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OUTLET**
bargain market

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wildlife
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Duarte View

AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2016

A bi-monthly community publication of the



**Duarte Chamber
OF COMMERCE**
In its 96th year of service
to the community

California School of the Arts-SGV to open in DUSD

The Duarte Unified School District (DUSD) Board of Education voted 5-0 at the Regular Meeting held on Thursday, June 30, 2016, to approve a partnership with the Orange County School of the Arts (OCSA), which will bring the highly successful public charter school to the San Gabriel Valley starting the 2017-18 school year.

"This is the culmination of a year of discussions both within our school board, and between our administration and the OCSA leadership," said Dr. Allan Mucerino, Superintendent of DUSD. Mucerino went on to say that, "Ernest L. Boy, the President of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, summed it up perfectly when he said, "During the past quarter century, literally thousands of school-based programs have demonstrated beyond question that the arts can not only bring coherence to our fragmented world, but through the arts, students' performance in other academic disciplines can be enhanced as well."

At the June 30 meeting, the Board of Education approved a proposal to license the Northview Intermediate School campus for five years to OCSA, who will be launching a public charter high school for 9-12 grade students. It will be called the California School of the Arts-San Gabriel Valley (CSArts-SGV) and will offer aspiring young artists from all over the region an opportunity to refine their skills and flourish in one of their trademark five schools of study, in addition to their nationally recognized rigor-

ous college preparatory academic experience.

The five schools are as follows: School of Dance (Classical



& Contemporary Dance, Commercial Dance, and International Dance), School of Fine & Media Arts (Creative Writing, Digital Media Arts, Film & Television, Integrated Arts, and Visual Arts), School of Music (Classical Voice and Instrumental Music) and School of Theatre (Acting, Musical Theatre, and Production & Design).

OCSA's fifth school, The School of Applied Arts, which focuses on culinary arts and hospitality currently at their Orange County location, will be offered through Duarte High School in a unique branding arrangement as part of the partnership.

The partnership developed between DUSD and OCSA is the first of its kind between a charter and public school district with measures taken by the district to ensure the students of Duarte Unified and community of Duarte benefit from the venture. This partnership is one of seven strategies outlined in the district's new five-year strategic plan, known as the Competitive Advantage Plan (CAP), which was spearheaded by Superintendent Mucerino. The CAP is the result of a comprehensive study of the impact of 14 years of declining enrollment and the feedback of over 4,500 stakeholders through surveys and focus groups conducted during the 2015-2016 academic year. This is one step in moving Duarte towards its ultimate goal of becoming a destination district for students, families, and staff.

"Dr Allan Mucerino, a great example of a superb educational leader, has taken our School Board, staff and our entire community through a thorough process. It led to a unanimous decision by the Duarte Unified School Board. It is a great beginning for DUSD, staff and community to address our 14 year declining enrollment. I applaud his leadership, vision and our forward thinking School Board, for this new partnership with the nationally acclaimed OCSA charter school," stated DUSD Board

President Mr. Ken Bell.

As part of the arrangement, the partners agree to act in good faith to ensure that up to 10% of the new CSArts-SGV enrollment is comprised of Duarte Unified students at any given time, and that 3% of CSArts-SGV's revenue collected from the State will be paid annually to the district.

In addition, CSArts-SGV will assume all operating costs to run and maintain the Northview property which is an estimated savings to the district of approximately \$800,000 in General Funds each year. Because it is a shared-used agreement, the district retains ownership of all property used by CSArts-SGV and the rights to use the Performing Arts Center, Gymnasium and Cafeteria Complex during set hours. OCSA also has agreed to invest over 5 million to remodel the Performing Arts Center and to build a state-of-the-art conservatory/studio on the Northview campus. By agreement, that building will be owned by the district too.

The CSArts-SGV will operate in collaboration with Duarte High School, not in isolation as many charter schools are known to do. The leadership teams of both schools have been collaborating all year and are in the process of developing plans to provide classes on both campuses that will be taken by CSArts-SGV and DHS students together, and the faculties of both schools will work closely to offer all students an opportunity to participate in an arts-rich environment and comprehensive high school experience.

Not only will Duarte High School students benefit from this forward thinking enterprise, but students attending DUSD in grades PK-8 will also reap the rewards. OCSA has agreed to dedicate the staff to create and teach a custom K-8 arts curriculum in collaboration with DUSD teachers. It's expected that the 7-8 conservatory element of the program, serving only students attending DUSD schools, will be offered on the CSArts-SGV campus.

"DUSD students will be prepared to reach the same high levels of student success in the arts that OCSA students currently reach, through the OCSA-branded curriculum that provides enriched and affirming learning environments, empowering pedagogy, challenging and relevant curriculum, high quality instructional resources, valid and comprehensive assessment, high quality professional preparation and support, powerful family

See CSArts-SGV on page 13



Smart & Final Extra! now open

The Duarte community is celebrating! The long-awaited new Smart & Final Extra! opened at 7 a.m. sharp on June 29 to dozens of anxious shoppers.

The store provides the Duarte community with a new grocery shopping option at the Buena Vista Market Place shopping center located at the northwest corner of Buena Vista and Huntington Drive in the former Ralphs grocery location.

Smart & Final Extra! stores combine warehouse savings with market freshness. The new store includes many new features, including a larger selection of meat, deli and frozen food products; an expanded produce section that includes organic produce; dry

bulk foods by the pound; good and well sections filled with natural and organic products; and oven-roasted chicken. With 50% more club-sized items than club stores, Smart & Final Extra! Stores also offer great value, quality and convenience for households, businesses and community groups, all without a membership fee.

The new Smart & Final Extra 30,000 sq. ft. location created approximately 50 new jobs for the area and is generally larger than the company's traditional "core" store. The brand carries more than 15,000 different items, about 8,000 more than its usual warehouse store in a broad range of sizes.

Accessduarte.com has a new look



Accessduarte.com, the City's official website, is getting a makeover. The new site, designed by the award winning municipal website developer, Granicus is built on a foundation of photos of Duarte residents enjoying life throughout the community goes live Friday, July 15th. The last time the City website was updated was 2009.

Features of the new site

include an emergency alert notification that instantaneously features a red banner across every page; responsive design allowing a seamless experience regardless of what device the visitor uses, google translate; a scrolling icon tray highlighting top areas of community interest; online, easy to use forms for highly used ser-

See Website on page 4

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New Grocery Outlet Market opening Sept. 1



Employment Applications Being Accepted

Duarte has reason to celebrate! On September 1, the former Mike's Food location, 1322 Huntington Dr., will be the new home for Grocery Outlet Market. The retail space is 18,000 square feet and each Grocery Outlet is a local, independently run, family business. The Duarte store is being run by Brian Race and Erin Johnstone.

The Duarte Grocery Outlet will be accepting job applications at the Duarte Chamber office, 1634 Third St., Duarte, on Thursday, August 4, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Online application can be made at <https://groceryoutlet.com/careers/work-in-a-store>.

Grocery Outlet is the nation's largest extreme value grocery retailer that offers brand name, quality products at up to 60% off conventional retail prices. Shoppers can find trusted name brands such as Kraft, Kellogg's, Tide, Tyson, Amy's Kitchen, Naked Juice and other well-known names. This year alone, shoppers have saved more than \$1 billion on products purchased at Grocery Outlet as compared to traditional grocery stores. The chain is able to keep prices low due to their expert buyers who specialize in purchasing product overruns and surplus inventories.

For additional information on the chain, visit their website at www.groceryoutlet.com. The property owner has also provided a major façade enhancement for one-third of the shopping center, including the former Mike's Foods, Young's Gourmet, the barbershop and Little Cesar's pizza.

DWC Mother's Day Project

By Claudia Heller

In a project sanctioned by the Duarte Woman's Club and including additional community members, dozens of child comfort toys and small blankets have been donated to the Public Safety Office to be distributed to children who they may have to transport in their patrol cars.

As the result of a domestic violence situation or the aftermath of a car accident, many times local authorities must transport children to child services or other destinations.

Often the child is whisked away with nothing but the clothes they were wearing at the time of the incident.

These donations will hopefully offer some comfort to a frightened child.

Brian Villalobos, Duarte's Director of Public Safety, said, "Fortunately, the transporting of children in a black and white patrol vehicle happens infrequently. Unfortunately, when it does happen it is under traumatic and stressful situations."

He says that thinking back on his days on patrol, he can remember transporting children for a variety of reasons "and none of them were surrounded by happy memories."

"I would have welcomed having in my possession a bag filled with goodies to provide some sort of comfort," says the deputy.

Additional donations are always appreciated and may be dropped at the Duarte Public Safety Office, 1041 Huntington

Drive (Target Plaza). They will be kept there and distributed to the officers to be kept in their patrol cars.

Call (626) 358-0329 for more information.

TEN YEAR OLD Nashita Abbas helps deliver child comfort toys to the Duarte Public Safety Office. Nashita is a fifth grader at Valley View School.

