

Carson City fire at 15% containment, 500 acres

The Voltaire Fire burning in Carson City is 15 percent contained as of Wednesday morning, with 500 acres burned.

The cause of the fire is officially under investigation, however Carson City Sheriff Ken Furlong said two campers have been detained on allegations they started the fire by burning poop in a hole at their campsite.

The fire is burning sage brush in the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest. It is west of the Casino Fandango. Flames are not expected to reach nearby homes, however voluntary evacuations remain for the Voltaire Canyon.

– Lake Tahoe News staff report

Carson sheriff: Campers burning poop started fire

By Sam Gross, Reno Gazette-Journal

Carson City Sheriff Ken Furlong said two campers started the Voltaire Fire Tuesday evening after they attempted to burn poop in a hole at their campsite.

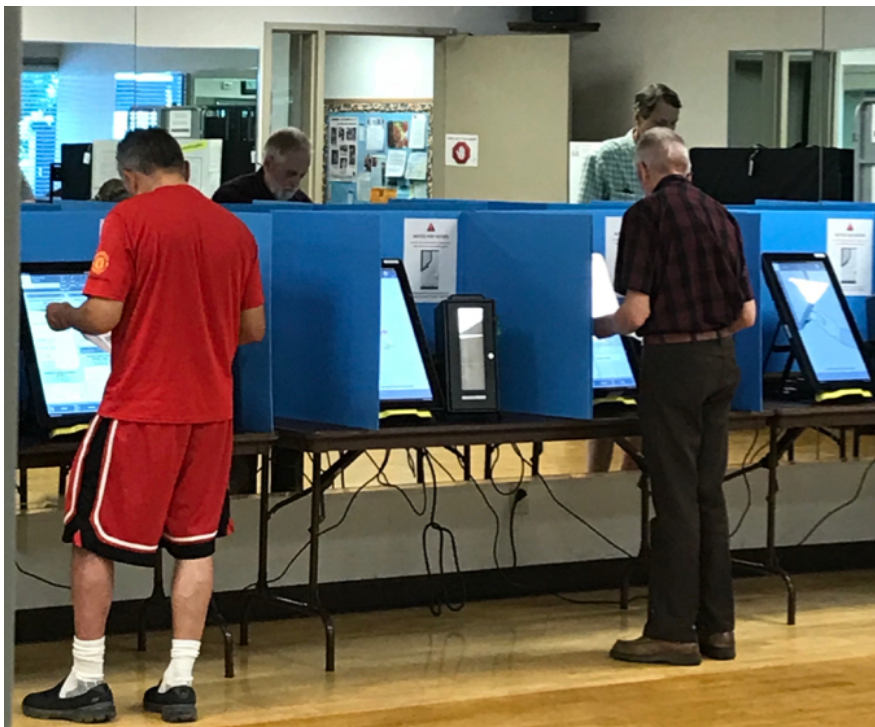
The fire, currently burning just west of the Casino Fandango, has prompted voluntary evacuations for homes in Voltaire Canyon.

“We really don’t believe that there is significant fuel to get

to those houses,” Furlong said. “But that’s a challenge right now because it’s night time and it’s become pretty large.”

Read the whole story

Rice, Engels win DC Commission primary



Voters on June 12 cast ballots at Kahle Community Center. Photo/LTN

Updated 11:05pm:

By Susan Wood

Douglas County Board of Commissioners will see two new faces come November for seats representing the lake and the valley.

Deputy constable and Round Hill General Improvement District

board member Wesley Rice has 52.69 percent of the vote amounting to 4,420 ballots cast in Lake Tahoe's District 4 seat to be vacated by Nancy McDermid. His opponent, Janet Murphy – an engineer-turned-government consultant, brought in 3,968 votes at 47.31 percent.

"I'm very pleased. We fought a clean campaign. We were very respectful. I just came out and said why we were the best choice, and the people responded," Rice told *Lake Tahoe News*. Screaming could be heard in the background of the phone call, as he attended an election party with his friends.

