



THURS., JUNE 10

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MARCH-APRIL 2010

Duarte View

A bi-monthly community publication of the Duarte Chamber of Commerce, in its 89th year of service to the community.

United States Census 2010

• Duarte • Stand up and be counted!

By now, you have either seen several commercials on TV or received a letter from the Census advising that you will be receiving the Census 2010 form in your mailbox. The Census effort has been one of the largest government attempts to make sure that everyone in your household gets counted. With the economy under stress, each city, county and state is making sure that you are aware of what the count means to you. Federal dollars are distributed by population count and cover a number of areas such as education, health care, transportation, senior centers, public works, job training and emergency centers. When you do the math, it's easy to see what an accurate count of residents can do for your community. Better infrastructure. More services. A brighter tomorrow for everyone. In fact, the information the census collects helps to determine how more than \$400 billion of federal funding each year is spent on infrastructure and services. Duarte residents' responses are crucial so that Duarte receives funding to help provide these important necessities to its population.

The questionnaire has 10 basic questions and does not ask for private information such as your

social security number. The form asks less information than a credit card application. Each person, whether they are a citizen or not, will be counted as required by the Constitution. The information gathered will help make sure that everyone is counted, paint a portrait of America and inform the government on planning and funding in the future. Questionnaires have been mailed.

If the questionnaire is not mailed back to the Census, most likely a canvasser will come to your door to make sure that everyone in your household from children to the elderly are counted. All census workers undergo an FBI name background check, and a fingerprinting requirement has been added for the first time as an extra precaution. Census information is protected by law, and everyone who works for the census must swear that they will never disclose any personal information. Penalties for any employee who might share that information are severe: up to five years in prison and a \$250,000 fine. By law, the Census Bureau can't share your information with anyone - including other federal agencies and law enforcement. Your information is safe.

On March 19, several satellite locations in Duarte will be setup by the Census to allow the public to ask questions or inquire about a lost questionnaire (see below). If you have any questions regarding the Census, please call the City of Duarte, (626) 357-7931, ext. 230 or visit the Census website at www.2010.census.gov.

Cesar Chavez volunteer project

Duarte will conduct its 6th annual Cesar Chavez volunteer project on March 27 in honor of the late labor leader's birthday.

A major theme in the life of the late labor organizer Cesar Chavez was to urge people to work together for positive change. Duarte's Promise - The Alliance for Youth, Duarte teens, and others will honor Chavez's legacy by putting their hands to work in a project at the Westminster Gardens Retirement Community located at 1420 Santo Domingo Ave. The event will kickoff at 9 a.m. with a special program featuring mariachi music and a talk by Refugio Oseguera, a Duarte resident and instructional aide at Duarte High School who played an active role in Chavez's labor movement in the 1970's. Continental breakfast, lunch and bottled water donated by Cal-American Water Co. and Westminster Gardens will keep volunteers well fed and refreshed as they complete a variety of beautification projects on the campus.

The Cesar Chavez volunteer project is one of a number of volunteer projects, programs and events sponsored by Duarte's Promise. In 2000, Duarte was officially named an America's Promise "Community of Promise." Since then, more than 200 Duarte and other local businesses, organizations, individuals, government, schools, and communities of faith have partnered in a commitment to ensure that the needs of young people are served through five promises: ongoing relationships with caring adults - parents, mentors, tutors, coaches, safe places and structured activities during non-school hours, a healthy start and future, marketable skills through effective education, and opportunities for youth to give back through community service.

For more information or to volunteer for the project, call Duarte's Promise at Duarte City Hall, (626) 357-7931 ext. 268, or by email at aalatorre@accessduarte.com.

Harlem Ambassadors basketball team takes on "Duarte Route 66'ers" April 30

High-flying slam dunks, dazzling ball-handling tricks and hilarious comedy routines are in store when the Harlem Ambassadors bring their unique brand of Harlem-style basketball to town to take on the Duarte Route 66'ers on Friday, April 30, at 7 p.m. at the Duarte High School Gym.

"It's going to be a great night of fun for the community," said Frank Haynes, event chair. "The Harlem Ambassadors are legendary for putting on a great show with non-stop laughs that the entire family can enjoy. Providing the other half of the entertainment will be the Duarte Route 66'ers, featuring the heretofore unknown athletic prowess of team players that will include Duarte City Manager Darrell George; Duarte Council Member Tzeitel Parascarraci, and Mount Olive High School Principal Kevin Morris.

Proceeds from the event, co-sponsored by the Duarte Community Service Council and the City of Duarte, will benefit the non-profit Duarte Community Service Council to assist needy families in the Duarte community.

The Duarte Community Service Council has been helping Duarte families in need with emergency food and welfare services since 1947. It also provides assistance to needy students with school uniforms, school supplies, eye exams and glasses. The Service Council helps bring holiday cheer to as many as 300 families a year, providing them with



food and gifts through its annual Christmas Basket program, and donates scholarships to Duarte High School seniors who are planning to major in a medical field, among other activities. The majority of the Duarte Community Service Council's funding comes from donations. This is the first major fundraiser for the organization in many years, said Haynes.

Tax-deductible sponsorship opportunities are available ranging from \$100 as a Friend of the Duarte Community Service Council to \$2,500 to be an Event Sponsor.

Tickets for the basketball show are on sale from the Duarte Chamber of Commerce and online at www.duartechamber.com, Joe's Place, Duarte Elks Lodge, Roasty Toasty Chicken, Duarte City Hall, Senior Center and Teen Center. Ticket prices are \$9 in advance, \$10 at the door for senior citizens and students, 12 years of age; \$11 in advance and \$12 at the door for adults. Children 2 years of age and under are free.

For more information or to become an event sponsor, call Frank Haynes at (626) 303-7191 or Dorothy Smith at (626) 359-9487.



MEMBERS OF THE NONPROFIT Duarte Community Service Council's event committee have high hopes to fill the Duarte High School gym on April 30 when the Harlem Ambassadors Basketball Show comes to town. Proceeds will benefit needy families and children in the Duarte community. Standing, from left: Angelo Morton, Laura Silverman, Liz Reilly, Ruth Purbaugh, Cynthia Johnson, and Dilip Tiwari. Seated, from left: Mary Haynes, Dorothy Smith, and Frank Haynes.

Census Questionnaire Assistance Center

Below are the addresses for the Questionnaire Assistance Center (QAC) that will be open from March 19 to April 19.

- Duarte Library**, 1301 Buena Vista St.
 Tuesday: 11 a.m.-4 p.m. and Thursday: 3 p.m.-8 p.m.
- Heritage Park Duarte**, 915 Highland Ave.
 Wednesday: 1-4 p.m.
- Duarte City Hall**, 1600 Huntington Dr.
 (day and time pending)



Duarte Chamber of Commerce
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⁶ Available only on non-qualified policies. Not available in New York or Washington.
⁷ Not available on tax-qualified policies or in all jurisdictions. Other restrictions apply.
⁸ Option available only if you are age 59½ or older at the time of your first payment.
⁹ This option must be elected at the time of purchase. It is available only on non-qualified policies in approved jurisdictions. The owner of the policy must be at least age 59½ at the time of the first payment, and the annuitant must be age 75 or younger when the policy is issued. If electing a joint policy, there may be no reduction of benefits. Other restrictions apply.

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Maryvale Family Resource & Early Education Center
Cardinal Roger Mahony will officiate at Dedication Ceremonies Sunday, June 27, 2010.

Maryvale has been providing Early Education to Duarte's young children since 1999. An expanded Early Education Program will be offered along with Family Resource Programs at our new facility due to open this Spring. Watch for detailed information about:

- ✓ Early Education for Infants and Children
- ✓ Youth Intervention and Prevention Programs
- ✓ Family Programs
- ✓ Adult and Family Services



For more information on Maryvale Centers in Duarte and Rosemead call 626-280-6510, extension 334.

1217 Crestfield Dr.
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626-357-1514

7600 East Graves Avenue
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626-280-6510

www.Maryvale-ca.org

Duarte Teen Center

The Duarte Teen Center has a lot of great activities happening this spring! The Center is located at 1400 Buena Vista Street in Duarte. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 3-8 p.m.

All Duarte teens' grades 9 through 12 with school ID are welcome. Participation is free, but Teen Center Registration packets must be filled out.

For more information, please call (626) 303-0863.

NORTHVIEW DAY

Friday, April 16, 3-6 p.m., FREE. Northview students can come to the Teen Center for games, tournaments, snacks, and music. Take a tour of the Center and hang out with friends.

TEEN CULTURAL AWARENESS TRAINING

Tuesday, April 20, 4-6 p.m., Free. This activity-based training is designed for youth ages 14-18. Participants will explore cultural differences, discuss respecting and honoring diversity, and examine personal attitudes in regards to intolerance. Call the Teen Center for more information.

CINCO DE MAYO CELEBRATION

Wednesday, May 5, 3:30 p.m., \$1 for food. Celebrate Cinco de Mayo at the Teen Center. There will be traditional Mexican food for all to enjoy!

COMIC ARTS & ANIME TEEN EXPO

Friday, May 21, 5-9 p.m., \$3. All kinds of comic books, graphic novels and manga, art supplies, and cool comic cartoon & anime goods will be available for sale, plus super hero costume contest!

COMPUTER LAB

The computer lab located in the Duarte Teen Center is open Monday through Friday, 3-6:30 p.m. The lab is equipped with 12 computers and is a great place to enhance computer skills, learn new programs, chat on the Internet, do school work, and play various games. There is also a scanner and printer available for use.

ON-GOING ACTIVITIES

Birthdays Tuesday

On the first Tuesday of each month we'll celebrate the birthdays of all the teens registered at the Teen Center for that month. A small gift will be given to the teen and there will be cake for all.

Movie Mondays

Check out a movie at the Teen Center, April 12 and 26, and May 10 and 24. Movies will begin at 3:30 p.m. There is no charge for viewing. Refreshments will be sold.

Drama Club

The drama club meets once a week on Thursdays from 4-5 p.m. Club members participate in poetry jams, oratory, skits, and improvisation. Membership Fee - \$5 every six months

Nutrition/Cooking Class

Learn to make quick and easy nutritious meals, while having fun with friends! Class meets once a week on Wednesdays from 3:30-5 p.m. \$2 per class

Teen Book Club

First Friday of each month, 4:30-6 p.m. Come join the teen book club! Discuss various books from a designated reading list. Meet new friends and find new adventures in the world of good books. Book purchase may be required.

Girls Night Out!

April 13 & 29 and May 11 &

See Teen on page 4

TEENS ENJOY celebrating Cinco de Mayo with traditional Mexican food.



Youth Spring Break Activities

BREAKFAST WITH THE EASTER BUNNY

On Saturday, April 3, the Duarte Rotary Club will host its annual Breakfast With the Easter Bunny. The event will be held at the Duarte Community Center, 1600 Huntington Drive from 8 to 9:30 a.m. Tickets are \$4 for adults and \$2 for children ages 10 and under. All proceeds will benefit Rotary's local service projects.

Those in attendance will be treated to a delicious pancake and sausage breakfast cooked by Rotary Club members. The Easter Bunny will be available for pictures.

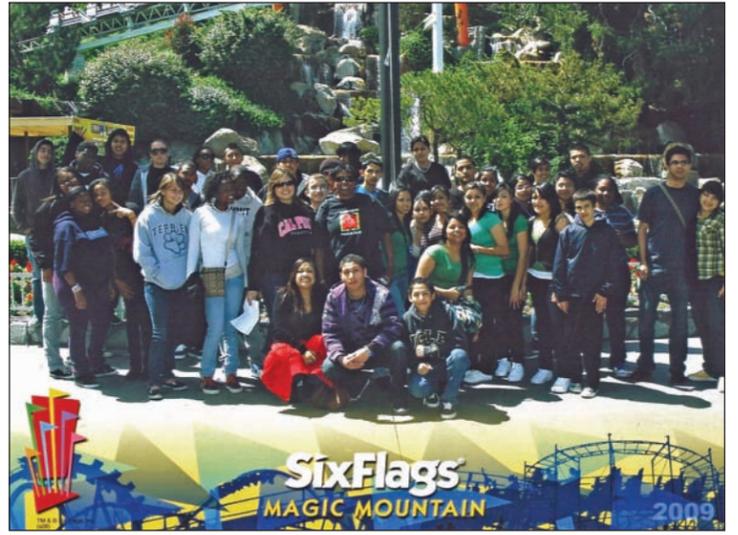
EASTER EGG HUNTS

The City of Duarte Parks and Recreation Department will conduct the annual Duarte Easter Egg Hunts at Royal Oaks and Beard-slee Parks on Saturday, April 3 beginning at 10 a.m. SHARP! The event is open to three divisions 3-4 years, 5-7 years and 8-10 years old. There is no charge for this event. Parents are asked to stay out of the hunting grounds, and no baskets or bags will be allowed. For more information call (626) 357-7931.

