

'5th Quarter' activities to follow home games

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High school students and their families are encouraged to stay after home football games to enjoy "5th Quarter" activities. Music and snacks will be provided immediately following the Homecoming game until 11 p.m. Oct. 5 at Sullivan Field.

"Come shoot hoops, kick up your heels or just hang with your friends," said Sharon Stover, Juvenile Justice Advisory Board (JJAB) coordinator. JJAB and the Family YMCA are sponsoring 5th Quarter activities.

"This is something that allows young people to socialize in a safe environment following the games," Family YMCA Executive Director Linda Daly said.

Future 5th Quarter activities also will be held until 11 p.m. immediately following home games Oct. 12 and Nov. 9 in Griffith Gym at Los Alamos High School.

Food and music for the 5th Quarter activities is provided by Kim's Katering + DJ.

For information, contact Kim McCormick at 412-3109 or www.losalamosjjab.com.

JJAB was established by resolutions of the Los Alamos County Council and Los Alamos School Board in May 2004 and provides prevention type programs and activities for area youth.

Programs and services for youth and families for the 2007-08 school year include 40 Developmental Assets, Alcohol and Substance Abuse Issues, CAG Dances, Chronic Tardy, EYF for Boys, Family Solutions, Girls Circle, Juntos, Juvenile Delinquency, Natural Helper Training, Open Gym, Parent to Parent, r.a.d. Kids, Restorative Justice, Safe Haven, Summer Teens, Teen Court, Truancy, Underage Drinking and Youth Leadership programs.

The board has forged collaborative efforts among various sectors in the community including, business, senior population, county government, schools, medical, and youth. Three youth members serve positions on the board.

JJAB meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:15 p.m. in the district boardroom at 651 Trinity. The public is welcome to attend.

The Family YMCA has served the Los Alamos and surrounding communities since 1955. Thanks to the United Way of Northern New Mexico/Los Alamos and other contributors, the YMCA can offer scholarships to ensure no one is turned away because of an inability to pay.

Some of the youth-oriented programs offered by the non-profit organization include Y Earth Service Corps, which is a combination of volunteer service, environmental education and work experience in a program that focuses on trail improvement, landscaping, and watershed restoration.

The Y Earth Service Corps is supervised and includes CPR and First Aid certification, training and safety seminars, and educational and enrichment workshops for youth ages 11 and up.

The YMCA's Leader-In-Training summer camp program for older youth emphasizes positive life and leadership skills in service learning, self-discovery venue. LITs explore creativity, effective communication, teamwork, goal setting, planning, implementation practices, decision-making, relationship-building strategies, conflict resolution and problem solving.

The Counselor-In-Training program incorporates practical, applied volunteer work at the YMCA Day Camp under the supervision of a trained adult. Participants choose a work schedule of full or half days. Participants are eligible for Presidential Service recognition. A strong work ethic is required for this program.

Senior Appreciation Night is a program in which the YMCA has partnered with numerous organizations for more than 20 years to host a drug-free graduation celebration.