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Mayor's Prayer Breakfast, Nominate for Community Services Awards

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Duarte View

OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 2016

A bi-monthly community
publication of the



In its 96th year of service
to the community

VH1 grants DUSD \$175,000

The next Yo-Yo Ma could be sitting in a 5th grade classroom in the city of Duarte but no one would have known without the generosity of the VH1 Save The Music Foundation.

This charitable organization started by the music channel has invested \$175,000 in musical instruments for five Duarte Unified elementary schools, helping to expand the music program for 4th -6th graders in the schools.

Not that the goal is to find another world-class cellist like Ma. Rather, it is to broaden the

education of Duarte students by opening the doors to music, and if any students succeed and advance to higher levels, all the better.

VH1's Save The Music Foundation invested \$35,000 each in two schools in Duarte last year, then added the same amount for the remaining three schools. Along with additional grants from the Duarte Education Foundation, and partners like Arts for All and The Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation, every student in 5th and

See Grant on page 19



HALLOWEEN HOWL FOR FAMILIES AND CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER

The Duarte Parks and Recreation Department will once again host the Annual Halloween Howl at Royal Oaks Park, 2627 Royal Oaks Drive, from 6-9 p.m. on Monday, October 31. This fun

alternative to trick or treating is designed for children 12 years old and younger. Among the many fun activities will be a FUN ZONE with different inflatable and interactive attractions that will cost \$3

per person, carnival-style games at 25¢ each, a costume parade with free candy for participants, music, refreshments, and much more. For more information, please call (626) 357-7931.



BAND STUDENTS at Maxwell Elementary School holding new instruments provided by VH1 Save the Music Foundation.

Getting Duarte temporary parking permits now easier

The City of Duarte is now offering residents two convenient options to purchase temporary parking permits. A 24-hours a day, City Hall kiosk location and a "way to park" phone app.

The kiosk is located in front of City Hall allowing 24-hours per day, walk-up access for residents.

The "way to park" phone app, on the other hand, allows residents to access a permit from virtually anywhere a "smart" phone can access the web (iOS and Android accessible).

The resident or customer will pay for the permit and enter their license plate. Users will NOT be issued a physical permit as their license plate information will be stored in the system database for use by parking enforcement.

In conjunction with the launching of these two features, the City website, AccessDuarte.com, also features a page explaining both options located on its homepage by clicking on the parking permit icon.



With these new methods, no longer will residents have to display a permit in their windshields eliminating citations issued in error as well as for counterfeit permits.

For additional information on the new parking permit programs, contact Duarte Public Safety at (626) 357-7938.

Are you ready for the Amazing Family Race?

Are you ready to compete in this year's Amazing Family Race on Saturday, October 15. The Amazing Family Race is a special event to promote family unity, good health and exercise while highlighting various city facilities. The event is sponsored by Southern California Edison and the Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District will donate water bottles for participants.

Each team will compete in various challenges, solve puzzles, and overcome obstacles throughout the race. The first place team will be awarded \$400, the second place team will be awarded \$300 and the third place team will be awarded \$200. All placing teams will receive a family fun pack, which will include various goodies and gift cards. Teams must be comprised of four family members and/or friends and meet the following requirements: all team members must be at least 10 years old; one team member must 18 or older; teams may only travel by bus or walking and team members must stay together during the race at all times.

The registration fee for each team is \$40. Teams may register at the Duarte Teen Center location at 1400 Buena Vista Street. For additional information, contact the Duarte Teen Center at (626) 303-0863.



Duarte Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 1438
Duarte, CA 91009-4438

Hidden Duarte History

By Claudia Heller

Duarte history is often hidden right in plain sight. Surprising stories lurk behind street signs, some honoring our history or citizens, and some are merely random. The names of the streets within Duarte's Huntington Courts development are steeped in nostalgia and the stories behind them are poignant.

The development's builder, Manoj Patel, has been deeply involved in Duarte for many years and he is the current president of DCTV, Duarte's public access channel.

The Patel family emigrated from Zambia, Africa in 1978. They first lived in Norwalk and then made their home in Duarte. Manoj and his four siblings graduated from Duarte High School and then USC. As a young boy, he dreamed of a future in which he could build a housing community. And that he did!

His development lies just east of Mt. Olive and contains 41 homes, 2 four-plexes and one duplex. The street names within tell the story of the Patel family as well as the history of Duarte and our little stretch of Route 66.

One street is dubbed *Capri Court* in honor and memory of the



PARBHUBHAI J. PATEL
(1934-2015)

Capri Motel which once stood on that spot. Manoj's father owned the motel which for many years proudly served Route 66 motorists as well as Duarte locals in need of inexpensive housing. The law prohibited guests to stay 30 days or more for a reason I had never heard of. It was to keep people from moving in long enough to claim residence, becoming eligible to vote and then leave. "We didn't have a homeless problem back then because motels were normally available at little cost," says Manoj.

ishment. Another street is named *Ohio*, after the Ohio Hotel which stood about the same time.

Manoj named *Columbia Trail* in honor of the now vanished Columbia Bowl which was located at Mt. Olive and Huntington Drive. "At that time, the bowling alley was the only place to hang out with our friends," says Manoj. Built circa 1977, the bowling alley was demolished in 2001, despite outcry from the community. The spot was then occupied by a gas station and a Sav-On Drug Store and is today home to CVS.



Manoj is most proud of a street dedicated to his father, Parbhuhai J. Patel (1934-2015). Wisely he named it merely *Patel Place*. Nearby is *Usha Lane*, in memory of Manoj's late sister. His other sisters are Bhanu, Sandhya and Anita.

To the east of Huntington Courts is the former site of Duarte's famous Route 66 steakhouse, The Trails.

After opening in 1952, the establishment became a favorite along the Mother Road serving travelers and locals alike. Known for its crusty cheese bread, generous portions and lounge entertainment, it was sadly demolished in

The motel was demolished circa 2000 and much of it was recycled. "My father was very proud of his motel and I thus named a street in honor of that estab-

2002 making way for single-family residences. As a tribute to the restaurant and an olive branch to those who had been loyal patrons, streets established within the development were named after rooms of the Trails: *Waterfall*, *Crossroads*, and *Hideaway*. This tribute was encouraged by Duarte City Planner Jason Golding, who worked at the Trails during his high school years.

When I moved to Duarte I was

excited to live on Opal Canyon Road and planned to dig for opals at my first opportunity. Sadly, I soon learned that the developer's wife was named Opal and it was for her the street as named, not for the precious gem.

Many more stories are encompassed in the street names of Duarte. Such streets as Pops, 3 Ranch Road, Maynard, Atlin and Mt. Olive, to name a few, have meanings yet to be discovered.



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 Deadline for articles and ads for the December-January issue is October 31, 2016.

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 Chamber.com • Info@DuarteChamber.com



K-Rail now being installed in Fish Fire burn area

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the City of Duarte conducted a post Fish Fire assessment to address safety issues related to residential properties in the burn areas within the city.

Specifically, an evaluation was made to determine the potential magnitude of high and dangerous mudflows that could occur during any moderate to severe rainstorm within the next five years.

Based on the fire area assessment, the above agencies recommended the installation of K-Rails to mitigate mudflows in the areas noted below. "K-Rails" are concrete barriers often used on freeways during construction activities, which will serve as a tool to minimize flood and mudslide impacts.

The temporary K-Rail started being placed in the noted neighborhoods beginning the week of September 26. These structures will remain in place for up to five years or until sufficient vegetation grows back along the hillside to mitigate the potential for damaging flow.

As a result of the K-Rail installation, please be advised that affected streets will also be impacted by additional parking

restrictions. Specifically, street parking will be prohibited in all areas K-Rails are located both during installation and until removal. Note: Temporary "No Parking" signs will be installed in the neighborhood up to 72 hours in advance of installation. Please heed the signs, to avoid your vehicle being towed during the installation process.

Throughout the K-Rail installation, all residents will have access to and from their driveways. Increased parking restrictions, other than those mentioned above, may also go into effect during storm events creating narrower roadways. The City is currently working with all service providers to ensure K-Rail installation does not interrupt services (e.g. mail, trash, street sweeping, etc.)

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding. Resident safety is our utmost concern. Questions? Please contact the Duarte Public Works Division at (626) 357-7931. Additional information is also available on line at www.accessduarte.com

Based on the assessments of Los Angeles County Flood Control, the United States Department of Agriculture - National Resources Conservation Service and Duarte Public Works, the following streets are scheduled to have

K-rail placed upon them either partially or nearly completely:

Mel Canyon Road from Brookridge Road to Fish Canyon Road (both sides of roadway)

Deerlane Drive from Greenbank Avenue to Mel Canyon Road (portions of south side of roadway)

Deerlane Drive at the Fieldview Avenue intersection

Brookridge Road at the Greenbank Avenue intersection

Brookridge Road from Mel Canyon Road to Mountain Crest Road (primarily on the south side of roadway and a few locations on the north side of roadway)

Brookridge Road at the Opal Canyon Road and Mountain Crest Road intersections

Duarte Kiwanis continues to support Foothill Unity Center

At a recent Duarte Kiwanis Meeting, Mike Antonessi came to share the vision and current focus of the Foothill Unity Center.

Believe it or not, the Unity Center was started 36 years ago by Josephine Anderson.

She told her priest at Immaculate Conception church that some of the parishioners needed food and the priest gave her a closet and asked her to "step up" - and she did.

Turns out many other churches in the area were experiencing the same thing and together they created the "Unity" Center.

The latest event was the annual Back To School event on August 9 being held at the Santa Anita Race Track.

Mike expected that over 1000 kids were served with all their needed school supplies, new undies, socks and uniforms, haircuts and even eye and dental exams!

For further information on



DUARTE KIWANIS is always ready to partner with Foothill Unity. President Cheryl Reynolds was thrilled to present Mike Antonessi with a \$400 check.

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

Support your community by becoming a member of the Duarte Chamber of Commerce today!



Duarte Chamber OF COMMERCE

www.duartechamber.com

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Please join us as we honor those who came before us with a special Día de los Muertos event.

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BUY..SELL..INVEST..TRADE

Neighbors flock to save prized bird

By Claudia Heller

It was quite the unusual gathering. About a dozen Fish Canyon neighbors were waving crackers, shouting baby talk and taking photos on the corner of Mel and Fish Canyons. High in a tall leafy tree perched a Blue and yellow Macaw (Ara aururana), a prized and expensive cage bird rarely seen here as an escapee. It was loudly squawking in a foreign language.

How did this come about? The case of the escaped bird was posted on Nextdoor. Yes, in a way it is just another social media site. However, Nextdoor is a way for neighbors to text about issues in their immediate neighborhood. While most subjects include frustration with traffic or asking referrals to anything from baby sitters to plumbers or a seamstress, lost dogs and cats also top the list of discussions, the majority to crime and safety. You must be in the specific neighborhood to participate and outsiders are banned. It all started in the year 2013.

