

# The Three Dot brotherhood in Kings Beach

By Sean McAlindin, Tahoe Weekly

Lake Tahoe has always attracted those with big dreams and the imaginative bent to make them a reality. Yet for every C. F. McGlashan or Alexander Cushing there have been scores of unknowns who banded together to build something from nothing.

It's common for Tahoe locals to start their own businesses on the side to supplement their incomes as they scrape out a living in this beautiful place. Still others dive in head first staking their livelihood and reputations on the line as they pursue their passions.

One studio in King's Beach is setting a model for strategic partnership in the world of craftsmanship. Hidden high on Speckled Avenue on the north end of the grid is a unique space known as Three Dot Studios.

**[Read the whole story](#)**

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## Workshop in El Dorado County about reforestation

UC Cooperative Extension, Northern California Society of American Foresters, El Dorado County Resource Conservation District, CalFire and the Natural Resources Conservation Service will be hosting a series of one-day workshops aimed at land owners, foresters and others who are involved in planning and executing tree planting and reforestation projects.

It may also be of interest to personnel working for agencies serving these clients. Reforestation at multiple scales from the residential forest parcel to the landscape will be addressed.

There will be a workshop on March 7, 9am-4pm at the El Dorado County Resource Conservation District, 100 Forni Road, Placerville. The objective will to outline the process of forest regeneration from tree loss and removal, site preparation, tree planting and ongoing forest management including:

- How to prepare the planting site
- How to identify and procure appropriate planting stock
- How to plant trees
- Alternatives for management of planted stands
- Additional topics that will be covered include planting practices to achieve vegetation goals and to adapt to a changing climate. Attendees will also discuss financial assistance available to private landowners for undertaking forest restoration.

There is no cost to attend these workshops, but **registration is required.**

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## **Classical Tahoe announces 2018 festival season**

Classical Tahoe celebrates its seventh season of bringing orchestral music to the Lake Tahoe region in a 12-concert series from July 20 to Aug.12.

Musicians from the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, Los Angeles

Philharmonic and the symphonies of San Francisco, Seattle, Dallas, Toronto, Vancouver, Leipzig Gewandhaus and other exceptional orchestras will join the ensemble.

In 2018 Classical Tahoe presents the world premiere of “Double Concerto for Violin and Cello” by award-winning composer and musician Chris Brubeck, featuring world-renowned artists Jaime Laredo, violin and Sharon Robinson, cello.

An expanded orchestra allows the festival to offer larger symphonic repertoire, ranging from Brahms Symphony No. 2 to a celebration of Leonard Bernstein’s birthday anniversary with the suite from the ballet Fancy Free.

Concerts begin at 7pm at the Classical Tahoe Pavilion at Sierra Nevada College in Incline Village. Ticket prices are \$25, \$55, \$85 and \$120. Chamber music concerts are \$30. Student tickets are offered at a 50 percent discount. Season subscriptions go on sale March 15. Single tickets go on sale April 1.

For tickets and the schedule, go **online**.

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## **Fundraiser to benefit veterans**

The second Annual Nowruz “New Year” Celebration Feast to benefit Veterans Healing Camp will be March 27 from 5-10pm at the Casino Fandango Buffet Banquet Room in Carson City.

This is a casual and festive fundraiser that features food, music, dancing, silent auction and a door prize.

Nowruz is the ancient Persian “New Year” celebrated since 1700

B.C. that occurs on the first day of spring at the vernal equinox.

The celebration begins with fun, fellowship and information about Veterans Healing Camp. The buffet dinner feast starts at 6pm.

Tickets are \$40 and are available at the Casino Fandango cashier cage or by contacting Shahla Fadaie at 775.781.2394.

Veterans Healing Camp is nonprofit located in the heart of Silver Springs that is dedicated to helping local veterans make a successful transition from military to civilian life.

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## **International Skiing History Association to give awards at Squaw**

The International Skiing History Association, the nonprofit organization whose mission is to preserve and advance the knowledge of ski history and to increase public awareness of the sport's heritage, will honor seven historians at its 26th annual awards ceremony during Skiing History Days at Squaw Valley next month.

