



TRUCKEE[™]
Chamber of Commerce

Truckee

Magazine

CONNECTIONS QUARTERLY | FALL 2025



Fall, Love & E-Bikes
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Investing in Truckee's Future:
Workforce Programs

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Contents

EDITOR

Jessica Penman

President & CEO

Truckee Chamber of Commerce

jessica@truckee.com

MANAGING EDITOR

Melissa Williams

melissa@truckee.com

EDITORIAL/WRITER

Tiffany Connolly

InBloom Marketing

PUBLISHER & AD SALES

CCMedia Publishing - Peggy McElfish

775.548.6562 www.cc.media

peggy@ccmpublishing.com

DESIGNER

CCMedia Publishing - Tina Cutler

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

P. 3 top, bottom, P. 6, 9, 10, 12, 30, 31,
32 silent A photography;

P. 4 top, P. 5, 6 inset, P. 14 top Melissa
Williams; P. 4 bottom Court Leve; P. 8,
Courtesy Town of Truckee/BCycle;

P. 11, 13, 29, 37 Scott Shots

Photography; P. 20 inset, 22, 34

Tiffany Connolly. All others photos
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10065 DONNER PASS ROAD

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530.587.8808 | INFO@TRUCKEE.COM

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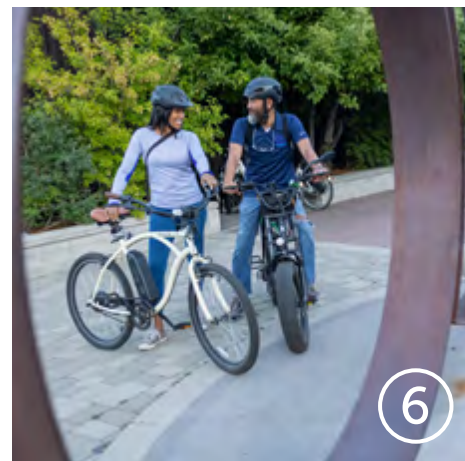
38 THE HOWS & WHYS OF TRUCKEE

How to Find a Lost Pet

On The Cover: Paul Bancroft, Executive

Director of Sierra Community House. Photo

© Scott Thompson/Scott Shots Photography



Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained within Truckee magazine. The Truckee Chamber of Commerce and CCMedia assume no responsibility for misinformation. Please contact the Chamber with any additions or corrections.

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Truckee.com

The official website of the Truckee Chamber of Commerce.

Locals Season in Truckee

Fall is the time to slow down a bit and enjoy “locals season” in Truckee. Autumn was made for slow rides, crisp air, and spontaneous adventures—and e-bikes make it all that much easier. Turn to page 6 to find out how to plan the perfect date on two wheels.

Whether jumpstarting a career, transferring to a four-year university, or simply exploring a new interest, learn how students can benefit from accessible programs, strong local partnerships, and a welcoming environment designed to help learners of all ages thrive. Turn to page 14 to find out more about Sierra College Tahoe-Truckee.

Truckee is an ideal fall destination with diverse lodging options for every traveler. Turn to page 20 to find out more about Truckee lodging, from historical significance and haunted rumors to lakeside access, family-friendly activities, and luxurious services.

In Truckee, the next generation isn’t waiting for the future—they’re building it now. The Truckee Chamber and partners are



working with local high school students to help turn their visions into action, and to spread awareness of the opportunities and technologies for growth and the long-term vitality and innovation of our town. Turn to page 30 to learn more about our workforce development programs.

The original Donner Cross, built in 1887, was the first public monument honoring the ill-fated Donner Party and their harrowing ordeal of 1846–1847. Originally placed in what was then known as Marzen Meadow—a location unfortunately prone to flooding—it has moved several times. Turn to page 34 to find out why the Truckee-Donner Historical Society has made an effort to keep this important part of our history more permanent.

We love our pets in Truckee-Tahoe, and when one goes missing, the community quickly steps up to help—spreading the word online and working with groups like the Humane Society of Truckee-Tahoe and Truckee Animal Services. While that support is invaluable, pet owners can also take simple, proactive steps to

boost the odds of a happy reunion. Turn to p. 38 for tips.



Jessica Penman
President and CEO
Truckee Chamber of Commerce
Editor, Truckee Magazine

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What's Happening!

FALL EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

- 26 Top of the Town - 72nd Annual Chamber Awards Celebration
- 27 Oktoberfest at the Village at Palisades Tahoe
- 28 KidZone Family Farm Festival
- 28 Great Trail Race, Run, Hike, Walk

OCTOBER

- 4 Truckee Wine, Walk & Shop
- 4 Heart of Gold Gravel Race
- 9 Community Connections: Oyster Shuck at Buoy & Trap
- 11 Tahoe Forest's Fall Fun Run
- 11 & 12 Made in Tahoe Festival
- 16 & 17 Truckee Historical Haunted Tour
- 17 Cocktail Bingo

- 18 Big Truck Day
- 19 30th Annual Truckee River Day & Fair
- 21 Good Morning Truckee
- 25 35th Annual Tahoe Chocolate and Wine Festival

NOVEMBER

- 1 Truckee Ski Swap
- 15 Small Town, Big Night Out!
- 18 Good Morning Truckee: Ski Resorts Update
- 20 Soroptishop
- 21 Annual Bud Fish Tree Lighting and Holiday Festival

DECEMBER

- 5 & 12 Festive Fridays



Scan to see all the events
going on this fall

For details and complete list of events, visit truckee.com/events

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Fall, Love & E-bikes

TRUCKEE DATES
ON TWO WHEELS



Pack up, saddle up, and turn your e-bike on for the perfect Truckee date that gets you outside and exploring nature, art, cuisine, and a whole lot more. Fall is a great time to get around as the crowds have dispersed, the leaves are colorful, and the vibe is chill. So, grab your favorite human (or treat yourself) to a day of visiting local gems via e-bike. Don't have one? Pick up a BCycle, docked throughout the town, or rent an e-bike from a local bike shop. No matter which neighborhood you're starting from, there's a place to grab a bike and go.

Begin your date in your Truckee neighborhood, then pick a date theme (like sports, arts, shopping, history, and more) below. Or mix and match to create your perfect date, cruising the trails and paths around Truckee.

Where to Begin: Neighborhood Launch Pads

Hit the ground rolling with these fun ways to kick off your date, no matter where in Truckee you're starting.

Glenshire

First, swing by the Glenshire General Store and grab a few snacks and drinks for your backpack. Pick up a BCycle e-bike at the Legacy Trail trailhead, and head out along the paved trail that runs alongside the Truckee River. Stop and take in the scenery along the way, and then pick from two options as you make your way through the scenic fall foliage:

Option 1: When you get to the footbridge that connects the Legacy Trail to East River Street, cross it and make a left to land in downtown Truckee near the railroad tracks. Continue biking across Bridge Street and onto West River Street. Stop at Jax at the Tracks or Cornerstone Bakery and Kitchen for fresh coffee, pastries, and breakfast.



Option 2: Keep biking past the footbridge and end up in the Truckee Regional Park. Play a round of disc golf, pickleball, or tennis. Make sure and pack your own gear!

Tahoe Donner

Grab snacks for your backpack at Z's Market, then park at the Trout Creek Trailhead, where you can rent a BCycle for an easy glide down the paved trail that borders Coyote Moon Golf Course.

Before the trail spits you out downtown, consider a left turn up and toward Pioneer Center, where you can enjoy a fresh cup of

Continued on page 8

LAUGH OUT LOUD.



JAY MOHR
SATURDAY, OCT. 4



SAM MORRIL
SATURDAY, NOV. 29

Jay Mohr was cast opposite Tom Cruise in Jerry Maguire and co-starred with Jennifer Anniston in Picture Perfect. Now the world that knew “comedian Jay” was quickly introduced to the “actor Jay.” Mohr has brilliantly balanced both acting and stand-up comedy.

Sam Morril is one of the fastest-rising stand-up comics and one of the best joke writers on the scene today. Morril can be heard on the podcast We Might Be Drunk with co-host Mark Normand.