Off to a rocky start, many neighbors shunned the site because of a few bullies with a lack of respect for others' opinions, but in time things calmed down, and now for the most part respect and kindness have prevailed. Want someone to walk with? Have a fundraiser for a local nonprofit? Is there a suspicious person walking on your street and knocking on doors? These are subjects that have helped neighbors support each other. After the recent fire with July 4 approaching, neighbors discussed the use of fireworks and whether they should be fully or partially banned. During the fire safety messages and updates were posted.

Several months ago there was a home invasion on the Duarte Mesa. Within minutes a neighbor living near the event posted a warning for people to stay in and lock their doors. During the recent Fish Fire, neighbors texted in frenzy seeking information or offering help. Some texts even gave suggestions how residents returning home could circumvent blockades.

So when a recent post announced that an escaped bird was on the loose, curious neighbors went out and looked to the sky. Soon it was spotted at Fish Canyon and Melcanyon within seconds the location was posted on Nextdoor. The bird was huge, probably two feet in length, the brilliant gold and blue colors hard to miss. Soon a man emerged from his truck with a ladder and a net.

Reaching the top of the ladder he scrambled up the branches but as he neared the bird, it flew off. What a magnificent sight it was circling above us, only to land on a higher branch.

Learning of this on the phone app, the owner soon arrived. She walked over to the tree, called to the bird which immediately flew down and landed on her shoulder. She got in the car and left. The fun was over. The ending was a happy one.

The Nextdoor app is free. When you post you may choose whether your message will post solely to nearby neighbors, or to neighbors throughout greater Duarte.

There is a site monitor to be sure posts



IGNORING PLEAS from residents to come down for crackers, this escaped McCaw patiently waited for its owner to arrive.

are not disrespectful or ill mannered. There is a section to sell things, post invitations to local events, and a way to private message someone.

I've found this site to be immeasurably helpful in many ways. It has been a catalyst for sharing with neighbors and discussing common concerns. It is no substitute for a handshake and face to face conversation, but has its own place in promoting a bond between neighbors in this digital era.

CITY OF DUARTE CONTACTS

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



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Duarte Teen Center
1400 Buena Vista Street
Duarte (626) 303-0863



Saturday, October 15

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



The focus of the event is for teams of 4 family or friends to race by foot or transit bus throughout the City of Duarte solving clues, competing in challenges, solving puzzles and overcoming obstacles. With the goal of being the first team to complete the race! Cash prizes and more will be awarded! Call the Duarte Teen Center for more information. Space in the race will be limited so sign up now! Register by Friday, October 7.

Rules:

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

Time: 8:00 a.m. check in Fee: \$40 per team
Registration Location: Duarte Teen Center
1400 Buena Vista St.

\$400 1st Place
\$300 2nd Place
\$200 3rd Place
1st, 2nd and 3rd Place also receive a Family Fun Pack!

Desert trek adventure

Explore quirky, curious and historic sites in the California Desert starting with the amazing pueblo of adventurer Cabot Yerxa in Desert Hot Springs and the carving of Waokyie on the Trail of the Whispering Giants. Aboard a plush bus, this overnight trip will visit Salvation Mountain and Slab City, skirt the Salton Sea and spend a night in Borrego Springs at a wild-west hotel. This dark sky area is perfect for a planned astronomy show.

Sponsored by the Duarte Senior Center, the trip will depart on Monday, October 10, and return the next day. Cost includes transportation, overnight hotel, 1 breakfast and 2 lunches, \$250 double, \$300 single. Registration for the trip begins September 12 and space is limited.

Based on their book, Curiosities of the California Desert: Historic, Offbeat & Forgotten Attractions, Claudia and Alan Heller will lead the expedition which is rated physically easy to moderate. For details call the Duarte Senior Center (626) 357-3513.

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Duarte Mayor's Prayer Breakfast Nov. 23 to honor outstanding community volunteers, kick off annual "Holiday of Promise"

Michael & Regina Winans to deliver joint keynote

Duarte will express its thanks to outstanding community volunteers and kick off the holiday season at the 31st annual Mayor's Thanksgiving Prayer Breakfast and 29th annual Duarte Chamber Community Service Recognition Awards. The event will be held Wed., Nov. 23, from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. at the City of Hope Cooper Auditorium, 1500 Duarte Rd.

Michael and Regina Winans, the husband and wife duo, believing whole-heartedly in the sanctity of oneness, will be the event's keynote speakers.

Even in times when divorce is at an all time high, the couple continues to count their blessings, as they've faced many of life's challenges, twists, and turns, but have remained steadfast as a couple and also dear friends. Michael and Regina believe that once you learn your Identity, which comes from knowing our Creator, then you understand your Purpose, and begin to walk in your Destiny. They've received several recognitions/honors by various organizations for their participation and commitment through their ministry and gift of songs.

Outstanding community volunteers will be

honored by the Chamber of Commerce in the categories of Civic Service, Service to Senior Citizens, Humanitarian, Service to Youth, Business, and Youth. Nomination applications are available online at www.duartechamber.com. A form is also on this page below that can be cut out and submitted. Deadline for submitting nominations is Mon., Nov. 7.

The event also launches the 13th annual "Holiday of Promise" project to collect food, personal items and gift donations to be distributed by the Duarte Community Service Council and Foothill Unity Center to needy families the week before Christmas. The project is sponsored by Duarte's Promise - The Alliance for Youth, Duarte Church and Clergy Association, and numerous area businesses. Gift donations can be dropped off from Nov. 21 to Dec. 12 at various community locations including Duarte City Hall.

The breakfast is co-sponsored by Burrtec Waste Industries, Duarte IHOP, City of Duarte, Duarte Church and Clergy Association, Duarte Chamber of Commerce, City of Hope, Duarte Kiwanis Club, and the Duarte Woman's Club.

Tickets are \$10 or \$8 for children and seniors, and can be purchased at the door or in advance from the Duarte Chamber of Commerce, at Duarte City Hall, or online at www.accessduarte.com. A limited amount of tickets will also be available at the door.

For more information on the event, call Duarte City Hall, (626) 357-7931, ext. 267.

Congress- member Napolitano hosts Export Seminar at Duarte PAC October 20

Join Congresswoman Grace Napolitano and the City of Duarte for a free export seminar entitled "Take Your Business Further" on Wednesday, October 20, from 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Duarte Performing Arts Center located at 1410 Highland Avenue. Registration begins at 9 a.m. and the event is open to the public.

This seminar is designed for business owners interested in exporting opportunities as well as those who want to gain valuable insight and advice as to how one can move forward and advance in this field. The format includes a series of expert panels as well as guest speakers.

Registration is required and interested individuals may register online via EventBrite by using the following link <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/2016-free-export-seminar-by-congresswoman-grace-f-napolitano-tickets-27605977221> or by calling the district office of Congresswoman Napolitano at (626) 350-0150. Free parking is available on site and a hosted lunch will be provided.

2016 COMMUNITY SERVICE RECOGNITION AWARD NOMINATION FORM

Please check the category appropriate for your nominee.

Outstanding Youth Award

An award given to Duarte youth who provide the community with voluntary services, school leadership and demonstrate scholastic achievement.

Outstanding Service to Youth Award

An award given to someone who has dedicated them self to helping the youth of our community.

Outstanding Service to Senior Citizens/Disabled Award

An award presented to someone who has dedicated them self to assisting the senior and/or disabled population of Duarte.

Outstanding Civic Service Award

An award given to the individual who has been consistently active in the fabric of civic service and/or government affairs for the betterment of Duarte.

Outstanding Humanitarian Award

An award given to that individual who has given of them self unselfishly in the area of humanitarian efforts.

Outstanding Business Person Service Award

An award presented to a business person who has given of them self and their resources to aid the improvement of Duarte.

All information must be complete. Any incomplete nomination form will not be considered by the judging committee. Nominees are being sought in all age levels and from all facets of the Duarte business, education, residential and public service communities.

FULL NAME OF NOMINEE _____

NOMINEE'S ADDRESS _____

NOMINEE'S PHONE # _____

Use the space below to give a capsule description of the nominee's past and current services. This information will be used in publicity and in the program book at the Mayor's Prayer Breakfast on Wednesday, November 23, 2016.

Submitted By: _____

Representative: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Return this form to:
DUARTE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, P.O. Box 1438, Duarte, CA 91009-4438
DEADLINE DATE: November 7, 2016 - NOON

1634 Third St., P.O. Box 1438, Duarte, CA 91009-4438 – (626) 357-3333 - Fax (626) 357-3645
www.duartechamber.com jim@duartechamber.com

Foothill Gold Line Update

The 11.5-mile Foothill Gold Line light rail line from Pasadena to Azusa, with its six new stations in Arcadia, Monrovia, Duarte, Irwindale and Azusa is an unequivocal success.

Fully funded by Los Angeles County's Measure R (which was approved by county voters in 2008), the line was completed on time and under budget and opened for passenger service in March 2016. With the new extension to Azusa, the Metro Gold Line light rail system is now providing service to more than 50,000 daily boardings each weekday.

The Foothill Gold Line Construction Authority, the agency responsible for the planning, designing and building of the Gold Line light rail system, is now focused on preparing the next six station-segment for construction.

The 12.3-mile Glendora to Montclair segment will add stations in Glendora, San Dimas, La Verne, Pomona, Claremont and Montclair. Each future station is planned to have parking and include amenities for bicycles, walking and bus connections.

The Glendora to Montclair extension was environmentally cleared in 2013 and is currently completing advanced conceptual engineering, the final stage of work before the light rail line is ready to break ground using a design-build approach.

The Construction Authority anticipates that the majority of \$1.2 billion needed to build the Glendora to Montclair segment will come from Measure M, a new transportation sales tax measure being put on the November 2016 ballot by Los Angeles County Metro.

Called the "Los Angeles County Traffic Improvement Plan," the tax measure would fund dozens of new major capital transit and highway projects, along with other mobility-related programs (see more details below). The Foothill Gold Line from Glendora to the county line in Claremont is one of the first projects identified in Measure M to break ground, if approved by voters this November. San Bernardino County is committed to funding the portion of the line from Claremont to Montclair.

See the latest about each future station and the artwork planned or sign up to stay updated on the Foothill Gold Line at - www.foothillgoldline.org

About Measure M, the Los Angeles County Traffic Improvement Plan:

Measure M, brought forward by the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro), is an expenditure plan that would fund a wide variety of transit and highway projects; local street improvements; programs for seniors, students and the disabled; and more, over the next four decades. Measure M asks voters to increase the countywide sales tax by a half-cent and continue the existing Measure R half-cent tax after it's set to expire in 2039 until voters decide to change it.

