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a park in
Duarte?

Page 2



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Page 8

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Pages 5, 8

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Duarte View

MARCH-APRIL 2014

A bi-monthly community publication of the



Duarte Chamber
OF COMMERCE

In its 93rd year of service
to the community

Duarte presented 2014 Cultural Diversity Award at National League of Cities Conference

The National League of Cities, National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials honored the City of Duarte with the first place 2014 City Cultural Diversity Award at the National of League of Cities Congressional Conference in Washington, D.C., on March 10.

The award recognizes creative and successful municipal programs that are designed to improve and promote cultural diversity through a collaborative process with city officials, community leaders and residents.

Political strategist, academic and American Author, Donna Brazile served as keynote speaker for the awards ceremony which took part in conjunction with the National League of Cities Annual Conference in Washington, D.C.

Duarte received the award for the work of its Community Mediation Team (CMT), a community partnership established in 2003, composed of a diverse group of Duarte, Monrovia, and Los Angeles County leaders and stakeholders who collectively identify, assess, and strategically address the needs of individuals and families at risk.

Over the past 10 years, the CMT has successfully curbed gang violence by creating an effective community communication system, which is representative of the range of cultures within the service area, and by serving as a trusted facilitator to connect at-risk individuals and families with the necessary resources.

Since its founding, CMT's primary goal has been to ensure



DIVERSITY AWARD. The City of Duarte was honored by the National League of Cities, National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials with the first place 2014 City Cultural Diversity Award at the National of League of Cities Congressional Conference in Washington, D.C. The award was given for the work of Duarte's Community Mediation Team (CMT). From left to right: CMT co-founder and current co-chair, Lois Gaston, Duarte Mayor, Liz Reilly, Political strategist and Keynote Speaker, Donna Brazile, Crime Prevention Specialist, Aida Torres, and Deputy City Manager, Karen Herrera.

that the service area's community-based and other programming effectively meet the needs of a growing multicultural population.

Through this approach, Part I crimes in the City of Duarte have been on a steady decrease since 2007, from 611 incidents to 282 incidents in 2013, making Duarte one of the safest communities in the San Gabriel Valley.

Duarte Mayor, Liz Reilly, Deputy City Manager, Karen Herrera, Crime Prevention Specialist, Aida Torres, and a CMT co-founder and current co-chair, Lois Gaston accepted the award. The awards program was de-

veloped by the National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials (NBC-LEO), an NLC constituency group as a means of demonstrating quality and innovation in addition to the many aspects of cultural diversity.

Winners are selected in each of four population categories and chosen by an independent panel of judges representative of all five of NLC's constituency groups: National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials (NBC-LEO), Asian Pacific American Municipal Officials (APAMO),

See Diversity on page 10

\$415,000 surplus, increase in revenues, reports Duarte

For the City of Duarte the light at the end of the tunnel at mid-year is an estimated \$415,000 surplus in the City of Duarte's General Fund, a bright note in the wake of a 2013-2014 adopted budget that included a \$223,000 deficit.

A one-time residual payment of \$693,000 from the County that represents the City's small share of the \$7.4 million in non housing dollars that the former Redevelopment Agency was forced to turn over to the county is largely responsible for the reversal of fortune. The surplus of \$415,000 will leave the General Fund reserves at \$7.2 million, which represents 54% of the General Fund expenditures. At year-end, total General Fund revenues are projected to be \$13.8 million, an increase of \$1.5 million as compared to the adopted budget.

"The City is seeing a slow recovery from the worst recession in over 75 years," said City Manager Darrell George. "Our operating expenses have been kept pretty flat. Prudent fiscal decisions have also allowed us to see a gain in reserve funds not seen in six years."

Two construction projects helped to greatly increase the revenues generated by building and engineering permit fees. A retaining wall built by So. Cal. Edison brought \$75,000 while the proposed City of Hope Visitor Center added \$110,000. City of Hope has deposited \$429,000 with the City to offset the costs of an Environmental Impact Report for building a Visitor's Center.

At year-end, total General Fund expenditures are projected to be \$13.4 million, an increase of \$845,000 as compared to the adopted budget. Several of the

increases are funded by new revenues including the one-time residual payment from the County, or represent capital projects. As part of its contribution towards the costs related to the traffic signal at Pops Road, Southern California Presbyterian Homes paid \$100,000 to the City at the close of escrow. In conjunction, one-time revenue of \$27,000 was received for the signal from the L. A. County Aid to Cities.

Other highlights of the mid-year budget report:

- \$100,000 has been included in the Community Development capital improvements budget to provide for the removal of the City Hall clock tower and construction of a long-discussed state-of-the-art electronic message signboard in its place.

- The City Council has recently approved \$25,000 and \$16,000 in funding for a contract with Kosmont and Associates for an economic analysis of the Charles Company Town Center proposal and RKA for a Royal Oaks traffic calming study.

- Due to positive public feedback, City staff is recommending that a pilot program to open Royal Oaks Park restrooms on weekdays, Mon. through Fri. from 7 a.m. to dusk during the months of June through September continue.

- Ever-increasing water costs are widening the gap between revenues from assessments collected and expenses incurred in the Landscape and Lighting District Fund. The 2013/2014 budget estimated a \$215,000 shortfall, but based on the past six months, it is estimated that the gap will be \$56,000 more, increasing the General Fund subsidy to \$272,000.

Duarte and Bradbury join in Earth Day projects Community clean-up offers large item and e-waste disposal April 12

Duarte and Bradbury will honor Earth Day 2014 on Saturday, April 12, with a variety of joint community volunteer projects including the City's bi-annual Community Clean-up beginning at 9 a.m.

"Our goal for Earth Day 2014 and every day is to maintain a clean and green Duarte," said Duarte Mayor, Liz Reilly.

A breakfast at the Duarte Teen Center followed by a guest speaker from the City of Hope and welcomes from both the Bradbury and Duarte mayors will kick off the Earth Day activities for some 60 volunteers. California American Water Company has donated drought tolerant plants that will be installed at Bradbury City Hall and at Royal Oaks Park in Duarte. Trees will be planted at Duarte Park, a project made possible through a Proposition A grant from the office of Los Angeles County Supervisor Michael Antonovich. Volunteers will also conduct clean-ups along the Royal Oaks Trail and San Gabriel River. Following the morning's

hard work, volunteers will be treated to lunch, crafts and a raffle at the Teen Center.

The City of Duarte and Burrtec Waste Industries will offer an opportunity for residents to dispose of large refuse items and E-Waste from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Drop-off locations are at Duarte City Hall, 1600 Huntington Dr., and at the former Buena Vista Pavilion property at 2144 Buena Vista St.

Joining in the Earth Day activities, students at Mt. Olive High School will participate in a school wide clean-up of the gardens and grounds, while Andres Duarte Elementary students will work on a clean-up and recycling project at Otis Gordon Park.

Earth Day sponsors are Burrtec Waste Industries, California American Water Company, the cities of Bradbury and Duarte, and Duarte's Promise - The Alliance for Youth.

For more information, call Duarte City Hall at (626) 357-7931, ext. 221.

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Joan Schmidt Clayton receives Antonovich's Woman of the Year Award



CONGRATULATING JOAN SCHMIDT CLAYTON on her esteemed award from LA County Supervisor Mike Antonovich are: (L-R) Joanna Gee (Duarte Library Manager), Ms. Clayton, Jan Wight (President of FDL), and Jim Allred (Volunteer Program Director for the County of Los Angeles Public Library).

Joan Schmidt Clayton was honored on March 10 as Supervisor Mike Antonovich's 2014 Woman of the Year for the Fifth District. Joan has been known for all her good works with the MAD Town Council since the early 1990's and for her volunteer hours for various organizations throughout the Monrovia-Duarte area.

Ms. Schmidt Clayton worked tirelessly, along with the other elected charter members of the MAD Town Council, to bring peace to the Duarte and Monrovia communities in the Los Angeles County area in the 1990's. The elected body continues to do good work, but Joan chose to retire after ten years and continues to help the MAD area in multiple ways particularly with her newspaper column and articles.

For the past 28 years, the

Commission for Women has recognized women who have worked to bring about social and economic change, served as outstanding role models for women, worked on behalf of women's issues or demonstrated outstanding performance to further advocate women's rights. Joan has performed all of the above.

Ms. Clayton served on the Duarte Habitat for Humanity Selection Team and the Duarte Educational Foundation. Currently she is the Secretary and active member of the Friends of the Duarte Library and a member of the Live Oak Library. Both libraries are under the auspices of the Los Angeles County Library.