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- Glenshire Legacy Trailhead
- Truckee River Regional Park
- E.Jibboom St. and Truckee Way
- Railyard Mobility Hub on Church St.
- Donner Pass Road and Roundhouse Way
- Donner Pass Road and Truckee Way
- Pocket Park, near Alibi Ale House
- Truckee Train Depot
- Checkerboard Plaza
- Eagle Plaza/Donner Pass Rd. & Spring St.
- Riverside Drive and Truckee River
- Tahoe Forest Hospital
- Truckee PUD
- Trout Creek Trailhead
- Cold Stream
- Tahoe Donner Beach
- Shoreline Park, Donner Lake
- Donner Lake Boat Launch
- West End Beach

Rent an E-bike: Local Shops

- Bike Truckee near Sierra Meadows: truckeebikerentals.com
- Truckee River Bikes near Olympic Valley: truckeeriverbikes.com
- Cyclepaths in the Pioneer Center: cyclepaths.com



coffee at Pacific Crest Coffee. If it's Friday, you're in luck, because Sierra Bakehouse and Valhalla Vintage will be open for pastries and vintage finds.

Head back down the Trout Creek Trail and make a little stop at Trout Creek Pocket Park, across from Alibi Ale Works, and enjoy the gurgle of Trout Creek. Then, choose a themed adventure below or mix and match!

When you return to Tahoe Donner via the Trout Creek Trail, swing back over to the Pioneer Center for dinner at Great Gold.

Sierra Meadows

Rent your e-bike from BCycle at the Truckee River Regional Park or at Bike Truckee, near 7-11. From there, head up

Brockway Road to The Rock shopping center and enjoy coffee and breakfast at Café Lupine. Once you've had your fill, bike down the way you came, and choose a themed adventure below.

End your date with bocce, bubbles (or beers), and bites at Stella at Gravity Haus.

Donner Lake

Grab a bike from any of several Donner Lake BCycle stations. Start the day with a hearty breakfast from Donner Lake Kitchen, then relax on a public dock for a peaceful respite. Stock up on a few snacks for your backpack at Sticks Market and then choose your next adventure.

Finish up this date at Donner Lake with dinner at Donner Lake Pub.



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Choose Your Ride To Fit Your Vibe

Friendly competition, leaf gazing, history lessons, or foodie forward— whatever your style, pick a theme or mix and match for an e-bike date suited just for you.

For Art Lovers

When you pedal into downtown Truckee, lock up the bikes for a walking art tour. Explore several art studios and galleries, including Riverside Studios, Gallery 5830', La Galleria, Mountain Arts Collective, Piper J. Gallery, Ridgeline Gallery, and more.

Now that you're thoroughly inspired, get creative at Made By Me, a new interactive art studio located at 10191 Donner Pass Road. Stop by during their Walk-In Art Cafe Hours (check website for current information at madebymetruckee.com) and get artsy using provided supplies, like macramé, acrylics, watercolor, sewing, and leather work.

Don't miss Truckee's many public art installations. Pedal around and view The Path mosaic work on Brockway Road heading up toward Truckee River Regional Park, the Truckee Ants at Alder Drive and Prosser Dam Road, Mountain Flowers at Donner Pass Road and Pioneer Trail, Locomotion No. 4294, at 10115 Donner Pass Road, Victory Highway Eagle Monument at Donner Pass Road and Spring Street; Rusty Ramblers (AKA The Band) on the train tracks side of Donner Pass Road in Brickelltown.

Music is art too! Catch live tunes with dinner at Moody's Bistro Bar & Beats, Bar of America, Alibi Ale Works, or RMU.

Continued on page 10

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For Competitors

Pack your supplies for this action-packed date! Start at the Truckee River Regional Park and either disc golf through the woods or show off your serve on the pickleball and tennis courts.

See who can make the biggest catch! There are several spots along the Truckee River, right off the Legacy Trail, where you can try your cast at fly-fishing. If you need tips and supplies, grab them from Trout Creek Outfitters, located in downtown Truckee.

After working up an appetite, bike over to Blue Coyote Bar & Grill to sit back and watch the pros. Enjoy bar eats and satellite coverage of all your favorite teams on 24 flat-screen HDTVs.

For Foodies

Make every stop a delicious bite on this culinary cruise.

Breakfast: Hit up your neighborhood spot, depending on where you started. But for a special treat, try the Turkish Breakfast at Cornerstone Kitchen. If you're beginning your date downtown, pick from diner-style eating at Jax at the Tracks, huge portions at Squeeze Inn, or the western-themed Wagon Train. For fresh coffee, hit up Drink Coffee Do Stuff, Coffeebar, or Dark Horse Roasters.

Midday Bites and Apps: For Mexican food, friendly staff, and shareable Rocket Fries, try Casa Baeza. Catch the game on the big



screen and order the 6 Shooter Poppers at Bar of America. Enjoy a curated selection of sharable plates and craft cocktails at Old Town Tap. And for a unique olive oil tasting, stop by Tahoe Oil & Spice.

Dinner: Find romantic and upscale dining at Pianeta, Tangerine, and Trokay Cafe. For the best views, head up to Cottonwood Restaurant & Bar. If you're ending your day near Sierra Meadows, enjoy sushi and sake at Drunken Monkey. Truckee Brewing Company across from Raley's serves up award-winning brews paired with delicious, shareable plates - including tacos and pizza. For live music with dinner, don't miss Moody's Bistro Bar & Beats.

For History Buffs

Truckee's history is wild and varied, and exploring local museums and historical markers makes for an incredible date. Explore the Truckee Museum of Art, the Truckee Railroad Museum, and the Old Jail Museum, all located in downtown Truckee. Make an appointment beforehand for a private tour, as their hours vary.


Hop back on your bike and pedal east toward Donner Lake to explore the Donner Lake State Park Visitor Center and Museum. If you think your bike still has enough juice, consider a pedal up Old 40 and stop at the Petroglyphs to admire the work of Truckee's first inhabitants. If you're feeling adventurous, hike up to the old Railroad Trestles. Make sure you have a light, the tunnels are dark!

For Treasure Hunters

Truckee's small business owners and makers offer all sorts of unique finds. Stroll downtown for clothing, gifts, home decor, art, and so much more. For something different, check out Adele's Attic, Rock Cellar Records below Word After Word Bookstore, and The Sock Parlour.

After shopping downtown, pedal east on Donner Pass Road and stop by the Good Anya Plant Shop and Echo Blue Consignment. Keep riding east for more treasures at the Humane Society of Truckee-Tahoe's Thrifty Tails Boutique.

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For Nature Peepers

Before you leave on this adventure, stock up on food for a scenic picnic. On the west side of town, cruise the paved Legacy Trail that runs along the Truckee River. Drift among the trees and enjoy your picnic down by the water or on one of the benches scattered along the trail. On the east side of Truckee, bike the Donner Lake loop, riding along the lake and through Donner State Park. Enjoy your picnic at

one of the tables in the park or on a public dock. For a high-elevation adventure with epic overlooks, bike up Old 40 and lunch at the Rainbow Bridge scenic overlook.

Mix and Match Your Perfect Date

You don't have to stick to just one theme. You can easily blend art, food, history, and adventure into one perfectly memorable date.

Start with something active. Warm up with a choice from the sports-themed date. Fuel up as you go. Choose from the ideas in the culinary-themed date, pack a picnic, or for a cozy fall touch, bring a thermos of tea or cider to sip as you explore.

Layer in local culture. Explore Truckee's history and/or the cultural and art scene with ideas from the art-themed date. Grab a few souvenirs along the way. Keep exploring. If time and daylight allow, loop in a scenic ride along Donner Lake or the Legacy Trail. Take in the fall foliage, stop for photos, and appreciate just how much you can see on two wheels.

Wrap it up with dinner and maybe a little live music from Moody's, RMU, or Alibi Ale Works. There's no wrong way to explore Truckee by e-bike. Build your day around your favorite themes, or try something completely new.