SPRING BREAK

Magic Mountain Teen Excursion

The Duarte Teen Center's annual spring break trip will be to Magic Mountain on Wednesday, April 7 from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. The price for the excursion is \$30 for



MAGIC MOUNTAIN is a great place for teens to spend Spring Break!

teens grades 9-12. The fee covers tickets and transportation. Meals are not included. Spring break is a great time to seek excitement at Six Flags Magic Mountain. You must pre-register and pay at the Duarte Teen Center. Space is limited. For more information call the Duarte Teen Center (626) 303-0863, Monday-Friday 3 p.m.-8 p.m.

Knott's Berry Farm Youth Excursion

An excursion to Knott's Berry Farm will be held on Thursday, April 8. Registration begins March 8 at Duarte City Hall or at local supervised playgrounds. Ride on Sierra Sidewinder, Xcelerator, Supreme Scream, Silver Bullet, Ghost Rider Roller Coaster and many more thrilling rides and attractions. The fee is \$25 for 8-17 year olds. The fee covers tickets and transportation. Meals are not included. Space is limited. For more information call (626) 357-7931.

TOWN HALL MEETING

Cleaning the air that we breathe...™



On Thursday, April 8, the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) in conjunction with the City of Duarte, will be hosting a town hall meeting to discuss community air quality issues. We invite you to attend this meeting, which will include:

- A presentation on local air quality and how it affects your health.
- Air quality information on the Vulcan Materials Company's Azusa Rock Quarry Modification Project located in Azusa.
- A question and answer period for you to share concerns about local air quality issues.



The AQMD is the government agency responsible for protecting you from air pollution and we believe that everyone should have equal protection. Please join us for this meeting.

Thursday, April 8, 2010 – 6:30 p.m.
Duarte City Hall
1600 Huntington Drive, Duarte, CA 91010

For more information, please call Pom Pom Ganguli, AQMD Public Advisor at (909) 396-3185.



City of Duarte

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Honorable Anthony Portantino
 44th Assembly District



South Coast Air Quality Management District
www.aqmd.gov

Teen

Continued from page 3

25, 3:30-5 p.m. This program is for girls in grades 9-12. Participants discuss various topics ranging from peer pressure, goals, self-esteem, relationships, and much more.

Youth Boxing Program

Join the fun and excitement with Duarte Boxing Program at the Duarte Teen Center! Boys and girls ages 8-18 years old are welcome. You'll learn all of the

fundamentals of boxing and get in incredible shape. Make new friends, feel more confident about yourself and have lots of fun!

You will gain flexibility, stamina, and coordination as well as make new friends. Our knowledgeable trainers provide a safe and stimulating learning environment for all levels of youth.

You can train for fun and physical activity or for a chance to compete against other youth in the United States and at our annual Boxing Show.

The Duarte Teen Center Gym

is open Monday through Thursday from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Friday from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. There is a \$10 monthly fee for each participant. Non-residents are welcome for \$20 per month. Register now at the Duarte Teen Center.

Call (626) 303-0863 for more information or just stop by to see if you are interested.

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Duarte View

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For advertising information and rates, please call the Chamber.

Deadline for articles and ads for the May-June issue is April 22, 2010.

Duarte Chamber of Commerce

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Barometer rising: the Cities, the quarry, and President Lincoln

By Neil Earle

A visiting official once remarked that Duarte residents habitually turn every occasion into something a little festive. True to type, with more than 150 Duarteans out in force on February 10 to (mostly) protest Vulcan's bid to expand mining to the Van Tassel Ridge, a kind of celebratory atmosphere still prevailed at the break. This was in spite of the somewhat ominous concerns being advanced. This third public hearing at Azusa City Council Chambers regarding Vulcan Materials Co.'s plan to expand 80 acres to the west of their present site was a hands-on exercise in raw democracy in action.

The Jeffersonian kind of spirited give-and-take between the Azusa Planning Commissioners, Vulcan's representatives and the lively presentations offered by folks from both Duarte and Azusa had to be experienced. Passion there certainly was, passion and eloquence along with the partisanship.

Politicians are always amazed at election time when they leave the Beltway for Iowa or New Hampshire and probe the pulse of the average citizen. They usually come back impressed with the smarts of the "average" American. Well, at least for a while. On February 10 it was hard not to be impressed with the splendid sanity, thoughtful analysis, self-motivated research and sometimes poignant testimonials that leavened the evening.

Azusa Commission Chairman Chris Dodson found this out very early as he called the police in on a Duarte resident who wanted to use a slide show to illustrate his points. Dodson rejected the Duartean's bid in spite of the fact (as the crowd loudly reminded him) that Vulcan's opening power point presentation took some fourteen minutes. The usually moderate chairman was appeased backstage with the help of three City of Duarte councilors. Order was restored. "A Jeffersonian moment," I whispered to my seatmate. You had to be there.

INTELLIGENT DISSENT

I couldn't help think that evening as the parade of scoutmasters, house wives, school principals, engineers and others spoke their mind of that famous Norman Rockwell sketch. You know the one, about the working class man in a leather jacket making his voice heard. "Freedom of Speech" Rockwell titled it as part of his Four Freedoms series. The following culls from this reporter's notebook are offered to argue that these public testimonials are well worth the effort. They at least initiate "consciousness raising" and ally-building among the lively participants in both Duarte and Azusa. This is vital prep for the next round, now due on March 10. If nothing else, both spirited democracy and comunidad seem to be building along the Duarte-Azusa stretch of the 210 Highway. Here are a few highlights:

- The relentless Daniel Hyke of Duarte who calculated in his presentation that, based on standard estimates, surface mining causes household values to decline by 3-8%. Thus, at a median of \$294,000 per home in harm's way multiplied by 3000 homes affected, Hyke set the total estimated loss at \$88,200,000. He asserted that the real number of

homes affected would be more like 5540.

- Engineer Jim Fackler's shrewd, succinct analysis of a Vulcan mainstay--proposed creation of seven foot "benches" as part of their reclamation strategy. These are terrace-like ridges supposed to be replanted with vegetation. Fackler knowledgeably noted that the proposed 45% standard angle of the benches leads to no deep sustainable soil gain. He cited similar projects elsewhere where poor mitigation left an area looking like "bad horizontal stripes on your TV."

- A presenter who made a brief but sensible plea that the Azusa Commission take more than three days to study all the data they have received. An excellent point. Hopefully that partly explains the cancellation on February 24.

- Moderate Karl Uhlig's compromise suggestion that Vulcan simply move the quarry north and end the impasse. Land owned by the Angeles National Forest could be traded with the federal government, he suggested. "They do it all the time."

- New Duarte resident Julie Goldstein's forceful report that her house is now only 1500 feet from the proposed new blasting. "The nuisance is moving to us." She was the first presenter that night to mention that the operation will be only 3000 feet from Valley View School.

- Thoughtful mother Shauna Pierce and her self-designed poster board display that reiterated Valley View School's proximity to the quarry. Her argument was forcibly strengthened by her daughter following her--one of 400 students attending Valley View. Eight year-old Rachel Pierce's plea ("They'll be doing this till I'm 36 if they don't stop now") earned a warm smile from Commissioner Kindred.

- Nature-lover Carol Dean from Azusa worrying about even more restricted access to Fish Canyon Trail and citing her hiking experiences there in the 1960s. So sad, she said, that "now you need an appointment" from Vulcan to visit there. "Save it [the trail] please," she asked the Commissioners.

- Steve Gunther's ominous warning that Duarte homeowners

will not stand idly by as Vulcan plans to lobotomize Van Tassel Ridge overlooking Duarte homes. He cited the 35-year-long fight of the people of South Pasadena against the proposed 710 Freeway extension.

- The anonymous ten year old (or thereabouts) from Azusa who quizzed Commissioner Dodson, "Have you seen Avatar?" and drawing the warmest applause of the evening. *Avatar* is the blockbuster movie which revolves around environmentally conscious natives fighting a ruthless mining company. Ironically the show currently plays just down the road at Azusa's Regency Cinema. "I promise to see it this weekend," Commissioner Dodson replied, a smile lighting up his face. Yes, you had to be there.

- "Citizen, mother and advocate" Miriam Fox, principal of Duarte's Northview Middle School, tenaciously weighing

See Barometer on page 6



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Barometer

Continued from page 5

in as a 42-year Duarte resident worried about a possible five-fold increase in dust, noise and hazard from the new operations.

• Calm, deliberate Pamela Kawasaki of the Duarte Unified School District reading a letter from DUSD Superintendent Dean Conklin mentioning "our schools will surely be affected" as well as the "devastating health issues involved." She reiterated concerns that this action by Vulcan has already "promoted divisiveness" between the cities of Azusa and Duarte.

THE TRIPLE THREAT

A good point, that last one. Given that the February 10 hearing came only two days before Abraham Lincoln's birthday (February 12), I turned up these timely words from the always timely sixteenth President. At his First Inaugural in March, 1861 seven states had already seceded from the Union. But Lincoln's logic was unerringly sound. "Physically speaking, we cannot separate," Lincoln stated. "We cannot remove our respective sections from each other nor build an impassable wall between them... They cannot but remain face to face." This seems particularly relevant not only for Duarte and Azusa but also for Duarte, Azusa, Irwindale, Covina and Glendora. As presenters well knew - silica dust knows no boundaries.

Lincoln's conclusion has punch: "My countrymen, one and all, think calmly and well upon this whole subject. Nothing valuable can be lost by taking time... there is no single good reason for precipitate action."

Wise words, indeed. "We cannot separate or build an impassable wall." Though local media are only now catching on, some of the leading voices in this resistance to Vulcan's plans are from Azusa, from respected citizens such as Scoutmaster Richard Deem of SaveOurCanyon.org and Xilonin Cruz-Gonzalez of the Azusa Unified School District. "SaveOurCanyon" met at the Azusa Library on February 22 to continue briefing the public as they've been doing since 2005. The real issue

here bears repeating: The story is not community strife but the triple threat to health, children and the property/privacy concerns along a vast stretch of the Foothills. Azusa City Council's decisions in March or April might end this particular

phase of the discussion but it could well be that the emerging *comunidad* between Duarte and Azusa residents at the grass-roots level has been the blessing in disguise few expected. Mas alla - "more to come!"

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What do...

... some cell phone customers and basketball players in Duarte have in common?

They can both expect to benefit from construction about to begin at Royal Oaks Park on Vineyard, north of Royal Oaks Dr.

As a result of a lease agreement between the City and AT&T and T-Mobile to improve cellular service in the area, the carriers will replace two 30 foot high, existing basketball court light poles at Royal Oaks Park with two 51 foot high poles with antenna. New energy-efficient lighting fixtures featuring improved optics to reduce glare onto adjacent properties will be mounted on the poles. The new lighting will include an automated control system that allows both remote and manual clock programming of the court lights.

In exchange for the use of the park and installation of the cellular antenna, pre-paid lease payments by AT&T and T-Mobile will fund an immediate total reconstruction of the basketball courts. Two concrete, regulation-sized basketball courts with new backboards and support poles will be installed.

The project will also include the construction of an 865 square foot equipment building just east of the basketball courts that will be shared by the two carriers.

Construction is expected to take several months and be completed by this summer.

For more information about the project, call (626) 357-7931.



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NOTICE OF CONSTRUCTION

Southern California Edison's Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project – Segments 6–9 & 11

About the Project — Southern California Edison is scheduled to begin construction of the Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project (TRTP) Segments 4-11 in March 2010. The project will include construction of three new substations and upgrades to two existing substations. The work will also include a series of new and upgraded transmission lines equaling 250 miles (spanning an area of approximately 173 miles) and will deliver electricity from wind energy generators in Kern County south through Los Angeles County and east to San Bernardino County. The California Public Utilities Commission approved the project in December 2009. Construction is expected to be complete in 2014. Upon completion, the project will provide renewable wind-generated electricity and help meet California's renewable energy goals.

