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## **NEIGHBORS**

### **VALLEY SNAPSHOT**

# HDCWC and AAE to help students with senior memoir writing

### **FROM STAFF REPORTS**

The High Desert Branch of the California Writers Club announced its affiliation with the Academy for Academic Excellence in Apple Valley to enter into the Dorothy C. Blakely Memorial Memoir Project, which will involve teaching 45 Advance Placement senior high school students the craft of memoir writing. The students will pair with 45 High Desert senior citizens to write their respective memoirs in 3,000 to 4,000 word stories, the best of which will be published in an anthology in June 2014.

The HDCWC will hold a writers' conference on Oct. 19 featuring memoir writing. The California Writers Club, founded in 1909, has 19 branches in the state of California, with a total membership of more than 1,600. The High Desert Branch meets on the second Saturday of each month. For more information, visit <a href="www.hdcwc.com">www.hdcwc.com</a>.

#### PHOTOS COURTESY OF ANTHONY J ENRIQUEZ

Members from the Lewis Center for Educational Research Academy for Academic Excellence and High Desert branch of the California Writers Club joined forces to help High Desert students. From left, front row: Charlotte Wilmeth-Street from AAE; Rusty LaGrange; Davida Siwisa James; HDCWC President Dwight Norris; Mary Langer Thompson; Jennifer Bayless; Holly LaPat; Denny Stanz; and Jenny Margotta. Project coordinator Bob Isbill is in back row.





Anita Holmes, HDCWC south representative, left, presents a check from the Southern California Region to Charlotte Wilmeth-Street, project coordinator at the Academy for Academic Excellence. Both the Southern California Region of the CWC and the Central Board gave financial support to the HDCWC to get a memoir program going.

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