Bijou school thankful for Heavenly's support

To the community,

Bijou Community School has received tremendous support from



Heavenly Mountain Resort through the ECHO grant. We would sincerely like to thank Heavenly for its wonderful contribution to the Two Way Immersion Program and the Field of Dreams Project.

We are very excited to continue to improve our school with community support from businesses like Heavenly. Thank you so much Heavenly. The lives of many children are being enriched through your generous donations.

Kathy Haven, Bijou parent

Reno marketing message resonating with Bay Area market

By Bill O'Driscoll, Reno Gazette-Journal

The word is getting around the greater San Francisco Bay Area about Reno-Tahoe's allure.

A survey this past summer of 1,010 people shows marked

increases since 2008 in their awareness of Reno-Tahoe as a place to visit and in their desire to make the journey.

“Interest is clearly up, and we can clearly see our web traffic has grown significantly,” said Ellen Oppenheim, president/CEO of the Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority.

The agency and the Atlantis Casino Resort Spa, Circus Circus Reno, John Ascuaga’s Nugget and Harrah’s Reno pooled resources to cover the $1.6 million marketing campaign that began last spring on billboards, radio and online dubbed “Reno-Tahoe USA: Far From Expected.”

Read the whole story

Unsettled weather moving toward Lake Tahoe

The spring-like weather that has settled into the Lake Tahoe Basin is about to disappear.

The National Weather Service in Reno has issued a winter storm watch for the region from late Tuesday morning through late Tuesday night.

The agency is calling for possible snow accumulations of about a foot above 7,000 feet, with 5 to 10 inches below 7,000 feet. The white stuff should be coming down at lake level by the afternoon.



Storm on the horizon for Lake Tahoe. Photo/Kathryn Reed

Wind could be an issue by making whiteout conditions. Ridgetops could see gusts of 90 mph, while other areas may sustain gusts of 35mph.

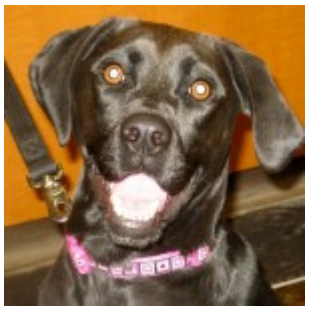
With the storm come cooler temps. Highs today will remain in the 50s, dropping to the low 40s on Tuesday, and high 30s on Wednesday and Thursday.

Wednesday is calling for a 30 percent of snow, Thursday mostly sun, with the chance of snow that night.

– Kathryn Reed

Tahoe Tails – Adoptable Pets in South Lake Tahoe

Daisy is a 2-year-old black Labrador, perhaps mixed with a leggy dog like a Weimaraner. She is very tall and slim.



Daisy's owners lost their home and couldn't keep her. Daisy is responding by trying to bond with everyone she meets at the shelter. She is very affectionate, and would like to sit close to you all day and give you kisses. She is good with other dogs and cats.

Daisy is spayed, microchipped, vaccinated, and is negative for heartworm.

She is at the El Dorado County Animal Services shelter in Meyers, along with many other dogs, cats, and kittens who are waiting for their new homes.

Call (530) 573.7925 for directions, hours, and other information on adopting a pet. The shelter will be open on Christmas Day.

For spay-neuter assistance for South Tahoe residents, go to online.

– Karen Kuentz

Budget gifts: CalStar family membership



CalStar memberships make great gifts and may be purchased online.

Yes, the $45 is more than the $20 budget gift. However, if it

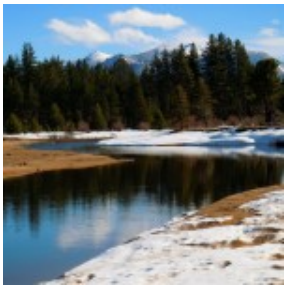
were given to a family of three or more, then the price falls into the criteria of budget gift.

Gliding along Baldwin Beach in a blissful state of mind

By Kathryn Reed

CAMP RICHARDSON – I'm confused. The snow under my skis clearly means it's winter. But the temperature makes me wish I were in short-sleeves and has me reminiscing of summer days at the beach at Tahoe. The few feet of sand next to the lake have me thinking a towel and book would be a good thing to bring along next time.