Preliminary Construction Schedule

(May change depending on weather and other factors)

Segment 6 – 1st quarter 2011

Rebuild an existing 220 kV line to 500 kV between Vincent Substation and the southern border of Angeles National Forest (ANF). Rebuild a second existing 220 kV line through ANF to 500 kV and rebuild 5 miles of another existing line from the Vincent Substation to the northern border of ANF.

Segment 7 – 3rd - 4th quarter 2010

Rebuild an existing 220 kV line to 500 kV from the southern boundary of Angeles National Forest to Mesa Substation.

Segment 8 – 2nd - 3rd quarter 2010

Rebuild an existing 220 kV line to 500 kV from 2 miles east of Mesa Substation to Mira Loma Substation.

Segment 9 – 1st quarter 2010

Upgrades to Mesa and Gould Substations.

Segment 11 – 2013

Rebuild an existing 220 kV line to 500 kV between the Vincent and Gould Substations. Also add a new 220 kV circuit on existing structures between Gould and Mesa Substations.

1st – 3rd Quarter 2010 –

Install associated telecommunications infrastructure on various segments.

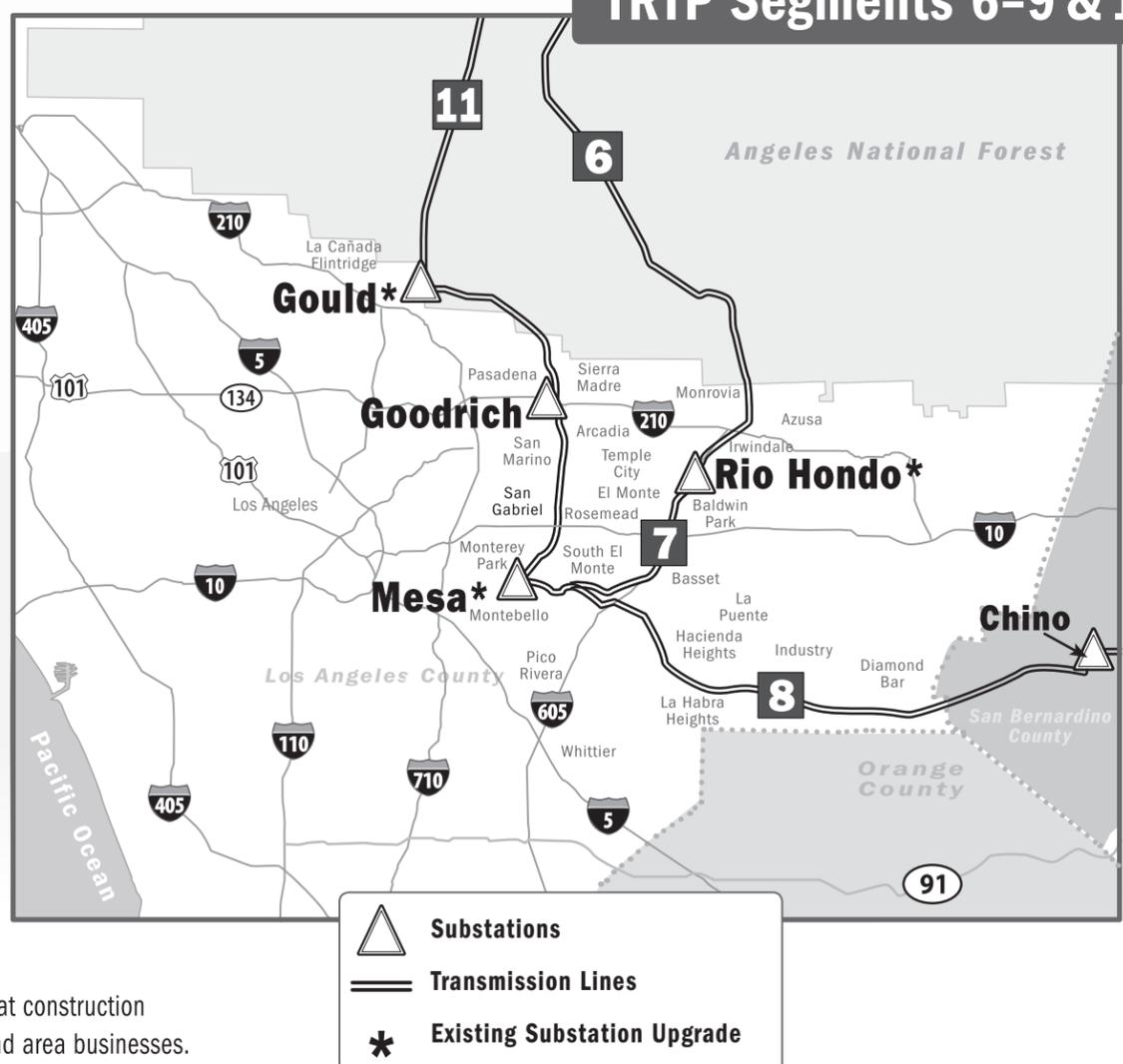
SCE's Commitment

— SCE understands that construction may be disruptive to daily activities of residents and area businesses.

SCE will work with local officials, residents and businesses to minimize impacts.

To help decrease dust and/or noise, please close windows and doors facing the construction area.

TRTP Segments 6–9 & 11



Questions?

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During standard business hours —

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From the desk of the Superintendent

Dr. Dean Conklin, Superintendent,
Duarte Unified School District

If we can all agree that a 'miseducated child is a lost child' then perhaps we can agree that education is our saving grace. With this in mind, as we face the ever burgeoning challenges of our state's economic woes and the voluminous budget cuts that face all school districts, it is important to remember the children of this district, and we do.

A few facts:

- "Education represents 40% of the California budget yet public schools have been subjected to 60% of the cutbacks to balance that budget in recent years."

- Anticipated budget cuts that have been *discussed, not committed to*, are furlough days, layoffs, elimination of summer school, transportation, freezing salary step, closing a school, increasing class sizes, to name just a few.

- Total student decline over the past six years is 577. This figure equates to roughly 2.86 million dollars *lost* in ADA.

However, in 'keeping the main thing the main thing' we have still been able to focus on students and student achievement.

A few facts:

- Duarte High School is the only public comprehensive high school in the area that has an early college program in conjunction with Citrus College. Students have the ability to earn college units (up to 1 year of college courses) by the time they graduate.

- Our ROP program is unique in several ways. First, it is the only high school in the surrounding area that houses its ROP courses on site...our students do not travel to another school for their ROP classes.

- Two very special and premier programs are currently being offered through ROP...TV Production and Culinary Arts.

- A parent education room has been established at Maxwell.

- A 6th grade intervention program is in progress for all 6th graders.

- A mentoring program for 7th and 8th graders is in its second year.

- Collaboration with the City of Duarte on its 'Youth and Family Master Plan' is underway.

These are just a few of our endeavors.

While the state's budgetary plans continue to decimate school funding, our challenges/our plans do not change. These include working with an ever shrinking district budget and declining enrollment coupled with an increase in student expectations. We, as a district, have taken these challenges and turned them into opportunities, opportunities for positive growth in many arenas.

While we tout this often, it needs to be repeated: "Offering a quality education to every student in every classroom is more than a slogan, it is the cornerstone of our philosophy and vision." This is a commitment from the Board of Education, the Administration, our classified staff, and our teachers. In fact, it needs to be said, our teachers and staff are more committed than ever before. Our teachers have maintained their focus and passion on student improvement even in light of the current financial situation and setbacks, and our Administration/classified staff have stepped up to the plate to ensure the smooth running of day-to-day business. The Duarte Unified School District is deeply appreciative of the dedication and support of each and every employee. With everyone's continued help we will weather this storm.



DR. DEAN CONKLIN

Partnering with Parents Makes a Difference at Royal Oaks

By Janice Kolodinski, Principal

Royal Oaks Elementary continues to find relevant, fun and creative ways to partner with parents to provide mutual support that benefits students from both sides. Working together we are better able to support the needs of students and equip parents to do the same. While partnership is a regular, on-going process, several special events bring staff, parents and students together around themes directly connected to student learning and success.

October was Literacy Month at Royal Oaks. Parents partnered by helping students plan for an amazing parade of costumes for the Literacy Parade. But by far the favorite activity the month was the Read-in. Parents and community members volunteered to read to classes. Royal Oaks is seldom for want of readers as most classes have two or even three different parents read to them. Also in the month of October was Family Literacy Night. This year families moved from station to station in the cafeteria to do special activities around the themes of Aesop's Fables.

Another highlight of the year was the evening of Parent



PEER MEDIATOR Eric Loera helps kindergartener Miranda Gonzalez with her math assignment.

Peer Mediators Provide Leadership at Beardslee

By Jennifer Janetzke, Principal

What do you do when you have a group of upper grade stu-

Education Workshops. Teachers provided parents with strategies to help their children in specific content areas such as reading fluency and comprehension, every day math, and the writing process. Other workshops included special information for parents of gifted and talented students (GATE), anger management with Foothill Family Services, and School Board President, Ken Bell's presentation about youth and gang

See Royal Oaks on page 10

dents who want to develop their leadership skills and also want to serve our school in a meaningful way?

At Beardslee, we sign them up for a group called the Peer Mediators!

This group of 5th and 6th graders willingly gives up their recess times to serve our school in a wide variety of ways.

One of the main ways they serve our school is by helping with our lunch schedule on rainy days.

They escort classes to and from the cafeteria, help open ketchup packets and milk pouches, plan games and activities for the classes to play after they are done eating, and even play games with the younger students if they need a playmate!

During our recent storms, these Peer Mediators really pulled together and became an invaluable part of our school!

On non-rainy days, our Peer Mediators can be seen playing with kindergartners during their lunch recess time, checking out playground equipment to students who would like to play with balls or jump ropes, helping students solve conflicts on the playground, counting laps for the students participating in the Walking Club, selling pencils and erasers, tutoring 1st graders in reading, and delivering materials to classrooms.

Each Peer Mediator is assigned to a team and the teams rotate jobs each week.

The best part is that these students have been so well-trained in each of the jobs that they simply check the job board and off they go to complete their assigned task!

They need very little support from the office and take their jobs seriously each day!

The Peer Mediators themselves recognize that they learn a lot from participating in this program. When asked what they have learned from being a Peer Mediator, their responses included:

"You need to be responsible." Cynthia Sierra

"I learned you can't pick sides." Elizabeth Alonso

"You need to do your homework, never get Friday detention, and be a loyal Peer Mediator." Jacob Becerra

"I learned that it's my duty to keep working and follow my job." Cassandra Gonzalez

"I am now a more responsible, respectful, and experienced student." Vanessa Blandino

Thank you, Peer Mediators, for all you do to help Beardslee Elementary School!



ROYAL OAKS PARENT Danny Peterson reads to 4th grader Evan Bloom at the school's annual Read-in Event.

Andres Duarte is Going Green!

By Joilyn Campitiello, Principal

Andres Duarte has always been known for being a beautiful campus. Hallways are lined with plant filled gardens, the result of numerous Eagle Scout projects. The northeast corner of campus is home to our California Courtyard, a fourth grade Social Studies

project that includes a variety of native California plants, crops and wandering grapevine overseen by teacher Cindy Mitchell.

Now the campus is going green! In addition to recycling paper, cans and plastic, Andres Duarte is adding composting to its list of environmentally friendly

practices. Through a project supported by smartgardening.com and SAIC, Science Applications International Corporation, Andres Duarte students will begin maintaining worm and lawn composters. This project will also include additional raised gardens in the CA Courtyard and Kinder-

garten yards. Students will begin cultivating flowers and growing vegetables using organic soil from their composting efforts. Our goal is to eliminate the food and lawn waste being sent to the landfills and to learn to grow our own food.

Donations of plants and gardening tools are gladly accepted! Watch for our garden to be in full bloom by May 2010!



ANDRES DUARTE students Devon Helmsley and Tayja Horton feeding banana peel to earthworms in a worm composter.



4TH GRADE Andres Duarte students tending the CA Courtyard garden - Amanda Saldana, Tayja Horton, Devon Helmsley, Shareef Abboud, Damian Valenzuela.