Joan and her husband, Bob, continue to live in the Monrovia area of the County with her children, Richard and Karen.

Love your Duarte Neighborhood Park? Here's your chance to adopt it

Among the many attributes that make Duarte a comfortable and livable city are the number of parks, sports fields and walking trails for residents to enjoy.

Many of Duarte's one dozen parks, including the "pocket" parks that dot neighborhoods throughout the City, feature picnic and barbeque areas and playground equipment. Others also include tennis, volleyball, and/or basketball courts.

Duarte residents value their parks and the recreational amenities they provide so much that some have informally "adopted" their neighborhood parks by helping to keep them clean by picking up trash carelessly discarded by others.

Recently one group of residents even organized a "clean-up day" at their neighborhood pocket park, which got the City's Parks and Recreation heads thinking that perhaps others might also be so inclined. The result is the newly established official City of Duarte "Adopt-A-Park Program".

With limited staffing and resources the City is supporting and encouraging residents to join in helping to make their parks even more attractive and welcoming.

Adopting groups and organizations will work without direct City of Duarte supervision but will work through the Parks and Recreation Department and maintenance supervisor under a formal one-year agreement.

Adopt-A-Park activities may include general clean up in and around the park monthly, sifting sand play areas for hazards and trash, cleaning playground equipment areas, removal of dead plant matter, leaves and fallen twigs and small branches, and planting trees, flowers or shrubs with the approval and guidance of the Field Services division.

Adopted parks will be assigned on a first-come, first served basis, although adoption by one organization does not preclude adoption of another area of the same park by another organiza-

tion. To learn more about the Adopt-A-Park Program, call City

of Duarte Maintenance Supervisor, Jeff Risley (626) 357-7931, ext. 249.

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Save the date! You won't want to miss this one!

Where will everyone be on Wednesday, November 5, from 5:30-7:30 p.m?

They will be at the Friends of the Duarte Library first Wine Down with Friends. The event will be held at D'Aquino Italian Imports, 1850 Business Center Drive, Duarte.

For the \$20 admission you get to enjoy wine, hors d'oeuvres and music as we mingle with friends, old and new. A literary themed silent auction will be held with lovely goodies for your bidding pleasure!

This evening fundraiser is open to all community members



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interested in supporting the Duarte Library.

All proceeds will be utilized to foster the work of the Friends to upgrade our book collection, engage special events, provide up-to-date technology for the library, and offer scholarships to Duarte students.

Our funds also support Summer Reading Programs for children, teens, and adults.

If you want to find out more about this exciting event, please contact Wendy Wright, Vice-President, FDL and Co-Chair of the event, 626-372-0540.

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Deadline for articles and ads for the May-June issue is April 30, 2014.



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State of the City – “Duarte: Rising into the Future”

“Duarte is rising into the future,” declared Duarte Mayor Liz Reilly in her State of the City message to approximately 100 residents and business leaders that followed a festive reception in the City Hall courtyard on March 19.

Having weathered the deep five year recession and loss of redevelopment with a series of tough budget cuts and belt-tightening, Duarte expects to end the fiscal year on a high note with General Fund reserves of approximately \$7.2 million. The projected reserves equate to about 60% of the City’s General Fund budget, “a healthy reserve any city would love to have,” said Mayor Reilly.

The good news of the City’s fiscal stability combined with a lively performance by “Duarte Dance” helped set the overall upbeat tone of the mayor’s State of the City report with a focus on the future for economic development in conjunction with the coming of the Gold Line in the fall of 2015, emphasis on Emergency planning, acquisition of grants to help fund programs and needed capital projects totaling over \$3 million, new plans to keep Duarte youth safe and active, and new health and activity-oriented directions in senior citizen programming and services, among priorities.

The discussion also highlighted the successful Business Visitation program, a partnership with the Duarte Chamber of Commerce, the City, Foothill Workforce Investment Board and the San Gabriel Valley Economic

Partnership. Since the program began, the Business Visitation Team has visited more than 24 businesses with the goal of promoting business retention, expansion and satisfaction.

Duarte continues to be one of the safest cities in the San Gabriel Valley, said the mayor. Part One major crimes dipped 19%, from 348 in 2012 to an all time low of 282 in 2013.

So far this year, property crimes are already tracking lower than 2013, despite ongoing challenges faced by law enforcement and cities throughout California as a result of the State Prisoner Realignment program. The mayor credited the City’s Public Safety prevention/intervention strategy of increased community involvement through Neighborhood Watch, (CMT) Community Mediation Team, and the additional public safety personal and resources afforded to the City by the award of back-to-back State of California CAL-GRIP grants totaling \$728,032 for 2012 through 2016. Additionally, the City’s long standing Neighborhood Watch program added 19 new Block Captains in 2013.

CMT, a 10-year community partnership of Duarte, Monrovia, and Los Angeles County stakeholders, identify and strategically addresses the needs of individuals and families at risk and has successfully curbed gang violence by creating an effective community communication system. The National League of Cities, National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials honored CMT with its first place 2014 City Cultural Diversity Award at the National of League of Cities Congressional Conference in Washington, D.C., on March 10. The award recognizes creative and successful municipal programs that

are designed to improve and promote cultural diversity through a collaborative process with city officials, community leaders and residents.

A CAL-GRIP grant of \$334,332 for 2012 through 2014 provided funds that added two professional staff members, a special assignment deputy, and a Los Angeles County probation officer to the Public Safety team. The goal of a CAL-GRIP grant of \$393,700 for 2014 through 2016 is to reduce gang activity among 17-35 year-old gang-impacted, formerly incarcerated African-American and Latino males and females in partnership with the Flintridge Center and the City of Pasadena.

Last December, the Gold Line Specific Plan was ad-

opted by the Duarte City Council for a 19.08-acre Transit Oriented Development (TOD) project. The plan proposes four Transit Village land uses on the current site of three industrial buildings: Station Plaza, Mixed Use, High Density Residential, and Open Space.

An ad hoc committee will be appointed by the City Council by the end of May to look at both the TOD and the various forms of transportation such as bike lanes, pedestrian walkways, and foothill transit connections within the City and determine how they will connect with the Gold Line in 2015.

Duarte prides itself on the many programs and services available to the community’s children and teens. It is currently in negotiation with Cal South Soccer to renovate the old hockey rink site next to Duarte Sports Park to install a multi-court layout for games of Futsal, a variant of soccer; Volleyball; and the racket sport, Pickleball.

This summer new sports camps including basketball and flag football will be offered for children from 3rd through 8th grade.

With nearly 20% of the Duarte population 65 years and older, the City is putting new focus on developing more health, fitness and active programs to target aging Baby Boomers. In addition, the City, Duarte Senior Center and ReBuilding Together will partner to assist seniors in retaining their independence through a program to provide ramps so that they can remain in their homes. Ramp Up is the innovative idea of Mayor Reilly who successfully proposed it to Rebuilding Together, the nation’s leading nonprofit that uses volunteers to rehabilitate homes and revitalize communities.

Over the next five years the City will need to invest approximately \$3 million in facility maintenance, street improvements, recreational enhancements, and vehicle replacements that include replacing the City’s aging transit busses with new, CNG powered clean air vehicles. Duarte’s free community bus system provides 22,000 rides per month to Duarte residents. The City is actively pursuing additional grants to help accomplish these goals and will award a new grant writing contract in May. Since 2009, the City has garnered more than \$5.5 million in grants.

More than 100 residents and business leaders attended the State of the City address in the Duarte Community Center, presented by the Duarte Chamber of Commerce. In closing, Mayor Reilly thanked the Duarte Management Team and staff for their exemplary public service and commitment to the community.



THE FAMILY of Margaret Toon joins her at the Duarte Woman’s Club banquet after she was revealed as the recipient of the Club’s 2014-15 Woman of the Year Award.
Photo by Claudia Heller

Duarte Woman’s Club names Margaret Toon as Woman of the Year

Announcing the recipient of the most coveted award, the Duarte Woman’s Club Woman of the Year Committee sang their way into the evening, with melodies typifying the ultimate recipient: Margaret Toon. A relatively new member, Margaret joined the DWC in 2012. “She immediately jumped in to support the club’s many community projects,” says Judy Blake, last year’s Woman of the Year (WOTY). DWC president Ann Valleroy presented Margaret with the traditional silver bracelet.

The Club’s past presidents and past WOTYs joined in the celebration, which was held at the Duarte Community Center and catered by Skewers. Certificates were awarded for milestone members: Jan Brillhart, a 40-year member, Elizabeth Bitow and Ana Maria Burbano, five years. Past presidents and WOTYs were presented with jonquils, the club flower.

