

GIVING BACK

Grant allows LGBT senior center to expand

BY NINA RONDA

The Desert Sun
In this weekly feature, The Desert Sun spotlights valley organizations performing good deeds.
Here the focus is on a private foundation donating funds to help members of the senior community.
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Thanks to a \$12,500 grant from the Auen Foundation, The Golden Rainbow Center-SAGE will expand its programs and services focused on the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered senior community.

“We saw the incredible need for a facilitator, and we wanted to help,” explains Catharine Reed, who through the Auen Foundation seeks opportunities to enrich the quality of life for the aging population in the Coachella Valley.
“It takes many people giving what they can to make a difference in the lives of others.
“We believe by supporting the center in this way, it can perpetuate additional volunteer help there, which the center depends on,” Reed added.
The funds will be used to hire a

seasoned, experienced volunteer coordinator to facilitate programs at the center.
Programs provided by the Golden Rainbow Center range from holistic wellness and counseling services to social support activities, with the goal of fostering pride and aging with dignity.
“We are extremely grateful for the gift presented to us by the Auen Foundation,” said Harvey Stern, President of the Golden Rainbow Center.
“Members of the Auen Family are true humanitarians. We are so happy to call them friends in our mission,”

Stern added.
As a member of SAGE (Services and Advocacy for GLBT Elders), the center provides more than 60 programs for the LGBT community, focusing on providing access to health and human services to seniors within that community.
The Golden Rainbow Center is at 700 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way, Palm Springs, CA 92262.
Hours of operation are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, plus evening and weekend programs as announced.

For further information, contact (760) 416-7790 or www.grcps.org.
The Auen Foundation is a private foundation that allocates grants to organizations that operate exclusively for charitable and educational purposes.
The Foundation funds innovative programs designed to enrich the lives of the elderly.
For further information, visit www.auenfoundation.org.

What is your business doing to give back to the Coachella Valley? Share your thoughts with us by e-mailing **Nina Ronda** at nina.ronda@thedesertsun.com for our feature The Business of Giving Back.

Mistrust between business, White House intensifying

U.S. multinational corporations are pleading with the White House to duplicate the “tax holiday” they were afforded in 2004 and 2005, prompting companies to return more than \$400 billion, at a 5.25 percent special rate, generating almost \$25 billion in taxes that would otherwise have been trapped overseas.
JPMorgan Chase’s research department estimates that 30 to 40 percent of the close to \$1 trillion in cash is held by non-financial S&P 500 companies outside of the U.S.
As the economy continues to wallow near its recessionary bottom, the further retention of cash by both publicly-held and private businesses is not being invested in capital spending and expansion.
Much of this is due to the uncertainty generated by the increasing unpopularity of Obama initiatives.
Privately-held businesses, especially, are paring their work forces, due to the fear of galloping taxes and stifling financial regulations, about to befall them after the first of the year.
Despite such inhibiting, much of the overseas cash would return to America’s



morris r. beschloss
global economics

awaiting the shock waves of further restrictions.
The eight largest technology companies together have about \$200 billion in cash, with Cisco, Microsoft, Google, Apple and Oracle topping the list, when financial companies and those with large funding arms, such as GE, are excluded.
Cisco has said that about 80 percent of its \$40 billion cash pile is located overseas and has called for the U.S. Government to loosen taxation rules to enable companies to repatriate cash earned overseas.
But the stubbornness of the Obama administration is manifest in not giving business the opportunity to amass additional cash, even if a substantial segment goes into the U.S. Treasury.
This is further proof positive to the American business community that the mistrust between the administration and America’s business and industry is becoming increasingly intense.
Morris R. Beschloss writes a regular blog on mydesert.com. He can be heard on KPSI Radio 920 AM from 8 to 9 a.m. every Friday. He can also be seen on KESQ Channel 3 and on Time Warner Cable TV Channel 111.

shores, if the 5.25 percent or thereabouts, as opposed to the roughly 30 percent corporate taxes that they are normally charged, would be offered for a limited time period.
Administration apologists dismiss the “tax holiday” idea as another means of fattening the balance sheets of large corporations, without such largesse being generated toward economic recovery, but that is exactly the point.
Health care, financial reregulations and worse yet to come — like card check and cap-and-trade — hermetically seal the vaults of hundreds of thousands of businesses, large and small, that have no intention to spend until demand intensifies; or the Beltway imperium displays a less hostile attitude to a business arena