Continued on page 12



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Tips For a Great Date

A little planning goes a long way when it comes to fall e-bike adventures. Here are a few things to keep in mind to make sure your date is as comfortable, fun, and memorable as possible:

Dress in Layers

Fall days in Truckee can swing from crisp mornings to sunny afternoons to chilly evenings, especially once the sun dips behind the mountains. Wear breathable base layers and bring a warm jacket, beanie, and gloves.

Bring Lights

Even if you're heading out mid-afternoon, have front and rear bike lights with you. The days are shorter, and shaded trails or overcast weather can make visibility a challenge.

Pack the Essentials

A small backpack or basket is your best friend. Toss in water, a thermos of something warm, snacks, and a portable lock so you can stop and explore without worrying about your bike. A blanket or packable picnic mat is a nice addition if you're planning to lounge by the lake or river.

Know Your Charge

Make sure your e-bike battery is fully charged before you head out and keep an eye on it if you're planning longer or uphill rides (like Old 40). If you're new to e-bikes, check your range before you go.

Check Hours and Weather

Many local shops and attractions have reduced off-season hours in the fall, so it's a good idea to double-check websites or social media before you head out. And don't forget to check the forecast, as fall storms can roll in fast, and you don't want to be caught in a downpour.

Plan Your Route

Before you hop on, map out your ride. Knowing where you're headed can help you avoid steep climbs that drain your battery faster.

Wear a helmet. Even on mellow rides through town, a helmet adds a layer of safety.

Follow the Rules of the Road

Just like cars, bikes (including e-bikes) need to follow traffic laws. Observe all posted signs and signals, and ride in the same direction as traffic. Use bike lanes or paths when they're available. If you're on a sidewalk, walk your bike. Use hand signals to let drivers and other riders know when you're turning.

Be Courteous

Keep your speed in check, especially when riding near pedestrians, and use a bell or friendly voice when passing. A little courtesy goes a long way in keeping everyone safe and smiling.



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Kim Bateman, PhD

OCCUPATION Executive Dean of Sierra College, Clinical Psychologist, Author, Storyteller, and End of Life Doula

ORIGINALLY FROM Born in New York and moved to Tahoe City when I was 14. NTHS graduate (GO Lakers!)

HOW LONG IN TRUCKEE In Truckee since 2004. (In Tahoe-Truckee for 45 years)

WHY TRUCKEE There are four generations of my family living in this area. I also designed and built my own home on the Truckee River. Connections to family, friends, and the spirit of place I feel here make Truckee home.

FAVORITE THINGS ABOUT TRUCKEE Wild people and places, secret trails (not telling), minimal leash laws, Whole Treats rosemary goat cheese biscuits, slightly more gyms than microbreweries (but a lot of both), the diamond glint of new fallen snow, the smell of pine needles after the rain, the tamale guy in front of 7-11, the parents on the bleachers at Truckee High School, graceful goodbyes (because your ex will be your kid's AYSO soccer coach or your best friend's new partner), when you have an issue with any local agency you pick up the phone and talk to the person (and you know their children, and if they quilt or follow the Giants). Clean, cold air coming through your bedroom window at night, passionate teachers, Cornerstone focaccia, May lilacs by the Veteran's Hall, the rec center lap swim at 6:00 am with low lighting and ethereal music, the physical therapists (and nurses, doctors, managers, frontline and support staff) at TFHD, Burger Me sweet potato fries, neighbors who will help you change a rusted shear pin, roundabouts, and the way people come together in crises, particularly during unexpected losses.



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Located just off Highway 89 in Truckee, Sierra College's Tahoe-Truckee Campus is designed to serve about 1,000 students from Truckee, Donner Summit, Kings Beach, Tahoe City, Homewood, and Tahoma. With access to more than 120 degrees and certificates, the campus connects residents to the larger Sierra College district, which serves 18,000 students annually across its Rocklin, Grass Valley, and Truckee locations.

Over the years, the campus has become more inclusive and impactful. In 2008, when the building opened, its enrollment included 4.5% Latine students. Today, that enrollment has climbed to 33% Latine students. Ninety percent of campus graduates transfer to four-year institutions, and many of the area's EMTs are trained at the Tahoe-Truckee campus, in partnership with Tahoe Forest Hospital District and local fire departments.

Local high school students attend tuition-free and can earn both high school and college credits. Students over age 18 who sign up for a full load of classes also receive the first two years tuition-free.

Continued on page 16



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Sierra College is accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges and offers courses transferable to the California State University (CSU) and University of California (UC) systems.

The Tahoe-Truckee campus also offers a wide variety of courses for adults and seniors, including hands-on training, community enrichment classes, and workforce development. Two makerspaces on campus integrate making into the curriculum, for example, memorial textile art as a component of the Death and Dying class.

There's something for everyone at the Tahoe-Truckee campus: free English learning classes, technical education, art classes, programs for adults over 50, and of course, credit for local high school students. What will you learn next?

ADULT LEARNERS AND CAREER SEEKERS

Sierra College offers several courses designed to support adults returning to education, transitioning careers, or simply pursuing personal interests. Students can take credit classes in subjects like psychology, natural sciences, administration of justice, and business. Or they can enroll in noncredit career education programs in the trades and technology. Over 250 of these courses are offered online.



Sierra College trigonometry class using clinometers.

Career and Technical Education (CTE) Pathways

Two routes can be taken for career skills and industry training: noncredit, tuition-free courses and for-credit CTE programs that lead to certificates and degrees. Both are available through the Tahoe-Truckee campus and serve as strong foundations for employment or further education. These offerings are available in person, online, and in synchronous Zoom formats.

Tuition-Free Noncredit CTE

Online and in person (on the Rocklin and Grass Valley campuses) noncredit CTE courses help adults develop career skills without the cost or pressure of traditional college programs. These courses are tuition-free, repeatable, and don't require prerequisites, making them accessible to anyone easing back into education, switching careers, or looking to build confidence in a new field.

Program areas include:

- Automotive Basics
- Construction Fundamentals
- Energy Surveying and Lighting Retrofits
- Entrepreneurship for Makers
- ACE – Advanced Certificate for ESL Noncredit
- ESL Intermediate High Oral Skills
- ESL Intermediate High Writing and Reading Skills
- Welding Industry Training


These courses emphasize real-world preparation, offering a supportive bridge into higher-level academic pathways or direct employment. Learn more at: sierracollege.edu/academics/noncredit-education

For-Credit Career and Technical Education Programs


District-wide, 21 for-credit CTE programs prepare students for skilled careers directly related to industries within the Sierra College District area and its local labor market needs. The Tahoe-Truckee campus offers select for-credit CTE courses, and students may also access online or hybrid options through Sierra College's broader


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An art student holds a lightbox he created with a laser printer.

campus system. While tuition applies, students may qualify for financial aid, scholarships, or workforce grants.

Program fields include:

- Applied art and design
- Business administration and entrepreneurship
- Computer science and information technology



Biology class fieldwork at Mono Lake.

- Construction and energy technology
- Health sciences
- Mechatronics
- Public safety (fire technology, administration of justice)
- Welding technology

Learn more at: sierracollege.edu/academics/career-and-technical-education

Continued on page 18

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COMMUNITY LEARNING

These short-term, not-for-credit classes offer a chance to explore new interests, strengthen career skills, or simply try something creative and fun. More than 300 online courses are available in a wide range of subjects, and new classes begin nearly every week, with flexible scheduling, including evening and weekend options, to accommodate working adults and busy families.

Courses are fee-based, open to the public, and do not require formal college admission or placement. Participants can register directly through the Kaleidoscope online catalog at sierra.augusoft.net.

The Tahoe-Truckee campus offers in-person classes. This fall, they included:

- Digital Photography
- Ceramics
- Communication Best Practices
- Drawing from Nature
- Drawing with Watercolor
- Mysteries of Light and Shadow
- Mountain Biking Techniques and Skills
- Wild Edibles of the Sierra

Online classes are available as well in the following areas:

- Career and Business
- Technology
- Creative Arts and Writing
- Cooking and Culinary
- Health and Wellness
- Home and Garden
- Special Interest

Free English Language Classes

Through Placer School for Adults, Beginner and Intermediate/Advanced English as a Second Language (ESL) classes for adults help improve reading, writing, speaking, listening, and basic computer skills. Classes are offered in the mornings and evenings, with the option to attend online and in person. Sign up by calling 530.885.8585 (Spanish speaking) or 530.271.2819 (English speaking)

OLLI: Learning for the Joy of It

OLLI (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute) is designed specifically for adults age 50 and older who are passionate about learning. It offers a year-round lineup of noncredit courses that are engaging, accessible, and free from the pressure of tests or grades. In addition to academic content, the program fosters social, cultural, and volunteer opportunities for its members.

