



**SIERRA WATERSHED
EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS**
*Promoting science literacy
through hands-on community
projects*

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**COME CELEBRATE
TEACHERS AND PARTNERS
MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY**
SWEP Fun'Raiser / Celebration

JUNE 9th

**SUNSET CRUISE ON
THE TAHOE GAL**

5:30PM-7:30PM

Quick! Grab you pens, sharpen your pencils, and mark your calendars. SWEP is inviting everyone to join us for a sunset cruise aboard the Tahoe Gal. The date is set for June 9th but you must **RSVP to Sarah Dorland by May 26th** to get a seat. Space is limited and available on a first come first served basis, so call Sarah right now! Sarah can be reached by phone at 582-2517 and by email: sdorland@ttusd.org.

This is a first time event for SWEP and we're particularly excited to have the **Tahoe Gal** as a venue for this celebration / fundraiser. We will have snacks and appetizers, live music, and raffle prizes which are all included in the \$15 boarding fee.

Tahoe Truckee Service Learning Partnership will give **complimentary boarding passes to teachers** who have turned in a Service Learning Project Log and RSVP by May 26. Did I mention the no-host bar? We can't have a sunset cruise without a no-host bar! We have also made special arrangements for **2 for 1 dinner offers**

Cesar Chavez Day

Tahoe Truckee Service Learning Partnership

Cesar Chavez Day was celebrated on March 31st in honor of Mr. Chavez's Birthday. The Tahoe Truckee Service Learning Partnership (TTSLP) celebrated by hanging bilingual banners in every school in the district showing the 10 core values that Cesar Chavez lived by. These banners were created by Ms. Sasha

Neumann's Leadership class at Truckee High School. The values include service to others, sacrifice, a preference to help the most needy, determination, non-violence, tolerance, respect for life, celebrating community, knowledge and innovation.

The TTSLP also partnered with SWEP to offer the Cesar Chavez Ser-

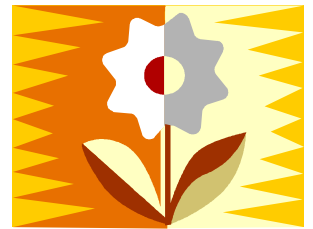
**Spring Renewal
May 2004**

"...draw strength from the image of those hearty herbaceous plants that force their way up through asphalt...drops of water and rootlets unite! Give me your students yearning to be free!"
-David Sobel-
Place-Based Education-
Connecting Classrooms and Communities

at the Hacienda that will be available after the cruise. So save the date and join us for this fun-filled cruise on the lake we are all working so hard to protect.

**RSVP with Sarah right now!
582-2517**

HOME
Beautiful Home
Life splashing, snowing,
rolling
A place I call home
Lake Tahoe
By Michaela, age 10



**2004
Summer
Best Management
Practices
Workshops**

**June 5 2004
Public BMP Workshop**

Join the Tahoe Resource Conservation District for a public BMP workshop at 973 Silverwood Circle, Sierra Tract, in South Lake Tahoe. Call Molly at (530) 543-1501, Ext. 109 for more information or to RSVP.

**June 24 2004
Landscaping With Native & Adapted Plants**

Join the Tahoe Resource Conservation District for a workshop at the Lake Tahoe Community College Demonstration Garden in South Lake Tahoe on Landscaping With Native & Adapted Plants. Call Molly at (530) 543-1501, Ext. 109 for more information or to RSVP.

**June 26 2004
Public BMP Workshop and Demonstration Home Tour**

Join the Tahoe Resource Conservation District for a public BMP workshop at the Fairway Community Center in Tahoe City and demonstration home site tour. Call Scott Cecchi at (530) 543-1501, Ext. 114 for more information or to RSVP.

vice to Others Award. \$200 was to be awarded to two students for Social Service projects and Environmental Service projects. As it turned out, the Boys and Girls Club of North Lake Tahoe had five very worthy nominees in the Social Service category and the funds were split between these students. The students will be honored for their service to their community at an event in the near future.



