

Pilot survives crash landing in Truckee

By Cecilio Padilla, Fox 40

A small plane coming from Orange County crashed near Truckee Airport early Tuesday afternoon, Nevada County sheriff's deputies say.

The three blade single prop plane left John Wayne Airport in Irvine about 11:45am. At about 1:25pm, the plane crashed about 40 feet from the Truckee Airport runway.

Despite the plane suffering heavy damage, the 62-year-old pilot is said to be OK without any injuries. The pilot's name has not been released.

While crashing, the plane clipped a trailer. Gusty winds were reported around the time of the crash.

Nevada County authorities say the plane is a Cirrus SR22T low wing single prop.

The Federal Aviation Administration and the National Transportation Safety Board are investigating the crash.

6-car accident injures 1 in South Tahoe



One person was hurt June 11
in a six-car accident in
South Lake Tahoe.
Photo/Provided

A six-car pileup in South Lake Tahoe resulted in minor injuries Tuesday afternoon.

The accident occurred in one of the construction zones on Highway 50 near the Bank of America building.

Police officers told *Lake Tahoe News* one person was taken to Barton Memorial Hospital via ambulance, while the rest of the drivers exchanged names and insurance information so officers could respond to other calls.

– *Lake Tahoe News staff report*

S. Tahoe council to vote again on plastic bag ban

By Kathryn Reed

If South Lake Tahoe adopts an ordinance banning plastic bags, it is likely it would not be the law of the land until 2014. This is because the ordinance as written takes three months to

be implemented and the council isn't likely to vote on it until late summer, early fall.

A group of bag-ban supporters were at today's City Council meeting advocating the electeds implement the ordinance that was voted down in January. The advocates came back with more information as was requested by the council at the time.

No longer does the city have a Sustainability Commission. It was axed at the same meeting the bag ban was defeated. But a group has formed to be a committee focusing on sustainable issues in the city.

Karen Fink, who is part of that group, pointed out that consumers are already paying for bags from stores – it just isn't overt. There also isn't a choice because it's incorporated into the price of goods sold, much like any overhead expense.

Most of the 76 communities in the state that have plastic bag bans allow stores to use plastic and paper at a 5 or 10 cent charge per bag to the consumer.

Some talk on June 11 was about whether the fee would impact lower income individuals unjustly.

Julie Lowe, a plastic bag ban proponent, told the council, "It's more of a problem with the affluent. We consume more and waste more. I feel the low income are way ahead of us."

Darcie Collins with the League to Save Lake Tahoe said her group supports the ban. While no one from the Lake Tahoe South Shore Chamber of Commerce spoke, it was relayed that that board and the majority of the membership support a ban.

Supporters also believe such a ban would send a message to tourists that South Lake Tahoe is environmentally friendly.

Mayor Tom Davis said with the League, Sierra Club and Tahoe Regional Planning Agency having offices on the South Shore

that in itself shows the area is environmentally friendly.

Davis and Councilwoman JoAnn Conner remain strong voices against the ban. Davis in particular said he does not see a problem. This was right after he cited how much trash Clean Tahoe picks up. He also said he drove around town and didn't see an issue with plastic bags blowing around.

But the errant bags are found at the bottom of waterways, in bushes, meadows and elsewhere that a motorist would not see.

Conner said recreationists she knows don't believe there is a problem either.

"We're still looking at legislating personal behavior," Conner said.

Councilwomen Angela Swanson and Brooke Laine are in lockstep in wanting the issue to come back for a vote. Swanson was not at the January meeting and Laine was not on the council then.

Councilman Hal Cole wants something done about the bags, but also would like some leeway for nonprofits like the food banks that fill bags for the needy to take with them.

Even though the California Legislature earlier this year voted against a statewide ban, the California Grocers Association came out in support of it.

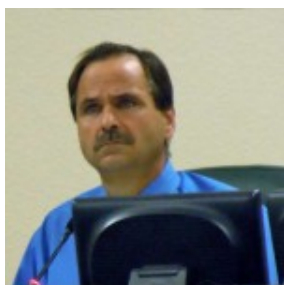
Nutting receives support from FPFC

By Peter Hecht, Sacramento Bee

In a conflicting series of events for embattled El Dorado County Supervisor Ray Nutting, the state's political watchdog agency supported him Monday against a conflict-of-interest allegation at the same time he faced felony prosecution for alleged political malfeasance in his county.

