

LOCAL



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HOLIDAY SURPRISE

CORONA: Two women are the lucky recipients of gifts from Oprah Winfrey to honor the nation's "local heroes."

BY JENNIFER DEAN
THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE

Two Corona women were lucky recipients of a surprise second and final "Favorite Things" episode on "The Oprah Winfrey Show" on Monday. In her final season of the long-running daytime talk show, Oprah decided to surprise an audience full of "local hero" nominees during the show's taping last Tuesday.

"They totally set us up," said Kristi Camplin, founder and director of Inspire Life Skills Training in Corona.

The first "Favorite Things" episode was filmed while Camplin's group waited and watched. Camplin thought maybe Oprah might do a second "Favorite Things" episode, but soon decided it wasn't going to happen.

"We got in there and there were two chairs set up like she was going to interview," Camplin said. "She told us the topics ... and said, 'Your show will air in January.'"

"A little sigh went through the audience as we realized there was no way it would happen," she said. "Then the snow started falling ... then they opened the real set. I was in a dreamlike state for the next three hours."

Camplin was nominated as a local hero by Laura Janik, a small business owner and member of Soroptimist International of Corona.

Janik saw the request for local heroes on the Oprah website and decided to nominate Camplin, whom she had worked with on several occasions.

"Inspire helps area teens who age out of foster care," Janik said. "Without mentoring and motivation, most former foster youth find themselves homeless, pregnant, on drugs or in jail. Inspire seeks to assist these youth in overcoming their past and gaining the skills and support needed to choose a positive and rewarding future."

Thanks to her nomination, Ja-



STAN LIM/THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE

Family and friends of Kristi Camplin, center, cheer after catching a glimpse of her on Oprah Winfrey's show. Camplin, founder and director of Inspire Life Skills Training, was honored for her work in helping foster youth who have aged out of the system.

GIFT DRIVE

Inspire Life Skills Training is holding its annual gift drive for 18 youth currently in the program.

WHAT: Gift cards or request a gift list

WHEN: Through Dec. 12

CONTACT: Kristi@inspirelifefeskill.org

nik was also invited to attend the show.

"I knew who she was," Camplin said of Janik, "but I didn't really know her. We ended up just seeing a silhouette of the new look."

"It was HUGE," Janik said of the pile of gifts. "We are very, VERY thankful this Thanksgiving."



The big gift was a brand new 2012 Volkswagen Bug.

brand new 2012 Volkswagen Bug — so super secret with its new design, the audience could only see a silhouette of the new look.

"It was HUGE," Janik said of the pile of gifts. "We are very, VERY thankful this Thanksgiving."

Reach Jennifer Dean at 951-368-9336, jdean@PE.com or http://blogs.inlandsofcal.com/moms.



Camplin brings out a bag containing gifts she received from Oprah Winfrey during a viewing party at her parents' home in Corona.

Riverside named among world's most livable cities

SPECIAL TO THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE

The city of Riverside was recognized as one of the world's most livable communities by an international panel of judges at the 2010 International Awards for Livable Communities (LivCom) finals competition held recently in Chicago.

Riverside received a Silver LivCom Award in the competition, which focuses on environmental management and the creation of sustainable cities. The honor places Riverside on the international stage as a leader in the areas of environmental best practices and sustainability.

"Our city has long been recognized across the state of California and the nation as being a leader for our green initiatives," said Riverside Mayor Ron Loveridge. "We are now known around the world for our policies, and our commitments to renewable energy and sustainable living practices."

Launched in 1997 and endorsed by the United Nations Environment Program, the LivCom Awards are the world's only awards competition that focuses on the best procedures regarding management of the local environment and the creation of livable communities. The objective of the annual awards is to encourage best practice, innovation and leadership in providing a vibrant,

environmentally stable community that improves the quality of life.

Riverside was one of eight finalists competing for the Whole City Award (for cities with populations of 200,001-750,000) alongside communities from China, Denmark, South Korea, Ukraine and the United States. Finalists were judged on several categories, including: Enhancement of the Natural and Built Landscapes; Arts, Culture and Heritage; Environmental Best Practices; Community Participation and Empowerment, Healthy Lifestyle; and Strategic Planning.

HOLISTIC APPROACH

Representatives from the city of Riverside shared with the LivCom judges why their city was known as the "City of Arts and Innovation" as a result of its commitments to arts and culture and its achievements reached in those areas, as well as how Riverside takes a holistic approach to environmental management by forming partnerships among community members, government and local businesses.

"It is very gratifying to have our sustainability efforts recognized by such a distinguished panel of experts from around the world," said Riverside Sustainability Officer Michael Bacich. "We are thrilled to have done so well at such a prestigious event."

State group honors city worker

SPECIAL TO THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE

Riverside Human Resources Department employee Steven Espinoza was recognized recently by the California Public Employers' Relations Association with the Moving Forward Award 2010.

The Moving Forward Award was created to recognize innovative leadership.

The award honors organizations and individuals who have had an impact by improving labor relations, resolving disputes, addressing new challenges, or by assisting others in their growth in the profession.

Riverside's Human Resources Department mission centers around improving employee productivity through development of harmonious relationships with employees and employee organiza-

tions.

Espinoza, a three-year city employee, was recognized for his unique leadership in creating partnerships with management and labor groups.

"Steve seems to have that winning combination of skill and finesse that works for employees and management, something he calls 'labor peace,'" said Human Resources Director Rhonda Strout.

According to Espinoza, he refuses to accept the traditional approach to negotiations that labor and management work against each other. With his background as a labor union leader, he learned first-hand how most of labor viewed their role and believes that the target to aim for is not necessarily the "solution," but rather the

manner in which the solution is reached.

IBEW Local 47 business manager Stan Stosel said, "(Espinoza) is constantly looking for win-win solutions to even the most difficult issues and is open to exploring unique and innovative solutions."

According to Mayor Ronald O. Loveridge, "Employees are the cornerstone of our city. Steve deserves this recognition for the innovative manner in which he has guided labor relations during a difficult economic time."

CALPELRA is a professional, nonprofit California association established in 1975, comprised of public sector management representatives responsible for carrying out the labor relations/human resource programs for their jurisdictions

IN BRIEF

NORCO

Remembrance of Pearl Harbor set

The public is invited to a free Pearl Harbor remembrance at 10 a.m. on Dec. 7 at the Lake Norconian Club at 1999 Fourth St. in Norco.

The U.S. Navy band will play at the event. The event's organizer, the Lake Norconian Foundation, is encouraging veterans to attend.

Those who attend must show a photo identification as the event is being held on the grounds of the Naval Surface Warfare Center.

The organizers request an RSVP by Dec. 3. Call 951-734-5081 or visit lakenorconianclub.org.

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Parade of Lights, Winter Festival set

Norco's Horsetown Parade of Lights and Winter Festival will be held at 5 p.m. on Dec. 4.

The non-motorized parade will begin at Sixth Street and Valley View Avenue and continue east to Ingalls Park, where the Winter Festival will be held.

The festival will include live entertainment, food and craft vendors, skating rink, holiday train and photos with Santa Claus.

Anyone who wants to participate should call the city Parks Department at 951-270-5632 or visit www.norco.ca.us.

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RIVERSIDE

Chorale to present 'Classics and Carols'

Riverside Master Chorale is presenting "Classics and Carols" on Dec. 5 at 4 p.m. at the First Congregational Church, 3755 Lem-on St., Riverside.

Tickets can be bought at a discount from Chorale members (pre-sale), or online or at the door (full price). General admission is \$15; seniors and students are \$12.

For information call Cathie Mason, 951-784-3604.

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