

SUNDAY CALENDAR

Derby Divas roll into Grand Terrace

The Inland Empire Derby Divas will take on the Sleazy Riders during Red White/Bruise at 6 p.m. at Cal Skate, 22080 Commerce Way, Grand Terrace. Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. Rock group Rain Brings Weather will perform during halftime. Information: www.iederbydivas.com.

Group to perform in Yucaipa

Blues/Rock group Legendary Fur Traders will perform from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Yucaipa Community Park, 34900 Oak Glen Road. Admission is free. The concert is part of Yucaipa's annual Concerts in the Park series which continues at 6:30 p.m. Sundays through Aug. 28. Information: www.yucaipa.org.

Meet lil' orphan Annie

The Lewis Family Playhouse, 12505 Cultural Center Drive, Rancho Cucamonga, will present a performance of "Annie" at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$17. Additional performances will be held at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday. Information: 909-477-2752, www.lewisfamilyplayhouse.com.

Send your calendar items to calendar@inlandnewspapers.com

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U of R donates \$112K to city

Money to go toward street, internships, library, firetruck

By Molly Davis Staff Writer

REDLANDS — Once again, the University of Redlands has chosen to make a donation to the city of Redlands.

The donation is a voluntary financial contribution that the U of R provides from its operations budget, with intended uses that benefit the school and community.

"The voluntary contribution is just one of many ways that the university contributes to the well-being of the city and the region," said Phillip Doolittle, the school's executive vice president.

This year's contribution is \$112,000.

Since the school began the voluntary donation, they've donated more than \$710,000 to the city.

"It's a huge benefit," said Mayor Pete Aguilar. "They've been very generous."

"The university started providing voluntary contributions to the city of Redlands about 15 years ago," Doolittle said.

"The university started this practice after the courts disallowed the city of Redlands and other California cities from exercising a utility tax," he said.

The recommended uses are \$10,000 to continue to fund the school's student internships in the police, library, recreation and other departments.

The U of R expects that amount will allow for 10 interns, meaning that the donation funds 100 percent of the cost of the positions for the third year in a row.

"The university believes that it is important to maintain this long-standing arrangement," Doolittle wrote in a letter to Aguilar. "Our students need the jobs, and the city can benefit from the expertise, talent and energy of our students."

Aguilar agreed, saying the work study program provides a "practical, real-life experience while helping the city provide services."

The U of R will also donate \$30,000 to the Redlands Fire Department for a new ladder truck, and \$10,000 to the A.K. Smiley Public Library for the acquisition of books and special collections, the school said.

"The university is concerned about the maintenance and care of Sylvan Park ... located directly west of the campus," wrote Doolittle. "The university is designating a contribution of \$10,000 to support maintenance and improvement of Sylvan Park."

Finally, the U of R has given the city a "gift-in-kind" contribution, meant for continued improvements to Colton Avenue, in the form of paving.

"Colton Avenue represents the 'front door' of the university of Redlands campus," Doolittle said. "The quality of Colton Avenue is important to the university from an image per-

spective, as well as a safety perspective."

He said that while he realizes the street may not need repaving as much as other city streets, it is not "in the university's best interest, nor the city's, to allow Colton Avenue to degenerate and to become in disrepair."

The school estimates the maintenance project will cost around \$52,000 and will complete the repairs in the next few months, with the city's approval.

"For more than 100 years, the university of Redlands has played an integral part in the life of the Redlands community," Doolittle wrote.

"We are proud of our heritage and grateful for the positive relationship that exists between the university and the city and its residents."

VETERANS HONORED AT PARK



Photos by Al Cuizon Staff Photographer

Above, Martin Gutierrez Jr. plays a game of horseshoes at Yucaipa Regional Park on Saturday, during Celebrate a Hero at the Park, an event hosted by the San Bernardino Vet Center. Below, Army veteran Preston Hammond, 81, of Rialto pets therapy horse Bentley.

Celebrating heroes

By Jesse B. Gill Staff Writer

YUCAIPA — A few hundred people gathered at a Yucaipa park Saturday to honor the men and women who have served in the country's armed forces.

