

Duarte View

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2015

A bi-monthly community publication of the

Duarte Chamber OF COMMERCE
 In its 95th year of service to the community

Honorees announced for Mayor's Prayer Breakfast

Reverend Dr. Terry L. Irish featured speaker Nov. 25

Duarte will express its thanks to outstanding community volunteers and kick off the holiday season at the annual Mayor's Prayer Breakfast and Duarte Chamber's Community Service Recognition Awards. The event will be held Wednesday, November 25, from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. at the City of Hope Cooper Auditorium, 1500 Duarte Road, Duarte.



REV. DR. TERRY L. IRISH

Reverend Dr. Terry L. Irish, chaplain at City of Hope National Medical Center, will be this year's featured speaker. He has 14 years of experience facilitating bereavement support groups for people from a wide range of backgrounds. In October of 2012, Terry received the Southern California Cancer Pain Initiative (SCCPI) Award of Excellence in Pain Management for his contributions to the relief of pain and suffering of cancer patients.

Being honored this year by the Duarte Chamber of Commerce are: Sara Nureldeen-Diaz, Outstanding Youth Award; Amy Bustos, Outstanding Service to Youth Award; Congresswoman Grace Napolitano, Outstanding Civic Service Award; Jean Glass, Outstanding Humanitarian Award; Mary Pat Paddock, Outstanding Service to Senior Citizens/Disabled Award; and two Outstanding Business Person Service Awards: Rinaldi Halim of Nissan of Duarte, and Alfredo and Grace Mejia of Rancho Mexican Restaurant.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for children and seniors. Tickets can be purchased at the

DUSD puts a computer in every student's hands



ROYAL OAKS SCHOOL 4th grade laptop computer equipped students are participating in the Hour of Code global initiative supported by world renowned tech leaders including Mark Zuckerberg. The next date for the Hour of Code Week is Dec. 7-11.

Every student from 1st grade through 12th in the Duarte Unified School District (DUSD), has a laptop computer to use on a daily basis. And that's something no other school district in the San Gabriel Valley can claim.

When the citizens of Duarte passed a bond issue

several years ago, part of the plan was to improve the physical plants of DUSD, but there was also a technology component and this has become one of the district's brightest selling points.

"We're the only district in the region offering laptops on a 1-per-1 basis," explained Joilyn Campitiello, EdLeader21 Coordinator for DUSD. "A lot of districts have been working to improve their technology offerings, and many have a lot of computers, but we're the only district where every kid from 1st grade on has a computer of their own for daily use."

Students at Northview Intermediate (grades 7th and 8th) and Duarte High School (Grades 9th through 12th) are each issued a laptop computer that they take home on a nightly basis. Students in the elementary schools (grades 1st through 6th) use classroom sets of laptops which are for their use daily in the classroom. Preschool, TK and Kindergartners are also exposed to the technology, but not on a 1-per-1 basis.

"This commitment is all about college and career readiness, which is our mission at DUSD," said Campitiello. "All of our eyes are on that, through all levels of the educational process."

Putting computers in the hands of students – especially with the opportunity to take them home on a nightly basis – did not come without some forward thinking and serious preparation.

For starters, the district committed to technology in all classrooms by installing SMART interactive white boards and surround sound audio in every room at every school. Then it was determined that teachers needed personal laptops to operate the in-class systems, and then there was a push to use the money to create a technologically savvy student body who can compete with their peers in neighboring districts.

Many decisions required careful exploration conducted by the district's Research & Development Team comprised mostly of classroom teachers, such as whether to go with laptops or tablets, whether to use PC or Macintosh operating systems, and how to make the internet safe for young learners.

Each student in grades 7 through 12 takes

See Computers on page 13

door or in advance from the Duarte Chamber of Commerce, at Duarte City Hall, or online at www.duartechamber.com. A limited amount of tickets will be available at the door.

The annual Mayor's Prayer Breakfast is sponsored by Burrtec Waste Industries, and co-sponsored by the following: the Duarte IHOP, Duarte Church and Clergy Association, Duarte Chamber of Commerce, City of Hope, Duarte Kiwanis and Key Clubs, and the Duarte Woman's Club.

"Duarte Day" volunteer float decorating opportunity Dec. 27



The City of Hope and City of Duarte have designated Sunday, December 27, as "Duarte Day," providing a fun opportunity for local volunteers to work on the City of Hope's 2016 Tournament of Roses Parade float. City of Hope, recognized worldwide for its compassionate care, innovative science, translational research, and laboratory breakthroughs is excited to unveil its 2016 entry "The Miracle of Science with Soul" showcasing patient adventures made possible through the City of Hope's groundbreaking research and uniquely focused care.

"Find Your Adventure" is the theme of the 2016 Tournament of Roses Parade and the entry is being built by Phoenix Decorating Company. Opportunities are available for the first 80 volunteers who can choose between two shifts. The first shift will work from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and the second shift is from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. Volunteers must be at least 13 years of age or over and the decoration site for the float is Rosemont Pavilion, 700 Seco St., in Pasadena.

Visit eventbrite at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/city-of-hope-volunteer-rose-float-decorating-tickets-19308044882> to select a shift during Duarte Decorating Day. To find out more about the float at www.cityofhope.org/roseparadefloat.

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Centenarians in Duarte

By Claudia Heller

FANNIE BLAND DARDEN

An adventurous, fashion-conscience hard worker was Fannie Bland Darden. And although she had slowed down and struggled with slight dementia, she was alert and excited at her recent 100th birthday party celebrated at the home of her friend Joyce Brown of Duarte.



Fannie was born on September 15, 1915 in Pinebluff Arkansas amid orchards and fish-filled ponds. She came to live in Monrovia in 1959 and pursued her career as a nurse's aide at the City of Hope. She was active in The First Baptist Church and after retiring she continued working as a caregiver.

Fannie's granddaughter, Irby, loves to express her love and admiration for her Grandma. She recalls that Fannie had a case of wanderlust and finally in her mid-life years learned to drive so she could explore the West, always with her dog "Lady" at her side. She loved traveling to San Francisco and Seattle. "She read a lot and was proud of winning a plaque in the Monrovia home beautification contest," says Lois.

At her recent birthday celebration, Fannie was surrounded by thirty family members and friends and was alert and excited while she enjoyed all the attention. Duarte Council Member Liz Reilly says: "I congratulate Ms Fannie Darden for reaching 100 years of age, an amazing milestone. I praise her for the love, caring, and wisdom she has given to those around her. I can only imagine the changes she has seen in her lifetime."

DORTHA TREAT

Likewise, Duartean Dortha Treat recently enjoyed the celebration of her 100th birthday. Originally from Indiana, Dortha hitched a ride with some friends, and when they got to Duarte, she decided to stay!



She didn't know many people, but she knew this would be home. She remembers many Duarte icons that are no longer here, like Hamburger Heaven and The Trails Restaurant. Her son Mark and daughter Susan both graduated from Duarte High School.

"I consider my mom to be a walking history book," says her daughter Susan Sommerville. "She has lived through the effects of the Great Depression, the outbreak of World War II, the first man in space, and everything since. She has always been a strong woman—a woman of doing—rather than whining, and she is

still strong at 100 years of age!"

"How do you feel being a century old and what advice can you give?" I ask Dortha. She replies: "Whatever you do, when you get old, don't sit! Never sit down or you will never get up. Go outside and plant flowers." Taking her own advice, she recently transferred the flowers in her yard from one side of the house to the other.

She is excited about life and especially about her upcoming trip to Oregon to visit her son.

San Gabriel Valley Habitat for Humanity has built 75 homes in 25 years!

Sonya Yates, Executive Director of San Gabriel Valley Habitat for Humanity has an amazing story to share.

In the 25 years the organization has been here, they have built 75 homes for low-income families.

These families all contribute over 300 hours of "sweat" equity into their homes.

They apply for their 0% mortgage with Habitat and provide 1% down payment.

In these 25 years there have been 0 (zero) foreclosures – and 0 (zero) home sales.

All of these homes are owned by their original families – and many have paid off their mortgages!

Habitat is always looking for new ways to support our community.

Finding affordable land and appropriate partners is key.