The plan includes a host of major highway and transit projects across the county (including completing the Foothill Gold Line from Glendora to the county line) and many other programs. These include keeping fares affordable

Interfaith Homeless Memorial Service

Celebrate the Lives of Homeless Who Have Died in Los Angeles County

Between Nov. 2015 and mid Aug. 2016, according to the Los Angeles Coroner office 472 persons have died in Los Angeles County. Their lives were price-

less. We will let them know that they are not forgotten, that they are remembered, they are in our hearts.

We can't put a value on their lives. Life allows us to love, hate, progress, and decay. Life is the reason people wake up in the morning and fulfill their responsibilities. Life brings struggle but rewards us when we least expect it. Life gives meaning to truly living.

Without air in our lungs we could not achieve our dreams or spend the rest of our days with those we love. Life presents miracles, disasters, accomplishments, and failures. It's impossible to value life. It's worth an entire universe.

The Interfaith Homeless Memorial Service will be held on Wednesday, October 26, from 7:15-8:15 p.m. at Sacred Heart Catholic Church at 344 Workman St., Covina, CA 91723, (626) 332-3570, followed by a reception.

The keynote speakers will be Los Angeles Archdiocese Catholic Bishop David O'Connell, regional bishop for the San

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Gabriel Valley.

Other speakers include Venerable Hui Dong of Hsi Lai Temple in Hacienda Heights, Rabbi David Mattis of Temple Shalom in Ontario, Marci Hoopes Mormon Arcadia Public Affairs Director, and Said Seddouk, Imam from the Islamic Center of the San Gabriel Valley.

Music will be performed by Bryan Pezzone of West Covina United Methodist Church. Those who have lost family members are especially welcome. A program and flyer for the service will be available soon for download at www.esgvch.org.

The service will remember the tragedy of homelessness deaths across Los Angeles County; praise the churches who have participated in helping the East San Gabriel Valley Coalition house the Homeless (ESGVCH) and have a free will offering for the ESGVCH to continue its efforts in serving the homeless.

The ESGVCH, conducts a Winter Shelter between Dec. 1 and February 28 at 6 churches in the San Gabriel Valley.

Last year 1,032 unduplicated men and women, duplicated 15,000 received food, showers, transportation, medical services and dental services from the Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation.

Based at St. John Vianney Catholic Church in Hacienda Heights, the Coalition, incorporated since 1994, is a 501-3c non-profit that also provides an Emergency Assistance Center alleviating hunger, assisting in daily needs, providing referrals Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

A Bridge Service providing families motel housing to allow them to be able to relocate to permanent housing, an Encore Service for addictions to drugs and alcohol.

Resources come from businesses, foundations, churches, service groups, individuals and families.

For further information on how you can contribute time, talent, financial assistance or important items during the year and for the upcoming Winter Shelter contact the ESGVCH at (626) 333-7204, visit its website at www.esgvch.org or email esgvch@aol.com.



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(L-R) Karleen Daugherty, FF Hernandez, Cynthia Abbas, Captain Morse, Marion Stone, Engineer Madvig, and Jean Glass.
Photo by Carolina Flores-Helizon

Duarte Fitness Center

The Duarte Fitness Center, located next to City Hall at 1600 Huntington Drive, offers a wide variety of activities including racquetball/wallyball and aerobic classes. The facility has Life Fitness strength equipment including a Chest Press, Lat Pulldown, Arm Curl, Seated Dip, Shoulder Press, Seated Leg Press, Leg Extension, Seated Leg Curl, Hip Abductor and Hip Adductor. The Fitness Center also has a variety of cardiovascular equipment.

The pool will close September 30. Until then, the pool is open for daily lap swimming, and recreational swimming on weekends. Water aerobics classes are offered on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays until 9/30.

Fitness Center membership prices can't be beat! Regular annual membership fees for Duarte residents begin at \$160 a year with no monthly fees or dues. Daily drop in rates are also available. Please stop by or call the Fitness Center to find out more information. Online membership registration available soon at www.accessduarte.com Quick Links > Register for Recreation Programs.

Online registration coming soon! Call the Duarte Fitness Center at (626) 357-6118 for more information.

Recreation Registration

Duarte Recreation is kicking off the fall session of classes for all ages! Registration began September 12. You can now register Online by visiting www.accessduarte.com > QuickLinks > Register for Recreation Programs or you can register in person at Duarte City Hall Parks and Recreation Department, 1600 Huntington Drive. Registration is on a first-come, first-serve basis. You can also register by phone with Visa, MasterCard or for purchases over \$25, call 357-7931. Classes begin the week of September 26.

Youth, Family & Adult classes offered include Advanced Ballet, Ballet, Bricks 4 Kidz, Circus Gymnastics, Computers, Critical Reading and Written Expression, DYBO/Jazz, Folklorico, Guitar, Golf, Hip-Hop Dance, Karate,

Karate for Tots, Math Workshop, Needle Art, Piano, Sewing, Tap, Tennis, Tumbling, Typing, Vocals, and Young Rembrandts.

Adult classes offered this session are Bachata Dance, Belly Dancing, Golf, Polynesian Dance, Salsa, Sewing, Tai Chi Kung, Country Line Dance, Photography and Yoga.

For more information, please contact the Duarte Recreation at (626) 357-7931, Monday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.



Duarte Woman's Club delivers Thank You Dinner to Firefighters

In a gesture to show appreciation for the outstanding work of firefighters during the recent Fish Fire, the Duarte Woman's Club prepared a meatloaf dinner with all the trimmings and delivered it

to the Duarte Fire Station No. 44. "This was a gesture of thanks to all the amazing work by our firefighters during the Fish Fire in June," says Cynthia Abbas, a DWC member.

Patrick D. Miller, CLTC named to New York Life's Chairman's Council

Patrick D. Miller, CLTC has been named a member of the 2016 Chairman's Council of New York Life today.

Members of the elite Chairman's Council rank in the top three percent of New York Life's elite sales force of more than [12,000] licensed agents in sales achievement.

Mr. Miller has been a New York Life agent since 1981, and is associated with New York Life's Greater Pasadena General Office in Glendale.

Mr. Miller has the CLTC designation for advanced training in Long Term Care Insurance planning. He is a Qualifying and Lifetime member of the industry's Million Dollar Round Table and Court of the Table.

Pat has won numerous Company and Industry Awards over the years, including the coveted National Association of Life Underwriters "Agent of the Year" for 2014.

Mr. Miller currently serves on several Boards and Committees in the San Gabriel Valley serving both the business market as well as several non-profits. Mr. Miller also directs the Prison Ministry at Juvenile Hall for Lake Ave. Church in Pasadena.

Pat resides in Duarte, CA with his wife, Arlene, of 35 years.

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Senior Center Activities

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

HOT LUNCHES

The Senior Center serves hot lunches Monday through Friday to individuals over age 60 or the spouse of someone over age 60. Lunch is served at 12 p.m. and you must be signed in by 11:45 a.m. Reservations are requested 24 hours in advance by calling (626) 357-3513. The suggested donation is \$3.

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 on either of these programs, please contact the Senior Center (626) 357-3513 or YWCA Intervale at (626) 214-9467.

ACCESS TRANSPORTATION

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

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 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 beat 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.

BINGO

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

BUNCO

First Wednesday of the month, 12:30-2:30 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. 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 come over to the senior center on the 1st and 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.

PING PONG

We have a Ping-Pong table set up in the pool room. Invite a friend to play, or meet new friends who share a similar interest. Stop by



ON THE MOVE Riders Club recently took a trip to Long Beach.

the Center and play a game today!

PING PONG TOURNAMENT

Monday, Wednesday and Friday, September 19, 21 and 23, from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. and 1-3 p.m. Best of 3 games with a consolation bracket. Singles and doubles play. For more information stop by front desk at the Senior Center or call (626) 357-3513.

MOVIE DAYS

Two afternoons a month a top run movie is featured FREE. Call (626) 357-3513 for the dates, times, and list of 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. Janet Rietow is our moderator. Please call the Center at (626) 357-3513 to see what book they are reading this month.

GREETING CARD CLASS

Each month you will make two greeting cards. Bring scissors, adhesive, and colored pencils. The class is 10-11:30 a.m.

Fee is \$5 for the class payable to the instructor.

Sign up at the front desk where you can see samples of the cards. For more information, please call (626) 357-3513.

PICKLEBALL

Come learn to play the fastest growing sport in America. Learn beginning techniques of the pickle ball forehand/backhand stroke, the dink, volleys, overheads, the serve and the return of serve.

All skill levels are welcome to play. Racquets and ball are available.

Come and join the fun every

Friday, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at Duarte Park, 1344 Bloomdale St.

Volunteer Needed – If you are interested in helping with the Pickleball program on Tuesdays from 9-11 a.m., please leave your name at the front desk or call (626) 357-3513.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN DUARTE

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

ON THE MOVE RIDERS CLUB

Join Duarte's "On the Move Rider's Club" for one of our upcoming trips. It's a great way to learn more about our public transportation systems.

Reservations required and forms must be filled out prior to trip.

Come by the Senior Center and grab a flyer to see where their next destination will be or call the Senior 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 Center at (626) 357-3513 for more information.

CLASSES

Registration for the fall session of classes has begun! Online registration now available at www.accessduarte.com Quick Links > Register for Recreation Programs. Classes begin the week of September 26. All classes are

for adults 55 years and older. THERE ARE NO REFUNDS.

Fee Classes: Ballroom Dance, Cross Fit, Exercise with Shelly, Health is our Greatest Wealth—"The Science of Natural Healing," Intro to Computers, Piano/Keyboard, Sewing, Strength Training, Western Line Dance and Yoga.

Free Classes: Cardio Fitness, Ceramics, Chess, English as a Second Language, Folklorico, Guitar (beginning & intermediate), Knitting, Oil Painting, Spanish (beginning and advanced beginning) and Tai Chi/Qigong.

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, September 13, and Thursday, September 15, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. This eight-hour class, split up in two four-hour sessions, is a comprehensive classroom driver re-training course geared to the specific needs of older motorists. 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 and payment prior

See Seniors on page 16



Robert and Mary Lou Jacoby—Residents since 1999

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Citrus College plans for student success

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

Successful public institutions don't just happen—they are founded on sound principles, led by dedicated, skilled professionals and guided by planning that is purposeful and strategic.

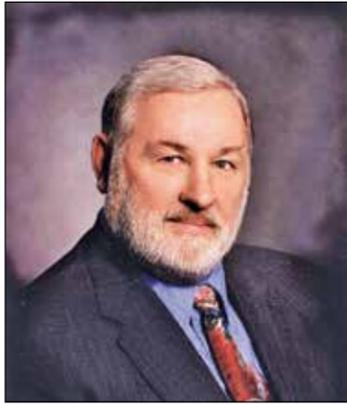
Today, nearly every higher education institution engages in some type of strategic planning that links vision, goals and people; provides direction; and has criteria for judging success.

At Citrus College, strategic planning is a disciplined, collegewide effort that guides decision-making, directs energy and resources, and focuses on the future.

