

THE UNION



TRACK AND FIELD
Local athletes gear up for Masters meet
SPORTS | B1

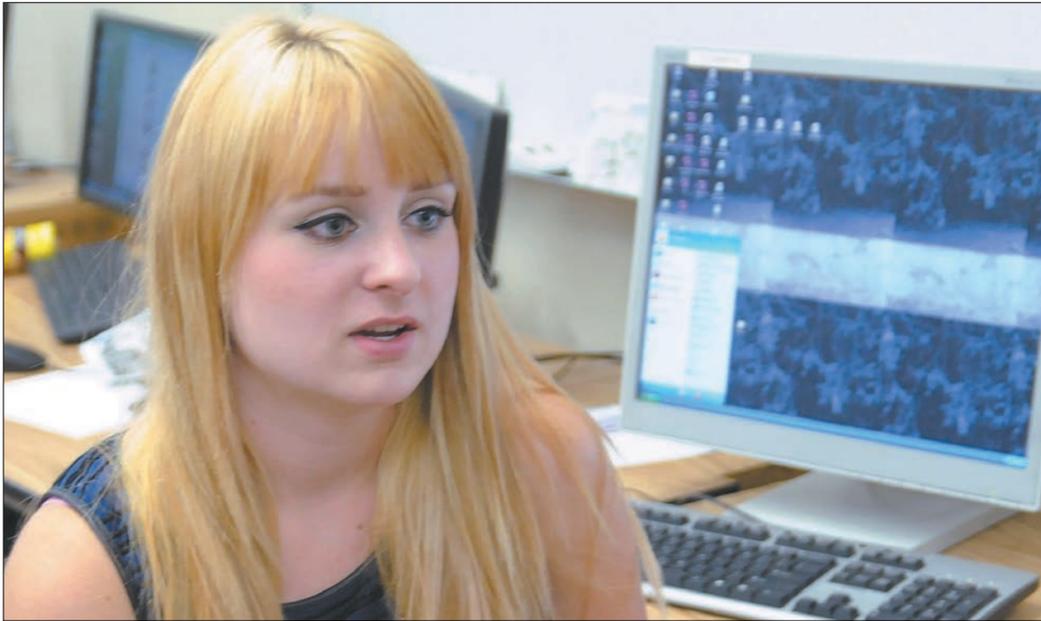


Thursday, May 29, 2014

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Lessons to last a lifetime



Concerned about traffic safety around her school, Nevada Union student Avery Wick did her senior project centering on the awareness of traffic laws. "I also handed out thumb rings that said 'texting kills' on them," Wick said.

JOHN HART/JHART@THEUNION.COM

Murder suspects denied bail

By Liz Kellar
Staff Writer

A Nevada County Superior Court judge denied bail for two murder defendants Wednesday.

Judge Candace Heidelberger told the defense attorneys for Christopher Nix and Scott Hollingshead that the issue could be revisited after a preliminary hearing into the evidence against them, which is currently set for July 10.

Nix, 20, is being represented by Nevada County Public Defender Keri Klein and has been charged with murder with special allegations of lying in wait and being a principal and armed; he also has been charged with shooting at an inhabited dwelling with a special allegation of being a principal and armed.

Hollingshead, 24, who is being represented by a court-appointed attorney Stephen Munkelt, faces those charges, as well as additional allegations of intentional discharge of a firearm causing great bodily injury or death, on both counts.

The two brothers have been charged in the murder

of Brian Spalding in front of his residence on the 11000 block of Forest View Drive at about 11:15 p.m., April 14.

Nix and Hollingshead reportedly

had gone to Spalding's residence wearing dark clothing and something covering their faces to conceal their identities, beat him severely and shot him several times in the upper torso.

Spalding was pronounced dead at the scene, and the official cause of death was ruled to be multiple blunt-force trauma.

Both suspects' DNA reportedly was present at the crime scene, and a handgun that was recovered from Gracie Road several days later also has been linked to the homicide by ballistics



Scott Hollingshead



Christopher Nix

COURT, A6

Nevada Union seniors present year-end projects

By Ivan Natividad
Staff Writer

As the school year comes to an end, Nevada Union High School seniors will graduate and move on to higher education or the grind of the nine-to-five. Those new challenges, though, may be easier for NU seniors due to the skills they have gained through their senior projects.

"It's a culminating activity when they're leaving high school," senior project coordinator Lynn McDaniel said. "It shows critical thinking, time management, self-motivation, self-discipline, the ability to come up with an idea to take it up and follow through."

This year, NU had close to 400 senior projects that included a diverse group of topics, such as producing a film, coaching a sports team, donating time to a nonprofit and shadowing a

social worker.

Senior projects are required to be about career exploration or time with an expert in the field.

The students had a mentor to bounce ideas and questions off of during the project and were required to complete a minimum of 20 hours of community service throughout the school year.

Seniors are then tasked to write a research paper about a topic that relates to their project and present that project to a panel of community judges.

