

Job Fair
Starts
March 23



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JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2009

Duarte View

A bi-monthly community publication of the Duarte Chamber of Commerce, in its 88th year of service to the community.

Francisco Figueroa elected Board of Education President

Kenneth Bell elected Board Vice President

Fourteen years ago, a former Duarte student decided he would run for the Board of Education. He had been through the Duarte school system and noticed there was a lot of work to do. He had heard complaints of financial crisis, extremely low staff and student morale and the dire state of the facilities that students were learning in each day. Taking what he had learned over the years as the multi-award winning Latin America sales manager for Continental Airlines, he decided that he would be part of the solution and not the problem. His name is Francisco Figueroa.

In 1979, a man and his family moved from Inglewood to the bedroom community of Duarte. His children attended Northview Junior High School and Duarte High School. He saw that his background in education, as a school teacher, and in law enforcement, as a highly decorated investigator who worked with youth, could serve this commu-



**BOARD PRESIDENT
FRANCISCO FIGUEROA**

nity well. He decided to run for the Board of Education in 1989. His name is Kenneth Bell. This year both men are serving as officers on the Board of Education in the Duarte Unified School District.

See Figueroa on page 10

Duarte Council Members meet with Sacramento officials

While the Midwest and eastern part of the United States were experiencing freezing cold temperatures, the California state budget process was heating up in Sacramento. And Councilmember Lois Gaston, Mayor Pro Tem Margaret Finlay and City Manager Darrell George were there to talk with legislators about the state legislature's inability to get a budget passed on time. The annual California Contract Cities Legislative Seminar was held January 13-15 in California's capitol city. Cities that are smaller, such as Duarte, don't have fulltime lobbyists due to the expense involved. Consequently, council members serve several roles, with one of these being lobbyists for their cities' interests.

Heretofore, the California Senate and Assembly have taken municipal revenues, historically used for cities to pay for local services like fire and police, to supplement state spending whenever the state is having budget problems. The public, justifiably outraged by this continual raid on local funding, voted overwhelmingly (83.6% yes, 16.4% no) in 2004 for the passage of Proposition 1A.

The summary from the Attorney General's office of Prop 1A was:



DUARTE MAYOR PRO-TEM Margaret Finlay, Council Member Lois Gaston, and City Manager Darrell George in Sacramento at the annual California Contract Cities Legislative Seminar.

* Protects local funding for public safety, health, libraries, parks, and other locally delivered

services.

* Prohibits the State from reducing local governments' property tax proceeds.

* Allows the provisions to be suspended only if the Governor declares a fiscal necessity and two-thirds of the Legislature approve the suspension. Suspended funds must be repaid within three years.

* Also requires local sales

See Sacramento on page 15

Vulcan files revised Reclamation Plan with Azusa to move mining operations to the west

Vulcan Materials, owners and operators of Azusa Rock Quarry, has filed a Conditional Use Permit and revised reclamation plan with the City of Azusa to amend its existing development agreement to move mining operations 80 acres to the west in an area above Duarte hillside homes.

Azusa city officials have currently deemed the application incomplete.

Last year the Duarte City Council established a \$700,000 fund to monitor and counter anticipated expansion plans by Vulcan that would adversely impact Duarte residents.

The "Fight Against Vulcan Expansion" fund (FAVE) will allow the City of Duarte to monitor the approximately two-year application process involving a Conditional Use Permit and Environmental Impact Report through whatever legal and environmental means necessary, said Duarte City Manager Darrell George.

Vulcan contends they have 270 acres and currently operate on only 190 acres. The company notes that it is confident of its

rights under California law to mine the entire 270 acre property.

The revised plan would substitute 80 acres on the east side, acres currently approved for mining, with 80 acres on the west side of the property. If the City of Azusa approves the revised plan, Vulcan states that it will immediately begin reclamation on the east side with completion within five to seven years as opposed to commencing reclamation in 2038.

Reclamation will focus on contouring and micro benching at 12 to 24 inches apart as opposed to the 20 to 40-foot "Mayan step" benches under the current reclamation plan.

Vulcan Materials has said it will host a series of public information meetings to discuss the plan and answer questions. Two public presentations were held in January in Azusa.

To learn about upcoming Vulcan meetings, residents are encouraged to visit the company's website at www.azusarock.com.

