

CITY OF PALMDALE

MEDIA ALERT

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DATE: May 14, 2015

RIBBON CUTTING/GRAND OPENING CEREMONY

WHAT: Grand opening/ribbon cutting ceremony, Gabriel's House fund raiser and Girl Scout Troops #442 blood drive to celebrate Antelope Valley Swap Meet at Four Points now being open on Saturdays.

WHEN: **Saturday, May 16, 10 am. Gabriel's House students will perform from 9:30 to 11:30 am. Blood drive from 9:30 am to 3 pm.**

WHERE: Antelope Valley Swap Meet, 5555 Pearblossom Highway, Palmdale.

WHO: Mayor Jim Ledford; members of the City Council; local chambers of commerce; Antelope Valley Four Points staff; Gabriel's House students, members of Girl Scout Troop #442; swap meet vendors and customers.

ACTIVITIES: Blood drive, musical performances by Gabriel's House students, themed raffle baskets to raise funds for Gabriel's House.

BACKGROUND: The Antelope Valley Swap Meet at Four Points is now open Saturdays from 8 am to 3 pm, and Sundays from 6 am to 4 pm, year round. Featuring great food and live bands on Sundays.

Over 30 themed gift baskets will be raffled off on Sunday at 3 pm. Winner need not be present. Tickets will be available Saturday and Sunday. Proceeds will be donated to the City of Palmdale's Neighborhood House, Gabriel's House.

The Swap Meet will also host the inaugural Ylliana and Akemi's Girl Scout Troop #442 Blood Drive, on Saturday from 9:30 am to 3 pm. All donors will receive an opportunity ticket to win great prizes. First 25 donors will get \$10 in "swap meet bucks" which can be spent on food, space rental, admission, etc.

GABRIEL'S HOUSE: The Palmdale City Council voted unanimously to approve the dedication of a Neighborhood House dedicated to enhancing the lives of our children. That action gave the community "Gabriel's House" (38533 4th St. East), in memory of eight-year-old Gabriel Fernandez who was tragically killed. Staffed by volunteer instructors, "Gabriel's House" serves as a music and performing arts center to provide children in the area with the opportunity to develop their creative talents. These programs are provided free to students, and generously sponsored by the Warnack Family Foundation, so that a family's finances are not a barrier to this education and creativity.

Guitar, Hip Hop dance and drum classes were offered in 2014. For 2015 the pencil drawing, Folklorico dance, photography and filmmaking workshops were introduced, and starting right after the recital, performing arts workshops with drama and vocals will start.

Residents may stop by Gabriel's House, and each of the City's Neighborhood Houses, to learn more about services and programs offered free to the community (parenting, healthy eating, Community Gardens, immigration questions, consumer affairs, mediation and more, in addition to the after school program for grades 1 through 6). This summer will include a free lunch program in partnership with the Palmdale School District.

INFORMATION: Antelope Valley Swap Meet – Joyce Bruce: 661/273-0456
Girl Scout Blood Drive – 661/273-0456 or email
marsea18@msn.com
Gabriel's House - 661/267-5126