



RKC Reporter

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Blood Donations Target of Drive 1

After School Funding in Jeopardy 1

June SOAP Report : Muscatel Builders World in Flight 2

BLOOD DONORS NEEDED TO ADDRESS CRITICAL SHORTAGE

California Mission Inn is hosting a blood donation center on Thursday, June 29, 2006. It is being done in association with the Rosemead Chamber of Commerce and Rosemead Kiwanis, utilizing the Mission Inn's chapel from 2:00 PM to 8:00 PM. The main entrance to the Inn is at 8417 Mission in Rosemead; there is also access from the eastern side of the campus at 4807 Earle.

Just how critical is this effort? How important is it to Rosemead residents?

The answer is, very crucial!

Los Angeles, not unlike other big cities, uses more blood than local residents donate. The area, according to a newsletter produced by Jim Leherer of the *PBS Newshour*, presently imports more than 45

percent of its supply from Red Cross blood banks around the country.

Part of the problem is ethnically based. A February, 2006, report (presented to the Los Angeles Community College Board as part of a presentation advocating student blood donor contributions) contained a startling cultural statement: **(See "Blood," p. 3)**

VOTER-MANDATED AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM FUNDING IMPERILED

California has a voter-mandated after-school program, passed in 2002. It is commonly called Proposition 49. Its 2006-2007 funding is now jeopardized in Sacramento.

According to the California School Age Consortium, unless two key actions occur, funding will not be available in time for the 2006-2007 school year.

The key triggers for passage are the following:

- The Assembly Appropriations Committee must report the bill out at its June 28 meeting, and
- The Speaker of the Assembly must get the bill to a floor vote by July 7.

As things stood on June 13, 2006, the Committee hearing is not scheduled until August. This, points out the Consortium, is too late for Districts to use in the upcoming school year.

PROPOSITION 49 BACKGROUND

Voters in 2002 passed Proposition 49, the **(See "School," p. 2)**

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'Since 1945'

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RKC SOAP REPORT – June, 2006

(SOAP = "Supported Organizations and Projects" of the Rosemead Kiwanis Club; for information on K-family groups mentioned here please see links on the right side of the rosemeadkiwanis.org website home page)

MUSCATEL BUILDERS HOST INTERCLUB

The Muscatel Builder's Club hosted a meeting of the Rosemead Kiwanis Club on Thursday, June 8, 2006. The meeting featured initiation of Rosemead School Board member Linda Clark Molina into the Kiwanis Club and a review of Builders Club activities for the past year. Club mem-

bers were asked by Club Advisor Reynita Amador to describe the activities in which they had participated and name their favorites. Among the activities listed were:

- Watershed restoration in the Angeles National Forest
- Dinsmore House Tea Party
- Saturday teamwork

meetings

- People to People Pancake Breakfast
- Rosemead Recreation Dept. Holiday Gift Distribution
- RHS Key Club Officer Training Session
- Operation of Muscatel Student Store

- Orphanage Easter Basket
- Valley Blvd trash sweep

WORLD OF FLIGHT IN ROSEMEAD

Ian Pappas was a remarkable young man, his life tragically cut short in a carjacking involving five youths with nothing better to *(see "Flight" on p. 4)*

("School," from p. 1)

"After School Education and Safety Act," with a 56.7% margin. According to Internet sources, it marked the first political success for then-actor Arnold Schwarzenegger.

The Act had four main provisions:

- Increasing state grant funds available for before/after school programs, providing tutoring, homework assistance, and educational enrichment.
- Making every public middle/junior high and elementary school, including charter schools, eligible for after

school grants ranging from \$50,000–\$75,000 with a local funding match requirement.

- Providing priority for additional funding to schools having predominantly low-income students (which includes all Rosemead schools).
- Requiring that, beginning 2004–05, new funding for before/after school programs not be taken from education funding which was guaranteed under Proposition 98.

The act gives priority to schools already receiving grants; it requires in-

creasing expenditures only if state revenues grow.

In March, 2006 now-Governor Schwarzenegger hosted an after school summit directed at implementing the program. There he reaffirmed his support for the program.

"We all know that from 3 o'clock to 6 o'clock is the danger zone for kids. It's when they're often unsupervised," said the Governor. "It's when they can get into all kinds of trouble with gangs and drugs if no one is paying attention to them.

"Proposition 49, which puts more

than \$400 million into our after-school programs, will save kids. It does that by offering kids guidance and something positive to do after school. Proposition 49 can give kids hope for a brighter future because it is a known fact that after-school programs help kids do better work in the classroom."

Rosemead Kiwanis, of course, is deeply involved in facilitating our area's after school programs. More are hoped for in 2006-07.

The Coalition is urging contacts with the legislators involved to make sure the present apparent legislative logjam is broken and the 2002 law obeyed.