This year’s WOTY was born in Brooklyn and came to Monrovia with her family when she was eight-years old. She moved to Duarte forty-six years ago after she married. She is retired from her 19-year career as a classified employee at Citrus College and spends her time caring for her grand and great grandchildren in addition to volunteer work.

“The Duarte Woman’s Club is an organization of fantastic women who are dedicated to supporting our community,” says Margaret.

The new slate of officers for 2014-15 was announced: Ann Valleroy, president; Kathy Delker, first vice president; Sheri Uhlig, second vice president; Valerie Kiernicki, third vice president; Debi Bunting, recording secretary; Luz Porlier, corresponding secretary; Ruby Shiroma, financial secretary; Bobbi Wenrick, treasurer; Aja Enrique, membership. Installation is scheduled for May.

The DWC was organized on March 25, 1949, federated with the State Federation Woman’s Clubs in 1956 and incorporated in 1967. The current club theme is “Woman Power/ Flower Power” and the many community related club projects include assisting at many city-sponsored events, monthly fruit donations to the Duarte Senior Center, scholarships for local graduates, and assisting in the CSC Christmas baskets-food donation, the Foothill Unity’s Adopt-An-Angel project, and docent duty at the Duarte Historical Museum.

Women over the age of eighteen may join. Meetings are generally held October to June, first Thursday of the month, 7 p.m. at the Duarte Community Center. For more information, call Jean Glass at (626) 358-3718.

Cesar Chavez Service Project

Thomas Guzowski, Regional Coordinator at the Cesar Chavez Foundation will address volunteers at the City of Duarte’s Cesar Chavez Service Project on March 29 to be held at Westminster Gardens. Guzowski oversees after school programming administered by the Foundation that targets under-served communities.

The annual Cesar Chavez volunteer Project, sponsored by the Volunteer Center of the San Gabriel Valley, Duarte’s Promise – The Alliance for Youth, and Westminster Gardens, will kick off at 9 a.m. on the 32-acre campus of Westminster Gardens located at 1420 Santo Domingo. A pancake breakfast provided by Westminster Gardens will keep volunteers well fed as they complete a beautification project on a public parking area of the campus. Volunteers will also receive custom event t-shirts, lunch and be eligible for raffle prizes.

The event is one of a number of volunteer projects coordinated annually by Duarte’s Promise – the Alliance for Youth throughout the community. For more information, call Duarte’s Promise – The Alliance for Youth at Duarte City Hall, (626) 357-7931 ext. 267 or email at duartepromise@accessduarte.com.

Hurting?

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Monitoring Station to measure PM10 from Vulcan Mining activity to be unveiled April 5, public will be able to view real-time data on AccessDuarte.com dedicated webpage

William Dunlap Norgard

(Sept. 28, 1934-Feb. 1, 2014)

A gentleman, a sage, a man of vision. Sadly, Duarte has lost a long-time resident and friend, William Dunlap Norgard.

Bill was a man of vision in many ways. His home, which he and his father built in 1974, offers a 180-degree view of the San Gabriel Valley, a scene he never tired of. However, while he savored the vastness of his view, he never took for granted the smaller joys of life: the birds, the insects, and roaming animals that grace the Duarte Mesa. Visiting friends were often recipients of gifts from Bill's bountiful garden: Maui onions, macadamia nuts, and succulent oranges, gifts served on dishes hand-crafted by Bill himself.

Losing both parents at a young age, Bill and his sister Marilyn were adopted by a loving family. As a child he attended school at the 1909 Duarte Schoolhouse, now the Old Spaghetti Factory, but eventually the family moved to Oregon. It was there Bill became interested in the sciences and uninterested in the gloomy weather.

When the family returned to Duarte, Bill attended Los Angeles City College, excelling in optical classes. His studying over the next several years earned him two great rewards: a degree from the Southern California College of Optometry and the hand of his college sweetheart, Wanita ("Nita") Pinnell. The couple were married in December of 1960 in the chapel at the First Congregational Church in Hollywood.

With his father's help, Bill built the lovely home that he and Nita have shared through the years, enjoying the unique oak planks for the hard wood floors to the beamed ceiling, ceramic cabinet door knobs, and the home's center piece: the fountain in the courtyard. Bill grew so passionate about ceramics that he created the couple's "every day dishes" using his kick wheel and kiln. He was also an avid golfer.

Bill became immersed in the blossoming city of Duarte as a businessman and active citizen. The couple raised a son and a daughter, traveled the world, and nurtured many long-lasting friendships. A 35-year professional working in Duarte, Bill began his mornings reading the newspaper comics "to get a proper prospective for the day ahead," says Nita.

The contributions to our community made by the Norgards have had a positive impact on our local quality of life.

In the words of Duarte Councilmember Margaret Finlay: "Bill was one half of an ex-



BILL AND NITA NORGDARD

traordinary couple. He and Nita continually gave to our community whether it was through the library, education, sports or scholarship. They were always the first ones to raise their hands to help. Fortunately we still have Nita with us, but we will all miss Bill's giving spirit – no deed was too large or small for him to make a positive impact on."

Bill died peacefully in his home on February 1. In the weeks prior to his death, friends visited and reminisced with him. He will be remembered for his ready smile, the jokes he so enjoyed passing along, and his great knowledge of the history of Duarte. His wife will certainly keep his legacy alive, and he will live on in the memory of his ten-year-old grandson, Collier. Bill will remain in the hearts of his many friends which he cherished every day.

Bill Norgard will be remembered as a man of vision, humor, intelligence and passion.

An air quality monitoring station installed adjacent to Valley View School to keep tabs on any unhealthy PM10 particulate matter emanating from Vulcan Materials mining activity above Duarte will be unveiled to the public on April 5.

Michael Cacciotti, the South Coast Air Quality Management District Board member representing Duarte, will introduce staff members who will present an overview of the monitoring station and its operation. The presentation will take place at 9 a.m. in the Valley View School cafeteria, followed by a tour of the monitoring station area.

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) began installation of the monitoring station in October 2013 at the request of the City of Duarte following court decisions that cleared the way for Vulcan to expand its mining operations to Van Tassel Ridge above Duarte homes and schools. The addition of a full meteorological tower to accurately measure wind conditions installed this month has made the monitoring station fully functional providing continuous monitoring and real time reporting including hourly averages of PM10 levels.

PM10 is particulate matter that is everything less than 10 um in size (25 to 100 times thinner than a human hair), the byproduct of crushing and grinding rocks and soil. PM10 are blown by the wind and can stay in the air for minutes or hours and travel as little as 100 yards or up to 30 miles. Inhalation of PM10 particles can pose a danger to respiratory health because they can lodge deep in the lungs.

Data from the monitoring station will stream live to the SCAQMD where it will be analyzed for quality control, then sent to the City of Duarte and made available for the public on a dedicated web page on the City's www.accessduarte.com website. Duarte City Council members got a peek at the Monitoring station web page draft at the Council meeting on Feb. 11. The web page was designed by Madhaus

Creative of Monrovia and will enable interested parties to view both hourly and 24-hour averages of PM10.

Jason Low, Atmospheric Measurements Manager for the SCQAMD, also in a presentation to the Duarte City Council on Feb. 11, noted that data gathered from the Duarte monitoring station since November 2013 has shown the PM10 levels to be low, and lower than the Los Angeles basin average. Vulcan, however, has not yet begun mining operations on Van Tassel Ridge, according to Duarte Assistant City Manager, Karen Herrera, and has not announced a start date for its plan to extract 105.6 million tons of aggregate from the mountain over the next 24 years.

SCAQMD estimates the cost for the first year of monitoring at the site to be approximately \$50,000. Specifically, costs include: \$6,500 site preparation, \$36,500 for equipment and \$7,000 for operation and maintenance. The SCAQMD has committed to installing and operating the system at its own expense for the first twelve months of operation. The City will then take over the costs of the station's maintenance and operation while transitioning the task to an SCAQMD approved technical consultant.

Duarte fought a long and costly battle to stop the City of Azusa from allowing Vulcan to move mining operations from a previously approved 80 acres on the east side of its 270 acre property to 80 acres on the west side, above Duarte homes. In February 2013, the State Court of Appeals upheld a Superior Court ruling of May 2012 against Duarte's lawsuit that challenged the validity of the Environmental Impact Report.

Senior Center Calendar

Arabian Horses, Catalina, and Penchanga

Why stay home and watch the soaps when there's fun to be had on the road with the Duarte Senior Center?

