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Wednesday, July 29, 2015

LAKE TAHOE



STATE OF THE LAKE

Lake Tahoe's rate of evaporation catches researcher's attention; clarity improves.

[READ MORE IN NEWS, PAGE 2](#)

KINGS BEACH



KUDOS IN K.B.

Commercial Core Improvement Project honored by American Public Works Association.

[READ MORE IN NEWS, PAGE 3](#)

TRUCKEE



DONNER LAKE TRIATHLON

Hundreds of athletes compete in longtime event at West End Beach.

[READ MORE IN SPORTS, PAGE 11](#)

A Walk in the Park

*Truckee Relay for Life raises
more than \$25,000*

By Margaret Moran
mmoran@sierrasun.com

This past weekend hundreds of community members put on their walking shoes in an attempt to stomp out cancer.

In its ninth annual year, Relay for Life of Truckee Tahoe raised more than \$25,000, said Ruth Geresy, co-founder and planning committee member of the event. These funds will go toward cancer research, services for those with cancer, advocacy, and education and prevention efforts in the

fight against cancer.

"We recognize that there are people dear to us, whom we cherish that either have fought, are fighting or have found their healing in another world that we want to honor today," Joanie Tankersley, pastor of Truckee Lutheran Presbyterian Church, said during the event's opening ceremony.

RELAY, 5

Luminaria bags line a track at Riverview Sports Park to honor those who have fought cancer, continue to fight cancer and those who have lost their battles.

MARGARET MORAN / SIERRA SUN



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COURTESY HARRY LEFRAK / LEFRAK PHOTOGRAPHY

Children splash into the water at the start of the Donner Lake Kids Triathlon on Saturday. Find a photo gallery from the event at lefrakphotography.com.

34th Donner Lake Tri in the books

Staff report

If there's one athletic event that never lacks participation in the Truckee/Tahoe area, it's the Donner Lake Triathlon. The 34th running was no exception.

The historic triathlon, held this past Saturday and Sunday, attracted more than 800 athletes to Donner Lake's West End Beach.

The weekend of racing began Saturday with the Sprint triathlon, the Truckee Open Water Swim and the Kids triathlon. It concluded Sunday with the Donner Lake Aquabike, the Half triathlon and the traditional Olympic triathlon.

The Olympic triathlon sends competitors on a 1,500-meter swim in Donner Lake, a 24.8-mile bike ride up Old Highway 40 to Kingvale and back, and a 6.5-mile run around the lake.

Scott Young, 49, of Reno raced to the overall victory in a field of 291 triathletes, crossing the finish in 2:18:26. Last

year's winner, J.P. Donovan of Incline Village, won it in 2:11:01.

Young was followed by Derek Lewis of Denver, who finished in 2:21:26, and Michael Ingardia of San Jose rounding out the top three in 2:25:30. Incline Village resident Markham Gross, 41, was the top local finisher in 10th (2:31:15).

Brianna Baird, a 17-year-old from San Francisco, placed first among a competitive women's field and ninth overall in 2:30:52.

Jennifer Todd of Newbury Park was the second woman and 20th overall (2:37:41). She was trailed by Truckee's Jessica Koltz, who was 26th overall (2:42:14) and Clare Walton of Tahoe City, who was 28th overall (2:42:54).

Last year's women's winner, local triathlete Anna Mae Flynn, won with a time of 2:40:42.

Among other top local finishers, Dan Haas of Homewood was 27th (2:42:29) and Michael Bergin of Incline was 38th (2:48:03).

TRIATHLON, 12



COURTESY HARRY LEFRAK / LEFRAK PHOTOGRAPHY

Truckee's Donatas Ereminas wins the half-Ironman distance event of the Donner Lake Triathlon on Sunday.



COURTESY ZDENKA MANTHORPE / LEFRAK PHOTOGRAPHY

Jessica Koltz of Truckee crosses Rainbow Bridge en route to her third-place finish among women in the Olympic triathlon.



COURTESY CHRIS TURNER / RIMIFIRE PHOTOGRAPHY

Athletes waded into the water off of West End Beach at the start of the Donner Lake Triathlon.

Donner Lake Triathlon results



Olympic (top 10, top 5 women)

1. Scott Young, Reno, 2:18:26
2. Derek Lewis, Denver, 2:21:26
3. Michael Ingardia, San Jose, 2:25:30
4. Greg Cook, El Dorado Hills, 2:25:53
5. Ciaran Byrne, Campbell, 2:26:22
6. Tim Naylor, Los Gatos, 2:27:07
7. Trevor Biblock, Cork, 2:28:54
8. David Kroeppler, Tuscon (Ariz.), 2:29:23
- *9. Brianna Baird, San Francisco, 2:30:52
10. Markham Gross, Incline, 2:31:15
20. Jennifer Todd, Newbury Park, 2:37:41
26. Jessica Koltz, Truckee, 2:42:14
28. Clare Walton, Tahoe City, 2:42:54
29. Laura Haley, Reno, 2:43:48

Half (top 10, top 5 women)

