Exhibit to feature 1960 Squaw Valley Olympics

El Dorado Arts Council's latest exhibition will celebrate the 1960 Winter Olympics.

This curated exhibition of art, memorabilia, and promotional items from the 1960 Winter Olympics in Squaw Valley runs Jan. 12-March 9 at the organization's Fausel House Gallery in Placerville.

Generously loaned from the Museum of Sierra Ski History and 1960 Winter Olympics, and collector Stan Batiste, the items on display in this exhibition are unique to their time.

Photographs capture the excitement of the spectators and champions alike, maps of the competition trails artistically show where the triumphs and losses occurred, and souvenirs exemplify the magic of the day.

The public opening reception takes place Jan. 18 from 6-8pm. Collector Stan Batiste, author David C. Antonucci, and official Olympic photographer Bill Briner will also be in attendance to celebrate the opening of The Games of Winter and recapture the camaraderie of the 1960 Winter Olympic Games. Attendance and parking are free.

For more info, email andrew@eldoradoartscouncil.org.

Tahoe Tails — Adoptable Pets

in South Lake Tahoe

Jeanie

Jeanie is a 6- or 7-year-old tabby short hair cat. She loves people, but would like to be an only cat in her new home. Jeanie loves to be petted and is very friendly.

Jeanie is spayed, microchipped, tested for FIV, and vaccinated. She is 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

'Thoroughly Modern Millie' coming to STHS

South Tahoe High School students this month will be performing the 1920's musical "Thoroughly Modern Millie."

It is based on the 1967 Academy Award-winning film. The show goes back to the height of the jazz age in New York City, when "moderns," including a flapper named Millie Dillmount, were bobbing their hair, raising their hemlines, entering the workforce and rewriting the rules of love.

Performances will be Jan. 19, 20, 26 and 27 at 7pm, and Jan. 21, 28 at 2pm. All are in the theater at the high school.

Adults are $15, students $10.

Stryder Franklin — 1973-2018

David Stryder Franklin

David Stryder Franklin, age 44, passed away in a tragic accident on Jan. 1, 2018, in Costa Mesa, Calif. Funeral services will be at Pacific View Memorial Park and Mortuary

located at 3500 Pacific View Drive in Corona del Mar, on Jan. 12, 2018 at 2pm.

Stryder was born in Hollywood on March 25, 1973, and grew up in Orange County. He moved to South Lake Tahoe with his family at age 9.

Stryder attended Whittell High School in Zephyr Cove and graduated in 1992. Stryder served in the Navy from 1993 to 1996 as a third class petty officer of the Helicopter Combat Support Squadron Five. Stryder graduated from Platt College with a degree in information technology networking in 2001.

Stryder was married to Tracy Sheldon Franklin from July 5, 2002 until November 2017.

Stryder worked as the maintenance supervisor at Tahoe Beach & Ski Club for many years and at Tahoe Seasons Resort.

Stryder had a gift of being able to fix anything — whether it was construction, vehicles or mechanical; there wasn't anything he couldn't repair. Stryder loved Lake Tahoe whether he was four-wheeling on the Rubicon Trail, water skiing, mountain biking, skiing at Heavenly or hiking with his dogs Baron, Benny and Bronson on local trails. Stryder was loved by many and would do a favor for anyone and will be truly missed forever.

Styrder's best friend was always his younger brother Trevor Green. They had an extra special closeness of being brothers and enjoyed body surfing, working on cars, building a project, going to concerts and enjoying each other's company. You could rarely be around these two without laughing and having an amazing time with them.

Stryder is survived by his former wife, Tracy Sheldon Franklin; daughter Halie Franklin; mom and step-dad Lee and Perry Fetterman; dad Ron Bowman; siblings Trevor Green, Lucas Green, Jennifer Bowman, Barret Bowman, Evan Bowman;

grandmother Barbara Franklin; uncles and aunts Steve and Cindi Franklin, Kevin and Christine Franklin, and Jim and Penny Popov.