DUSD Child Development Programs



VOLUNTEER DAY at Valley View was a huge success. Shauna Pierce coordinated the "Give a Day, Get a Disney Day" program.

Valley View Volunteers

By Robin Nelson, Principal

"You give but little when you give of your possessions. It is when you give of yourself that you truly give." – Kahlil Gibran.

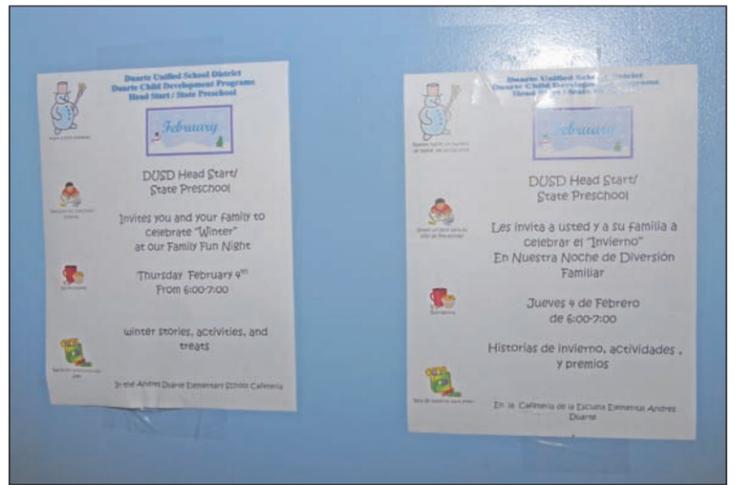
Valley View School is a community of volunteers. We experienced this first hand in February. We were able to honor members of our staff at the annual Founder's Day Celebration. In addition, we participated in the "Give a Day, Get a Disney Day" program.

Founder's Day is a PTA tradition at Valley View School. It is an opportunity for fun, food and fellowship. This year dinner was served by the "Taco Man", the talent show winners performed, we had a great raffle, awards were handed out, a silent auction was held and the chorus performed. The classroom baskets earned a combined total of over \$1500. This year the PTA honored three of our dedicated staff. Zoe Chapjian was honored with the Golden Oak Service Award,

See Valley View on page 10



ON FEBRUARY 4 DUSD Head Start/State Preschool sponsored a Family Fun Night in the Andres Duarte Cafeteria. Over 50 families attended the winter celebration event. Preschool children and their families made sock snowmen, laced mittens, mixed up "snow," painted and decorated pinecones, drank hot chocolate, and chose a book to add to their home library. Parents, children and staff enjoyed the winter themed evening and are looking forward to future Head State/State Preschool Family Fun Nights.



Communities that celebrate together make a difference!

By Esther McDonald, Principal

Maxwell continues to reflect the wonderful attributes of a community that is caring and respectful.

In a recent joint venture with, Pamela Park and the County of Los Angeles Parks & Recreation, East County Community Service

Agency/San Gabriel Recreation District, LA County Probation Department, Maxwell Elementary School hosted an evening celebrating Black History Heritage.

With Aqueelah Williams as Mistress of Ceremonies, children provided the entertainment, dancing, singing, reciting poetry, giving history lessons about Rosa Parks and the Pamela Park Mini/Junior Panthers cheerleading squads performed all-star cheer routines demonstrating the rich cultural tapestry Maxwell enjoys.

After the entertainment over 250 community people shared a meal together. This was provided by LA County Parks and Recreation and served by Maxwell and Pamela Park staff. In the words of one of the organizers, "This was the best time ever!" Through these photographs it is easy to see how much everyone enjoyed this time together.



THIS YEAR VALLEY VIEW PTA honored (from left) Bernice Ledesma with the Honorary Service Award, Tami Cutler with the Golden Apple, and Zoe Chapjian with the Golden Oak Service Award.



TRIBUTE TO ROSA PARKS – Angelica Guerrero, Roxanne Tepepa, Kaitlin Antunez and Daniela Sandoval.



PAMELA PARK MINI PANTHERS



MUJERCITAS: Marianna Delgado, Vanessa Briceno, Yesenia Munoz, and Laura Mendoza.



HAMSTER GIRLS – Jazimine Campos and Clarice Ramirez.



BOTH STAFF serving dinner.

Northview's Parent Power, a circle of support!

By Michelle Randall,
Assistant Principal

Parenting can be challenging under the best of circumstances but when faced with the roller-coaster emotions of teenagers, economic struggles, career obligations and just plain getting through everyday life, one can become quite overwhelmed. It comes Parent Power.

Parent Power is the brain child of Mr. Turner, the Northview Outreach Consultant, who believes that by offering a place for parents to come together and discuss topics that are relevant to today's society, it will create a circle of support where parents can rely on each other, better support their children and grow as individuals.

Mr. Turner states, "Parent Power seeks to support parents in their quest to bring up responsible, respectful and successful children in our challenging and ever changing world."

Like many schools, Northview was always looking for a way to connect and support its parents. Parent Power first began during the 2008-2009 school year covering such topics as consistent discipline, college advice, and "affluenza" (a term used to focus on the excessive spending in today's society) to name a few.

This year, Parent Power continues with additional topics covering things such as, decoding test scores and calculating your child's GPA, the dating scene, reducing juvenile experimentation with drugs and alcohol, helping children deal with personal loss, Internet safety and managing money in our current economy.

The goal is to offer parents the opportunity to support each other and for parents to connect with their local school in a comfortable way. The forum for Parent Power is simple; Northview opens its doors every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month with each session running from 7 p.m. until approximately 8:30 p.m.

Sessions include useful hand-outs, topic specific videos from the "Connect with Kids" series, Q & A time, supportive conversations, and of course, delicious goodies. Each session is translated simultaneously from English to Spanish and back again by Northview's ELD (English Language Development) teacher, Ms. Alicia Gomez Roman. Offering translation gives all parents the ability to access the presented information and allows our Spanish-speaking parents the opportunity to network, share their stories and give advice within the discussion groups.

Additionally, many of the "Connect with Kids" videos are presented in Spanish as well. Over the last year, Parent Power has grown offering to meeting twice a month with many parents attending regularly. Ms. Michelle Randall,

Northview's Assistant Principal, says it is wonderful to watch parents become comfortable enough to collaborate, brainstorm, support, and share their real life experiences.

Parent Power is a welcome addition to the Northview campus. We would be remiss if we did not thank the Duarte Education Foundation for their generous "Wishing Well" grant which provided the financial support for Northview to purchase many of the "Connect with Kids" videos used during Parent Power.

Thank you Duarte Education Foundation. Without your ongoing support of our schools we would not be able to provide the support needed to both our students and their parents. These videos are often times the highlight of the presentation as it uses true to life scenarios and real-life experiences, which both students and parents can relate to.

Mrs. Deborah Vincent-Evans, a parent at Northview, shares "it is our responsibility to make decisions based on what we THINK would be in the best interest of our Children. By attending Parent Power classes at Northview Intermediate School, I have acquired a wealth of knowledge in several areas, which I may have very likely overlooked. Parent Power has provided me the ability to have open discussions with our children on subject matters that I now know are important to them, and our family as a whole! I am very grateful for this wonderful and FREE program."

Northview looks forward to building those connections and eliminating those barriers that tend to rise as children become older. We would like to extend a personal invitation to ALL parents regardless of the school your child currently attends. Don't let the age of your child prevent you from attending and tapping in to this valuable resource. It is also highly encouraged that you bring a friend to a session.

Parent Power's topics are excellent pathways to discussion with your child and with other adults. Remember, together we are stronger. By supporting each other, students can achieve more.

For additional information on time, dates and topics, please feel free to contact us at (626) 599-5600. We look forward to seeing you at our next Parent Power.

Duarte Unified School District Kindergarten round up & registration begins March 1, 2010

Early registration is important to secure a place at your school. Kindergarten spaces at each school are limited. Register early to avoid problems!

Duarte Unified School District offers full day Kindergarten. Families of new first through sixth grade students planning to attend the Duarte Unified School District next year are also encouraged to begin registering at this time.

Requirements for school entry for grades K-12 include: 1) Birth certificate indicating fifth birthday prior to December 2, 2010; 2) up to date Vaccination Records and 3) proof of residency from 2 sources such as a utility bill or rent receipt/escrow or bank receipt.

Duarte Unified Schools offer excellent academics in a culture of care and respect. Be sure to inquire about our after school programs.

Have questions? Want to tour one of our great schools? If so, our staff is looking forward to showing you around their campus on these days.

March 2 - Beardslee Elem 9 a.m., Maxwell Elem 9 a.m.
March 5 - Andres Duarte Elem 8 a.m., Royal Oaks Elem 8:30 a.m., Valley View Elem 8:30 a.m.

Distrito Unificado de Duarte registracion para los estudiantes de kindergarten comienza el 1 de marzo del 2010

Registracion temprano es importante para asegurar lugar en su escuela.

Los espacios para el Kindergarten son limitados en cada una de las escuelas. Regístrelos temprano para evitar problemas!

El Distrito Escolar de Duarte ofrece clases de Kindergarten dia completo.

También animamos a las Familias de estudiantes del primero al sexto grado que están planeando en asistir en el Distrito Unificado de Duarte el año que entra, que comiencen a registrarlos ahora.

Requisitos para registrarse de grados K-12 incluye: 1) Acta de nacimiento indicando que cumplió cinco años antes del 2 de diciembre del 2010; 2) que tenga el registro de las vacunas al día y 3) dos pruebas de residencia como una copia de la cuenta de luz/gas o recibo de la renta/ o cuenta del banco.

Las Escuelas del Distrito Escolar de Duarte ofrecen excelentes cursos académicos en una cultura de cuidado y respeto. Infórmense acerca de nuestro programa escolar que se otorgan a los estudiantes después de las clases regulares.

Tiene algunas preguntas? Quisiera visitar una de nuestras escuelas?

Si es así, nuestro personal esta disponible para enseñarles al rededor de la escuela o contestar cualquier pregunta que usted pueda tener en las fechas siguientes.

2 de marzo - Beardslee escuela elemental 9 a.m., Maxwell escuela elemental 9 a.m.

5 de marzo - Andres Duarte escuela elemental 8 a.m., Royal Oaks escuela elemental 8:30 a.m., Valley View escuela elemental 8:30 a.m.

Valley View

Continued from page 9

Bernice Ledesma was selected for the Honorary Service Award and Tami Cutler was the recipient of the Golden Apple. These women are dedicated and committed to our children and staff. Our thanks go to Janina Bouza, Laura Silverman and Mary Haynes for their hard work.

Volunteer Day at Valley View was a huge success. Shauna Pierce coordinated the "Give a Day, Get a Disney Day" program for us. We had 200 people here to spruce up, clean up and beautify our campus. Disney wants to inspire one million people to volunteer a day of service to a participating organization in their communities. They are celebrating these volunteers' good works by giving each of them a 1-day, 1-theme park ticket to the Disneyland® Resort or Walt Disney World® Resort, free. Valley View School was the recipient of these good works. Our windows were washed, our desks were scrubbed, flowers were planted, benches were painted, pennants were displayed and teachers were supported. We are very grateful to all of the people who spent their morning volunteering at Valley View. We and Disney both thank them.

As we look forward to the rest of the school year, we are excited for the STAR testing and another opportunity for our students to Rock the Test.

Royal Oaks

Continued from page 8

prevention in Duarte. This was also an opportunity for parents to visit the computer lab to learn about Study Island, a web-based program that provides students with questions and activities that support the California Content Standards.

Lastly, Family Math and Science Night will be held during the month of March. This will be new for Royal Oaks this year and already teachers, students and parents are talking about it with anticipation. The cafeteria will be set up with several stations and activities for parents and children to engage together in exciting hands-on learning experiences.

The mission of Royal Oaks is to be an educational environment rooted in excellence, where students grow towards independence. The vision is for all students to become lifelong learners who experience achievements through productive participation in society. Royal Oaks recognizes that partnership with parents is a vital part of achieving these hopes.



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As part of our World Class Inspection process you will receive a comprehensive "New Year Vehicle" report which will help you understand the health of your vehicle. This report is designed to assist you in deciding whether or not to repair or replace your vehicle. It's easy to read and will provide you a complete analysis on your vehicle's performance, what services or repairs are needed and any costs associated with these services.