Registration has begun for three fun excursions set for April, May and June. On April 22, the Duarte Senior Center will offer a trip to Cal Poly, Pomona for a tour of the Culinary School, the Kellogg House and to see the beautiful Arabian horses on the campus. The bus leaves the Senior Center at 9:15 a.m. and returns at 4 p.m. Cost is \$54 and includes lunch.

Catalina Island is the destination for May 15, departing at 8 a.m. and returning at 9:30 p.m. Bus transportation to and from the Catalina Express and boat ticket is \$60, with meals and tours on your own.

On June 18, plan to travel with the Senior Center to the Pechanga Casino. Departure is 10:30 a.m. with a return to Duarte at 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$15. Lunch is not included but upon arrival at Pechanga Casino, participants will receive \$5 in play or Bingo money. For more information, call the Duarte Senior Center at (626) 357-3513.

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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 24/48 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) 214-9465.

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) 214-9465.

ACCESS TRANSPORTATION

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) 357-3513 for an appointment.

FREE! BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS

2nd Tuesday of the month a nurse from Health-Care Partners will check your blood pressure.

TRAIL TREKKERS

Friday, March 21 at 8 a.m.

The Trail Trekkers is a new hiking group who are ready to explore many of the great trails in the area! On March 21 the Trekkers will meet at the Montessori School parking lot at 1634 Third Street in Duarte to carpool. Bring water, snack, lug soles, hat and sunscreen. Remember: no dogs allowed/rain cancels. Sign up at the front desk or call the Center to RSVP at (626) 357-3513.

ARE YOU BEGINNING TO FORGET ALZHEIMER'S, THE 21ST CENTURY EPIDEMIC?

Presented by Dr. Vincent Fortanasce, on Wednesday, April 2, at 1 p.m.

Alzheimer's is expected to affect 28 million people within the next 15 years. Studies indicate it can be prevented and if caught early enough may be reversed by a new therapy. Dr. Fortanasce a Yale, Cornell and USC trained physician and author of The Anti-Alzheimer's Prescription, a best selling book will discuss how to prevent and treat your loved ones who have the disease. Reservations requested by calling the Senior Center at (626) 357-3513.

FREE 2-PART LEGAL SEMINAR

Presented by: Sara Polinsky, Attorney at Law

Part 1: Estate Planning 101: The Basics of Wills & Trusts

Wednesday, April 23 from 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Topics covered: What is a Will...What is a Trust... What's the difference and



 **Relay For Life of Duarte**
May 3-4, 2014
Northview Intermediate School
A 24 hour community event to fight cancer.
www.relayforlife.org/DuarteCA

"Form a team, walk the survivor lap and take part in this memorable 24 hour event."
Contact: Sheryl Lefmann for more information slefmann@outlook.com or 626-375-9027
*Planning committee meets the 3rd Wednesday of the month in the Duarte Community Center.

which is right for you? Also: Probate, Powers of Attorney, Health Care Directives, Choosing Who's in Charge, Joint Tenancy, Tax Consequences, and much more will be discussed!

Part 2: Planning for Long Term Care: Understanding Medi-Cal Long Term Care Program, Getting help to pay for Nursing Home Care

Wednesday, May 21 from 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Topics covered: How to qualify for state Medi-Cal benefits to pay for long term care while legally protecting your home, savings and assets, brief overview of Reverse Mortgages, VA Benefits, Assisted Living vs. Home Care. Also: How to avoid recovery after death and when a trust is not enough. Current rules for eligibility will be explained, as well proposed changes.

ATTEND AND FIND OUT WHAT OTHERS ALREADY KNOW ABOUT GETTING HELP TO PAY FOR NURSING HOME CARE. (If you have a family member, friend or loved one facing long term care, you cannot afford to miss this!)

Admission is FREE, but space is limited. Please call the Center to reserve your space: (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 on Tuesday & Thursday, May 6 and 8 from p.m. - 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. Your attendance is required at both sessions. The cost is \$15 for members (AARP card required at registration) and \$20 for non-members. Reservations are required prior to class with payment. For more information, please call the Duarte Senior Center at (626) 357-3513.

BINGO

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

BUNCO

First Wednesday of the month from 12:45-2:45 p.m. Sponsored by the Duarte Woman's Club. Win Prizes and meet new people. RSVP by calling (626) 357-3513. \$1 per person.

MEXICAN TRAIN DOMINOES

Third Thursday of the month, 12:30-2:30 p.m.

MOVIES

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

CLASSES

The Duarte Senior Center is currently taking registration for the spring session of classes, and classes will begin the week of March 24. Registration hours are Monday- Friday, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. All classes are for adults 55 years and older. THERE ARE NO REFUNDS.

Fee classes include: Art Appreciation, Chair Yoga and Meditation, Cross Fit, Exercise with Shelly, Get Fit, How to Write Your Own Life's Story, Introduction to Computers, Music Appreciation, Piano/Keyboard, Sewing, Strength Training Program, Western Line Dance and Yoga.

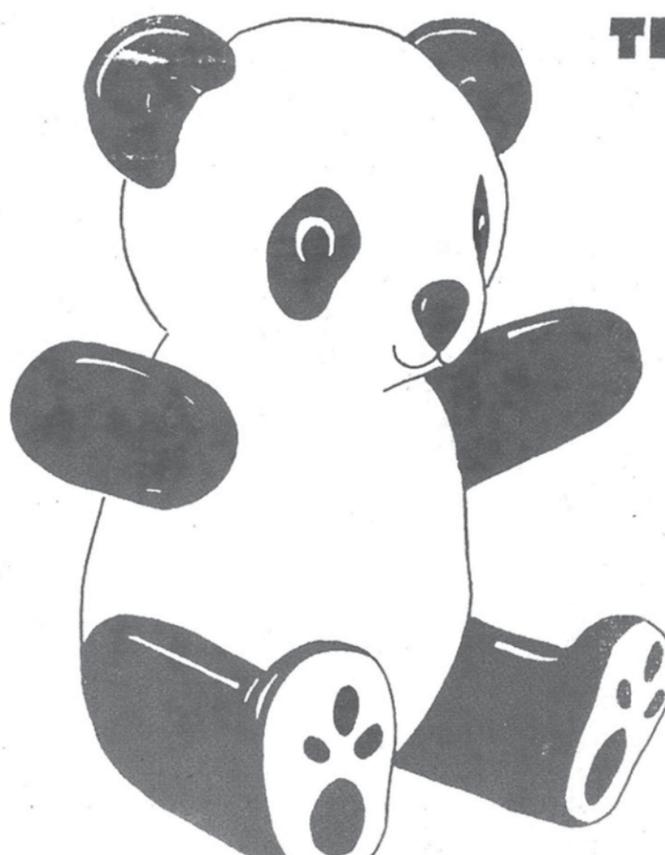
Ongoing free classes include: Cardio Dance, Ceramics, English as a Second Language, Guitar, Knitting, Spanish (Beg./Adv. Beg.) \$10 disk fee, Spanish (Int.) \$10 book fee, Tai Chi/Qigong, Tennis, Walking Group and Watercolor.

EXCURSIONS

The City of Duarte Parks and Recreation Department is currently taking registration for spring excursions at Duarte City Hall. Registration is held 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m., Monday through Thursday. Visa, MasterCard and Discover are accepted for purchases over \$25. Brochures are available at City Hall or the Senior Center to receive in-depth information about the following trips:

Cal Poly Culinary School, Kellogg House and Arabian Horses, Tuesday, April 22, 9:15 a.m.-4 p.m. for \$54 (lunch included); Catalina Island, Thursday, May 15, 8 a.m.-9:30 p.m. for \$60 (Meals and tours on your own.); Pechanga Casino, Wednesday, June 18, 10:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m. for \$15 (Must be 21 years of age or older. Upon arrival receive \$5 in play or Bingo money. Meals on your own)

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.



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Research in Science & Engineering (RISE): raising the bar for Citrus College students

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

This past January, Citrus College received the unexpected but welcome news that the Aspen Institute had selected it as one of 150 community colleges in the nation to be eligible to apply for the Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence.

The "Aspen Prize," is the nation's signature recognition of high achievement and performance among America's community colleges.

It recognizes institutions for exceptional student outcomes in four areas: student learning; certificate and degree completion; employment and earnings; and high levels of access and success for minority and low-income students.

Citrus College – a mid-size college – was one of only eight community colleges in California and the only community college in Los Angeles County invited to apply.

The Aspen Prize, which is

awarded once every two years, comes with a cash award of \$1 million.

