

# Peak to honor 3 Tahoe soldiers gains Placer County support

Placer County supervisors last week gave their support to efforts to name an unnamed peak in eastern Placer County in honor of three Tahoe servicemen who were killed in action in the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The peak, located in the Lake Tahoe Basin on U.S. Forest Service land in Placer County, will be called Gold Star Peak.

The three fallen men include two soldiers and one Marine – Pfc. Phillip Brandon Williams, Sgt. Timothy M. Smith, and Spc. Garrett Fant.

The South Lake Tahoe City Council in November approved the naming. All three men had connections to South Lake Tahoe.

Next up is the board on Geographical Names, which is responsible for approving the naming of this natural feature. The request to name the peak has already been supported by the American Legion and El Dorado County.

The effort, spearheaded by Rep. Tom McClintock, R-Granite Bay, will have a memorial installed at Lakeview Commons with a view across the lake at the ridge where the peak is located.

The peak's name, Gold Star, comes from the Gold Star lapel pin that was established by Congress in 1947 to identify widows, parents and next of kin of service members killed in certain operations.