Holiday shoppers at North Lake Tabor and Truckee are encouraged to support local husinesses by participating in the Shop Local Hobitay Contest between Black Friday and Christmas Eve with cash and staycation prizes for two participants.

Shopping local is invaluable to improving the economy. Each dollar spent at independent businesses returns three times as much money to the local economy compared to dollars spend at chain husinesses, according to the American Independent Business

Also, as small husiness are the largest employers nationwide, shopping local helps create and sustain tobs

Participants collect one sticker per \$25 spent at participating husinesses in Incline Village, Kings Beach, Tabor City, Trucks ce Northstar, Squaw Val-Invested the West Shore to fill out a contest card due in the mail by Jan. 5.

Earning four stickers

enters participants into a drawing to win \$500 cash and earning 19 stickers enters partiein outs into the Grand Prize, a North Lake Tahoe Staveation with lodging, dining and activities valued at \$1,500.

Last year, the contest generated more than \$407,476 in revenue for local husiness, with retailers reporting \$24,000 on average in sales due to

The contest is designed hy the Business Association Chamber Collaborative (BACC) to support local husiness by keeping money in the local economy, boost the regionss shopping and dining culture and reduce the earhon footprint of locals shopping outside of their community

For a full list of particinating husinesses mail-in drop off locations and contest rules visit shopporthtahaetruekee.

Thisactich was mornful bush South Luke Take Resort Association Visit gotahoenorth.com to learn more

Tahoe Pyramid Bikeway nears completion

One more link has been added to the hike trail being built in the rugged Truckee River Canyon connecting Trucken and Rono

The link - built were a wall of houlders pushed over the edge in huilding Interstate 80 freeway nearly 60 years ago - opens un a 6.3-mile run from Floriston. nast Farad to the rebuilt Fleish footbridge

That makes a nice little run, like or like ride as long as the weather holds. Then its time to strap on some snowshoes, said Janet Phillins, president of Taline Pyramid Bikeway, a nonprofit group based in Reno thats working with the Truckee Donner Recreation and Park District, the official sponsor of this section of trail.

By spring, a section of trail past the Fleish bridge should reopen to take people all the way down the canyon from Floriston to Reno.

The Teneisee Mondows Water Authority has closed es in wintenance roud from the Eleich buidee to Verdi while it rebuilds the spillway at one of its hydro power plants, TMVA opened the road for the hikeway in

Within two years, the last

huilt from the Hirschdale Bridge, just east of the Glenshing community to Floriston. That will open up the entire Trucker Canyon. allowing people to hike ride hopewan Truckon and Rono

This work he built in two

. A section of trail starting at the Hirschdale bridge is expected to open following the old highway route in

· Work for the last leg of the trail through the Truckee Canyon - following the steep, winding curveon Interstate 80 jast hefore Floriston - is expected to start in 2018 after environmental studies are concluded.

But for now you may want to check out the Floriston to Fleish bridge section if you haven't already. People can safely park just off Interstate 80 exits at Floriston or Farad. The trail location is obvious at Farad while at Floriston people should park on the north side of I-so and the Truckee River and then head east:

The teal has a few small hills but is generally that Riders will have to nick unt their bikes and carry them over stars hult across pipes for an old hydro power plant. Several new informational siens can be found



Susan Voyles on the Tahoe Pyramid Bikeway trail.

about the river and the highway just west of Farad.

The new link cast of Farad was supposed to open in the summer of 2015, but huilders ran smack into a virtual wall of houlders. The challenge; how to keep the boulders in place above and below the trail route, which runs about 50 feet below the freeway, said Don Hays, who built the trail and has trail construction offices in Sparks and Tabor City.

Hays has built trails across the country for years and said this section was his second or third most difficult project. "It was like building on a stack of marbles. Have said, "If you took one marble out, the rest of the mountainside would come down on your

So for 26% feet, Hays built a well with two-inch thick hoards framed in steel to keep boulders in place above the trail and below the trail in some places. Then he and another worker huilt a trail bed, using 210 cubic yards of small rocks to create building blocks

Each block of rocks is wrapped in chain-link feneing and was laid by hand.

one rock at a time. The rock bed is up to 12 feet deep in

It was just physically really hard. Just me and one other person. There was no room for more. Have said.

The California Depart ment of Transportation issued a permit to build this section of trail along the Interstate 80 corridor and would issue more permits for the upcoming trail work.

It's a great example of what can be achieved with a public private partnership." Reed said of the bikeway group. They have a level of expertise on a volunteer hasis. It's an amazing group

A \$2 million federal grant is nending for the last less The bikeway group has raised \$150,000 in the last year in reaching \$300,000 in required matching funds for the project. Phillips said.

In all, the hikeway group and its sponsors have raised about \$1 million to open 10.7 miles of trail through the Truckee Canvan

Susan Voyles is a member of the Tahoe Pyramid Bikeway group's communications committee Visit tplikeway. org to learn more.

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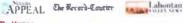
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