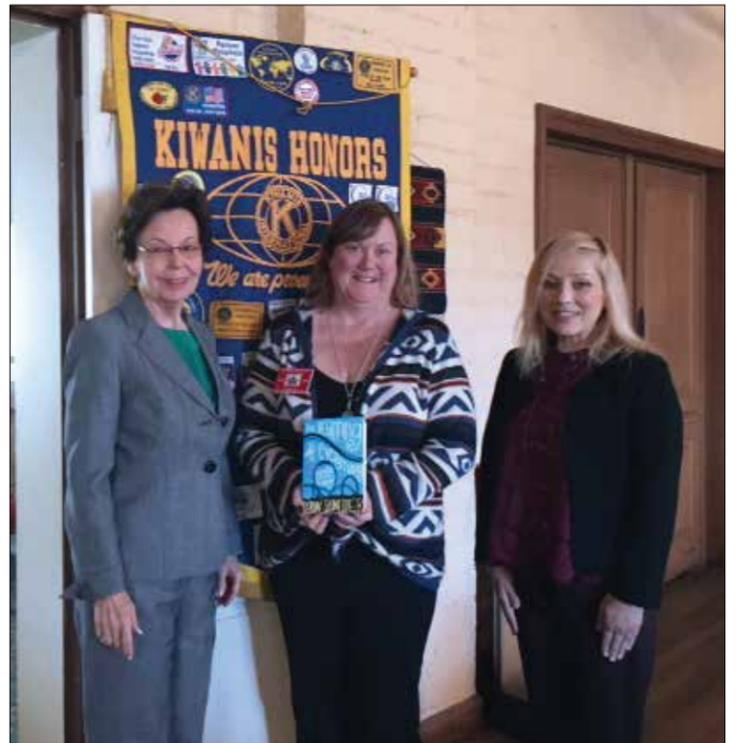
Their latest project, Desiderio Project in Pasadena will provide 9 homes for families in West Pasadena on the land previously used by the Desiderio Army Reserve Base.

Habitat is also expanding into exterior home repair programs as well.

At a recent meeting of the Duarte Kiwanis, Sonya was able to share these stories and coordinate potential volunteer opportunities through Volunteer and Youth Programs Manager, Kathy Karimi.

For further information on speaking or joining the club, contact Dr. Diane Hernandez at drdiane@drhernandezoptometry.com.

A leader is a dealer in hope.
– Napoleon Bonaparte



Sonya Yates (left), Duarte Kiwanis President Cheryl Reynolds and Kathy Karimi.

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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 January-February issue is December 31, 2015.



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Duarte Recreation Youth Sports



BOYS AND GIRLS BASKETBALL LEAGUES

The Duarte Parks and Recreation Department will begin taking registration December 1 for Youth Basketball leagues for boys and girls. Children born in years 2002-2007 are eligible to play. Practice sites will include Beardslee Park, Royal Oaks Park, Valley View School, Andres Duarte School and Northview School. Games will begin in January. The fee is only \$30 and includes a jersey top. For more information, please call 357-7931.

LITTLE ALL STAR BASKETBALL FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

Little All Stars is an exciting non-competitive variation of basketball especially suited for young players. Program begins in February. Registration begins Monday, December 7 at City Hall. Fee is \$30 and includes a Jersey uniform.

Group 1 ages 4 & 5 and Group 2 ages 6 & 7

5:30 p.m. Presented by the SGV Council of Governments.

SANTA'S HOTLINE

Children can talk to Santa Claus directly! Calls will be routed to the North Pole for children to enjoy a fun conversation with the one and only Santa Claus on Tuesday, December 15 from 3 p.m. – 5 p.m. Call (626) 386-6804 to talk to Santa before he gets too busy getting ready for Christmas.

ited there Monday – Thursday, 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m. or mailed to 1600 Huntington Drive, Duarte, CA 91010, Attention: Santa Claus. Please include your address and phone number. All letters will be forwarded to the North Pole and Santa will write back!

SANTA'S VISIT AND HOLIDAY PARTY

On Thursday, December 10, Santa will visit Beardslee Park from 2:45 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. followed by a visit to Royal Oaks Park from 3:30 p.m.-4 p.m. before heading to the Duarte Senior Center at 1610 Huntington Drive for Santa's Holiday Party.

The Duarte Recreation Department will get children into the holiday spirit with a very special event. Santa's Holiday Party will be held at the Duarte Senior Center, 1610 Huntington Drive on Thursday, December 10, from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. There will be holiday games, crafts, music, prizes, refreshments and a visit from Santa Claus! RSVP for this free event by calling the Parks and Recreation Department at 357-7931. Limited to the first 90 participants.

HOLIDAY LIGHTS FREE EXCHANGE DURING SANTA'S PARTY!

At Santa's Party SCE customers can exchange one incandescent holiday light string for one LED string at no cost! Bring your old incandescent holiday light strands to Santa's Party on Thursday, December 10 from 4 –

ers, carolers and a few surprises. Additionally, a traditional tamale dinner including two tamales, rice, beans, chips and a drink will be served for only \$6 per person. Santa Claus will be in town at the tree lighting, so bring your little elves to play games, make a holiday craft, and talk to Santa Claus! The Duarte Senior Center is located in the Duarte Town Center at 1610 Huntington Drive. For more information please call 357-7931.

SANTA'S MAILBOX

Santa's Mailbox is available Nov. 23 through Dec. 10 for boys and girls ages 10 and younger and will be located in front of the Recreation Department counter in City Hall. Letters may be depos-

Duarte Recreation Holiday Activities

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA AND SANTA'S WORKSHOP

On Saturday, December 5 the Duarte Rotary Club will host its annual Breakfast With Santa. The event will be held is year at the Duarte Senior Center, 1610 Huntington Drive from 8 to 11:00 a.m. Tickets are \$4 for adults and \$2 for children ages 10 and under. All proceeds will benefit Rotary's local service projects. Those in attendance will be treated to a delicious pancake and sausage breakfast cooked by Rotary Club members. Santa Claus will be available for pictures. For more breakfast information, please call Brian Villalobos at 357-7938.

Santa's Workshop is presented by the Duarte Recreation Depart-

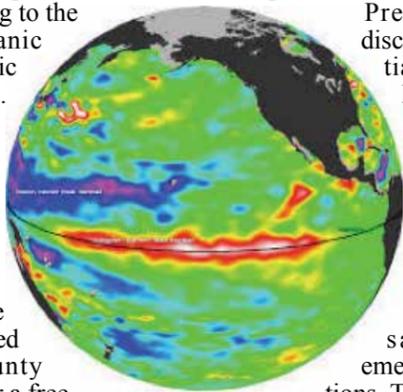
ment and will provide children an opportunity to make holiday crafts and decorations right after breakfast. This event is free with the breakfast and is available from 8 – 11:00 a.m.

HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING AND FIESTA

Begin the holiday season with this fun family special event! The official City of Duarte Christmas Tree is a beautiful living Redwood tree located in front of the Duarte Senior Center. Join the Duarte Parks and Recreation Department on Tuesday, December 1 from 6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m. (tree lighting at 8 p.m.) for this special holiday event. We will celebrate the season with musical performances featuring cultural danc-

El Niño community preparation Dec. 17

El Niño 2015-16 is expected to dramatically influence weather and climate patterns this winter according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. To help prepare our residents for this potential influx of rain, high water moving debris and possibly mud, the City has partnered with our County partners to offer a free, informative workshop.



Duarte and Bradbury residents are invited to attend a Community Preparedness Workshop; El Niño Preparation and Response on December 17 from 7-8:30 p.m. at the Duarte Community Center located at 1600 Huntington Drive. Free food and drinks will be provided at this event.

Featured speakers include Jim Enriquez, Acting Assistant Fire Chief, Los Angeles County Fire Department and Eric Boldt, Warning Coordination Meteorologist, National Weather Service (NWS) and a representative from the Los Angeles County Public Works Department who together, will provide audience members with a thorough overview of El Niño and how to take immediate, preventative measures to prepare. Community members will

also have ample time to ask questions after each speaker's presentation.

Presenters will discuss the potential effects of El Niño from their respective expertise. The City of Duarte strives to keep residents informed and safe during emergency situations. The Los Angeles County Fire Department protects lives, the environment and property by providing prompt, skillful and cost effective fire protection and life safety services.

The National Weather Service provides weather, hydrologic and climate forecasts and warnings for the U.S., its territories, adjacent waters and ocean areas, for the protection of life and property and enhancement of the national economy. Los Angeles County Public Works is responsible for the design, construction, operation and maintenance of roads, traffic signals, sewers, flood control and more.

For additional event information and to RSVP, please contact Diego Renteria at (626) 357-7931 ext. 3248. Please RSVP by December 10.



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Duarte Recreation Class Registration

The Duarte Parks and Recreation Department will begin taking registration for Winter Recreation classes on Monday, December 7. Registration is on a first-come, first-serve basis. Mail in registrations may be sent to the Duarte Parks and Recreation Department, 1600 Huntington Drive, Duarte, CA 91010-2592. Please include the participant's name, address, daytime telephone number, age, class, time, and class fee. If you would like a receipt, please include a self-addressed stamped envelope. (Registrations received prior to December 7 will be returned.) You can also register

by phone with Discover, Visa or MasterCard for purchases over \$25 beginning Tuesday, December 8, (626) 357-7931. Classes will begin the week of January 4.

