

SCENE & HEARD

TRAQC NOTES

Volunteers needed for Tracy Nature Program project

Our Town

The TRAQC Educational Foundation needs five elementary school classes to volunteer for its pilot Tracy Nature

Program project. The local non-profit is looking for fourth- through sixth-grade classes in the Tracy Unified and Jefferson school districts that would be interested in trying out the Tracy Nature Activity Fun Book and providing feedback to the project's development team. Two of

the participating classes will earn small grants to fund field trips to a regional nature park, according to foundation member Celeste Garamendi.

"We're looking for ways to get our youth more involved in our community," Garamendi said, adding that instilling a love of nature is one such way.

Garamendi and Bohn Elementary School teacher Molly Karl worked together to write the bulk of the activity fun book, but Garamendi said all of TEF's projects are the result of hours of volunteer work from its board and members. The nature program was made possible by a grant from the Great Valley Center. Garamendi said the group is still working to obtain matching funds to expand it beyond the pilot stage.

Teachers interested in participating in the pilot program need to contact the foundation at 914-0792 or tef@starband.net.

The foundation focuses on funding programs that promote Tracy's history and nature in the schools. The foundation's Tracy History Coloring Book is an established program that complements the educational opportunities at the Historic Lammersville Pioneer School Program.

The foundation's annual Evening on Bald Mountain community fundraiser dinner will be from 4 to 9 p.m. May 5 at Connolly Ranch. A few tickets, at \$45 each, are still available.

For information on the fundraiser: 914-0792 or tef@starband.net.

At a glance

- **WHAT:** TEF Tracy Nature Program
- **WHEN:** Open to fourth- through sixth-grade classes in Tracy Unified and Jefferson school districts
- **WHERE:** 914-0792 or tef@starband.net

Tracy Nature Activity Fun Book



A Kid's Guide to Tracy's Natural Environment