Course topics range from history, science, and current events to health, creative expression, and lifestyle topics. While most classes are held online or at other Sierra College campuses, Truckee-area residents are encouraged to participate virtually.

Recent offerings included:

- Chorus: For college-aged students through seniors (Tahoe-Truckee campus)
- Community Band: Playing music with others in an ensemble setting (Tahoe-Truckee campus)
- Flexible and Fit: A music-infused online fitness class
- Growing Up Western: American culture and myth



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TruckeeTahoePetLodge.com



Presentation in main hall at Sierra College.

- The Care and Feeding of EVs: An entry point into electric vehicle maintenance
- Where to Live with Climate Change: A timely look at climate migration
- Day and overnight travel adventures

OLLI at Sierra College is part of the Continuing Education Division and belongs to a national network of 125 OLLIs supported by the Bernard Osher Foundation. Learn more at campusce.net/sierraolli.

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS EARNING COLLEGE CREDIT

Through partnerships with the Tahoe Truckee Unified School District (TTUSD) and other area high schools, Sierra College makes early college access possible through two key programs:

Academic Enrichment — The Ferrari Program

Open to students in grades 9–12, Academic Enrichment allows high school students to take up to 11 units of college coursework each term, either online or in person. These courses are tuition-free and count toward both high school and college graduation requirements. Interested students must maintain a 2.0 GPA and submit a permission form each semester with counselor approval.

Dual Enrollment at TTUSD Sites

Sierra College also offers college courses directly on local high school campuses through CCAP (College and Career Access Pathways) agreements. Truckee High School students can enroll in college-level Emergency Medical Responder and Spanish courses without leaving campus. These classes are expanding, are part of the school day, and are taught by college-approved faculty.

Laptops and learning resources may be available to ensure equitable access, especially for remote learners. Learn more about both of these programs at sierracollege.edu/admissions/how-to-apply/attending-college-in-high-school

HOW TO GET STARTED

For Adults:

- Explore the Kaleidoscope course catalog at sierra.augusoft.net or stop by the Tahoe-Truckee campus.
- To register for credit or noncredit courses, complete an OpenCCC application at sierracollege.edu, or stop by the Tahoe-Truckee campus.
- Schedule an appointment with an academic counselor to clarify your goals or explore certificates online or by calling 530.550.2225.

For TTUSD Students:

- Meet with your school counselor to discuss options and obtain parental permission.
- Submit the Academic Enrichment or Dual Enrollment form and complete the online application.
- Register early for the best selection of classes.

Sierra College's Tahoe-Truckee campus plays an important role in providing lifelong learning, career skills, and early college access. Students have access to the disc golf course out front, the resource library, tutoring services, and so much more. It's a welcoming place to grow professionally, academically, and personally. To learn more, visit the Truckee Tahoe Campus page or follow along on Facebook for news and updates.

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Stay a While

Check in, Chill Out,
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The Ritz-Carlton, Lake Tahoe Living Room Bar

Friends and family of locals know a little secret: that fall is one of the best times to visit us in Truckee. If you love company, but maybe not having them in your house, that's okay, because our local hotels offer something for everyone.

Maybe your friends will love enjoying coffee on a crisp morning on Donner Lake. Or immediate access to ski resorts and mountain biking trails. Maybe they're into history and want the experience of traveling back in time to Truckee's wild west past.

Luxurious spa days, a rustic mountain experience, the live music scene; whatever your guests picture when dreaming up their perfect hotel stay, they can find it here.



Truckee Hotel, Historic Downtown Truckee

CHARM, CHARACTER, AND A LITTLE MYSTERY

Boutique, historic, and maybe a little haunted, these Truckee stays have stories to tell.

TRUCKEE HOTEL
truckeehotel.com

A bit of a legend, the Truckee Hotel is located in the historic downtown district, a prime spot for walking, shopping, eating, drinking, admiring art, and listening to live music. Wander downstairs and through the hall, and you'll find yourself in Moody's Bistro Bar & Beats, where the focus is on a chill ambience, upscale cuisine, and hand-picked tunes from bands hailing from San Francisco to Truckee and beyond.

This historic hotel dates back to 1873, when it was called the American House. According to the Truckee-Donner Historical Society, "the hotel supported guests who frequented the numerous saloons on Front Street (now Donner Pass Road) as well as the red-light district's dance halls and boarding houses on Jibboom Street." Some say it's haunted, but we'll leave that for you to decide.

Why you'll love it: Location, location, location.



The Tahoe Star Hotel

TAHOE STAR HOTEL
tahoestarhotel.com

Built in the late 1800s, the Tahoe Star Hotel is thought to have been built as a family residence for George Schaffer, who, along with Joseph Gray, established the first lumber mill in the area in 1866.

Other accounts insist it was built for his mill workers. Either way, as you approach the building, you can imagine figures from Truckee's storied past relaxing on the wide, 19th-century porch.

Choose from eight renovated rooms in this cozy, historic building that has been updated with modern conveniences so that all travelers can feel at home. Mosey out the door and choose your adventure: shop in historic downtown and along West River Street, explore the Legacy Trail along the Truckee River, or walk up to the Truckee River Regional Park.

Why you'll love it: Its proximity to downtown, the river, and to Jax at the Tracks - a fun diner with great food.

RIVER STREET INN
riverstreetinntruckee.com

Another lodging option for ghost hunters, the River Street Inn is located on the Truckee River. The attached restaurant, 1882 Bar & Grill, serves up BBQ and cocktails from the full bar. On warm days, relax on the patio overlooking the river and heckle the passing rafters.

Constructed in the late 1800s, the building has housed families and restaurants, with rumors that it may have also acted as a brothel at one time. Appreciate the gorgeous stone-masonry, a result of the Besio family, who purchased the wooden structure in 1920,

Continued on page 22

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River Street Inn, Home of 1882 Restaurant

updating it with carefully selected rocks. Charlie Chaplin may have stayed at the inn while working on a movie in Truckee.

Why you'll love it: The bed and breakfast hospitality. Wake up to fresh-brewed coffee, a complimentary pastry, and fresh fruit.



The front parlor of West River House.

WEST RIVER HOUSE

wriverhouse.com

The West River House, formerly the Alta Hotel and originally the Tahoe Saloon, is one of Truckee's three oldest hotels. It was originally built as a hotel and saloon when Truckee was host to winter carnival activities. The downstairs parlor and common areas are rich and swanky, reminiscent of Truckee's red light past.

Accommodations are laid out for solo travelers and for groups.

Their family room comes with a queen bed and two bunk beds that can accommodate four more travelers or kids. Each bunk includes

Continued on page 24

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Clearing the Air: Why Space Clearing Matters After a Move

When you step into a new home, you expect a fresh start—new surroundings, new opportunities, a blank slate for your life. But what if that home is still carrying the unseen baggage of its previous occupants?

That's where space clearing comes in – the energy clearing and healing of the home.

Space clearing is the art of detecting and removing energetic imprints—subtle, non-physical traces left behind by former residents. These imprints can linger for years, shaping the atmosphere of a home and, in some cases, affecting the well-being of those who live there now.

As a Feng Shui and energy flow consultant, my first step in any consultation is to "sense" a home. I'm tuning in to the space's current energy as well as what has transpired within its walls. I look for disruptions and blockages in the home's energy flow—patterns that might be weighing on its occupants without their knowledge.

Sometimes, the impact is startling.

In one case, a client who had relocated from Los Angeles to Dallas felt stuck in her life after four years in her new house. The moment I stepped inside, I felt a sharp pain in my stomach. It wasn't mine—it was the energetic residue of the previous homeowner's chronic digestive issues.

