

## **Kiwanis One Day Project – Sierra Madre Club** by Pat Birdsall

For its One Day Project the Kiwanis Club of Sierra Madre chose to spruce up the



exterior of the Foothill Unity Center in nearby Monrovia. Foothill Unity has been providing help to low income families and the homeless in the San Gabriel Valley for 25 years. That help includes, but is not limited to: a Family Food Program that provides enough food to supplement a family for seven to ten days. (they gave out over 3 million pounds of food last year alone); a



Bag Lunch Program for the homeless; Crisis Management and help for victims of domestic violence; A Children's After-School Snack Program; A Back-To-School Distribution Program, and an HIV/AIDS Program. Foothill Unity Center is supported by local businesses, churches, service clubs, schools, legislators, synagogues, temples, and individuals, making its existence a true community effort.

While they work selflessly to help others, beautifying their own surroundings is not foremost in their minds. That's where our Kiwanis Club stepped in. On Tuesday, April 7, at 11:00 am, 10 members of our club got busy. President Harriett Lyle, Susan Henderson, George Maurer, Joe Pergola, David Pedroza, Marc Van Cleave, De Alcorn, Ann Luke, Maury Whitaker, and Pat Birdsall.



We washed the large front windows inside and out, pulled lots of weeds and planted pretty marigolds and day lilies in their stead, pruned a forlorn looking palm tree, refurbished the lettering on their sign, and repaired lattice around the handicapped access deck. It took close to three hours to accomplish our tasks.

Time for lunch... We brought box lunches for everyone, and we all enjoyed the good food, relaxation and camaraderie while basking in the satisfaction that doing something for others gives. We think our efforts will brighten the working environment and the spirits of those who do such good things for others as well as those of the people whose lives they enrich.

