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For Immediate Release:

**Monrovia Rotary and SAFYMCA Partner to
Teach 300 Monrovia Youngsters Water Safety**

MONROVIA, CA, March 27, 2008 -- Some 300 Monrovia second through fourth grade children will learn how to be safe in and around the water this summer thanks to the Santa Anita Family YMCA and the partnership of the Rotary Club of Monrovia. For the second year, the Rotary Club will sponsor YSplash, a program to teach children basic swimming skills, water safety and fitness, free of charge.

"This could help save lives. That's why the Monrovia Rotary is partnering with the YMCA in offering this program to local children," said Monrovia Rotary President, Dennis Franklin. "Children are at risk if they haven't been taught how to stay safe at the beach, pool or water park. YSplash is important because it teaches kids basic swimming skills and safety practices so that they can have fun and be confident in the water," he said.

YSplash classes will be offered daily from April 7 through April 11 at the SAFYMCA pool. Instructors will demonstrate the lifelong pleasure to be found in safe, confident and joyful activity in and around water, offering swim lessons, games for the swimming pool, contests and parent education sessions. In addition, the program will provide parents with written information on how to keep their children safe and injury-free in the water this summer. Among the tips, the SAFYMCA advises that parents:

- Actively supervise your children when they are both in and around the water.
- Teach children to swim at an early age and educate them about water safety.
- Make sure that children swim within designated areas and stay with your sight.

- Become certified in infant and child CPR.
- Make sure children always wear life jackets and use proper water safety devices.
- Ensure that kids drink plenty of fluids to stay properly hydrated, especially on hot days.

For more information about YSplash or to register children for the free lessons, contact the Santa Anita Family YMCA at (626) 359-9244 or visit the SAFYMCA at 501 S. Mountain Ave., Monrovia. Information about YSplash and other YMCA aquatics programs including infant-parent classes, preschool classes, classes for people with disabilities and classes for teens and adults is also available on the SAFYMCA website: www.safymca.org.

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