

Get fit, help others

Tahoe City Curves has partnered with Project MANA to sponsor a food drive. Drop by the gym in Tahoe City for a one-hour training session in exchange for a bag of non-perishable food items. Your canned goods may also be used to replace the \$149 registration fee if you decide to become a member after training. Curves will also be having their second Parking Lot and Bake Sale to raise funds for Smart Machines. Members and owners have joined in various fundraisers to help purchase the computerized system that encourages a harder workout, and upon

completion, gives a printout with specific results and recommendations to each member. The sale will take place in front of Curves, 3080 North Lake Blvd., Saturday Sept. 20, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. A large variety of items will be available as well as many clothes of all sizes. Fill one bag with clothing for just \$5.

Business

Martha Simon named Chief Development Officer for Tahoe Forest Health System

Tahoe Forest Health System recently announced local resident Martha Simon will be joining the Health System as chief development officer. Simon will be heading a new program for the creation and implementation of an integrated fund development program.



Martha Simon

The current Health System Foundation organizations, Tahoe Forest Hospital Foundation and Incline Village Community Hospital Foundation, will both align under a new Health System Development Office. "The establishment of this new office will provide a deeper infrastructure to help us achieve our fund raising and community development goals," said Robert

Schapper, chief executive officer, Tahoe Forest Hospital.

Most recently Simon served as the donor relations officer for the Truckee Tahoe Community Foundation and has been an instrumental part of the growing success of that organization. "I'm really looking forward to working with the great group of people in our health care community and also being part of helping these vital programs," said Simon.

For more information about the Tahoe Forest Health System Foundation, call 582-6277, or visit the website at www.tfhd.com.



NEW FACES

Local private chef company buy Truckee Tahoe Airport café

Truckee Tahoe Airport's Runway Café & Catering is under new management. Holly and Grog Verbeck, owners of private chef service HeyChef!, purchased the Runway Café & Catering located in the Truckee Tahoe Airport on Sept. 1. Previous owner Amy Burke will continue to head up kitchen operations and there will be no initial changes to the café's current menu and daily specials.

"The Runway Café is one of Truckee's best kept secrets," said new owner Holly Verbeck. "All the old favorites will be served. Amy has built a reputation of outstanding food and service that we intend to build upon."

New owner and chef Grog Verbeck brings extensive fine-dining experience to the kitchen. Future menu additions will include

seasonal menus, international cuisine options, personalized menu services and specials made from scratch. The café's location will also allow HeyChef! to continue offering gourmet in-flight catering for crew and passengers, as well as expanded private catering options.

"We are excited that Truckee-Tahoe customers will now have a convenient way to enjoy HeyChef!'s culinary services in a distinctive local setting," Holly Verbeck said.

Runway Café & Catering was established in 2000 to provide excellent food and service to local businesses and travelers. For more information on the Runway Café & Catering, call 582-9351 or visit www.runwaycafe.biz.

HeyChef! offers high-end private chefs and kitchen staffing services. World-class chefs design and execute handcrafted menus in the intimacy of private homes or other exclusive locations. For more information on HeyChef!, call toll-free (877) 4-HeyChef or visit www.heychef.com.



New owner Holly Verbeck, left, and previous owner Amy Burke, right.

Customer appreciation barbecue at Plumas Bank

"Customer Appreciation Day is exactly what it says. We appreciate our customer's business, absolutely," said Plumas Bank Branch Manager Shelly Wright.

The third annual end of the summer gathering at Plumas Bank in Truckee was an afternoon of feasting on shredded pork barbecue and sausages from When Pigs Fly, hot off the grill with plenty of sauce. Sides and salads were supplied by Chef Ron Allen.

"We love to cook here at Plumas Bank," said Wright, who happens to be married to When Pigs Fly owner Lee Wright. "We like to tease 'we keep 'em fat and happy.'"



Amy Edgett/Sierra Sun

ABOVE: When Pigs Fly satiated Plumas Bank customers with pulled barbecue pork and sausage sandwiches, complete with sides and salads by Chef Ron Allen last week. From left: Lee Wright, owner of When Pigs Fly and Branch Manager Shelly Wright's other half, is flanked by future son-in-law Ricardo Felipe and Lori Davy, senior teller at Plumas.



Amy Edgett/Sierra Sun

Anne Grogan and Mark Maisel are ready for When Pig's Fly fine pork barbecue. "I have always felt appreciated as a customer at Plumas Bank," said Grogan. "But today, I feel special."

GROWING THE OPERATION

High Sierra Balloon Co. blows up Web

High Sierra Balloon Company has launched a new Web site, providing flight planning tools and pre-flight information for clients.

The new Web site, www.highsierraballooncompany.com, allows visitors to book hot air balloon flights over Truckee or Carson Valley and offers detailed information on package deals, gift certificates and more.

"This Web site is a great way for High Sierra Balloon Company to showcase our premier service to our clients," said Jeremiah Skirvin, president of the company. "It also provides an easy way for our clients to book a balloon ride over Tahoe's scenic landscapes."

Truckee's SmallPond Studio designed the new site. High Sierra Balloon Company launches at sunrise in Truckee, 120 days a year, weather permitting. Hot air balloon flights carry riders up and over beautiful, scenic mountain landscapes with views of Lake Tahoe and the Pacific Crest of the High Sierra. For more on High Sierra Balloon Company, call (888) 359-8753 or visit www.highsierraballooncompany.com.