



See Inside

50 Cents
263-5636 • 994-0106

Lake County RECORD-BEE

Knights Win Fourth Straight
Michael Davis (2) and Mike Allen (23) helped lead the Kelseyville Knights to a 39-0 win over Upper Lake on Saturday.

See Page A6



Tuesday
October 12, 2010

Collision results in arrest, major injury

Denise Rockenstein
Staff reporter

KELSEYVILLE — Alcohol is thought to be a contributing factor in a motorcycle collision involving a truck in the Kelseyville area Sunday night. The driver of the motorcycle, who suffered major injury, was arrested for driving under the influence.

According to California Highway Patrol Officer Steven Tanguay, at approximately 7:45 p.m. Sunday, John Roumiguere, 56, of Lakeport, was traveling westbound on a 1986 Harley Davidson motorcycle on Soda Bay Road east of Marina View Drive. Charity Wilson, 32, of Rock Springs, WY, was driving a 1995 Ford truck eastbound on Soda Bay Road.

Tanguay said for unknown reasons, Roumiguere allowed his motorcycle to veer to the left and cross into the eastbound lane of traffic. He said the motorcycle struck the left rear fender of the truck. The motorcycle went down and Roumiguere was ejected.

Roumiguere was transported to Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital via REACH air ambulance for treatment of major head trauma.

Officer Bach continues investigation of the collision.

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

Good morning subscriber

Gordon Worra

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

Weather

Sunny.
High: 80s.
Low: 40s.

Index

Classified A9-A11

Comics A12

Opinion A4

Sports A6, A7

Vital Statistics A13

Lake County Record-Bee

2150 S. Main St.
Lakeport, CA 95453
(707) 263-5636
(707) 994-0106
Our 135th year



7 69185 00005 1

Rape charges dismissed

Denise Rockenstein
Staff reporter

CLEARLAKE — Rape charges alleged against 82-year-old Clearlake man Eugene Robert Schwartz were dismissed in Lake County Superior Court Department 4 before Honorable Judge Stephen Hedstrom on Thursday. Charges were dismissed at the request of prosecuting Deputy District Attorney Edward Borg.

Schwartz's family said they were convinced of his innocence. "We are greatly relieved to have this come to an end at the preliminary hearing and to be spared a lengthy jury trial," Schwartz's son Stephen Schwartz said.

Charges were brought against Schwartz following the investigation of a complaint turned into the Clearlake Police Department. The complaint, made by a mandated reporter, alleged crimes of rape

"We do appreciate the integrity shown by the District Attorney in dropping this case."

Mitchell Hauptman
Defense attorney

where a person is incapable because of a mental disorder or developmental or physical disability or giving legal consent and this known to the person committing the act. Schwartz faced an additional charge wherein the act was accomplished against a person's will by means of force, violence, duress, menace or fear of immediate and unlawful bodily injury.

"The alleged victim is a developmentally disabled adult and was really not able to coherently describe any criminal conduct," Defense Attorney Mitchell Hauptman said. "We obviously would have preferred a clearer resolution because Mr. Schwartz has always maintained his innocence here. He's offered to take a lie detector test and provide any physical evidence that might have been requested of him such as DNA or other samples. We do appreciate the integrity shown by the District Attorney in dropping this case."

Stephen Schwartz commended the representation provided by Hauptman stating that the attorney did a masterful job bringing light to the truth.

Contact Denise Rockenstein at drockenstein@clearlakeobserver.com or call directly at 994-6444, ext. 11.

Another big bang for the 'Boys'

Staff reports

LOS ANGELES — The executive producer of the Los Angeles Music Awards announced Oct. 7 that The Lost Boys, a band with members all hailing from Lake County, won its annual Rock Artist of the Year award.

Al Bowman, founder and executive producer of the LAMA, made the announcement at the LAMA Voter's Party in West Hollywood.

The members of The Lost Boys will receive the award Nov. 18 at the 20th annual Los Angeles Music Awards Show.

The band will open the show with a live, two-song performance.

The Lost Boys' lead singer, drummer and bassist are from Lakeport, and keyboardist and lead guitar player are from Middletown.

All of the band members are 18 years old or younger.

The band is currently on-tour, supporting its latest album, "Running Red Lights," which was released earlier this year.



Contributed photo
Lake County's The Lost Boys band won Los Angeles Music Awards Rock Artist of the Year.

Hundreds pay tribute



A memorial was held for Zino Mezoui on Saturday at Zino's Ristorante on Soda bay Road. Mezoui was killed by a hit-and-run driver while riding his motorcycle. Approximately 400 people attended the memorial. A REACH helicopter did a fly-by in honor of Mezoui. A motorcycle ride to benefit his family is planned for Saturday. All bikes and cars are welcome. The cost is \$25 per person or \$40 per couple. For more information call 277-0254 or 245-5445.

Council to present proclamation to Rotary club

Staff reports

CLEARLAKE — The Clearlake City Council will meet for a regular meeting 6 p.m. Thursday 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.