Citrus College is deservedly proud of being selected to compete for this honor. Given the college's level of commitment and progress toward goals that are a perfect fit for the Aspen Prize's criteria, it is not surprising that Citrus College was offered the opportunity to vie for this rare and prestigious award.

There are many fine programs at Citrus College that exemplify excellence and achievement, but one of the newest is the Research in Science & Engineering (RISE) program. RISE is made up of three teams of aspiring young scientists named after the Citrus College "Owl" mascot: The Rocket Owls, the Space Owls and the CAPE Owls. RISE works to ensure that any Citrus College student who is interested in enriching his or her education with team-based, year-long research, gains such experience. Each team works independently on a Science, Technology, Engineering and



DR. EDWARD C. ORTELL

Mathematics (STEM)-based research project.

The Rocket Owls, a physics team, was the first of the three teams to form. This year they have been invited to participate in the 2013-2014 NASA Student Launch Competition in Salt Lake City, Utah in May and the 2014 Inter-collegiate Rocket Competition organized by the Experimental Sounding Rocket Association (ESRA) in Green River, Utah in June. Their research goal is to design, build and fly payloads that support research performed by the Space Launch System. The payloads and components will fly on high-power rockets and will be safely recovered.

The Space Owls, an interdisciplinary team, will travel to Fairbanks, Alaska in April to study possible sound emissions during the aurora borealis. The Space Owls are comprised of physics and recording technolo-

gy students. Their research goal is to build, launch, and recover high altitude balloons that carry scientific and engineering loads and fly into near space.

The CAPE (Citrus Automotive Physics Eco-marathon) Owls are an interdisciplinary team made up of physics and automotive technology students. The team was selected to participate in the 2014 Shell Eco-marathon competition in Houston Texas in April.

The Shell Eco-marathon challenges student teams to design, build and test ultra-energy-efficient vehicles. The CAPE Owls' research goal is to build a high efficiency prototype car to compete against 124 other teams from across the nation. The winner of the competition will be the team who builds a vehicle that goes the furthest using the least amount of energy.

In addition to competing in these exciting intercollegiate national and international competitions, Citrus College RISE students also conduct monthly outreach activities to local K-8 schools. All three RISE teams are committed to community involvement, engaging in academic enrichment with middle and elementary school students. These interactions give the research team members the chance to bond and explore their interests and passions, while helping young students learn new concepts, use critical thinking skills and appreciate STEM. It is clear that RISE

is not only training the nation's future scientists and engineers, it is also developing the next generation of educators, innovators and community leaders.

According to the Aspen Institute's website, the Aspen Prize aims to honor excellence, stimulate innovation and clearly define success. I believe Citrus College is an excellent candidate for the Aspen Prize, thanks to some pretty amazing students and the visionary leadership and commitment to student success on the part of Superintendent/President Geraldine M. Perri, Ph.D. and the college's outstanding faculty and staff. The RISE program is just one example of how Citrus College is raising the bar for student success, and our students are soaring to new heights.



Duarte Recreation Spring Classes

The Duarte Recreation Department is offering classes for adults, teens, children and families. Spring recreation classes include Amazing Arts, Ballet, Ballroom Dance, Belly Dancing, Bellyfit, Chess, Computer Training, Critical Reading and Written Expression, DYBO Dance, Folklorico, Golf, Guitar, Hip Hop Dance, Homework Helper, Math Workshop, Mini Boot Camp, Mini Picassos, Needle Art, Polynesian Dance, Racquetball, Sewing, Skateboarding, Tai Chi Kung, Tap, Tennis, Tumbling, Vocals, Yoga and Zumba.

Registration for the spring session of classes begins March 10. Discover, Visa and MasterCard are accepted for purchases over \$25. Classes begin the week of March 24.

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.

D'Aquino Italian Imports Tour May 2

The Duarte Historical Society is sponsoring a free tour of D'Aquino Italian Imports, 1850 Business Center Drive, Duarte, on Friday, May 2, at 3:30 P.M. Space is limited. Call (626) 358-0329 to reserve your spot.



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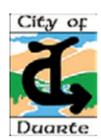
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CITY OF DUARTE CONTACTS

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Hours: Monday-Thursday, 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m.



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SoCalGas to begin installing Advanced Meters in Duarte

Southern California Gas Co. (SoCalGas) customers will soon be able to view their daily gas usage information online as SoCalGas begins installing Advanced Meters in Duarte in May. The SoCalGas upgrade to its natural gas metering system involves adding a small battery-powered communication device on existing residential and business customers' meters throughout Southern California.

The new device only turns on for a fraction of a second a day – a total of less than two minutes a year – to securely and safely send natural gas usage data from a customer's home or business to SoCalGas customer centers. SoCalGas will make the usage information available for the customer to view online the next business day.

"SoCalGas is continually innovating and looking for ways to better serve our customers. We believe our advanced meter system will offer benefits for our customers, community and environment," said Jeffery Walker, director of the advanced meter project at SoCalGas. "Advanced meters will help customers monitor and adjust gas usage, helping families and local businesses save energy and money. They will also help reduce some 140,000 tons of

greenhouse gas emissions each year as we take service vehicles off the road every day."

The detailed information advanced meters provide will help customers better understand and manage gas use and costs, enabling them to quickly identify and respond to sudden usage spikes and take steps to conserve. Later this year, customers will be able to sign-up for weekly alerts and get up-to-date information on usage and billing status via text or email messages.

Customers will also enjoy greater privacy and security, no longer having to provide physical access to their property for monthly meter reading. Installations will take about 15 minutes and be completed by SoCalGas energy technicians during business hours. In most cases, customers will not need to

be present and natural gas service won't be interrupted. Natural gas bills will continue to be based on a monthly read of usage.

The advanced meter device cannot communicate with other appliances inside the home, turn on or turn off gas service and

will only be active for a fraction of a second each day to read and

See Advanced on page 9



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Friends of the Duarte Library holding Used Book Sale Saturday, April 12



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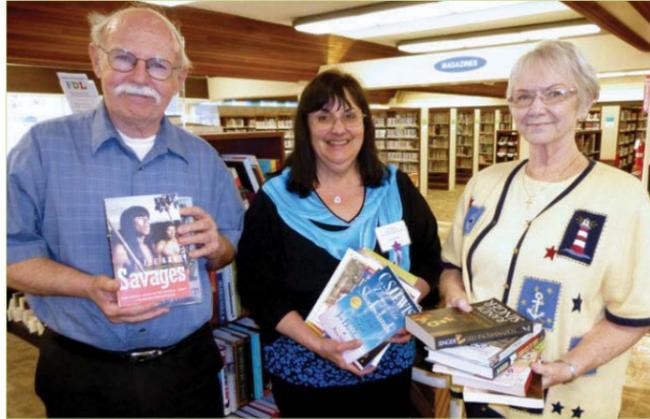
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Friends of the Duarte Library (FDL) are planning their next bi-annual book sale for Saturday, April 12 from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. This book sale will coincide with the other Los Angeles County Public Libraries. Many of Duarte's customers tell the FDL they start in Claremont and go westward to Los Angeles with a stop at each County library in between.

However, most of FDL's customers come from Duarte, Monrovia and Azusa.

The FDL will have books on sale for: \$1 for hard backs, trade books; 50 cents for paper backs and children's books; and 25 cents for magazines. At 3 p.m all books will go on sale for \$1 a bag.

Books donated to the library for the sale purpose are from all



FROM LEFT, Steve Baker, Joan Schmidt Clayton and Jan Wight, all members of the Friends of the Duarte Library, show only handful of the many cartons of books that will be on sale at the Duarte Public Library by the FDL on Saturday, April 12, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

genres of fiction and non-fiction, plus a few that are quite old. Anyone wishing to donate their used books are welcome to take them boxed or bagged to the Duarte Public Library, 1301 Buena Vista St., Duarte. Please contact one of the Library employees when you arrive with your donation.

All monies derived from the book sale will be used for the two scholarships the FDL gives each year to a graduate of Duarte High School and Mt. Olive Technology High School.

See you at the Book Sale on April 12, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. in the main part of the Duarte Library, 1301 Buena Vista St., Duarte.

Youth Leadership Summit held

Culture Shock, the exciting hip-hop dance organization dedicated to innovative performance, artist development, and community enrichment, performed at the fourth annual Duarte/Monrovia Youth Leadership Summit Feb. 22. More than 250 teens from Duarte and Monrovia participated in the Duarte/Monrovia Youth Leadership Summit, Saturday, co-hosted by the Duarte Mayor's Youth Council and Monrovia Youth Council. The event took place at Monrovia High School, 845 W. Colorado Blvd. All teens were welcome and registration was free. Topics discussed included: Money Management, Job Search, Peer Pressure, Robotics, Volunteerism, and College Enrollment. City of Duarte Mayor Liz Reilly and Monrovia Mayor Mary Ann Lutz were among the featured speakers.