For more information about the City of Duarte's Fight Against

Vulcan Expansion activities, call Duarte Deputy City Manager,

Karen Herrera at (626) 357-7931, ext. 221.



DUARTE MAYOR JOHN FASANA speaks with a representative of Vulcan Materials Co. at a recent information meeting in Azusa as he looks over a relief showing Vulcan's proposed plans to expand mining operations west to 80 acres in the hills above Duarte.



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

Best Buy looking to staff up for new Duarte store

Best Buy is scheduled to open its new 48,000 square foot store at Central and Mountain Avenues in Duarte on May 13. To help staff the new store, Best Buy will host a job fair in town from March 23 through April 22, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday at Duarte Park Plaza, 1740 Huntington Dr. #203.

A variety of full-time and part-time job opportunities are available. The company has openings for the positions of cashiers/customer service, non-commission sales, home theater sales, appliance sales, business consultant, merchandising, music/software/gaming, service technicians, car installation technicians, shipping/receiving, product security, and delivery drivers.

Additional career opportunities are available for highly competitive, innovative and persuasive sales people to serve Best-Buy-For-Business small business customers, Geek Squad® PC and Apple service/sales technicians, and Magnolia Home Theater installation technicians who travel to customers' homes to install and test Home Theater/Satellite products.

All applicants must apply on-

line at <http://careers.bestbuy.com>. Allow 15-30 minutes to complete the application.

Best Buy Co., Inc. is an innovative Fortune 100 growth company that continually strives to create superior customer experiences.

Through more than 1,100 retail stores across the United States, Canada and China Best Buy employees connect customers with technology and entertainment products, as well as services.

Best Buy supports communities through employee volunteerism and grants from The Best Buy Children's Foundation.

Best Buy places a high value on learning and growth, and encourages employees to excel in their fields. The company offers a rich array of benefits that help contribute to balanced lives, general well-being, and supportive personal and professional relationships. An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer, Best Buy also offers competitive pay, employee discounts, and excellent career opportunities.

For more information, visit <http://careers.bestbuy.com>.

Fresh & Easy Market opens in Duarte

There's a new market in town. Fresh & Easy Neighborhood Market opened its doors in a portion of a shopping center at the northwest corner of Huntington Dr. and Mt. Olive Dr. on Feb. 18. The grocer offers high-quality, fresh food at budget prices.

"We are so excited to be a part of the neighborhood," said Michael Greer, district manager. "At Fresh & Easy, we offer very fresh, great quality food at prices for any budget because we don't think our customers should compromise on where they shop and the type of food they eat."

Fresh & Easy is a local, neighborhood store providing fresh, high-quality, wholesome food at budget prices to everyone. Fresh & Easy's own-brand products contain no added trans fats, no artificial colors or flavors, and only use preservatives when absolutely necessary. While smaller than the typical supermarket, Fresh & Easy carries everything customers need to do their weekly shopping. Stores receive daily deliveries and all products are date coded to ensure they are as fresh as possible.

Fresh & Easy aims to recruit staff from the local neighborhood. Among the 20 to 30 current employees are Duarte residents. The company provides the opportunity for all employees to work at least 20 hours a week, which entitles them to comprehensive healthcare and competitive benefits. Entry-level positions pay well over the minimum wage with a potential quarterly bonus of up to 10%.

Fresh & Easy is a company of Tesco, the United Kingdom's largest retailer and one of the world's leading international retailers.

More information about Fresh & Easy can be found at www.freshandeasy.com.

Cesar Chavez Volunteer Day March 21

A major theme in the life of the late labor organizer Cesar Chavez was to urge people to join hands and work together for positive change. On Saturday, March 21, Duarte community members will mark Cesar Chavez's birthday and honor his legacy by joining hands to work on two beautification projects at Westminster Gardens Retirement Community located at 1420 Santo Domingo Ave. The event will begin at 9 a.m. All are invited to participate.

The 4th annual Cesar Chavez Volunteer Day, sponsored by the City of Duarte and Duarte's Promise: The Alliance for Youth will help Westminster Gardens clear out old landscaping to make way for new landscaping. Volunteers will also help relocate river rocks from one area to another.

Prior to the work portion of the event, participants will enjoy a continental breakfast and a program at Packard Hall including featured speakers and a performance of Ballet Folklorico Mestizo de Herlinda Figueroa comprised of local Duarte youth.