Leading the council's agenda are the following presentations: proclamation to the Rotary Club of Clearlake designating Oct. 24 as "World Polio Day;" proclamation to Lake Family Resource Center designating Oct. 2010 as

"Domestic Violence Awareness Month;" and "Safe Halloween for Clearlake Kids" event by organizer Barbara Grier.

Consent calendar items, which are considered to be non-controversial and will be acted upon as one, include: review of bills; approval of minutes; consideration of adopting California Environmental Quality Act State Guidelines; and authorization to amend the memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Clearlake Police Officers Association relating to the care and feeding of the police dog.

Business items include:

- Consideration of the 2009-10 Fiscal Year budget amendments.

- Public hearing to consider extending the temporary moratorium on marijuana dispensaries.

- Consideration of providing matching funds to rebuild the courtesy pier at Redbud Park.

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.

Meetings

Board of Supervisors

The Lake County Board of Supervisors will meet today at 9 a.m. for a regular meeting at the Lake County Courthouse in Lakeport.

The agenda begins with a public protest hearing at 9:15 a.m. on the establishment of the Orchard Shores Road Benefit Zone. The Department of Water Resources is scheduled to address the BOS at 9:45 a.m. The department will present an update on its accomplishments to date, lead a discussion of options for future algae and weed abatement in the lake and introduce potential revenue options to provide for ongoing and long-term funding to battle lake algae and weeds. The BOS will adjourn and convene as the Lake County Local Board of Equalization to hear two assessment appeals beginning at 11:30 a.m.

Among non-timed items is a consideration of a proposal to allocate space on the County Courthouse roof for placement of cellular antennas; a discussion to waive the normal bidding process and authorize the purchase of three 2011 Ford 15-passenger vans for jail transport; and a consideration of a resolution to waive the formal bidding process, awarding bid and delegating to the executive director of the Lake County Redevelopment Agency the authority to oversee a contract that would allow roofing repairs to begin at the Lucerne Hotel, after the agency previously determined an emergency exists at the site.

The BOS will also meet Friday at 2 p.m. at the County Courthouse to be given an update and workshop on Upstate California Connect, a five-county regional project to establish high-speed broadband services to the state's rural areas through public and private partnerships.

Lower Lake Community Action Group

The next dinner meeting of the Lower Lake Community Action Group will be held at 6 p.m. Wednesday in the Community Room at Russell Rustici Park in Lower Lake.

In recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the October speaker will be Julie Kelley, the spokesperson for Sponsoring Survivorship. The organization celebrates "Survivorship" and personal victories in a life worth living. Its 15th annual Fun Run Walk and Run was held on Oct. 2 in Lakeport. For more information, visit its Web site, <http://sponsoring survivorship.com/>.

The dinner menu will include pork roast, apple sauce, roasted red potatoes, green beans, bread, salad and dessert. Diners may bring wine but no hard liquor. To receive LLCAG announcements via e-mail, please contact Kelley Slater at sue@redwood.org.

Seely Farm Stand: A Lake County farming family

A taste of Lake County

Shelly Mascari
Contributing writer
 LAKE COUNTY
 — The Seely family is wrapping up the 34th season of growing in Lake County.

Colleen Rentsch grew up helping out in the family orchard and now operates the Seely Farm Stand in Upper Lake where she sells a variety of produce from the two acres she farms herself each year.

Seely Pears, sold throughout California, are the pride of Lake County.

Rentsch takes her family's reputation for growing quality products at affordable prices very seriously as she develops her own business.

Rentsch began working in the family's farm stand in eighth grade and left Lake County after high school to attend Cal Poly, where she earned a degree in Agricultural Business Management.

She told her father she would never join the family business. However, when she came back to Lake County to raise her own children, she began experimenting growing a few crops.

Each year she planted a little more and eventually took over operations of the well-known family farm stand.

Despite the significant challenges of uncooperative weather and

finding outlets to sell her products, Rentsch loves the farming life. Meeting new people, working on something different each day, and spending her days outside under a beautiful Lake County sky are all listed among her favorite things.

Rentsch is passionate about introducing children and the community to farming.

She hosts preschool tours, thrilling the children with tractor rides and the pride of eating produce they harvest themselves.

She began working with the food directors at the Kelseyville and Konocti school districts approximately three years ago.

This partnership has proven beneficial to everyone involved, fresh, quality produce for Lake County students and an additional outlet for Rentsch's products.

Approximately 1,500 pounds of fresh produce was delivered to Konocti district alone last week.

Seely's Farm Stand is open seven days a week from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. beginning Memorial Day Weekend through the second weekend in November.

Displays of melons, cucumbers, tomatoes, okra, peppers, squash, pumpkins, pears and more await the customers.

Customers can also



Contributed photo

Mel and Susan McKinney, owners of the Little River Inn in Mendocino County, make a stop at Seely's Farm Stand, a priority when they pass through Lake County every few weeks. According to Susan, 'The quality, consistency and flavor keeps us coming back. We've been coming here for years, and we will go out of our way to stop. Lake County is fortunate to have such a wonderful outlet for fresh produce.'

find eggs, goat cheese and other Lake County products.