All participants received a commemorative t-shirt and backpack. Sponsors of the event were the City of Duarte, City of Monrovia, Duarte Unified School District, Monrovia Unified School District, Piken Development, Donna Baker, Duarte Kiwanis Club, Duarte Rotary Club, Foothill Federal Credit Union, THINK Together, and Nissan of Duarte.

Advanced

Continued from page 8

send gas usage data. No personal information will be sent and usage data will be encrypted for added security. The battery life of the device is expected to be 20 years, with SoCalGas providing any needed maintenance. SoCalGas expects the advanced meter system will enable operational and environmental savings over its life – savings that will be passed along to customers in reduced overall rates.

In all, SoCalGas is planning to upgrade approximately six million natural gas meters with the new communication device, installing them throughout the SoCalGas service territory through 2017. SoCalGas is conducting a comprehensive information campaign, starting with notifying customers several weeks before installations begin. SoCalGas will also work closely with local community-based organizations to help customers learn about the project. Customers can also visit SoCalGas' website, socalgas.com/advanced or call toll-free at (800) 427-2200 or (800) 342-4545 in Spanish for more information. A SoCalGas advanced meter installation video is at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BI04jL12qC4>.



Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension DUARTE UPDATE

Full Closure of Mountain Avenue Starts May 2014

Work will begin in May on the Mountain Ave railroad crossing located just north of Duarte Rd and the reconstruction of the Mountain Ave/Duarte Rd intersection. This work is part of the 11.5-mile Foothill Extension light rail project from Pasadena to Azusa. The crossing improvements and intersection reconstruction will be completed in two phases lasting approximately eight months total and will require full closures of Mountain Ave. The first phase of work will require a five-month closure of Mountain Ave on the north side of Duarte Rd; while the second phase of work will close Mountain Ave on the south side of Duarte Rd.

Duarte Rd (eastbound and westbound) will remain open to traffic throughout the majority of the closures; however, some lane closures will be needed to complete this work. Mountain Ave north of the railroad crossing and all nearby businesses in the area will remain open and accessible. Please support these local businesses.

Don't be surprised by construction. Text GOLDLINENEWS to 888777 to receive text alerts to your cell phone or visit www.foothillextension.org to register for project updates or find out the latest construction news.

Questions:

- Community Hotline: (626) 324-7098
- Public Information Office: 406 E. Huntington Dr., Suite 202, Monrovia
- www.foothillextension.org



LEFT TO RIGHT: Rear: Steve Seidner, Vice President of Seidner's Collision Centers; Hildebrand and Elena Llanto; Betty McWilliams, Executive Director of Foothill Unity Center; and State Farm agent Tom Romano. Front: Rosa, Vadim and Natasha Llanto.

Seidner's Collision Center presents refurbished Jeep to Foothill Unity client family

A Foothill Unity Center Pasadena client family, Hildebrand and Elena Llanto and their children, received a 2010 Jeep Grand Cherokee at Seidner's Collision Center in Duarte on March 25 as part of the nationwide Recycled Rides program.

The vehicle was fully refurbished by Seidner's, equipped with new tires, and accompanied by a one-year State Farm insurance policy.

The car will change the lives of Hildebrand and Elena Llanto of Pasadena and their three children, Rosa, 14, Vadim, 12, and Natasha, 6. Hildebrand was a driver with a private company for thirteen years.

After their last car broke down, he switched to landscaping work closer to home. Elena volunteered for ten years while raising her family. As Natasha reached school age, she re-entered the workforce part-time and is now looking for full-time employment.

Despite a degree in Library Science and fluency in three languages, she's finding transportation to be a major barrier.

To get the kids to school and get to work on time, the couple's weekdays begin at 5:45 a.m. All three children are involved in extracurricular activities – ballet at the community center, Boy Scouts, cross-country running. The parents either walk them

there or take public transportation, which can be embarrassing for the youngsters.

"Having a car in this area is a basic need, like food, shelter, and water," says Elena. "It is not a luxury."

Although their current combined income is barely above the National Poverty Level, the family only relies on food from Foothill Unity Center and Cal-Fresh funds to free some money for expenses.

As they strive to find jobs that will allow them to prepare for their future, receiving the car is a dream come true.

About Recycled Rides

Recycled Rides is a nationwide community service project whereby members of the National Auto Body Council (NABC), including Seidner's, donate vehicles to local families and service organizations in need.

This "green" program, focused on vehicle and parts recycling, recruits insurers, paint suppliers, parts vendors and others to contribute to the project.

Candidates are solicited from the local community (in this case Foothill Unity Center). They must meet five criteria: 1) valid driver's license; 2) ability to maintain vehicle shown by proof of income; 3) safe driving record, insurable; 4) financially challenged; and 5) doesn't own good working vehicle.

Duarte Museum exhibits a variety of antique firearms through May

A treasure trove of antique firearms is now on display at the Duarte Historical Museum. Once exhibited at the Western States Bank located on Huntington Drive in Duarte in the 1980s, the collection has been in storage until recently. The current property owners have dusted off the collection and donated it to the Museum.

"Some of these firearms are a throw-back to the civil war era. Rendered inoperable for safety sake, many of the pieces are genuine, although a few are replicas," says Claudia Heller, president of the Duarte Historical Society.

The collection has a variety of pieces including a Phoenix Rifle with leather holster, a Remington handgun, a bayonet and a powder horn.

"I'm sure as museum visitors look over the collection they will be able to tell us some details about these firearms," says Heller.

Also on display are civil war photos and a circa 1980 rendering of the Western States Bank.

The Center submitted five candidates for consideration. "Choosing the family who'll receive the results of our efforts is definitely the hardest part," said Mike Stacy, Seidner's Director of Corporate Strategy.

"This project is a great example of what a team effort bridging community and business forces can accomplish," said Stacy. "It not only clearly benefited the Llantos family, but it had a positive impact on everyone who worked on the car and contributed to the project, from Seidner's to our suppliers to State Farm to Foothill Unity Center."

About Foothill Unity Center

Founded in 1980, Foothill Unity Center is the primary provider of food, case management/crisis help, and access to health care resources across eleven San Gabriel Valley cities in Los Angeles County, California. As the federally designated Community Action Agency for the Foothill Area, the Center operates two locations, in Monrovia and Pasadena, serving clients in Pasadena, Altadena, South Pasadena, Sierra Madre, Arcadia, Monrovia, Bradbury, Duarte, Azusa, Baldwin Park and Irwindale. 77% of its clients are at or below the National Poverty Level. In 2013, the Center served 10,478 unduplicated people at no cost to them.

The display will remain through May.

The museum is located at 777 Encanto Parkway in Encanto

Park, Duarte, and is open Saturdays 1-4 p.m. and the first and third Wednesday of each month 1-3 p.m. Admission is free.



REMINGTON HANDGUN shown in display case.



DUARTE HIGH SCHOOL Senior Mario Poma looks over the museum's civil war era firearm display. *Photos by Alan Heller*

Diversity

Continued from page 1

Women in Municipal Government (WIMG), Hispanic Elected Local Officials (HELO), and Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Local Officials. (GLBTLO).

"Duarte is one of the most diverse communities in Southern California in terms of race, ethnicity, religion, economics and age. Our residents, businesses, organizations, and city, school district, law enforcement, and faith community leaders are committed to working together to make our City the best it can be. We are honored to be recognized at a national level for our diversity and commitment," said Mayor Reilly.

The CMT supports cultural diversity in the cities of Duarte and Monrovia and neighboring County Areas by focusing on all ethnic groups, with an emphasis on the African American and Latino communities, and recognizing their distinct cultures and needs.

The CMT also actively addresses the racial tension between the two groups in order to reduce gang violence and foster an appreciation of the community's cultural diversity.

The Duarte City Council celebrated the award and honored the contributions of the Community Mediation Team at the March 25 City Council meeting.

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From the Superintendent

Dr. Terry Nichols, Superintendent,
Duarte Unified School District

We have a guest author, Jennifer Atwell, for this edition of the *Duarte View*. Ms. Atwell is entering her last year in a two year Masters of Business Administration (MBA) program at the Peter F. Drucker and Masatoshi Ito Graduate School of Management, part of Claremont Graduate University in Claremont, California. Jennifer was commissioned to carry out a **Return on Investment Study** in regards to the impact of General Obligation (GO) Bonds investment on the community of Duarte.