Though the person was long gone, their energy had become part of the home's fabric. Over time, my client began to mirror it—gaining more than 50 pounds and feeling persistently sluggish, despite living a healthy lifestyle.

During a space clearing ceremony, I removed the stagnant energy and revitalized the home. The shift was immediate.

"My house has slimmed down! I can breathe!" she exclaimed.

While no ritual replaces healthy habits, removing these energetic blockages lifted the silent weight holding her back.

Whether you rent or own, you may be living in someone else's energetic story. Space clearing gives your home—and you—a fresh start, aligned with your own life and goals.

5 SIGNS YOUR HOME MIGHT NEED SPACE CLEARING

- 1 You've felt unusually tired, anxious, or unmotivated since moving in.
- 2 Your health, relationships, or finances have taken a sudden downturn.
- 3 Certain rooms feel "heavy" or uncomfortable without explanation.
- 4 You experience strange dreams or restless sleep in the home.
- 5 You can't seem to settle in or make the space truly feel like yours.

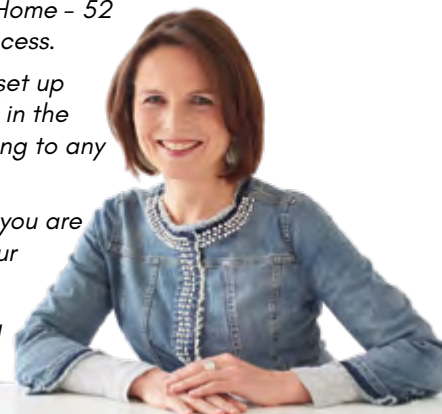
Annette Kurtz

Annette Kurtz is a Feng Shui and Space Clearing Expert & Clutter Clearing Coach as well as the author of the Amazon #1 bestseller *Harmonize Your Home - 52 Tips to Energize Your Work From Home Life for Greater Success*.

Having moved my home & workplace over 30 times, I have the skills & understanding to help others set up their homes & thrive in a new neighborhood, new town, or even a new culture. I have lived & thrived in the United States, Germany, Belgium, Singapore, & Japan, & have mastered the art of moving & adapting to any new environment in lightning speed and be successful.

"Give your home a soul so your soul can have a home": When your home is free of emotional history you are able to manifest your highest ambitions & find belonging by truly connecting with yourself. When your home holds a lot of energetic blockages, it keeps you stuck in the past & throws you off-track.

My clients make space for new beginnings after moving into a new home, after a divorce or starting a new chapter in their life or business. They live in homes free of energetic interferences, thereby experiencing vibrant flow, enhanced clarity, connection and harmony.





Loch Leven Lodge on Donner Lake

a curtain, light, and shelf, for the ultimate cozy and private evening. Your stay here will look a little different from what you might be used to in a traditional hotel. Instead of a front desk, you'll utilize their streamlined self-check-in system designed for convenience. Prior to arrival, all the necessary access details are sent directly to you.

Why you'll love it: It's a nice budget-friendly option located right in downtown Truckee, near shops, restaurants, and live music.

SLEEP BY THE SHORELINE

These Donner Lake stays offer peaceful views, easy water access, and fall adventure options.

LOCH LEVEN LODGE

lochlevenlodge.com

Like lake views? Loch Leven Lodge offers lakeside access and a direct line of sight to Donner Summit. Relax on their wide and rustic wooden deck with plenty of seating, shade, and opportunity to check out from everyday responsibilities. Their lakefront townhouse is perfect for large families and groups, as it's outfitted with two bedrooms, a living room, and a kitchen. Jump in the lake in the summer, explore Donner Summit and ski resorts nearby later in the year, and unwind in the outdoor spa. Hungry? Catch dinner off the fishing dock.

Why you'll love it: It's great for kids and kids-at-heart, featuring a fishing area, putting green, sandbox, and BBQ picnic area.



Donner Lake Village

DONNER LAKE VILLAGE

donnerlakevillage.com

Situated directly next door to a marina that offers watercraft rentals in the warmer season, this lakeside property offers year-round studio, one-bedroom, and townhouse condo rentals. Wake up early, grab your paddleboard, and enjoy a quiet and crisp lake lap. Utilize their outdoor grills and picnic tables for an outdoor meal, or gather in the fireplace room with plenty of seating for your crew and wraparound windows to take in the beauty of Donner Lake. The units tend to book up in the winter as rates are affordable, the view is to die for, and it's an easy up to Sugar Bowl Ski Resort and Boreal / Woodward.

Why you'll love it: Bring your paddleboard, kayak, canoe, boat, or jet ski and use their dock slips. Don't have a vessel? Donner Lake Village is walking distance to the popular West End Beach, where you can rent paddleboats, boards, and kayaks and you can also walk to great eats and a full bar at Donner Lake Pub.

A vibrant advertisement for MOO DANG Thai Food. It features a large image of a Thai dish, a photo of a woman in a blue shirt standing behind a counter, and several smaller images of food items like noodles and salad. The text is bold and colorful, with a red pig logo and a 'Best of Sierra Nevada' award seal.

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- thaimoodang.com

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Donner Lake Inn

DONNER LAKE INN
donnerlakeinn.com

Walk directly to Donner Lake and fresh ice cream from Truckee Ice Creamery from this rustic inn. Or relax in their backyard area that sits along a creek, offering a quiet respite and time to reflect and soak in the tall pines, chirping birds, and chipmunks chasing each other up trees. Lodgers appreciate the warm and inviting feel they get from the owners, and guest rooms provide a gas fireplace, private bath, and forest views.

Why you'll love it: Slip into their year-round hot tub to gaze at the stars and unwind to the sounds of the nearby creek.

IF YOU LIKE YOUR STAYS A LITTLE EXTRA

Saltwater pool? Check. Espresso machine? Check. Private fire pit? Also check. These hotels bring the perks.

GRAVITY HAUS TRUCKEE-TAHOE

gravityhaus.com/locations/gravity-haus-truckee-tahoe

Centered on community and with amenities that support the working traveler, Gravity Haus is a place to set up a base camp for Truckee adventures in any season. Take advantage of their concierge services for experiences and gear rentals tailored to mountain bikers, foodies, hikers, and more. They'll work with



Gravity Haus

Continued on page 26



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GentleCure - Non-surgical Skin Cancer Treatment

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Truckee Donner Lodge

you and your group to take care of every detail, from planning to packing. Need to get a few hours of work in? Do it in their on-site co-working space.

Why you'll love it: Become a Gravity Haus member and get all the perks at their various locations, including Aspen, Moab, Breckenridge, and more. Have an Ikon Pass? Get 20% off a Gravity Haus membership.

TRUCKEE DONNER LODGE

truckeedonnerlodge.com

Just a hop, skip, and a jump away from the Donner Memorial State Park Museum and Visitor Center, the Truckee Donner Lodge is conveniently located off I-80 at the entrance to Donner Lake. Before the day's adventure, sit fireside with coffee or tea and a deluxe continental-style breakfast of cereal, fresh fruit, yogurt, eggs, bacon, sausage, bagels, toast, and muffins. Take a dip in the seasonal outdoor swimming pool and soak up the sun in the warmer months. This is a prime location for exploring Cold Stream Canyon, either on foot, mountain bike, snowshoe, or skis.

Why you'll love it: Cozy fireside community space to relax and unwind, play a game, or read a book.



The heated pool at Best Western Plus is open in every season.

BEST WESTERN PLUS

bestwestern.com/en_US/book/hotels-in-truckee/best-western-plus-truckee-tahoe-hotel/propertyCode.05722.html

Of all the Best Westerns there are, this one might just be one of the best. Somehow, this hotel chain has curated their decor to be welcoming, open, and woodsy. Stock up on goods from their grab-and-go market and sit quietly or play games in their reading room with views of the huge, and gorgeous, pool area. You could use the mini-fridge and microwave that comes in each room, but why, when you have The Rock shopping center right next door? You'll find a few of Truckee's best dining options, including Drunken Monkey Sushi and Thai Delicacy, a local favorite. In the morning, get coffee from Café Lupine. Swing by the Donut Shoppe, a concept studio and showroom housing art, clothes, and collectibles from snowboarding culture.