In anticipation of the completion of the institutional goals set out in Citrus College's 2011-2016 strategic plan, the college began the process of developing a new five-year plan in June 2015. More than 30 dedicated members of the Citrus College community, with representatives from all college constituent groups, came together to form the Strategic Planning Work Group (SPWG).

The sole purpose of the group was to develop a strategic plan for the college that would have aspirational goals and be based on relevant data and an accurate assessment of the communities and students we serve.

The SPWG kicked off the fall 2015 semester with a comprehensive environmental scan and data analysis of the college. The group reviewed a wide range of documents covering such topics as the external environment, local factors, institutional data on student achievement, and many others.



DR. EDWARD C. ORTELL

Their work included the review of approximately 60 reports and documents, and it resulted in the production of 33 individual data summary reports.

Examining data on Citrus College students was one of the most important elements of the planning process. To develop a meaningful plan, it was critical to ask the question, "Who are our students?" The SPWG also reviewed the college's current mission statement and applicable standards set forth by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges.

Based on their extensive research, the SPWG developed a new mission statement for the college that was vetted by a variety of college stakeholders. They also developed SMART (specific, measurable, attainable, realistic and time sensitive) objectives for the plan.

Throughout the yearlong process, the SPWG solicited feedback from faculty, staff and students through presentations at board meetings, FLEX Day activities, collegewide surveys, and group discussions within various

departments of the college. These activities became an opportunity to strengthen relationships and develop a deeper understanding and appreciation of the institution.

Citrus College's 2016-2021 Strategic Plan is innovative, ambitious and very strategic. It has just one overarching institutional goal – to increase student success and completion. To ensure the attainment of that goal, the plan has 18 specific, measurable objectives that fall within 11 focus areas. Each member of the college community will be able to map the work that they do to a focus area, which will promote collegiality and buy-in, as we work together over the course of the next five years.

I would like to express my appreciation to Superintendent/President Geraldine M. Perri, for her leadership and to my colleagues on the Citrus College Board of Trustees for their vision.

I would also like to extend a special thank you to the outstanding faculty and staff of Citrus College for their dedication to moving the college forward, as demonstrated by their engagement in the important process of strategic planning. Given their expertise, commitment and willingness to work hard, Citrus College is certain to achieve its goal – which is an imperative of higher education in the 21st Century – to increase student success and completion.

Citrus College's 2016-2021 Strategic Plan can be found at: www.citruscollege.edu/admin/planning.

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Duarte Teen Center recipient of first “Kiwanis Reading Korner”

Duarte Teen Center Manager, Marilyn Mays is quite an amazing leader. In addition to being a member of the Duarte Kiwanis Club, she provides leadership to many Duarte Youth Programs including The Mayor’s Youth Council, The Duarte Dance Team, Art Workshops, the ACT-So pro-

gram participants, as well as the amazing Duarte Teen Boxing Program. At a recent Duarte Kiwanis meeting, Marilyn shared a tour of the Teen Center which including the snack bar (with healthy snacks), the lounge, Patio area where they host Bar-B-Ques, the Living Room (including an X-Box),

the Computer Lab and the Boxing area. The Teen Center was the recipient of the first Kiwanis Division 35 “Reading Korner” on Tuesday, August 16. The Duarte Kiwanis Club will be hosting a “ribbon cutting” which will include a gift of books and bean bag chairs to create space for the teens to read as well as do their homework.

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



DUARTE KIWANIS PRESIDENT Cheryl Reynolds is pictured on the right along with Marilyn Mays, Duarte Teen Center Manager.

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Pastor Glen Gibson

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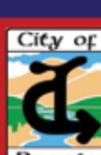
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Project Lead the Way empowers students

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

There are so many wonderful things going on for kids attending the Duarte Unified School District this year that it's hard to decide what to write about.

Among the programs that I find very exciting is Project Lead the Way, a real-world, application-based learning experience that empowers students and provides them with the skills they need to thrive in college, career, and beyond. We piloted the program at Royal Oaks this year. Next year we plan to introduce it at every school and every level.



DR. ALLAN MUCERINO

With eventual pathways in computer science, engineering, and biomedical science, DUSD students will get hands-on learning opportunities from the first day of kindergarten through senior year. Project Lead the Way's research-supported approach empowers students to discover and explore interests, imagine and design solutions to real-world challenges, and become independent, confident problem solvers.

For the youngest students, we provide a program known as Launch. It taps into students' exploratory nature, engages them in learning that feels like play, and encourages them to keep discovering – now and for years to come. Whether designing a car safety belt or building digital animations, students engage in critical and creative thinking, build teamwork skills, and learn to try and try again when faced with challenges.

As students move into upper elementary and middle grades, we provide a program known as Gateway. It sparks a joy of discovery and illuminates the range of paths students can look forward to when they move onto high school and college.

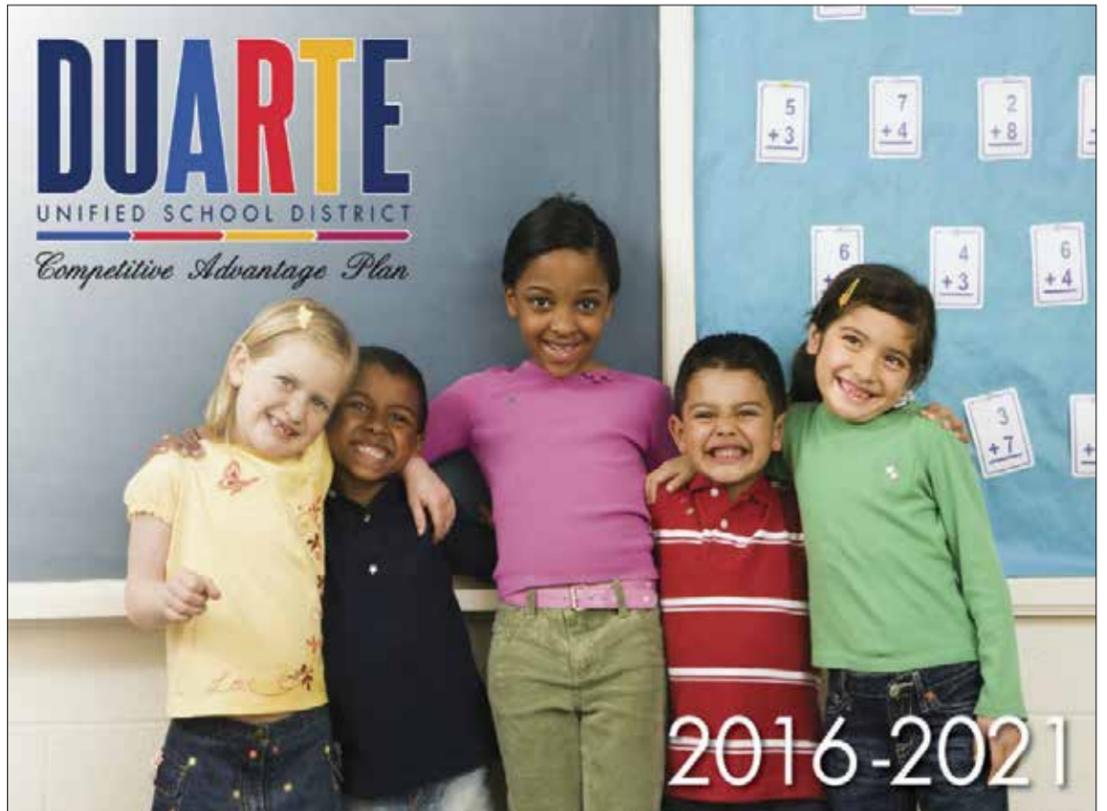
Students apply knowledge and skills from a variety of disciplines. Project Lead the Way believes that by tackling challenges like designing a therapeutic toy for a child with cerebral palsy, creating their own app, or solving a medical mystery, students are empowered to make a real-world impact.

That's exactly what we aspire to do with our students – empower them to make a real-world impact. As students move through our K-8 and 9-12 program they will be able to experience more and more true-to-life activities, including creating an online art portal or developing problem-solving apps.

In the engineering program, students design homes, program electronic devices, and explore algae as a biofuel source. In the biomedical sciences, supported by our partnership with City of Hope, students step into the roles of medical investigators, surgeons, and biomedical engineers.

If you haven't seen Duarte Unified School District lately, you haven't seen Duarte Unified School District.

For a visit to see the Launch program in action or any of the other innovative programs offered by Duarte USD, please contact our Public Information Officer, Jenny Owen, via email to jowen@duarteusd.org or by calling (626) 599-5019.



Duarte USD starts new school year with a Competitive Advantage

When students and staff returned to school at Duarte Unified School District (DUSD) on August 15, it marked not only the first day of the new academic year, but also the launch of the Competitive Advantage Plan (CAP), the District's five-year strategic plan. A resolution to adopt the CAP was approved unanimously by the Board of Education on July 21, 2016.

This plan will be used as a blueprint for the next five years as the District's fundamental guide for priorities and decision making discussions. The CAP is the result of findings based on a comprehensive nine-month data collection process.

This included a community-wide survey administered by the Claremont Graduate University's Evaluation Center that yielded over 4,200 respondents.

Additional details and strategies were collected through over 50 focus group sessions with students, parents, certificated

and classified staff at all school sites, a variety of members of the community, including civic and business leaders, parents exiting DUSD, alumni, and faith leaders in the community. In all, over 5,000 stakeholders participated in the process.

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

"This plan is our beacon to guide us for the next five years," said Superintendent Allan Mucerino. "It is the compilation of much study and work through the efforts of a writing team, a steering committee of staff, and a steering committee of community members. It reflects an honest look at where we are and where we need to be as we meet the needs

of our students. The Competitive Advantage Plan is our blueprint to produce the 21st Century learners that are necessary for success in the world."

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

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

While stakeholders identified the rigor of the Early College Program at Duarte High School, specialized STEM and

See Competitive on page 16

DHS students produce authentic cancer research at City of Hope

A dozen students from Duarte High spent much of their summer participating in a research project at City of Hope that helped produce authentic results for the scientists working to gain a better understanding of cancer.

The students were part of a City of Hope program for the Science Education Partnership Award Collaborative (SEPA)

which completed the fifth and final year of its cycle, with impressive results for the students.

"High school students from Duarte got experience working in the lab under the direction of research scientists," said Marisa Bowers, program coordinator for SEPA in the cancer biology department of City of Hope. "These are highly motivated students

who got a chance to do research work not normally introduced to students until college. They were participating in authentic research."

The program began in the summer of 2012 and has now covered five sessions, with 12 to 24 students working alongside the research scientists each year on a project based on DNA repair mechanisms and how cells can repair mistakes, explained Bowers.