Dates To Remember

May 27: Meyers Elementary School Earth Day. Contact Beth Quandt, (530) 543-2371, Ext. 326

June 5: National Trails Day with the Tahoe Rim Trail Association and the Carson Valley Trails Association at the Tahoe Meadows Trailhead on the Mt. Rose highway (431): Contact Erin Casey, Tahoe Rim Trail Assoc., (775)298-0012

June 9: SWEP's Tahoe Gala Event aboard the Tahoe Gal: Call Sarah Dorland to RSVP 582-2517

June 24: Landscaping With Native & Adapted Plants at the LTCC Demonstration Garden, South Lake Tahoe: Contact Molly at the TRCD (530) 543-1501, Ext. 109

June 28-30: American Water Resources Association Conference: Riparian Ecosystems and Buffers: Resort at Squaw Creek, Olympic Valley, CA

July 23-Aug 1: Natural History of Lake Tahoe short course at LTCC. This is a 3-unit field course with light hiking to explore the natural forces and processes that have shaped Tahoe. Contact Aaron at (530) 541.4660, Ext. 372 for info.

—Hot Off The Press—

New Sierra Nevada Alliance Grant

SWEP was recently awarded a \$12,000 grant from the Sierra Nevada Alliance to implement a Best Management Practice (BMP) demonstration project at the Tahoe Lake School in Tahoe City.

The Sierra Nevada Alliance is a regional coalition of grassroots and regional groups working in the Sierra to protect and restore the natural and community values of California's most cherished mountain range. The Alliance has two major programs working to achieve this vision: A Community Group Support Program which strengthens the work of our grassroots member groups; and the Resource Protection and Restoration Program which protects and restores Sierra wildlife habitat, viewsheds, recreational areas, working landscapes and open spaces throughout the region.

SWEP's BMP demonstration project at Tahoe Lake School is

scheduled to begin this summer and will involve several cooperating agencies including the Tahoe Resource Conservation District and the TRPA.

This is an ambitious project that will involve the removal of nearly 2000 square feet of asphalt, the installation of raised planter boxes, and general improvements to runoff drainage that would otherwise flow untreated into Lake Tahoe.

Jan Ellis will be heading up this project and will work directly with Scott Cecchi (TRCD) and Brendan Ferry (TRPA). Additional support will come from the Tahoe Truckee Unified School District maintenance and facilities crews and from the Garden Club at Tahoe Lake School.

For more information about this project call Jan at (775)831-6071.

Partnership Spotlight

Scott Cecchi—*Tahoe Resource Conservation District*

This spring we are featuring Scott Cecchi in our Partnership Spotlight. Scott is a team leader with the TRCD's Backyard Conservation Program.

Since 1998, the Backyard Conservation Program has been working with the USDA/Natural Resources Conservation Service to assist private property owners to help protect Lake Tahoe one property at a time. The Program provides property owners free site evaluations for Best Management Practices (BMPs), which includes controlling storm water runoff and other pollutants. Property owners can contact TRCD to get information on BMPs, native plants, water conservation, and fertilizer management.

Scott has been instrumental in helping Jan organize and coordinate the BMP demonstration project at the Tahoe Lake School. Drawing on his background in soil science, engineering, and hydrology, Scott is an invaluable asset for this project in particular and for SWEP and our partners in general.

Scott has been tasked with coordinating BMP projects and demonstration sites for Lake Tahoe property owners in Placer and El Dorado Counties. This BMP project at Tahoe Lake School is a quintessential BMP demonstration project because of its applicability for both commercial and residential property owners and because of its far-reaching educational components.

One of the long-term goals of this project is to inspire other school sites and commercial property owners to implement similar BMP improvements on their land. Scott can be reached at (530)-543-1501 ext. 114



**Sierra Watershed
Education Partnerships**

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