1. Donatas Ereminas, Truckee, 4:41:51
2. Jacob Dodge, Dinuba, 4:41:54
3. Matthew Hofman, McKinney (Texas), 4:53:48
4. Nathan Greig, Belmont, 5:02:14
5. Leroy Thomas, San Jose, 5:10:29
6. Eric Byrnes, Half Moon Bay, 5:11:02
- *7. Amy Thornquist, Sandy (Utah), 5:13:36
8. Eric Nielsen, Reno, 5:13:50
9. Brian Trimmer, Reno, 5:17:38
10. Pike Reardon, Gardnerville, 5:22:54
28. Janet Soule, Davis, 5:53:47
33. Kayla Coleman, Loudonville (Ohio), 5:56:14
35. Stephanie Artis, Roseville, 5:59:57
37. Sandy Holbrook James, Sausalito, 6:00:56

Sprint (top 10, top 5 women)

1. Matthew Balzer, Reno, 38:41
2. Timothy Winslow, Elk Grove, 39:41
3. Michael Smith, Santa Barbara, 41:18
4. Peter Carroll, Truckee, 42:47
5. Cody Forman, Sparks, 42:58
6. Matt Genovese, Santa Barbara, 44:01
7. Jeremy Pond, Rocklin, 44:31
8. Konnor Van Worth, Carson City, 45:50
- *9. Jessica Koltz, Truckee, 46:45
10. Josh Meadows, Reno, 46:57
15. Kelli Kellerman, Redwood City, 49:55
20. Carly Clusserath, Berkeley, 50:15
23. Alexandra Yakovleva, Palo Alto, 51:05
26. Shauna Althof, Truckee, 51:45

* indicates women's winner



HARRY LEFRAK/LEFRAK PHOTOGRAPHY
Jack Schrady of Truckee digs for the finish line during the Kids 9-10 race, which is part of the Donner Lake Triathlon weekend.

TRIATHLON

From page 11

HALF

The Half triathlon is the same distance as an Ironman 70.3, or half of a full Ironman. That measures out to a 1.2-mile swim, a 56-mile bike and a 13-plus-mile run — or two laps around Donner Lake.

In a close race to the finish, Truckee's Donatas Ereminas edged Jacob Dodge of Dinuba for the win, posting a time of 4:41:51 to Dodge's 4:41:54. Ereminas, who placed fifth last year, pumped both fists in celebration as he ran into the finish chute.

Matthew Hofman, who traveled from McKinney, Texas, to compete, finished third in 4:53:48. Former big league baseball player Eric Byrnes, meanwhile, placed sixth with a time of 5:11:02.

Amy Thornquist, 42, of Sandy, Utah, raced to a top finish among women and placed seventh overall in 5:13:36. Janet Soule of Davis was the second woman and 28th overall in 5:53:47, and Kayla Coleman of Loudonville, Ohio, was the third woman and 33rd overall in 5:56:14.

Locally, Truckee's Jeff Schloss, who is preparing to compete in the Ironman Lake Tahoe in September, finished 15th (5:37:10), Joshua Wheeler of Truckee placed 24th (5:48:07), Adrian Trieslau of Tahoe Vista was 49th (6:20:26) and Victor Heredia of Incline Village was 50th (6:21:11).

A total of 106 people reached the finish line.

SPRINT

The Sprint triathlon — a quarter-mile swim, 6-mile bike and 2-mile run — was the second-most popular distance with 238 finishers.

Matthew Balzer, 34, of Reno claimed the Sprint victory with a time of 38:41 and was followed by Timothy Winslow of Elk Grove (39:41) and longtime participant and former champion Michael Smith of Santa Barbara (41:18).

Truckee 18-year-old Peter Carroll was the top local,



COURTESY ZDENKA MANTHORPE / LEFRAK PHOTOGRAPHY
Diego Rodriguez of Truckee competes in the Kids 11-12 age group of the Donner Lake Triathlon.

recording a fourth-place finish with a time of 42:47, while Jessica Koltz of Truckee captured the women's win and finished ninth overall in 46:45.

Kelli Kellerman of Redwood City was the second woman and 15th overall (49:55), and Carly Clusserath of Berkeley was third among women and 20th overall (50:15).

Truckee's Shauna Althof was the fifth woman and 26th overall (51:45), and 15-year-old Ids Propstra of Truckee placed 21st (50:26).

Find complete results at donnerlaketri.com and a photo gallery at lefrakphotography.com.

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COURTESY SHAUN HUNTER / LEFRAK PHOTOGRAPHY
Shawna West of Truckee was fired up near the end of the Olympic-distance Donner Lake Triathlon on Sunday.

TTUSD to host bus pass, meal app workshops

Special to the Sun

In an effort to assist families through the application process, the Tahoe Truckee Unified School District is hosting its annual Bus and School Meal Application Outreach Workshops.

The workshops provide TTUSD families with online access to the transportation and food service applications for the new school year, for their children.

Immediate processing of applications will occur at the workshops using computers to access online forms.

For families who applying for free and reduced meals, they must fill out a new application every school year, even if they qualified in previous years.

Families may attend a workshop, fill out the online application, and immediately be their provided eligibility status. Translation services will be provided for all Spanish-speaking families.