Photo by Cynthia Abbas



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Adventure Club/Excursions

Looking for something adventurous to do this summer? The Duarte Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring two one-week sessions of fun and daily excursions. Adventure Club is available to teens and kids ages 8 through 17. It will be held Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Royal Oaks Park. The price is only \$135 per session with lunch and all excursions included. Session I is August 1 through August 5, Session II is August 8 through August 12.

Each day will be highlighted by a trip to places such as the beach, museum, miniature golf, Knott's Berry Farm, Raging Waters, and more!

Registration is going on now at Duarte City Hall, 1600 Huntington Drive. For more in-

formation, please call the Duarte Recreation at (626) 357-7931.



ADVENTURE CLUB participants spend their summer enjoying the outdoors and making new friends!

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Duarte View

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For Duarte View advertising information and rates, please call the Duarte Chamber.

Deadline for articles and ads for the October-November issue is August 31, 2016.



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(626) 357-3333 • FAX (626) 357-3645
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Local need quickly evolves to a Homeless Children Initiative

Many people associate homelessness as those we see walking through, and sleeping in our community. While those are typically who we think of, there is a segment of our population that is considered homeless, yet they are not reported in the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) count. They are the students in our community. The chronic homeless population is increasing throughout the San Gabriel Valley, the LAHSA count performed on January 26, 2016 in Duarte observed or identified nine individuals deemed homeless.

More shocking is the Los Angeles County's Office of Education's Homeless Education count for Duarte Unified School District. Duarte currently has over 100 students that have self-identified as homeless. The federal standards established by the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, define a homeless student as between the ages of 0-22, "who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence". This could include living in a park, car, shelter, camping

area, doubling up with another family, abandonment, emergency shelter, or a runaway or pushed out child.

When Tina Carey, Chair of the Duarte Chamber of Commerce, learned of these children in April from Ms. Naelh Othman, Coordinator, Student Services for DUSD, her first thought was, "We have to do something for these kids!" After a few phone calls, a new collaborative was born. Southern California Gas, Duarte and Monrovia Chambers of Commerce, New Life Assembly of God, Duarte Unified School District, DLL Technologies, Duarte residents, Foothill Unity Center, ChapCare, City of Monrovia Public Service, Monrovia Ministerial Association, Duarte Kiwanis, and the City of Duarte Public Safety came together at the end of April to kick off the initiative. The group is not meant to reinvent the wheel, or take away from any current homelessness efforts throughout the region, but is a vehicle to connect the resources currently available and have the cities of Duarte and Monrovia

working together to help educate the community and assist in removing barriers to educational for those who are in need. The focus is to identify what resources are available to help these families and assist in ensuring that their needs are met.

As a result of those meetings, the Duarte Chamber held a business seminar on June 30th open to all residents and businesses to discuss the impact that homeless has on our businesses and community. Moderating the event was Tina Carey, with panel speakers included LASD Duarte Substation Sgt. Tony Haynes, Duarte Deputy City Manager Karen Herrera, and Ms. Naelh Othman. Twenty-nine attendees represented residents, services organizations, and businesses.

Sgt. Haynes related the importance for those to not intervene or confront the chronically homeless. It is recommended to contact law enforcement to have them handle the situation. They have the training and resources available to assist the individual in a professional and safe manner.

Karen Herrera addressed questions regarding the encampments that are in the San Gabriel Riverbed. There are multiple agencies involved in the administrative and operational duties and rules that must be adhered to in order to vacate the encampments. All entities involved are working together to try to address this situation in the most expedient method possible. While some camps have been removed, another sweep cannot be performed until approximately September 2016 due to wildlife restrictions. As usual, funding of these clean ups is limited.



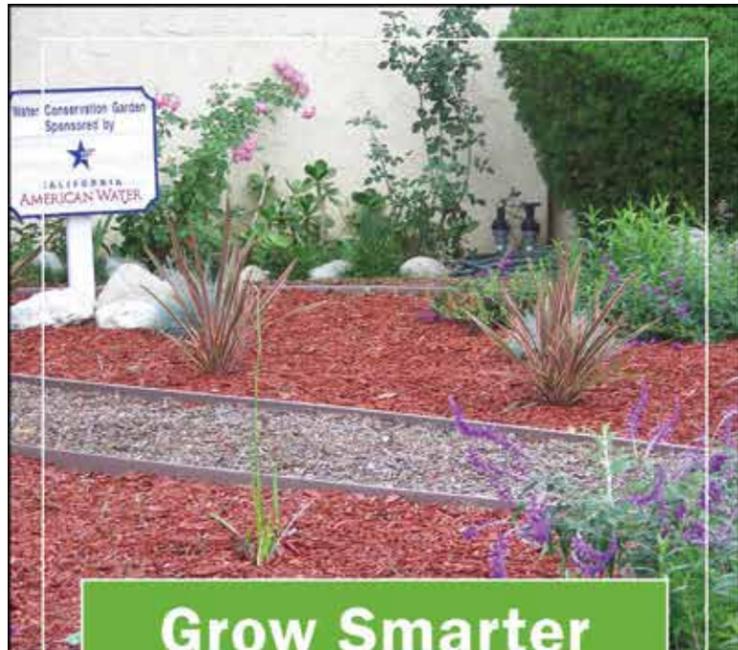
A HOMELESSNESS BUSINESS SEMINAR was attended by 29 representatives of residents, services organizations, and businesses (above) on June 30 at the Duarte Community Center. Below, the panel and audience discussion was moderated by (from left) Duarte Chamber of Commerce Chair Tina Carey; with panelists Naelh Othman, Coordinator, Student Services for DUSD; Duarte Deputy City Manager Karen Herrera; and LASD Duarte Substation Sgt. Tony Haynes.



Ms. Othman has been a champion for this segment of DUSD students for several years. Her role with the district has expanded due to the identification and assistance needed by our students. Starting with a modest goal by the Community Youth Task Force to help, The MIT Closet was started two years ago that provides gently used clothing. Her new endeavor is to create a DUSD Homeless Resource Closet with basic necessities such as school supplies, hygiene kits, and more. Not only does Ms. Othman coordinate the Closet, she works

tirelessly with those families in need. "Often these families are going through situational homelessness such as an unexpected job loss, family status changes, medical expenses or simply not able to make ends meet. They are humble in what they are needing. It could be as simple as clothes for school or job interview, or pencils and paper for them to do their school work, or helping fill out a form for aid." She is challenged with trying to identify resources to meet the ever changing needs of

See Children on page 9



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Smart Conservation Programs Help Save Water and Money.

California American Water encourages its customers to take advantage of rebates for water-saving appliances and Home Water Surveys.

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Information about qualifying devices and other details can be found at MWD's website or by calling the California American Water conservation line at (626) 614-2536.

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Free Home Water Surveys will help you improve water-use efficiency. A Conservation Specialist will visit your home or business to check for leaks and identify ways you can save water everyday. A **free** conservation kit with water-saving devices will be yours to keep. To schedule a Home Water Survey, contact our conservation staff today at (626) 614-2536.



Thank you Duarte!
It's our very 1st anniversary



ChapCare celebrates Duarte and Monrovia residents and thanks those who have chosen ChapCare Lime as their primary healthcare resource. From family medicine, women's health and vision to behavioral health counseling needs, we are proud to have provided over 3,000 primary healthcare visits over the last year.

ChapCare looks forward to another year of providing essential healthcare services that foster healthy people and build strong communities.

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ChapCare announces OB services at Lime HC

Community Health Alliance of Pasadena (ChapCare) recently announced the addition of Obstetrics (OB) services at its Lime Health Center in Monrovia. Early access to OB services during a pregnant woman's first trimester is critical to increasing healthy birth outcomes and early identification and treatment of health conditions among infants, which can prevent death or disability and enable children to reach their full potential.

ChapCare Lime is conveniently located at 513 E. Lime Avenue, Suite 102, Monrovia, just

4 blocks from downtown Monrovia. OB services are available on Wednesdays from 8 a.m.-12 p.m. Chapcare accepts Medi-Cal and Medicare, many Covered California and private insurance plans, and participates in Los Angeles County's My Health LA

(MHLA) Program.

"Improving the well-being of mothers, infants, and children is an important public health goal," said Margaret B. Martinez MPH, ChapCare's Chief Executive Officer. "ChapCare is proud to add OB services to the vast array of primary healthcare services available at our Lime health center."

For more information on ChapCare Lime, please call (626) 398-6300 or visit www.chapcare.org.

CITY OF DUARTE CONTACTS

1600 Huntington Drive, Duarte, CA 91010
(626) 357-7931 • www.AccessDuarte.com
Hours: Monday-Thursday, 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m.



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Website

Continued from page 1

vice requests including reporting graffiti, arranging for an inspection, requesting a no fee yard sale permit and mega menus that enable visitors to intuitively search for information and reach those areas within one to two clicks. Additionally, in keeping with the City's mission statement focusing on integrity and transparency, the website introduces a new "Open Government" allowing visitors to easily access public records request forms, FPPC and public meeting information. Additionally, all public forms available on the website are now in an easy to use, refillable format for residents to easily fill out and print.