A variety of youth, family and adult classes will be offered. Classes being offered include: Amazing Arts, Ballet and Advanced Ballet, Belly Dancing, Computer Skills, Craft Time, Critical Reading and Written Expression, Dance Your Buns Off, Drama for Kids, Folklorico, Golf, Guitar, Hip Hop, Intro to Typing, Karate, Lets Run Duarte, Line Dance, Math Workshop, Needle Art, Parent and Me, Piano,

Polynesian Dance, Salsa, Skateboarding, Sewing, Tai Chi Kung, Tap, Tennis, Tumbling, Vocals, Yoga and Watercolor.

For more information, please contact the Duarte Recreation Department at 357-7931, Monday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Gift Certificates for recreation classes are available, and they make great holiday gifts!

Coming Soon: Online Registration! Please call 357-7931 and ask to speak to a Parks and Recreation Department representative to learn more about the exciting registration options that will be available soon.

Volunteer Center of San Gabriel Valley shares their Vision

Yenier Leyva is a wonderful representative of the Volunteer Center. He shares the vision of community service and opportunities for volunteers with a true passion.

The Volunteer Center of San Gabriel was initially founded in 1948. They have had an ongoing program for Meals on Wheels since the beginning.

The Volunteer Center has grown over the years and now has offices in East L.A., Pasadena and Monrovia. They provide volunteer opportunities for court

ordered community service as well as for traditional volunteer services.

One of the recent opportunities for volunteers was at the Sierra Madre Playhouse. There was a volunteer opportunity for ushers, some stage crew and other duties.

Yenier can be reached at (626) 256-8187 for more information.

For further information on speaking or joining the club, contact Dr. Diane Hernandez at drdiane@drhernandezoptometry.com.

Duarte Elks Lodge
2436 Huntington Dr.
Duarte, CA 91010
626-357-6771



Children's Holiday Party
Sunday, Dec. 20th
at 2 pm

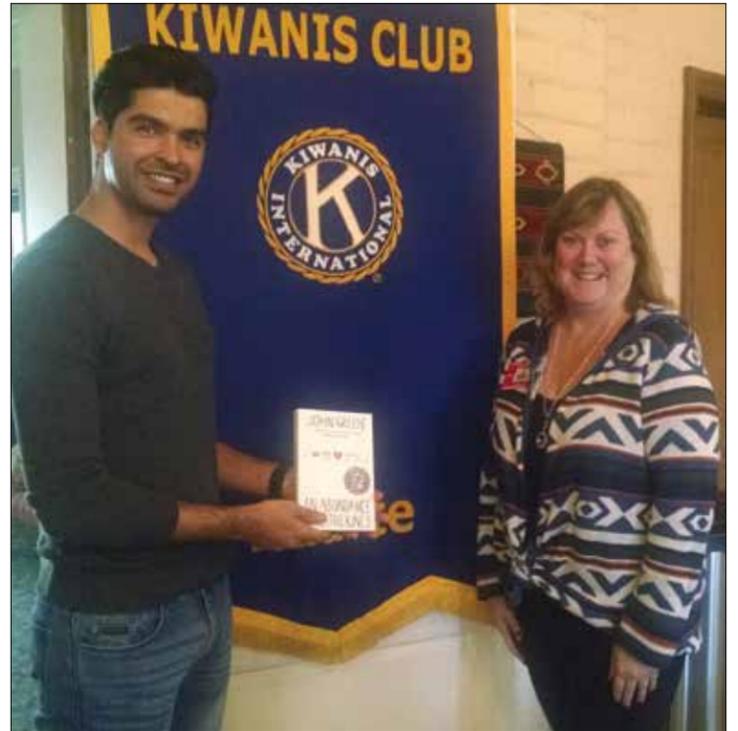
Mark your calendar

Day at the Races
At Santa Anita Park
March 12

www.duarteelks.org



CLASS participants have fun dancing and making new friends!



PICTURED FROM LEFT – Yenier Leyva, Volunteer Center of San Gabriel Valley and Cheryl Reynolds, President of Duarte Kiwanis.

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

Seidner's Collision Centers - Duarte earns Official Certification and Prestigious Top Automaker recognition

Seidner's Collision Centers - Duarte has been officially certified by Assured Performance, a non-profit consumer advocacy organization for maintaining the

right tools, equipment, training, and facility necessary to repair the participating Automaker brand vehicles according to the manufacturer's specifications

In achieving their certification, Seidner's Collision Centers - Duarte is now an integral part of the most advanced repair capable and efficient auto body repair network in the world.

Adding to their credentials, Seidner's Collision Centers - Duarte is officially recognized by Assured Performance, FCA, GM, and Hyundai.

To become Certified and officially recognized by the various Automakers, Seidner's Collision Centers - Duarte passed the rigorous certification process essential to help ensure a proper and safe repair of the new generation of advanced vehicles.

Less than 5 percent of body shops across the nation are able to meet the stringent requirements to become officially certified and recognized.

The certified network is made up exclusively of best-in-class collision repair businesses that

have met or exceeded the stringent requirements of the Certification program.

The Certification criteria is based upon auto manufacturer requirements. These are critical to ensure the vehicle fit, finish, durability, value and safety following an accident.

As new model vehicles are being introduced that use light weight high strength materials and advanced technology, a proper repair according to manufacturer specification is even more important than ever to ensure the passenger safety and proper performance of the vehicle.

Auto manufacturers want to ensure that consumers have the option of Certified Collision Repair wherever they live, work, or travel.

"Consumers need the confidence and peace of mind to know their vehicle is repaired by a shop that has what it takes to ensure the vehicle safety.

"Seidner's Collision Centers - Duarte is officially a Collision Care Provider™," said Scott Biggs, CEO of Assured Performance Collision Care.

"They represent the standard by which all other body shops are measured."

CITY OF DUARTE CONTACTS

1600 Huntington Drive, Duarte, CA 91010
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 Hours: Monday-Thursday, 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m.



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DUARTE

SHOP

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.

COOKBOOKS FOR SALE

The Duarte Senior Center has published its own cookbook! The Center has the best cooks that you can find anywhere. This is one book you do not want to be without. Pick up your copy at the Senior Center, \$8 for one or \$15 for two.

LUNCH

The Senior Center serves lunch Monday thru Friday at 12 p.m. to individuals over 60 years of age or the spouse of someone over age 60 for a suggested donation of \$3 per person. Reservations are required 24 hours in advance. Call (626) 357-3513 for reservations.

ACCESS TRANSPORTATION

Transportation for individuals with disabilities is provided by Access Transportation. For eligibility or more information call (800) 827-0829.

MEALS ON WHEELS PROGRAM

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 Intervale at (626) 214-9465.

HICAP – MAKING SENSE OF MEDICARE

Every 1st and 3rd Monday of the month by appointment, HICAP provides unbiased information, counseling and assistance on Medicare and related health care coverage. FREE! Please call the senior center to make a reservation at (626) 357-3513.

FREE BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS

The 2nd Tuesday of every month from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. a nurse from Health Care Partners will provide a medical assistant to do free blood pressure checks. No appointment necessary.

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 by coming in the center or calling (626) 357-3513.

FREE LEGAL CLINIC

Sara Polinsky, elder law attorney, 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 Center or calling (626) 357-3513.

TECH SUPPORT

On the second Wednesday of the Month at 1 p.m., DLL Technologies, LLC, a local tech support business, will be offering FREE tech support. They will provide technical support for your computers, laptops, mobile devices and phones.

BINGO

Every Tuesday from 12:45-2:30 p.m. The fee is 25 cents per card.

BUNCO

First Wednesday of the month, 12:30-3 p.m. you can win prizes and meet new people. \$1 per person to play and it is sponsored by the Duarte Woman's Club. Please plan on staying until all games are played. Call (626) 357-3513 to RSVP or stop by the front desk at the Senior Center to be put on the list.

CRIBBAGE

If you are interested in playing cribbage on the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month from 12:30-2 p.m., please sign up at the front desk or call the Center at (626) 357-3513 to get your name on the list.

CHESS FOR SENIORS

Come in and play chess at the senior center on the 3rd Friday of the month from 11 a.m.-12 p.m. 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!

MOVIE DAYS

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 1:30 p.m. at the Center. Librarian Eileen Penson is the moderator. Please call the Center at (626) 357-3513 to see what book they are currently reading.

PAPER CRAFT CLASS

Two greeting cards are made each month. Bring scissors, adhesive, and colored pencils. Sign up at the front desk where you can see samples of the cards. For more information, please call (626) 357-3513.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN DUARTE

Enjoy some conversation with council member Liz Reilly at the Senior Center. Liz is 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.

ON THE MOVE RIDERS CLUB

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

TRAIL TREKKERS HIKING GROUP

The Trail Trekkers meet once a month to go on local hikes. Come by the Senior Center and grab a flyer to see where their next destination will be or call the Senior

Center at (626) 357-3513 for more information.

