

Construction summer camp starts up again

By **CARLOS RICO**
The Daily Transcript

SAN DIEGO — For the second time in as many years, San Diego high school girls will take part in an eight-day summer camp geared toward

teaching and inspiring them think about a construction career.

Starting Wednesday, 36 girls from the Stanley E. Foster Construction Tech Academy at Kearny High School will get a hands-on training experience from experts in the local construction industry at the 2009 **MAGIC — Mentoring A Girl In Construction — Summer Camp.**

The San Diego chapter of the National Association of Women in Construction (NAWIC) organizes this free event where each day, high school girls from Kearny High School will learn valuable skills, including estimating, using power tools and learning how to read blueprints.

"This camp is designed to challenge high school girls to discover the many opportunities available in our exciting and rewarding industry," said Linda Young, event director.

The free camp is made possible through more than 60 volunteers and sponsors from San Diego companies and organizations that donate money,

See **Summer camp** on 28C

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materials and their time.

"Our members, volunteers and sponsors are what really drives this construction camp to succeed," said Young, the longest-serving member of the NAWTC San Diego Chapter of 24 years.

This year's summer camp includes 13 returning girls and 23 first-time campers. The returning girls will act more as apprentices and take part in two special projects for their school that involve building a shed for the athletics department and furnishing the locker rooms.

The newcomers will go through a

Chino Hills gov. center will house police, library

The city of Chino Hills and contractor **Barnhart Inc.** announced the completion of the \$72-million Chino Hills Government Center.

The center is comprised of a new Chino Hills City Hall, Chino Valley Independent Fire District Administration headquarters, Chino Hills Police Station, James S. Thalman Chino Hills Branch Library, and Government Center Parking Structure.

Barnhart performed construction management, planning and scheduling services over an 18-month period during the construction of structures covering 133,000 square feet across a 10-acre campus next to the city's new Shoppes Town Center. The buildings were completed in phases.

The \$13-million, 28,000-square-foot James S. Thalman Chino Hills Branch Library opened January 2009; The \$27-million, 59,000-square-foot City Hall opened November 2008; the \$11-million, 419-space, four-story parking structure opened November 2008; the \$7-million, 16,000-square-foot Fire Administration Headquarters opened November 2008; and the \$14-million, 30,000-square-foot Chino Hills

series of different workshops each day designed to give them basic knowledge of the construction industry.

On the first day, following an opening ceremony, the high school girls will learn about safety and how to set tile from a business called **Women in Construction**.

Plumbing will be on the syllabus also, as members of the Associated Builders and Contractors Apprentice Training Program will give an overview on the topic including how to fix small things around the house like a leaky toilet or faucet.

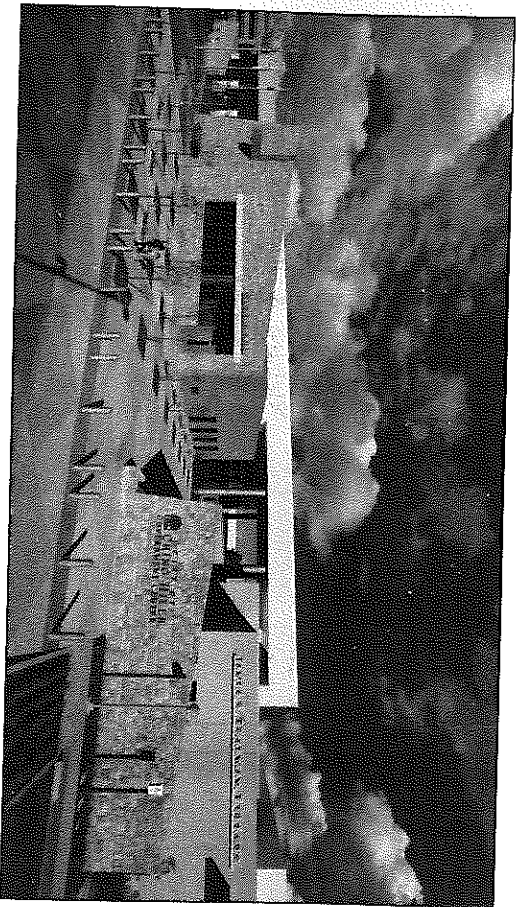
The girls also will cut and paste PVC, copper and steel pipes to create

a picture frame.

The following day, manufacturer and supplier **RCP Block and Brick** will supply the basics in masonry work.

After a couple days off, the camp gets going again June 22, where the girls will receive a lesson on electrical work by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 569.

Members of the National Electrical Contractors Association will be camp counselors Tuesday and will discuss alternative energy while helping the students build a solar apparatus. The next day, the girls will learn



Police Station opened August 2008.

The scope of services also included site improvements and construction of a \$22-million, 33-acre community park, and a mile of new roadway and infrastructure improvements.

The project was recently awarded an Honorable Mention from the Construction Management Association of America for "Buildings

— New Construction Greater than \$25 Million" and it received a "2008 Best of Chino Hills Award" from the U.S. Local Business Association.

about stucco and painting installation.

The Sheet Metal Workers International Association will take over as the instructors Thursday and teach all the basics about their trade.

On the final day — June 26 — surveying and heavy equipment demonstrations will be on the menu with **Rick Engineering and Hawthorne Equipment** as the professors.

After the final lesson plan, there will be a closing ceremony and graduation presentation luncheon, where all the girls who take part in the summer program will receive a certificate of completion.

In addition, each student camper will take home a set of small hand tools, a hard hat and safety glasses. Throughout the eight days, they will each complete projects to take home.

"This is such a great opportunity that doesn't come around," said Anita Villani Barnes, current president of NAWTC San Diego. "I wish there was a camp like this when I was growing up."

The MAGIC Summer Camp is also held in other NAWTC local chapters around the United States.

This national program was the brainchild of Diane Quimby and Robin Paulding, of **BE&K Inc.**, where in the spring of 2001 they put together a company construction summer camp.

At the NAWTC 2006 convention, Quimby met with Renee Conner, a member of the Sugarloaf, Ga. chapter and owner of **Precision Tapping Inc.**, to discuss a similar camp NAWTC could offer to young women.

After a year of planning, the first MAGIC Summer Camp was held in June 2007 in Lawrenceville, Ga.

Once word spread on the program's success, other chapters decided to hold their own.

Now, more than 12 chapters host this annual event.

IPA Architects designed the four

main buildings, **RJM Design Group** was responsible for the park, **MVE Studios** designed the parking structure, and **CH2M Hill** designed the infrastructure improvements.

Barnhart, Inc. has been the city of Chino Hills' construction manager since 2004. Barnhart staff working on the project included Mike Barnum, vice president; Charles Brown, senior project manager; and John Atherton, general superintendent.

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