In addition to rolling out a new website, the City is also introducing a new social media platform with the website, Nixle. Nixle is the top social media tool for law enforcement information and online community engagement. As a governmental organization, the City is able to subscribe to this service at no-cost. This new tool will serve as the City's primary emergency information link to the community in addition to twitter which is limited to 140 character messages.

For additional information on the new city website, visit www.accessduarte.com or call the City of Duarte at 626-357-7931.

Amazon.com helps FDL

Everyone shops at Amazon, right? Friends of the Duarte Library is now signed up with Amazon to receive charitable contributions. All you need to do is go to "smile.amazon.com" and select Friends of the Duarte Library as your donation organization. Then .05% of your purchases will be donated to the Friends group. That may not sound like much but the money adds up with very little effort.

There are many other opportunities to help supplement the collections and programs at the Duarte Library. Wells Fargo and Edison provided the money to buy books for the K-12 kids. The gently used books in the kiosk at the library provide monies also. There will be another book sale in October to find those treasures you are looking for.

With these donations the Friends can buy books for the library, provide fun and educational programs for the community, and promote reading through events like the Concerts in the Park. Each week in July volunteers have been at the concerts giving away free books to the kids.

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Space is limited • Please RSVP at www.DuarteChamber.com/WBE • (626) 357-3333
For event or exhibitor info contact Diana Burckhard at Diana@DuarteChamber.com
* \$5 donation for Foothill Unity Center is encouraged. ** Winners must be present.

Immaculate Conception Catholic School news

As the new 2016-2017 school year quickly approaches, Immaculate Conception School has some exciting news to share.

Through the generosity of an anonymous donor, Immaculate Conception School has new Chrome books for student use and Smart Boards. We are making great improvements in our technology and science departments. With these valuable resources we can better prepare our students for

the future. Through a grant made possible through the Los Angeles Archdiocese, IC will have state of the art infrastructure allowing all our students to utilize devices without interruption.

Immaculate Conception School will have an Open House Sunday, August 23, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. so the community can see the new science lab and computer lab.

We welcome Mrs. Deborah

Papadopulos to the IC faculty. She has many years of experience teaching TK & K. She will be the Transitional Kindergarten (TK) teacher for our 4 year olds and teach the Meet the Masters art program for grades 1-8. She also will be teaching the Family Fun Mornings on Tuesday from 9-11 a.m. for 2 and 3 year olds.

Registration for fall is on-going. Please contact

our principal, Mrs. Lovano for information or a school tour at

clovano@icschoolmonrovia.org. For more information about Immaculate Conception Catholic School please go to our website www.icschoolmonrovia.org.




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Thursday, August 18, 2016

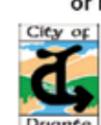
Time : 11-11:30 a.m. Networking
11:30 a.m. -1:00 p.m.- Program

Where: Duarte Community Center, 1600 Huntington Dr., Duarte

Limited Space
Light Lunch will be provided



R.S.V.P to Duarte Chamber at 626-357-3333
or register online at www.duartechamber.com/register-for-an-event



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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 Senior Center serves limited hot lunches Monday through Friday to individuals over age 60 or the spouse of someone over age 60. The suggested donation is \$3. Reservations are requested by calling (626) 357-3513, to receive your lunch you must check in by 11:45 a.m. To make a reservation please do so at least 24 hours in advance for lunch.

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 pick up meals and deliver to homebound seniors. (Meals are delivered M-F between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.) No special training is required, just a compassionate individual who will brighten the days of the recipient. To become a volunteer please contact Peggy Diamond at (626) 357-3513.

ACCESS TRANSPORTATION

Access Transportation 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. There is no cost for this service. Stop by the front desk or call the center to make an appointment at (626) 357-3513.

AARP SMART DRIVER COURSE

The Duarte Senior Center, in cooperation with AARP, will be offering an AARP Driver Safety Class for persons 55 and older and there will be two different classes offered: 8-hour class on Tues. & Thurs., Sept. 13 & 15, from 1-5 p.m.; the 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. If you take the 8-hour course your attendance is required at both sessions. There is a 4-hour refresher course on Thurs., Nov. 10, from 1-5 p.m. Both classes are \$15 for members (AARP card required at registration) and \$20 for non-members. Reservations are required prior to class. No reservations are taken over the phone. For information, please the Senior Center at (626) 357-3513.

FREE BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS

The 2nd Tuesday of every month from 10 a.m.-12 p.m., a nurse from HealthCare Partners will check your blood pressure.

NOTARY SERVICE

The Center offers a FREE notary service. The only requirement is that you're a regular visitor of the Center. She is here the 2nd Tuesday of the month. Appointments required. Stop by the front desk or call the Center to make an appointment at (626) 357-3513.

FREE LEGAL CLINIC

Sara Polinsky, elder law at-

torney, will be at the Center to provide free legal counsel. She is here the 2nd Wednesday of the month. Appointments required by coming in the Senior Center or calling (626) 357-3513.

BINGO

Every Tuesday from 12:45-2:30 p.m. bingo is held. The fee is 25 cents per card. Call the Center for information (626) 357-3513.

BUNCO

The first Wednesday of every month from 12:45-2:45 p.m. The cost of an afternoon of fun is just \$1. Cash prizes sponsored by the Duarte Woman's Club. Please RSVP at the front desk or call the Center at (626) 357-3513.

CRIBBAGE

If you are interested in playing cribbage they get together the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month from 12:30-2 p.m. (They meet once a month during the summer, call center to find out when they are meeting next.) Please sign up at the front desk or call the Center at (626) 357-3513 to get your name on the list.

PING PONG

We have a Ping-Pong table set up in the poolroom. Invite a friend to play, or meet new friends who share a similar interest. Stop by the Center and play a game today!

PICKLEBALL

Current play is held on Fridays from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. and Tuesdays from 9-11 a.m. at Duarte Park, 1344 Bloomdale Street. Call the Center at (626) 357-3513 for further information.

CHESS FOR SENIORS!

On the 1st & 3rd Friday of every month from 11 a.m.-12 p.m., have fun playing one of the world's most popular board games in a casual and social environment. Players may bring their own chess set or purchase from instructor. Call the center at (626) 357-3513, for further questions.

MOVIES

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

BOOK CLUB

The Senior Center's Book Club promotes enjoyable reading and lively discussion. Please join them on the 3rd Monday of every month at 1 p.m. Call the Center at

(626) 357-3513 to see what book they are reading this month.

TECH TIPS

On the second Wednesday of the month at 1 p.m., DLL Technologies, LLC, a local tech support business, will be offering FREE tech tips. They will provide technical support for your computers, laptops, mobile devices and phones. Call (626) 357-3513 for further questions.

GREETING CARD CLASS

Two greeting cards are made each month for a fee of \$5. Bring scissors, adhesive, and colored pencils. Reservations required by signing up at the front desk. There are samples of the cards at the desk on display. For more information, please call (626) 357-3513.

WANTED...EGG SHELLS!!!

Please bring in your eggshells (in a carton) to be made into confetti eggs to be sold at the City Picnic in Sept. Please remember to rinse the shell out otherwise they have a terrible smell.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN DUARTE

Enjoy some conversation with Duarte Councilmember Liz Reilly at the Senior Center once a month. Call the Senior Center at (626) 357-3513 to find out the next time she will be there.

CLASSES

The Duarte Senior Center began taking registration for summer classes on June 13. Classes began the week of June 27.

Fee Classes: Aquatic Exercise, Ballroom Dance, Cross Fit, Exercise With Shelly, Health is our Greatest Wellness, Intro to Computers, Piano/Keyboard, Sewing, Strength Training, Western Line Dance, and Yoga.

Free Ongoing Classes: Cardio Fitness; Ceramics, Chess, English as a Second Language, Guitar-Beginning, Guitar-Intermediate, Knitting, Oil Painting, Spanish-Beginner, Spanish-Advanced Beginner, and Tai Chi/Qigong.

All classes are for adults 55 years and older. For more information, please contact the Duarte Senior Center at (626) 357-3513.

TRIPS AND TOURS

The City of Duarte Parks and Recreation Department began

See Seniors on page 7



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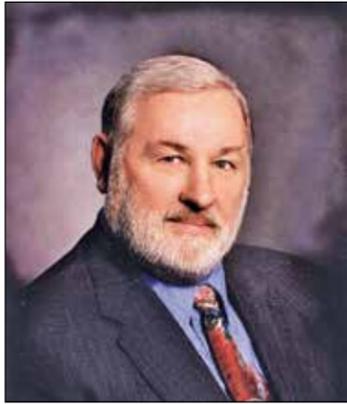
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Citrus College takes educational achievement to the next level

By Dr. Edward C. Ortell
Citrus College Governing Board Member



DR. EDWARD C. ORTELL

As a lifelong education advocate, I have always believed in the value of a high quality education. A good education not only improves the life of the individual, it leads to broad social benefits, such as economic prosperity, technological advancement and global competitiveness.

The residents of the Duarte area are fortunate to live in a region that offers a number of options for a quality education. The accomplishments of Citrus College during the 2015-2016 academic year, including recognition as a regional, state, and national leader, make it one of the best.

This past fall, Citrus College was awarded a \$406,000 grant from the National Science Foundation. This grant allows the college to work with the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena and the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research in Colorado to increase the number

of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) students exposed to career opportunities available within the geosciences.