VOLUNTEER TAX PREPARERS NEEDED

Training for Tax-aides to man the AARP Low Income Tax Aide Program will start soon. No tax experience required, just basic computer skills, an interest in helping people and the available time during tax season. Contact: www.aarp.org/volunteer_tax_aide to submit your application.

CLASSES

The Senior Center offers a variety of classes for adults 55 years and older. Classes offered this winter include:

Classes with Fee: Cross Fit, Exercise with Shelly, Get Fit, Intro to Computers, Living the French Revolution, Piano/Keyboard, Sewing, Strength Training, Watercolor, Western Line Dance, and Yoga.

Free Ongoing Classes: Cardio Dance, Celebrate Your Life in Writing, Ceramics, Chess, Duarte Senior Center Chorus, English as a Second Language, Guitar, Knitting, Spanish-Beginner, Spanish-Advanced Beginner, and Tai Chi/Qigong.

CITY OF HOPE PRESENTS, CANCER URBAN LEGENDS: FACT VS. FICTION

Do cell phones cause brain cancer? Do GMO and non-organic foods lead to higher cancer risk? Does BPA in plastic cause cancer?

On Tuesday, January 12, from 10-11:30 a.m. come hear from City of Hope doctors and research experts as they discuss a range of cancer concerns, debunk common myths, give you the real facts. Reservations requested, please call the Center at (626) 357-3513.

AARP SMART DRIVER COURSE (8-HOUR COURSE)

The Duarte Senior Center, in

cooperation with AARP, will be offering a Smart Driver Course class for persons 55 and older on Tuesday, January 19, and Thursday, January 21, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. This eight-hour class, split up in two four-hour sessions, is a comprehensive classroom driver re-training course geared to the specific needs of older motorists. Auto insurance companies are required by law to offer discounts to course graduates. Attendance is required at both sessions. The cost is \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members and reservations are required with AARP card prior to class. For more information, please call the Center at (626) 357-3513.

AARP SMART DRIVER COURSE (4-HOUR REFRESHER COURSE)

If you have already taken an 8-hour A.A.R.P. Driver Safety class in the last 4 years, then you can take the 4-hour refresher course. Please check with your insurance company to see if they accept the 4-hour refresher course for a policy discount. The class will be held on Thursday, March 10, 2016, 1-5 p.m. The cost is \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members, reservations are required; please call the Senior Center for any questions at (626) 357-3513.

EXCURSIONS

The City of Duarte will begin taking registration for the following excursions at Duarte City Hall on Monday, December 7, 2015. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. We accept Visa, MasterCard and Discover for purchases over \$25.

Sunnylands Center & Gardens

Wednesday, January 6, 9:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.

Fee: \$67 (Lunch included)
The day begins with a lovely

See Senior Center on page 7

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Citrus College salutes and serves Veterans

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

This month the nation pauses to honor America's veterans for their patriotism, sacrifice, and service to our country. That makes it a good time to reflect on the importance of the GI Bill and how it has provided millions of veterans a pathway to a college education that might otherwise have been unattainable.

Originally known as the Servicemen's Readjustment Act, the GI Bill was signed into law by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1944. It offered a package of benefits for veterans of U.S. military service, including financial assistance for higher education tuition and other educational costs. Despite some initial misgivings about the bill in Congress,



DR. EDWARD C. ORTELL

returning World War II veterans proved to be highly motivated to acquire skills that would lead to good paying jobs and rewarding lives. Ultimately, the GI Bill was deemed a tremendous success.

Directly or indirectly, all Americans have benefited as a

result of the GI Bill. My father, a World War II veteran, used the education benefits to change the course of his family's destiny as low-income farmers in the Midwest. Following his service in the Air Force, the GI Bill made it possible for him to ultimately earn a Ph.D. and become a college professor of astronomy and mathematics. In doing so, he set himself and his family on a trajectory to professional success—and there are millions of stories just like his. Since 1944, the GI Bill has been renewed and revised several times, but there is no question as to its value to the economy and the competitiveness of the nation's workforce, something that positively impacts us all.

Today's veterans, many of whom are returning from wars in the Middle East, have learned that attending a community college is

a good way to stretch their education benefits under the GI Bill. And, serving returning student veterans is something that Citrus College does best.

Citrus College's Veterans Program was started in January 2007 when history instructor Dr. Bruce O. Solheim noticed increasing numbers of veterans returning from Afghanistan and Iraq signing up for his Vietnam War and World War II history classes. These classes allowed them a safe way to deal with their own traumatic war experiences.

Along with a few student veterans, Dr. Solheim started the Citrus College Veterans Network, and Citrus College soon became the first college in the nation to offer a transitional course for veterans. Since then, the college has developed a leading edge veterans' program that has been recognized for excellence at the state and national level, including winning several national grants and being featured in a video shown at the White House.

In spring 2014, Citrus College opened its Veterans Success Center (VSC), a 3,000 square foot facility that serves as a hub for the college's Veterans Program. The VSC provides GI Bill processing information, specialized counseling, peer-to-peer support groups, and veteran organizations contacts and resources. Known

for its welcoming atmosphere, the VSC features large work rooms, tutoring space, confidential offices for counseling, and a large student lounge. It also offers outdoor space where veterans can relax and study. The sign over the entrance to the VSC reads, "Welcome Home." It is hardly surprising that Citrus College has been designated a Military Friendly School® by *GI Jobs* magazine for the sixth consecutive year.

On November 5, 2015, Citrus College held its 10th Annual Saluting Our Veterans event. Over the past ten years, the event has become a community celebration attended by Citrus College students, faculty and staff, as well as veterans and residents of the San Gabriel Valley and beyond. Each year, the keynote speakers are Citrus College student veterans who have successfully completed their community college goals and gone on to four-year colleges and universities or productive careers. The event is one more example of how Citrus College salutes and serves our student veterans.

I am very proud of Citrus College's support for those who have served our country. In this season of celebrating American traditions, it is appropriate to remember the GI Bill: what it has meant to our nation and to the millions of veterans so deserving of its benefits.

Senior Center

Continued from page 6

drive to Palm Springs where our first stop will be lunch at Sherman's Deli and Bakery. For lunch we will have a 1/2 sandwich with a choice of soup or garden salad and beverage. Sherman's has amazing desserts as well, which you may want to purchase for your ride home. Following lunch we're off to Sunnylands, a west coast "Camp David" where global leaders seek to advance international agreements. Many political leaders have visited and continue to visit Sunnylands as a place for reflection, thought, and work.

Many key figures of the 20th century enjoyed relaxing as guests at Sunnylands. The list includes seven U.S. presidents, the British royal family, and Hollywood icons like Bob Hope, Frank Sinatra, Jimmy Stewart, Ginger Rogers, and many others.

Please note we can only take 34 passengers on this trip, so don't hesitate and sign up early.

Pala Casino

(Must be 21 years of age or older.)

Thursday, February 18, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Fee: \$10 (Meals on your own)

Walk through the doors of Pala Casino and enter into one of the most elegant casinos in the Temecula area. Enjoy the Las Vegas-like action of progressive slot machines. The casino has over 2,000 video machines, lots of gaming tables, and a matinee bingo session. A valid California driver's license or ID is required. Expired

licenses or IDs will not be accepted.

Irish Eyes Are Smiling Luncheon and Show

Thursday, March 17, 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Fee: \$72 regular price (\$8 discount for residents = \$64, \$4 discount for non-residents = \$68) (Lunch included)

The day begins with a drive to Alhambra to Almanson Court for an Irish party as we celebrate St. Patrick's Day with a show full of popular Irish songs & sing-alongs from this magical part of the world. The cast will entertain you with Irish music and dances with tunes like Danny Boy, Mc-Namara's Band, When Irish Eyes are Smiling, Molly Malone, and a scene from Finian's Rainbow, the most popular Irish Broadway musical ever! Enjoy a delicious Irish feast of corned beef and cabbage (or choose Chicken Parmesan or veggie pasta) all the trimmings, and a glass of wine. Be sure to wear something green or you may be visited by a leprechaun.

"A Really Big Shooo" Ed Sullivan Show

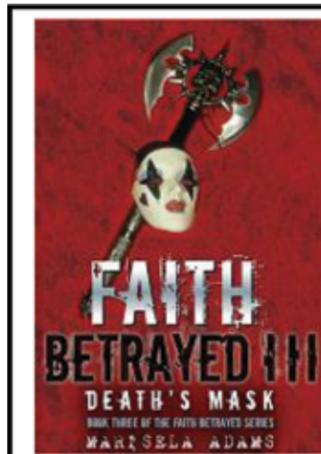
Wednesday, April 13, 9:30 a.m.-6 p.m.