“Blood type varies by ethnicity and because only about one percent of Southern California Asian Americans, African Americans, and Latinos donate blood, there is a mismatch between the blood that is collected in Southern California and the blood that is needed for California’s large and diverse population.”

By contrast, five percent of the United States adult population donates blood.

In the past, donations from rural areas have made up for most shortfalls. But now nearly every region is short, and other areas have to take care of their own needs first. This is putting Los Angeles residents at major risk in case of disaster and making life difficult even in normal times.

Dr. Emmanuel Ferro, who runs the blood bank for Long Beach Memorial Hospital (one of 150 in Los Angeles County using the Red Cross as their source) states

“We are literally a car wreck away from having no blood on our shelves. Support traumas can sometimes take, 10, 20, 30 units just for one trauma, and we don't have that on the shelves to support a trauma.

“So we're really at risk for a trauma or series of traumas to sort of wipe us out and then leave us without blood for other patients that may need blood.”

Many other factors contribute to the shortage. According to the Newshour report they include:

AIDS related fears

– today’s 5% national donation rate used to be much higher, but donorship has fallen off, in large part due to unfounded concerns that people can contract AIDS by giving blood.

New applications

- Medical researchers are constantly coming up with new approaches to solving difficult problems.

These include: cancer, liver transplantation, ever more complicated surgeries, caring for little babies in neonatal intensive care units, microsurgery, and other procedures.

All these new procedures call for blood, making the declining donation problem worse. They add to the uses people think about, such as an accident on the roadway or routine elective surgical operations.

Demographics

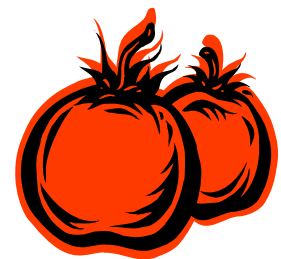
- Bernadine Healy, i President of the American National Red Cross, says demand will continue to grow because the population is aging, and doctors are using more blood in ever more high-tech procedures. However, she notes, only 50% of blood use is in surgery.

(To “Blood,” p. 4)

KIWANIS AREA CLUB MEETINGS

There are regular meetings of other Kiwanis clubs in our area, including those listed below. For current information see our Rosemead Kiwanis website under 'Meetings' at RosemeadKiwanis.org.

- Alhambra
- Altadena/Crown City
- El Monte
- Montebello
- Monterey Park
- Pasadena
- Pico Rivera
- San Gabriel
- San Marino
- Sierra Madre
- South El Monte
- South Pasadena
- Temple City



(From “Blood”, p. 3)

Hectic life style -

For 75 percent of married couples, both of them work. People have much less free time and say "I just don't have time to give blood."

Exclusions -- Large numbers are not permitted to give blood – stroke patients, those over a certain age, those who have traveled to certain parts of the world etc., to list just a few.

Things are not yet so bad that doctors are having to deny blood to patients in life and death situations – but numerous times it has gotten perilously close. Some specifics: Blood shelf life is only 42 days; and in some slack periods inventories have dropped to as low as 14 days, including February of 2006.

Surgeons in some facilities compare notes with blood bank coordinators as often as four times a day to check availability. Elective surgeries have been delayed at times for lack of adequate supply, most notably this past February at the County/US Medical Center.

Sickle cell anemia patients who require two units a month have been told they can only have one on their scheduled appointment – they’re informed that they’ll be called when another becomes available!

To compensate, says Bearden of the News-hour, "Many surgeons have tried to find ways to conserve blood. One way is to use this machine called a cell saver. It collects the

patient's blood from the operating field, processes it, and returns it to the body's system."

But conservation measures do not compensate for inadequate donations.

What is needed is ongoing and regular donations, which means ongoing public awareness education.

The June 29 donation center at Mission Inn (and this article) are part of what must be a sustained effort in this area.

To schedule an appointment for the June 29, 2006, donation effort please call 626-287-0438 or log onto the web at www.givelife.org & enter sponsor code: CMI

**.KIWANIS
'We Build'**

**Over the years
Kiwanis themes
have included:**

- **Business mutual aid**
- **Young Children**
- **Education**
- **Spiritual Development**
- **Economic Education**
- **Community Health and Recreation**
- **Developmentally Challenged**
- **Parent Education**

'Helping and changing the world—one person and one community at a time'

(“Flight” - from p. 2)

do. His mother, Kahneta Banforde, a sales executive with Boeing, discovered the boy's latch-key history and determined to prevent such incidents from happening again.

She formed a foundation in his name and established with NASA and JPL a hands on after school program called "World of Flight," which

was presented earlier this year at Rosemead's Sanchez School. It uses aviation as a springboard to teach elements of history, math, social studies, science, government, economics and geography over several weeks. 33 students participated.

On Thursday May 28, 2006, the program was

presented in summary form to the regular Rosemead Kiwanis meeting.

Members learned how the program at the elementary level tries to address the national deficit of science and engineering students by developing interest in the underlying related academic disciplines.