Why you'll love it: Their saltwater pool is heated to 87 degrees and open year-round.

Continued on page 28



- EST 1995 -

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Martis Valley Lodge

MARTIS VALLEY LODGE

martisvalleylodge.com

Early this summer, the Hampton Inn & Suites Tahoe–Truckee reopened as the Martis Valley Lodge as part of the Hilton family's Tapestry Collection. The new concept has been built around community and gathering, and it features a refinished pool, spa, and fitness center. When the weather isn't cooperating, or you've had your fill of outdoor fun, gather in the new lounge space, complete with a fireplace and plenty of TVs for catching the game. Trailhead Social is their full-service restaurant, but they also offer grab-and-go options in the new market area. Enjoy local coffee and beer as well; they've partnered with Drink Coffee Do Stuff and Truckee Brewing Company. Some rooms include bunk beds and fireplaces, making them ideal for groups and families.

Why you'll love it: Every room gets its own espresso machine.



Springhill Suites

SPRINGHILL SUITES

marriott.com/en-us/hotels/rnosu-springhill-suites-truckee-lake-tahoe

SpringHill Suites is located just off I-80 and is the perfect stop to start your Truckee adventure. If you're staying a while, it's within walking distance of historic downtown Truckee. Book a seasonal package that may include the popular Sip, Stay & Relax in California Wine Country Style, which includes a complimentary bottle of wine

or their Paws & Relax dog-friendly getaway. Gather around the outdoor fire pits and share stories from the day. Due to its central location, this is the perfect spot to book an upcoming meeting, wedding, or special occasion in their event space. Enjoy special group rates when you book a block of suites for your guests.

Why you'll love it: Spring Untulan, their friendly manager, acts like she owns the place - in a good way that keeps guests and employees smiling.

THE INN AT TRUCKEE

innattruckee.com

Take your pick of great shopping, dining, and adventure options at The Inn at Truckee. Located just off HWY 89, you're in a prime location to hit the slopes at Palisades Tahoe or run a few mountain biking laps on the infamous Donkey Town Trail. You'll also be near the Truckee Crossroads Shopping Center and Deerfield Plaza, where you'll find dining and imbibing options like Village Pizzeria, Mehfil Indian Bistro, and Donner Creek Brewing. For gear, hit up BlueZone Sports and Start Haus Ski & Bike.

Why you'll love it: This inn is a great choice for those on a budget.



Ritz-Carlton Suite

THE RITZ-CARLTON, LAKE TAHOE

ritzcarlton.com/en/hotels/rnorz-the-ritz-carlton-lake-tahoe

If you're looking for luxury and access, The Ritz-Carlton, Lake Tahoe has it all, offering customized packages to tailor your visit. Kids and kids-at-heart will enjoy renting a private fire pit, where you can roast marshmallows and make your perfect s'more. This is the spot for special occasions and romantic getaways. If the season is right, rent your own poolside cabana, complete with butler service. Locals and visitors love to dine at Manzanita, the hotel's signature restaurant offering views of the mountains.

Why you'll love it: Ski in, ski out (or ride in, ride out if it's mountain biking season) access at Northstar California Resort.

Truckee's lodging options are as varied as the terrain, so book your stay to fit the adventure: ghost hunting, luxury stays, jumping off points for adventure, or lake-life vibes. Come out and stay awhile.

Saim Mishra

OCCUPATION

Tahoe Donner Ski Instructor winters, Student at Truckee High School and founder of Truckee Young Entrepreneurs

ORIGINALLY FROM

Los Altos Hills, CA

HOW LONG IN TRUCKEE

Almost 2 years. I moved here in the middle of sophomore year.

WHY TRUCKEE

My family got a second home here, which opened the discussion of moving here as my parents' jobs shifted into more virtual positions. We decided to take the leap and enroll here. Truckee has always been a dream home for my family and me. We started renting places when I was in elementary school, so when the opportunity finally presented itself, we were all excited to move up full-time. Mrs. Larson, ACMS Principal, was my neighbor. She was super supportive and was the one who opened up the discussion of going to school here in the first place. She was there when I first enrolled and has been with me every step of the way, and is the reason I was comfortable enough to move to a completely new school. She and Mr. Larson are like a second family to me now.

FAVORITE THINGS ABOUT TRUCKEE

First off, I love to ski. My parents have been taking me up ever since I was little, so it has always been a part of my life. Although I'm not as good as some of the kids who have been born and raised here, I feel like I enjoy it just as much! I usually go to Sugar Bowl, but this recent season I have been going to Tahoe Donner Ski Resort. I live right by it and I work there, so it is convenient. I also love exploring and hiking, especially the Tahoe Donner Tunnel hike. I have done it a million times, but I love going up there after a stressful week and spending a day hiking and reading while overlooking the lake.

LOCALS TO KNOW

© SCOTT SHOTS PHOTOGRAPHY

Investing in Truckee's Future

THE TRUCKEE CHAMBER AND PARTNERS HELP PREPARE THE NEXT GENERATION WORKFORCE



When young people are given the chance to share their ideas, incredible things can happen. With fresh perspectives, local high school students are making meaningful contributions through opportunities designed to elevate their voices and bring their visions to life. Student ideas like female-focused fitness spaces, college application tools, and food waste solutions show what's possible when youth are empowered. By recognizing and supporting their ideas, we help build confidence, open doors to future success, and spark the kind of innovation that could shape the future of our town.

In partnership with the Sierra Business Council, the Town of Truckee, and others, the Truckee Chamber of Commerce is investing in several impactful programs aimed at preparing local youth for future careers in entrepreneurship, business, and technology. Truckee Young Entrepreneurs, the Futurepreneurs Pitch Camp, and TNT Tech Teens are three such initiatives that offer hands-on experience, mentorship, and exposure to real-world opportunities that align with the economic needs and unique character of the Truckee-Tahoe region.

Truckee Young Entrepreneurs

Launched in 2025, the Truckee Young Entrepreneurs program was created to fill a gap in local business education and provide a platform for youth interested in entrepreneurship. Open to young people ages 14 to 24, the program was initiated by Truckee High School student Saim Mian (see page 29) and developed with the support of the Truckee Chamber of Commerce, Sierra Business Council, and Lift Workspace.

Truckee Young Entrepreneurs meets bi-monthly, offering a student-led, collaborative environment where members

learn foundational business skills, attend workshops, and hear from local business leaders and Bay Area innovators. Programming is designed to build real-world experience and confidence, allowing young participants to take ownership of their ideas and pursue them with support from the local business community.

Futurepreneurs Pitch Camp

Another major initiative, the Futurepreneurs Pitch Camp, is a week-long program that helps high school students transform creative ideas into viable business concepts. Hosted by the Truckee Chamber and Sierra Business Council, the camp includes workshops on business development, pitch creation, and public speaking. With mentorship from experienced professionals, students craft pitch decks and business plans throughout the week.

The program culminates in a Pitch Showcase, much like "Shark Tank," where student teams present their concepts to a panel of judges and a live audience. In 2024, six teams competed, pitching ideas that ranged from female fitness spaces and college application tools to tech support

for nonprofits and collecting unused food from vacation rental homes and delivering it to food banks and soup kitchens. Winners received prizes and community recognition.

The pitch camp builds on the success of earlier programs like Tahoe Silicon Mountain's Tahoe Pitch Camp & Showcase, fostering local innovation and youth leadership in business.

TNT Tech Teens: Technology Behind the Scenes

Heading into its third year, TNT Tech Teens is a workforce development initiative that familiarizes high school students in Truckee and North Lake Tahoe with the technology powering their community. Supported by the Town of Truckee, Tahoe Truckee Unified School District, Truckee Donner Public Utility District, Tahoe Forest Health System, Truckee Tahoe Airport District, North Tahoe Fire Protection District, the California Highway Patrol, and the Truckee Chamber of Commerce, this free seven-week series introduces high school students



▲ TNT Tech Teens learn some of the computer systems utilized by Truckee California Highway Patrol.

to real-world applications of tech across a wide range of fields. The hope is that students become inspired and prepared for diverse opportunities in our region. Students and participating organizations benefit, as community engagement is boosted, connections with potential future talent are

built, and a workforce adept in modern skills is nurtured.

