

Holiday Closures

The Eastlake Landfill and the Lakeport Public Services office will be closed Feb. 21 in observance of the Presidents' Day. Both facilities will re-open on Feb. 22. Normal operating hours at the landfill are 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily. The Public Services office is normally open Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

1,000 On The Way

Lower Lake's Veronica Wilder scored her 999th and 1,000th career points on this medium-range jumper with 5:11 left in the third quarter Tuesday night against the Kelseyville Knights. Lower Lake won the game 49-41. See Page A10.

Lake County RECORD-BEE

50 Cents
263-5636 • 994-0106

Wednesday
February 9, 2011



Boaters encouraged to have vessels screened

Staff reports

LAKE COUNTY — Significant changes with the county ordinance requiring boaters to have vessels screened for the invasive quagga and zebra mussels will soon take effect and boaters are encouraged to get vessels screened early in order to avoid a costly citation, according to a press release from the Lake County Sheriff's Office (LCSO).

On Jan. 18 the Lake County Board of Supervisors approved an amendment to the existing quagga ordinance establishing a fee-based screening and inspection program for all vessels launched on Clear Lake and other Lake County waters.

The amended ordinance will take effect on Feb. 24.

Resident boat owners are now being required to have their vessels screened annually. The fee for the annual screening is \$10 and once the vessel has been screened, new gold stickers and year stickers will be issued for placement on the bow of the vessel or personal watercraft.

The older white resident stickers with red lettering will become invalid on the effective date of the new ordinance.

Residents will not be required to actually bring their vessel to a screening location but they will be required to present a copy of the vessel registration at the screening location to prove residency.

Another significant change in the ordinance is that violations are now classified as a

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Good morning subscriber

Edward Martinez

*If your name appears in this space call 263-5636 and get a free week of the Record-Bee.

Weather

Sunny.

High: 60s.

Low: 30s.

Lake County Record-Bee
2150 S. Main St.
Lakeport, CA 95453
(707) 263-5636
(707) 994-0106



Attorneys provide opening statements

Jeremy Walsh
Staff reporter

LAKEPORT — Attorneys in the Thomas Loyd Dudney attempted murder trial gave their opening statements Tuesday morning and the prosecution began presenting evidence of the alleged crime.

Judge Arthur H. Mann presided. Deputy district attorney Art Grothe represented the Lake County District Attorney's Office and attorney Doug Rhoades represented Dudney.

Dudney faces 11 felony charges, along with many special allegations, in connection with an Oct. 20, 2009 incident in which Lakeport resident Ronald Greiner was shot, tortured and hogtied at his residence behind the Record-Bee building.

The 59-year-old Fulton man is charged with attempted murder, simple and aggravated mayhem, torture, robbery, burglary, three types of assaults, battery causing serious bodily injury and participating in a criminal

street gang, The Misfits.

Grothe gave a 30-minute opening statement, during which he described to the jury what he thinks the evidence of the case will show.

On Oct. 17, 2009, Deborah James, Greiner's former girlfriend, and three other people visited Greiner's Lakeport home, Grothe said.

Greiner, who had been

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School gets 'Moore' help



Jeremy Walsh/LAKE COUNTY PUBLISHING
Cobb Elementary School staff waited tables, 94 local residents filled tables and the school janitor, Dennis Purcell provided live entertainment Saturday evening at the third annual Crab Boil at the Moore Family Winery in Kelseyville. The event raised \$6,589 for the Cobb Elementary Garden Project and other school programs. Homemade desserts, such as a chocolate chip Kahlua cake, were auctioned off after dinner, earning \$1,710 for the school. More than 20 items (such as gift baskets, trips, handmade jewelry and art) were sold at silent auction, raising additional money. Ticket and wine bar sales paid for the event's costs, including the 450 pounds of live fresh crab.

Hometown headliners



Contributed photo

A concert to take place at Soper-Reese Theatre features the The Lost Boys and three special guest artists, all from Lake County. The Lost Boys are pictured above.

Staff reports

KELSEYVILLE — The Lake County teen rock band is set to come home for touring and will wrap up a grueling 2011 first quarter of the new year, following stops in Reno, Hollywood, Florida, Berkeley, Los Angeles, Toronto and Austin, TX., before return-

ing home to Lakeport for one show, on April 1 at the Soper-Reese Community Theatre.