For more information and to join in the volunteer day event, contact Duarte Deputy City Manager Karen Herrera at (626) 357-7931, ext. 221.

Duarte Extends Burrtec Waste Services Contract

The Duarte City Council has voted to extend an exclusive contract with Burrtec Waste Services to provide trash hauling services to residential and business customers through Dec. 31, 2017. The contract was to have expired Jan. 1, 2011.

As a result, Burrtec has agreed to not increase rates in 2009. It has also agreed to add several valuable new services at no additional cost to customers or the city that will help promote the proper disposal of hazardous waste materials and increase commercial recycling.

The original agreement between Burrtec and the City of Duarte for solid waste, recyclables, and green waste collection, transportation, disposal, composting, and processing was instituted on Sept. 18, 1996. Under the newly amended agreement, prior to Jan. 1, 2010, Burrtec will also provide household sharps collection, used oil collection, e-waste collection, and institute and maintain a program for commercial recycling. Businesses and other commercial users will be provided barrels for commingled recyclables, which the City expects to result in increased commercial diversion.

The "Household Sharps" collection program will make it easier for customers at single-family residences to safely and within the law to dispose of hypodermic needles, intravenous needles, lancets, and other devices that are used to penetrate the skin for delivery of medications. Burrtec will provide residents with free containers and set convenient locations in the community where containers can be dropped off.

Burrtec will also make available to residents containers for the collection and recycling of used oil. Customers in single-family residences will be permitted up to three times per year to set out containers of used oil in the approved containers for convenient curbside collection.

Disposing of electronic waste, including computers and computer equipment, digital photographic equipment, entertainment electronics, mobile phones and home and auto electronics will also be more convenient for residents. Burrtec will collect E-waste during the City's twice-a-year community clean-up events.

Burrtec will also institute a construction and demolition waste collection system using roll-off equipment to allow demolition and building contractors and owner-contractors to avoid separation of construction and demolition waste. Since 2004, a City ordinance has required construction contractors to sort and separate debris. Burrtec will now collect the commingled materials to be sorted at a Materials Recovery Facility (MRF).

In keeping with the City's "green" commitment, Burrtec has agreed to transition from their existing diesel fleet to new alternative fuel trucks by Dec. 31, 2011.

The City of Duarte was recently awarded a \$57,550 grant for the implementation of a new multi-family recycling program that Burrtec helped the City design.

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

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For advertising information and rates, please call the Chamber.

Deadline for articles and ads for the March-April issue is Feb. 26, 2009.

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Duarte continues with substantial economic growth, Mayor Fasana reports in State of City Address

Duarte Mayor John Fasana speaking on the State of the City had some upbeat news for the more than 100 business and civic leaders assembled at a Duarte Chamber of Commerce sponsored luncheon at City of Hope Cooper Auditorium. The Gas Company was the Presenting Sponsor for this event.

Duarte "continues to be blessed with substantial economic growth" despite the fact that we are experiencing "the greatest national challenge since the city was incorporated more than 50 years ago," he said.

Fasana noted that Duarte retailers are doing relatively well. City of Hope is continuing to grow with two new medical facilities scheduled to open this year. The Michael Amini Transfusion Medicine Center, a 60,000 square foot facility that will expand City of Hope's transfusion medicine programs, will open on April 9. The Arnold and Mabel Beckman Center for Cancer Immunotherapeutics and Tumor Immunology, a five-story, 108,000 square foot facility, will open this fall.

Also on the horizon is the April 2009 opening of a 48,000 square foot Best Buy, with 9,000 square feet of in-line shops adjacent to the Foothill Freeway at the northeast corner of Central Ave. and Mountain. A 15,000 square foot Fresh and Easy market will have its grand opening on Feb. 18 in a shopping center at the northwest corner of Huntington Dr. and Mt. Olive Dr.

Construction continues on a new 34,000 square foot Maryvale Family Resource and Child Education Center at the southeast corner of Huntington Dr. and Crestfield Dr. that will provide expanded day care, family counseling and related support services for the community when it opens this fall.

"Our fees and taxes are lower than many neighboring cities which places us in a strong competitive position as the economy moves to recovery," said Fasana.

Two new housing projects are continuing at a slower pace, but Phase 1 of a 51-home development on Huntington Dr. continues to sell and 4 of 15 luxury Las Lomas Estates homes are under construction on the former Atalla Ranch property in the Duarte foothills.