This article was submitted by the Tahoe Truckee Unified School District. Visit ttusd.org to learn more.



COURTESY TTUSD

The meetings in August will make sure parents' questions are answered when securing bus passes for their children.

Workshop locations and times

Kings Beach Elementary
Tuesday, Aug. 4: 1-5 p.m.
Wednesday, Aug. 5: 1-5 p.m.
Thursday, Aug. 6: 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Truckee Elementary
Tuesday, Aug. 11: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

North Tahoe High School
Thursday, Aug. 20: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

North Tahoe School
Thursday, Aug. 20: Noon to 3 p.m.

Truckee High School
Wednesday, Aug. 19: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Alder Creek Middle School
Tuesday, Aug. 18: 4-6 p.m.
Friday, Aug. 21: 10 a.m. to noon

Annual kids science day moves to Commons Beach

Staff report

The UC Davis Tahoe Environmental Research Center will host its 16th annual Children's Environmental Science Day on Sunday, Aug. 2, at Commons Beach in Tahoe City.

The event will take place from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m., with a Mumbo Gumbo concert to begin at 4 p.m. as part of the Sunday Concerts at Commons Beach series.

The carnival-style science festival will include 10 hands-on science activities and games. These activities will cover lake clarity and physics, lake level, water quality, water conservation, fish, invasive species, fire and forests, climate change, litter and recycling, stewardship, and more, and will be facilitated by some of the Tahoe basin's leading environmental organizations.

Partnering organizations include Great Basin Outdoor School, IVGID Waste Not, Sierra Watershed Education Partnerships, Tahoe City Downtown Association, Tahoe City Public Utility District, Tahoe Institute for Natural Sciences, Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, Tahoe Resource Conservation District, Trout Unlimited, Western Environmental Testing Laboratory, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, and the U.S.

Forest Service.

Children's Environmental Science Day is a free community event for children ages 4 and up and their families, hosted by UC Davis scientists, staff, and local Lake Tahoe agencies and organizations.

This year's activities are designed to create an awareness of the unique ecology of Lake Tahoe and provide an opportunity for young and old alike to learn about science and the environment and have fun.

Children's Environmental Science Day began in 1999 with Dr. Charles Goldman, founder of the UC Davis Tahoe Environmental Research Center. This event has been a highlight of the year for many children and parents and brings science knowledge about Lake Tahoe to the youth that will be protecting it in the future.

Historically, it has been held at the Tahoe Center for Environmental Sciences facility in Incline Village, but this year officials decided to bring it to the beach where everyone can see the lake while learning.

For information, visit terc.ucdavis.edu/ed-outreach/ed-programs/cesd.html, or contact Diana Hitchen, Education Program Assistant with TERC, at 775-881-7560 ext. 7483 or dkhitchen@ucdavis.edu.



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Develop your Business: Create a Workplace Culture that Prospers your Business

Many businesses sigh with relief when the hectic Fourth of July weekend has passed, but plenty of summer still remains to be enjoyed in Tahoe. You may not think that taking a step back to evaluate how your workplace culture supports your business operation is necessary or wise to do while the tourist season is in full swing. However, the throes of high season when tensions are high could be the best time to evaluate the influence your business environment has on your success.

A positive culture can enhance employee engagement, retention and performance. A gratifying culture can improve customer service, increase staff's ownership in their work, increase the business's financial performance, and improve the company's reputation and customer loyalty.

Although pervasive, culture is often invisible. Here are 4 tips for recognizing your organizational culture and improving its positive influence on your business.

Step Back and Observe.

What are the attitudes and behaviors you observe from staff members? Under regulations from the Federal Occupational Safety and Health Act, or OSHA, you as a business owner can be held liable for not providing an employee with a safe and healthy workplace. When employees know they are walking into a reliable environment each day, they feel trusted and can work and collaborate more effectively together.

Evaluate and Set a Precedent.

How can you see your workplace culture reflected in decision-making and daily work practices? Is your culture aligned with your business strategy? Do you want to remain profitable and grow? It is important that a business sets expectations for the company's culture through thoughtful communication of the company's history and mission, desired norms, expectations and the types of behavior and attitudes that will be expected and rewarded.

Involve All Employees.

Key to creating change is involving all staff so that they feel ownership in the change and have the exciting opportunity to be part of an evolving culture. Provide public recognition, positive communication, promote adaptability and cultivate an environment where employees have the opportunity to lead and propose ideas. Focus on building a diverse culture with a stellar team dynamic.

Change Over the Long Haul.

Organizational change and measuring its effect is extremely difficult to enact because it requires change in people's behaviors. You must win the hearts and minds of the people who work for you. If you can communicate and reinforce the organizational culture desired, you can build a rewarding environment for your employees and advance your business.

Ginger Karl is the membership director for the North Lake Tahoe Chamber of Commerce, which has been serving North Tahoe businesses for 61 years, and a graduate of the North Lake Tahoe-Truckee Leadership Program. Learn more about events and membership at www.GoTahoeNorth.com.

Tahoe City Public Utility District was nominated for "2014 Best Place to Work" and currently has seasonal and full time employment opportunities available.