Fee: \$86 regular price (\$8 discount for residents = \$78, \$4 discount for non-residents = \$82) (Lunch included)

The day begins with a drive to beautiful Palm Springs with our first stop for lunch at Sherman's Deli and Bakery. For lunch we will have a 1/2 sandwich with a choice of soup or salad.

Then we're off to A Really Big Shooo! The Ed Sullivan

See Big Shooo on page 8



First exciting review for this book from Glicina Betancourt, Las Vegas: "Very exciting book. I couldn't put it down. The ending is incredible, thrilling and unexpected. It is highly emotional for the reader too."

The third book from the Faith Betrayed Trilogy by Marisela Adams. Get it from www.romancecalling.com where you can learn more about the trilogy and get a signed copy. Credit card and PayPal accepted. It is also available from amazon.com and bn.com.

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Big Shoo

Continued from page 7

Show was the longest running variety show in television history.

While it showcased comedians, circus performers, a little mouse, actors and more, the show became famous for its cutting-edge musical performance. Join us in fabulous Palm Springs for a walk down memory lane.

A Really Big Shoo will take place at the magnificent Annenberg Theater in downtown Palm Springs.

Host Bill Johnson as Ed Sullivan, will be joined by tribute artists including the Beatles, Elvis, Marilyn, Diana Ross, Tina Turner and performances by some special guests who used to dance with Palm Springs Follies!

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.

ADULT EXTENDED EXCURSION

Spotlight on Washington D.C. – Exploring America's Capitol

October 20-25, 2016
6 days, 8 meals (5 breakfasts and 3 dinners)

Fees: \$2,399 per person double occupancy, \$2,899 per person single occupancy, \$2,369 per person triple occupancy

Included in price: Round trip air from Los Angeles International Airport, air taxes and fees, and surcharges.

Not included in price: Cancellation waiver and insurance of \$240 per person

This trip offers "Single Hotel Stay" every night at the same hotel, so you only unpack once!

Highlights: U.S. Capitol Building tour, World War II Memorial, White House Visitor Center, Mount Vernon, Arlington National Cemetery, Smithsonian Institution, Washington National Cathedral, Ford's Theatre

Special Travel Presentation

Please join us for a special travel presentation on Tuesday, March 22, at 1 p.m. at the Duarte Senior Center, 1610 Huntington Drive. To RSVP for presentation, please call (626) 357-3513.

Big sale at Duarte Fitness Center

The City of Duarte Fitness Center will have its biggest sale of the year during the entire month of December.

Annual memberships for Duarte residents start as low as \$128 with no monthly fees and make great Christmas gifts!

The Fitness Center offers racquetball, swimming (seasonal), aerobic classes, and a fully equipped exercise room.

For more information call the Duarte Fitness Center at (626) 357-6118.

Free Used Oil Recycling Kits for Duarte Residents

Pick up a kit from Duarte City Hall, 7:30am to 6pm, Monday through Thursday. Or contact Burrtec at 800-325-9417, and a kit will be delivered to your residence. Recycling kits available while supplies last.

► **Used Oil Recycling Kit includes:**
9 quart drain container ■ filter collection bags ■ list of recycling options

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| Advantage Ford, service | 1031 E. Central Avenue, Duarte, CA | 626-359-9689 |
| Nissan of Duarte, service | 1434 Buena Vista Street, Duarte, CA | 626-305-3000 |

► Or contact Burrtec at 800-325-9417 to schedule a curbside pickup.

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DWC Reciprocity

By Claudia Heller

A salad potluck dinner greeted guests at the Duarte Woman's Club annual reciprocity meeting at the Duarte Community Center on November 5.

Special guests were Patsy Wilson, President, San Gabriel Valley District, Margery Spillman, Past President of SGVD, and Patti Hennings, President of the West Covina Woman's Club.

Entertainer Jeanette De Patie

kept the ladies laughing as she presented a series of holiday songs, the words to which she tweaked into the theme "Too Dang Old for the Holidays."

The parody numbers portray "how we really feel about the holidays" such as "I'll be cloned for Christmas," and "Jangled Nerves."



JEANETTE DE PATIE



PATSY WILSON, President, San Gabriel Valley District of Woman's Clubs.

Happy Birthday Helen Lam



HELEN LAM, long-time real estate broker in the area, celebrated her birthday, which also marked her 30 years helping people buy and sell homes in Duarte. Helen, who received her agent's license in 1985 and her broker's license in 1991, considers Duarte her second home. All the members of her immediate family – husband Richard, children Amy and Andrew – as well as long-time clients, friends and affiliates gathered on Friday, November 13, at the Old Spaghetti Factory for dinner, cake, laughter and friendship.

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The Duarte advantage

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

Governor Jerry Brown is known for rarely commenting on bills that he signs. But in the case of Assembly Bill (AB) 288 he not only commented, but was effusive in his praise for the new law that expands high school students' access to community college courses. The partnerships between high schools and colleges focus on creating career-technical pathways and establishing remediation courses preparing students for college. Dual enrollment increases the odds of college graduation. It's a law that has finally caught up with Duarte Unified School District. We have led the way in dual enrollment, and are entering our 7th year of a partnership with Citrus College. The new law will allow us to expand our program further and serve even more students. In Duarte, we are sensitive to the demands of the labor market and will continue to work closely with the Chamber of Commerce, the City, and local industry to build dual enrollment programs that support the local economy.



DR. ALLAN MUCERINO

Given the national student debt crisis, with American college students having amassed more than \$1.2 trillion in outstanding student loan debt, AB 288 will make it easier and more cost effective to provide students with an opportunity to earn up to two years of college credit while still in high school. This alone makes a high school diploma seven-times more valuable. The numbers are daunting, tuition alone, not counting room and board continues to climb. The average yearly cost of a public 2-year college is about \$3,400. A public 4-year college costs about \$9,100 per year. A public 4-year college based on out-of-state student costs is about \$23,000 per year and a private 4-year college based on out-of-state student costs is about \$31,000 per year. However, if your child participates in a dual enrollment program, you can take all of those numbers above and cut them in half. Plus, college admission officers weigh college coursework taken at the high school level very heavily in the admission-decision process.

In addition to AB 288, other new laws that parents should know about include Senate Bill (SB) 172, authored by Senator Carol Liu (La Cañada-Flintridge). SB 172 allows former high school students who failed the High School Exit Exam as far back as 2006 to be awarded diplomas. It also suspends the exam as a graduation requirement for the 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18 school years. Another impactful law is the new vaccination law, SB 277, effective July 1, 2016. Under this law, parents can no longer refuse to vaccinate their children in public or private schools based on their personal opposition. However, children may continue to obtain medical exemption from their doctor.

The Duarte Unified School District is committed to provide what is commonly referred to as cradle to grave support. From our preschool and transitional kindergarten programs, to our dual enrollment and college and career readiness programs, to our partnerships with organizations such as City of Hope, to our adult and parent education programs, we continue to serve our students so that they can serve our community. This is the Duarte advantage.

Duarte Unified partners with senior citizens to mentor students

Seniors living at the five *be.Group* residences in the city of Duarte are often close enough to the school district's campuses to hear the children on the playgrounds.

Now they are being offered a chance to participate in the educational process and serve as mentors to students within Duarte USD, through a program initiated by School Board Member, Reverend Doug Edwards, and administered through the district's Educational Services division.

"In the senior residences, we have a lot of people who have much to offer and are looking for a chance to help out," explained Joilyn Campitiello, EdLeader21 Coordinator for Duarte USD. "We originally had a program like this when I was principal at Andres Duarte Elementary, but when I came to the district office, some of the pieces just weren't fitting together."

But then Rev. Edwards, a board member as well as an employee of the *be.Group*, suggested to the district that there was a mutually beneficial opportunity to work together.

Campitiello started working on the pieces, and there are currently seniors helping out at one



PHOTOS from Grandparents Day at Royal Oaks Elementary.

elementary school with plans for more at the high school and intermediate school.

"Doug's point was that seniors who are engaged in the community feel more productive and live longer," said Campitiello. "Our perspective was that they have much to offer and can serve as role models for the students."

Senior citizens do not need to have a particular expertise in a subject to help in Duarte. It's more about attitude and interest, rather than higher level skills.

"We've had a gentleman with an engineering background who came in and is now teaching 5th Graders lessons in math, and we have a number of seniors who are working on reading, or assisting students with their papers," explained Campitiello. "We even have a husband and wife team who have travelled all over the world and who have collected science exhibits. We're going to rotate the kids through their sessions."

Campitiello envisions seniors participating with elementary kids on a much less formal level, teaching and playing board games with them, conversing with English Language Learners to help them understand the language, and just generally spending time with them. "It can be helping kids with their homework, telling them about their experiences, or playing checkers and other board games."

At the high school level, seniors might come in with expertise in a specific subject – and might wear a button designating that they are comfortable in math, English or history – or they might just work with a group of students during the daily study hall sessions.