While the city's General Fund reserve has grown to nearly \$7.5 million and "our savings rate is up" Fasana said the city may need to make cuts. "The growth in reserves has not kept pace with growth in expenses," he said. "City government will need to work harder and smarter as revenues decline and the need for services increases."

The state's delay in passing a budget has delayed \$1.3 million in grant funding to Duarte and all related projects are on hold. Fasana said Duarte will need to front \$500,000 of unanticipated expenditures to keep these projects moving. Possibly worse repercussions from the budget crisis and the state has already seized \$1.1 million in redevelopment funds, he said.

The Duarte Redevelopment Agency has entered into an ongoing Exclusive Negotiating Agreement with Lowe Develop-

ment Corporation for a Transit Oriented Development project located at the northwest corner of Highland Ave. and Duarte Rd., across the street from City of Hope and adjacent to the proposed Gold Line station. The 20-acre project is planned to feature approximately 1.5 million square feet of developable space including a hotel, office space, retail, restaurants, and housing. Fasana noted it could also serve as a potential location for the long sought new Duarte Library and a Public Safety facility.

An issue of major concern to the city is a plan by Vulcan Materials, owners and operators of Azusa Rock Quarry, to expand mining operations west to an 80-acre site in the hills over the City of Duarte. Vulcan claims scars will be visible from Duarte on the west side prior to reclamation, said Fasana. While Vulcan has recently filed a Conditional Use Permit and revised reclamation plan application with the City of Azusa, which Azusa officials deem is currently incomplete, the City of Duarte has established a \$700,000 fund to monitor and counter Vulcan's expansion plans.

The City's Public Safety staff and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department continue to make progress in dealing with problems caused by gangs in the community. Crime levels in the City of Duarte, as documented by the latest FBI crime statistics,

are at an all time low. Duarte has declined to participate with the City of Monrovia and the County of Los Angeles on the implementation of a gang injunction.

"We believe there are opportunities in the near-term to expand on the effective outreach efforts that have produced positive results for our youth, young adults, and the community-at-large. The City will work with community stakeholders on ex-

See State of City on page 6



DUARTE MAYOR JOHN FASANA; Duarte Chamber Board Chairman Bob Cruz of The Gas Co.; and Duarte Unified School District Board President Frank Figueroa at State of the City/State of the School District talks, hosted by the Duarte Chamber of Commerce. The Gas Co. was the Presenting Sponsor for the event.

The State of Duarte Unified School District

In Los Angeles County, few school districts maintain a "family," caring spirit, where teachers - and even their administrators - know students by name, greet parents and provide a warm, friendly atmosphere for students, parents, visitors and staff. Yet, that is precisely why families move into the Duarte Unified School District and stay. Our schools also benefit from active parents, and a highly supportive community. The Duarte Unified School District is committed to providing a quality education exemplified by high performing schools. The mission of Duarte Unified is to

meet the educational needs of each student in a culture of caring and respect.

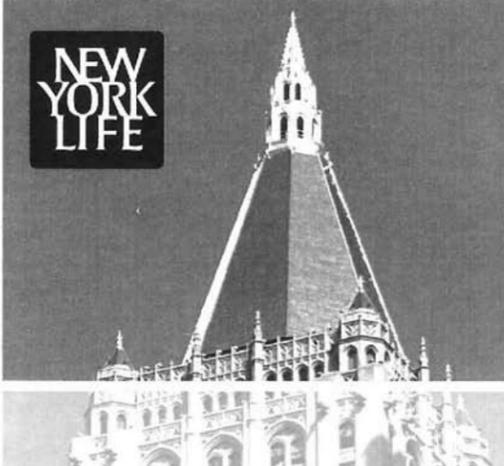
Duarte Unified is a small district, serving about 4,200 youngsters from Duarte, Bradbury, and the Maxwell Park area through five elementary schools (K-6), one intermediate (7-8), one high school (9-12) and one alternative education campus. Our student demographic is 69% Hispanic, 8% White, 6% African American, 4% Filipino, 3% Asian and 9% other.