Mt. Olive High School: Q & A

Mt. Olive is Duarte's own California Model School with a Six Year Clear WASC Accreditation. We offer a free public education to 7th-12th grade student residents within the Duarte Unified School District. The school provides a structured, yet flexible, individualized alternative setting designed to meet each student's academic needs and the opportunity to earn a high school diploma. We also incorporate direct-instruction classrooms emphasizing differentiation. The non-competitive, atmosphere promotes individual achievement, self-responsibility, and developing self-esteem. Our educational objective is to provide effective primary dropout and retention programs for students who are at risk of not receiving a high school diploma. Below you will find questions and answers that Mt. Olive has been presented with over the years.

Q. What are indicators that a student may be in danger of not earning a high school diploma? How would someone know if a student should be referred to Mt. Olive?

A. The student fits one or more of the following indicators:

1. Sophomores
 - a) At the end of the first semester (January) the student has less than 90 credits.
 - b) At the end of the sophomore year (June) the student has less than 115 credits.
2. Juniors
 - a) At the beginning of the junior year (September) the student has less than 115 credits.
 - b) At the end of the first semester (January) the student has less than 140 credits.
 - c) At the end of the junior year (June) the student has less than 165 credits.
3. Seniors
 - a) At the beginning of the senior year (September) the student has less than 165 credits.
 - b) At the end of the first semester (January) the student has less than 190 credits.
4. Chronic truancy
5. Excessive absences
6. Cuts class regularly
7. Doesn't feel as though she/he fits in or can work well on a traditional campus
8. Needs an individualized program in a smaller setting due to medical, emotional or other problem
9. At risk of becoming a drop-out or not graduating for any reason

Q. Does a student have to be credit deficient or in crisis to attend Mt. Olive?

A. No, some of our students have already met credit requirements. They just want a smaller setting and an individualized program. Other students enroll because they want a course of study which will lead to early students who are unable to attend school regularly due to an illness, childcare commitments, or other extenuating circumstances.

Q. What courses does Mt. Olive offer?

A. Mt. Olive offers courses required for graduation in the DUSD. The courses are approved by the Duarte Board of Education and textbooks are District adopted. All teachers have developed an Academic Course Syllabus, aligned with the ESLRs and Standards for each course. Each Academic Course Syllabus outlines course requirements, assignments, and deadlines. Just as at a traditional high school, students are enrolled in five courses at a time. All classes are taught

by highly qualified, credentialed, high school teachers.

Q. How is a student able to make up failed or missing courses?

A. Mt. Olive offers all courses required for graduation throughout the year. By comparison, traditional high schools offer fall semester classes only in the fall and spring semester classes only in the spring. We also run on a trimester system, so students have an extra semester to earn credits.

Q. How can a student earn credits faster at Mt. Olive than at a traditional high school?

A. Mt. Olive students can earn credits through direct instruction classes, independent work contracts, PLATO Web online classes, ROP (Regional Occupational Program), and CVE (Co-operative Vocational Education). Many traditional high schools only allow students to earn credits in a classroom, or through ROP, and CVE.

Q. May a student take courses in addition to those offered at Mt. Olive?

A. Many students take courses at the local community colleges. Students may also take a course not offered at Mt. Olive (i.e. ROP, CVE) at Duarte High School, subject to authorization, during 1st period, 6th period, and summer school.

Q. Is Mt. Olive accredited?

A. Mt. Olive is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), just like Duarte High School. The Mt. Olive diploma looks just like Duarte's diploma. Only the school name and logo are different, and it reads, "Mt. Olive High School."

Q. What is the teacher-student ratio?

A. Mt. Olive maintains an average teacher-student ratio of 1:15 or less. Enrollment fluctuates during the year as students enter and leave. Some students graduate early; some catch up and return to Duarte High School. The counselors and administration at Duarte continually review student records, actions and needs to identify potential transfers. Mt. Olive also serves some students temporarily until a final appropriate placement is identified, as well as other students in their outside placement through a cooperative effort with the juvenile authorities and facility counselors.

Q. What are the graduation

requirements? Is there a graduation ceremony?

A. The graduation requirements at Mt. Olive are 220 credits, identical to the requirements at Duarte High School.

Mt. Olive has a Senior Scholarship Luncheon and a cap & gown graduation ceremony at the Performing Arts Center. We also attend Grad Night at Disneyland. In addition, we can attend Homecoming, Winter Formal and the Senior Prom with Duarte High School.

Q. Is a student able to continue his/her education after graduating from Mt. Olive?

A. Most of our students continue their education by attending community college or vocational school. Others enter the military or the job market.

Q. At what time of the year may a student enroll at Mt. Olive?

A. Mt. Olive accepts students at any time throughout the school year, except in extenuating circumstances.

Q. What is the procedure for referral to Mt. Olive?

A. Mt. Olive's Outreach Consultant works in close cooperation with the Duarte High School and Northview Intermediate counselors and the following is the usual procedure, although parents may call directly:

1. The Duarte counselor or administrator notifies the Mt. Olive principal or ORC of a potential student placement. The student is then recommended to the Student Placement Committee (SPC).
2. The Duarte counselor sets up a pre-admission conference with the student and parents. If the student has an active IEP, a transition IEP meeting will also be scheduled.
3. SPC then reviews student transcripts, grades, graduation progress, attendance, and discipline record.
4. After the conference, Mt. Olive principal requests formal transfer of the student and cum/IEP records from Duarte High School or Northview Intermediate School.
5. When appropriate, the Mt. Olive principal may attend Student Study Team, IEP or disciplinary meetings at Duarte or Northview to assist with program development, placement and student options.

Q. What happens during the pre-admission conference?

Duarte High School

By Eric Barba, Principal

Winter has been an exciting season at Duarte High School. Our falcon students have been busy excelling in academics, sports, and music.

Academics come first at DHS and our student achievement is the proof. On February 26 hundreds of our students were recognized at the Renaissance Rally for their academic achievements. We had a school record number of 502 students who were placed on the Principal's Honor Roll. Students are placed on the honor role for an achievement of a 3.0 or higher G.P.A. for the first semester. Students were also recognized

for first semester perfect attendance, improvement in California State Testing scores in English and mathematics and a score of proficient or advanced proficient in CST scores in English and mathematics. Achievement in California Scholarship Federation (CSF)/Duarte High School Honor Society participation has also brought recognition to DHS. This year's senior class has the highest number of students qualified for CSF. Currently, we plan to have 41 students graduate with this honor.

Winter sports season was exciting and each athlete made us proud of their commitment to DHS sports, integrity and sportsmanship. They truly represent Duarte well. Three of our winter sports teams had notable seasons. Our girl's basketball team led by head coach Mark Smith, finished 2nd place in league and made it to the first round of CIF championships. Our boy's soccer team, led by head coach Jesus Gutierrez, finished 3rd place in league and also made it to the 1st round of CIF championships. The wrestling team has several individual league champions. Our boy's basketball team, led by head coach Wil White made us all very proud. Comprised of many underclassmen including a starting freshman, this team learned a whole new game plan which will reap the benefits this coming season. Our girl's soccer team, led by coach Chris Mc Mahon, played a tenacious season, never giving up, with many talented players returning in 2010-2011.

The DHS music program held two concerts in December. Our DHS Choir, led by Director Clair Hsu performed a magnificent array of holiday and other musical pieces on December 14. Our Band, led by Director John Reed played a series of contemporary pieces on December 15th. Our very own DHS Jazz Band capped off the night with some way out tunes. We invite you to come and see them perform in future concerts.

- Dates to remember:
- March 17 – Love Concert by DHS Choir at the Performing Arts Center
 - March 26 – Sadie Hawkins at Boomers
 - April 21 – Open House at DHS
 - June 8 – Spring Band Concert at the Performing Arts Center
 - June 10 – Spring Choir Concert at the Performing Arts Center
 - June 24 – DHS Graduation

A. The Mt. Olive principal spends 1 hour or more with each student and parent in a pre-admission conference to discuss Mt. Olive's education strategies, program, rules and policies, as well as student goals. The student and parent receive a copy of the Mt. Olive Handbook. The student's transcripts, grades, graduation progress, attendance, and discipline are reviewed and a course of study, which will lead to a high school diploma, is planned. Upon enrollment, the student meets with the ORC to discuss courses, requirements, post secondary plans and take a tour of the campus.

Q. Is a student permitted to return to Duarte High School or Northview Intermediate?

A. Students who have attended Mt. Olive for at least one full semester, have completed required courses and credits, have passed both portions of the CAHSEE, have good attendance and no disciplinary problems may request a return to a traditional high school at the semester break. The transfer is subject to a positive recommendation from the Mt. Olive principal and acceptance by the receiving high school

Q. What about extra-curricular activities?

A. The students at Mt. Olive are welcome to attend sports events, dances, proms and student activities offered by Duarte High School.

It is important to remember that alternative and continuation high schools are NOT alternatives to learning. Rather they provide an alternative method to accomplish the exact same thing as the traditional high schools, and that is to help students earn a diploma, enroll in post secondary education, gain meaningful employment, and prepare for life's challenges as emerging adults.

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Citrus College Receives Reaffirmation of Accreditation

Citrus College has received a six-year reaffirmation of accreditation by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). A six-year accreditation is the longest period of accreditation ACCJC offers.

Superintendent/President Dr. Geraldine M. Perri received notice of the college's reaccreditation from the ACCJC on February 3. "The reaffirmation of accreditation is wonderful news for Citrus College," she said. "I would like to acknowledge and

thank our Board of Trustees for their active leadership in ensuring our success. The fact that our accreditation was reaffirmed validates Citrus College's effectiveness in meeting our institutional mission through the dedication of our highly qualified faculty and staff, and through the institution's outstanding academic programs and student support services."

Dr. Edward C. Ortell, Duarte area representative of the Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees said, "It is wonderful that Citrus College has received a six-year reaffirmation of accreditation. As educational

institutions address the many challenges presented by today's economic climate, a college's accreditation status is viable to its reputation, its funding, and its ability to provide high quality academic programs. I commend our outstanding faculty, administrators, and staff whose dedication and participation ensured our success. The reaffirmation of accreditation is proof that Citrus College is an outstanding institution that is dedicated to the students it educates and the communities it serves."

The reaffirmation of accreditation was a result of nearly

two years of self-evaluation and preparation that involved 175 Citrus College faculty, staff, students and board members. In October 2009, an 11-member team of California community college faculty and administrators spent four days at the college interviewing employees, visiting classes, and reviewing documents to assure the quality of education that Citrus College provides. The site visit is an integral part of the accreditation process.

Dr. Gary L. Woods, president of the Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees commented, "The administra-

tion, faculty, students, and staff are to be commended for their outstanding efforts and the positive outcomes that resulted in our accreditation being reaffirmed. This accomplishment will further energize and inspire us as we endeavor to provide members of the community with access to higher education."

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Senior Center Activities

The Duarte Senior Center is located at 1610 Huntington Drive. The Senior Center is open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. to all residents 55 years of age and older and offers a variety of services and programs. The phone number is (626) 357-3513.

HOT LUNCHES

The Duarte Senior Center serves hot lunches Monday through Friday to individuals over age 60 or the spouse of someone over age 60. You must call 48 hours in advance to reserve space for lunch. Reservations are requested by calling (626) 357-3513. The suggested donation is \$2.

MEALS ON WHEELS

Eligible seniors can receive a hot lunch and cold dinner plate delivered each weekday, or seven frozen meals delivered once a week by YWCA Intervale Senior Services. For more information, please contact the Senior Center at (626) 357-3513 or YMCA Intervale at (626) 858-8382.

MEALS ON WHEELS VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED!

If you possess a current CA driver's license, have access to a personal vehicle, and proof of insurance, you are eligible to volunteer to deliver to homebound seniors. Meals are delivered Monday through Friday, and no special training is required, just a compassionate individual who will brighten the days of the recipient. To become a volunteer please contact the YWCA Intervale at (626) 858-8382.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Duarte Senior Center is always in need of volunteers to help with food preparation, serving, table setups, craft projects, boutiques, decorating, etc. If you would like to give back to the community, please consider being a volunteer. For more information contact Kelly at (626) 357-3513.

ACCESS TRANS- PORTATION

This program provides transportation for individuals with disabilities. For eligibility or more information call (800) 827-0829.