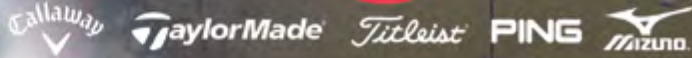
The program includes behind-the-scenes experiences such as observing air traffic control operations, learning about surgical robotics, and engaging in cybersecurity

Continued on page 32

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workshops. Participants also gain insight into how agencies like the California Highway Patrol and North Tahoe Fire Protection District use modern technology in their day-to-day operations.

At the conclusion of the program, students attend a career development workshop to hone interview skills and build resumes. Those who complete the program receive a Certificate of Completion signed by the Town of Truckee Mayor, recognizing their commitment and new skills.

Nevada County Youth Commission: Youth as Advocates

Additional workforce preparation in governmental leadership is being nurtured in Nevada County. The Nevada County Youth Commission (NCYC) offers students opportunities to explore civic engagement and leadership. The commission, open to youth ages 14–19, serves as an advisory group to the Nevada County Board of Supervisors and is encouraged to identify



▲ Students use a flight simulator as part of their tech program at Truckee Tahoe airport.

youth issues and recommend policy changes.

In Spring 2025, NCYC presented its first-ever policy recommendations to the board, which were adopted and will be implemented county-wide. They include advocating for free bus passes, expanded internships from five to ten, and increased youth water safety programs.

Members serve one-year terms, receive compensation, and meet monthly, including two meetings each year held in Truckee. In late 2024, the commission undertook a youth-led emergency preparedness



▲ TNT Tech Teen students receive a Certificate of Completion from Truckee Mayor Jan Zabriskie and Truckee Chamber CEO Jessica Penman.

campaign, which continues as part of a formal internship program.

Successful programs like these help students imagine their futures and proactively build them with confidence. When a community believes in its youth, listens to their voices, invests in their ideas, and gives them the tools to succeed, it plants the seeds for something greater. The confidence built today will become the leadership of tomorrow. And the creativity we nurture now has the potential to transform our region in ways we can't yet imagine.

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We appreciate the continued support of our neighbors and are delighted to welcome the return of the Locals Card, featuring exclusive offers for local residents. Contact us at 520-562-3000 to learn more.



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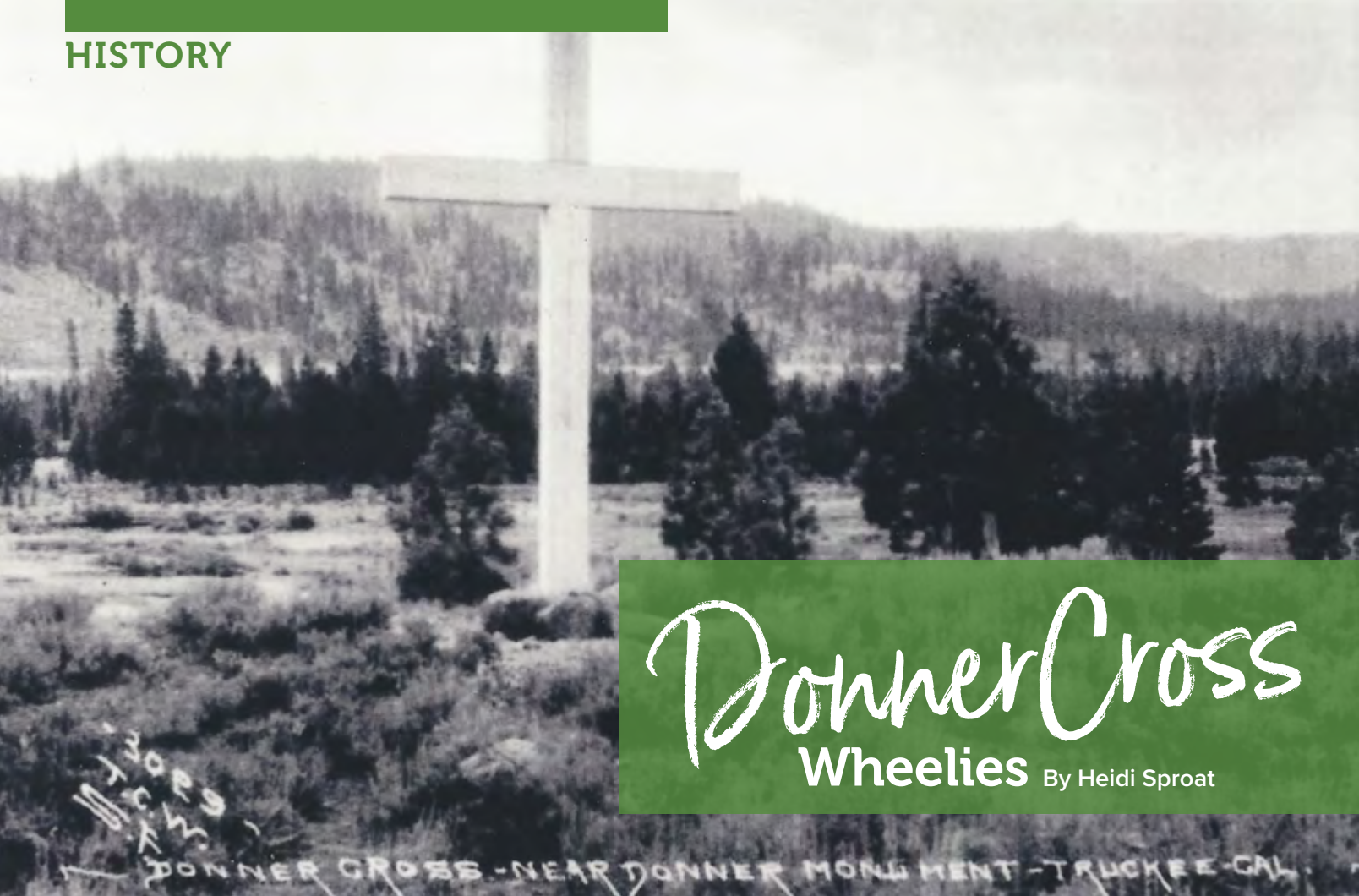


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Donner Cross Wheelies

By Heidi Sproat

“Why don’t we just put the Donner Cross on Wheels?” quipped Tom Macaulay, commenting on the numerous times the Donner Cross has been moved in the name of development or progress. Tom Macaulay, formerly affectionately known as Reno Iceman, who passed away in 2020 at the age of 94, wrote these “wheels” notes in his 1981 Donner Cross personal notes:

"Did you know that the Donner Cross has been moved at least five - count 'em - times? Let's start from the beginning.

The story of the Donner Cross is an unfortunate example of what can happen when historical sites are left unprotected. After years of research and scouring every known available source, to the best of our knowledge, the Donner Cross has been moved at least five times since its initial erection in 1887 by the people of Truckee. This is a travesty. Researchers have to rely on later documents, most without images, and most of them undated, reporting the relocation efforts of the Donner Cross. But the Truckee-Donner Historical Society hopes the "relocating" of the Donner Cross ceases." —Tom Macaulay

Background

Researching this long and convoluted – and at times frustrating – history of the Donner Cross (aka Graves Cabin site, Graves cross, white cross, wooden cross painted white, 24', 20' and 16' over time), the cross was originally conceived to mark the location of the Graves' Cabin site based on an 1879 hand drawn map by a survivor of the Donner Party.

The original 1887 Donner Cross was the first public recognition of the ill-fated Donner Party, erected after their 1846-1847 horrific experience. It was erected in the then “Marzen meadow” area, which, most unfortunately, was subject to flooding. The Donner Cross is one of the first or earliest roadside (trail) memorials found in California.

The original cross fell down; it was erected nearer to the Dutch Flat Donner Lake Wagon Road, today's Donner Pass Road, where it remained until it too succumbed to the vagaries of time and weather.

The Cross was moved again to the area now underneath Interstate 80, where it remained for a few decades, until it too fell over, was used as firewood, and nothing was done about replacing it until it was moved again. This time, it was erected at the base of what is today West Truckee Center, near where the Old Agricultural Inspection Station lived.

