

# Former school board trustee named Rim Trail director

## Staff Reports

Gardnerville resident and former two-term Douglas County School Board trustee Mary Bennington was recently named the new executive director of the Tahoe Rim Trail Association.

Bennington brings more than 20 years of experience managing non-profit organizations and governmental programs and began with the association on May 3.



**Bennington**

"Mary brings a wealth of experience to the position, but most importantly she is passionate about encouraging stewardship and enjoyment of the beautiful Lake Tahoe Region," says Tahoe Rim Trail Board President Sam Viviano.

As a founding member and past president of the Carson Valley Trails Association, Bennington worked closely with Douglas County to establish the Douglas County Comprehensive Trails Plan and was instrumental in preserving access to public lands in the Carson Valley.

Prior to her new position, she served as the associate director at the Sierra Nevada Alliance, where she managed the daily operations and supervised three of the five program teams, including sustainable Sierra communities, member group support (includes the AmeriCorps program) and the sustainable organization team. Preceding the Alliance Bennington worked at the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California for 5 1/2 years, first as their environmental program coordinator and then

as the Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program compliance officer. She also served as the Carson River project manager for The Nature Conservancy. She served on the board of the League of Women Voters for more than five years.

Built and maintained by volunteers, the Tahoe Rim Trail winds through two states, six counties, three national forests, state parkland and three wilderness areas. It is open to runners, equestrians, hikers and in most areas, mountain bikers. Thousands of people use the trail each week during peak summer and fall months.

In 1999, the Tahoe Rim Trail was named the Millennium Legacy Trail of Nevada, one of only 50 trails in the nation to receive this distinction.

Two new projects are scheduled to get underway this year with the Daggett project rerouting trail sections near Kingsbury Grade off the road, providing a connector to the new Van Sickle Park and the new Rim to Reno project slated to connect the trail to the Thomas Creek area in Reno.

The Tahoe Rim Trail Association, founded in 1981, is a non-profit organization, which maintains and enhances Tahoe Rim Trail, encourages stewardship and provides access to Lake Tahoe.

The association works in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service and Nevada State Parks.

For more information, please contact the Tahoe Rim Trail Association at [info@tahoerimtrail.org](mailto:info@tahoerimtrail.org) or 298-0012, or visit the web site at [www.tahoerimtrail.org](http://www.tahoerimtrail.org)

## OBITUARY

### James R. Valdez 1928-2010

Gardnerville resident James R. Valdez, 82, died at home on May 24, 2010.

He was born in Tres Pinos, Calif. on May 15, 1928 to Martin and Carmen Valdez.

He was preceded in death by

his brothers Martin, Eugene, and Freddie Valdez and step-son James Blake.

Among his survivors are his wife Dorothy Valdez; ex-wife Laverne Detrick; daughters Patricia Redding, Linda Bowlen and Kathy Correia; son Fred Valdez, step-sons Butch and Joseph Blake; step-daughters

Cynthia Faubel and Brenda Blake; brother Edward Valdez; sisters Rose Stephens, Babe Littlejohn, Pauline Garcia and Dorothy Bowden; 13 grandchildren and numerous great grandchildren.

Arrangements are in the care of Capitol City Cremation & Burial.

## BIRTHS

### Delaney Barrett Shorten

Gardnerville residents Zoe and Christopher Shorten are the parents of a daughter, Delaney Barrett Shorten, born May 9, 2010, at Carson Tahoe Regional Medical Center. Delaney weighed 6 pounds, 9 ounces at birth.

### Michael Sean McCurry Jr.

Coleville residents Tessa and Michael McCurry Sr. are the parents of a son, Michael Sean McCurry Jr., born May 10, 2010, at Carson Tahoe Regional Medical Center. Michael weighed 8 pounds, 1 ounce at birth.

### Tucker Cole Savoy

Gardnerville residents Joe and Jenna Neal are the parents of a son, Tucker Cole Savoy, born May 10, 2010, at Barton Memorial Hospital in South Lake Tahoe.

### Dalilah Rose Hudson

Gardnerville residents Krystal Newman and Cody Hudson are the parents of a daughter,

Dalilah Rose Hudson, born May 11, 2010, at Carson Tahoe Regional Medical Center. Dalilah weighed 7 pounds, 9 ounces.

### Elijah Daniel Chaney

Gardnerville residents Natasha Holt and Daniel Chaney are the parents of a son, Elijah Daniel Chaney, born May 11, 2010, at Carson Tahoe Regional Medical Center. Elijah weighed 9 pounds, 7 ounces at birth.

### Ayden Andrew Michael Dickson

Gardnerville residents Christina Over and Brooks Dickson are the parents of a son, Ayden Andrew Michael Dickson, born May 16, 2010, at Carson Tahoe Regional Medical Center. Ayden weighed 7 pounds at birth.

### Leah Jane Pelkola

Stateline residents Rebecca and Robert Pelkola are the parents of a daughter, Leah Jane Pelkola, born May 13, 2010, at Barton Memorial Hospital in South Lake Tahoe.

### Kelly Marie Mortensen

Yerington residents Colleen and James Mortensen are the parents of a daughter, Kelly Marie Mortensen, born May 14, 2010, at Carson Tahoe Regional Medical Center. Kelly weighed 8 pounds, 2 ounces at birth.

### Colton Michael Grady

Yerington residents Brandy Tate and Christopher Grady are the parents of a son, Colton Michael Grady, born May 14, 2010, at Carson Tahoe Regional Medical Center. Colton weighed 6 pounds, 6 ounces at birth.

### Elli Rose Feole Lila June Feole

Yerington residents Stacy Salway and Levi Feole are the parents of twin daughters, Elli Rose Feole and Lila June Feole, born May 22, 2010, at Carson Tahoe Regional Medical Center. Elli weighed 5 pounds, 1 ounce and Lila weighed 5 pounds, 5 ounces at birth.

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