



PRESS RELEASE

December 8, 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Glenn Salas, Recreation Manager, (760) 951-3812

CHRISTMAS ARRIVES EARLY FOR LOCAL ELEMENTARY STUDENTS

Doris Davies' Legacy Lives on with Annual Bike Giveaway

Victorville, Calif. – The nonprofit organization Benefit Everyone, Assist Recreation & Sports, also known as BEARS, gave away over 170 bicycles and helmets to children who showed a need and achieved high performance in school. The event, known as the Doris Davies Memorial Bicycle Giveaway, took place in Victorville on Dec. 7 at the High Desert Event Center.

Each public elementary school serving Victorville nominated students for the giveaway. Each school was asked to select four boys and four girls. Some of the criteria recommended are: 1) students from grades 2 through 5 (due to the 20" size of the bicycle), 2) students who would be first time recipients, 3) students who are improving in schoolwork, 4) students who are helpful in the classroom, 5) students who cannot afford a bicycle, and 6) students who are recommended by teachers. There is also a small allocation of 16" bicycles given to Head Start participants.

It was an exciting day for many children who received a bike, visited with Santa, selected from the small toy tables, and enjoyed cookies sponsored by the Victorville Police and the Citizens on Patrol. Special thanks go out to the Victorville Police Explorers, Victor Elementary School District, the High Desert Event Center staff, the City of Victorville Youth Advisory Committee, and many volunteers who helped with the event.

Cyndi Spadafora, BEARS Vice President said, "This event would not be possible if it were not for the support of our community year-after-year. On behalf of the BEARS, we want to thank our financial contributors including the Doo Wah Riders; Your Community Bingo; Swanson, Graham, Russo & Thomas Accountants, Inc.; Shear Realty; Mark & Donna Taylor; Ben & Becky Wasserman; Caldwell, Kennedy & Porter; ICR & the Lovingoods; Walmart; and WLC Construction Services. Doris Davies would be so pleased to know her legacy of serving the community continues to live on through the generosity of these caring sponsors."

For more information on B.E.A.R.S., please contact the City of Victorville Recreation Division at
(760) 245-5551.###