Actors needed for South Shore play

Lake Tahoe Golf Course will be partnering with Rotary of South Lake Tahoe to present the comedy "Divorce Southern Style" by Jennifer Jarrett.

It is considered a fast-paced, funny farce. It centers on the schemes of a middle-aged divorcee who decides that the time is ripe to get back together with her ex-husband.

Auditions for male and female roles aged approximately 22-50 will be Jan. 17 at 6:30pm at the Lake Tahoe Golf Course in Meyers.

Performances will be March 23, 24, 30, 31, April 6, 7.

For audition materials, contact Dave Hamilton at hamiltonda@att.net.

Fundraiser for STHS grad hurt

in car accident

Escobar Training Grounds, where Chris Cocores honed his mixed martial arts skills, is having a fundraiser Jan. 13 for the former South Lake Tahoe resident.

Cocores broke his back, arm and has internal injuries after being in a **vehicle accident last month** that killed his girlfriend and dog.

Proceeds/donations from mixed martial arts and self-defense classes next Saturday will go toward Cocores' medical care. MMA guru Gilbert Melendez will be joined by friends from 11am-1pm at Escobar.

For details, 530.544.9010.

TOCCATA to start season remembering founding member

TOCCATA — Tahoe Symphony Orchestra & Chorus — lost a singer in November.

Phil Stevenson was a founding member of TOCCATA. He accompanied the group on the 2015 and 2017 concert tours to Italy and Austria.

The Jan. 7 kick off performance to the 13th season will be to celebrate his memory.

All donations to help TOCCATA celebrate his memory will be used to provide Sunday's concert free of charge.

The concert will be at 3:30pm at St. Theresa Church in South Lake Tahoe.

For more info, email jamesrawietoccata@gmail.com.

Delving into why people troll

By Justin Cheng, Cristian Danescu-Niculescu-Mizil, Jure Leskovec and Michael Bernstein, The Conversation

"Fail at life. Go bomb yourself."

Comments like this one, found on a CNN article about how women perceive themselves, are prevalent today across the internet, whether it's Facebook, Reddit or a news website. Such behavior can range from profanity and name-calling to personal attacks, sexual harassment or hate speech.

A recent Pew Internet Survey found that four out of 10 people online have been harassed online, with far more having witnessed such behavior. Trolling has become so rampant that several websites have even resorted to completely removing comments.

Many believe that trolling is done by a small, vocal minority of sociopathic individuals. This belief has been reinforced not only in the media, but also in past research on trolling, which focused on interviewing these individuals. Some studies even showed that trolls have predisposing personal and biological traits, such as sadism and a propensity to seek excessive stimulation.

But what if all trolls aren't born trolls? What if they are ordinary people like you and me? In our research, we found that people can be influenced to troll others under the right

circumstances in an online community. By analyzing 16 million comments made on CNN.com and conducting an online controlled experiment, we identified two key factors that can lead ordinary people to troll.

What makes a troll?

We recruited 667 participants through an online crowdsourcing platform and asked them to first take a quiz, then read an article and engage in discussion. Every participant saw the same article, but some were given a discussion that had started with comments by trolls, where others saw neutral comments instead. Here, trolling was defined using standard community guidelines — for example, name-calling, profanity, racism or harassment. The quiz given beforehand was also varied to either be easy or difficult.

Our analysis of comments on CNN.com helped to verify and extend these experimental observations.

The first factor that seems to influence trolling is a person's mood. In our experiment, people put into negative moods were much more likely to start trolling. We also discovered that trolling ebbs and flows with the time of day and day of week, in sync with natural human mood patterns. Trolling is most frequent late at night, and least frequent in the morning. Trolling also peaks on Monday, at the beginning of the work week.

Moreover, we discovered that a negative mood can persist beyond the events that brought about those feelings. Suppose that a person participates in a discussion where other people wrote troll comments. If that person goes on to participate in an unrelated discussion, they are more likely to troll in that discussion too.