HOW TO MAKE MEDICARE WORK FOR YOU

The Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP) Counselor provides unbiased information, counseling and assistance on Medicare and related health care coverage. Appointments are available every 2nd Thursday and 4th Friday of each month from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. for FREE help. Call (626) 357-7931 for an appointment.

AARP DRIVER SAFETY PROGRAM

The Duarte Senior Center, in cooperation

with AARP, will be offering an AARP Driver Safety Class for persons 55 and older on Tuesday, April 13 and Thursday, April 15 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. This eight-hour class, split up in two four-hour sessions, is a comprehensive classroom driver re-training course geared to the specific needs of older motorists. Attendance is required at both sessions. The cost is \$12 for members; \$14 for non-members and reservations are required. For more information, please call the Duarte Senior Center at (626) 357-3513.

MOVIES

Two afternoons a month a top run movie is featured FREE. Call (626) 357-3513 for dates, times and movies.

BINGO

Bingo is offered at the Senior Center on Tuesday and Thursday from 12:30 p.m.-2 p.m. for 25 cents per card.

CLASSES

The Duarte Senior Center began taking registration for the spring session of classes on March 8, and classes will begin the week of March 29. Registration hours are Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Classes are for 10 weeks unless otherwise noted. All classes are for adults 55 years and older. THERE ARE NO REFUNDS.



PARTICIPANTS ENJOY the company of others at Senior Center special events.

Fee Classes: Piano/Keyboard, Piano (private lessons), Sewing, Strength Training Program held at Duarte Fitness Center, Western Line Dance, and Yoga.

Ongoing Free Classes: Art Appreciation, Ceramics, Cross Fit, English as a Second Language, Exercise with Shelly, Guitar, How to Write Your Own Life's Story, Knitting, Music Appreciation, Beginning Spanish, Intermediate Spanish, and Tai Chi.

EXCURSIONS

The City of Duarte Parks and Recreation Department began taking registration for spring trips on March 8 at Duarte City Hall. Registration is held 7:30 a.m.-6

p.m., Monday through Thursday. No more than 4 participants can be registered at one time. Visa and MasterCard are accepted for purchases over \$30. You can pick up a brochure at City Hall or the Senior Center to receive in-depth information about the following trips:

"PAGEANT OF FOUR LORD" at Rolling Hills Covenant Church, Thursday, April 1, 4:30 p.m.-10:45 p.m., Fee: \$29, dinner on your own; LOS ANGELES ZOO, Tuesday, April 27, 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Fee: \$30, lunch on your own; FANTASY SPRINGS CASINO (Must be 21 years of age or older.), Wednesday,

May 12, 8 a.m.-6 p.m., Fee: \$25 (\$15 back in play), lunch on your own; TASTE OF L.A. "Kurt Tucker Tours", Wednesday, May 26, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Fee: \$65, lunch included; MORNING CLOAK RANCH and BOTANICAL GARDEN, Monday, June 7, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Fee: \$47, lunch included; MISSION SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO and Lunch at EL ADOBE DE CAPISTRANO, Wednesday, June 23, 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Fee: \$52, lunch included.

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management consultant,
statistician, educator



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Large Pizza \$9.99 One Large up to 3 Toppings Original or Thin Crust <small>Expires 4-28-10</small>	Papa' Trio \$7.00 each When you buy all three Three Medium Pizzas Three Toppings Each <small>Expires 4-28-10</small>	Carryout Special \$5.99 One Large - One Topping Original or Thin Crust <small>Expires 4-28-10</small>	See our entire menu online at papajohns.com
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Specialty Pizzas
 Small- \$11.99 Medium- \$13.99 Large- \$16.99 Extra Large- \$19.99

The Works
 The Meats
 Garden Fresh
 Spicy Italian
 Spinach Alfredo
 BBQ Chicken & Bacon
 Hawaiian BBQ Chicken
 Tuscan Six Cheese



United States Census 2010

IT'S IN OUR HANDS WWW.2010.CENSUS.GOV

“A heart for youth:” Duarte leaders discuss schools, strategies

By Neil Earle

“Stop crime in the play pen and not the state pen; crime is not corrected in the electric chair but in the high chair.”

That’s how Duarte’s School Board Chairman Ken Bell crystallized part of the motivation behind his career as a 20-year veteran of Duarte Unified School Board (DUSD) and expert on youthful gangs. He was speaking at the Duarte Chamber of Commerce-sponsored annual State of the City/State of the School District luncheon on February 2, 2010 at the City of Hope Cooper Auditorium held in conjunction with the City of Duarte.

Chairman Bell preceded Duarte Mayor Margaret Finlay’s later remarks before almost 200 civic and business leaders and interested citizens. “The mission of the Duarte Unified School District is to meet the educational needs of each student in a culture of caring and respect,” reported Bell. He paid lavish tribute to such dedicated colleagues as Pam Kawasaki, Frank Figueroa, Reyna Diaz and Rose Brooks-Mitchell. Bell’s slide show fleshed out some of the accomplishments of past years – Beardslee and Duarte High School (DHS) are California Distinguished Schools, Mt. Olive continues to forge ahead as a Model Alternative High School and both Valley View and Royal Oaks are recognized as Title I Academic Achievement Schools.

DHS graduates can now be found from Yale to Cornell, Princeton to Berkeley and Brigham Young University. But challenges there are aplenty and the chairman did not flinch from mentioning them. “We’ve got to get kids now in the 2nd grade ready for jobs that don’t even exist now but will when they graduate in 2020.” This is appropriately labeled DUSD’s 20/20

Vision Plan.

A Culture of Caring

Apart from the Future Shock dimension of problems facing school planners there is also the need to knock down walls and remove barriers so kids will enjoy a school culture of caring to make it easier for them to be more eager to tackle the books. This is expressed in the DUSD’s motto of “Keeping the main thing the main thing,” i.e. to focus on student achievement in an era of brutal financial cutbacks. “Education represents 40% of the California Budget yet public schools have been subjected to 60% of the cutbacks to balance that budget in recent years,” Bell stated.

This ties in to DUSD’s problem of declining enrollment – from 4634 students in 2004 to 4057 in 2009. This is mostly due to housing costs, shifting demographics and behavioral issues related to crime. Dean Conklin, DUSD Superintendent, added support to Bell’s comments by insisting in the panel discussion that followed that “our schools are safe.” In answer to a question about gangs and hold-ups the Superintendent reiterated how easy it was to mistake a 25-year-old gang member for a DHS student. “We have to help students make right choices and decisions,” he added.

To expedite this worthy goal, DUSD is now implementing a mentoring program across the district. This breaks down to 6th graders being aided in the transition from schools and classes by 7th and 8th graders. This can only help make the behavioral shocks students endure much less hectic and stressful.

Mayor Margaret Finlay rounded out the discussion on encroaching crime by showing statistically that Duarte is less dangerous than

the other major cities along the Foothills.

“Preserving the culture we have is more important than addressing budget matters,” Conklin

added. This rings true. Educators have long known that the true values in life are better caught than taught. DUSD leaders seem to be among those in this city who im-

bibe and reflect that principle.

(Neil Earle is an Adjunct Professor at Citrus Community College)

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ROUND-UP
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4-7PM
WESTMINSTER GARDENS
HUNTINGTON DR. AT SANTO DOMINGO
 1420 SANTO DOMINGO AVE., DUARTE 91010

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AT GATE - \$20 ADULTS / \$15 SENIORS & CHILDREN 6-12
 INCLUDES 2 FREE SOFT DRINK TICKETS

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MORE DETAILS TO COME - 626-357-3333 DUARTE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

SAFYMCA Updates



THE SANTA ANITA FAMILY YMCA honored Carolyn Demcak of Monrovia (at right) for 50 years of volunteer service, including her 10 years as a member of the SAFYMCA board of directors. She is currently the SAFYMCA’s liaison to the Y’s Men, a club in partnership and support of the YMCA’s mission. Joining in the salute, from left: Monrovia City Council Member, Becky Shevlin, Monrovia Council Member and SAFYMCA board member, Clarence Shaw, and SAFYMCA Chief Executive Officer, Damon Colaluca.



TAKING OVER SACRAMENTO – The Santa Anita Family YMCA’s Youth and Government delegation pose in front of the state capitol during their participation in the California YMCA’s 62nd annual Model Legislature and Model Court. From left: Christina Huggins, advisor; Alexis Palacio, Diana Ortiz; Angie Urena, Carolina De Loera; Andy Alonso; Mariela Velez; Liliana Escobar; and Nancy Rosa, lead advisor.

2010 Duarte Business Seminars Series

Simplifying Small Business Success

No Cost

May 12, 2010
No Time to Market, No Budget to Advertise!
 Effective marketing tips on and off line that does not deplete your profits.

August 25, 2010
Is your Business Prepared in Case of a Disaster?
 The ABC’s of disaster preparedness for business owners.

November 10, 2010
Discrimination, Is Your Business Protected?
 The Facts on Sexual Harassment, Age discrimination, Gender Discrimination,

Time : 11:30 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.
Lunch will be provided

Where: City of Duarte Community Center, 1600 Huntington Dr., Duarte, CA 91010
 R.S.V.P via email to Diana Burckhard: Diana@duartechamber.com
 or register online at www.duartechamber.com, or by calling 626.357.3333
 Limited Space

Presented by:
 Duarte Chamber of Commerce
 City of Duarte
 Foothill Workforce Investment Board

DUARTE Community News

Spring 2010



Published Quarterly For Residents & Businesses in Duarte



The image on the left shows the current view looking northeast from Greenbank Avenue. The image on the right shows the five year view under Vulcan Expansion Project.

Source Vulcan DEIR

The Vulcan Expanded Mining Plan Now in Hands of Azusa City Council for Final Decision

The decision whether to allow Vulcan Materials Company to expand its mining operations to a mountain ridge and 80 pristine acres overlooking hundreds of Duarte homes and several schools is now in the hands of the five members of the Azusa City Council.

The Planning Commission voted 3-1 in favor of approval of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) in the early hours of March 11th, and to approve a Revised Conditional Use Permit and Reclamation Plan amendment for the mine expansion project. The Commission voted 2-2, resulting in a denial recommendation, on a third motion in front of them dealing with the approval of the controversial Development Agreement. Duarte contends that this Agreement requires the City of Azusa to approve many types of future land use applications submitted by Vulcan without meaningful environmental review, and also allows for the possibility of mining past 2038 on the 270 acre Vulcan property that abutts Duarte's border.

Although Azusa received hundreds of oral and written comments on the Vulcan DEIR from members of the public and agencies including the City of Duarte, City of Glendora, Congressmember Judy Chu, Assemblymember Anthony Portantino, Supervisor Michael Antonovich, Sierra Club, South Coast Air Quality Management District ("AQMD"), and elected state officials, the vast majority of the comments were not even discussed, much less meaningfully addressed, prior to the Planning Commission votes. The City of Duarte's 60-page response to the DEIR, alone listed 327 flaws in the DEIR. Yet, not one of these comments caused Azusa to change one word of Vulcan's DEIR or any of the 54 technical appendices.

"In the 25 years I've been involved in local government I've never seen a planning commission move an item forward without full understanding of responses to all questions and comments posed by the public and technical experts, especially a project of this magnitude affecting so many people," said Duarte City Manager, Darrell George.

More than 200 people, many of them Duarte residents, attended the 7- hour planning commission meeting. As in previous meetings, many residents voiced their concerns about the potential risks of the project including public health impacts posed by increased emissions of crystalline silica dust, the devastating destruction of portions on the San Gabriel mountains from dynamiting millions of tons of rock, and lack of ongoing public access to the Fish Canyon Falls. Many others talked about their fears that the visible destruction of the mountain in clear

view of their homes would result in a loss of property values. There were also concerns raised over the damage to the plant life and wildlife habitat.

Vulcan Materials Company, which has a permit from the City of Azusa to mine 190 acres of its 270 acre property, is seeking approval to move its mining operations from 80 partially disturbed acres on the east side of Fish Creek to 80 pristine acres on the west side of Fish Creek immediately above Duarte.

If Azusa approves the plan, Vulcan has pledged to immediately begin reclamation work, using a new micro-benching technique on already mined out areas. The much touted microbenching technique has to date, not been utilized by Vulcan at any of its facilities with the exception of a small demonstration project at Azusa Rock primarily encased in soil, not rock.