The concert will feature the reigning Los Angeles Music Awards, Rock Artist of the Year, The Lost Boys with three special guest artists all from Lake County.

Hailing from Middletown and sched-

uled to open the show is 12-year-old Connor Gill and the Gill Brothers Band, followed by Taj Dedrick and K-Town Entertainment from Kelseyville.

The third artist on the four-act bill, will be Lakeport resident and former member of The Lost Boys, Matt Weiss and his new hip-hop

show.

The first hometown headline theater concert by The Lost Boys will take place at the newly renovated Soper-Reese Community Theatre located at 275 South Main St. in Lakeport.

The intimate 300-seat venue is a project of the Lake County Arts Council.

Limited-time waiver granted in double-homicide case

Denise Rockenstein
Staff reporter

CLEARLAKE

—Defense Attorney Stephen Carter requested a limited-time waiver on behalf of his client Robert Alan Beasley, 30, Tuesday, in Lake County Superior Court Department 4, Clearlake. The request was accepted by retired Judge Richard Freeborn.

Beasley, along with Elijah Bae McKay, 28, face two counts of murder in connection with the deaths of Maine residents Frank Maddox, 32, and Yvette Maddox, 40. Beasley faces a third felony charge of being a prohibited person in possession of a firearm.

The couple's partially decomposed bodies were discovered early March 2010 at the bottom of an embankment off Morgan Valley Road. According to Lake County Sheriff, an autopsy of the bodies revealed both sustained gunshot wounds among other injuries.

The purpose of Tuesday's appearance was for arraignment on information. Carter accepted a copy of the information and waived reading of such. He then reiterated pleas of not guilty on behalf of his client in answer to all three charges as well as to special allegations and prior convictions.

Carter requested and received a limited time waiver to May 31 with the additional scheduling requests approved by the judge: 8:15 a.m. April 26 for motion hearing in Department 4; 3:00 p.m. May 2 for trial readiness and settlement conferences in Department 1; 8:15 a.m. May 13 for trial assignment; and May 16 for jury trial.

Beasley has additional criminal cases pending against him, which were order to trail the murder case.

McKay, whose defense attorney Richard Peterson waived his right to a speedy trial in January, is scheduled for entry of plea and trial setting, 8:15 a.m. April 5 in Department 4.

Contact: South County reporter Denise Rockenstein at drockenstein@clearlakeobserver.com or call her directly at 994-6444, ext. 11.

Meeting

Lakeport Planning Commission

The Lakeport Planning Commission meets today at 6 p.m. at Lakeport City Hall. The commission will consider revised operating conditions at The Full Throttle Tavern with regards to a zoning permit allowing for the presentation of live entertainment at the bar.

Attorneys From Page A1

growing several marijuana plants for James, informed the group that James's plants were gone, after which an argument ensued, culminating in Greiner forcing the four people from his home, according to Grothe.

During the early morning hours of Oct. 20, 2009, two men kicked down the door of Greiner's home, shot the man and inflicted numerous other injuries both inside and outside of the house, Grothe said.

Greiner sustained injuries, including gunshot and stab wounds, broken ribs, fractured face bones and numerous cuts, Grothe said. Greiner's wrists and ankles were also bound together using metal bailing wire, he said.

Grothe said Greiner identified one of his attackers as a man he had met through James who went by the moniker KTom. Investigators soon identified Dudney as the man Greiner knew as KTom, he said.

Grothe alleged that Dudney and an unidentified second person stole Greiner's remaining marijuana and that the crimes were committed at the behest of The Misfits.

Rhoades questioned the identification of Dudney during his 10-minute opening statement, saying that Greiner told investigators the man who attacked him was called KTron. He also denied that the evidence implies the attackers had gang affiliations.

Grothe called five witnesses Tuesday. The first, Debra Due, testified she was James's friend and was part of the group that visited Greiner's house on Oct. 17, 2009.

Due said that an argument arose after Greiner told James that the marijuana he was growing for her was "gone." Due said that at one point, Greiner pushed her out of one of the rooms.

As the group exited the house, Due said she asked Greiner "what are you going to do when the big boys come for you?" which she said was spoken in a sarcastic tone, sounding like the theme from the television show "COPS."

Due also testified that she knew several members of The Misfits motorcycle gang and knew Dudney to be a member of the gang.

