declaration saying that environmental impacts were reviewed and all of them could be reduced to "less than significant" through a variety of mitigation measures.

If such impacts cannot be reduced to insignificance, then CEQA requires that a more intensive environmental impact report be prepared. At the beginning of the meeting, Trout addressed this question saying that that county staff believes all CEQA questions had been adequately addressed and that everything was "done appropriately." He recommended that the board adopt the Mitigated Negative Declaration and mitigation measures, the mitigation monitoring program and deny the appeal. (The entire Dollar General project approval process is explained in more detail in [put in link to former article here](#) if you want.)

While CEQA does not address economic impacts of a project per se, it does address the environmental consequences if negative economic impacts of a project then lead to actual blight such as empty abandoned buildings.

Carolyn O'Conner told the supervisors, "It's ludicrous for you to rubber stamp this blight in that beautiful area. It will

bring down property values. It's imperative to consider that we don't want it. Take into consideration what we think should be done."

Ron Sheckler, who filed an earlier complaint with the federal EPA Wetlands Division and a complaint with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, stated that the size of the wetlands was inaccurately described in the mitigated negative declaration, being larger than the size allowed for an automatic exemption. Wetlands on the property will be filled in as part of the project. They drain from the property into Empire Creek, which then drains into the American River. Sheckler, an engineer, who also contacted the California State Division of Mines and Geology, raised concerns about a mine ventilation shaft that opens just outside the property line, but which might lead to other mining tunnels underneath the property. He asked for a mine engineering study to be done to determine exactly what is underneath the property.

Ed Hawkins referenced the water that runs through the property which he says the county documents referred to as "storm water," but which is actually part of Empire Creek. In addition to concerns over excessive runoff from the large roof and the additional impervious surface of the parking lot, Hawkins noted that under the project design, sewer effluent will be dripping into the soil just feet above the creek. He asked the board to come down on "the side of caution" and require a full EIR to analyze this and all the other potential environmental impacts.

The adequacy of the septic system was brought up at earlier meetings on the project and was raised again on April 5. Sue Taylor of Save Our County pointed to the fact that the project requires an advanced septic system. Taylor added that Greg Stanton, county Environmental Health Division director, had said the proposed system had not yet been approved and she thought that if the project is approved now, it will be a violation of General Plan requirements. Stanton told the board

that effluent will be distributed by a drip irrigation field and, "will be disposed of properly and is a cleaner effluent." The county will monitor the system once a year.

Ron Crone, former postmaster of the Georgetown Post Office, noted that when the post office was moved to its current site in the mid-1980s a full EIR was required. "They found that the wetlands were a possible red-legged frog habitat, which is a federally-protected endangered species." The post office, he added, "Had to put in a mound waste system with no leach lines. I can't understand how this (Dollar General) septic would comply." The mine ventilation shaft was also addressed in the post office EIR. Crone believes it was "part of the Woodside Mine. I think some of the shafts go under Dollar General."

The board reviews the process

Following the public comment session, the board asked questions of staff regarding the process that led up to this point. District 2 Supervisor Shiva Frentzen asked, "What standards are we using for approving this project?" Frentzen expressed her concerns over the possibility of extensive mining tunnels under the property. "We need to dig deeper into that issue," she said, "An EIR would address those concerns."

District 5 Supervisor Sue Novasel asked Roger Trout four questions: Does the project violate CEQA? Does the project violate the General Plan or the Zoning Ordinance? Have all the comments to the project been addressed? Did (Planning Commissioner Brian) Shinault have a conflict of interest?

Shinault, an architect, assisted the project proponent with the redesign of part of the building roofline, which the latest appeal termed a "conflict of interest." Trout answered no to all four questions.

Novasel responded, "The emotional testimony is different than what the appeal is about. It is about the technical issues."