The students from Duarte were under the direction of biology teacher Jeff Radsick, and were committed to work two days a week for three hours a session for the eight-week program. At the end of the program, the students presented their findings in a group culmination and shared their efforts with faculty, families, DUSD and COH administrators in a culmination program on August 11.

"We take high school students who come in with a certain skill set and give them an opportunity to leave with a higher set of skills, and hopefully motivate them to

See Research on page 15

Preschool opportunities

New openings are now available in the preschool programs being offered by the Duarte Unified School District (DUSD) for children ages 3-to-5 years, provided on both a state-paid and fee-based basis.

The district offers both half day (3 hours in the morning or afternoon) and all-day programs

(6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.) with highly qualified child development teachers at three locations in the district.

Preschool classes are currently offered at Andes Duarte, Maxwell, and Beardslee Schools.

"The best reason for families

See Preschool on page 15



DUARTE HIGH SCHOOL summer research students and DHS Biology teacher, Jeff Radsick, presented with certificates of completion for the SEPA program from the City of Hope and Duarte Unified School District at a ceremony held on August 11.



PRESCHOOL STUDENT PLAYING at 2016 Family Fun Night event at Duarte Preschool Andres Duarte location.

Emphasizing the positives at PBIS

Behavior, like math or science, is learned. That's one of the messages of the Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (PBIS) system which is becoming established in the Duarte Unified School District. It was embodied in the receipt of PBIS Bronze awards for Northview Intermediate and Royal Oaks Elementary this year after they began using PBIS last year.

The system is being implemented at Beardslee and Maxwell

Elementary Schools this year. Two other elementary schools, plus Duarte High and Mount Olive Technology, are beginning the training this year so that the district will be 100 percent PBIS next year.

"It's a pro-active system of teaching and reinforcing positive behavior," explained Heidi Quirk, counselor at Northview and PBIS Coordinator on the campus. "A school establishes its behavior expectations for all areas on campus,

not just classrooms but cafeterias, offices, libraries, playgrounds, and share them with everyone on campus."

While PBIS itself is an acronym in the acronym-happy world of education, it also encourages each campus to adopt its own. Northview's PBIS team adopted S-O-A-R, which relates to the behavior the school's Cardinals are expected to embody.

- Support Each Other
- Own Your Actions
- Act Respectfully
- Reach for Excellence

"Those are the four core behavioral expectations we have, but we strive to soar above and beyond," she explained.

Each of the schools that follows the PBIS protocols adapts its own acronym, which shows up on posters, and in other ways around the campus. All of which is a method to



STUDENTS AT NORTHVIEW celebrate receiving the Bronze Medal awarded to the school by the California PBIS Coalition.

9/11 Commemoration Ceremony, Blood Drive

In commemoration of the anniversary of 9/11, Andres Duarte Elementary held a special ceremony that has been conducted at the school on an annual basis for the past 15 years under the direction of teacher, Cindy Mitchell.

The whole school gathered together and each student council member shared an inspirational reading focused on remembering the heroic men and women who made sacrifices for our freedom.

Special guests included Marines, Corporal Ryder and Private First Class Joya. Corporal Ryder also shared a statement about remembering all those who died and those protecting our freedom now. Student representatives from each class, parents and staff placed flowers in a vase in memory of those lost on this day 15 years ago.

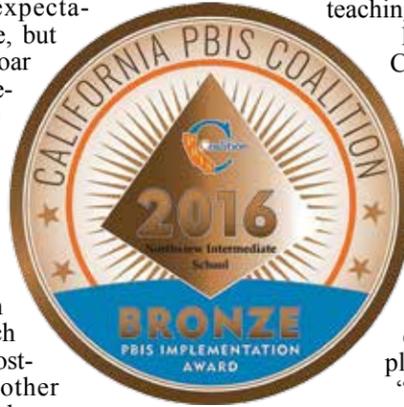
The school decided this was the perfect time to start a community service project of their own to

support the people in the military who protect us on a daily basis and to emphasize the importance of helping one another through difficult times. Class President, Emanuel Dominguez, announced the school would be participating in a fund raiser for an organization that trains shelter dogs to be companions for Veterans suffering from PTSD.

Also, Andres Duarte will be the designated Toys for Tots drop-off location for the district that is coordinated by the Marines.

We hope all members of our community will support these efforts. For more in information, contact principal, Joilyn Campitello, at (626) 599-5101.

Also to honor the victims of 9/11, the American Red Cross held a Blood Donation Drive on Monday afternoon, September 12, that was open to the public at Royal Oaks Elementary.



teaching the behavior.

Michael Chavez, director of Educational Services, said the idea to adopt PBIS came when he was principal at Northview and saw some difficult disciplinary statistics.

"We needed a way to show the students our clear expectations

and one that helps hold them accountable," said Chavez. "It's not only shaping the kids, but also modifying adult behavior."

Mark Newell, new principal at Northview, previously implemented PBIS at Hawthorne High School, where he was principal for eight years.

"PBIS establishes the day-to-day climate on campus which allows us to teach in a positive culture," said Newell. "It's a naturally positive environment that allows you to set the academic and

See PBIS on page 16

DUSD receives award with City of Hope for Excellence in Educational Pathways

Together with the City of Hope, Duarte Unified School District (DUSD) was honored with the Excellence in Educational Pathways Award by the San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership at the organization's 25th Awards Gala held at the Sheraton Fairplex Hotel & Conference Center in Pomona, Calif. on Saturday, September 10.

DUSD was recognized for the innovative STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) programs that are currently being offered in partnership with the City of Hope Cancer Treatment and Research Center for students attending Duarte Unified schools in grades kindergarten – 12.

"It is a tremendous honor to receive the San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership's Excellence in Educational Pathways Award with the City of Hope," stated Dr. Mucerino, Superintendent of Duarte USD.

"It is rewarding that we are being recognized for establishing a true partnership between a public school district and world

renowned medical institution to provide authentic STEM learning delivered by industry experts in collaboration with our teaching staff. Together, we are creating the next generation of scientists,

technicians, engineers and mathematicians.

"I am also excited that we will be expanding on the success of

See Pathways on page 16



CORPORAL RYDER, Private First Class Joya and Alex Ledesma, school custodian, with student council members at Andres Duarte 9/11 Commemoration Ceremony held on September 9.



DUSD STUDENTS conducting lab experiment at City of Hope.

Download the new Duarte USD app

Duarte USD is proud to announce the launch of its custom mobile app, an all-in-one information source for parents, students, staff and the community, developed to provide direct access to the district's most sought after information.

This free mobile app, available on Apple and Android devices, gives stakeholders the

ability to access information throughout the district in a faster, easier, more up-to-date, and more personal way.

Users can follow schools of their choosing and receive only the news, events, notifications, and social media updates that are important to them.

The Duarte USD App also provides secure access for stu-

dent and parents to see grade and attendance information, allowing them to view academic standings at anytime, from anywhere.

From the app, users can customize their own grade and assignment settings, allowing them to be alerted through a push notification if a grade or score drops below that self-selected threshold.

Other app features include sports scores, cafeteria menus, and more. Content can also be received in over 60 different languages.

The Duarte USD app was developed by ParentLink, a company now owned by Blackboard Connect.

ParentLink has created mobile apps for K-12 school districts and

has partnered with innovative school districts, over the last 20 years, to solve the most difficult communication challenges, with the goal of supporting student success.

Download the Duarte USD app today from the Apple or Google Play Stores and see for yourself how easy it is to stay up to date with our schools!

Parents need school supplies too.

(Luckily, it's just a single download away.)



Download the official Duarte Unified School District app today for access to your school's student info, grade alerts, calendars, and much more!



New K-8 Arts Coordinator

On the eve of Duarte Unified School District's collaborative partnership with California School of the Arts-San Gabriel Valley (CSArts-SGV), the district has selected Erin Fish to coordinate the emphasis on education in the arts.

Fish, a longtime teacher and coordinator of International Baccalaureate programs at Maxwell Elementary, will work under the direction of Superintendent Allan Mucerino and serve as the district's main liaison with CSArts-SGV when that school opens at the Northview site in 2017-18.



ERIN FISH

"Higher analytical thinking, reasoning, and student voice fit well within the structure of arts education" said Dr. Mucerino. "This is an important position because Mrs. Fish is responsible for building powerful coalitions of teachers that integrate content and art to help students find creative confidence and voice in their expression."

The primary responsibilities of the new position include developing an integrated arts program for the K-8 schools that will evolve under the current realignment of Duarte USD schools as laid out in the district's new five year strategic plan.

"Over the years, we've seen less and less arts being taught in the K-6 schools and at the 7th and 8th grade levels," said Fish. "The high school has had arts electives, but it is important that kids have an opportunity to identify with the arts at an early age."

See Arts on page 16

DUSD Fall Ball Preview

Duarte High School hopes to kick off a new tradition with the beginning of the 2016 fall football season on Thursday, Sept. 1, against Windward in Falcon Stadium.

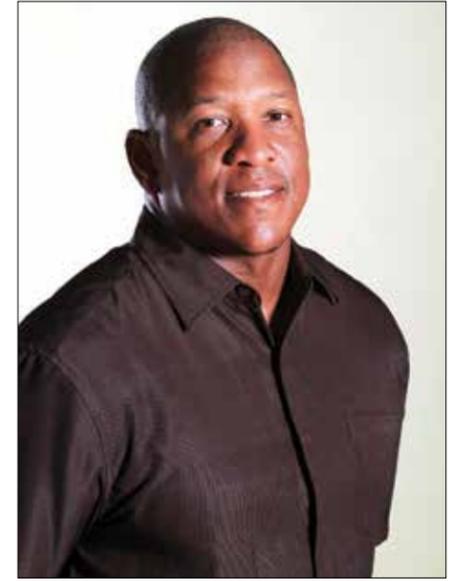
The Falcons have been going through their pre-season paces under the direction of new head coach and athletic director James Heggins, who believes there is a burst of energy on the team and has high expectations in his first season since moving from Baldwin Park High.

"We had a great summer, given that the kids were expected to learn a new offense, a new defense, and a new style of play," said Heggins. "I'm pleased with the way the kids handled everything because we've brought in a new accountability in the classroom, on the field and in the community. This is a very significant change for a team and we hope it will be reflected in wins on Friday nights."

Heggins led Baldwin Park to a 7-4 record last year and a one-point overtime loss in the CIF playoffs. That was his first year back at the helm after three seasons as athletic director and a community college assistant coach. Overall, he compiled a 51-39 record at Baldwin Park.

His decision to come to Duarte, first as football coach and teacher, and then as athletic director, has helped spark the wave of optimism around the school.

We came here to help build something



JAMES HEGGINS

See Preview on page 17

Meet new DUSD Student Board Member

Lindsay Lathrop knew serving as the student member of the Duarte Unified School District Board of Education would be a challenge.

Then she got to her first meeting on Sept. 15 and found the five elected members were dealing with one of the most controversial issues in recent memory, the decision whether or not to close a school.