Nutting's troubles stem from a series of state payments he received for clearing brush on his 340-acre timber ranch under a fire safety program. El Dorado County and state prosecutors have charged him with felonies for not disclosing that money as an elected official and voting to fund two local fire districts that distribute the funds on the state's behalf.

After its own review of Nutting's actions at the supervisor's request, the state Fair Political Practices Commission's enforcement division in Sacramento said in an advisory letter Monday that the supervisor did not have a conflict of interest when he voted to fund two fire districts.



Ray Nutting

The enforcement division, however, did determine that Nutting failed to declare \$22,000 of state fire prevention income in 2009 and recommended that commissioners impose a \$400 civil fine at their June 20 meeting.

The FPPC issued its findings Monday in Sacramento as El Dorado Superior Court Judge Daniel B. Proud formally announced in a Placerville courtroom four felony counts against Nutting on charges of filing false documents, perjury and conflict of interest stemming from Nutting's alleged failure to disclose some \$70,000 in state income for brush clearing on a family

ranch.

Under a related criminal complaint made public Friday, Nutting faces seven misdemeanors for illegally soliciting money from two county workers and a major construction contractor to bail himself out of jail May 28.

Nutting was scheduled to be formally charged Monday. But in a small county twist, Proud promptly put off the arraignment and withdrew, citing his personal relationship with the supervisor.

"It's my decision to recuse myself," Proud said. "I've known Mr. Nutting for a long time. I think he was the coach for my son's wrestling team."

In its letter, the FPPC noted that Nutting had received fire protection grant awards administered by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection and the regional Sierra Coordinated Resources Management Council, which includes the two local fire conservation districts.

The FPPC said Nutting could vote on general funding for the two conservation districts. Adrienne Korchmaros of the political oversight agency's enforcement division wrote that the supervisor acted properly because the board votes didn't involve a direct personal financial gain in violation of the California Political Reform Act.

"Because the decision by the Board of Supervisors to partially fund El Dorado County Resource Conservation District and the Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation District will flow to the public generally and does not uniquely benefit you, the conflict of interest provisions of the Act will not apply," Korchmaros wrote.

The FPPC letter to Nutting noted that the Sierra council "was indirectly involved" in the Board of Supervisors' decisions to "partially fund two of its member agencies" distributing the

fire funds. But it told the supervisor there was no evidence in Nutting's votes of a "material financial effect on your personal finances."

Nutting's defense lawyer, David Weiner, seized upon FPPC correspondence to assert that his client is facing excessive prosecution. "The significance of it is that there is really not much there," Weiner said.

But El Dorado County District Attorney Vern Pierson said Nutting is charged under separate criminal statutes that go beyond the FPPC's civil enforcement. He suggested that Weiner and another Nutting lawyer were trying to provide cover for their client by seeking – and getting – the letter from the FPPC.

"The FPPC is an administrative agency, not a law enforcement agency," Pierson said.

He added that Nutting is facing joint prosecution by the El Dorado County district attorney and the state attorney general's office "related to facts and circumstances far beyond what was provided to the FPPC by Ray Nutting's attorney."

Mary-Beth Moylan, a McGeorge School of Law professor specializing in political law, said the FPPC case and the El Dorado County prosecution may focus on similar alleged conduct but not "the same violation of the law." But Moylan said there were aspects of the FPPC's actions Monday that may help both sides in the criminal case.

On one hand, she said, the FPPC letter asserting Nutting didn't have a civil conflict of interest in his board vote "could be presented as evidence in a criminal proceeding," adding: "I think that is going to benefit the defendant."

But she said the agency's finding that Nutting had failed to disclose income – and thus should pay a \$400 fine – could help

the prosecution “because it suggests there was a violation.”

On Monday, Proud said another El Dorado County Superior Court judge, Curt Stracener, will hold a hearing Thursday on a defense proposal to reduce Nutting’s bail.

As prosecutor James Clinchard pushed Proud to set a July 16 trial date for Nutting, Proud declined due to the uncertainty over which judge will ultimately handle the case.

He said Suzanne Kingsbury, the presiding judge of the El Dorado Superior Court, will ultimately have to decide.