INSTRUCTIONAL ALIGNMENT

We deliver a broad, challenging, standards-based curriculum in a supportive, caring culture at each school. The rigorous instruction provided by our highly qualified teachers has been instrumental in closing the achievement gap. In Duarte, we have been able to both attract and retain high quality teachers. Our district's API was 726, up 18 points from the previous year. Each of our major demographic groups saw steady increases in their API (Academic Performance Index). The schools that have seen the most impressive gains from 2005 to 2008 are Maxwell Elementary with an 88 point increase and Andres Duarte with a 69 point increase. In addition, Duarte Unified School District was one of four districts in the San Gabriel Valley to meet the criteria for AYP (Annual Yearly Progress).

Duarte High School has seen 99% of seniors pass both parts of

See State of Schools on page 4

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Duarte Neighborhood Service, Clean-up Day

In the spirit of "Yes We Can" help make our communities better block by block, Duarte Mayor John Fasana is inviting residents to roll up their sleeves on Saturday, April 25 for the first annual "Duarte Neighborhood Service and Clean-up Day and Community-wide Block Party".

"It's an opportunity for us to exercise our community pride, bring neighbors together in fun and purpose and help Duarte 'Our Kind of Town' shine brighter," said Mayor Fasana who proposed the idea in conjunction with the City's semi-annual community

clean-up, National Youth Service Week and President Obama's vision of service.

Residents are encouraged to use the day to join forces for a neighborhood service and/or clean-up project, and then celebrate the results with a neighborhood barbeque, ice cream social or potluck party.

From 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., Duarte's licensed trash hauler, Burrtec Waste will provide two convenient drop-off locations in the city where residents can dispose of large refuse items. Residents can also pickup containers for Burrtec's new used oil and household sharps waste collection programs at City Hall parking lot.

For more information about how to participate in the Duarte Neighborhood Service and Clean-up Day call Duarte City Hall at (626) 357-7931, ext. 221.

SAFYMCA kicks off annual support campaign

Kicking off the 2009 support campaign to fund the Santa Anita Family YMCA's Financial Assistance Program, campaign co-chairs Todd Adamson and Patrice Reinhard had a reminder for volunteers: Challenging economic times are when families and kids need the YMCA more than ever. And while the need for programs and services increases so does the demand for scholarship assistance.

Funds raised in the SAFYMCA's annual fundraising campaign help ensure that no one is ever turned away for an inability to pay full fees. This year's goal, set by the nonprofit SAFYMCA board of directors, is to raise \$150,000 for the Financial Assistance Program.

"The campaign is critical to our YMCA. It allows us to continue to provide the programs and services the community needs," said Reinhard, a past chief volunteer officer and member of the board for the past 10 years. Reinhard and her husband, Bernard, own Dreams Built True in Monrovia.

In the last two years the SAFYMCA has awarded more than \$285,000 in scholarship assistance to help more than 1,590 deserving youths, families and seniors within its service area communities of Arcadia, Bradbury, Duarte, and Monrovia utilize the SAFYMCA's programs and services.

The Financial Assistance Program provides scholarships for after school programs, day

See SAFYMCA on page 16

2009 New Motorist Laws

The following is an abbreviated summary of the new laws that became effective Jan. 1, 2009, unless indicated otherwise.

CONSUMER PROTECTION

Unlicensed Car Dealers (AB 2042/Fuentes) This new law allows law enforcement officers to impound vehicles that are being sold by unlicensed dealers. **Counterfeit Clean Air Stickers (SB 1720/Lowenthal)** This new law will make it a crime to forge, counterfeit, or falsify a Clean Air Sticker. These stickers are currently issued by DMV to certain low emission vehicles and permit vehicles with these stickers to be driven in the HOV lane.

TRAFFIC SAFETY

Text Messaging (SB 28/Simition) This new law makes it an infraction to write, send, or read text-based communication on an electronic wireless communication device, such as a cell phone, while driving. **DUI Probation License Suspension (AB 1165 Maze)** A change in the driving under the influence (DUI) law creates a new authority for DMV to administratively suspend the driver's license for one year under a zero tolerance standard. The new law authorizes law enforcement to issue a notice of suspension and impound the vehicle of a person who is driving with a blood-alcohol concentration (BAC) of 0.01 percent or greater while on court-ordered post-DUI probation.

AIR QUALITY

Temporary Operating Permits (AB2241/Saldana) This law restricts DMV from issuing temporary operating permits to allow more time to obtain a smog certificate as part of the registration renewal process. Under the law, extensions will cost \$50 and are only allowed if the vehicle

of our children. We need to continue to focus on the needs of all our students in a culture of caring and respect.