The Republican candidate will face undeclared Kristi Kandel, a real estate consultant, in November during the general election.

Rice plans to approach his race with Kandel with a continuation of his principles and much talk of the role of vacation home rentals at the lake. He believes they differ, something Rice would like to stabilize since the "pendulum has swung" from rare intervention to overbearing enforcement. He cited the \$1,000 parking citation the city of South Lake Tahoe handed down.

The shocker for the June 12 primary was the race for the valley's District 2 seat – with political newcomer John Engels beating incumbent Steven Thaler. Engels garnered 52.57 percent with 4,445 votes over Thaler's 47.43 percent with 4,011 votes.

Engels will appear on the November general election ballot unopposed.

"It's been a lot of work. One common denominator we've encountered throughout the campaign – all told me they wanted to maintain the rural character of our area," Engels told *LTN*. "Look at what's happened to the lake – all that congestion."

Engels ran on shying away from the county's seemingly pro-growth stance he said his opponent has supported.

The growth of Douglas County is matched by its political activism.

Despite having less population than neighboring Carson City, Douglas touts more active voters. Its 33,442 voters amount to about 4,000 more people practicing their civic duty. The capital city houses about 7,000 more people than Douglas.

Active voting is a relative term. Traditionally, the primaries don't pull the kind of numbers that general elections do. But this year elections officials witnessed a spike in activity compared to most.

California's primary staged a week ago pulled in at least a 40 percent turnout, with El Dorado County coming in at a strong 48.3 percent. Nevada's last primary in 2016 brought out 34.5 percent registered voters. This year's stands at 39.72 percent.

County Clerk Kathy Lewis, the registrar of voters, expected a greater return compared to two years ago. Nevada has accelerated the process with procedures and protocols to spur the voter turnout.

With early voting starting a few decades ago, Nevadans wanting to cast their ballot as soon as they get it may do so. This year brings the first primary in which seniors ages 65 and older as well as the disabled may elect to have a permanent absentee ballot, without the elections department needing to ask.

Landslide for Coverley in DCSO sheriff race

Updated 11:12pm

By Kathryn Reed

Douglas County Sheriff Ron Pierini's heir apparent, Dan Coverley, will be the next sheriff.

Coverley is a captain, having spent 21 of his 23 years in law enforcement with Douglas County Sheriff's Office.



Dan Coverley

He pulled in 53.79 percent of the vote, with 6,954 votes. The next closest of the three other contenders was DCSO Capt. Joe Duffy with 3,173 votes, or 24.54 percent.

Coverley will not face a runoff in November. To be a clear winner he needed 50 percent of the vote plus one.

"It's very humbling to think there are that many people and that much support. They put their faith in me so I will have to work to deliver my best," Coverley told *Lake Tahoe News* on election night. "We will work closely with Sheriff Pierini to have a smooth transition."

Early on Pierini endorsed Coverley, who has most recently been working at the Tahoe substation.

The vacancy comes about because Pierini is calling it quits. He has been sheriff since he was appointed to the position in 1997. In December he will wrap up his fifth four-year term.

Other challengers in the June 12 primary were David Brady with 15.25 percent, 1,971 votes; and Dean Paris with 6.42 percent, 830 votes.

Nevada tops nation for folks looking to make a move

By Jason Hidalgo, Reno Gazette-Journal

There's a whole lotta movin' going on in Nevada.

The Silver State ranked No. 1 among all states for its rate of people looking to make a move, either in-state or from out-of-state, according to national real estate analytics company ATTOM Data Solutions.

ATTOM's "Pre-Mover Index" looks at application and loan approval data that borrowers are required to submit by law. The data is highly predictive of a home selling within 30 days to 90 days, said Daren Blomquist, ATTOM senior vice president. The latest study results are from the first quarter of the year.

Read the whole story

Nev. to gain from nationwide legal sports betting

By Todd Prince, Las Vegas Review-Journal

Nationwide legal sports betting could generate a much larger handle and more local casino visitation than Nevada gaming insiders expect, a Wall Street analyst said.