Board chairman Supervisor Ron Mikulaco of District 1 asked Trout to go over the entire county approval and subsequent appeals process. Following Trout's explanation, Mikulaco said, "This (project) was contemplated as part of the 2004 General Plan. (The site) is zoned commercial ... this is a commercial project and I'll look at it that way. I'm not a social engineer." Mikulaco later added, "Right now there are three empty lots with nothing there. If we denied this, there's going to be nothing there on one of the few commercial properties in the area. If you deny this, in 10 years you will still have nothing."

Almost as one, the audience responded, "That's fine with us."

The last supervisor to speak was District 4 Supervisor Michael Ranalli. Georgetown is located in District 4. Ranalli asked project proponents a series of pointed questions he said "need to be asked and answered even if they are outside the scope of our decision." "Why is Dollar General proposing this site," Ranalli asked Sabrina Teller. "How did we get to this point? What role did government play?"

Teller responded that she didn't represent Dollar General, but represents "the buyer that will be the landlord for Dollar General. I am a CEQA attorney." Teller did note, however, that Dollar General saw an "untapped economic niche and demand," adding that Dollar General "is not a Dollar Tree. It's not a trinket store. It's a grocery store."

Ranalli noted that the location was selected as early as 2012. Asked later by *Lake Tahoe News* if the process could have been stopped sooner before Dollar General became so "invested," he responded, "Only if prior policymakers knew it was being contemplated. I was sworn in in January 2015, and Dollar General already had a contract for the property and had done all their environmental reports. Policymakers wouldn't have known until an application was actually given to planning." Ranalli asked Deputy County Counsel David Livingston about the

option of a new location.

"Do we have the latitude to require them to move?" Livingston replied, "The short answer is no ... if (the project) is consistent with the General Plan, it is not for you to play favorites on who uses the site."

Asked if the applicant would consider doing a full EIR, Teller responded, "No, we won't voluntarily do one. The documents show that nothing more than the mitigated negative declaration is required."

The board decision

Supervisor Novasel commented that she was "comfortable with the design," and moved approval of the project and denial of the appeal. District 3 Supervisor Brian Veerkamp seconded the motion. Supervisor Frentzen commented, "I don't see a single person here to support this including the Divide chamber. We need to bring tax dollars, but this could also put smaller stores out of business and will totally change the environment of the small community. There are some areas where you need to honor the locals."

Novasel's motion passed 4-1 with Frentzen voting no.

After the meeting, many present expressed surprise that Ranalli had not "stood up for Georgetown" and joined Frentzen in voting no. Ranalli later told *Lake Tahoe News*, "I believe we are facing a lawsuit on either side. I swore to follow the law. In my research I found legal precedents that say a county can't arbitrarily exclude a specific retail store. I could have hidden behind three other votes and copped out, but I didn't. I am proud of them standing up for their community. I didn't think (voting no) was the right thing to do based on the information they gave us. If I had guessed wrong, I would have obligated the citizens of the county to a lawsuit with a national firm. Most everybody said we don't want it here, but based on the law that's not a legal defense."

Those not satisfied with the board's decision have 30 days from the filing of a notice of determination to file a lawsuit based on the project's specific failures to meet CEQA requirements.

Air pollution a silent killer – here and worldwide



Smoke from fires outside the Tahoe basin is an uncontrollable source of air pollution. Photo/LTN file

By Linda Fine Conaboy

RENO – “What you can’t see can kill you” was part of the message delivered this week by an expert in air pollution.

“Our air quality depends on the time of year. During wildfires

and winter inversions, it's awful," Heather Holmes, an assistant professor in the Departments of Physics and Atmospheric Sciences at UNR, said April 3 during a talk the Galena Creek Visitor Center.



Heather Holmes

In the West, forest fires are a prime source of air pollution. In Reno and in Salt Lake City where Holmes earned her master's and doctorate degrees at the University of Utah, temperature inversions, especially in the winter, can wreak havoc as they have their way with the air people breathe.

However, she said Reno is a poster child compared to some cities in Asia—think Beijing and Shanghai.