The entire Duarte community wants to see our kids grow up and become productive and contributing citizens. Rest assured that even in these difficult economic times, even when it seems that the state has lost sight of the needs of public education, those of us in the Duarte Unified School District have not.

has been tested at a smog station and failed. The extension can be for no more than 60 days from the date registration is due. The \$50 fee will be waived for owners accepted into the Bureau of Automotive Repair Consumer Assistance Program (CAP).

OTHER

New Special Interest Plate (SB 1455/Cogdill) A new "Gold Star Family" special interest license will be available to family members of individuals killed in the

line of duty while serving in the Armed Forces during wartime or military operations. **Motorcycle Definition (AB 2272/Fuentes)** This new law changes the definition of a motorcycle, deleting the existing weight limitation of 1500 pounds. It also removes a separate definition for electrically-powered vehicles. This change in law will also allow drivers of fully-enclosed 3-wheeled motor vehicles to use the High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes.

A more comprehensive list appears on the DMV Web site at www.dmv.ca.gov.

State of Schools

Continued from page 3

the CAHSEE (California High School Exit Exam). As well as their Academic Decathlon team being named State Champions for the middle-sized school division. Duarte High School has remained consistently above the county and state for graduations and has become a Drop Out Prevention Model.

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

The Duarte Unified School District has consistently kept a reserve of 5%. This money has always been kept in place for times such as the ones we are currently facing. Our budget this year is a moving target. We have met with all stakeholder groups to share our financial situation. We will need to cut approximately \$3 million dollars over the next three years. Our number one goal is to keep cuts as far away from students as possible.

FACILITIES

Duarte Unified is especially thankful for the passing of our bonds that have enabled us to modernize school sites. Our Northview Gymnasium, our new Duarte High School Library and state of the art technology based classrooms at each site have been examples of what we have been able to accomplish with this important funding. Each of our projects has been completed on time and under budget, a fact that we are very proud of. We still have work to do, but we are abundantly aware of our good fortune to be part of a community that understands the importance of education.

These are challenging economic times. We need our very best effort to get through these times without sacrificing the edu-

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Tzeitel Paras-Caracci, Councilmember • Phil Reyes, Councilmember

STAFF

Darrell George, City Manager
Kristen Petersen, Assistant City Manager
Karen Herrera, Deputy City Manager
Marla Akana, City Clerk • Dan Slater, City Attorney
Brian Villalobos, Director of Public Safety
Craig Hensley, Director of Community Development
Donna Georgino, Director of Parks & Recreation

Reported residential burglaries

Burglaries on the Rise



OCTOBER 2008 1800 Block of Buena Vista Street – Area 4

On Sunday, October 5, the unknown suspect(s) entered the home through an unlocked window and stole forty in US currency, an X-Box 360 game console, and a Cannon digital camera.

2600 Block of Maynard Drive – Area 7

Between Thursday, October 23, and Friday, October 24, the unknown suspect(s) entered the secure home after prying open the front door and stole a laptop computer, a pre-amp mixer, a video camera, an engagement ring and wedding band, a class ring, and a pearl ring.

1400 Block of Fairlee Avenue – Area 7

On Thursday, October 30, the unknown suspect(s) entered the home through an unlocked window and stole 3,500 in US currency, a video camera, basketball cards, two prepaid cell phones, a DVD player, a ring, a camera, a Polaroid camera, a Nintendo DS handheld game system, Nintendo DS game, two computer software, and a battery charger.

Due to our country's recent economic downfall, Duarte, much like our surrounding cities in the San Gabriel Valley and around the country, is experiencing a rise in criminal activity. In December a total of 16 home burglaries were reported. As of the first week of January there have been a total of 4 home burglaries reported in our City. As a result, there is an ongoing investigation.

Witnesses have described the suspects as male juveniles who travel on foot or on bicycles burglarizing homes and vehicles in our neighborhoods. The suspects wait for a good time, during school and work hours and enter unoccupied homes through open doors or windows and/or by prying open doors or windows if time permits. These juveniles also look inside vehicles for articles visible from the outside, if they see something they want they smash one of the vehicle's windows and grab the desired items. The suspects might also be casing the vehicles in the early afternoon or evening and return later to commit the "smash and grab."