The Board Members agreed all elementary schools would remain open for now, and "listening to the members of the community speak and watching the board react was definitely a learning experience," said Lathrop, a senior at Duarte High School and president of the Associated Student Body. "I didn't really know what to expect, but the board members were very helpful."

Lathrop's advisory seat on the Board of Trustees is part of her assignment as leader of the student body. "She's a natural-born leader who willingly takes the lead on a lot of issues," said Jennifer Garcia, dean of activities at Duarte High. "Her leadership is very important to the ASB, and she handles it all without getting stressed out."

Superintendent Allan Mucerino said having a student on the Board of Education is essential to improving the educational product at Duarte USD. "We need to hear the input of all stakeholders and the Student Body President represents a very important constituency for our Board," said Mucerino. "Lindsay is going to make a lot of important contributions in the year ahead."

Lathrop juggles her leadership role with Advanced Placement and Honors classes, as well as playing on the high school soccer team and a club team. She's a straight-A student who has made Honor Roll every semester.

"She's very intelligent and is willing to take the initiative on a lot of things," said Garcia. "She's friendly and humble and everyone seems to like her."

Lathrop took on the leadership positions naturally. Her father, Bruce, is currently Mayor Pro Tem and a City Council member in the City of Bradbury. Lindsay's first assignment as ASB president was to serve on a panel of adults who were selecting candidates for two Dean positions at the high school.

And when she found out about

the commitment to service with the Trustees, she took a proactive approach.

"I realized I should probably start asking my classmates about the issues that we were dealing with so that I'd know more about what I was representing," she

explained. "I found out that a lot of students are nervous about the changes that are taking place at the district level because they don't know what is going on here. By having me on the Board, the district is allowing students to have

See Board Member on page 15



LINDSAY LATHROP with School Board Members and Superintendent Mucerino following her induction to the Duarte USD Board of Education at the Regular Meeting on September 15.

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Continued from page 12

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

Other needs that emerged from the findings included more support around classroom technology, digital learning resource specialists on site, focused professional development targeted at instructional context and the Common Core, vocational programs for non-college bound students, more specialized courses, electives, and career technical education (CTE) programs in careers such as culinary arts/hospitality, health careers, biotechnology, computer science focused on designing, building, and understanding interactive media, expansion of the Early College programs, recruitment of highly effective teachers, a competitive salary and benefits structure to attract and maintain those teachers, and clear standards of behavior, and site autonomy.

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

Regarding extra-curricular programs, the desire for improvements to the arts and athletic programs and facilities including playgrounds, courts, fields, the DHS gym and locker rooms, emerged in surveys and focus group sessions as primary needs and also became actionable items in the CAP. The CAP creates optimal learning conditions despite the fiscal, educational, and human resource challenges that have been caused by fourteen consecutive years of declining enrollment and the organizational instability it has created.

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

A Focus on Results: The District will reduce the achievement gap equitably between the most successful and least successful students, regardless of their race or ethnicity or social or economic circumstances.

Service-Centered: The District will create a culture of service grounded in the

promise that all people will be treated with dignity and respect.

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

Strong Partnerships: The District will create a culture where partnering entities work together to integrate and complement each other in support of student success. These four pillars represent the voices of our students, parents, staff, and community members.

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

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

2. Create an equitable education for all students.

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

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

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

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

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

The Competitive Advantage Plan for the Duarte Unified School District is a living document and will serve as a guide for the future and a report card for the past as the District evaluates

it annually.

Superintendent Mucerino offered his gratitude, "to everyone who took the time to make their voices heard by completing the District's community survey, attending focus group sessions, answering phone interviews, and/or submitting comments for reflection. We listened!"

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

It is a new day for Duarte schools! Read the complete plan for yourself and see why at <http://www.duarteusd.org/Domain/810>. You may also submit questions or comments about the CAP via the District website at <http://www.duarteusd.org/Page/3680>.

And, if you are interested in adding your child's name to the registration list now for the 2017-2018 school year when the District transitions to PreK-8 magnet schools, including enrollment in our Orange County School of the Arts branded PreK-8 & Project Lead the Way STEM PreK-8 programs, and you do not currently attend Duarte Unified Schools, please send your contact information via email to jowen@duarteusd.org.

As of August 1, the District and school offices have been open during regular operating hours. Staff members are available to provide assistance to parents and students needing further information.

"The collective accomplishments of our students and staff in 2015-16 have thrust us into a new school year that is sure to be among the most exciting in the recent history of DUSD," stated Superintendent Mucerino.

"We have so much momentum going that it will be hard to stop us from realizing our goal of being second to none, a model school District with a focus on results. I hope you share my enthusiasm and plan to make this year your best year ever."

Preschool

Continued from page 12

to consider our program is this prepares children for kindergarten and elementary school," said Sofia Valdez, coordinator of the Duarte program. "We focus on all social, cognitive and academic skills."

DUSD offers comprehensive early-childhood instruction, specific to the standards of children

Board Member Research

Continued from page 14

a better insight into the changes."

This year, the role of the student board member has been increased to include mentoring student representatives from every school who will be providing reports to the Board at the beginning of every Regular Meeting about the learning activities taking place at their campuses. Lathrop helps these 5th and 6th graders practice for their first-ever presentations in an open meeting.

"I was able to help them because I'm not an adult yet, but a big kid," she said. Lathrop's passage from "big kid" to adult is already underway, though. She has polished off her applications for college and is waiting to learn about acceptance. Although not wanting to list a dream school, she did admit to applying to the top University of California campuses and several top private schools.

Like so many aspects of her busy life, college applications are just part of the busy schedule for Lathrop, who admits to being one of those busy people who find a way to get everything done.

"There's a lot on her plate but she balances things and always makes the best of situations," said Garcia. Many adults can learn something from Duarte's student board member.

Lindsay encourages all community members and district stakeholders to attend meetings of the Board of Education to stay informed about the issues impacting the school district and to see the student representatives share their perspectives regarding school governance.

All meetings of the Duarte USD Board are now streamed live and recordings are available for view immediately following each meeting at the link <http://www.mldistrict.com/districts/ca/duarte/>. For the meeting schedule and agendas, visit the district website at www.duarteusd.org or call (626) 599-5037.

ages 3 to 5.

The program is aligned to the state requirements for a safe, nurturing, quality, child-centered environment with appropriate learning experiences.

A total of nine separate classrooms are staffed with a teacher and two aides each, assuring that the maximum of 24 students are taught at an 8-to-1 ratio.

Valdez added that there is bilingual staffing in all classrooms to ensure that the needs of all students are met.

"It is the philosophy of the Duarte State Preschool that all children can learn and all families have the potential for success," said Valdez. "Duarte State Preschool gives preschool children the skills to succeed in kindergarten and beyond. Focused services support the family's development to be self-reliant and proactive."

"The comprehensive program provided to preschoolers and their parents ... encompasses health, nutrition, mental health, family partnerships, parent involvement ... to set the foundation to prepare young children for academic and future life success."

For more information about the Preschool program, call Annabelle Lopez or LaVena Martinez at (626) 599-5123 or (626) 599-5139.

You can also visit the Child Development office on the Andres Duarte School campus, 1433 Crestfield, Duarte, CA, 91010.

Continued from page 12

pursue science or other related careers," said Radsick.

The 12 students from Duarte who attended this summer are all juniors and seniors.

They are: Sarah Bouza, Ashley Castaneda, Bianca Delgadillo, Marianna Delgado, Danica Espinosa, Eli Faliti, Tiffany Hui, Sabrina Juarez, Leslyn Kiara, Lindsay Lathrop, Lisette Leon, and Palak Malak.

The SEPA Summer Research Program is taught by City of Hope staff scientist Glenn Manthey and Radsick, and each of the students worked in various labs with additional scientists on the City of Hope campus.

The project, which began with the summer of 2012 group, and has continued each summer, involves experiments with yeast and DNA as they relate to a cancer tumor and the DNA's ability to repair.

"This research is essential to the understanding of cancer," said Radsick. "We looked at various mutants and sequencing strains. The students helped produce data that will be of value to the professional research staff."

Bowers explained the origination of the research project.

"Glenn Manthey runs a lab that uses yeast in breast cancer research," she said. "Yeast grows fast, and is a common model organism for studying basic biology. How the proteins react to one another with the DNA repair mechanism is what we are studying."

And the scientists and teachers were learning along with the students.

Radsick said the difference between the City of Hope summer program and his work with students on the Duarte High campus produced "a huge learning experience for me. I'm used to practicing in labs with high school students, and the labs have predictable and expected results, demonstrating a core principle. These are experiments that have never been done before and we were looking at some interesting results. This translates into real-life scenarios that I can translate into the classroom."

The City of Hope has long been a partner with Duarte Unified School District, offering programs to spark the scientific interest of students.

The summer research program and a year-long program during the school year are geared to those who have identified science as a viable educational and career path.

Other programs include field trips for 2nd, 5th and 8th grade students. There is also a Girls Only STEM after school science club at Andres Duarte Elementary School, and additional Saturday Science Days on the City of Hope campus.

The summer research program was funded by a five-year, \$1.3-million grant from the National Institutes of Health. Bowers said the goal is to find grant funding going forward because "we want to keep working with the students."

Our evaluation team is doing a longitudinal study to learn what the students are doing with their interest in science."

Given the chance to do authentic research in the labs of the internationally renowned City of Hope, many of these Duarte students will likely be pursuing science majors in college in the years to come.

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Seniors

Continued from page 8

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, November 10, 1-5 p.m. The cost is \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members. Reservations are required with payment prior to class.

Please call the Senior Center for any questions at (626) 357-3513.

EMERGENCY CARD UPDATE

Please stop by the front desk to update your information. We would especially like to have everyone's photo for his or her file. For more information call (626) 357-3513.

TECH TIPS

On the Second Wednesday of the Month at 1 p.m. DLL Technologies, LLC, a local tech support business, will be offering FREE tech tips. They will provide technical support for your computers, laptops, mobile devices and phones. Stop by if you would like some help.

For more information call (626) 357-3513.

COMMUNITY YARD SALE

Come join the Senior Center for fantastic bargains at the annual parking lot sale on Saturday, October 8, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Individuals and groups can rent a spot for \$15 where they can sell their own goods. Reserve your spot with payment at the Duarte Senior center, for any questions, please feel free to call (626) 357-3513.

EXCURSIONS

Register online! Visit www.accessduarte.com > Quick Links > Register for Recreation Programs (excludes extended excursions) Registration for all excursions will be held at the Senior Center, 1610 Huntington Drive, beginning September 12. Registration begins at 9 a.m.

Visa/MasterCard/Discover are accepted for purchases over \$25.

California Desert Tour

(1 breakfast and 2 lunches included)

Monday, October 10, 7:30 a.m.-Tuesday, October 11, 5 p.m.