The March 23 awards banquet will be in conjunction with the NASTAR 50th anniversary celebration and national championships. Tickets are available **online**.

Leading Chinese ski historian Shan Zhaojian, considered the father of modern skiing in China, will be honored at the banquet with a lifetime achievement award. The Chinese delegation will stage a demonstration of

ancient Altai skiing on the afternoon of March 23, accompanied by Sierra longboard racers from the Plumas Ski Club.

The awards banquet will also include a special NASTAR 50th anniversary presentation.

First established in 1993, the ISHA Awards honor the year's best creative works of ski history, including books, films, websites and other media projects.

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## **Liberty providing scholarships to area students**

Liberty Utilities is offering academic scholarships for eligible high school and college students within its service territory.

The eight schools participating are South Tahoe High School, Loyalton High School, Douglas High School (students residing in Alpine County only), Coleville High School, North Tahoe High School, Truckee High School and Portola High School, as well as Lake Tahoe Community College.

The seven high school scholarships are \$500 each. High school seniors must have a minimum unweighted GPA of 2.5 and be accepted to an accredited four-year or two-year university or college or an accredited vocational school. They also must have some community service experience in the community which they reside.

The Lake Tahoe Community College scholarship is \$750. Those students are eligible for the scholarship if they have a current 2.5 gpa or higher, and have completed at least 18 quarter units at LTCC. They must enroll in LTCC's upcoming

fall quarter, and have demonstrated leadership through school and/or community service experiences within the community they reside.

Interested students should contact their school's financial aid office or counselor to find out more about the scholarship and to obtain an application. The individual schools have different deadlines, but all scholarships will be awarded starting mid-May through the end of June.

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## **Anti-sexual harassment and bullying workshop**

Lake Tahoe South Shore Chamber of Commerce invites HR leaders, business owners, and managers to attend the Level UP Anti-Sexual Harassment and Bullying workshop on Feb. 21.

It will be from noon to 1:30pm inside the chamber's Stateline conference room.

The cost is \$10 for chamber members and \$20 for others.

Workshop facilitator Laura Moriarty is a seasoned HR executive, nationally known corporate trainer, and frequent presenter of Sierra Human Resources Association workshops. Her organization, Tahoe Training Partners, has provided high quality, intellectually fresh training, executive coaching, 360-feedback, compensation and strategic planning, meeting facilitation, and customized organizational retreats since 2007.

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# Tahoe Tails – Adoptable Pets in South Lake Tahoe



Kahlua



Tucker

Kahlua and Tucker came to the shelter together, and we would like them to go to their new home together too.

Kahlua is a 3-year-old female Yorkshire terrier/Chihuahua, and Tucker is a 9-year old male poodle mix. They are very friendly and love to go for walks. Kahlua is a bit of a character, with a cute spring in her step, and Tucker is a bit more sedate, but he has plenty of charisma.

Kahlua and Tucker are spayed/neutered, microchipped, tested for heart worm, and vaccinated. They are at the El Dorado County Animal Services shelter in Meyers, along with other dogs and cats who are waiting for their new homes. Go to the Tahoe animal shelter's Facebook page to see photos and descriptions of all pets at the shelter.

Call 530.573.7925 for directions, hours, and other information on adopting a pet. For spay-neuter assistance for South Tahoe residents, go **online**.

– Karen Kuentz

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## **Kings Beach getting ready for Snowfest**

The annual Kings Beach Snowfest Parade is scheduled for March 10, 11:30am-12:30pm on Highway 28 in downtown Kings Beach between Secline and Coon streets.

Last year's Kings Beach Snowfest Parade was attended by an estimated 1,000 spectators and featured 30 entries including kids, music, animals, clubs and more. This year, the parade will be filled with past participants as well as several new entries and surprises. Due to time constraints, the number of parade entries will be limited to the first 40 paid participants accepted. Parade entry forms are due Feb. 16.



Volunteers are needed to assist with parade line-up, crowd/traffic control, and act as road and driveway blockers. Volunteers will have a great view of the parade and feel rewarded to have taken part in this fun filled community event. Contact Ashley at 530.546.9000 or email [ashley@northtahoebusiness.org](mailto:ashley@northtahoebusiness.org) to secure a volunteer assignment.

