



Family Times

The mission of the YMCA is to put Christian Principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind and body for all.

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Winter 2007-2008



WE BUILD STRONG KIDS, STRONG FAMILIES, STRONG COMMUNITIES

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Inside the Y Family

In this Winter Edition, you will find information on field trips, special activities the children participated in, announcements, and upcoming events.

In September we introduced YMCA Youth & Government to High School students. See page 2 for further details.

YMCA Administrative offices will open in January 08'

Officer Byrd came to speak to the children about safety, and strangers. This year the Commu-

nity Center assisted Home Gardens Fire Department and conducted a Toy Drive on December 22.

The YMCA would like to welcome the following individuals to our organization: Rocio Ortiz who will be working at our Home Gardens facility, Leticia Hernandez, Lucero Mejia and Carmen Evans-Campos who will work at State Preschool, and Pramida Donhnithi who will be in Ira's Preschool at the Main YMCA.

Happy Birthday to the following staff: Lina, Louisa, Rosa, Yessenia, Amanda, Lucero, Leticia, Paulina, Shirley, Bertha, Theresa, Wendy, Treena, Yolanda, Lorena and



State Preschool Family enjoying a ride aboard the City Trolley.

Emi-leen.

The Y Board Member Spotlight is on Jeff Miller



Jeff Miller,
Y Board Member Since 1999

Jeff Miller has been an active member of the Y for over 8 years. As a member of the board Mr. Miller was part of Playground and Water Wall committee. Mr. Miller served on the Corona Parks Commission for three years and wanted to join the Y to help expand opportunities for young children and families.

When asked what prompted him to get actively involved with the YMCA Mr. Miller stated, "he wanted to service his community

and make it a better place to live." His profession is, Husband, Father and Insurance Agent. He also serves as the Mayor of Corona. He further states, it is Yolanda's passion and commitment to make sure our kids have every opportunity to learn and better themselves. His advice to young people who are interested in starting their own business he states, "Find a mentor that you can trust."

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Save These Dates:

- 1/1/08—YMCA Closed
- 1/3/08—Valentines Traveling Nature's class at the Main YMCA
- 1/18-21 —Y&G attend Camp Roberts
- 1/21/08— Non-student day
- 2/5/08— Election Day
- 2/11/08—Non-student Day
- 2/14-18— Y&G visit State Capitol
- 2/28-3/2— Adventure Guides attend Winter Camp
- 3/15/08— Adventure Guides Easter Party

YMCA Community Center Starts Cooking and Dance Classes

The cooking class is to teach teens responsibility. They enjoy being independent, learning to cook, and making the foods they love to eat. The smiles are a reflection of the fun and enjoyment they are having. The laughter can be heard for miles. It is one of the many fun activities we do, and the kids look forward to it every time we do this activity.

Dance class is another fun activity. The teens do this every week. They learn how they can exercise for their health and have fun too! The teens enjoy it so much. They are always joking around and keeping their spirits up.



Teens enjoying a moment of cooking at the teen center.



The weekly dance class at the teen center being enjoyed by several of the teens.

State & General Preschool Activities



State and General Preschool students visiting the Naval Surface Warfare Center in Norco.

On December 11th, State and General Preschool visited the Naval Surface Warfare Center in Norco. Approximately ninety two (92) children, eight (8) staff, and nine (9) volunteers had the privilege of enjoying a wonderful horse sleigh ride, face painting and many other entertaining activities. The children enjoyed taking pictures with Mr. & Mrs. Clause. The children had lunch and plenty of healthy snacks. At the end, each child walked away with an enormous red bag full of Christmas gifts. Everyone had a fantastic, jolly time. We are looking forward to continue this great tradition.



State Preschool students enjoying their afternoon snack.

YMCA Youth & Government



Corona-Norco Family YMCA Delegation went on their first trip to Y&G Camp Roberts (BOB 1) in November 2007. The conference was a mind-blowing experience for the delegates, as well as, for the advisors. BOB 1 began with an opening ceremony introducing all the delegations attending. There were a total of 2400 kids from all over the state of California. This year was the first time Y&G aloud freshmen to attend. There were a total of ten freshmen attending in the whole conference, and one of the ten was from our delegation. The delegates attended committees throughout the weekend debating on bills. After a hard day of debating the kids were given free time by having a dance with a 1970's theme. The best part of the camp was waking up to different chanting and echoing through out the camp. The weekend ended with an election where one member introduced their delegation and then gave their vote. Our brave freshman delegate went in front of 2400 kids and introduced us as the "Corona-Norco Family YMCA, home of the Fender Guitar and Horse Town USA."

Adventure Guides



In October, the Adventure Guides went to Camp Emerson in Idyllwild, CA. The moms and daughters snuggled together as the temperatures fell into the 20's. They were busy celebrating the holidays with bobbing for apples and decorating pumpkins in October, a traditional Thanksgiving feast in November, and an evening of holiday music, decorating sugar cookies, snowman crafts, and a wonderful potluck dinner for December. Some of the community service projects they have been working on include a canned food drive for the local shelter, Thanksgiving dinner baskets for local families, household items for the Ronald McDonald House of Loma Linda, and stuffed animals for the Alzheimer residents of Pleasant Care Convalescent Hospital in Riverside.

School Age Program Activities



School-Age Programs at the Main Y have been very busy! We have had several special visitors. Officer Byrd was awesome. The kids loved watching him drive a car and ride a skateboard and bicycle safely. One of our Parents is an LAPD K-9 officer and was kind enough to bring in his dog and review all kinds of safety rules. He also showed us all the special things his dog could do. Thank you Mr. Groosby. We had our annual Harvest Parade and Party. There were great costumes, games, and food. Off track had an incredible feast with turkey and all the trimmings. The day before Thanksgiving, they toured through Stater Bros. to see the inner workings of a grocery store. They also went bowling and toured a book store. The YMCA had their 2nd Annual Family Holiday Extravaganza. This was our best year yet. There was Holiday performances, face painting, games, crafts drinks and light snacks. Thank you to all of our parent volunteers who helped make this event a great success! During Winter break we had a Valentine's Traveling Nature Class. There so many animals we lost count.



Holidays at Home Gardens YMCA

Home Gardens began the holiday season with a family feast at the Community Center. Families dined on a traditional Thanksgiving dinner of turkey, mashed potatoes, corn, green beans, breads and pumpkin pie. Tables were set with decorations that the families made at the October Fest night. In addition to dancing, games and prizes a professional photographer took family portraits of each family present. As Christmas approached the children of Home Gardens used materials donated by local merchants to make decorations for our room. Greeting cards were made for the ill children at Corona Regional Medical Center. As the New Year rings our children are learning what resolutions are and how to make one and commit to it. Our season was completed with music around the world around our Christmas tree.





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Boy Scouts of America recognizes Yolanda Carrillo



California Inland Empire Council, Scout Executive, Donald Townsend presents Non-Profit Service Award to Corona-Norco YMCA Executive Director, Yolanda Carrillo.

Our Executive Director, Yolanda Carrillo was awarded the Non-Profit Service Award by Temescal District Boy Scouts of America. Yolanda is a life-long advocate for children and families. She joined the Corona-Norco YMCA in 1997 and was appointed Executive Director in 1998. In the past ten years, Yolanda's dedication and passion has taken the Y from being a one-program, one-site facility to six program sites serving Riverside County, Corona, and Norco. The Y congratulates Yolanda!