Suspects might also be casing neighborhoods acting as sales persons. Please be aware of Duarte's Solicitor Codes that are designed to protect you and your family. If you come in contact with a solicitor who is in violation of any of the following codes Mon.-Thurs. 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m., Fri.-Sat. 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m., immediately call Public Safety at (626) 357-7938. Otherwise contact the Temple Sheriff Station at (626) 448-9861.

MUNICIPAL CODES

- 5.16.020: A Permit is required for soliciting, peddling, or canvassing.
- 5.16.030: It is unlawful for solicitors, peddlers, canvassers to knock, or ring the bell of any residence that has a visible "no solicitors" sign posted
- 5.16.040: It is unlawful for any solicitor, peddler, canvasser, to refuse to leave any residence when asked to do so
- 5.16.060: All solicitors, peddlers, canvassers, must have a visible identification permit issued to them by the Public Safety Director. Identification permits can be obtained from the Public Safety Office after providing their name, permanent and temporary addresses, phone number, employer, fingerprints, photograph, and any such information as deemed necessary by the Public Safety Director.

If a suspicious person knocks at your door be sure to let them know you are home but DO NOT OPEN the door until you can verify a visible identification or inform them you will contact the Duarte Public Safety Office to verify authenticity. If you feel unsafe or threatened, call 911.

If you see suspicious persons in your neighborhood, contact the Temple Sheriff Station at (626) 448-9861. If you have information on any home burglaries in the area contact Sgt. Debbie Herman at the Duarte Sheriff Satellite Station by calling (626) 359-5671, ext. 304. If you witness a crime in progress call 911. To leave an anonymous tip, call the Sheriff Satellite Station Crime Tip Hotline (626) 359-5671 ext. 462. You can also e-mail tips at duartecrimetips@lasd.org.

We need you to be our eyes and ears! We rely on the help of the public to identify suspicious activity. Our goal is to catch criminals and to prevent the victimization of others. The economic downturn in the country has brought a rise in crime in the past and this trend is coming our way again.

RESIDENTIAL BURGLARIES YEAR TO DATE			
October Overview			
Area	2008	2007	2006
1	0	0	0
2	0	1	0
3	0	0	0
4	0	0	1
5	1	0	0
6	0	0	0
7	2	0	0
8	0	0	0
9	0	0	0
10	0	0	0
11	0	0	0
12	0	1	0
October Total	3	2	1
Jan. to Oct. Total	42	37	24
Year End Totals	Unk.	48	25

Vehicle Burglaries & Thefts Year to Date			
October November Overview			
	2008	2007	2006
Vehicle Burglaries	25	32	17
Vehicle Thefts	8	20	13
Oct. to Nov. Totals	33	52	30
Year to Date	138	159	188
Year End Total	Unk.	182	210

Statistician Sonja Tanner
Updated December 1, 2008

New Helmets for Kids only \$5!

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

DUARTE WELCOMES...

Andrea Parada

The City of Duarte Public Safety Office welcomes new weekend receptionist and clerk, Andrea Parada. Over 150 candidates applied for the position and after panel interviews, Andrea was chosen. She is beginning the new year training for this important position.

Andrea started volunteering for the Monrovia Youth Commission, where she worked to strengthen the input of resident "stakeholders" in the City. She went on to work for the City of Monrovia as a Recreational Leader where she worked in projects around the City and helped in the opening of the Teen Center and skate park, as well as improve the Youth Commission. Since 2006, Andrea has worked in Duarte at the City of Hope as a Clerk in the Clinical Cancer Genetics Department. Although she enjoyed working for the City of Hope and appreciates the experience she gained there, her first desire was to work for a city once again. Luckily, she happened to see a posting at her college's career center, and the rest is history.

Andrea's main responsibilities as a clerk and receptionist are dog licensing, dispatching calls to animal control, and assisting with questions and/or concerns at the front desk, and overseeing the Duarte Public Safety Office. She'd like to remind Duarte residents who need immediate attention from animal control before or after operation hours which are Monday to Thursday 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Friday and Saturday 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., to please call the Baldwin Park Animal Shelter at (626) 357-7938.

Andrea is attending Pasadena Community College and will transfer to a four year University in the fall. You can find Andrea on Fridays and Saturdays at the Duarte Public Safety Satellite Station from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.