The second factor is the context of a discussion. If a discussion begins with a "troll comment," then it is twice as likely to be trolled by other participants later on, compared

to a discussion that does not start with a troll comment.

In fact, these troll comments can add up. The more troll comments in a discussion, the more likely that future participants will also troll the discussion. Altogether, these results show how the initial comments in a discussion set a strong, lasting precedent for later trolling.

We wondered if, by using these two factors, we could predict when trolling would occur. Using machine learning algorithms, we were able to forecast whether a person was going to troll about 80 percent of the time.

Interestingly, mood and discussion context were together a much stronger indicator of trolling than identifying specific individuals as trolls. In other words, trolling is caused more by the person's environment than any inherent trait.

Since trolling is situational, and ordinary people can be influenced to troll, such behavior can end up spreading from person to person. A single troll comment in a discussion — perhaps written by a person who woke up on the wrong side of the bed — can lead to worse moods among other participants, and even more troll comments elsewhere. As this negative behavior continues to propagate, trolling can end up becoming the norm in communities if left unchecked.

Fighting back

Despite these sobering results, there are several ways this research can help us create better online spaces for public discussion.

By understanding what leads to trolling, we can now better predict when trolling is likely to happen. This can let us identify potentially contentious discussions ahead of time and preemptively alert moderators, who can then intervene in these aggressive situations.

Machine learning algorithms can also sort through millions of posts much more quickly than any human. By training computers to spot trolling behavior, we can identify and filter undesirable content with much greater speed.

Social interventions can also reduce trolling. If we allow people to retract recently posted comments, then we may be able to minimize regret from posting in the heat of the moment. Altering the context of a discussion, by prioritizing constructive comments, can increase the perception of civility. Even just pinning a post about a community's rules to the top of discussion pages helps, as a recent experiment conducted on Reddit showed.

Nonetheless, there's lots more work to be done to address trolling. Understanding the role of organized trolling can limit some types of undesirable behavior.

Trolling also can differ in severity, from swearing to targeted bullying, which necessitates different responses.

It's also important to differentiate the impact of a troll comment from the author's intent: Did the troll mean to hurt others, or was he or she just trying to express a different viewpoint? This can help separate undesirable individuals from those who just need help communicating their ideas.

When online discussions break down, it's not just sociopaths who are to blame. We are also at fault. Many "trolls" are just people like ourselves who are having a bad day. Understanding that we're responsible for both the inspiring and depressing conversations we have online is key to having more productive online discussions.

2 art workshops in Meyers in January

Bona Fide Books in Meyers has two events coming up this month.

The first is the Correspondence Club on Jan. 8 at 6pm. The ⬚ focus will be mail art, creating⬚ correspondence using everyday items. This art form is an artistic movement centered on sending small scale works, interesting/fun inclusions, and unique mailings through the postal office. Cost is $10.

Book Arts is Jan. 16 at 5:45pm. Coco Foy will be offering the cross-structure bookmaking/binding class using an upcycled beer box. Supplies needed: mat knife, awl, bone folder, needle, straight edge ruler, ⬚beer six pack box or cover cardstock⬚, text paper,⬚ and⬚ linen threa⬚d.⬚ If you don't have these, there will be some available⬚⬚. Cost is $10.

Bona Fide is at 1069 Magua St, No. 4, Meyers.

Sobering truth for those without pensions

By Peter Whoriskey, Washington Post

TULSA, Okla. — Tom Coomer has retired twice: once when he was 65, and then several years ago. Each time he realized that with just a Social Security check, "You can hardly make it these days."

So here he is at 79, working full time at Walmart. During each eight-hour shift, he stands at the store entrance greeting

customers, telling a joke and fetching a "buggy." Or he is stationed at the exit, checking receipts and the shoppers that trip the theft alarm.

The way major U.S. companies provide for retiring workers has been shifting for about three decades, with more dropping traditional pensions every year. The first full generation of workers to retire since this turn offers a sobering preview of a labor force more and more dependent on their own savings for retirement.

Read the whole story