Weiner said the Nutting prosecution may have to be heard before a judge from another county.

“It could be that every judge in this county who knows him may recuse themselves,” he said.

Missing S. Tahoe man found unharmed



Norman Gary
Lambert

Updated: June 11 8am:

Norman Gary Lambert was found safe Monday at the Reno-Tahoe International Airport. Police are not releasing any other information.

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Police are looking for a 74-year-old South Lake Tahoe man who has not been seen since June 7.

Norman Gary Lambert lives alone in the Spruce Avenue area. He has either dementia or Alzheimer's.

Lambert is 5-foot-six, 108 pounds, gray hair, brown eyes and has a mustache. He was last seen wearing a gray sweat shirt under a blue jacket, blue jeans and blue backpack.

Anyone with information about Lambert's whereabouts should call (530) 542.6100.

– Lake Tahoe News staff report

S. Tahoe rollover sends 1 person to hospital



A two-car crash in South Lake Tahoe on June 10 sent

one person to the hospital.

Photo/LTN

One person was taken to Barton Memorial Hospital on Monday following a two-car collision in South Lake Tahoe.

The 4:05pm June 10 accident occurred at the intersection of Third Street and Eloise Avenue.

One vehicle rolled over.

Details are pending.

While there had been rain earlier in the day, the roads were dry at the time of the accident.

– Lake Tahoe News staff report

Equipment into house causes delays on Hwy. 28

By KOL0-TV

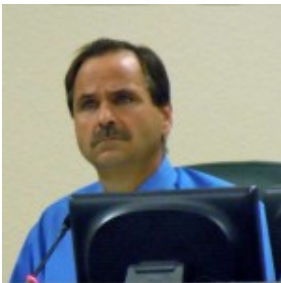
Highway 28 is down to one lane of travel between Incline Village and Sand Harbor because of an accident involving an excavator.

Mark Regan with North Tahoe Fire says the equipment was being used as part of a project at the house along the road, and it slipped off the highway and into the house. No one was living there and the operator is not hurt.

Regan says 28 will have reduced traffic until roughly 7

tonight.

Judge recuses himself in Nutting case



Ray Nutting

Today's arraignment of El Dorado County Supervisor Ray Nutting was postponed until Thursday.

El Dorado County Superior Court Judge Daniel B. Proud on June 10 recused himself from the case. It is now being turned over to Judge Curt Stracener.

However, it is possible Stracener, too, will recuse himself. Stracener and Nutting have used the same campaign consultant.

Nutting faces perjury and other charges related to obtaining state grants to clear brush from his property.

The criminal grand jury indictment is sealed until at least June 13.

– Lake Tahoe News staff report

Lodi woman dies in Tahoe traffic accident



One person died and four others were hurt in this traffic collision June 9.
Photo/Provided

The woman who died in the two-car accident in Zephyr Cove on Sunday has been identified as Reyna Vizcaara, 24, of Lodi.

Her 29-year-old husband, Eduardo A. Vizcarra-Sicairos, was traveling east on Highway 50 about 2:55pm June 9 when he lost control and skidded into the oncoming traffic. A Hyundai Elantra driven by Shanna D. White, 26, of Carson City, broadsided the Lodi couple's Toyota Corolla.

White had two passengers in her vehicle; 21-year-old Kellie Kerklay and 21-year-old Katelyn Kraiprai, both from Carson City.

White and Keklay were treated and released from Renown Medical Center in Reno. Vizcarra-Sicairos and Kraiprai remained hospitalized Monday afternoon.

Nevada Highway Patrol investigators say the rain-hail slick

road surface may have contributed to the cause of the accident.

– *Lake Tahoe News staff report*

Tahoe casinos fare well, statewide numbers drop in April

Lake Tahoe and Reno gaming revenue was up significantly in April compared to 2012, but overall Nevada's numbers dropped slightly.

The Gaming Control Board released the figures today.

The Stateline casinos' revenue increased 14.48 percent, while Washoe County's were up 10 percent. Just in Reno the percentage increase was better at 15.36 percent. The state was down 0.16 percent.

Statewide, the gaming revenue was \$854.3 million compared to 2012 when \$855.7 million was collected.

– *Lake Tahoe News staff report*