

Lake Avenue's STARS Program Year-End Party



Jesse and Megan Oakes, Adam Stiles and Dave Eversfield stand outside the Photo Essay Exhibit which highlighted student entries depicting their neighborhood.

STARS, a tutoring and mentoring program funded by the Lake Avenue Community Foundation to assist young students, recently held its annual party to celebrate the end of the school year.

STARS takes a community-collaborative, asset-building approach to after-school programming to provide Pasadena Unified School District students. By providing academic support, enrichment opportunities and family-strengthening activities, and by encouraging growing and accountable relationships with positive adult role-model tutors, STARS provides an environment in which students are challenged to grow in the program sponsored by the Lake Avenue Community Foundation.

STARS provides academic,

social, spiritual and emotional support of students and their families through:

- Homework-based tutoring
- Reading literacy
- Technology
- College prep and life skills
- Parent and family support
- Enrichment through community partnerships

"One of the great successes of this school year was the number of selfless volunteers who showed up week after week to support our students academically," said Mayra Nolan, associate director of the Lake Avenue Community Foundation. "Over 80 tutors served in the STARS program this year. Countless volunteers have expressed that they have been far more blessed by the relationships with their stu-

dent and what they have learned from their student's family than they ever imagined.

"We are so proud of the many achievements of our students this year!"

John Wilson, executive director of the Lake Avenue Community Foundation, said, "We have received so much positive feedback from parents whose children have enjoyed our program. We have these students focus on strengthening their academics in a safe and positive environment. It is very rewarding to know that our efforts are appreciated, and it is wonderful to see these students excel."

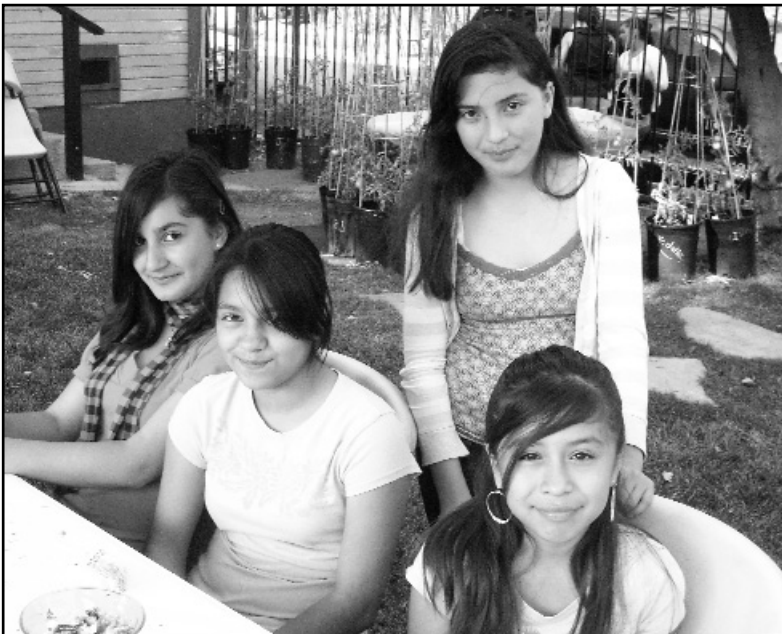
To learn how to volunteer with STARS, contact Beth Winton at (626) 817-4507 or email bethw@lakeave.org.



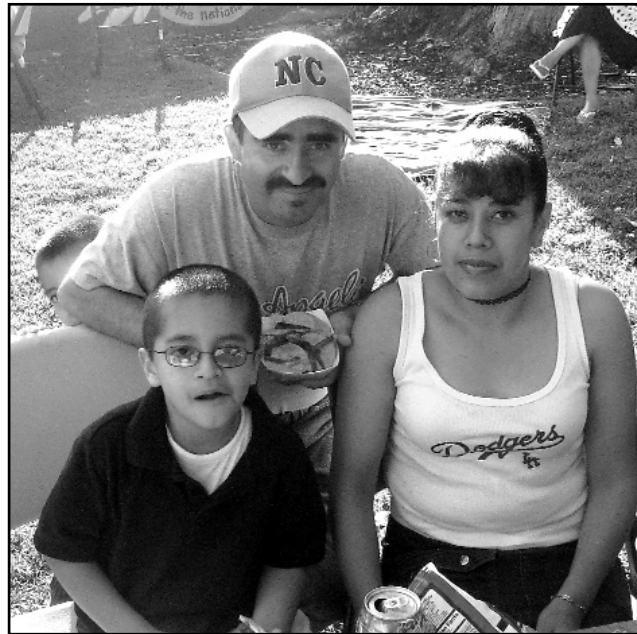
Bring in the Clowns: STARS Program Manager Anna Ochoa, Sandra Bellosso-Sweeney, Keyanna Wilson, Silvia Pimentel and Associate Director Mayra Macedo-Nolan



Jacqueline Gallo, Anna Ochoa and Nathaly Gallo



Patino Cousins with Nathaly Gallo and family members



STARS Parent Committee member Nazario Yopez with his wife, Martha, and their son, Juan Carlos.