The San Bernardino Vet Center threw the Celebrate a Hero at the Park event at Yucaipa Regional Park.

The event was meant to serve as an opportunity for local veterans to relax and enjoy themselves as

well as allow community members to show support for them.

The San Bernardino County Veteran's Affairs provided a barbecue lunch.

The San Bernardino Vet Center focuses on giving veterans healthy social outlets, as many veterans tend to isolate themselves.

The center is at 1325 E. Cooley Drive, Suite 101 in Colton. For more information, call 909-801-5762.

jesse.gill@inlandnewspapers.com, 909-386-3921



Embezzler sentenced to 45 days

By Will Bigham Staff Writer

FONTANA — A former administrator for the Fontana Unified School District pleaded no contest to embezzling about \$8,500 from the district.

Shawn Kingsley, former director of maintenance and operations, entered his plea to a misdemeanor count of embezzlement Thursday in Fontana Superior Court.

Kingsley, 56, of Fontana, was sentenced by Judge Phillip Morris to 45 days in jail and was placed on probation for three years, according to court records.

Kingsley was charged in January after a Fontana police investigation revealed evidence that he took about \$8,500 generated through sales of the district's scrap metal.

According to a police report in Kingsley's court file, he used the embezzled money for personal expenses, including donations to his church, Cross Pointe Community Church in Fontana.

Kingsley's embezzlement reportedly began in 2007, when he was named director of maintenance and operations, and continued until November 2010, when police received a tip about the embezzlement from a district employee.

Kingsley, a district employee of 28 years, was initially placed on administrative leave.

He later resigned.

Judge Morris ordered Kingsley to report to Glen Helen Rehabilitation Center in Devore by Oct. 14 to begin serving his jail sentence, which he is eligible to complete through a work-release program, according to court records.

Kingsley must finish serving his jail sentence by April 14, according to court records.

will.bigham@inlandnewspapers.com, 909-483-8553

Paralyzed graduate explores benefits of scuba diving

By Molly Davis Staff Writer

REDLANDS — When Cody Unser is in the water, she's free.

Free from the gravity of her wheelchair, her mother said, and free from the restrictions Unser faces each day because of transverse myelitis, a neurological disorder that paralyzed her from the chest down.

"It's freedom," Unser said, and "it's the best thing in the world."

Unser is a 2009 University of Redlands graduate and founder of the Cody Unser First Step Foundation, a nonprofit dedicated to raising public awareness and research funds for spinal cord related paralysis.

She recently piloted a medical study looking at the benefits scuba diving has on paralyzed individuals.

The yet-to-be-released study uses Unser's biopolitics major to look at the scientific benefits of scuba diving.

"It is an activity-based therapy that helps circulation, oxygenates tissues, creates neutral buoyancy and has physiological benefits for the disabled," said Unser's mother, Shelley, who is also president of the foundation.

The medical study has gotten off the ground with help and guidance from Johns Hopkins Hospital doctors, the Kennedy Krieger Interna-

tional Spinal Cord Center and the Paralyzed Vets of America. Cody Unser hopes to show that scuba is a useful therapy for spinal cord related paralysis, such as transverse myelitis.

"Scuba shows me everything I can do, not the things I can't," she said. "People with disabilities shouldn't be hindered by anything."

After becoming paralyzed at 12, scuba provided Unser with an outlet for her frustration, and desire to still be physically active.

"Cody found a sport to free her from her chair that was adventurous, (and) required training and knowledge that could replace some

of the activities she grew up with," Shelley Unser said. "It also gave her a way to focus her anger and frustration in dealing with paralysis into something positive."

Part of the foundation's mission is to look at ways to improve the quality of life for those who use wheelchairs.

By fundraising, Cody Unser was able to take others to the Cayman Islands as part of Operation Deep Down, which conducts scuba introductions at rehabilitation facilities.

Cody Unser credits her time at the U of R for helping her come up with creative ways to conduct research and ultimately look for cures for spinal cord-related paralysis.



Courtesy Photo

Cody Unser, a 2009 University of Redlands graduate, recently piloted a medical study looking at the benefits scuba diving has on paralyzed individuals.