Holmes became fascinated by indoor and urban air pollution led her to conduct studies with others along the Mexican border in the town of Nogales, as well as in Bangladesh.

In Mexico, the team of researchers studied the effects of cooking indoors on wood burning stoves.

"Basically, in Mexico, we did surveys asking people about their health and quantifying the air pollution levels indoors. We found that children in Nogales had increased rates of asthma," Holmes said.

But because of little medical care, the undiagnosed asthma was chalked up to repeated, simple colds, she said.

Having that experience led her to Bangladesh, a country of nearly 170 million, where she combined forces with another

professor doing water studies. They built an investigative team that was intent upon learning even more about the harmful effects indoor cooking has on humans, especially women, who in Bangladesh do most of the familial food preparation.

They found that these women suffered appalling health, almost as if they smoked cigarettes. It's easy to see why considering their fuel sources include cow dung, trash loaded with chemicals, plastics, tires and whatever else they can find to burn.

More than 4 million Bangladeshis die each year from exposure to indoor air pollution, and using spirometers, instruments necessary to measure lung function, the team found that as the air quality got worse, lung function decreased.

Globally, Holmes said, the fact remains that the largest environmental risk factor is pollution.

The United States is not without its inherent pollutants, and now people are becoming aware of them. In Washoe County, pollutants that are measured at various sites within the county including at Lake Tahoe include:

- Particulate matter such as dust, soot and unburned fuel suspended in the air. Sources can be wood stoves, industry, construction, street sand and open burning.
- Sulfur dioxide, a gas that is invisible and has a nasty, sharp smell. Volcanoes and fossil fuel combustion produce sulfur dioxide, but according to Holmes, about 99 percent of the sulfur dioxide in air comes from human sources. It can worsen respiratory disease and can aggravate existing heart disease.
- Nitrogen oxides, poisonous gases that can be sourced from fossil fuels and industrial equipment. They are harmful to the lungs.

- Carbon monoxide, an odorless gas emitted from combustion. Sources include cars, wood stoves, open burning and industry. Can cause dizziness, headaches, nausea and in high doses, death.

- Ozone. Can be caused by autos, power plants and industry. Ozone can be the source of irritated eyes, noses, respiratory systems and throats. Especially bad for people with chronic heart and lung disease.

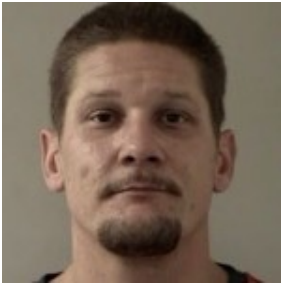
- Relative humidity, wind direction, wind speed and ambient temperature are also measured by Washoe County and help determine amounts of pollutants in the air.

Since wood stoves can be sources of pollution, Washoe and El Dorado counties have a wood stove exchange and rebate program.

Go **online**, type in a ZIP code to find out what is happening air quality-wise in that location. The National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration site also have information. During fires websites for the counties in the Tahoe basin and surrounding region often have air quality information that lists health advisories.

DA: King Fire suspect may plead guilty

Arson suspect Wayne Allen Huntsman, 38, is expected to change his not guilty plea this week, according to El Dorado County district attorney officials.



Wayne Allen
Huntsman

Huntsman is accused of starting the September 2014 King Fire that burned 97,700 acres, mostly in El Dorado County. It started near Pollock Pines and burned for 27 days.

Huntsman is scheduled to be in El Dorado County Superior Court in Placerville on April 8.

He remains in the Placerville jail. Bail is set at \$10 million for each of three arson counts.

A grand jury indictment accuses Huntsman of arson of forestland with five special allegations of arson with aggravating factors. This includes causing great bodily injury because a firefighter was hurt, and an enhancement because of the 12 houses and 68 outbuildings that were destroyed at a loss of \$6.5 million.

– Lake Tahoe News staff report