

Daily Courier

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Students perform 'day of service' in honor of former city councilor

By Ruth Longoria Kingsland
of the Daily Courier

CAVE JUNCTION — When the City Council meets Monday night, the council is sure to get an earful about all the good work done this past Friday by local young people, in honor of the second annual Dan Fiske Day of Service.

More than 100 students spent part of the day Friday working at local businesses, helping out however they could in a way to make a difference and honor Fiske, a former member of the Cave Junction City Council who died in 2013.

Fiske's spirit of community and volunteerism will live long after him, according to Skyla Patton, the 17-year-old Illinois Valley High School senior who organized this year's Dan Fiske Day of Service.

"He was just a really good guy, and I think, or I hope, the Day of Service would make him proud," she said.

Patton told the Daily Courier she was very close to Fiske, as he volunteered for many activities at the high school and always did whatever he could to help students, including "adopting" kids and letting them stay at his home if they didn't have anywhere else to go.

Patton organized this year's event as a project with the Josephine County Foundation, and she presented at last

In a nutshell

- **WHAT:** Cave Junction City Council meeting.
- **WHEN:** 7 p.m. Monday.
- **WHERE:** City Hall, 222 W. Lister St., Cave Junction.
- **ON THE AGENDA:** Dan Fiske Day of Service report, discussion of sheriff's contract and park property purchase.

month's City Council meeting, so councilors knew in advance about the event. She also helped lead last year's Day of Service, when students from Illinois Valley and Hidden Valley high schools worked together to create trails at Illinois River Forks State Park.

This year, IVHS students were joined by students from Lorna Byrne Middle School's leadership class to work at five local businesses.

One of those locations was at Rusk Ranch Nature Center,

where executive director Patty Downing said the students were a big help.

"They helped with putting up fencing and raking, and all kinds of maintenance, things that help us out so much," she said, adding that at the end of their time at the center she was able to give the youths a brief tour and view of the butterflies, which are a major attraction there.

"The Day of Service is such a great thing," Downing said. "It's great and very cool."

In addition to a report on the Day of Service, the City Council's agenda Monday include: policy discussion of the sheriff contract and park property purchase; and a zoning violation of a recreational vehicle on Stage Stop Drive.

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