Fee: \$250 per person, double occupancy, \$300 per person, single occupancy

Pala Casino

(Must be 21 years of age or older.)

Thursday, November 3, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

Fee: \$10 (Meals on your own)

Virginia Robinson Gardens and the Grier Musser Museum

(Lunch Included)
Wednesday, December 14, 8:45 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Fee: \$48 regular price (Resident discount price \$40, non-resident discount price \$44)

All trips depart from 1634 Third Street, Duarte, unless otherwise noted, and are on a first-come, first-served basis. Space is limited.

The reservations must be made in person at the Duarte Parks and Recreation Department, 1600 Huntington Drive. Seating selection for the bus is based on order of registration.

Upon arrival of the bus, approximately 15 minutes prior to departure, names will be announced for entrance onto the bus.

For further information contact the Parks and Recreation Department at (626) 357-7931, Monday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

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 EXCURSIONS REFLECTION OF ITALY

March 29-April 7, 2017

(10 Days - 13 Meals)

Fees if booked by September 30. (For bookings made after September 30, call for rates.):

Double Occupancy: \$3,999; Single Occupancy: \$4,449; Triple Occupancy: \$3,949

Included in price: round trip air from Los Angeles International Airport, air taxes and fees/surcharges, and hotel transfers.

Not included in price: Cancellation waiver and insurance of \$280 per person

Sign up at the front desk or call (626) 357-3513 to reserve your spot. Flyers available at the Senior Center or the Parks and Recreation Department.

ISLANDS OF NEW ENGLAND

October 16-23, 2017

(8 Days - 7 breakfasts, 1 lunch and 3 dinners)

Double Occupancy: \$2,829; Single Occupancy: \$3,329; Triple Occupancy: \$2,799

Included in price: round trip air from Los Angeles International Airport, air taxes and fees/surcharges, and hotel transfers. Not included in price: Cancellation waiver and insurance of \$280 per person

On Tuesday, February 21, at 1 p.m. there will be a preview of the sights and attractions participants will enjoy on the trip at the Duarte Senior Center, 1610 Huntington Drive. Sign up at the front desk or call 357-3513 to reserve your spot.

Pathways

Continued from page 13

our current partnership to enlarge our programs with City of Hope to offer even more opportunities for the students of Duarte."

The goal of the collaboration between DUSD and City of Hope was to create a pipeline of students (especially underrepresented minority students) interested, engaged and prepared for biomedical research as a possible college and career choice.

This led to the development of a two-stage research education program for rising high school juniors and seniors, a professional development program for K-12 DUSD teachers and the establishment of a K-8 research education program now known as the San Gabriel Valley Science Education Partnership Award (SGV SEPA) Collaborative.

The SGV SEPA Collaborative programs offered by DUSD and City of Hope are funded in part by a five-year, \$1.3 million grant from the National Institutes of Health.

Other offerings resulting from the unique DUSD and City of Hope partnership include the development of a genetics curriculum for elementary and middle school students. The curriculum consists of three units: Unit 1 for grades K-2, Unit 2 for grades 3-5 and Unit 3 for grades 6-8. Each unit contains four to five lessons. The genetics curriculum has been piloted in a DUSD elementary school, and is being finalized. The resulting curriculum will be available to all schools and districts.

Other professional development benefits afforded to DUSD instructors through the collaborative are teaching science in the context of Next Generation Science Standards and Common Core State Standards, and laboratory techniques and inquiry-based experiments for middle and high school classrooms provided by City of Hope staff.

The SGV SEPA Collaborative currently has programs in place for second, fifth and eighth graders in DUSD, which are incorporated into the students' curriculum and include school visitations and academic field trips to the City of Hope campus.

City of Hope scientists visit every second grade classroom to teach the concepts of genetics and inheritance, and introduce the students to careers in research. As a follow up, second grade

Arts

Continued from page 14

"With all the focus on technology in the schools, kids are forgetting how to express themselves and we need to give them that chance. A student may not see himself as an artist, but there are different artistic ways of expression, including music, writing, visual arts, dance and even culinary arts."

Through the vision of Dr.

See Vision on page 17

students go to City of Hope at the end of the school year to learn more about genetics and to tour the City of Hope campus.

Every fifth grade student visits City of Hope to do hands-on, problem-solving activities related to the human body, and in eighth grade, every student visits City of Hope to solve medical mysteries through the use of inquiry based hands-on activities and critical-thinking skills.

In the fall of 2015, the SGV SEPA Collaborative began offering a Girls Only! Science Technology Engineering and Math (GO! STEM) club for grades 3-5. The goal of the club is to engage girls in STEM activities, encourage girls to take courses in STEM fields and to consider pursuing STEM careers.

The SEPA Collaborative also has two programs for rising high school Juniors and Seniors. The Summer Research Program provides students the opportunity to conduct innovative, original research in City of Hope's Community Teaching Laboratory during an eight-week program that runs from June to early August.

Students meet two days a week for three hours each day and learn to give high-quality presentations about their work and hear about college and career pathways in the sciences. Students who successfully complete the program receive a \$480 stipend. There is also a SGV SEPA year-long program for interested students who are partnered with a mentor-scientist in a field that the students are interested in exploring in greater depth.

DUSD Juniors and Seniors can also participate in the Career Technical Education (CTE) summer mentorship program at City of Hope that pairs DUSD students with staff members in all job positions at City of Hope to gain experience working in a variety of departments including human resources, library services and marketing.

"The City of Hope SGV SEPAC Program is honored to receive the Excellence in Educational Pathways Award from the SGV Economic Partnership, stated Marisa Bowers, SEPAC Program Coordinator.

"During the last 4 years we have developed a close partnership with Duarte Unified School District, and would like to thank the District for working with us to reach thousands of Duarte students. We look forward to continuing and further strengthening this partnership as we move forward and develop new programs."

Additional programs resulting from this signature partnership include science summer camps and science Saturday programming offered by City of Hope for DUSD students throughout the year. For more information about the Duarte Unified School District and City of Hope partnership programs, call (626) 599-5019.

PBIS

Continued from page 13

social goals for your children." Like Northview, Royal Oaks received the Bronze certificate for implementing PBIS with fidelity last year.

Principal Janice Kolodinski talked about the positives of the program.

"One of our guidelines is to have five positive to one instructive or correctional interactions," she explained. "I can stand up in front of a line of students and say, 'stop pushing,' or I can single out two or three students and say, 'thank you for lining up properly.' That allows us to establish a behavior without constant correction."

PBIS is based on a system of rewards for those exhibiting proper behavior. The rewards go to the students on each campus, but the behaviors are modified at all levels.

"It's really about changing adult behavior to effect positively student behavior," said Kolodinski. "You can't expect the students to have the behavior unless the adults are implementing it with fidelity."

At Royal Oaks, the PBIS implementation began with a training. "To get critical mass for change, I sent two teachers to a PBIS summer workshop," said the principal.

"They came back energized, and ready to help influence others. That's how it happens in their classrooms, and then all over the campus," she said.

It was also Kolodinski's belief at Royal Oaks that the success of PBIS started with it "not being principal-driven, although I support every aspect of it and am present at all of the meetings. It's important we get buy-in from everyone."

Northview's Quirk previously worked with PBIS at the Newport-Mesa School District, and believes in the team approach. "It takes a team of teachers and classified staff, as well as at least one parent on your team, and that reflects the necessary buy-in," she said.

In its practical application, PBIS means giving students tickets as a reward for being caught doing the right thing.

Those tickets are then redeemed at a PBIS store at key junctures in the school year for good and services.

At Beardslee, the rollout of PBIS started with a half-day session at the staff development day on Aug. 11, in which not only teachers and administrators, but all classified and hourly employees were invited to participate in the training.

"We talked to Royal Oaks and other schools and we knew it was important that we got everybody on board from the start," said Principal Jennifer Romero. "We wanted everybody speaking the same language and sharing the same expectations."

Because of that, Principal Romero said the first days of school marked a successful implementation of the concepts of PBIS and it was helping make noticeable strides.

"At the end of the year, we'll be able to quantify some things to show improvements in behavior," the principal said. "But more importantly, I think, we'd like to qualify the experience from the reflection perspective. If each of the teachers and staff members can point to the things we've gained through PBIS, that will show ownership."



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Vision

Continued from page 16

Mucerino, DUSD has reached out to the highly regarded Orange County School of the Arts in Santa Ana, and formed the partnership that will open the CSArts-San Gabriel Valley campus in Duarte next year. This will attract highly motivated students with an artistic talent to a high school environment rich in opportunities.

But in the years of schooling leading up to high school, arts must once again be part of the curriculum, according to Fish.

“OCSA has an existing grades 7-to-12 program, so with that program, we can work from the 7-8 level and backwards map

towards pre-K and through 6th grade. OCSA is going to provide the expertise through their 7-8 model and we will improve what Duarte can offer.”

Although not a formal artist, Fish has taught at Duarte for 17 years, first as an elementary teacher, and then moved into the IB program at Maxwell. She served as summer school principal this year for the STEAM program.

“What I’ve learned over the years is that the cross-disciplinary approach and teaching across content is very successful. We can use that model to develop an arts program,” she said.

She plans to coordinate with the OCSA contingent, led by president and executive director Ralph Opacic, and including William Wallace (principal of CSArts-San

Preview

Continued from page 14

that is an important part of the district and the community,” he said. “We have a chance to cultivate something exciting, with good kids, who are good athletes, and who will be good people who want to make a difference.”

That spark started with num- Gabriel Valley) and Abbe Levine (dean of the new school).

Fish’s first task will be adapting a curriculum and program for Duarte. “We’re still in the developmental stage, but that will involve lots of collaboration, work with our teachers, and much professional development to give the kids of Duarte the

education they deserve. Bringing arts back and finding new ways to express them should be a great opportunity for our kids and for our community.”

Where two previous teams limped home with a combined 3-17 record, and finished the 2015 season with just 24 players on varsity and no JV team,

Heggins reports that this year’s team is currently practicing with 72 players and expects to field a junior varsity team as well as a limited-schedule freshman team.

“We got 15 freshmen kids to come out after school started,” said Heggins. “If we can sustain the numbers we currently have out for football, our program is going in the right direction.”

Heggins promises a team with multiple sets on offense, utilizing various personnel groups, and one that “will protect the ball and attack what defenses give us.”

His offense is coordinated by Jason Harris, who came to Duarte after being an assistant coach at the highly successful Bishop Amat program.

Of Bishop Amat, Heggins said, “They are one of the best coached high school teams in the area and they make the most out of their talent. That’s what we hope to do here.”

The head coach coordinates the defense, because “I believe that’s where championships are won. Your offense can score 100 points, but if your defense allows 101, you can’t win. We’ll be an aggressive team, and that starts on defense.”

He added that many of the top athletes will play both ways and will also be expected to play on special teams as the Falcons hope to establish themselves in his first year at the helm.