DR. TERRY NICHOLS

MEASURES FOR SUCCESS: A Study of Social Return on Investment for General Obligation Bonds at Work within Duarte High School

By Guest Author, Jennifer Atwell

When citizens of Duarte invest in Duarte Unified School District (DUSD), it is natural for them to assume that there will be a benefit to the children and families that attend those schools. It stands, however, that schools are a communal piece of a larger system.

While children learn and develop within a school's walls and playgrounds by day, there are no confines that keep them there; inevitably, once the late afternoon dismissal bell rings, kids become neighbors, another member of the community, a student holding down a part-time job down the street, and eventually either a dropout or a graduate with varying capacity to be a contributing member of the city economically as a taxpayer, and socially as a citizen.

Schools' and students' welfare up to high school graduation is part of an intricate web of community affairs. With this said, a question emerges: when money is invested in DUSD, does it benefit only the kids and families who personally consume the services and facilities, or does the investment also yield returns for the larger community?

In the last 15 years citizens of Duarte have purchased General Obligation Bonds, supporting DUSD in advancing its infrastructure and capacity to offer modern learning technology. Duarte High School (DHS) is the only traditional secondary education institution in the city, and has been a recipient of a sizable portion of the General Obligation funding to perform upgrades.

The scope of this study was confined to examining returns produced in association with General Obligation Bonds within DHS, specifically.

Educational settings are complex systems with many variables in play: family support, teachers, student initiative, facilities, curriculum, extracurricular programs, and social psychology, amongst others. Schools are far from being a vacuum where individual variables can be completely controlled for study.

While it is impossible to demonstrate an isolated 1-to-1 correlation between General Obligation Bonds and the effects following them, what can be seen is a significant return following the implementation of General Obligation bond dollars at DHS. A **return on investment** figure of approximately \$1.59 on average (across the past 15 years) in value created for every \$1 invested in Duarte High was calculated, a portion of which is attributable to General Obligation Bonds, where considering the increase in annual lifetime income, as well as savings on crime and healthcare spending, for diploma holders compared with dropouts.

With other factors of influence held constant over time, as opposed to GO funded projects, which were introduced in 1998-1999, at least 50% of the returns addressed here are, conservatively speaking, attributed to the changes associated with the bond-funded projects. The investment in General Obligation Bonds, pays off for both the kids and the community of Duarte.

To access the entire report please go to the Duarte Unified School District Web page at: www.duarte.k12.ca.us under Social Return on Investment (SROI).



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Registration Packets will be available at each DUSD elementary school site

- Duarte Unified School District offers full day Kindergarten at all sites.
- Family of new 1st to 6th grade students planning to attend the DUSD next year are also encouraged to begin registering at this time.
- Duarte Unified Schools offer excellent academics in a culture of care and respect. Be sure to inquire about our after school program.

REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

- Birth Certificate indicating fifth birthday prior to September 1, 2014 for **KINDERGARTEN**
- Birth Certificate Indicating fifth birthday between September 2, and December 2, 2014 for **TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN**
- Up to date Vaccinations
- Proof of Residence from 2 sources such as utility bill, rent receipt, escrow paperwork or bank statements.

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MATRICULACION PARA KINDERGARTEN DE TRANSICION / KINDERGARTEN COMENZANDO EL 3 DE MARZO DEL 2014

Los paquetes de registración estarán disponibles en cada una de las escuelas primarias.

- El Distrito Escolar Unificado de Duarte ofrece clases de "Kindergaten" durante el día completo en todas las escuelas.
- Animamos a las familias a que comiencen a registrar a sus estudiantes nuevos del 1ro al 6to grado que planean asistir a DUSD el siguiente año.
- El Distrito Escolar Unificado de Duarte ofrece excelentes cursos académicos en una cultura de cuidado y respeto. Informense acerca de nuestros programas escolares que se ofrecen a los estudiantes despues de las clases regulares.

REQUISITOS DE MATRICULACION

- **KINDERGARTEN**-Certificado de nacimiento que indique el 5to cumpleaños antes del 1 de Septiembre del 2014
- **KINDER DE TRANSICION** Certificado de nacimiento que indique el 5to cumpleaños entre el 2 de Septiembre del 2014 al 2 de Diciembre del 2014.
- Comprobante de Vacunas al corriente.
- Dos pruebas de residencia como una copia de la factura de servicios públicos, recibo de renta, documentos de escrow o estado de cuenta bancaria.

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Sea parte de una experiencia educativa excepcional en Duarte Unificado!

Duarte Unified School District has launched the One World Initiative and placed the power of technology directly in the hands of every DUSD student

Now, global connections are right at their fingertips. All 7th-8th grade students will be issued an HP 3125 Notebook PC for use both at school and home this spring. Fully loaded with Windows 7, Office 2013 and email accounts, their laptops will follow with them all the way through 12th grade.

Also, every elementary school in our district now has a class set of HP Notebooks in every 3rd-6th grade classroom, and 2nd grade classrooms share.

Incredibly, over 1,800 digital devices are now in use at DUSD.



State of the Duarte Unified School District

By Joilyn Campitiello, EdLeader21 Coordinator

Duarte community members gathered at the City of Hope on March 6 for the annual State of the School District Luncheon, sponsored by the Duarte Chamber of Commerce. Food for the luncheon was prepared and served by the Culinary Arts program from Duarte High School. In past years, the district has presented with the City of Duarte and Citrus College, but this year the spotlight was on Duarte Unified showcasing their innovative programs.

School Board President Pam Kawasaki shared information about the new state funding formula and accountability plan known as the LCAP. The LCAP is based on eight state priorities and local priorities including the district strategic plan, mission statement, vision, Board goals and 21st Century skills. The focus of all these priorities is ensuring students are college and career ready. Mrs. Kawasaki shared that in Duarte Unified a college and career ready student is known as a *Shoulder Tapped Graduate* and Duarte High School boasts a 98.28% graduation rate, well above the national average. She also shared information about the district's S.T.E.P. mentoring program, 1:1 student laptop initiative, community partnerships and the expansion of the district music program to the elementary level.

In addition to an outstanding presentation by Mrs. Kawasaki, the Duarte High Jazz Band entertained guests, under the direction of Rich Torres. The new elementary music program was highlighted with performances



SCHOOL BOARD PRESIDENT Pam Kawasaki is shown presenting the State of the Duarte Unified School District at the City of Hope on March 6.

by a second grade choral group from Andres Duarte directed by Lindsie Hardy. The sixth grade beginning band students showed off their instruments and shared a song with the audience under the direction of band teacher, John Aranda.

Mt. Olive Innovation and Technology School, better known as MIT, wowed guests with solar cars and displays from their robotics classes. Duarte High provided impressive displays of student

work from their woodshop and art programs. Duarte High students frequently take top honors in woodshop and art at the LA County Fair.

Special thanks to the City of Hope for hosting this event and to all who participated in showcasing the outstanding programs and students of the Duarte Unified School District, a values-based organization with a great story to tell and the home of *Shoulder Tapped Graduates*.

Mr. William Peters receives DUSD 2014 Golden Apple Award

Duarte Unified School District honored Mr. William Peters as their 2014 Golden Apple recipient at this year's regional recognition event for San Gabriel Valley school districts.

Mr. Peters was presented the tribute by Superintendent Dr. Terry Nichols at the Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) Golden Apple Awards Breakfast held in the Sunset Room at the Arcadia Santa Anita Golf Course.

As a strong advocate to better the lives of our children in Duarte, Mr. Peters is a liaison between the Head Start program and the community.

He generously shares his time and energies to provide resources to the Head Start families and actively serves to learn of their needs and how he can be of help to them.

Mr. Peters has resided in the Duarte community for 15 years. He holds a MS degree and a MFT degree.

Since 1998, Mr. Peters has worked with Foothill Family Services, currently as Clinical Director, and demonstrates a special passion for the students and families in the Duarte community. He has served as a member of the Head Start Policy Committee, and was elected to be a community representative in 2011.

Mr. Peters stated that "he has been fortunate to serve on the Head Start Policy Committee as he has enjoyed learning about the Head Start programs and partner-



WILLIAM PETERS

ing with the hard working staff in collaborations with students and their families."

The Duarte Unified School District and the community have truly been enriched through his commitment to education by helping students with mental health services and to help them overcome barriers in school in order to achieve lifelong success.