It's one of those December Sundays when it feels more like a warm spring day. The snow has softened enough by late morning to have a little give and make gliding pleasurable.



Taylor Creek's tranquility is mesmerizing. Photos/Kathryn Reed

Lake Tahoe is like glass – beckoning anyone foolish enough to

come play with her. But we know better. She is no friend this time of year – this icy bowl of water.

We park at the turnout for Baldwin Beach off Highway 89. The U.S. Forest Service does not plow the access road. It's OK to park there, but pay attention to areas along this stretch of the South Shore because there are "no parking" signs in certain places.

Outdoor enthusiasts have laid several tracks. An etiquette reminder – if possible, don't walk in the tracks of cross country skiers. Even more important, pick up after your dog – especially because dogs aren't allowed at Baldwin.

Meandering down what feels like a forested tunnel of sorts because of the thick conifers on either side has altered my state of mind. I'm lost in this wonderland. Inhaling, exhaling. Oh, that mountain air.

Less than a mile in the terrain opens and Lake Tahoe's deep blue waters are just a few glides away.

We head north along the beach. Mount Tallac is to our left all covered with snow. It looks like February. It seems too early – and technically it's not winter – for this icon to be awash in white.

No one is in sight, yet the tracks prove plenty of people have beaten us to this little slice of Tahoe splendor. We go as far as we can. A creek prevents us from crossing. Although the water level is low, there is no way not to get our feet wet. No matter the outside temperature, wet feet are a recipe for frostbite.

At times this inlet can be crossed on the ice. But crossing any ice in Tahoe is tricky because of the freeze-thaw factor. When the area is a crossable, it becomes a bit of an architectural tour with all the shoreline homes.

This Sunday we turn around and head toward Taylor Creek. A large predator bird is circling in the distance – perhaps a hawk of some sort.

A couple is on the other side. They, too, have reached Mother Nature's barrier.

Back we go. Taking it all in.

It's one of those incredibly easy cross country ski outings because it's all flat. No chance of getting lost with the lake on one side. But it is one of the most scenic places to visit – even more so in the winter than summer.

Getting there:

From South Lake Tahoe, take Highway 89 north. Pass Camp Richardson. Go about one mile. Park on the right where the sign says "Recreation Area Closed for the Season." If you hit Cascade Properties, you went too far.

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Full moon snowshoe at Squaw

Tubbs Guided Moonlight Snowshoe Tour at Squaw Dec. 18.

Join experienced guides as you snowshoe amidst moonlit views of Lake Tahoe and the surrounding mountain peaks. Fun for all ages, cost includes snowshoe rentals (you must supply your own poles if needed).

Dress appropriately and wear proper boots.

Tours meet at High Camp at 5:30pm.

For reservations, call (530) 452.7123.

Nativity play at Grace Hall in South Tahoe

St. Theresa School is presenting a Nativity play “O Little Town of Bethlehem and Christmas Carol” on Dec. 14th at Grace Hall from 6-7pm.

Refreshments will be served.

Location is 1041 Lyons Ave., South Lake Tahoe.

For information, call (530) 544.8944.

Nativity play by St. Theresa students

St. Theresa School is presenting a Nativity play “O Little Town of Bethlehem and Christmas Carol” on Dec. 14th at Grace Hall from 6-7pm.

Refreshments will be served.

Location is 1041 Lyons Ave., South Lake Tahoe.

For information, call (530) 544.8944.

Curling clinic at South Tahoe ice rink

The South Lake Tahoe Ice Arena is offering curling events to prepare participants for the upcoming leagues. These clinics are offered Sundays. The next clinic is Dec. 19 from 2-4pm.

Curling is a similar to shuffleboard, but played on ice. Although it is often played with significant strategy and skill, it can be enjoyed by all ages after a short lesson.

Prepare yourself by going online to learn the fundamentals of the game. Look for up coming clinics after the holiday here.

Cost is $12 and enrollment is limited so sign up soon by stopping by the arena at 1176 Rufus Allen Blvd. or calling (530) 542.6262.