The program is currently in operation at Royal Oaks Elementary, where Principal Janice Kolodinski targeted the second graders for a senior tutoring session after school, as well as the high school, with more options opening in the near future.

The bonds that develop across the generations help everyone in the Duarte community appreciate each other.

Duarte Unified schools already offer a variety of ways to

See *Generations* on page 14



90 percent of the power used on each site," said Patterson.

Duarte USD is the first K-12 district in the region to commit to solar power on a large scale, although some districts with new building projects are embracing the same innovative approach. Going solar for the district is similar to what many homeowners consider as a cost and energy-saving practice.

"This is purely a business driven by the numbers," said Patterson. "Pending board approval, we will enter into an agreement to purchase power. We don't own the system, but we agree to purchase all the power that's created over the next 20 years. The contract includes a zero percent escalation over the course of the contract, meaning we will pay less than we are projected to pay Southern California Edison."

If the district's Board of Education agree with the proposal, construction of the solar panels on the four campuses will be completed during the summer, with the project expected to go on line before the end of 2016 to take full advantage of tax benefits.

In the process of creating the proposal, the district designed its own Request for Proposal (RFP) and entertained bids. Pat-



erson said they learned about a Joint Powers Agreement among Northern California Districts called SPURR, which uses group buying power to allow school and community college districts better purchasing power for electricity.

One additional benefit from the project will be the installation of electric vehicle charging stations on each of the campuses, and students in the district will learn about solar power through STEM Lessons, and can monitor their school's energy usage at any time.

"As if utilizing cutting edge technologies to harness the power of the sun to generate clean, renewable energy to reduce district expenses weren't enough, many of our students will directly benefit from the advanced energy technology by learning first-hand about one of the fastest growing sectors of the economy through solar energy coursework," said Dr. Mucerino.

For more information about Duarte Unified's Solar Project, contact Brad Patterson, Chief Facilities Officer, at (626) 599-5041.

Duarte Unified to go solar

The Duarte Unified School District (DUSD) will be going solar in the near future, saving money, and teaching students about energy usage in the process.

The district's Board of Education will receive a proposal at its regularly scheduled meeting on Nov. 19 to consider an agreement in which four of the district's schools will use energy generated by solar panels.

It's a project that has multiple positives, starting with the fact the district expects to save a projected \$78,000 in the first year after the solar panels are installed, and carries a 20-year projected savings of \$3.6 million, according to Dr. Allan Mucerino, Superintendent of Duarte USD.

"From a purely financial

standpoint, this project is indicative of the way districts can become more self-sufficient," said Dr. Mucerino. "And from an educational perspective, our students can learn how knowledgeable consumers make decisions in purchasing energy." The four campuses involved are Duarte High, Northview Intermediate, Royal Oaks Elementary and Maxwell Elementary schools.

All eight of the district's schools were surveyed by companies bidding on the project, but only the four campuses selected have parking lots large enough to build the covered canopies which will house the solar panels, according to Brad Patterson, Chief Facilities Officer for the district.

"Our goal is to generate 80 to

Stay Connected with our schools

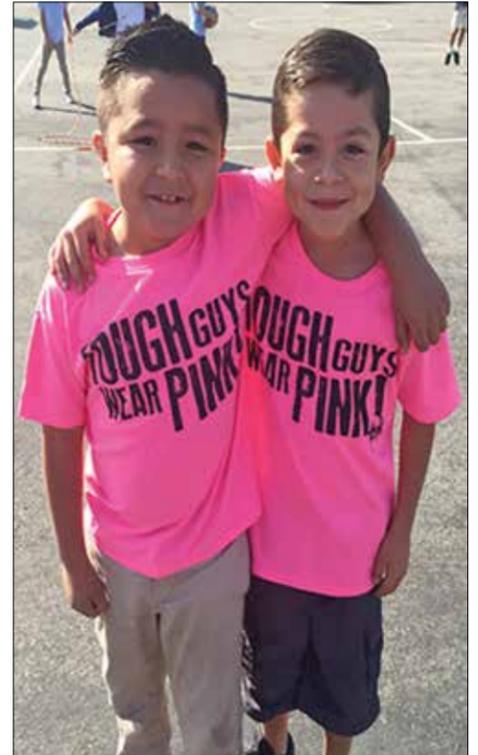
Duarte Unified has launched a weekly e-newsletter to provide our community with an additional way to stay informed about our district programs and activities. If you haven't already, please subscribe to receive a new issue every Monday sent directly to your e-mail with reminders and updates for the coming week. We hope you will enjoy this new communication tool and find it a helpful way to stay connected with our district. Please forward to friends and family who can also subscribe by visiting www.duarteusd.org. Also, follow us on facebook/DuarteUSD, twitter@duarteusd, Instagram at duarte_unified and YouTube at DuarteUnifiedYouTV. All of our school sites are also on social media. Check us out at these handles and please "like" what you see!



CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER
Website: www.duarteunified.schoolwires.net/Page/158



VALLEY VIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Website: www.valleyviewelementaryschool.org
Facebook.com/Valley View Dolphins



BEARDSLEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
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DUARTE HIGH SCHOOL
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Facebook.com/Duarte High School
Instagram at duarteasb #SnapDHS
Twitter @duartehigh_asb



NORTHVIEW INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL
Website: www.northviewintermediate.org
Facebook.com/Northview Intermediate School
Instagram at Northview_Intermediate



M.I.T. HIGH SCHOOL
Website: www.mountoliveinnovation.org
Facebook.com/MtOliveHighSchool

Duarte Unified students are V.I.P. Guests at VH1 music events

To kick off the 2015-16 school year, VH1 Save the Music Foundation granted Duarte Unified School District (DUSD) over \$75,000 worth of brand new instruments to expand the district's elementary music program.

As a VH1 Save the Music Foundation partner, Duarte students have been invited to participate in exclusive opportunities with famed artists and celebrated entertainers.

In September, DUSD elementary and high school students participating in band and choir were V.I.P. guests at the Rock N' Royals Concert at the Hollywood Palladium hosted by Zendaya with performances by Austin Mahone and the So Cal Vocals.

Then in October, our high school musicians attended a private meet & greet with Meghan Trainor to launch the Just Dance 2016 video game in Venice Beach.

Duarte Unified is also proud partners with Arts for All and the Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation.

Experiences and partners like these make our district's visual and performing arts programs exceptional. Tune in for more about our schools and programs by visiting www.duarteusd.org.



DUARTE HIGH SCHOOL students and Choir Teacher, Claire Hsu, with Meghan Trainor.



DUARTE HIGH SCHOOL students dancing with Meghan Trainor.



PRINCIPAL JENNIFER ROMERO and Principal Janice Koldinski with Zendaya.

Duarte School District offers K-12 Mandarin instruction

Students in Duarte Unified are learning Mandarin and talking with students in China! At the elementary level, kindergarten-6th grade students at Maxwell Elementary receive instruction in Mandarin twice a week, for a total of 75 minutes, as part of the school's International Baccalaureate (IB) curriculum.

"As part of being an IB school, we needed to add a language and we felt Mandarin is very important from an international perspective," said Dr. Kelly Buckley, Principal at Maxwell. "Many of our students have some knowledge of Spanish, so by choosing Mandarin, we were able to develop internationally motivated students."

The instruction is delivered by Wendy Yang who teaches not only the oral components, but also how to write the characters. Our students even regularly chat in Mandarin via video with other children at a school in China.

At Maxwell, Dr. Buckley said she sees many positives to the program. "I think the program is evolving each year, from just a class to a perspective of cultural sensitivity and a chance to celebrate our individual differences," she said. "Students are listening to each other introduce themselves in Mandarin, and be able to say basic things like their favorite color. Some of our students are limited in English, and others have some skills in Spanish, but they are all working on a level playing field in Mandarin."

Maxwell's students aren't the only ones learning from the Mandarin instruction. Their regular classroom teachers are also participating when they visit Ms. Yang's classroom, and are going through the learning as well, giving the students a chance to watch adults engaged in the learning process.

Additionally, Ms. Yang is an active participant in all aspects of teaching at Maxwell, collaborating with the grade-level teachers and learning what the students are studying at each level. This



PHOTOS OF Maxwell students learning Chinese calligraphy.



articulation and cross-curricular participation has allowed the twice-weekly Mandarin lessons to become integrated with all aspects of the instruction.

"They are hearing and appreciating the differences in language and becoming more culturally sensitive and to have respect for one another. This is a unique and powerful learning opportunity," said Dr. Buckley.

Students in Ms. Yang's classes even regularly produce videos of them learning lessons, which are transmitted to a school in China, where the students reciprocate, broadening the basis of learning for students in both countries.

