

Youth Happenings

A New Day Dawns

By BJ Boucher

When businesses assume new names, they frequently do so when making shifts in direction or focus of their core activities. Such is the case with the Canyon Country Discovery Center. No longer will you hear it referred to as the Four Corners School of Outdoor Education. The Discovery Center will be known as a “place of discovery”



for young and old, and its goal - to provide adventure, education and stewardship opportunities - will guide all activities.

Executive Director Chris Giangreco says, “We are building off the past but solidifying a new future, one that includes new activities and events. We aim to work with area schools to promote exciting out-of-school educational opportunities. We hope to align our services with the community’s needs and support economic development. Our youth corps program will continue to promote useful job skills, but also aim to help youth understand and appreciate the many natural and cultural treasures in this area while providing service.”

The Discovery Center’s activities aim to be a resource for locals and visitors alike with its lecture series and its

cultural exhibitions. Upcoming events will feature experts in cultural and local stories. Paleontologists, historians, geologists and others can share the special aspects of southern Utah. Most presentations will be free to the public. Leading folks on bird counts, offering youth camps, fostering a project to collect and save native seeds used for propagation of native plants - these are some of the activities scheduled this year. Plans are already made to bring a university group from Michigan to the Discovery Center for educational training and stewardship projects in San Juan County.



Summer camps for local youth will integrate educational activities into work. “We want to do more than simply take kids on a river trip. They can help with clean-up of local countryside regions like Recapture Reservoir or Sand Island,” says Giangreco. A robust suite of activities, including horse packing day camps, dutch oven cooking classes, xeriscaping workshops, wilderness first aid, and summer camp will be offered over the next year. Check the organization’s website for more information: ccdsccovery.org.

Giangreco says volunteers are needed and welcomed, assisting with front desk operations, helping with school

groups and supporting events. Local artisans are also encouraged to sell their wares in the gift shop. If you would like to volunteer or have gifts you think would be good for the gift shop, call 435-587-2156 and talk with Pam Hanson.



Upcoming activities (for a sidebar to the article, if possible):

- Wilderness First Aid Training - March 3-4
- Spring Break Challenge - March 10-31
- Community Easter Egg Hunt - March 31
- Comb Ridge Classic Trail Run - April 13
- Discussing the Complex Human History of Southeastern Utah - April 26
- Conversations on the Natural Development of Utah’s Canyon Country - May 31
- Newspaper Rock Trail Run & Road Race - Oct 14

Radio Club

KZMU has a long and varied history of youth programming. From our youth-led radio programs Shine Time and Tween Time, to past journalistic endeavors through Voices of Youth, we are always thinking of new and better ways to engage and connect with the young people of our community. For the past 3 years, KZMU has produced Youth Rock Camp Moab, a Spring Break Alternative in which kids aged 9 to 15 work with local volunteer musicians. During the 4 days of camp, kids join up, form bands, learn to play instruments, and write a song.

Everything culminates in the final showcase where each band performs for the community. It’s a truly inspiring sight to behold! While this program has proven to be very successful for Moab’s youth, KZMU has decided to put Youth Rock Camp on a one-year hiatus while we work on building the capacity and increasing the sustainability of our youth programming.

In the meantime, we’re thrilled to announce Radio Club! Radio Club is an exciting step in the direction of increasing fortifying KZMU’s youth programming in



a way that benefits Moab’s young people and celebrates radio. For two weeks, KZMU will partner with BEACON after school program, to provide Moab’s youth, aged 11-14, experience in radio broadcasting. As a partnership with BEACON After School Program, Radio Club pairs students from Grand County Middle School with KZMU staff and DJs to learn about the many different facets of radio, from DJing and operating a sound board, to interviewing and Foley. Radio Club will take place at KZMU studios atop Rocky Road in Moab, Utah, March 5th - 16th on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. The two-week immersive program ends with a live broadcast for the community and a listening party at KZMU studios for campers and their parents. Keep it tuned to KZMU for details on the live broadcast.

For more information on Radio Club and other ways to get involved in youth programming at KZMU, contact Serah at (435) 259-8824 or email serah@kzmu.org. And please, if you haven’t already, take a few minutes to fill out our listener survey located online at: www.kzmu.org/survey.



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