If the Azusa City Council rejects the plan, Vulcan has threatened that it will delay reclamation work until 2038. At the request of the City of Duarte, the AQMD in collaboration with Assemblymember Anthony Portantino will conduct a town hall meeting April 8 at 6:30 p.m. at the Duarte Community Center to address residents' health concerns about the mining dust and discuss resuming particulate matter and crystalline silica monitoring in the City of Duarte.

The entire 1,000 page DEIR on the Vulcan mine expansion project is available for review on the City of Azusa's official website, www.azusalw.com. The Save Our Canyon website, www.saveourcanyon.org also offers detailed information and graphics about the project.

Videotaped coverage of all the public hearings is available for viewing on Duarte Public Access (DCTV), Charter Cable Channel 3 in Duarte, and on-demand on DCTV on the Web, www.dctvduarte.com.

In 2008, the Duarte City Council established a \$700,000 fund entitled the "Fight Against Vulcan Expansion" fund (FAVE) in response to the anticipated expansion plans by Vulcan and its potential adverse impact on Duarte residents. For more information about the City of Duarte's Fight Against Vulcan Expansion activities, call Duarte Deputy City Manager, Karen Herrera at (626) 357-7931, ext. 221.

Green Living Tip:

In the winter, set your thermostats to 68° and save about 20% in heating costs.



Otis Gordon Park To Receive New Restrooms and Park Equipment

Otis Gordon Sports Park, one of the City of Duarte's most popular parks since its opening in 1995, will receive much needed permanent restrooms and new park playground equipment thanks to \$180,000 in State grant funds. The 5-acre facility, used by senior citizen softball leagues, the Recreation Department for its summer t-ball, spring youth mini soccer, and adult softball programs, plus many outside groups including DYAC, and the Hawks, will see these improvements in late 2010. In order to minimize expense and expedite the process, a prefabricated restroom has been approved for the site. Prefabricated restroom buildings have been previously utilized by the City at Beardslee and Encanto Parks. The recommended restroom facility will be a customized CXT Kodiak, similar to those found at National Park sites. Restrooms are anticipated to cost approximately \$130,000 including installation.

The playground equipment at adjoining Andres Duarte Satellite Park will also be replaced at an approximate cost of \$50,000. The current equipment is the oldest in the City and does not meet many of the State and Federal guidelines for safety and accessibility.

Funding for the project was made available through a grant from the State of California 2002 Resources Bond Act. The grant application process also does not require a match of City funds, creating no impact to the City's General Fund. For additional information on this upcoming capital project, contact the Parks and Recreation Department at (626) 357-7931.

Coming Soon! Qdoba Mexican Grill

Qdoba Mexican Grill, the first tenant in the new inline shop building adjacent to Best Buy/ Staples shopping center, is set to open by early Summer. The 2,200 square foot restaurant will be located at the west end of the building, adjacent to Mountain Avenue. The Duarte location, one of over 500 within 42 states, will provide plenty of both indoor and outdoor seating for its patrons with its contemporary, colorful environment.



Founded in Denver in 1995, Qdoba prides itself on not being the typical fast-casual restaurant. Handcrafted meals are prepared with fresh ingredients and innovative flavors in an artisanal kitchen where customers can watch their dishes being made. Qdoba works to create and prepare new culinary combinations that blend traditional Mexican flavors with their own unique spin. Servers work with guests to help them personalize their dishes, according to their individual taste preferences. Qdoba also offers guests countless ways to customize their meals with five distinct and freshly-prepared salsas, vegetables, beans, and other ingredients.

You may get more information on Qdoba by visiting their website at www.qdoba.com.

City Staff

City Manager.....Darrell George
Assistant City Manager.....Kristen Petersen
Community Development.....Craig Hensley
Parks and Recreation.....Donna Georgino
Public Safety.....Brian Villalobos
Deputy City Manager.....Karen Herrera
City Clerk.....Marla Akana

City Council

Mayor.....Margaret Finlay
Mayor Pro Tem.....Tzeitel Paras-Caracci
Councilmember.....John Fasana
Councilmember.....Lois Gaston
Councilmember.....Phil Reyes

Published by the City of Duarte, Duarte Community News contains information on City issues, policies, events, and programs. It is published and mailed quarterly to all residents and businesses in Duarte. For more information, contact the City Manager's office at (626) 357-7931, ext. 221.

Duarte "Green Home" Awards Competition Launched

Duarte homeowners who maintain the beauty of their homes while thinking "Green" are the focus of the recently announced Duarte "Green Home" Awards competition. This program, offered to the community in lieu of the former Home Beautification effort, will recognize its environmentally conscious winners during the May 25th Duarte City Council meeting. Applications, due March 31st, are now available at Duarte City Hall, Parks and Recreation Department, 1600 Huntington Drive or on-line at www.accessduarte.com.



Co-sponsored by Cal American Water, Duarte "Green Home" award winners will be recognized for such "Green" endeavors as switching to drip irrigation systems, and incorporating drought tolerant plants into existing landscaping, while still maintaining their home's exterior beauty. Judging will begin after April 12th and conclude on April 29, 2010. For more information, please call Cesar Monslave in the Duarte Parks & Recreation Department, at (626) 357-7931 ext. 203.

Duarte Fitness Center Spring Membership Sale and Aquatics Program

It is time to get into shape! Save 20% during the Spring Sale at the City of Duarte Fitness Center. The sale prices are available March 23 through April 1. During the sale, Duarte residents can enjoy one full year of aquatics, exercise, and aerobics for only \$100. Non-resident rates start as low as \$140, and there are no monthly fees or dues. The Fitness Center is located at 1600 Huntington Drive, next to City Hall.

At the Fitness Center you can choose from a wide variety of activities including strength training equipment, Stairmasters, treadmills, bikes, and Elliptical Trainers. The Fitness Center also has two courts available for either racquetball or wallyball. Aerobic classes are offered daily at various times.

The spring aquatics program will begin April 3. The pool will be available Monday through Friday for lap swimming from 6:30 a.m. to 8 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., and 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on weekends. Recreational swim will be held during spring break (April 6 - 10) from 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. and on weekends from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. for all ages.

Two sessions of swim lessons will be offered this spring. Session 1 will run from May 3 - May 13, with registration beginning April 26. Session 2 will run from May 17 - May 27, and registration begins May 10. Priority registration will be available to City of Duarte residents with valid ID from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. the first day of registration. All non-residents may register beginning at 8:00 a.m. Check with the Fitness Center for class times and levels being offered.



Youth Recreation Mini-Soccer...Register Now!

The City of Duarte Parks and Recreation Department is currently taking registration at Duarte City Hall and at all local supervised playgrounds for youth mini soccer leagues. The fee is \$20 per child and includes a t-shirt. Practices are scheduled to begin the week of March 29. Boys and girls born in 1997 - 2001 (in a grade no higher than 6th) will play in separate boys and girls leagues. Practices will be conducted during the week, after school, and will be held at local supervised parks. Games will be held on Saturdays at Otis Gordon Sports Park. The field size for league games is about half the size of a normal field and the goals are also smaller. This fun and exciting 6 on 6-player league is perfect for all skill levels. For more information call (626) 357-7931.

Junior Olympics Track And Field Meet

The City of Duarte Parks and Recreation Department will once again host the annual Junior Olympics Track and Field Meet. The event will take place Saturday, March 20 at Duarte High School Stadium. Entries for boys and girls born 1995-2003 from Andres Duarte, Beardslee, Maxwell, Royal Oaks, Valley View, and Northview Schools will participate in the event. Medals will be awarded to 1st place finishers, and ribbons for 2nd place through 5th place in each event. Schools will try to win the Junior Olympics School Champion title, which includes a large trophy awarded to the winning elementary school team. Participants will have a wide choice of events to choose from, including 50m, 100m & 200m dashes, 400m, 800m & 1600m runs, and long jump & softball throw. This meet will act as a qualifying meet for the SCMAF San Gabriel Valley Track and Field Championships that will be held in May. Children who win at the SGV meet will go on to participate in the Southern California Municipal Athletic Federation Track Meet. For more information call (626) 357-7931 or call your school.



21st Annual Wilderness Day Saturday, April 17th

The City of Duarte Parks and Recreation Department invites you to hike to one of the most beautiful, natural waterfalls in the Angeles National Forest. This year our mountains have received much more rain than in the past, so the falls and streams should be more spectacular than usual. The original Fish Canyon Trail will be ready for you, your family and friends to enjoy.

The 3.2-mile hike through the wilderness requires sturdy shoes and hikers must carry their own water. Hearty hikers can hike the expanded 9-mile version if desired. Activities at Encanto Park will include a 24-foot climbing wall, hands-on nature experiences, barbecue lunch, and fun for everyone. This event is sponsored

by the City of Duarte and Vulcan Materials Company.

Hikers may check in at Encanto Park beginning at 7 a.m. Hikers must be transported to the trailhead by a City of Duarte shuttle. No dogs allowed. The fee is \$10 for adults, \$12 for children 11 and under. Registration is limited to the first 300 hikers. T-shirts will be available for \$15. There will be an additional \$2 late fee for registrations received after April 12. Flyers are available at Duarte City Hall, Monday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. For more information, please call the Parks and Recreation Department at (626) 357-7931.



Duarte Recreation Spring Classes

The Duarte Recreation Department offers classes for adults, teens, children and families. Spring recreation classes to be offered will include Acting, Babysitter Training, Ballet, Ballet Fitness, Baton, Belly Dancing, Cha Cha Dance, Cheerleading, Chess, Computer Training, Cooking the Fun & Healthy Way, Dog Obedience, Folklorico, Golf, Guitar, Hip Hop Dance, Homework Helper, Kidz Love Soccer, Mini Picassos, Paper Craft Creations, Polynesian Dance, Racquetball, Salsa Dance, Silk Painting, Skateboarding, Tennis, Tumbling, Young Rembrandts - Elementary Basics of Drawing, Watercolor Workshop, Yoga. Registration for the spring session of classes began March 8. Visa and MasterCard are accepted for purchases over \$30. Classes begin March 29.

For information on how to register, please contact the Duarte Recreation Department at (626) 357-7931, Monday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. or visit www.accessduarte.com.



Senior Center Needs Volunteers

The Duarte Senior Center is located at 1610 Huntington Drive. The Senior Center is open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. to all residents 55 years of age and older and offers a variety of services and programs. The phone number is (626) 357-3513.

Volunteers Needed

The Duarte Senior Center is always in need of volunteers to help with food preparation, serving, table setups, craft projects, boutiques, decorating, etc. If you would like to give back to the community, please consider being a volunteer. For more information contact Kelly at (626) 357-3513.

Teen Spring Activities

The Duarte Teen Center has a lot of great activities happening this spring! The Center is located at 1400

Buena Vista Street in Duarte. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

All Duarte teens' grades 9 through 12 with school ID are welcome. Participation is free, but Teen Center Registration packets must be filled out. For more information, please call (626) 303-0863.



City Services

Duarte City Hall.....	(626) 357-7931
Building & Permits	x230/x235
Business Licensing.....	x213
Field Services	x205
Street Lights	x205
Foothill Transit Bus Passes.....	x211
Planning	x230/x235
Parks and Recreation.....	x201
Redevelopment.....	x230/x235
Transit.....	(626) 358-9627
Duarte Fitness Center	(626) 357-6118
Duarte Pool Center	(626) 357-6118
Duarte Teen Center.....	(626) 303-0863
Duarte Senior Center.....	(626) 357-3513
Public Safety*.....	(626) 357-7938
Anonymous Tip Line	x462
Graffiti Removal	(626) 836-3654
Fire Department	(626) 358-3118
Temple Sheriff Station.....	(626) 448-9861

UTILITIES & SERVICES

Charter Cable	(866) 499-8080
Duarte Chamber.....	(626) 357-3333
Duarte Post Office.....	(626) 256-6043
Gas Company.....	(800) 427-2200
California American Water.....	(888) 422-5269
Southern California Edison.....	(800) 655-4555
Verizon.....	(800) 483-4000
Railroad Problems	(888) 446-9721
Burrtec Waste Disposal.....	(800) 325-9417
School District	(626) 599-5000

*In case of an emergency, call 9-1-1



New Kids Helmets ONLY \$5!

