TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2012

**Street Smarts bring out the best in us**

By Carrie Dyer

The Nutcracker brings out the best in us

Every month, a number of the recruitment staff is assigned to work with kids. It is an opportunity to showcase recreation programs, provide programs for the interest of the entire family, and to get the kids involved in a way that is fun and educational.

Sally Holley, no doubt, at the front, with her warm smile and general good cheer, “It’s that time of year again.” Having three boys of their own, Sally knew how to engage the audience and get them on their feet.

“Boys, you are never far away from a game, never far away from a competition, never far away from a way to be successful and be proud of yourself. That’s why we have chosen this program for this year’s recreation run.”

We think we can dramatically improve the quality of life for kids who bike to school.

Another way Street Smarts hopes to improve safety is through the installation of the summer, electronic speed boards, like this one shown in front of Birch Lane Elementary, above, are among families who have signed up for the program. A competition is still open for anyone with safety concerns about biking or walking to school.

The possibility of prizes doesn’t hurt either. Thanks to donations from several community businesses, Becker has been able to reward participants with locks, belts, and other bike accessories. The computer system selects winners based on how often the bike is seen in school, or how often it was locked on cold or even warm days.

The kids are really justed about it,” Becker said. “They come in and say, ‘Wow, I hope that many miles.”

Bicycle plans to keep them jazzed by adding more fun activities throughout the school year.

Noting that students come from all over town, Becker said she wants to challenge students from each region to see who can build the longest train of bikes to school — with North, South, East and West Davis all competing against each other. She’d also love to get students from around the city to see who can create the longest train of bikes to school for the transportation grant.

Becker plans to keep them jazzed by adding more fun activities throughout the school year.

Nineteen staff and volunteers are scheduled to man the event at the school, service the bikes, and check and notify students as they arrive at school.

For more information, contact Hartsough at rhartsough@cityofdavis. city or e-mail dawn@active4.me.

With the transportation grant, the Street Smarts program, Chávez is among a number of Davis schools participating in the active4.me program, which encourages students to bike to school by tracking miles logged, gas burned and emissions.

The grand-prize winners will be on display around town in addition to the first-, second- and third-place winners.

Winners of the annual city of Davis Golden Heart Awards ceremony, sponsored by the Davis Improvement Club, will be honored on December 18 at 7 p.m. at the Davis Art Center. To attend the awards ceremony, call the Community Services Department at 530-747-8051 or visit http://www.davisenc.org.

The City of Davis Golden Heart Awards will be on display around town in addition to the first-, second- and third-place winners. Winners of the annual city of Davis Golden Heart Awards ceremony will be honored on December 18 at 7 p.m. at the Davis Art Center.

The community service awards ceremony will be held on December 18 at 7 p.m. at the Davis Art Center, 1919 F St., to honor the Outstanding Foster Parent, Student, Family, Business and Community Members. The awards will be announced at the ceremony, and recipients will be recognized and honored.

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For more information, call the Community Services Department at 530-747-8051 or visit http://www.davisenc.org.

**Street Smarts bike program art is displayed at Art Center**

Winnners of the annual city of Davis children’s bike program art contest will be honored in a cereme on December 18 at 7 p.m. at the Davis Art Center.

For more information, call the Community Services Department at 530-747-8051 or visit http://www.davisenc.org.

As in previous years, this program has seen an increase in riders in grades K-6 to create original artwork. The artwork reflects the importance of proper helmet use, safe riding, service to others and safety driving.

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