

Media Advisory

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Teens riding unicycles 35 miles from Anthem to Phoenix for St. Vincent de Paul program

PHOENIX — Boulder Creek High School students Dan Pitts and Danny Cox are not old enough to drive, so they ride unicycles. And on Saturday, Feb. 22, the two friends are riding their unicycles 35 miles to raise funds and awareness for St. Vincent de Paul's Shifting Gears program. The teens are departing Cross of Christ Church, 39808 N. Gavilan Peak Parkway, Anthem, AZ, at 9:30 a.m. and are expected to arrive at St. Vincent de Paul, 420 W. Watkins Road, Phoenix, at 2 p.m.

“They want to do a challenging long-distance ride to draw awareness to the challenges that the needy face every day,” said Matt Molinari, Director of Christian Education at Cross of Christ Church. “They are very ambitious teens so they wanted to show the world that you can make a difference by contributing just a little bit of time. The teens have ridden the unicycles about 20 miles, but they never rode them this distance.”

St. Vincent de Paul's Shifting Gears is a mentoring program for low-income youth. Students attend a workshop for six or more sessions to learn basic bike repair skills from adult volunteer supervisors. Students also attend a bike safety workshop. At the end of the program, participants may take home one of the bikes they've fixed. They are also provided with a helmet, lock and headlight. Additional bikes that students repair are given to clients of the Ministry to the Homeless to assist them in employment transportation.

Who: Boulder Creek High School students Dan Pitts and Danny Cox

What: Riding unicycles 35 miles to raise funds and awareness for SVdP bicycle program

When: Sunday, Feb. 22, 2009 from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Where: Leaving Cross of Christ Church, 39808 N. Gavilan Peak Parkway, Anthem, and riding through anthem and Phoenix to St. Vincent de Paul, 420 W. Watkins Road, Phoenix.

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The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is a non-profit organization, dedicated to serving the poor and providing others with the opportunity to serve. Programs include services for the homeless, medical/dental care for the working poor, five charity dining rooms, seven thrift stores, a transitional housing shelter and general assistance for individuals in need.