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WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 2011

## For A Good Cause: A Ride For Ma



MATTHEW PHOTOGRAPHED WITH HIS DAUGHTER DURING A TAN PRIOR TO HIS ACCIDENT.

Family man, avid cyclist and Natomas resident Ma Wietrick was seriously injured in the early morning

JOIN THE NATOMAS FLYERS FOR


Breathe California's

**THREE DAYS  
CYCLING,  
TWO NIGHTS  
CAMPING,  
AND ONE  
GREAT  
CAUSE:**

**CLEAN AIR,  
HEALTHY LUNGS,  
AND TOBACCO-FREE  
FUTURE!**

If you live or work in North Natomas, the North Natomas TMA will contribute \$100 toward your donation pledge and you'll receive a team jersey.

For more information, visit [SacBreathe.org](http://SacBreathe.org) or call 916-419-955.



of Feb. 5 while riding his road bike just minutes from home on Elkhorn Boulevard.


Matthew's friends and fellow cyclists are putting together a benefit ride on June 12 to help support him both emotionally and financially. Riders are invited to participate in the event and support Matthew's journey back to health.

*"The road to recovery is a long one, but with your support can be one filled with courage and hope."*

#### DETAILS:

- Sunday, June 12, 2011
- 3 Rides Distance Options: ±10, ±35, and ±70 Miles
- FREE catered BBQ lunch with paid Ride Registration (additional BBQ tickets available for \$7 at event)
- All donations gratefully accepted

For more info or to sign up for the ride, click [here](#)

at 12:01 AM , Links to this post , 0 comments 

Labels: [for a food cause](#)

TUESDAY, MAY 17, 2011

## **Kudos: Natomas Teacher Is Tops**

**Ben Diaz Named 2012 SCOE Teacher of the Year**



**DIVE INTO SPRING!**

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COURTESY PHOTO


When teacher Ben Diaz walked into his classroom yesterday, he was met by administrators and colleagues bearing balloons and smiles.

That's when Diaz learned he'd been selected as the Sacramento County Office of Education "Teacher of the Year."

Diaz teaches a 3rd through 5th grade combined, special day class for students with emotional disabilities at Bannan Creek Elementary School in the Natomas Unified School District.

"I did not know I wanted to be a teacher until six years ago," he said. "I realized that I had a great desire to work with this population of students. My strength as a teacher is being able to connect with students and understand their disabilities."

After years of working in the marketing and sales industry, Diaz pursued a career in education. He started working at the county office of education as a substitute paraeducator and substitute teacher.



**WOODLAND WOOD SWIM TEAM**

**OPEN HOUSE**  
**5 p.m. Fridays**  
 at Woodland High School  
 155 North West Street

**Learn more about the Woodland Swim Team**  
**Bring your suit, towel & goggles.**

*Only a 20 minute drive from Natomas!*  
 All Ages & Abilities Welcome  
[www.woodlandswimteam.org](http://www.woodlandswimteam.org)



**June 4, 11am-3 pm**  
**At Natomas Racquet Club,**  
 2450 Natomas Park Drive, Sacramento, CA 95833

Event for the whole family: water games, music, entertainment, magicians, clowns, food, vendors, arts and crafts, obstacle course, prizes, and a raffle!

Bring your own towel and swimsuit.  
 Kids: \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door, adults and children under 3 come free

[www.summer-splash.com](http://www.summer-splash.com)

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NETWORKS [www.teal.net](http://www.teal.net)

Assistant Superintendent Robin Pierson, and Special Education Principal Lauren Roth joined Deputy Superintendent Sue Stickel announcing the award.

"Ben is an enthusiastic, hard working, and dedicated teacher who is continually improving the learning environment of his classroom to meet individual student needs," Roth said. "He has set a high standard in his commitment to the teaching profession. He is a valuable asset to SCOE's elementary ED program."

Diaz uses a Positive Behavior Supports program which provides reinforcements to encourage academic growth in addition to self-management practices which help students improve their own behavior. He has successfully implemented enrichment programs including cross tutoring, as well as The Polite Child, Social Smarts curriculum.

Diaz will be honored, along with teachers representing other Sacramento County school districts, at the Teachers of the Year awards dinner in August. He is in West Sacramento.

## Take A Break Cleaning Service


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at 3:11 PM , Links to this post , 0 comments 

Labels: [bannon creek](#), [education](#), [kudos](#), [natomas unified school district](#)

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## TRUSD Celebrates With Neighbor



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[Adopt A Pet!](#)

The Twin Rivers Unified School District last week held its 3rd annual Rio Linda/Natomas Neighborhood School Celebration at Regency Park Elementary School.

Area families and school district dignitaries honored inspiring teachers, classified staff and retirees.

The two-hour event featured a video presentation, student performances, and several recognitions in the district's Teacher of the Year.



at 2:49 PM , Links to this post , 0 comments

Labels: [kudos](#), [regency park](#), [twin rivers school district](#)

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## Free Preschool!

**FREE** 3-hour program serving families living in the school boundaries of American Lakes, Jefferson & Bannon Creek

Children must be 4 years old by December 2nd, 2011 and family must meet income qualifications.  
**Begins August 16th**  
 Morning and Afternoon Classes

Call 916-561-5288 for more info

[www.natomas.k12.ca.us/schoolreadiness](http://www.natomas.k12.ca.us/schoolreadiness)  
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