Citrus College was also one of two community colleges in the state to be awarded the 2015 Chancellor's Student Success Award by the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office. In other fall recognitions, the national publication *Community College Week* recognized Citrus

College as one of the "Top Producers" of associate degrees in the United States, and the college was designated a "Military Friendly School" by GI Jobs magazine for the sixth consecutive year.

This spring, Citrus College received word that it was one of 150 community colleges in the nation invited to compete for the \$1 million Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence for a second time. The college has now advanced to the next phase of the competition.

The Campaign for College Opportunity, an organization devoted to ensuring that the next generation of college-age students in California has the chance to go to college, named Citrus College a "Champion for Higher Education." The college was one of 13 California community colleges and three California State Universities that were honored for leading the way in creating strong transfer pathways. Citrus College is now ranked seventh among the 113 community colleges in the state for awarding Associate

Degrees for Transfer. In addition, *The Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education* has ranked Citrus College 12th among the nation's 1,100 community colleges for the number of degrees awarded to Hispanic students.

Citrus College students earned some very impressive recognition during the 2015-2016 academic year as well. The college's Research in Science and Engineering (RISE) teams participated in several national competitions. The CAPE (Citrus Automotive Physics Eco-marathon) Owls competed in Shell's Eco-marathon competition; the Galactic Owls competed in NASA's Human Exploration Rover Challenge; and the Rocket Owls competed in NASA's Student Launch competition. While all RISE teams did well, the Rocket Owls did exceptionally well. They placed fourth behind Cornell University, the University of Louisville and Vanderbilt University. Citrus College was the only community college invited to compete, and the Rocket Owls brought home

the competition's Educational Engagement Award.

The college's honors students also achieved impressive milestones this past year. Our Beta Nu Eta Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) took first place for their research project, third place for their action project, and were named "Most Distinguished Chapter" in the PTK Nevada/California region. They earned the national designation of "Five Star Chapter" – the highest ranking a PTK chapter can receive – as well as being listed among the "Top 100 Chapters" in the United States. The chapter was also recognized internationally with the International Distinguished Chapter Award and the International Distinguished Honors in Action Award.

As a college focused on student success and completion, Citrus College has clearly demonstrated a commitment to taking the quality of our educational programs to the next level. It's hardly surprising that in 2015-2016, Citrus College was named the "Best Community College" by the readers of the San Gabriel Valley Newsgroup publications for the third consecutive year.

With the implementation of Citrus College's new 2016-2021 Strategic Plan this fall, it is exciting to contemplate the opportunities the future will hold. I look forward to working on behalf of my community in the coming years.

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Seniors

Continued from page 6

taking registration Monday, June 13, for the following excursion: Exciting Los Angeles (Lunch included) Wednesday, July 6, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Fee: \$41 regular price (\$8 discount for residents = \$33, \$4 for non-residents = \$37); Doheny Beach BBQ & San Clemente Shopping (BBQ lunch included) Wednesday, August 31, 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Fee: \$35 regular price (\$8 discount for residents = \$27, \$4 for non-residents = \$31); USS Iowa Battleship Tour (Lunch included) Wednesday, September 14, 8:30 a.m. - 5:15 p.m. Fee: \$54 regular price (\$8 discount for residents = \$46, \$4 for non-residents = \$50).

NO REFUNDS: In the event of a participant cancellation, an attempt will be made to fill the spot from the waiting list. If successful, the participant will receive a gift certificate equal to the amount of the trip minus a \$10 service charge. We accept Visa, MasterCard and Discover with purchases over \$25. For any further questions please call (626) 357-3513.

ON THE MOVE RIDERS CLUB

Join Duarte's "On the Move Rider's Club for one of our upcoming trips. It's a great way to learn more about our public transportation systems. Reservations required and forms must be filled out prior to trip. Come by the Senior Center and grab a flyer to their next destination or call the Center at (626) 357-3513.

TRAIL TREKKERS

Do you like to hike? Come join the rest of us in a hike. Bring water, snack, lug soles, hat and sunscreen. Remember: no dog's allowed/rain cancels. Tennis shoes OK on this hike. Sign up at the front desk or call the Center at (626) 357-3513 to RSVP and see where the next hike is going to be. Reservations required and forms must be filled out prior to trip.



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Children

Continued from page 3

the homeless students. "It breaks my heart to not be able to provide

something as simple as a meal voucher because the resources have dried up. As a community we can come together and remove barriers to our student's education." Her plea is heartfelt and

shared by those who have joined the Homeless Children Initiative.

During open discussion, many resources and needs were identified, and some needs were able to be addressed as a direct result of the seminar.

These connections are an invaluable resource. Mirna de Lira Lopez, CEO of DLL Technologies, LLC is creating a real time database for both communities to use to have all avenues at their fingertips. This database is expected to be up and operational by the end of the summer.

So what are the next steps? We need your assistance. We are looking for residents and businesses that could aid these students. It could be services, school supplies, or meal certificates.

We are also looking for resources that are out there and building a database that both Duarte and Monrovia school districts can access that includes current and relevant information.

Please contact the Duarte Chamber office at (626) 357-3333 or info@duartechamber.com if you are interested in joining or providing information to the collaborative.

Meet wildlife at Museum Family Day August 6

Appearing live at the Duarte Historical Museum will be a red-tail hawk named Naomi, a barn owl named Sora and a great-horned owl named Professor Woody Owlbert. A program designed to allow residents to meet and get a close look at local wildlife will be presented by Colleen McKay, Regional Park Superintendent I, from Whittier Narrows at 2 p.m. on August 6 at the Duarte Historical Museum, 777 Encanto Parkway, Duarte. Feel pelts from possums, skunks and raccoons, and even deer and bear. Get a close look at a few friendly snakes. This family oriented program is free of charge and children are invited. For more information call (626) 358-0329.



COLLEEN MCKAY poses with Professor Woody Owlbert. Photo by Claudia Heller

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Duarte USD enters a new era

Dr. Allan J. Mucerino, Superintendent,
Duarte Unified School District

A new era in the Duarte Unified School District has begun under the watchful eye of an administration and a Board of Education who are committed to foster motivated, dedicated learners and prepare them to overcome the unforeseen challenges of tomorrow. And, there are many challenges. According to the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), established in 1961 to promote policies that will improve the economic and social well-being of people around the world, yesterday's generation of teachers could expect that what they taught would last their students a lifetime. Today, because of rapid economic and social change, schools have to prepare students for jobs that have not yet been created, technologies that have not yet been invented and problems that we don't yet know will arise. Our dilemma is that routine cognitive skills, the skills that are easiest to teach and easiest to test, are also the skills that are easiest to digitize, automate or outsource. This is exactly what has happened as technological advancements and globalization gobble up opportunities that once were squarely in the domain of the middle class. Today's educational model is not useful in tomorrow's world.

Educational success is no longer about reproducing content knowledge. Instead, it is about extrapolating from what we know and applying that knowledge to novel situations. Studying globalization and education around the world, the OECD has captured the essence of what defines an educated person today: Someone who can apply creative and critical approaches to problem-solving and decision-making. But, it is much more than how a person thinks. It is equally about how a person works. His or her ability to communicate and collaborate. His or her capacity to recognize and exploit the potential of new technologies. His or her ability to avert the risks of a fast-moving technological society.

Then there is global citizenship. If our students are to be prepared for the world they are about to inherit, their capacity to live in a multi-faceted world as an active and engaged citizen is critical. In fact, this is the greatest of all opportunities for students because a global citizen influences what they want to learn and how they want to learn it, ultimately shaping the role of educators. Until students demand to learn what they will need in the world that awaits them, I'm afraid some educators and some schools will look exactly like they looked 50 years ago.

Duarte Unified School District will not look or behave like it did 50 years ago. Or even 20 or 10 years ago. We have taken the last six months to craft a strategic plan that thrusts Duarte into the forefront of the progressive education movement. What students learn, the way students learn, and how students are taught has all changed. The schoolhouse dominated by rote learning for years on end before deeper, more invigorating learning is permitted to emerge, and then for only the few who reach that level, has gone the way of the cassette and 8-track tape. Why? Because there are many more students in today's technologically advanced society than there were fifty years ago who are unable to connect what is going on in school to their real lives. They often lose interest. Many drop out of school.

Duarte Unified School District's 5-year strategic plan is known as the Competitive Advantage Plan because we are the competitive advantage that will make a difference in the lives of our students and our community. While we may have taken awhile to adapt our education model to today's world, we now are poised to model for educators worldwide how to produce today's students for tomorrow's world. Our new vision: **21st Century Schools Producing 21st Century Students.**



DR. ALLAN MUCERINO

Duarte USD launches 5-Year Strategic Plan

When students and teachers return to school at Duarte Unified School District (DUSD) on August 15 it will mark the beginning of the Competitive Advantage Plan (CAP), the district's five-year strategic plan for improvement.

A resolution to adopt the CAP was approved unanimously by the Board of Education on July 21, 2016. This plan will be used as a blueprint for the next five years as the District's fundamental guide for priorities and decision making discussions. The CAP is the result of findings based on a comprehensive nine-month data collection process.