First impressions inspire custom metal designs

BY KATHY STRONG
Special to The Desert Sun

A home’s entry gate is usually the first thing a visitor notices. It’s that important first impression that pleases and inspires Kurt Jaeger’s custom metal creations at Jaeger Metal Fab & Concept in Indio.
“I have always wanted something with my name on it that I could say, ‘Yes, we did that,’” said Jaeger, who began his business five years ago while working at The Desert Sun in sales and spending weekends at the shop.
After six months, Jaeger said he took the scary plunge to devote himself full-time to the business and used his sales expertise to acquaint local contractors and architects with his custom metal designs.
“It’s been so busy, so much work in the last two years,” he said. “It’s been fantastic. Making a client happy is my greatest satisfaction.”
It wasn’t by chance that Jaeger chose to open a metal fabrication business. His dad was a welder and Jaeger enjoyed metal work as a hobby.
“What we do is fabricate all kinds of metal in all ways possible — from small to large

projects from stainless steel drains to entry gates.”
Jaeger works with architects, designers and contractors, and sometimes with homeowners directly — even doing the design himself.
“I had a customer who needed ornamental mirrors for her home’s bathrooms,” Jaeger said. “We designed them to exactly the size she wanted for her home.”
While most of his work is in the luxury housing market, he is frequently asked to do commercial and city projects.
Jaeger said he wants his customers to be happy. “I’m sensitive that way. If someone does not like (the final product), we will rebuild it. We do nothing less than that.”
QUESTION: How did you choose this business?
I’ve always liked the idea of being responsible for a product, having my name on it and making people happy.
What makes your business unique in the valley?
We do nothing less than what exceeds the client’s expectations. What we do is extraordinary — hard to de-

Jaeger Metal Fab & Concept

Where: 82-680 Showcase Parkway, No. 6, Indio
Hours: 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday and by appointment
Information: (760) 393-7223 or www.custommetalgates.com
scribe.

What would you be doing if you had another career?

I have a passion for off-road cars and the boating industry. I would build either custom boats or off-road vehicles.

How do you enjoy your time away from work?

Everything we do is with our family. We have a motor home, which gives us good family time.