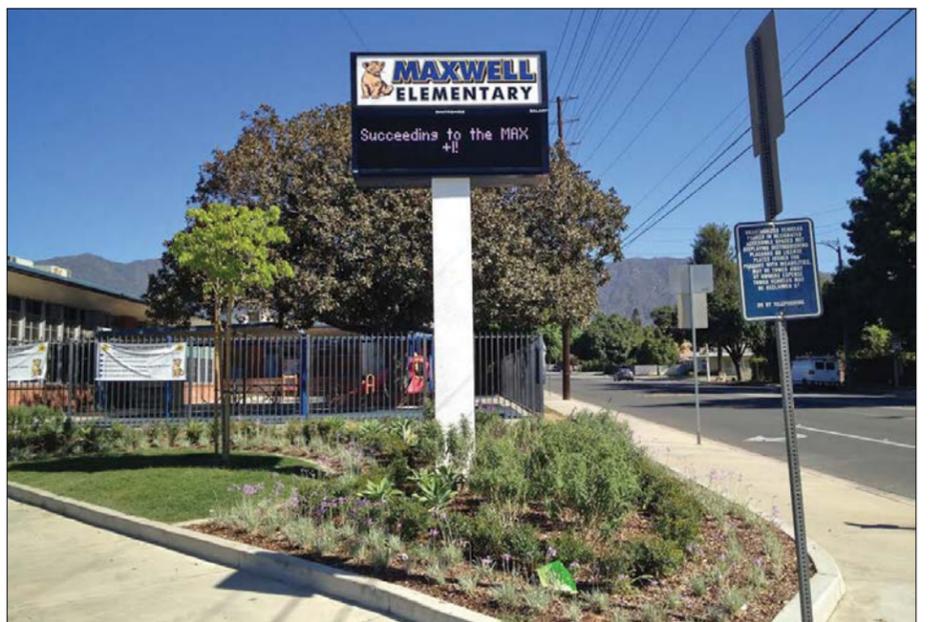
His positive outlook, steadfast dedication and caring attitude towards others has given our students hope for the future.

On behalf of our district administration, Duarte Unified School District is pleased to have Mr. William Peters as a member of the district and community and are proud to recognize him as our 2014 Golden Apple recipient. We appreciate your commitment, generosity and compassion!

Save the Dates for Measure E Grand Openings

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Be Our Guest Next Sunday
Worship — 10:00 a.m.
Children's Sunday School — 10:30 a.m.

Duarte Teen Center

The Duarte Teen Center is located at 1400 Buena Vista Street in Duarte. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 3-7 p.m.

All Duarte teens grades 9-12 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.

SPECIAL EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Hip Hop Dance Classes (6-Week Session)

Come learn the latest dance moves, hip hop techniques, meet new friends and showcase your talent! Classes will be held

Mondays and Wednesdays, March 11-April 17 (No classes on the 1st Monday and Wednesday of the month.) from 5-7 p.m. for a fee of \$20

Cesar Chavez Essay Contest

Students grades 9-12 can compete in an essay-writing contest on why they are inspired by the life of Cesar Chavez. Prizes will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. Entry Deadline is Thursday, March 20, at 7 p.m.

Club Duarte (Intermediate School Students)

On Friday, April 4, and Friday, May 16, from 7:30-10 p.m. the Duarte Teen Center will be transformed into the rocking hot spot

for intermediate school youth. Live DJ, dancing, food and game room activities for only \$5.

Youth Employment Workshop

Youth between the ages 15-18 will participate in an employment workshop on Wednesday, April 9, 3:30-5 p.m. The workshop will include tips on finding a job, gaining employment experience, resume writing, filling out job applications, interview tips, and how to be successful once you land a job. There will also be local employers on site to speak with the participants about employment opportunities. Please register in advance at the Teen Center. Space is limited. Free!

Cinco de Mayo Celebration

Celebrate Cinco de Mayo at the Teen Center on Thursday,

May 1, at 3:30 p.m. There will be traditional Mexican food for all to enjoy for \$1 per person.

Summer Kick Off BBQ/ Graduation Party!

On Tuesday, June 3, at 3:30 p.m. the Teen Center will have a Summer Kick Off BBQ/Graduation Party. Enjoy cheeseburgers, chips, fresh fruit, and a beverage for only \$1. Graduates eat free!

TEEN EXCURSION

Six Flags Magic Mountain Excursion

On Monday, April 14 the Duarte Teen Center will be heading to the mountain for Spring Break fun at Six Flags! Trip leaves the Teen Center at 8:30 a.m. and returns to the Teen Center at 7:30 p.m. The fee is \$34. Meals on your own.

ON GOING ACTIVITIES

Birthday Tuesdays – On the first Tuesday of each month we'll celebrate the birthdays of all teens registered at the Teen Center. Come and enjoy cake for all!

Boys Night Out – This program is for teen boys grades 9-12. Come join this club just for guys! Fun trips, group discussions, sports and much more! The group will meet Wednesdays from 4-5:30 p.m. March 26, April 23 and May 14 and 28.

Drama Club – The drama club will meet once a week. Club members will participate in poetry jams, oratory, skits, and improvisation. Class meets Fridays from 3:30-5 p.m. Membership fee is \$5 every 6 months.

Nutrition/Cooking Class – Learn to make quick and easy nutritious meals, while having fun with friends! Class meets once a week. Wednesday at 3:30-5 p.m. Fee is \$2 per class.

Girls Night Out – This free program is for teen girls grades 9-12. Discuss various topics ranging from peer pressure, goals, self esteem, relationships and much more. The group will meet Tuesdays: March 25, April 8 and 22, and May 6 and 20 from 3:30-5 p.m.

Work it Out! – Come join Teen Center staff for "Work it Out" a fitness program for teens! Video workouts, walking excursions, circuit training, and nutrition tips! Come get fit with friends! Class is held Thursdays from 4-5 p.m.

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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Youth Spring Activities

DUARTE ROTARY CLUB'S BREAKFAST WITH THE EASTER BUNNY

On Sat., April 19, the Duarte Rotary Club will host its annual Breakfast With the Easter Bunny at the Duarte Community Center, 1600 Huntington Drive from 7:30 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 attending 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

Duarte Parks and Recreation will conduct the annual Duarte Easter Egg Hunts at Royal Oaks and Beardslee Parks on Sat., April 19, 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. 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 YOUTH EXCURSION

Knott's Berry Farm

An excursion to Knott's Berry Farm will be Wed., April 16. Register now at Duarte City Hall or at local supervised playgrounds. The fee is \$28 for 8-17 year olds and covers tickets and transportation. Meals are not included. Outside food is not allowed in the park. Space is limited. For more information call (626) 357-7931.



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TASTE OF DUARTE & BUSINESS EXPO

★ **Wednesday, May 21** ★

Great opportunity to market your business locally in the San Gabriel Valley!

Interested in being a participating vendor getting hundreds of visitors in a 3 hour period?

Booths available for Restaurants, Home Based Businesses and Store Front Businesses!

Sign up now....



Call the Duarte Chamber at 626 357-3333 *and Business Expo*

Chamber Networking Events

April 15 and May 20
7-8:30 am

NETWORKING BREAKFAST
Come meet new members and network your business!
at Cabrera's
1856 Huntington Dr., Duarte
Meets third Tuesday of the month

April 29 and May 27
12-1 pm

LADIES BROWN BAG NETWORKING LUNCH
Contact the chamber for location
Meets last Tuesday of the month

Make your reservations through the online calendar at www.duartechamber.com or call (626) 357-3333

Networking at the City of Hope /Amini Transfusion Medical Center Mixer



Starting a business or already have a business but don't have a Website Domain Name?

Call the Duarte Chamber It's FREE

with your membership! We're here to help!

(626) 357-3333
1634 Third St., Duarte

Simplifying Small Business Success
2014 Free Business Seminar #2

Efficient Use of Technology "Communicating through Technology"

Wednesday, May 14
11:30 am – 1:00 pm

Duarte Community Center - 1600 Huntington Dr., Duarte
R.S.V.P to the Duarte Chamber 357-3333

Presented by
Duarte Chamber of Commerce, City of Duarte Economic Development Commission and Foothill Workforce Investment Board

How does anyone know you're there ?

Advertise in the Duarte View community newspaper!
10,000 circulation!
Delivered to ALL Duarte residents and businesses!

Contact Diana Burckhard
(626) 357-3333
diana@duartechamber.com

Small Business Development Center
Every Thursday
at Duarte City Hall, 1600 Huntington Dr., Duarte
Reservations required - call 866-301-9989
www.pcrsfdc.org

Support your community by becoming a member today!



www.DuarteChamber.com