"In presenting their projects, they learn life skills and academic skills," McDaniel said. "It has them stand and deliver to a group of adults, to show what they did and what they learned."

Maddie Campbell did her senior project on the school's basketball newsletter, as she put together a booklet full of pictures, bios and letters from players, and coaches to sell and raise money for the team.

"It took me several weeks to collect everything and get it all together and put it together," Campbell said.

"One of my number-one challenges was working with people and relying on people to get a finished product because it did require that other people cooperate."

As the editor of NU's student newspaper, Campbell said she not only learned time management and people skills during the project, but she also flexed her business savvy.

"I had to contact businesses to buy ads," Campbell said. "It helped me really learn the values of organization and how to handle the business of dealing with people, and so I've learned a lot of skills on really how to be professional, to sound like a person people would be willing to put money into."

Marina McKenzie took two totaled Land Rovers to make one car, spending more than 70 hours on her

project.

"I needed a car," McKenzie said. "I want to go into mechanical engineering, and I didn't know much about cars and I really wanted to learn more about cars, so I was able to learn more through this project."

McKenzie said she did her research paper on what type of fuel works best in her car and in that process learned a lot about fuel economy and engine propulsion. She now drives her car to school every day.

McDaniel has helped coordinate NU's senior projects for more than 20 years and said that a lot of seniors choose community service projects.

Senior Savannah Coughlin did her project on an issue that hit close to home.

"My grandma was a breast cancer survivor," Coughlin said. "So for my project, I fundraised money to donate to Insight Imaging so they could do free

PROJECTS, A6

'Negative campaigning' or 'truth-telling' in supervisors' race

By Keri Brenner
Staff Writer

The Union's cartoonist R.L. Crabb has lived in Nevada County his whole life and says he has seen his share of beyond-nasty political campaigns during that time.

But even Crabb, 63, a member of The Union's editorial board, said he was shocked by Tuesday's full-page ad in The Union blasting District 3 Nevada County Supervisor Terry Lamphier, who is running for re-election.

The ad, titled "Nevada County Deserves Better," was not paid for by Lamphier's opponent, Grass Valley Mayor Dan Miller, but by the Nevada County Contractors Association political action committee.

The PAC, led by chair

Keoni Allen of Sierra Foothills Construction Co., is a major donor to Miller's campaign, having contributed at least \$1,500 in the last campaign finance period alone.

"I would say that ad was over the top," said Crabb, of Grass Valley. "It's the sleaziest ad I've seen in ages."

The ad features excerpts of various public meeting transcripts, video interviews, TV news reports,

CAMPAIGN, A6



Dan Miller



Terry Lamphier

County supes balk at bag ban

By Keri Brenner
Staff Writer

Nevada County supervisors split 3-2 this week in favor of taking no action to draft a county ban on single-use plastic bags and instead allowing a statewide measure to kick in Sept. 1.

The vote, with Supervisor Chair Nate Beason and board members Richard Anderson and Ed Scofield

in the majority, means larger businesses in the unincorporated areas will come under the statewide law.

The statewide ban only affects businesses of more than 10,000 square feet or more than \$2 million in sales.

Businesses affected by the ban must charge a minimum of 10 cents for recyclable paper bags, according to a report at Tuesday's

public meeting by Steve Castleberry, Nevada County public works director.

"The state ban only covers areas that don't have something in place," Castleberry said.

Scofield said the statewide measure was not overly drastic and that only three large retail stores in Nevada County would be affected.

The county's estimated

100 to 120 small businesses would not have to comply — at least initially.

In 2016, the statewide law would be expanded to cover minimarts, which is expected to include 17 additional stores in Nevada County, Castleberry said.

Supervisors Terry Lamphier and Hank Weston voted "no," with both saying

BAG BAN, A6

WEATHER

H: 78°
L: 55°

See full forecast, Page A7

Sunny



OBITUARIES

Moses Torres, 89
Jerry Lawrence, 90
Melo Pello, 81

Page A5

Rampage shows gaps in mental health law

LOS ANGELES — Elliot Rodger's rampage near Santa Barbara has tragically exposed the limitations of laws that allow authorities to temporarily confine people against their will if they are believed to be a danger.

Three weeks before he stabbed and shot six people to death and then apparently took his own life, the 22-year-old was questioned by sheriff's

deputies outside his apartment. He convinced the officers he wasn't a threat. Like many other states, California has a law intended to identify and confine dangerously unstable people before they can do harm.

It's not yet clear whether the law was too porous or if deputies simply weren't provided enough information to ferret out how deeply troubled Rodger had become.

— Associated Press

INDEX

Advice	C3	Lottery	A5
Blotter	A2	Opinion	A4
Comics	C2	Sports	B1
Cryptoquote	B3	Stocks	B4
Family Focus	C1	Sudoku	B3

The Union Circulation: 530-273-9565

VOLUME 249 ISSUE 187



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