We have a new shipment of helmets- come check them out! Duarte youth between 3 to 18 years of age qualify to purchase helmets for only \$5.00 at the Public Safety office in the Target Shopping Center, every Wednesday from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. A parent or guardian must accompany the child and show proof of Duarte residency. The helmet will be properly fitted onto the youth to ensure their safety. For more information call Public Safety at (626) 357-7938.

Fresh Fruit Picking!

If you have an abundance of fruit growing in your yard, don't let them go to waste! Call Local Harvest to have your homegrown fruit harvested by a team of supervised Duarte youth that will deliver the harvest to the Foothill Unity Center for immediate distribution to families in need! Harvesters are equipped with bags, boxes, fruit pickers and a ladder to carefully pick fruit directly from your trees. Harvesters can also stop by your home to receive fresh fruit that has already been picked. The Foothill Unity Center has been providing food and other necessities to local families in need for over 20 years. To request harvesters for the next Local Harvest Day, call (626) 359-5671, ext. 316.



Public Safety Year in Review

Part I crimes, categorized as major crimes, increased by 8% in Duarte from 2008 to 2009, while burglaries and grand theft decreased by 26%, according to Federal Bureau of Investigations Part I crime statistics recently released. High unemployment and an increase in gang activity in our city and surrounding cities contributed to the spike in Part 1 crimes and an increase in residential burglaries. Last year, Duarte recorded 92 residential burglaries, the highest number in nine years, mirroring a dramatic increase in residential burglaries throughout Southern California and the west coast.



The majority of residential burglaries occurred during the first part of the year. In response, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department collaborated with DEA, LAPD, and the FBI working in conjunction to initiate operations in the City of Duarte and throughout Los Angeles County. This task force resulted in numerous arrests and aggressive burglary rings were dissolved by year's end.

The Public Safety Department continues to implement innovative prevention and intervention programs directed to youth. A \$191,000 competitive grant just awarded to the City under the Governor's California Gang Reduction, Intervention and Prevention (CalGRIP) initiative will enable the City to add a Gang Alternative and Prevention Program Deputy Probation Officer. The officer's efforts, in concert with the Duarte Unified School District, will be to identify and work with at risk youth from kindergarten to sixth grade. The program's goal is to work with 100 youth during the school year. The City's two GAPP officers will also work with students in the 7th and 8th grades. A portion of the CalGRIP grant will fund "Think Together," a community DUSD after school program that services K-8 students. It will also increase funding for the City's boxing program, and the CHYLL program which works with 7th and 8th grade students to involve them in after school and weekend community service activities and leadership. Neighborhood Watch plays an important role in helping

CITY OF DUARTE										
Part 1 Crime										
	'00	'01	'02	'03	'04	'05	'06	'07	'08	'09
CRIMINAL HOMICIDE	0	1	1	0	3	0	1	1	0	1
RAPE	8	3	2	8	3	1	2	1	0	1
ROBBERY	32	28	32	35	28	18	44	29	30	26
ASSAULT	69	78	75	50	59	40	53	37	36	55
RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY	41	34	54	39	55	47	25	48	58	92
OTHER BURGLARY	66	45	60	56	58	73	61	71	73	45
VEHICLE BURGLARY	90	63	67	61	123	72	119	97	82	98
GRAND THEFT	57	65	78	71	70	62	77	82	72	62
AUTO THEFT	78	90	83	72	132	113	91	85	72	79
ARSON	4	1	3	2	4	1	0	1	0	0
TOTAL CRIMES	445	408	455	394	535	427	473	452	423	459

keeping Duarte safe from crime. Although many Duarte neighborhoods are already involved in the program, we would like to see every neighborhood participate because Neighborhood Watch works. To help keep residents informed on public safety issues, the City will be re-launching the Neighborhood Watch newsletter this spring. We are also looking to expand our community outreach and we will continue to conduct Community Movie Nights.

The safety of Duarte's residents is of utmost importance to the Duarte Public Safety Department, the LA County Sheriff Department, and the City of Duarte's elected officials. Although many plans can take effect, it is the residents in the community who must take a stand and get involved in their community to make any plan work. We all want and deserve a safe neighborhood. "Get involved! Stay informed! If you See Something, Say Something!" Call Temple Station to make an immediate report at (626) 448-9861 or Sgt. Tony Haynes at the Duarte Sheriff's Satellite Station to provide us with information by calling (626) 359-5671, ext. 304. You may also contact Special Assignment Deputies, Deputy Avila at ext. 305 and Deputy Frederickson at ext. 306, if you have any information that you may feel will lead to arrests. You may also leave an anonymous tip by simply calling the Sheriff's Satellite Station Anonymous Crime Tip Hotline (626) 359-5671 ext. 462. All calls are confidential.

Annual Rabies Clinic Slated for Saturday June 26

The City of Duarte in cooperation with VET CARE has scheduled the annual vaccination clinic for Saturday June 26 from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. The clinic will be held at Duarte Park, located at Buena Vista Street and Bloomdale Street, adjacent to the Teen Center. Rabies vaccinations will be available for \$8.00 each, other vaccinations will be available upon request. Duarte dog licenses will also be available for purchase at the clinic. Microchip and registration will be available for \$40. It is important for all dogs over the age of four months to be vaccinated for rabies to comply with state law. With the foothills in our back yard, the chance of your dog having contact with local wildlife is great. Don't hesitate...vaccinate!

For questions concerning this or any other Animal Control matter, please contact the Public Safety Office at (626) 357-7938.

FREE! Don't Miss the Next City Community Movie Night! Friday, April 23

Everyone is invited to enjoy a complimentary BBQ dinner and a movie. Snack on popcorn while you enjoy a movie at our next City of Duarte's Community Movie Night, Friday, April 23, from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Beardslee Park Amphitheatre located at 2000 Buena Vista Street.

Our feature presentation, "Goal! The Dream begins" has been voted the best soccer movie by young and old alike. Come and enjoy a night out and meet the Duarte High School Soccer team and participate in a shootout with their skilled players. Meet the Mayor's Youth Council, and talk with Los Angeles County Sheriff's deputies, Mayor Margaret Finlay and other City Council members and City staff. Community non-profit organization Marvell West will provide hot links and hot dogs while you meet other organizations that serve your area.

For more information, contact Aida Torres at a2torres@lasd.org, or call (626) 359-5671, ext. 316.

Our Kind of Town Upcoming Events!

Calendar Key

-  AQMD Town Hall Meeting
6:30 p.m./ C.C.
-  Best Buy Technology Day
9:00 a.m./ S.C.
-  Cesar Chavez Volunteer Day
9:00 a.m./ W.G.
-  Colon Canser
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
City of Hope, Cooper Auditorium
-  Community Clean-up Day
8:00 a.m./ City Hall
-  Council Meeting
7:00 p.m./C.C.
-  Drug, Gangs, and Mental Health Workshop
5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m./ D.H.S. Library
-  Duarte Metro Gold Line Station Open House
10:00 a.m./ C.O.H.
-  Eat.Move.Live 2010 FREE!
Parent Nutrition Class
8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Maxwell Elementary School, Rm. # 26
-  Economic Development Commission Meeting
7:00 p.m. /C.C.
-  HHW/E-Waste Collection Event
Northrop Grumman Corporation
West 3rd St. & Zachary Padilla Ave.
Azusa, CA 91702
-  Mayor's Youth Council Meeting
6:30 p.m./T.C.
-  Moonlight Basketball
8:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m.
D.H.S. Gym
-  Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting
7:30 p.m./C.C.
-  Planning Commission Meeting
7:00 p.m./C.C.
-  Public Safety Commission Meeting
7:30 p.m./ C.C.
-  Public Services Commission
7:00 p.m./ C.C.
-  Traffic Safety Commission Meeting
7:30 p.m./ C.C.
-  Watershed Restoration Program
8:00 a.m - 2 p.m./ San Gabriel Canyon
Environmental Education Center
-  Youth and Family Master Plan Advisory Committee
6:30 p.m./ T.C.

Location Abbreviations
 C.C. - Community Center
 C.O.H. - City of Hope
 D.H.S. - Duarte High School
 T.C. - Teen Center
 W.G. - Westminster Garden

*Additional events, information, and commission meetings are available at (626) 357-7931 or www.accessduarte.com

March 2010

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April 2010

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Air Quality Town Hall Meeting Featuring AQMD and Assemblymember Portantino slated for April 8th

On Thursday, April 8th at 6:30 p.m., the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) State Assemblymember Anthony Portantino and the City of Duarte will co-sponsor a town hall meeting on air quality issues affecting our region at the Duarte Community Center. Residents are invited to come and hear information about the air quality in and around the foothill communities of the East San Gabriel Valley.



Attendees are also encouraged to share their concerns about the air that they breathe and the impact of the proposed Vulcan Mining Expansion with key representatives from the AQMD including CEO Barry Wallerstein.

For more information please call Deputy City Manager, Karen Herrera (626) 357-7931, ext. 221.

Relay For Life Comes to Duarte on May 15th

The world's largest grassroots fundraising activity, the American Cancer Society Relay For Life, is slated for Saturday, May 15, 2010 at City of Hope campus. Participants will circle a track for 24 hours and raise money for the American Cancer Society. Registration for the relay will begin the morning of the event at 9:00 a.m. at a location to be determined within the City.



For pre-registration, to become a committee member, or questions, please contact Committee Chair Lisa Magno at (626) 437-7993. You may also visit www.RelayForLife.org for more information. Online registration will be available in February at www.relayforlife.org/duarteca.

Drug, Gangs, and Mental Health Workshop

The Duarte Youth and Family Master Plan Communications and Media Task Group is hosting a workshop to inform youth, adults, and families throughout our community on dealing with drugs and gangs issues. Information will be provided by the City of Duarte Public Safety Department and L.A. County Mental Health Services. The workshop will be held on Thursday, March 25th from 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. in Duarte High School Library, 1565 Central Avenue. For further information, please call City Hall at (626) 357-7931, ext. 266 or email us at yfmp@accessduarte.com.



City to Launch New, Improved Website in May

Duarte residents will soon view a new and improved www.accessduarte.com website with easy to use links designed to connect residents with their most requested information at the click of a mouse. The innovative, user-friendly format set to go online in May will replace the current City of Duarte website first launched in 2001.

The new format will allow for quick and efficient updates including emergency alerts, new technology integration to meet future needs and cost effectiveness allowing staff to complete ongoing updates for a fraction of the current website budget.

With the new website, residents will be able to access a series of fresh features which will include council meeting video supported by Duarte Public Access (DCTV), the ability to sign up and receive e-news alerts, a photo gallery, updated and expanded Frequently Asked Questions, availability of multi-language translation and an interactive community calendar.

Ewing & Beland, of Monrovia, was contracted to re-design the City website at a cost of \$13,000. Ewing & Beland brings over 20 years of experience to the table and has several other municipal clients including the City of Monrovia. Duarte previously contracted with Ewing & Beland to design and launch the City's successful www.duarteyouth.org website in June 2008. The www.duarteyouth.org website is an online resource guide that provides families with information on more than 100 programs, activities, and services available to youth in the San Gabriel Valley. It features site-wide search, real-time updates, multi-language support as well as administrative controlled menus, and built-in surveys.

For more information, call Deputy City Manager, Karen Herrera at (626) 357-7931, ext. 221.

Home Improvement Grant Program

The City of Duarte will be offering grants for the purpose of completing exterior improvements to Duarte homes. The applicants for this upcoming application period will be determined via a lottery process. Improvements that will be considered include exterior painting, roof replacements, and window replacements. This program is open to qualifying residents within the incorporated area of the City that meet income guidelines and have never received a grant in the past. Residents can obtain pre-qualification applications and the "Frequently Asked Questions" handout with complete program details and applicable income guidelines online at www.accessduarte.com or in the Community Development Department located in City Hall. The deadline to submit pre-qualification applications is April 29, 2010. If you have any questions, please call (626) 357-7931 ext. 235 or 238.



The City of Duarte wants your feedback on our new publication. This publication is compiled by City employees to inform residents and businesses of our latest news. Please contact the City's Public Information Officer at (626)357-7931, ext. 221 or by email at herrerakaren@accessduarte.com with your comments, ideas, and/or photos! Please consider the environment and recycle.

Creative Designer: Roxanne Breceda