The top returning athlete for Duarte is 6-foot-1, 200-pound senior wide receiver/defensive back Justin Hilyer, who finished as the runner-up MVP in the Montview League last year.

Hilyer had 20 touchdowns last year, but as a senior, “the most important thing was his approach to the game and his work ethic.”

Hilyer is drawing attention from college teams, including Nevada and San Diego State.

Throwing the ball to Hilyer is his brother, junior quarterback/defensive back Devon Hemsley, in his third year as a starter.

See Offense on page 18

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Date: Wednesday, October 12, 2016

Place: City of Hope Cooper Auditorium
1500 Duarte Road
Duarte, CA 91010

Time: 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Showcase will include:

- Light appetizers prepared by Duarte High School Culinary program
- Career pathway displays and projects by local high school students:
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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 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! The Amazing Family Race to the Finish!

The Amazing Family Race to the Finish is a special event to promote family unity and good health and exercise, while highlighting various city facilities. The race will be held Saturday, October 15 at 8 a.m. The registration fee is \$40 per team and will be accepted until October 1. Register at the Duarte Teen Center, 1400 Buena Vista Street.

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

Call the Duarte Teen Center at (626) 303-0863 for more information. Space in the race will

be limited so sign up now.

Rules include: teams of 4 family or friends, all team members must be age 10 or over, one member of the team must be 18 or older, you may only travel by bus or walking and teams MUST stay together during event at all times.

Monday Night Football!

Come out and play some fun flag football! Runs now through October 17 from 4-5:30 p.m.

Unity March

On Saturday, November 5, 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 17 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!

Teen Excursion

On Friday, October 21, the Teen Center will take a trip to Six Flags Magic Mountain - Halloween Frightfest! Plenty of ghost and thrill rides. Get your scream on! The trip departs at 4 p.m. and returns at 12 a.m. to the Duarte Teen Center. Fee is \$45

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 Tuesdays, September 6 & 20, October 4 & 18, November 1

& 15 and December 6 at 3:30 p.m.

Drama Club

The Drama Club meets once a week on Fridays from 3:30-5 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 Fridays, September 9 & 23, October 7 & 14, November 4 & 18 and December 9 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 4-8 p.m. and Friday from 4-7 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.

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Offense

Continued from page 17

The ground control offense will feature running backs Austin Adolphus and Lorenzo Rios, the latter being the top linebacker and a key on defense.

Heggins said one of the most pleasant surprises of the pre-season was the arrival and development of junior offensive lineman Krikour (Koko) Kousdania. The 6-foot-3, 285-pounder is a former basketball player just learning his way around the football field. He'll likely line up at left tackle, protecting the quarterback's blind spot.

In addition to football, Duarte High fields three additional fall sports:

Girls Volleyball: Coach Irene Sunabe returns a strong group from last year that advanced to the second round of the CIF playoffs, and has a strong record of success.

The Lady Falcons advanced to the CIF finals two years ago and Sunabe was honored as All-Area coach of the year.

Top returning players from last year's quarterfinals team are: Lauryn Higginson, Anadia Morales, Elva Sandoval, Jocelyn Portillo and Dionne Zhao. Also expected to make contributions are newcomers Macy Barnes, Isabella Zadian, Gabby Quezada and Emily Lopez.

Girls Tennis: Coach Victor Champion has led this team for the

last 10 years and has 27 players currently competing for varsity and junior varsity positions.

A group of senior leaders has expectations of returning to the CIF playoffs and advancing further.

"Coach said his team has been developing a work ethic and helping players grow as a team," said Heggins, wearing his athletic director's hat.

Top players this year will be: Patricia Morris, Elizabeth Hernandez, Marivel Rosal, Kaira Nuevo and Mahima Dixit.

Cross Country: A last minute decision by the distance coach thrust Dean of Activities Jennifer Garcia into an interim coaching spot but a fulltime coach was expected soon.

Because league cross country meets don't begin until mid-September, there is still time to develop this team. Individuals qualify for CIF over the course of the fall.

Sports programs will also get underway shortly at Northview Intermediate School and Mount Olive Innovation and Technology School.

At Northview, the fall sports are girls volleyball and boys flag football. In winter, boys and girls compete in basketball. And in spring, the sports are soccer for both genders, softball for girls and volleyball for boys.

At Mount Olive, Principal Kevin Morris said the school fields teams in the San Gabriel Valley Continuation League.

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Grant

Continued from page 1

6th grades, and even many in 4th grade, will be given a chance to learn an instrument.

“As we know in education, picking up a musical instrument is like speaking another language,” said Margaret Rasmussen, principal of Valley View Elementary. “It’s another chance to connect the synapses in the brain and to allow

the students to grow in another way. It’s a chance to feel the joy of accomplishment.”

The VH-1 Save The Music Foundation is one of the best stories of a successful venture deciding to help fund education in less-than-affluent districts. It began with a routine school visit by VH1 President John Sykes in 1991.

“He was ‘principal for a day’ at a school in Brooklyn,” explained Jaclyn Rudderow, director of the

foundation. “John was appalled with the musical instruments he saw at the school -- some were held together with gaffer’s tape – and came back to the offices at Times Square and wrote out a check to help buy the school new instruments.”

When Sykes realized that the school in Brooklyn was indicative of the funding abyss for music education, the VH1 Save The Music Foundation was created. Nearly 20 years later, nearly \$53 million worth of quality band instruments have been distributed to schools in 247 districts around the country, with more than 2,000 schools benefiting. A total of nearly 3 million students have had the chance to learn to play an instrument through the generosity of the foundation.

Duarte USD is the only local school district currently reaping the benefits of this program, and part of that stemmed from a commitment by the school board and previous Superintendent Nichols and current Superintendent Mucerrino to hire two fulltime band instructors for the elementary schools and to commit to a music curriculum.

“Our partnership with the VH1 Save The Music Foundation and our commitment to be the San Gabriel Valley’s host for the California School for the Arts underlines the belief this district has in the importance of arts education,” said Mucerrino.

Teachers Cuyler McDonald and Rafael Arenas, both professional musicians in addition to being certificated music instructors, are busy unpacking the boxes of clarinets, flutes, trumpets, trombones, saxophones and other instruments, and preparing to begin the instruction that will lead to a band at each school. There are enough instruments that every 5th-6th grade student and many 4th grade students will have one of their own to practice on.

“Band programs thrive when you have enough different instruments so that every student can learn and practice,” said McDonald. “Students can see how the various instruments mesh and come together to produce a performance. It’s so much more than just sitting and practicing notes.”

At each of the schools, the music has been sweet.

“We’re excited to be bringing

this program to our fifth graders,” said Kelly Buckley, principal at Maxwell School.”

“Expanding the band program to the 5th grade is a thrill for us at Andres Duarte,” said Joilyn Campitiello, principal.

For McDonald, this is particularly special, because he parlayed school musical instruction into the scholarship money that led to his teaching credential and graduate degree at Azusa Pacific University.

“We know that there may not be a future music professional in one of these classes,” he said, “but exposing kids to the musical experience and giving them a full understanding of music will do so much to improve their educational experiences.”

The VH1 Save The Music Foundation’s commitment to districts like Duarte does not end with the packages of instruments being delivered to the schools through a partnership with a retailer in Glendale. The foundation also follows up with a curriculum program and professional development sessions for the music educators.

“We believe in staying close to the districts we work with,” said Rudderow, who is based in New York City. “We’ll be out for classroom observations, plus we’ll meet with the Board of Education and the Superintendent. We’re a very active partner.”

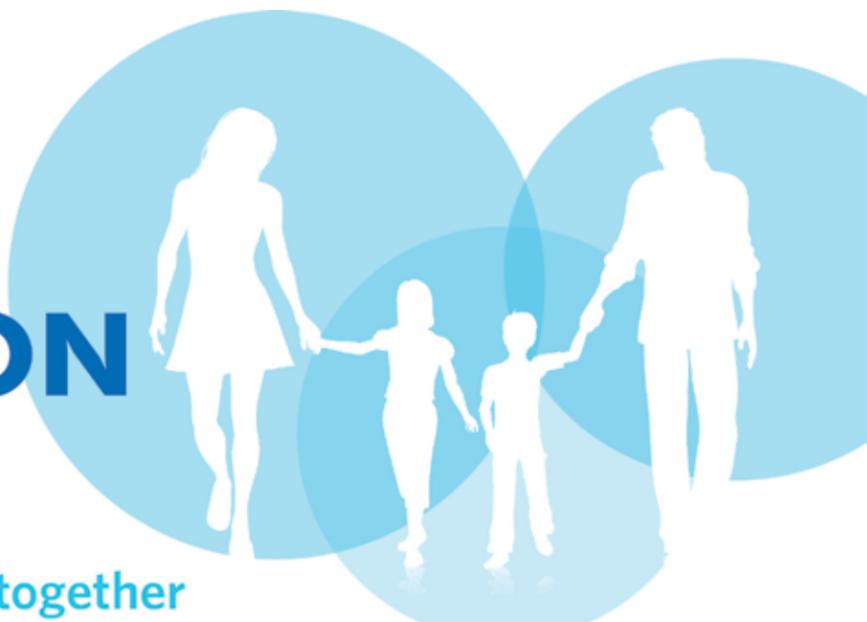
As the classes are formed, and students select the instrument they will learn, the campuses and the instructors will work towards not just individuals learning to create music, but the ultimate collaboration of a band experience.

“One of the theorems of band instruction is to create the ability to do a performance with an appreciative audience,” said McDonald. “Music is made to perform. Very seldom do you just listen by yourself. So when you’re in a band, the goal is to put on a performance. That’s our expectation.”



STUDENTS AT Valley View Elementary proudly displaying keyboards used to expand the school’s instrumental music program.

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Volunteers needed

The Duarte Historical Society and Museum is in need of volunteers. Docents are needed for duty about once every six weeks on either a Wed. (1-3 p.m.) or Sat. (1-4 p.m.) and will always serve with an experienced volunteer. It is fun and educational.

In addition, the Museum scanning project is proceeding slowly due to a lack of help. The Museum is in possession of hundreds of local newspapers going back to the 1940s. The papers are yellowing and need to be scanned soon. Curator Dilip Tiwari heads the project and will train scanners who can team up and work at their own schedule.

For docent volunteers, call Sheri Uhlig at (626) 523-6622.

For scanning volunteers, call Tiwari at (818) 482-9335.

The Museum is located in Encanto Park, Duarte and features a multitude of exhibits including the history of the local citrus ranches, former Duarte resident Glenn Miller, Route 66 memorabilia, period clothing, vintage photos of local history, and items from the family of Andres Duarte, the city’s namesake. There is also a chapel, a library, and revolving display cases for residents to share their hobbies and collections. For more information call Claudia Heller, Society President, at (626) 358-0329, or email at famheller@msn.com. The Museum website is www.RanchoDeDuarte.org.





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