



Greenery rakes in the green

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Helping others

Audrey and Owen Gillick of Twentynine Palms gave CMC's foundation \$375 for the charming wreath from their local David Bailey's Auto Repair service but got a free smog check, alignment, in-town tow, a night at the Best Western Gardens Hotel and the Holiday Inn Express and 50 one dollar bills

JOSHUA TREE — The fourth annual Copper Mountain College Foundation Festival of Wreaths raised more than \$10,000 for the foundation and \$500 for The American Cancer Society's Relay For Life Sunday, Nov. 24 in the Bell Center at the college.

The live auction was made possible by 25 of the Basin's nonprofits, businesses, artists and individuals who donated 30 holiday decor creations.

The wreaths and centerpieces were not just lovely to look at, they were loaded with extras like handmade jewelry, wine, treats and generous gift certificates for services like dental work, free advertising, yoga sessions, smog checks and cash.

The top auction earner was the joint entry by Cadiz, Inc. and the Morongo Basin Horseman's Association. The wreath's \$800 price was also a joint contribution by Twentynine Palms benefactors Liz Meyer and Jan Peters. The desert-themed wreath by MBHA's Kim Ortamond included certificates for a private trail ride for two in Joshua Tree National Park with Ortamond, lunch for six at the Cadiz Organic Vineyard and Orchard and a case of Cadiz in-season produce.

The People's Choice winner was the entry by Bob Dunn State Farm Insurance of Yucca Valley. The \$525 wreath included gourd art quilts by Pamela Red Hawk of Pioneertown.

The Relay For Life wreath was created by Cathy Inscore and included four Luminaria bags. Tammy Tremblay, a 14-year cancer survivor from Twentynine Palms, bought the purple and pink festooned wreath for \$300, but donated another \$200 to the cause.

Foundation President Pete Wood noted that the organization provides \$48,000 in scholarships, \$15,000 in Morongo Basin Transportation Authority subsidies, sends honor students and the Speech and Debate

classes to events around the country, is training ambassadors to take refurbished laptop computers to Haiti and is building The Christine Proudfoot Student Activity Center on campus.

“The Foundation helps this college to do great things,” Dr. Roger Wagner, CMC President/Superintendent, agreed from his auctioneer’s podium.

In CMC’s 2013 Accreditation report, the Foundation was commended along with the college for the “significant additions” to the campus facilities and improvements to “spaces dedicated to student learning and student services” and the support technology for them.

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