This included a community-wide survey administered by the Claremont Graduate University's Evaluation Center that yielded over 4,200 respondents. Additional details and strategies were collected through over 50 focus group sessions with students, parents, certificated and classified staff at all school sites, a variety of members of the community, including civic and business leaders, parents exiting DUSD, alumni, and faith leaders in the community. In all, over 5,000 stakeholders participated in the process.

All of the data collected was

vetted through the district's Community Education Council, comprised of representatives from all stakeholder groups, who together with the District Leadership Team met regularly throughout the year to examine the data, discuss strategies, and develop the actionable items contained in the plan.

"This plan is our beacon to guide us in the next five years," said Superintendent Allan Mucerino. "It is the compilation of much study and work through the efforts of a writing team, a steering committee of staff, and a steering committee of community members. It reflects an honest look at where we are and where we need to be as we meet the needs of our students. The Competitive Advantage Plan is our blueprint to produce the 21st Century learners that are necessary for success in the world."

As a result, the district adopted a new vision statement: "21st Century Schools Producing 21st Century Students." The mission statement was also updated to read: "The mission of the Duarte Unified School District is to provide the knowledge, skills and inspirations for each student to be successful in college, career and life."

The single dominant theme of

the CAP is rigor, specifically, rigorous academic standards, rigorous accountability standards and the rigorous pursuit of identifying and addressing the individual needs of students.

While stakeholders identified the rigor of the Early College Program at Duarte High School, specialized STEM and engineering courses, Computer Aided Design (CAD), Advanced Placement classes, City of Hope internships, and the International Baccalaureate program at Maxwell as examples of rigor and areas of strength, rigor was also identified as a primary need desired by stakeholders. As a result of these findings, rigor has been woven throughout the CAP as the standard by which all actions and expenditures will be measured.

Other needs that emerged from the findings included more support around classroom technology, digital learning resource specialists on site, focused professional development targeted at instructional context and the Common Core, vocational programs for non-college bound students, more specialized courses, electives, and career technical education (CTE) programs in

See Strategic Plan on page 13

Duarte USD schools prepare for opening day, August 15

Students attending Duarte Unified School District will start the 2016-2017 school year on Monday, August 15. Faculty and staff have been eagerly preparing for their arrival.

Beginning August 1, the District and school offices will be open during regular operating hours. Staff members will be available to provide assistance to parents and students prior to the first day of school with information about start and dismissal times, school supply lists, uniforms, bus transportation, and vaccination requirements.

For students attending Duarte High School, a new electronic registration process will take place this year. During August 2-5, students must be accompanied by their parents to register for classes, obtain textbooks, take student ID pictures and sign up for clubs and sports. Parents have the option to go online to complete the registration form

prior to August 2. The assigned registration time and date for each student and details about the registration process have been mailed home. Freshman Orientation will be on August 12 from 8:00 a.m. to noon. Link Crew will host this event for all incoming 9th grade students to get them acclimated to the campus and excited for the new school year. For questions about registration or orientation, please call (626) 599-5702 or visit the Duarte High School website at www.DHSFalcons.org.

Registration for students attending Northview Intermediate School will take place August 8 for incoming 7th graders and August 9 for incoming 8th graders. Times for registration for both dates are:

9-10:30 a.m. – Last names beginning with A-I
10:30-11:30 a.m. – Last names beginning with J-R
11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. – Last names beginning with S-Z

The make-up registration date is August 9 from 3-6 p.m. Also, on August 10 from 8 a.m. to Noon, Northview will be having a Positive Behavior and Intervention Strategies (PBIS) Kick-Off Day. Incoming 7th grade students will be paired up with 8th grade students to become familiarized with expected behaviors and the concept of "Cardinals SOAR." Staff members will conduct breakout sessions to explain academic expectations and extra-curricular activities. For more information, call (626) 599-5600 or visit the school website at www.NorthviewIntermediate.org.

The Mount Olive Innovation & Technology High School (M.I.T.) office will be open and staff will be available beginning August 1 to assist students and families.

If you have questions, call (626) 599-5901 or visit the school website at www.MountOliveInnovation.org.

Superintendent Mucerino will welcome all DUSD employees back to launch the new school year at Convocation to be held on August 11 beginning with breakfast at the Northview Cafeteria at 7:30 a.m.

"The collective accomplishments of our students and staff in 2015-16 have thrust us into a new school year that is sure to be among the most exciting in the recent history of DUSD," stated Superintendent Mucerino. "We have so much momentum going that it will be hard to stop us from realizing our goal of being second to none, a model school district with a focus on results. I hope you share my enthusiasm and plan to make this year your best year ever, whether you're a student, a teacher, or a member of our support staff. As I sign off on my Spanish voice message every week – Adelante!"

All DUSD elementary schools will be hosting a variety of events to welcome students back to campus

ANDRES DUARTE ELEMENTARY

The annual Pancake Breakfast is August 9 starting at 8 a.m. and all Cougar families are invited to meet Principal Joilyn Campitiello, who returns to that position after four years in the District Office. Kindergarten Orientation will take place on August 9 at 10 a.m. for parents followed by a Meet and Greet at 11 a.m. For more information, call (626) 599-5100 or visit the Andres Duarte website at www.AndresDuarteElementary.org.

BEARDSLEE ELEMENTARY

"Camp ABC" is August 8 and August 9 for incoming TK and kindergarten students. Details will be mailed home to all families. The Bears Welcome Back event will be August 11 from 4-5 p.m. in front of the cafeteria. All are invited to meet the school staff as well as other families. Spirit wear will be available for purchase and the BPSA will provide cookies and drinks. Class lists will be posted. For more information, call (626) 599-5200 or visit the Beardslee website at www.BeardsleeElementary.org.

MAXWELL ELEMENTARY

Maxwell will host an Ice-Cream Social and Kindergarten Orientation

on August 11 from 4-5 p.m. Team Maxwell gear purchased on line at <http://www.fspdesigns.com/maxwellib> can be picked up at this time. For more information, call (626) 599-5302 or visit the Maxwell website at www.MaxwellElementary.org.

ROYAL OAKS ELEMENTARY

"Fall Round Up" for Royal Oaks students will be held on August 11 starting with new kindergarten families at 3:30 p.m. All new families should attend orientation in the cafeteria at 4 p.m. Class assignments for new students will be available at 4:30 p.m. For more information, call (626) 599-5400 or visit the school website at www.RoyalOaksElementary.org.

VALLEY VIEW ELEMENTARY

The Dolphins will celebrate the return to school with an Ice Cream Social on August 10 at 4 p.m. for all students, parents and staff, hosted by the PTA. New Student Orientation is August 10 at 5 p.m. in the cafeteria for students new to the school, as well as TK and kindergarten. Supply lists can be picked up at the school office after August 1 or online at www.ValleyViewElementarySchool.org. Call (626) 599-5500 for more information.

New Administrators bolster Duarte Team for 2016-17

Superintendent Dr. Allan Mucerino welcomes eight new administrators as the Duarte United School District retools and reloads for the challenges ahead in the upcoming school year.

Faced with 14 years of declining enrollment, hiring new talented administrators and repositioning staff already within the organization who are qualified to meet the upcoming needs of DUSD's students is a district priority.

"The acquisition of talent and the positioning of those individuals in the best possible position for success is one of the most important roles of a leader," said Dr. Mucerino. "In adding and repositioning these individuals, the Board has helped us better prepare our schools and our District for the needs on the horizon."

"We are fortunate to have added several talented professionals and we are pleased that several of our returning team members have

accepted new challenges."

The list includes new positions for current Duarte USD employees Rick Crosby (moving from principal at Northview Intermediate to Director of Personnel), Joilyn Campitiello (new Director of Assessment and Title I, II, III Compliance and returning to principal at Andres Duarte Elementary after serving the past four years in the District Office), Eric Ramos (new Chief Technology Officer from former

teaching position at Northview), Naelh Othman (new Coordinator of Student Services and former counselor and consultant in the District) and Stephanie Minardi (new Coordinator of Special Education from prior post as Program Specialist).

New to the Duarte USD team are administrators Dr. Mark Newell (principal at Northview Intermediate and Transition Specialist) and Jesus Ruiz (Director of Special Education). New posi-

tions were also created at Duarte High School in a reorganization that created Deans of Activities (Jennifer Garcia, formerly teacher at Royal Oaks Elementary) and Dean of Athletics (James Heggins, also new football coach and formerly at Baldwin Park High School).

Dr. Mark Sims will continue as principal of Duarte High School and also serve as the Director of Secondary Program Compliance.

DIRECTOR OF PERSONNEL: RICK CROSBY

Rick Crosby takes on a new challenge in the Duarte USD District Office as Director of Personnel, his first district-level position after years as a site-based administrator. He has been principal at Northview the last two years and was principal at Andres Duarte Elementary for two years prior to that. He came to DUSD from Bonita and Monrovia where he was a teacher and assistant principal.

Beginning his 20th year in education, Crosby feels like his "mission in life has been working with kids to make sure they can succeed in whatever dreams and goals they have in life."