His proof? A surge in local hockey bets.

The regular-season hockey handle jumped 40 percent from October to April to \$271 million in Clark County – which includes the Strip, downtown and locals markets. It was up more than 30 percent in the locals market alone.

[Read the whole story](#)

South Tahoe man killed, gunman on the loose

Update 2:05pm:

A South Lake Tahoe man was gunned down in a residence on Spruce Avenue on Monday night.

Gregory Mitchoff, 62, was found with multiple gunshot wounds.

The suspect is still on the loose.

“Several witnesses said there was an argument before the gunshots,” Police Chief Brian Uhler told *Lake Tahoe News*. “This was not just a random act of violence for no reason at

all.”

That doesn't mean the suspect does not pose a danger. At this time there is no information about the suspect or the vehicle he sped off in. How the two knew each other has not been released.

Uhler said the victim was shot several times at about 9:40pm June 11. He was pronounced dead at Barton Memorial Hospital about two hours later.

– Lake Tahoe News staff report

Maloff Center not just about helping the injured



Rehabbing at the Maloff Center comes with stunning views.
Photo/Kathryn Reed

By Kathryn Reed

People are hobbling on crutches, easing along with a walker and relying on a cane for stability. Clearly, this is a place for healing. But just steps from the entrance is what looks like a state-of-the-art-gym, not just the usual apparatuses in a rehabilitation center.

The dichotomy between patient and tools appears extreme, at least to the lay person.

To those who work here, it all seems very normal.

“Treating the entire patient and not just the injury or symptoms.”



The Robert Maloff Center in South Lake Tahoe is designed to revolutionize wellness on the South Shore. Photo/Kathryn Reed

That is the overriding philosophy of the Barton Center for Orthopedics and Wellness that opened in May in the Robert

Maloff Center. The complex is walking distance from Barton Memorial Hospital in South Lake Tahoe.

It's been a gradual opening, with rehabilitation staff starting to work there last week, orthopedics and integrated medicine will move over next week, and the grand opening will be in July.

While words like "performance" and "excellence" were first associated with the facility when it was in its developmental phase, this led to some confusion as to whether this center was for elite athletes or everyone else. It's both, with the "everyone else" being more of the emphasis because there are more of them. "Performance" and "excellence" are defined by the individual without comparison to others.



Chris Proctor is in charge of overseeing all things at the Maloff Center. Photo/Kathryn Reed

"It's a community building at its heart. And it's a wellness

building at its heart,” Chris Proctor told *Lake Tahoe News* during a tour of the 26,000-square-foot, two-story building. He is the administrative director for the center. “It is available to anyone who is ready to commit to wellness. Wellness should be about how do we approach the whole body.”

Barton has long been a leader in orthopedic medicine, but more on the surgical and recovery side. What the Maloff Center does is allow professionals to work with anyone in what is more of a preventative manner so perhaps they are never in surgery. Every client will get a customized program. It goes beyond what a trainer at a gym would do because assessments involve looking at the whole person – their gait, how one arm might be stronger than another, a leg could be shorter. These and other factors play into how someone should workout/train/strengthen their bodies. Movement analysis is at the foundation of the assessment.

Nutrition is a component, as is stress management.

Performance and physical therapy are integrated.



Water therapy is part of the protocols at the wellness center.
Photo/Kathryn Reed

While plenty of people will be referred here from a doctor, others can benefit from the physical therapists' knowledge.

The backdrop for the six rehab tables are large windows that open to the forest, with the Upper Truckee River and Johnson Meadow just beyond the trees. It's an incredibly serene setting that is therapeutic in itself.

People are getting treatments in this open setting – no individual, sterile rooms.

The expansive, openness is by design – to physically and emotionally integrate therapy and training.



Athletic equipment is available to anyone who wants to workout. Photo/Kathryn Reed

The goal is not to compete with area gyms. In fact, Barton sees its services complementing what people do at their gym.