Rentsch is committed to helping her local growers and producers find additional outlets for products.

For more information on Rentsch's products, visit Seely's Farm Stand, or call 275-0525.

Editor's note: This article is part of a series sponsored by a grant from the California

Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to highlight Lake County's rich agricultural tapestry and encourage consumption of local, healthy fruits, nuts and vegetables. The opinions, beliefs and viewpoints expressed by the various farmers do not necessarily reflect the opinions, beliefs and viewpoints of the CDFA or any other agency associated with the grant.

Senior citizens brace for Social Security freeze

BOCA RATON, Fla. (AP) — Seniors prepared to cut back on everything from food to charitable donations to whiskey as word spread Monday that they will have to wait until at least 2012 to see their Social Security checks increase.

The government is expected to announce this week that more than 58 million Social Security recipients will go through a second straight year without an increase in monthly benefits. This year was the first without an increase since automatic adjustments for inflation started in 1975.

"I think it's disgusting," said Paul McNeil, 69, a retired state worker from Warwick, R.I., who said his food and utility costs have gone up, but his income has not. He lamented decisions by lawmakers that he said do not favor seniors.

"They've got this idea that they've got to save money and basically they want to take it out of the people that will give them the least resistance," he said. Cost-of-living adjustments are automatically set by a measure adopted by Congress in the 1970s that orders raises based on the Consumer Price Index, which measures inflation. Social Security benefits will remain unchanged as long as consumer prices remain below the level they were at

in 2008, the last time a COLA was awarded.

Still, seniors like McNeil said they'll be thinking about the issue when they go to vote, and experts said the news comes at a bad time for Democrats already facing potentially big losses in November.

Seniors are the most loyal of voters, and their support is especially important during midterm elections, when turnout is generally lower.

"If you're the ruling party, this is not the sort of thing you want to have happening two weeks before an election," said Andrew Biggs, a former deputy commissioner at the Social Security Administration and now a resident scholar at the American Enterprise Institute.

SUPER LOTTO

Saturday 10/09/10

8 11 17 31 35 7

Prizes & Winners (for 10/09)

5 of 5+Mega	1	\$30,000,000
5 of 5	1	\$72,862
4 of 5+Mega	35	\$1,040
4 of 5	700	\$86
3 of 5+Mega	1,236	\$44
3 of 5	28,230	\$9
2 of 5+Mega	15,827	\$9
1 of 5+Mega	73,855	\$1
Mega Only	104,904	\$1

Past Draws

10/06	3	4	7	29	39	21
10/02	20	24	25	32	34	11
09/29	27	33	35	45	46	26
09/25	2	13	36	41	44	20
09/22	11	17	27	34	44	1
09/18	10	11	27	42	45	9
09/15	4	6	22	26	43	14

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

DAILY 3

midday 10/11/10 evening 10/11/10

6 7 7 | 9 1 6

Prizes & Winners (for 10/11)

Straight	23	383	34	394
Box	52	122	122	62
Str.&Box	162	253	197	228
Box Only	352	61	622	31

Past Draws

10/10	7	6	1	10/10	9	7	6
10/09	2	1	5	10/09	4	7	9
10/08	5	9	4	10/08	5	2	5

FANTASY 5

Monday 10/11/10

9 12 27 36 37

Prizes & Winners (for 10/11)

5 of 5	3	\$65,333
4 of 5	140	\$487
3 of 5	5,260	\$16
2 of 5	57,338	Free Replay!

Past Draws

10/10	5	10	21	36	38
10/09	2	16	19	27	28
10/08	1	3	9	10	35
10/07	7	14	16	33	34
10/06	9	22	24	26	38

Tuesday's estimated top prize: \$54,000

DAILY DERBY

Monday 10/11/10

Race Time: 1:42.33

1st: 08 Gorgeous George
 2nd: 06 Whirl Win
 3rd: 04 Big Ben

Tuesday's estimated top prize: \$143,000

Murder, mystery dinner set

Staff reports

UPPER LAKE — Turn the calendar back to October 1875 and you receive an invitation from Rufus and Mary Tallman to attend the grand opening of their new hotel on the muddy Main Street of Upper Lake.

That's the scene for the hotel's second annual Murder Mystery Dinner on Oct. 23.

Guests are encouraged to wear period costume and join a group of professional actors put together by Burt Hutt's Murder Us Productions in Lakeport.

The evening begins with cocktails at the bar in the Blue Wing Saloon Restaurant and then proceeds across the courtyard to the hotel, where unexpected events occur. Efforts are made to solve the mystery during a four-course dinner in the Tallman Hotel dining room.

Guests then proceed to the Meeting House next door for the final act in the drama.

Prizes will be awarded for the first to solve the mystery and for the most original and outstanding costume.

"Everyone had such great fun with our 1920s speakeasy theme last year that we thought we'd do it again," Tallman owner Lynne Butcher said. "Kids shouldn't be the only ones to dress up and have fun this time of year."

Reservations at \$85 per person for the four course mystery dinner can be obtained by calling the Tallman Hotel at 275-2244.