Crosby embraces the challenge of a new position, saying, "I look forward to the great things ahead of us in Duarte Unified and feel I will be working at ground zero in the Personnel Department with teachers and staff as we try to create a better learning environment for our students."

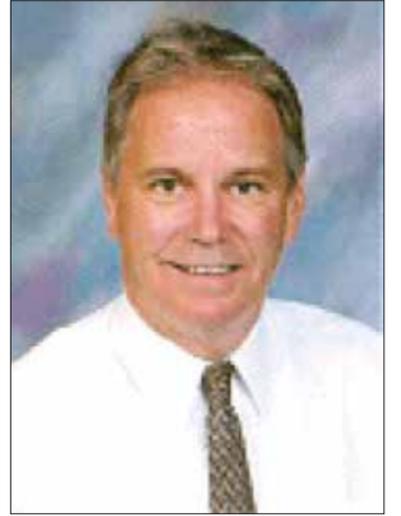


PRINCIPAL, NORTHVIEW INTERMEDIATE: MARK NEWELL

Mark Newell has served as principal at Hawthorne High School in the Centinela Valley Union High School District for the past eight years, and before that served as principal at Edgewood Academy in Bassett. He began his career in teaching in the Los Angeles Unified School District and also previously worked at Compton Unified.

"You know how sometimes a coach has stayed with one team so long that they are not hearing his message?" he asked. "That was what I was starting to feel at Hawthorne. It was a great school and a great job for me, but I was looking for a new challenge."

"Considering the changes that are on the horizon in Duarte, this looked like a great chance for me to work in a great district and with a great administrative team."



DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL EDUCATION: JESUS RUIZ

Jesus Ruiz comes to Duarte USD after working in the Centinela Valley Union High School District as Coordinator of Special Education, where he worked closely with Dr. Mucerino.

"I believe in a teamwork approach and have very high expectations for all students and staff," said Ruiz. "I will work collaboratively, on a daily basis, with all stakeholders to ensure that our students receive the most appropriate public education according to their needs. I am also a parent of a person with a disability and he has made me a better human being, more compassionate and caring to others."

Ruiz, whose native language is Spanish, has worked at a variety of school positions including custodian, special education aide, special education teacher, assistant principal, and district administrator.



PRINCIPAL, ANDRES DUARTE ELEMENTARY & DIRECTOR OF ASSESSMENT AND TITLE I, II, III COMPLIANCE: JOILYN CAMPITIELLO

Joilyn Campitiello has served Duarte USD for 29 years, beginning as an elementary teacher at Andres Duarte and Beardslee, serving as the District's first literacy coach, working on special assignment, then as principal at Andres Duarte for 10 years (2002-12) and as EdLeader21 in the District Office the last four years.

A former L.A. County Teacher of the Year, she looks forward to returning to the school she led for so many years.

"Bringing Andres Duarte back to its former glory," she said of her motivation. "We were one of only 8 percent of schools to get out of program improvement and we brought our API score up more than 300 points to 820. There have been three principals here in the last three years and there is a lot of rebuilding to do."

CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER: ERIC RAMOS

Eric Ramos has been a teacher of 7th and 8th Grade Math and AVID in DUSD for the past seven years. He has also coached cross country and sponsored a guitar club. He came to teaching after rising to management positions with Enterprise Car Rentals.

"I look forward to using all the wonderful tools and infrastructure that the district has already set up and leading our teacher and staff technology leaders," he said. "We will spread innovation throughout the district as we meet the needs of our students while pushing them to collaborate, be creative and critically think with 21st Century Skills."

Ramos is proud of his ability to share a passion for learning on all levels at Duarte USD, because "our kids deserve the best education and we can offer exciting opportunities."



DEAN OF ACTIVITIES, DUARTE HIGH: JENNIFER GARCIA

Jennifer Garcia is proud of the fact she attended schools in DUSD (Royal Oaks, Northview and Duarte HS) before moving on to UC Davis where she received her bachelor's degree in psychology. The 2005 DHS graduate has been serving as a 6th grade teacher at Royal Oaks after previously teaching in several positions as a substitute in the District.

"I am ecstatic about working with the staff at Duarte High School to create a safe, fun, and 21st Century-based learning environment for all students," said Garcia. "I look forward to making positive changes that will boost school spirit and student involvement at school and in the community."

"I will encourage members of the community to come watch the Duarte Falcons at sports games and events. My vision is to make Duarte High School the place where everyone near and far wants to attend because of the original and exciting events that are held there."

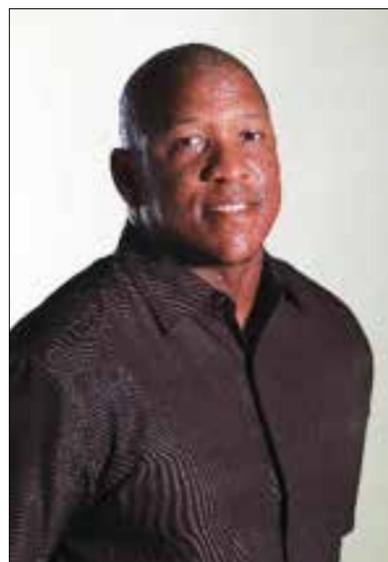


COORDINATOR OF STUDENT SERVICES: NAELH OTHMAN

Naelh Othman has served Duarte USD as a consultant the last five years and has counseled students at Mt. Olive Innovation and Technology High School.

She started in education as a middle school teacher and later taught at the high school level, but "realized the many barriers and obstacles my students encountered, so I felt a calling to go into counseling."

"Serving youth and families is why I got into this career," she continued. "I am very passionate about student services. My goal is to share these resources equitably and assist teachers and parents in ensuring the success of our students. Every child has the right to an excellent education, to feel safe at school, and to know they have caring adults all around them to help guide, educate and inspire them to succeed."



DEAN OF ATHLETICS, DUARTE HIGH: JAMES HEGGINS

James Heggins has been a teacher, football coach and athletic director at Baldwin Park High School in recent years, while acquiring his masters. He comes to Duarte in the dual role as the administrator in charge of athletics, as well as the football coach.

"I look forward to the challenge and the opportunity this job provides," he said. "I enjoy the chance to provide leadership, and to coach the coaches. I've learned as a head football coach that you have to make sure the coaches know the concepts and techniques you believe in that leads to a team that works together on game night."

Heggins believes the role as athletic director will challenge him to set priorities. "The teams that are in season right now are the ones with the greatest immediate needs but that doesn't mean you can ignore other coaches and teams. My job will be to help establish the leadership in teach program and make sure we're on the right path to make student-athletes want to attend our school."

STEAM Summer School a success at Duarte USD

Summer school in the Duarte Unified School District (DUSD) was a popular learning option, based on the numbers of students participating in the program at three locations from July 1 to 29.

Duarte High School was a success, judging by the number of students who took classes for either remedial purposes or to get ahead. Associate principal Luis Haro, who served as principal of the summer school program, reported that more than 600 students were in attendance.

Classes offered included core classes and electives including Physical Education, Freshman Health and Success, Digital Photography, Music Appreciation, Graphic Design, Integrated Math 1, Algebra II, Geometry, Earth Science, Biology, English 9, 10 and 11, World Civilization, U.S. History, Special Education Math and English, Community Based Instruction, Adult Transition, and Plato Online Credit Recovery.

At Northview Intermediate School, more than 200 students in grades 5th through 8th participated in a program that also ran July 1-29.

The opportunity was especially noteworthy for incoming 5th and 6th grade stu-

dents, who got to participate in choosing their own schedules from a list of classes. Included were Math and English Enrichment, Theater, Drama and Improvisation, Physical Activities, Scrapbooking and Art Activities, Special Education, Recovery and Support, Science, Components of Physics and Engineering, as well as Green Screen Moving Production.

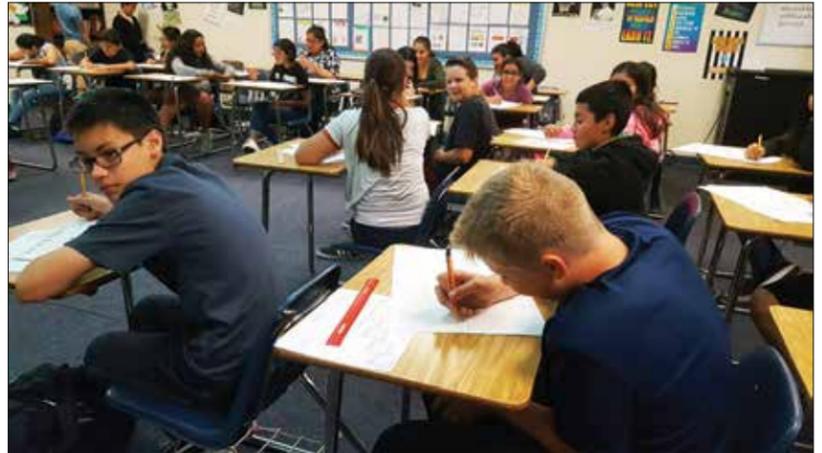
The opportunities to learn included cooking, creating movies, making magic in math, telling a personal biography, script writing, working out, practicing yoga, learning about health, creatively writing, storyboarding, making personal scrapbooks, developing and building their own inventions, and using and creating with technology.