The Cross remained there until about 2010 when the Historical Society was able to obtain a dedicated 20 x 20' dedicated



Historic photos of Donner Cross locations courtesy of Truckee-Donner Historical Society.

easement for the erection of the 16' Donner Cross, just west of Truckee Elementary School, on Donner Pass Road. The Donner Cross was intended to mark near the site

of the Graves Cabin, the second of the three non-contiguous Donner Party camp sites now recognized on the National Register, # 66000218, in January 20, 1961.

The three sites are the Murphy Cabin, the Graves Cabin site, and the Alder Creek camp. But it wasn't until October 1983 that the three sites were incorporated into the National Park Service's National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) The National Register of Historic Places is the United States federal government's official list of sites, buildings, structures, districts, and objects deemed worthy of preservation for their historical significance. Clearly, these sites commemorate the Donner Party's winter of entrapment which helped to make the Sierra Nevada area well known and just twenty years later, the site for the First Transcontinental Railroad.

Thus, the three campsites – Murphy, Graves, and Alder Creek are all recognized on the National Register of Historic Places.

Researching Locations

The Truckee-Donner Historical Society collected every image they found, made

Continued on page 36

WHERE DOES YOUR TAP WATER COME FROM?



13
wells



35
tanks



26
pump stations

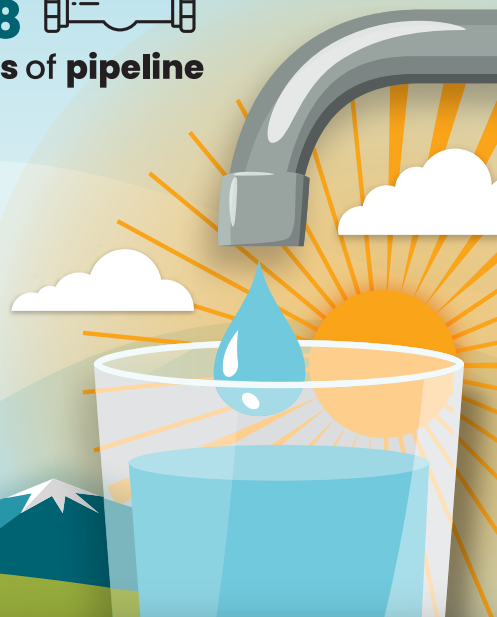
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The Donner Cross at its 2010 location just west of Truckee Elementary School.

a timeline with available information based on those images, and proceeded to assemble in the best order they could, information which identified the most probable Donner Cross locations over time.

The Historical Society also incorporated newspaper accounts, first-person accounts, and available maps which when combined, helped to make sense of the locations.

Nevada County Historical Landmarks Commission (NCHLC) Application

In order to protect this fifth location of the Donner Cross which marked the site of the Graves Cabin site, the Historical Society submitted a lengthy application to the NCHLC in June 2024 who unanimously approved the application which was subsequently approved by the Nevada County Board of Supervisors in October 2024 and designated Nevada County Historical Landmark NEV 24-07. To read the

entire application, please visit the Historical Society's website at truckeehistory.org.

Dedication of the Donner Cross and Rededication of the 1919 Graves Cabin Plaque

Next spring, the Native Sons of the Golden West, the Nevada County Historical Landmarks Commission, and Truckee-Donner Historical Society intend to place a plaque acknowledging the historic background of this National Register landmark, the Donner Cross. They plan to have a replacement cross by the dedication, as the current cross fell into disrepair and was removed. We can only hope that any celebration won't come with wheels.



About the author Heidi Sproat splits her time between Truckee and Frederick, Maryland, but Truckee is Heidi's "happy place." Besides her active involvement with Truckee-Donner Historical Society, Heidi enjoys bike riding, skiing, hiking, and boating on Lake Tahoe. She feels blessed to enjoy Truckee's paradise.

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Paul Bancroft

OCCUPATION

Executive Director of Sierra Community House

ORIGINALLY FROM

Born in Truckee; grew up at the lake.

HOW LONG IN TRUCKEE

We moved from Kings Beach to Truckee two years ago.

WHY TRUCKEE

Our family had outgrown our cabin in Kings Beach, so we were looking for a little more space. We found a house we love in Glenshire, and the rest is history!

FAVORITE THINGS ABOUT TRUCKEE

A few of my favorite things about Truckee are the changing of the seasons, the access to water, whether fishing in the rivers or jumping in Boca after a bike ride, and the options for Nordic skiing. I am still debating on if I should get a pass at Royal Gorge or Tahoe Donner XC....=)

Paul was born and raised in North Lake Tahoe. After completing undergraduate studies at Montana State University and graduate studies for an MA at University California Santa Barbara, he returned to Tahoe to begin his career with what is now Sierra Community House, a crucial Tahoe Truckee nonprofit that connects and empowers our community through family strengthening, crisis intervention, hunger relief, and legal services. Don't miss their 35th Annual Chocolate and Wine Festival fundraising gala on October 25. This summer marks his 17th year with the organization. In his free time, he serves as the Area 2 Board Trustee for Sierra College. Paul lives in Truckee with his wife and two children.



© SCOTT SHOTS PHOTOGRAPHY

The Hows and Whys of Truckee

How to Find A Lost Pet

Truckee-Tahoe loves its pets! And while we do our best to keep them safe and close, sometimes they still go missing. Fortunately, our community always rallies to help find them, through social media and with help from organizations like the Humane Society of Truckee-Tahoe (HSTT) and Truckee Animal Services.

While it's comforting to know there's strong community support, there are also several proactive steps you can take to improve your chances of being reunited with your pet if they ever go missing.

How to Protect Your Pet Before They Go Missing

License Your Pet

The Town of Truckee requires that all dogs be licensed. Truckee licenses are issued through DocuPet, which partners with the Humane Society of Truckee-Tahoe. One hundred percent of licensing revenue funds



are given to HSTT to support animal welfare initiatives.

Licenses are available for 1-, 2-, and 3-year terms and must be renewed prior to the expiration date. They are easy to obtain online, by mail, in person, or over the phone:

- Online: hstt.docupet.com/en_US/
- Mail: Obtain the form online, and follow the instructions for mailing.
- Phone: 530.582.2484
- In-person at the Humane Society of Truckee-Tahoe: 10961 Stevens Lane, Truckee, CA 96161

DocuPet licensing tags are mailed and include a pet's unique identifying code that links to their online record.

Microchip Your Pet

Microchipping is quick, safe, and free for Town of Truckee residents. It's your pet's best chance of being identified and returned if they're ever found without a collar.

The microchip, about the size of a grain of rice, is inserted under the skin between the shoulder blades. The process is virtually painless and provides a permanent ID that can't fall off or get lost.

To schedule a free microchip appointment, call 530.582.2484 or visit the Truckee Animal Shelter at 10961 Stevens Lane.

Consider a Tracking Collar

GPS trackers use cellular signals to pinpoint your pet's location in real-time. While it doesn't replace microchips or tags, they do give you added peace of mind and a faster way to track down your escape artist.

How to Find Your Pet Once They're Lost

If your pet goes missing, time is critical. Start by alerting the Humane Society of Truckee-Tahoe, spreading the word online, and notifying your neighbors. Here's a step-by-step guide to improve your chances of bringing your pet home quickly:

- Submit a lost pet form with the Humane Society of Truckee-Tahoe: hstt.org/lost-pet-form
- Check local shelters daily.
- Use social media to post about your missing pet. Join the Lost & Found Dogs/ Pets of Truckee/Tahoe Facebook group and share there.
- Download the Nextdoor app and post to your neighborhood feed.
- Create a missing pet flyer and post it in high-traffic spots like grocery stores, gas stations, the library, and community bulletin boards.
- Give a flyer to delivery drivers (mail carriers, FedEx, UPS, etc.). They know the area well and can help spread the word.
- Contact neighbors, friends, and family in the area and ask them to help share the information.

Find additional resources at hstt.org/services-resources/lost-pets.

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here!**



TFHD.com/funrun

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