At Duarte Unified, all students can also continue and/or



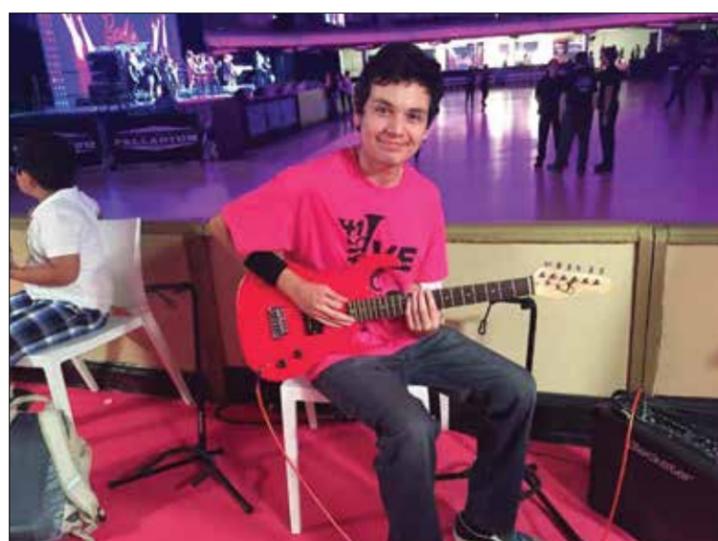
begin Mandarin learning at the secondary level.

Northview Intermediate currently offers Mandarin I for 7th and 8th grades and will increase the number and level of courses as student interest builds and the influx of IB students grows.

Duarte High provides Mandarin I, II, and III, all of which meet college World Language entrance requirements. These classes are taught by veteran teacher, Jessie Wang.

By incorporating Mandarin into the instructional program, Duarte Unified students gain an international perspective that is important for college and career preparation. This is another example of the Duarte Advantage.

Tours of the Duarte Unified Mandarin classes and IB program are offered every Friday or by appointment. Please contact DUSD Public Information Officer, Jenny Owen, at (626) 599-5019 or jowen@duarteusd.org to schedule your visit.



DHS CHOIR STUDENT and V.I.P. Guest at Rock N' Royals Benefit Concert.

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. Holiday and special event hours are subject to change.

All Duarte teens' grades 9 through 12 with high school ID are welcome. For more information, please call (626) 303-0863.

COMPUTER LAB

The computer lab is open Monday – Friday from 3-6:30 p.m. Free use to all teens registered at the Teen Center.

Take advantage of the computer lab at the Teen Center. The lab is a great place to enhance your computer skills, learn new programs, research colleges, chat on the Internet, do school work, and play various games.

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Unity March

On Saturday, November 14, at 9 a.m. the Mayors Youth Council will host a Unity March and rally to promote peace and unity in the community, the event will host food vendors, and inspirational speakers.

Turkey Shoot Contest!

Come and "wet" the hoop on Thursday, November 19, at 3:30 p.m. in the Free Turkey Shoot Contest!

Each contestant will get 1 minute to shoot as many 3-point shots for a total score, and top winners will receive turkeys to take home to their families for Thanksgiving. Come and get ya hoop on!

Winter Holiday Festival

Come join us at the Teen Center on Wednesday, December 16, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. for a celebration of the winter holidays! Hanukkah, Christmas, Kwanzaa! Musical choirs, food, cultural presentations, a holiday play, and much more! Fee is \$2.

Teen Excursion to Knott's Berry Farm!

Come join us on Friday, December 29, from 8:30 a.m.-7 p.m. for the holiday season at Knott's Berry Farm Theme park! Rollercoasters and more for only \$45.

Martin Luther King Jr. Essay Contest

Students in grades 9th-12th will compete in an essay-writing contest describing why they are inspired by the life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. 200-word and minimum – 500-word maximum. Prizes will be awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. Entry deadline is January 11 at 7 p.m.

Youth@Work Intern Program

Want work experience, on the job training, networking and relationship building with future employers? Positions available with the City of Duarte. Contact the Teen Center for more information.

Application Deadline is Friday, January 22.

Space is limited and interviews will be held on Wednesday, January 27.

Club Duarte

On Friday, January 22 and Friday, March 18 from 7:30-10

p.m., the Duarte Teen Center will be transformed into the rocking hot spot for middle school youth. Live DJ, dancing, food and game room activities. \$5 admission with middle school ID.

ON GOING ACTIVITIES

Boys Night Out!

Come join our club just for guys! Fun trips, group discussions, sports and much more! This program is for high school teen boys grades 9-12. The group meets Tuesday, November 10 & 24, December 15, and January 12 & 26 at 3:30 p.m.

Drama Club

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

Nutrition/Cooking Class

Teens can learn to make quick and easy nutritious meals, while having fun with friends. Class meets once a week on Wednesday from 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 Wednesday, November 4 & 18, December 2, and January 8 & 22 from 3:30-5 p.m.

Work it Out

Come join Teen Center staff Thursdays from 4-5 p.m. for "Work it Out", a fitness program for teens that includes video workouts, walking excursions, circuit training, and nutrition. Come get fit with friends!

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. Participants learn all of the fundamentals of boxing and get in incredible shape!

Participants 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.

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

The Duarte Teen Center Gym is open Monday through Thursday from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Friday

Generations Computers

Continued from page 10

celebrate and engage multiple generations in the learning process. Most have a special Grandparents Day when students can invite their grandparents or special loved ones to spend the day with them at school. And, some of our students' grandparents already volunteer to work in classrooms or on campus.

The senior mentoring program would be an expansion of these opportunities. The hope being, "It will offer the same positive feeling kids have spending time with their grandparents," said Campitiello.

The school district office assists with transportation of the seniors, and also handled the background checks, TB tests and volunteer applications required of those who want to work with children in California.

"Seniors are very conscientious and this is a chance for many of them to get involved and give back to the community, and a way for our students to develop bonds and a deeper appreciation for these amazing people," said Campitiello.

If you are interested in learning more about this program or ways you can get involved with our district, please contact Duarte Unified's Public Information Officer, Jenny Owen, at (626) 599-5019 or jowen@duarteusd.org.

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 at the Duarte Teen Center. Call (626) 303-0863 for more information or stop by for a visit.

Continued from page 1

home his/her laptop on a daily basis and uses the internet. To make this safe, the district needed to erect firewalls and safeguards against malicious websites and so-called malware.

They also had to teach all users – administrators, teachers, staff and students – about computer safety. Among those safeguards included instruction about designing and using well-guarded passwords. And measures were also taken to protect the hardware itself by going with so-called "gorilla glass" and harder covers to prevent the wear and tear that is required.

There was also the question of sending computers home to households that do not have internet connections, and that is being solved through hot-spot technology. Students can also work on their laptops during afterschool hours utilizing the district network at Duarte High School until 6 p.m. daily.

While computer use by all students has a high ceiling of learning, there were also some basic concepts that the school district needed to commit to, such as teaching all students keyboarding skills.

While many students use smart phones and text with only their thumbs, that technique is a handicap when trying to write a 500-word paper on a laptop.

"Our kids are sophisticated in the use of technology," said Campitiello, "but we still had to teach many of the basics before implementing the program."

Most districts have gone to some form of computer, laptop or tablet usage in the classroom, primarily because of the new statewide testing program called Smarter Balanced. For Duarte, that was just part of the equation.

"In the global growth race, it's generally agreed that leveraging technology is the primary determiner of economic success," said DUSD Superintendent, Allan Mucerino. "No one leverages technology in the education economy more effectively than Duarte Unified School District and that's the Duarte Advantage."

For more information about Duarte Unified's Technology and Laptop Program, contact Joilyn Campitiello, EdLeader21 Coordinator, at (626) 599-5015 or jcampitiello@duarteusd.org.

Free technology internship program at Teen Center

DLL Technologies, LLC is hosting an Internship Program at the Duarte Teen Center, 1400 Buena Vista St., Duarte. The goal of DLL's Internship program is to assist youth in determining which career in technology they would like to pursue, while getting hands on experience.

Find out more during the monthly conversations with real professionals in the technology industry. No cost. Just drop in and learn what careers will be the best fit, what education is required, how much the job pays and much more.

Schedule Conversation:

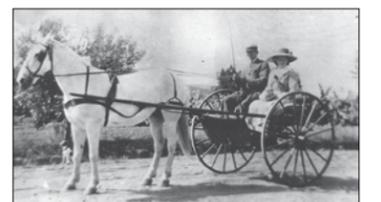
Wednesday, November 4 at 3:30pm - Hardware

Wednesday, December 2 at 3:30pm - Software

Wednesday, January 6 at 3:30pm - Website

Wednesday, February 3 at 3:30pm - Security

DLL Technologies, LLC is located at 1217 Buena Vista St. #101, Duarte, and can be reached at (626) 771-3268.



Duarte virtual ride Dec. 4

Join Historian Steve Baker for a virtual ride through Duarte in the year 1900.