Scott Moses was summer school principal at Northview and praised the engaged and invested students who had a great time learning.

Beardslee Elementary School's STEAM summer program also attracted large numbers, with 360 students in attendance. Students from all five Duarte elementary schools, as well as from outside schools and districts, participated in the STEAM program.

The children enjoyed a month of learning and fun involving science experiments, technology application, engineering projects, artistic expression, math exploration, and learning the language of Mandarin, according to summer principal Erin Fish.

The regular school year for students attending Duarte Unified schools starts Aug. 15, 2016.



Strategic Plan

Continued from page 10

careers such as culinary arts/hospitality, health careers, biotechnology, computer science focused on designing, building, and understanding interactive media, expansion of the Early College programs, recruitment of highly effective teachers, competitive salary and benefits structure to attract and maintain those teachers, and defining clear standards of behavior, and site autonomy.

Converting PK-6 elementary schools into neighborhood PK-8 magnet schools was dominant in focus group discussions. Student safety, student support, and logistical implications central to the planning process of restructuring the district were central to the discussion and became actionable items in the CAP.

Regarding extra-curricular programs, the desire for improvements in the arts and athletic programs and facilities including playgrounds, courts, fields, the DHS gym and locker rooms emerged in surveys and focus group sessions as a primary need and also became actionable items in the CAP.

The CAP creates optimal learning conditions despite the fiscal, educational, and human resource challenges that have been caused by fourteen consecutive years of declining enrollment and the organizational instability it has created.

Four pillars were identified that serve as the foundation for the CAP. These principles will guide every action taken by the district. Subsequently, they also are the district's Local Control Accountability Plan goals. With the adoption of the CAP, Duarte Unified will now be an organization founded upon the four pillars listed below:

Results-Focused: The district will reduce the achievement gap equitably between the most successful and least successful students, regardless of their race or ethnicity or social or economic circumstances.

Service-Centered: The district will create a culture of service grounded in the promise that all people will be treated with dignity and respect.

21st Century Schools: The district will prepare teachers and leaders to create the conditions for students to think critically, solve problems creatively and collaboratively, and compete in the world of complex environmental, political, technological, and socioeconomic challenges.

Strong Partnerships: The district will create a culture where partnering entities work together to integrate and complement each other in support of student success.

These four pillars represent the voices of our students, parents, staff, and community members.

Together these principles are threaded throughout the CAP and are reflected in each of the seven primary strategies that drive the plan. The seven strategies are listed below:

1. Reconfigure the district into four PK-8 magnet schools, a comprehensive high school education complex and an alternative-options learning center all strategically designed to create the conditions for all students and staff to thrive and realize their potential.

2. Create an equitable education for all students.

3. Partner with the Orange County School of the Arts, to be known as California School of the Arts- San Gabriel Valley, to create a landmark and replicable compact between a school district and public charter school.

4. Develop and implement a master facilities plan for physical space and technology infrastructure required to achieve our objectives and realize our vision and mission.

5. Develop and implement a rigorous assessment system aligned with the Common Core Standards to effectively analyze student performance data at more frequent intervals in order to improve instruction, close the Achievement Gap, and ensure that all students meet or exceed district standards.

6. Incrementally increase the average teacher, staff, and leadership team salaries to be no less than the median for Los Angeles

County.
7. Build trust through transparency, strengthen engagement, and expand outreach efforts to positively impact student achievement by optimizing systems of communication for all stakeholders.

The Competitive Advantage Plan for the Duarte Unified School District is a living document and will serve as a blueprint for the future and a report card for the past as the district evaluates it annually.

Superintendent Mucerino and the district wish to thank the 12 members of the CAP Writing Team, as well as the 27 staff members and 26 community members of the CAP Steering Committee for their tireless efforts in producing the 72-page CAP document.

Principals, administrators, teachers and staff at all district locations will be happy to discuss how the CAP will work at

CSArts-SGV

Continued from page 1

and community engagement, and advocacy-oriented administrative and leadership systems," stated Superintendent Mucerino.

Another one of the seven strategies outlined in the district's five-year strategic plan is the reconfiguration from PK-6 elementary schools to PK-8 magnet schools focused on STEM and the arts. Based on a comprehensive review of the district's enrollment trends, it was clear that 70% of all students transferring out of DUSD exited at the transition point from elementary to middle school. To address this issue, DUSD elemen-

their site. The community is also encouraged to read the plan in its entirety by visiting the district website at www.duarteusd.org.

tary schools will house students PK-8 beginning in 2017-18.

The transition from Northview being a 7-8 Intermediate School to the CSArts-SGV public charter high school, will also take place at the start of the 2017-18 school year. At that time, incoming 7th grade students will remain at their current elementary school. For 8th grade students in 2017-18, a secure satellite campus will be designed between the current Northview site and Duarte High School. The 8th grade students will remain in a self-contained setting, separate from the high school students, taught by 8th grade staff, and led by Dr. Mark Newell, a veteran principal with K-8, Middle School, and comprehensive high school experience, who begins his tenure in 2016-17. Though separated, 8th grade students will have many opportunities as

See Transition on page 14

Free and reduced-price meals in DUSD

Duarte Unified School District has announced its policy for providing free and reduced-price meals for children served under the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program. The central office has a copy of the policy, which may be reviewed by any interested party.

The household size and income criteria identified below will be used to determine eligibility for free, reduced-price, or full-price meal benefits. Children from households whose income is at or below the levels shown here are eligible for free or reduced-price meals. Children who receive Food Stamp (FS), California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs), Kinship Guardianship Assistance Payments (Kin-GAP), or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) benefits are automatically eligible for free meals regardless of the income of the household in which they reside.

Eligibility for a foster child is based on a separate application and solely on the amount of the child's "personal use" income.

Application forms are being

distributed to all households with a letter informing them of the availability of free and reduced-price meals for enrolled children. Applications are also available at the principal's office in each school. To apply for free or reduced-price meal benefits, households must complete an application and return it to the school for processing. Applications may be submitted at any time during the school year. The information households provide on the application will be used to determine meal eligibility and may be verified at any time during the school year by school or program officials.

Requirements for school officials to determine eligibility for free and reduced-price benefits are as follows: For households receiving Food Stamp, CalWORKs, Kin-GAP, or FDPIR benefits – applications need only include the enrolled child(ren)'s name, Food Stamp, CalWORKs, Kin-GAP, or FDPIR case number, and the signature of an adult household member. For households who do not list a Food Stamp, CalWORKs, Kin-GAP, or FDPIR case number, the application

must include the names of all household members, the amount and source of the income received by each household member, and the signature and corresponding Social Security number of an adult household member. If the household member who signs the application does not have a Social Security number, the household member must indicate on the application that a Social Security number is not available.

Under the provisions of the free and reduced-price meal policy, the determining official(s), as designated by the sponsor/agency, shall review applications and determine eligibility. Parents or guardians dissatisfied with the eligibility ruling may discuss the decision with the determining official on an informal basis. Parents may also make a formal request for an appeal hearing of the decision and may do so orally or in writing with the sponsor/agency's hearing official. Parents or guardians should contact their child(ren)'s school(s) for specific information regarding the name of the determining official and/or hearing official for a specific school, agency, or district.

If a household member becomes unemployed or if the household size increases, the household should contact the school. Such changes may make the children of the household eligible for benefits if the household's income falls at or below the levels shown above.

Households that receive Food Stamp, CalWORKs, Kin-GAP, or FDPIR benefits may not have to complete an Application for Free or Reduced-Price Meals. School officials will determine eligibility for free meals based on documentation obtained directly from the Food Stamp, CalWORKs, Kin-GAP, or FDPIR office that a child is a member of a household currently receiving Food Stamp or FDPIR benefits or an assistance unit receiving CalWORKs or Kin-GAP benefits.

School officials will notify households of their eligibility, but those who do not want their child(ren) to receive free meals must contact the school. Food Stamp, CalWORKs, Kin-GAP, and FDPIR households should complete an application if they are not notified of their eligibility by August 15, 2016.

Free and Reduced-Price Scales										
Household size	Free Eligibility Scale for Lunch, Breakfast, and Milk					Reduced-Price Eligibility Scale for Lunch and Breakfast				
	Year	Month	Twice Per Month	Every Two Weeks	Week	Year	Month	Twice Per Month	Every Two Weeks	Week
1	\$ 15,444	\$ 1,287	\$ 644	\$ 594	\$ 297	\$ 21,978	\$ 1,832	\$ 916	\$ 846	\$ 423
2	20,826	1,736	868	801	401	29,637	2,470	1,235	1,140	570
3	26,208	2,184	1,092	1,008	504	37,296	3,108	1,554	1,435	718
4	31,590	2,633	1,317	1,215	608	44,955	3,747	1,874	1,730	865
5	36,972	3,081	1,541	1,422	711	52,614	4,385	2,193	2,024	1,012
6	42,354	3,530	1,765	1,629	815	60,273	5,023	2,512	2,319	1,160
7	47,749	3,980	1,990	1,837	919	67,951	5,663	2,832	2,614	1,307
8	53,157	4,430	2,215	2,045	1,023	75,647	6,304	3,152	2,910	1,455
For each additional family member, add:										
	\$ 5,408	\$ 451	\$ 226	\$ 208	\$ 104	\$ 7,696	\$ 642	\$ 321	\$ 296	\$ 148

The U.S. Department of Agriculture prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees, and applicants for employment on the bases of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the Department. (Not all prohibited bases will apply to all programs and/or employment activities.)

