

May 1, 2007

Kiwanis One Day and Community Service

As reported by Dr. Michael Tanaka, D.D.S.



Kiwanis Team Up with Dentists to do Dental Screenings

Kindergartners of the West Covina Unified School District had free dental screenings at their schools during the month of April.

These screenings were part of a statewide effort to assess the dental health of five-year old children. So far this year approximately 6,000 kindergartners in the San Gabriel Valley have had their teeth screened by volunteer dentists of the San Gabriel Valley Dental Society. "Early reports indicate that one out of three children in our Valley have a least one cavity" stated SGVDS Executive Director Shirley Ferguson,

Community volunteers were helping out too. Members of the South Hills Kiwanis Club of Covina and their spouses acted as recording secretaries for the dentists as part of their Kiwanis One Day Service Project.

SGVDS President Dr. Emad Ammar stated, "It is important to remind



A Team of Six. Bruce Schutte DDS, Mrs. Irene Parker of Kiwanis, Mrs. Lea Stueve and Mrs. Sharon Allen of WCUSD, Kent Payne DDS, and Dr. Elton Chatfield of Kiwanis screened the kindergartners at Vine Elementary School."

parents to choose good snack foods like apples and carrots for their children, to have their children brush their teeth twice a day, and to have their children visit their dentist twice a year. Cookies, candy and other sugary treats are okay once in a while; but brushing immediately afterwards is highly recommended. If a toothbrush is not convenient, then we recommend swishing and swallowing with water."

In addition to the free dental screening, each child received a free toothbrush and tube of toothpaste.