Thomas Adams, a former Record-Bee employee, was the second witness called. He said that he got off work around 9 a.m. on Oct. 20, 2009, after working a night shift, and while outside of his car heard a voice screaming, "help."

Adams said he remained in the Record-Bee parking lot and was present when the police arrived nearly five minutes later.

Officer Jim Bell of the Lakeport Police Department (LPD) testified

that he was the first responder to arrive on scene and that he parked his police car in the Record-Bee parking lot and walked onto the adjacent property, following the sounds of a man yelling for help.

Bell said he soon found Greiner about 10 to 15 feet outside the main house, bloody and hogtied, and called dispatch for rescue support. Bell said he tried to free Greiner's hands using a pocketknife but could not cut through the wire.

Deputy Carla Hockett of the Lake County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) arrived to the scene and had a tool that could cut wire, which they used to free Greiner's hands, Bell said. The officers secured and cleared the house and waited with Greiner until medical personnel arrived, Bell said.

Grothe presented photographs of Greiner that Hockett took at the scene and asked Bell to describe the images. The photographs focused mainly on Greiner's injuries and the location of the property off of South Main Street in Lakeport.

Bell said Greiner was "severely injured" with a "completely swollen" head and that there was "massive blood everywhere." The photographs showed many of Greiner's injuries, including puncture wounds to the chest, bloody indentations on his wrists and a swollen head covered with dry blood.

Greiner's breathing was labored and his speech was difficult to understand, Bell said.

Soon after medical personnel arrived and transported Greiner from the scene, Bell said he was told that the property was located just outside the city limits and the case fell into LCSO jurisdiction.

Jose Contreras, a longtime Record-Bee employee, testified he heard something that sounded faintly like a person yelling as if in pain. Contreras said that about five minutes later he was told that Adams had called the police.

Hockett was the final witness called Tuesday. She testified that she and Bell secured the house, cut Greiner's wrists loose from the wire, closed the scene and released it to the detectives once they arrived.

Hockett analyzed several photographs she took inside and outside of the house before detectives arrived. Remnants of marijuana were found in various rooms of the house but she saw no plants growing outside the house, Hockett said.

Testimony concluded for the day around 3:25 p.m. The jury trial continues today at 9 a.m. in Department 2.

Contact *Jeremy Walsh* at *jwalsh@record-bee.com* or call him at 263-5636, ext. 37.

Quagga From Page A1

misdeemeanor with a fine of \$1,000 if convicted.

Each of the new gold stickers should be affixed to each side of the vessel's bow, several inches forward of the registration sticker or CF number.

The blue 2011 year sticker should be affixed next to the gold sticker.

A third set of stickers is to be placed in a conspicuous location

on the rear of the boat trailer.

The sheriff's office supports all efforts being undertaken by the Board of Supervisors, Lake County Department of Water Resources, local volunteers and businesses striving to prevent the introduction of invasive mussel species into the public waterways of Lake County.

Since the new ordi-

nance takes effect this month, the LCSO strongly encourages all residents who plan on boating this season to have their vessels screened as soon as it is practical.

The Sheriff's Marine Patrol Unit will be maintaining a zero-tolerance policy in enforcing the ordinance and all boaters not displaying the new stickers on or after Feb. 24 will be issued a citation.

Healthy smiles



minennaphotography.com

Saturday was 'Give Kids a Smile Day' at the Mendocino Community Clinic Hillside Health Center at 5335 Lakeshore Blvd. in Lakeport. Congressman Mike Thompson along with his aide Brad Onorato stopped in to take a tour of the center. Students were taught about dental care. Public relations director, Jendi Coursey of the Hillside Health Center said the dentists would likely see approximately 50 children. The dentists and assistants were all volunteering their time. Pictured above from left: Aubrey Ortega, 4, Thompson and Emma Catherwood.

Council meeting to begin in closed session

Staff reports

CLEARLAKE — The Clearlake City Council will begin its Thursday regular meeting with a closed session at 5:30 p.m. for a conference with legal counsel regarding pending litigation. The regular agenda will follow at 6 p.m. in council chambers at Clearlake City Hall. Members of the public may comment on any agenda item under discussion. Public comment provides citizens an opportunity to speak for three minutes on any topic of choice as well.

A presentation of a proclamation to NAACP President Rick Mayo, declaring February 2011 as Black History Month leads the regular agenda.

