



COLLEGE OF THE
CANYONS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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'Bikes & Bites' Invites Riders to Explore Canyon Country Community

In May, the College of the Canyons Canyon Country campus, with support from the City of Santa Clarita, will host a community fun ride and food festival designed to inspire local cycling enthusiasts to get back on the bike and explore the Canyon Country community.

Bikes and Bites: A Canyon Country Campus Food Fest and Fun Ride will be held Saturday, May 14, in anticipation of the upcoming Amgen Tour of California -- particularly the race's Stage 8 start, being held in Santa Clarita on May 22.

The Bikes and Bites event will begin at approximately 9 a.m. with an 8.5-mile "bike" ride from the Canyon Country campus to nearby Discovery Park, and back to campus. After the ride, all participants and community members will be invited onto campus for a few "bites" during the post-ride food festival, beginning at approximately 11:30 a.m.

Including gourmet food trucks, campus activities, college and event sponsor vendor booths and a variety of prizes and giveaways, the festival will also provide those community members who have yet to see the Canyon Country campus an opportunity to experience it for the first time.

"Cycling is a great way to enjoy our community and support a healthy, active lifestyle," said Dr. Dena Maloney, vice president of the Canyon Country campus and Economic Development. "We have offered a mountain biking class at the campus in the past, so this event seemed to be a natural fit with our outreach efforts.

"A fun ride and food fest is the perfect way to spend a beautiful Saturday in Canyon Country," added Maloney.

The Bikes and Bites fun ride is open to all cyclists and community members aged 12 and older. All riders must wear a helmet and observe common road safety regulations during the ride.

Attendance to the post-ride food festival portion of the event is free, with individual food trucks making their products available for sale. However, to participate in the cycling aspect of the event riders will need to register in advance and pay the associated registration fee:

- Single Rider -- \$25
- Youth Rider (age 12 or above) -- \$10
- Group Rider (group of four or more) -- \$20 per rider

Event organizers are actively pursuing sponsorships from Santa Clarita Valley businesses and institutions and welcome the support of organizations wishing to get involved.

Sponsor support will be directed to the Canyon Country Campus Scholarship Fund, which will provide increased educational opportunities for students and community members of all ages.

Net proceeds from the registration fees will be directed toward Canyon Country campus improvement projects.

"Participating in Bikes & Bites is a great way for the entire family to begin an active weekend, taste some gourmet foods and experience the Canyon Country campus," said Ryan Theule, Assistant Dean of Student Services at the Canyon Country campus.

For more information about Bikes and Bites: A Canyon Country Campus Food Fest and Fun Ride, or to register to ride in the event, visit www.canyons.edu/Offices/CCC/bikesandbites.asp.

College of the Canyons

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