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.

Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339; or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish). "USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

Duarte Teen Center

The Duarte Teen Center is located at 1400 Buena Vista St., Duarte. Regular hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 3-7 p.m. Special summer hours of 10:30 a.m.-7 p.m. will be held through July 22.

All Duarte teens grades 9 through 12 with school ID are welcome.

Participation is free, but Teen Center registration packets must be filled out and returned.

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Amazing Acts Week!

On July 18-22 from 3-5 p.m., join us for a week of theater arts, skits, a poetry jam, and the week will end with a performing arts show.

The theme is "Hollywood Walk of Fame."

It's a Small World After All Week!

On August 1-5 from 3-5 p.m., the Teen Center will offer a free week full of exploring other countries and their traditions, music, beautiful displays and a special closing event with dinner! Global Peace and Unity is the theme!

Hip Hop Dance Camp Explosion!

This FREE camp will be a high energy, fun, educational course breaking down Hip Hop movement for all levels of dancers. It will end in a culminating dance routine to a new and popular Hip Hop song.

Date: July 18-22

Time: 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Advanced Class!

Date: July 18-22

Time: 1-4 p.m.

Duarte Boxing Show

Attention All Boxing Fans!

The Duarte Youth Boxing Club is proud to announce the presentation of the Duarte Youth Boxing Club Boxing Show. This will be an exciting day for fans and supporters of amateur youth boxing in Duarte and surrounding communities.

The show will be held on Saturday, August 20, at Duarte High School located at 1565 Central Ave. Tickets are \$8 in advance and \$10 at the door. They can be purchased at the Duarte Teen Center. Children 11 years and under \$3, Children 3 years and under are free. Doors will open at 11:30 a.m. First bout begins at 1 p.m.

Back to School Blastoff Barbecue!

On Thursday, August 17 the Mayor's Youth Council will host the back to school barbecue! Reconnect with friends, listen to music, join us for XBOX ONE, pool and ping pong contest, eat hot dogs and cheeseburgers. Seniors and Freshmen eat free. Fee: \$2

Teen Survivor-Duarte Island

September 12-17 from 3:30-5:30 p.m., teens will be assigned to a tribe and compete in challenges, task, and puzzles against another tribe each day.

At the end of each day the losing tribe will vote off someone from their tribe who will become a jury member and at the completion of the week they will select a sole survivor who will take home top prizes!

REGULAR ACTIVITIES Boys Night Out!

This program is for boys grades 9-12. Participants will

meet Tuesday, August 9 and 23, from 3:30-5 p.m. Come join our club just for guys! Fun trips, group discussions, sports, and much more!

Drama Club

Held Fridays from 4-5:30 p.m. The membership fee is \$5 every 6 months.

Club members will participate in poetry jams, oratory, skits, and improvisations.

Girls Night Out!

This program is for girls grades 9-12. Participants will meet Friday, August 12 and 26, from 3:30-5 p.m. to discuss various topics ranging from peer pressure, goals, self-esteem, relationships and much more.

Nutrition/Cooking Class

On Wednesdays from 3:30-5 p.m. the Teen Center offers cooking classes for \$2 per class. Learn to make quick and easy nutritious meals, while having fun with friends!

SAVE THE DATE!

The Amazing Family Race to the Finish!

The Amazing Family Race to the Finish is a special event to promote family unity and good health and exercise, while highlighting various city facilities.

The focus of the event is for teams of 4 family or friends to race by foot or transit bus through out the City of Duarte solving clues, competing in challenges, solving puzzles and overcoming obstacles, with the goal of being the first team to complete the race! Cash prizes and more will be awarded!

Call the Duarte Teen Center for more information. Space in the race will be limited so sign up now!

Date: Saturday, October 15

Time: 8 a.m. Check In

Fee: \$40 per team

Registration Location: Duarte Teen Center, 1400 Buena Vista Street, Duarte, (626) 303-0863

Registration Date: Now until October 10

Rules

- Teams of 4 family or friends
- All team members must be age 10 or over
- One member of the team must be 18 or older
- You may only travel by bus or walking/running
- Teams MUST stay together during event at all times

Transition

Continued from page 13

a result of being close to Duarte High School, such as curricular and extra-curricular opportunities currently not afforded them as a result of low enrollment at Northview.

The California School of the Arts-San Gabriel Valley at Duarte Unified will be the second campus for OCSA that was established in 1987. Currently headquartered in Santa Ana, it serves over 2,200 students in grades 7 to 12 and is credited with leading the revitalization of the Santa Ana downtown area. OCSA's current campus operates under a charter authorized by the Santa Ana Unified School District and draws students from 121 cities throughout Orange, Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino, and San Diego counties. Approximately 4,000 students apply annually for its 400 openings. The launch of their second charter school located at Duarte USD is expected to have similar widespread appeal.

On a visit to OCSA earlier this year, Duarte Board members, administrators, faculty, students and parents got an opportunity to see the school in action and came away impressed. The academic results reflect a commitment to excellence. OSCA has an Academic Performance Index (API) of 914, math proficiency of 93 percent, English proficiency of 97 percent and graduate rate of 100 percent. The current student body reflects the diversity of the artistic world, with 51 percent minority representation.

OCSA Founder, President, and Executive Director, Dr. Ralph Opacic, stated, "Our team is very excited to partner with DUSD. I can assure you that our team will work in collaboration with the entire district to create a meaningful partnership and experience for the students of Duarte and the greater Duarte community."

One of the many attractions of DUSD to OCSA was the proximity to the recently opened Gold Line, which should allow potential students from a number of Foothill and San Gabriel Valley communities easy access to the city and the campus.

Additional advantages include the close relationship the district has built with Citrus College, also a leader of arts education in the region, as well as the backing of the Duarte City Council and the support of many in the Duarte community.

With a projected enrollment of 1,000-1,600 students, depending on eventual facilities capacity, CSArts-SGV expects to create over a 100 new jobs within the city of Duarte and an increase in patronage of local businesses by the many families whose students will be either commuting or moving to the area to attend the new school.

"I am happy for the children of Duarte. They deserve it," stated Superintendent Mucerino. "It's a great time to be a kid in Duarte."

For more information about the partnership between the Duarte Unified School District and the Orange County School of the Arts or the launch of the California School of the Arts-San Gabriel Valley charter school, please call (626) 599-5037 or visit the district website at www.duarteusd.org.

Orange County School of the Arts (OCSA) was established in 1987, and currently serves over 2,000 students in grades 7-12 from more than 100 cities throughout Southern California. <http://www.ocsarts.net/>.



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Be Our Guest Next Sunday
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Opening
in Duarte
September 1st



Welcome!



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Bryan & Erin are proud to
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*Enter for a chance to win a \$1,000 Grocery Outlet Gift Card on September 3, 2016 ONLY. ONE entry form per person. Drawing for the winner will be held end of day September 3, 2016 at the new Duarte Grocery Outlet. No purchase necessary. Winner need not be present to win but must claim prize within 3 days of notification or another winner will be chosen. No cash value and no substitutions. Must be 18 years of age or older to enter for all prizes listed above.

**First 100 customers in line will get a "WOW Ticket" for a chance to win one of two \$250 Gift Cards. Must be 18 years old. Events at Duarte Grocery Outlet only.

Duarte Celebration!

Thursday, September 1, 2016 • 10am

RIBBON CUTTING

Duarte Chamber of Commerce Officiating

Complimentary Lunch* • 11am - 1pm

*with any purchase, while supplies last. Limit 1 per customer.

Grand Opening Celebration

Saturday, September 3rd

— Enter All Day —

\$1,000 GRAND PRIZE DRAWING!

— First 100 customers 8am —

TWO \$250 GIFT CARD WINNERS!

All others receive \$10 Gift Card

— 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. —

Spin the Wheel of Bargains
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DUARTE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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 (626) 357-3333 • info@duartechamber.com

How can we help you succeed in your business?

Thank you to all who participated in TASTE OF DUARTE 2016



Taste of Duarte 2017
Save the Date
May 24



Chamber Networking Events



NETWORK BREAKFAST

Come meet new members and network your business!

at Cabrera's Mexican Cuisine
 1856 Huntington Dr., Duarte
 Meets third Tuesday of the month

Tuesday, Aug. 16 & Sept. 20

LADIES BROWN BAG NETWORK LUNCH

For location contact the chamber office
 Meets last Tuesday of the month,

Tuesday, Aug. 30 & Sept. 27

Make your reservations through the online calendar at
www.duartechamber.com
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How does anyone know you're there



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