



Courtesy photo

Xclaimed ministries hosted their 2nd free Revive concert for the community recently. A number of children won free bicycles and every child had a chance to pick out a toy or a piece of sports equipment.

Xclaimed Ministries Gives It Away

Last Saturday, July 25th, 2009, Xclaimed Ministries' held their second free Revive Concert in Stanton Park this summer. This ministry provided a great day for the community and everything was entirely free!

The youth in the area seemed to be the focus as 10 kids won free bicycles and every child present got to pick out a toy or piece of sports equipment. The ten bicycles and over a hundred toys were donated by insurance agents, families in the area, construction companies and the ministry itself. The 5 girls and 5 boys that won the bicycles were heard squealing and laughing with excitement when their names were

drawn for one of the shiny new bikes.

The adults in attendance also won prizes – Oakley sunglasses, Knott's Berry Farm tickets and Adventure City tickets. And everyone present joined in a free lunch – delicious, freshly grilled hamburgers, a bag of chips and an ice-cold drink. Over 320 meals were distributed.

The free concert with the Xclaimed Ministries' Band—who has previously played to 9,000 at the Rose Bowl Stadium—was a favorite and all the children were gathered at the front of the stage singing and dancing.

Xclaimed truly understands that uniting the community is more important than ever. The co-founder of

Xclaimed, Paul Karanick, says "our local families need encouragement in these tough times and we are honored to be able to provide a day of fun for our neighbors." The volunteers that came out to put up the stage, cook the food and assist the crowds were also encouraged.

Paul Karanick promises that there will be more free, family-friendly events in the very near future. He states that "Xclaimed Ministries is committed to making a difference in this area – we are always looking for ways to create positive impact!"

To see what Xclaimed Ministries is planning next, call 714/803-9692 or see their website at <http://www.xclaimed.org/www.xclaimed.org>.

GG begins testing LED street lighting

Garden Grove may be on its way to becoming the first city in California to use high-efficiency, high-tech white LED (light emitting diode) street lighting.

The City is currently testing four, 250-watt LED street lights on Civic Center Drive, at Acacia Parkway. Conversion to LED will be based on testing results and community feedback, with locations added on an as-need basis.

"By switching to LED, Garden Grove will be saving energy, reduc-

ing pollution, and in the long-run, cutting back the overall cost of using and maintaining its street lighting," said Garden Grove Public Works Director Keith Jones.

According to the U.S. Department of Energy, street lighting/traffic signals represent the single largest source of energy use by cities.

White LED products are constructed of 100 percent recycled aluminum, contain no mercury or lead, and do not require hazardous waste disposal handling, as compared to

traditional lighting sources.

The City of Los Angeles is currently testing 100-watt LED products still under development. Garden Grove was one of the first cities in the state to install LED's on traffic signals.

The LED test lights are manufactured by Leotek, and were donated to the City of Garden Grove by South Coast Lighting.

For more information on white LED street lights, please call 714-741-5176.

HOPE:

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I transferred to this Catholic school my sophomore year and enjoyed it from day one. I got involved from the start (a great way to make the high school experience memorable) and joined yearbook and newspaper, which were after school activities at the time.

As with any place, it took a while to make friends but by getting involved it was made easier. I decided midway through the year to put my love of sports to good use and became a statistician for the boys basketball team, which I would remain for my three years of high school.

Becoming involved in athletics brought me even more new chums. We had good times at school dances, doing things high school boys will do (as long as they weren't illegal, which seem to be the way of today's youth sadly.)

As junior year approached, I went

to the welcome back dance opening week. Saw a girl from religion class I hadn't seen all summer, we got to talking, danced a little bit and pretty soon Brian had a girlfriend.

Surprisingly enough, my grades went up with the girlfriend, which my parents were a bit concerned about. We were an item all year, I going to basketball games while she played volleyball. Luckily, she played on different nights so I could see her play.

Sadly, we ended up splitting up over a non-issue. She started bad mouthing me and I countered with some help from my sister, who cleaned her clock one day after school for saying some things.

One guy who graduated in 1983 that lives in Aliso Viejo is coming but I think I am coming the farthest at least that I know of right now. It'll be great, no matter what happens.

That's about it for this week. As always, thanks for listening.

Have a good weekend (I know I will.)

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