For \$29/month people can be on a performance plan after an initial assessment; this tells the person what they need to be doing and then a coach tracks the person. People outside of Tahoe could do this version.

An initial assessment costs \$149, lasts up to 90 minutes and includes use of the center for one month.

Unlimited use of the facility costs \$129 a month. This also allows individuals to pop over to the rehab side to work out a kink at no additional cost, and without a referral. Working with a coach is part of the fee, too.

There are also youth programs and community fit classes.

Also on the first floor is the wet room, which includes a series of three pools. One hot, one cold, one where people can swim or walk. The funding came from Paul Fry's estate. Fry established Tahoe Fracture Clinic in 1964. The well-known physician died in 2015.

A \$10 million donation from Lisa Maloff paid for about one-third of the expenses of the building, including parking garage. A plaque honoring her and husband Bob is in the reception area. She is expected to be at the grand opening next month to see what her money helped create. After all, she was at the groundbreaking.

The center is expected to employ between 25 and 30 people. This changes depending on which doctors are there. There will be six physical therapists and six fitness coaches. Health coach is a certified position.

Upstairs is where the 17 exam rooms are located. This is twice as big as any of the current clinics that Barton operates.



The Maloff Center has openness to it, with the second and first floors visible to one another. Photo/Kathryn Reed

The goal was to create four care stations so the medical team is closer to the rooms. This makes more efficient use of time for employees and should mean patients are getting treated faster.

Unusual in medical exam rooms is the carpet. As Proctor explained, this makes it quieter and warmer. The material can also be mopped to keep it sanitary.

A big change is that the monitor allows for X-rays to be seen in each room so the patient and doctor are not viewing it in the hall, as is the case now at the various clinics. The desks on which the keyboard sits swivels, so medical personnel do not have their backs to the patient. The screens may also be used as an educational tool.

Three of the rooms will be used for procedures, such as injections so the patient does not have to come back.

One side of the second floor is meeting space that can be sectioned off. This is where classes are taught. The dividers double as white boards. Each section has audio-visual capabilities.

In between the two areas is glass, with a view to the first level. All of this makes for an experience that is unlike most medical centers – it's warm and welcoming. Even the brown/gold/blue color scheme is soft, which is noticeable when walking in off the street.

A long hallway with seating, computers and a view to Mount Tallac is for people to gather. The area is a work in progress, and purposefully designed that way. The hope is it will be more of a social area. In this space is the care coordinator hub, where employees will help clients dial in their needs. They are essentially medical concierges.

Barton is still assessing what it will do with its current offices. For certain the 1139 Third St. facility will be repurposed, possibly into a rural health clinic. A wound care clinic is another need. The rehab center in the hospital will remain, as this new one is meant to be focused on orthopedic needs.

Bay Area cyclist killed in Truckee

A cyclist from the Bay Area was killed Sunday in Truckee while riding on Highway 89.

The name of the 70-year-old from San Rafael has not been released. The cyclist was going south on the highway near

Cabin Creek Drive when he was hit by a vehicle about 9:45am June 10.

According to the California Highway Patrol the driver did not appear to be impaired by drugs or alcohol. The name of the driver from Sacramento has not been released.

– *Lake Tahoe News staff report*

California drinking water tax dies

By Dale Kasler and Adam Ashton, Sacramento Bee

A proposed tax on California's drinking water, designed to clean up contaminated water for thousands of Californians, was abandoned by Gov. Jerry Brown and legislative leaders Friday as part of the compromise on the state budget.

Lawmakers and Brown's office scrapped the "Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Act," which would have taxed residents 95 cents a month to raise millions for cleaning toxic wells. Instead, legislative leaders agreed to spend \$5 million from the general fund to deal with lead in drinking water at child care centers. They also plan to allocate \$23.5 million from the general fund for "safe drinking water actions later in this legislative session," according to a Legislative Budget Conference Committee report released Friday.

Read the whole story