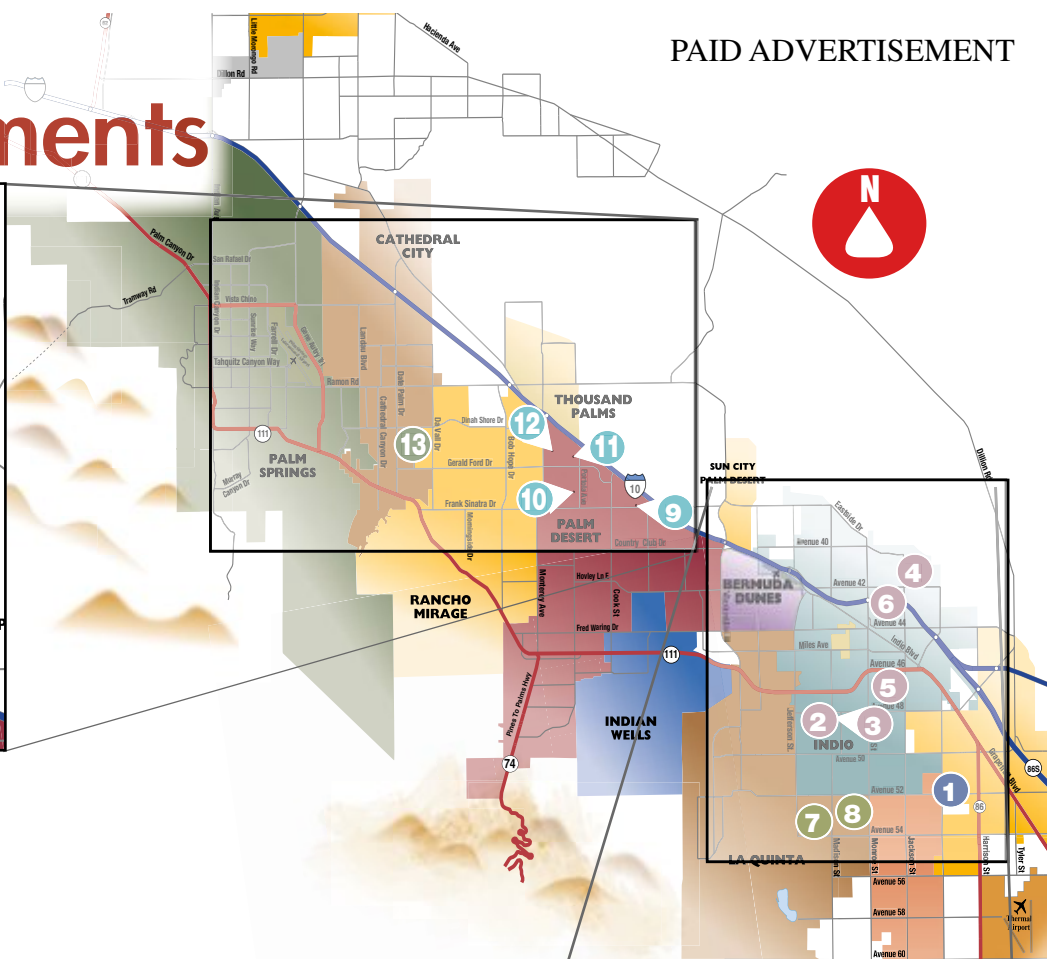
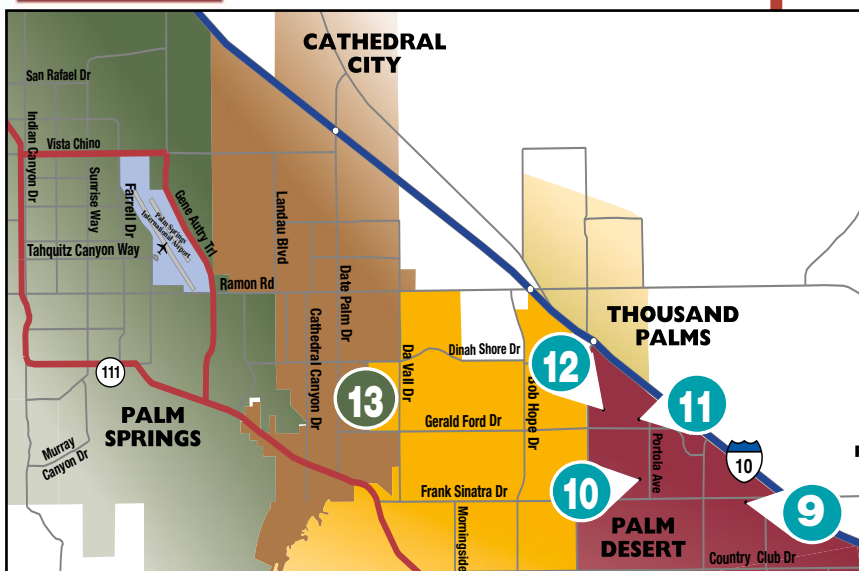
We go to the river or Glamis or maybe camp in Newport Beach.

What do most people not know about you?

I am almost a pilot. I’ve logged 40 hours of flying and just need to take my test and check ride.

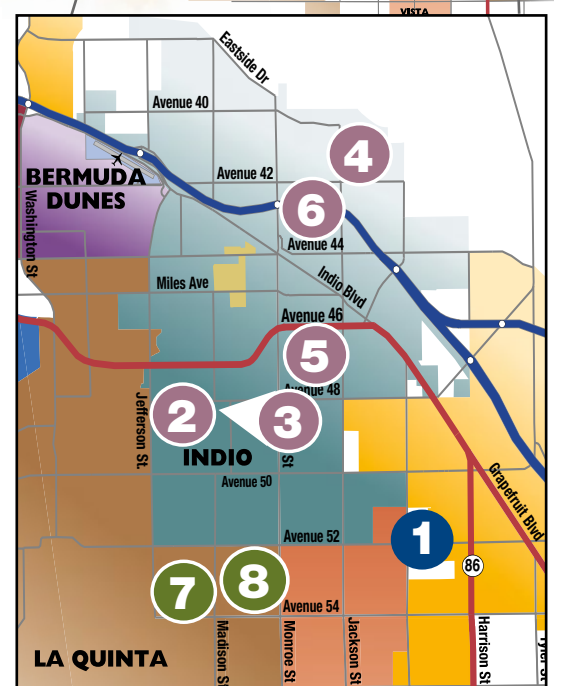
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