Consent Calendar items, which are considered to be non-controversial and will be acted upon as one, include: review of bills, approval of minutes and a monthly report by the Clearlake Police Department.

Business items include:
• Presentation of the CalTrans Community Based Transportation

Planning Grant by Terri Persons of the Lake County Area Planning Commission (APC) and consideration of a letter of support for the grant.

• Consideration of appointment of a city treasurer for the unexpired term ending 2014.

• Consideration of appointment of two planning commissioners for a four-year term commencing March 12, 2011 and expiring March 11, 2015.

• Consideration of an amendment to the agreement for legal services with Best, Best and Krieger.

• Update on the audit report for July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010 Fiscal Year.

• Consideration of the process for recruiting, screening, interviewing, selecting and contract negotiation with a city administrator.

Regular agenda items also include reports by the city administrator and members of the council. Staff reports for each agenda item are available for review at City Hall, 14050 Olympic Drive, during regular business hours.

Autopsy firm's high case loads, practices lead to errors

CONTRA COSTA — (MNG) Coroners in Northern California are farming out thousands of cases each year to a private firm whose doctors have dissected the wrong body and have given inaccurate testimony that helped send an innocent person to jail.

Doctors with Fairfield-based Forensic Medical Group Inc. routinely handle case loads that leaders in the field of forensic pathology call risky, conducting as many as three autopsies in an hour or nine autopsies in a single shift, according to the results of an investigation by ProPublica, Frontline, NPR, the Investigative Reporting Program at UC Berkeley and California Watch.

Although some of the firm's doctors have been praised for their skills and professionalism, the Forensic Medical Group also has employed physi-

cians who were fired by public agencies for sub-standard work.

The firm twice hired one doctor deemed incompetent by the California State Bar.

The region's justice system has come to rely on Forensic Medical Group — more than a dozen counties contract with the firm to do some or all of their death investigations. Contra Costa County represents the Forensic Medical Group's largest government client, records show.

The group performed on average 656 autopsies a year in the county from 2007 to 2009. The firm's second largest client is Sacramento County, which averages 496 cases a year in the same time

period.

Forensic Medical Group, which now has five doctors, does all autopsy work for Contra Costa, Colusa, Sonoma, Sutter and Yolo counties. The firm also provides a share of services to nine other counties, including Lake County.

Yet the agencies that hire the company often do not check who is performing the work until problems arise, said Chris Andrian, a Sonoma County defense attorney who has twice won the release of clients due to the firm's mistakes.

In some cases, errors by Forensic Medical Group have made it impossible to hold anyone accountable for suspicious deaths.

California Lottery
Super LOTTO PLUS DAILY 3

Thursday 02/03/11
 7 9 22 34 44 (2)

Prize & Winners (for 02/03/11)
 6 of 6: 1 \$12,000,000
 5 of 6: 9 \$1,324
 4 of 6: 21 \$1,648
 4 of 6: 641 \$80
 3 of 6: 963 \$63
 3 of 6: 26,987 \$6
 2 of 6: 13,069 \$30
 1 of 6: 61,079 \$2
 Mega Only: 67,012 \$1

PowerDraw
 02/02 4 28 23 34 47 6
 01/29 20 29 43 43 48 8
 01/26 11 38 23 27 47 13
 01/22 2 28 24 26 48 12
 01/19 6 7 16 27 28 3
 01/16 16 28 25 41 48 17
 01/12 11 21 26 27 44 21

Wednesday's estimated jackpot: \$7,900,000

DAILY DERBY
 Tuesday 02/08/11
 Race Times: 1:30
 1st: 01 Gold Rush
 2nd: 07 Bureas
 3rd: 08 Winning Spirit

Wednesday's estimated jackpot: \$28,000

Mega Millions
 25-35-36-47-48
Mega Number:
 18

Fantasy 5
 Tuesday 02/08/11
 34 20 23 28 38

Prize & Winners (for 02/08/11)
 5 of 5: 638,000
 4 of 5: 127 \$1,400
 3 of 5: 3,748 \$17
 2 of 5: 42,016 Free Ticket!

PowerDraw
 02/07 11 19 24 29 35
 02/05 7 10 29 34 38
 02/02 8 9 23 34 15
 02/01 18 29 38 32 36
 02/03 7 9 13 29 23