

# Firefighters wait tables to benefit children's hospital



IECN PHOTO ANNEMARIE PAXTON

Firefighters from the Loma Linda, Redlands and Colton fire departments raised funds for Loma Linda University Children's Hospital at The Old Spaghetti Factory in Redlands on Tuesday. Fire personnel waited tables and tips collected will be donated. Six-year-old **Kimmie Metcalf**, right, greeted customers as they entered the restaurant and led them to their tables. This exuberant and cheerful little girl is a patient at LLUCH and suffers from a very rare form of leukemia; on Tuesday she was the face of all the other little patients at the hospital. Pictured from Redlands Fire are, from left, **Damonion Pelonis**, **Shawn Corbett** and **Captain Mike Howard**.

## By Annemarie Paxton

Donning a bright red firefighter helmet, six-year-old **Kimmie Metcalf** plays hostess for a day at The Old Spaghetti Factory in Redlands on Tuesday and cheerfully greets customers as they entered the lobby area and takes them to their table. For the younger patrons like herself, Kimmie has plenty of miniature firefighter helmets to hand out.

Her spirited, exuberant demeanor belies the somber fact that she suffers from a very rare form of mixed phenotype leukemia: ALL and MLL. Kimmie, who was diagnosed at four, is a patient at

Loma Linda University Children's Hospital and on Tuesday lent a face to all the other little patients there.

Tuesday was the inaugural Tip-a-Firefighter event that was a trifold collaboration between LLUCH, local fire departments, and The Old Spaghetti Factory. Firefighters waited on tables and all the tips collected will be donated to LLUCH.

Roughly 15 fire personnel from the Loma Linda, Redlands and Colton fire departments participated in the event.

"Anything we can do to help the local community we are eager to do so," said Ron Pestner, The Old Spaghetti Factory Regional Dis-

trict Manager for Southern California. "This is a great way to introduce ourselves to the community."

What was already a great cause in raising funds for LLUCH was underlined by Kimmie, Pestner added. "She really brings it home."

Firefighters from the Redlands Police Department were on duty and ready to respond during the event with their rig parked on the side of the building.

"This is a good donation to a good organization," said Loma Linda Firefighter Josh Maldonado, whose family was one of many who showed their support by dining at the restaurant.



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Loma Linda Firefighter **Josh Maldonado** was the designated host during the Loma Linda University Children's Hospital fundraising event at The Old Spaghetti Factory.

## LLU School of Dentistry provides free limited dental care to community at "Clinic With a Heart"

Loma Linda University School of Dentistry's 22nd Clinic With A Heart will provide free limited dental care to the community on Sunday, January 22, 2012.

Registration will start at 6:30 a.m. and end when all patient care times are filled. The event will be held at Loma Linda University School of Dentistry, 11092 Anderson St., Loma Linda, Calif. 92350.

A limited number of patients will be seen on a first come, first serve basis. Procedures provided may be a cleaning, a filling, or an extraction.

No crowns, root canals, or dentures will be performed. Children under 18 will not be treated without an accompanying parent or legal guardian who must remain with the child the entire time care is being provided. For directions or more information, please call (909) 558-4551.



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The Loma Linda Fire Department rig was parked in front of The Old Spaghetti Factory on Tuesday while firefighters waited tables and donated their earned tips to LLUCH.

## Veterans sought for no-cost job training

The San Bernardino County Workforce Investment Board is seeking 50 veterans discharged from the military during the last four years to participate in free job training programs for local green industries.

"With unemployment still far too high, this program can help our veterans who have recently left the service make the transition to civilian employment," said First District Supervisor Brad Mitzelfelt, who served as a U.S. Marine during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. "We encourage veterans to contact one of the County's Employment Resource Centers for more information as soon as possible because the program has a narrow window to apply."

The deadline for veterans to complete their no-cost training and obtain a job certification is March 31,

2012. The program is open to a total of 100 veterans, with 50 of those openings reserved for veterans who separated from the military in the past 48 months. Openings for the recently discharged veterans are still available.

The training programs will teach the skills needed for green jobs available with local employers. Green industries include solar panel maintenance and installation, sustainable and recycled products manufacturing, transportation and logistics using alternative fuels and hundreds of other industries according to the grant.

Participants can enter training certificate courses paid for by the grant, or On-the-Job Training, where a portion of their wages are reimbursed while they train on the job. Welding and HVAC certification courses are currently being launched. Other training courses will be determined based upon the

job interests of the participants. Post-training job placement assistance is also available.

Interested veterans may apply through their local San Bernardino County One-Stop Employment Resource Centers located in Hesperia, Rancho Cucamonga or San Bernardino. Accepting training paid for by this federal grant funding does not affect a veteran's G.I. Bill.

One of the programs developed is at Barstow Community College to train veterans as industrial maintenance mechanics with the necessary skills to work at the expanding Molycorp mine. That program also has openings.

To find the location of the nearest San Bernardino County One-Stop Employment Resource Center, call: 1 (800) 451-JOBS or visit: <http://www.sbcounty.gov/csbwin/wia.htm>.

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