Sabrina Cardenas and Viviana Garcia are both second siblings to participate in STARS.



Eddie Ramirez, Edward Guzman and a friend jump tirelessly in a bounce house donated by Vanny's Party Supplies



Parent Committee members Lily Cardenas and Alicia Lopez



STARS staff gave students fun new looks.



Homeless Program Manager Leo Hurtado cooks alongside Executive Director John Wilson and his father, Rich Wilson.



Pasadena High School student Amy Cardenas with former STARS student and recent graduate, Miriam Cardenas.



Vanessa Telles and Viviana Garcia



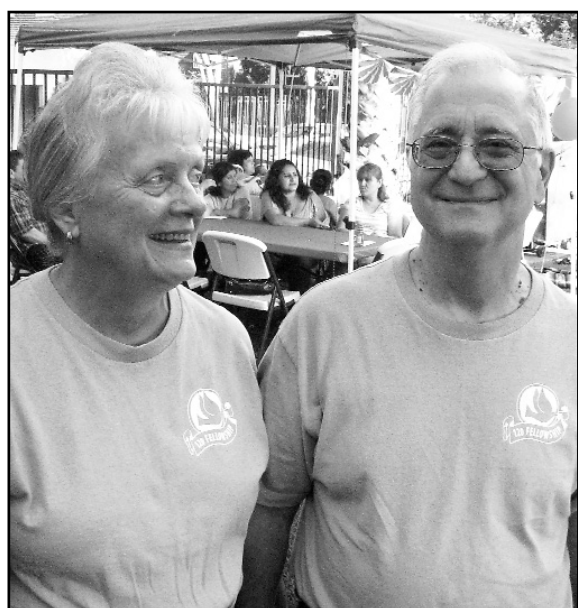
Tutors Charles and Pat Del Pino with their student, Sabrina Cardenas.



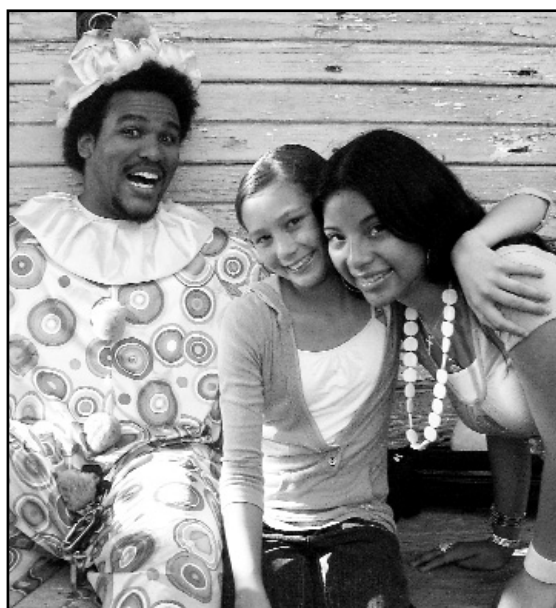
Norma Cardenas and Guille Ramirez



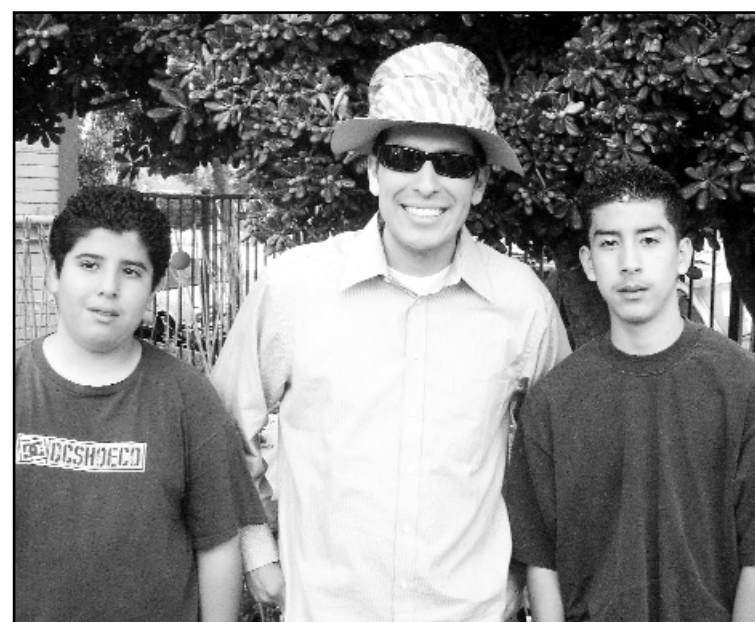
Student Angelica Rodriguez and Tutor Sandra Belloso-Sweeney



Long-time tutors Mary Lee and husband Jim Mack



Staff member Eric Watts with Anais Morales and a friend.



Mentor Coach, Dr. Gabe Veas, with students Oscar and Charlie Ramirez



Siblings Nataly Ramirez and Manuel Carmona



Staff and volunteers serve up the feast



Tutor Jeremy Culhane with Leonardo Lopez