Visit the mansions in the foothills surrounded by fragrant citrus groves. Travel through the town and see what was here all those years ago. The presentation will be featured at the general meeting of the Duarte Historical Society & Museum on Friday, December 4, 7 p.m. at the Museum, 777 Encanto Parkway, Duarte. Admission is free.

For more information call 626 358-0329.

Photo from the Duarte Museum archives



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Duarte High School graduates find success



JENNER HELLER Class of '96

RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA--(Marketwired - Nov 10, 2015) - Active Ride Shop ("Active") and Tengram Capital Partners ("Tengram") are excited to announce that seasoned company veteran, Jenner Heller, will be promoted to the role of president of Active. Rick Mina, the interim president, grew the company significantly over the last year and has decided to transition into the role of a strategic advisor.

A life-long Active employee, Heller has experience in every part of the company's business. He was first hired at the Active store in Chino when he was 20 years-old, and has spent his career moving up the Active ladder, from his role as shop employee, to vice president of operations and now president of the company. As an avid snowboarder and surfer Jenner understands the Active consumer. Truly an industry insider, the depth of his action sports expertise positions him to lead Active while keeping its unique culture rooted in skateboarding and snowboarding intact.

Jenner Heller graduated from Duarte High School in 1996 and Cal State University Fullerton in 2001.

As he moves into his new role, Jenner said, "Active Ride Shop has been a big part of my life for the last 17 years, and I am committed to growing this company. As we add new doors and grow sales in our existing locations, we will continue to support the local communities."

During the past year, Active has undertaken significant growth and investment in its systems and infrastructure. Active has recently opened eight new retail locations, expanded into two new markets, implemented a new ERP system and most importantly, increased its retail footprint by 30 percent in one year.

"We are really proud of the growth Rick Mina brought Active during his tenure as interim president. As planned, Rick executed the multi-channel growth strategy, and now he will continue to offer his expertise to the brand as a strategic advisor, equity partner and member of the board," said Rich Gersten, Partner at Tengram Capital Partners.



TREVOR TOLLIVER Class of '97

By Claudia Heller

As a young man he found himself passionate about the music in his home, and mostly it consisted of his mother's favorites. It was decades ago that he fell in love with the songs of Lesley Gore. But first let's go back to this amazing young man's past.

Trevor Tolliver attended Duarte schools, graduating from DHS in 1997. "I loved Duarte High," says Tolliver. "The teachers inspired me to go into the teaching world and when that time came, the school and the community stood behind me." He says that the support he received has never been lost on him and he still feels indebted for the encouragement, the scholarships, and the good examples that guided his future.

After earning a BA in English at Cal Poly Pomona, Tolliver received his MA in World Literature and has been an English Professor at Mount San Antonio College for ten years. This is only one chapter in the story of this man.

Although teaching is a time-consuming job, it is only one part of Tolliver's life. Four years ago, Tolliver and his partner, Steve Alba, adopted four siblings, all boys, ages 2, 4, 6 and 8. As a family they sometimes get away from the busy day-to-day chores of life. Recently they explored several Western States, enjoying some of America's "out of the way places."

So, what does this story have to do with Lesley Gore? Tolliver's nostalgic memories of the music of his youth stayed with him, and he became fixated on the life and times of Gore, the influential solo female artist of the 1960s. Her famous hits ring through the heads of baby boomers who can probably recite every word from It's My Party, Judy's Turn to Cry, and You Don't Own Me.

Tolliver has authored a recently released book entitled "You Don't Own Me," so now add "author" to his long list of accomplishments. The biography includes behind-the-scenes stories about the making of Gore's hit records and places her within a historical context. According to media reports, this is the first overdue biography of Lesley Gore, "one of pop Music's pioneering Mothers."

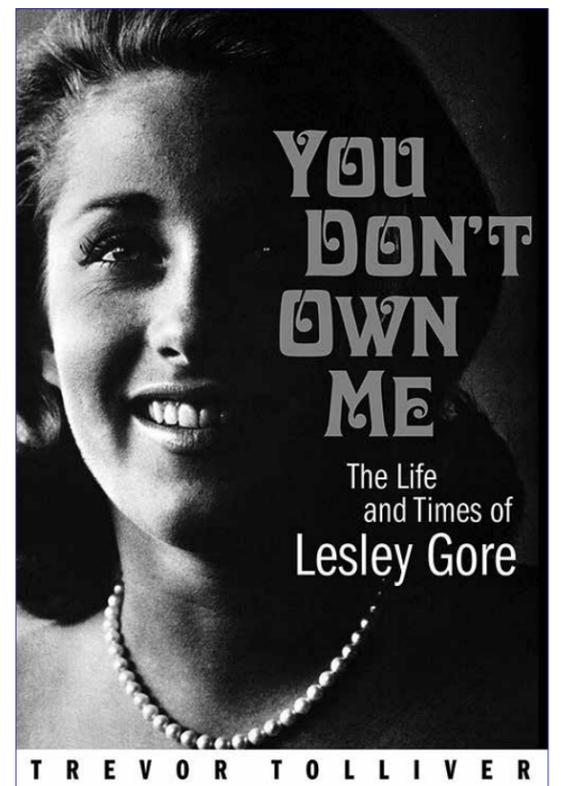
It covers her 50-year career as a singer and song writer.

She composed songs for the soundtrack of the 1980 film Fame, for which she received an Academy Award nomination for Out Here on My Own, written with her brother Michael. Gore played concerts and appeared on television throughout the 1980s and 1990s.

In the year 2013, Tolliver sent Gore a draft of his book, and though Gore declined to participate because she was too busy working on a JerseyBoys-style musical about her life, she wished him luck and the two corresponded until her death in February this year. Lesley succumbed to an aggressive form of lung cancer.

Tolliver's book is now available through Amazon.

"I often return to Duarte because my mother, Diana France, still resides there. I get nostalgic when I think about it," he says. "I love that town."





Birds spotted on Duarte Museum trek

By Claudia Heller

Trekking along the Encanto Park bioswale and across the Puente Largo Bridge, a group of bird enthusiasts spotted 32 species on October 25, including a few that were quickly added to life lists.

The walk was sponsored by the Duarte Historical Society & Museum and led by Ornithologist Kimball Garrett, collections manager at the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History.

Under a cloudy sky, the birders set out at 7:30 a.m., and once on the east side of the San Gabriel River Channel walked upstream to the first weir where they crossed the river

and returned to the park.

Except for a small muddy shallow water patch at the Bridge, and some water immediately below the first spillway, the river was dry.

A few of the birds spotted were: Northern Harrier, Greater Yellowlegs, Northern Flicker, Ruby crowned Kinglet, Cedar Waxwing, Common Yellowthroat, Lark sparrow, Scaly-breasted Munia and a Northern Red Bishop.

The Museum sponsors bird-walks twice a year in the fall and spring.

For more information log on to the Museum website: www.RanchoDeDuarte.org.



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HOLIDAY CHAMBER EVENTS AROUND TOWN!

Holiday Toy Drive at Cook's Collision

To benefit



City of Hope Pediatrics Wish list: All types of toys, gift certificates for teens, Wireless Selfie Stick, headphones, portable plastic drink mugs, coloring books, make-up kits...
Please No Stuffed Plush Toys
 Collections must be turned in by December 10

Please drop off toys at Cooks Collision
 1718 Highland Ave., Duarte 626 357-9407

Open Monday-Friday 8-6pm /



Holiday Networking Mixer & Toy Drive

At Advantage Ford Lincoln
 1031 Central Ave., Duarte

Wednesday, December 9

5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

Networking Fun, Food, and Raffle Prizes

ENTRY FEE: An Unwrapped Toy for any age

The Duarte Community Service Council will be collecting the toys for local needy children

Special Guest...Santa Claus is coming to town!



Please RSVP to the Duarte Chamber office at 626-357-3333

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
 Does not meet in December

See you in January 19, 2016

LADIES BROWN BAG NETWORK LUNCH

For location contact the chamber office

Meets last Tuesday of the month,
 Does not meet in December

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

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Nov. 27 (Black Friday) to Dec.13, 2015

Bring your receipts to the Duarte Chamber to exchange for a raffle ticket.

\$10 minimum per receipt from a Duarte Business or Restaurant

Bring receipts to Duarte Chamber, 1634 Third St., Monday-Thursday by Dec. 10

Or on Sunday, Dec. 13, 2-4 p.m. to these locations:

Anytime Fitness - 2217 Huntington Dr.

Cabbies Pizza - 1740 Huntington Dr. #304

SCE Federal Credit Union - 1175 Huntington Dr.

The Chamber will be giving away gifts at the Huntington Dr. locations above to lucky winners on **Sunday, Dec.13, 2-4 p.m.**

Winners will be announced at 4 p.m. and do not need to be present

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Duarte Chamber (626) 357-3333

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