

Ex-owner of The Block wants to buy resort

Publisher's note: *Eneliko "Sean" Smith was managing partner of the now defunct Cedar Lodge and The Block hotels in South Lake Tahoe.*

By Art Bukowski, Record- Eagle

TRAVERSE CITY, Mich. – A Las Vegas entrepreneur who plans to buy Leelanau County's long-shuttered Sugar Loaf Resort faces multiple criminal charges in California, though he contends he's "not a crook."

Eneliko "Sean" Smith said he plans to spend about \$10 million to buy the resort and open at least a portion of it by July 4. But he faces felony grand theft and embezzlement charges in California's El Dorado County, and is the subject of numerous derisive Internet postings about past business endeavors.

On Monday, Smith said "everybody makes mistakes," and said he remains committed to the Sugar Loaf purchase.

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