

WEDNESDAY CALENDAR

'SnowDay' at Cal State SB

The Associated Students at Cal State San Bernardino will host a "SnowDay" from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on campus. The event will include a performance by "America's Got Talent" finalists Recycled Percussion.

Admission is free.

Information: 909-537-3932.

Rock out in Redland:

Archaeologist George E. Kilron "Making Rock Art Person" Bernardino County Museum Lane, Redlands.

Admission is free.

Information: 909-307-2669,
www.sbcountymuseum.org.

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Reforms urged

Speaker faults state tax setup

By Andrew Edwards
Staff Writer

SAN BERNARDINO — California's government agencies and nonprofits may be mired in fiscal problems for a long time in the absence of substantive reforms to the state's tax structure, educators and nonprofit leaders said at a meeting Tuesday.

The Time for Change Foundation, a San Bernardino nonprofit that runs homeless shelters and assists former inmates, hosted the meeting at the Feldheym Central Library.

The day's speakers included nonprofit consultant Kim Klein, Cal State San Bernardino provost Andrew R. Bodman and Police Chief Keith Kilmer.

Klein contended near the start of the meeting that California's tax structure — which requires legislative supermajorities to increase taxes and includes Proposition 13's formula to limit property taxes — hampers public services.

"You can tell exactly what a community stands for by its tax structure," Klein said.



LaFonzo Carter Staff Photographer

San Bernardino Police Chief Keith Kilmer was one of the speakers at the Time For Change Foundation meeting Tuesday at the Feldheym Central Library in San Bernardino.

The Golden State's policies have resulted in "lots of prisoners, lots of pollution (and) lots of poor people," she added.

Klein contended California needs to allow legislators to pass new taxes by a simple majority and amend the Proposition 13 system to continue tax protections for homeowners but make it easier for the state to increase levies for properties owned by businesses.

She said voters should reject candidates who pledge to never raise taxes.

California's conservatives

often contend the state's fiscal woes are the result of Sacramento spending too much and raising taxes to the point businesses leave.

Cal State San Bernardino's provost said he was worried that access to higher education is diminishing.

Kilmer expressed concern that recent reductions in crime could tempt policymakers to trim police forces.

"We can't sacrifice public safety," he said.

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