For a complete schedule of Snowfest events, go **online**.

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# Estate planning for digital assets

By **Natalie Banta, The Conversation**

What will happen to your Facebook account when you die? What about all your photos shared on social media, your texts with loved ones, or documents on cloud-storage systems? In just the two-year period from 2012 to 2014, humans produced more data than in all of human civilization before that – and the pace is only accelerating.

It's not clear what people's digital presences will look like in years to come, but it's sure that an increasing number of people will be creating and accumulating growing reams of data until the day they die. But then what?

The law is very clear about handling paper documents and other physical property when someone dies. But as a law professor at Drake Law School who has been studying property transfers for years, I've seen that laws, regulations and court rulings are only recently trying to figure out how to handle the ever-changing realm of digital technology. So far, in most cases

the information is controlled by the companies that store it – regardless of what users want or direct to happen after their death.

### **Law catching up with technology**

Many people have had email and other digital accounts for decades, some stretching back to the early pioneers in the 1960s. But large numbers of average people really only began creating significant digital footprints in the early part of the 21st century. Facebook and Gmail began operations in 2004; YouTube started in 2005; Twitter launched in 2006; the iPhone came out in 2007.

Almost a decade later, a group of lawyers from around the country developed a draft uniform law they encouraged all 50 states to adopt, which would allow people to specify in their wills that the executor of their estate can access their email and social media profiles. So far, 39 state legislatures have adopted it and seven more are considering it this year.

The uniform law doesn't specify – and courts have not yet been asked to rule on – exactly how that access should happen. So for the moment, a dead person's executor must contact the company behind each digital platform to determine how to get into the person's accounts.

In states that haven't passed this law, companies themselves can decide whether to allow loved ones access to a late relative's digital assets. Yahoo, for example, is notorious for terminating an account upon a user's death and forbidding access afterward.

The company's refusal to grant access to surviving family members is being challenged in Massachusetts, a state that has not adopted the uniform digital assets law. In October 2017, the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court ruled that an executor could consent to the disclosure of emails on behalf of the dead person whose estate was being managed. The case is

back before a lower court to decide on other issues, including whether the estate will be able to access the account despite Yahoo's terms of service agreement.

## **The role of privacy**

With so many legal issues yet to be decided, people should be sure they include digital assets in their estate planning and encourage their loved ones to do the same.

Access to the email of a person who has died may be the most important to unlock: Messages and images are likely to be emotionally important. In addition, banking, utilities and other accounts are often linked to an email address; gaining online access to those can help administer a person's estate.

Of course, it's important to protect the privacy of a person who has died – despite the general legal assumption that a dead person no longer has privacy that needs protecting. The uniform state law does this by requiring a person to have left specific written permission for an executor to access an email account.

## **Making plans for yourself**

To prepare yourself for a digital afterlife, the first task is to state, in writing, what you want to happen to your digital assets. Create a list of the accounts in your name, and determine which ones you want your executor to access – and which should be deleted.

Crucially, do not list usernames or passwords in your will, because a person's will becomes a public document upon their death. Instead, consider recording access information for these accounts in a safe place – like password management software – and leave instructions for your executor to find them.

It's not yet clear whether credits and purchases with digital

media accounts (like the Google Play Store or iTunes) or online reward account points can be transferred when their holder dies. The only solution for now may be to leave your executor with instructions on how to access the value stored in those accounts – and back up the media on external hard drives stored in a safe place.

Finally, check with the companies whose online services you use to see if they provide their own method to transfer assets at death. For example, Google has pioneered a method for its users to indicate what they want to have happen to their account if they don't access it for several months.

By engaging in some simple estate planning, you can protect your privacy as well as ease the management of your estate after your death. Plan for your digital assets in the same way you would any other valuable tangible or intangible asset. After all, digital assets are today's shoe boxes of photos, letters and other mementos. Planning can preserve your legacy in its digital form.

*Natalie Banta is an associate professor of law at Drake University.*