ANDREA PARADA

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State of City

Continued from page 3

panded outreach to build additional trust and cooperation in our neighborhoods. Duarte will continue to pursue these comprehensive strategies to address gang violence and will continue to work closely with the City of Monrovia and County of Los Angeles to make our combined areas safe and enjoyable for all residents," he said.

Among the strategies:

- Duarte will expand its partnership with Duarte Unified School District to identify early opportunities to intervene and work with Citrus College to expand job training options for older residents.

- The creation of new outreach efforts and the establishment of new positive programs and recreational outlets targeted to both youth and young adults, ages 17-25 including a midnight basketball program at Duarte High School on Saturday nights beginning March 28 and a youth discussion group out of the Duarte Teen Center.

- The city and county areas of Duarte and Monrovia have been included in a pilot study, along with Florence/Firestone, Pacoima and Harbor Gateway, to develop a Countywide Gang Violence Reduction Strategy that will serve as a model that can be used throughout Los Angeles County. The program will focus on individuals currently on probation, preventing youth from entering the juvenile justice system, and coordinate re-entry strategies for individuals transitioning back into the community from detention. The goal is to coordinate and integrate the vast array of services provided by departments of County government to provide a better focus on gang prevention.

- Youth employment and job training is key. The city continues to work with the Foothill Workforce Investment Board to create more youth job oppor-

tunities in addition to approximately 30 jobs for youth this summer.

- Duarte Area Resource Team, Youthworks and Duarte Trail Crew are prevention and intervention youth programs administered by the Public Safety Office servicing an average of 70 youth per month. Other major programs targeted to youth include Duarte's Promise the Alliance for Youth, People Helping People, Share Mentoring Program, and the Mayor's Youth Council that is currently working to develop a Youth Master Plan that will be presented to the City Council in February.

In his concluding remarks, Fasana invited the community to work together to build a better, stronger Duarte.

"It is not in the actions and hard work of a few, but the collective actions of many that communities are built. While resources right now may be limited, through leverage, we will apply far greater resources and talents for the betterment of Duarte's neighborhoods," he said.

On Saturday, April 25, in conjunction with Community Clean-up Day, neighbors will get together to work on neighborhood improvement projects.

"Not only will our neighborhoods look better, we will strengthen ties, improve safety, and create networking opportunities for those who need help. This year, we will show that while our nation is in crisis, Duarte is hard at work leading the way for a bright future," said Fasana.

Local Harvest

Apples, oranges, lemons or limes if you have an abundance of fruit growing in your yard, don't let them go to waste!

Call Local Harvest to have your homegrown fruit harvested by a team of supervised Duarte youth that will deliver the harvest to the Foothill Unity Center for immediate distribution to families in need!

To request harvesters for the next Local Harvest Day, call (626) 359-5671, ext. 475.

Duarte Elks Lodge
2436 Huntington Dr.
Duarte, CA 91010

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Phone: 626-357-2616 E-Mail: churchofthefoothills@verizon.net
Pastor: Reverend Timothy Ting
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Adult Bible Study 9:00 A.M.
Worship.....10:00 A.M.
Children's Sunday School.....10:30 A.M.

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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.

The Center serves a hot lunch Monday through Friday at 12 p.m. to individuals over 60 years, or the

spouse of someone over age 60, for a suggested donation of \$2 per person. Reservations are required 24 hours in advance, and 48 hours in advance for a choice day.

TRIPS AND TOURS

The City of Duarte Parks and Recreation Department is currently taking registration for winter trips. Pick up a brochure at City Hall or the Senior Center to receive in-depth information about the following trips: "Sam & Alfreda Maloof Home & Garden Tour and Graber Olive House Tour," Thursday, January 8, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., \$43; "San Manuel Casino," Wednesday, January 21, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., \$15; "Agua Caliente Casino," Thursday, February 26, 8:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m., \$25; "Kingston Trio-CalTech's Beckman Auditorium," Saturday, February 7, 5 p.m.-11 p.m. \$60; Sony Pictures Studio Tour & Wheel of Fortune Taping, Thursday, March 19, 10:30 a.m.-6:45 p.m., \$53; "Los Angeles

Police Academy and the LAPD Museum," Tuesday, March 31, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., \$23.

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.

CLASSES

The following classes are offered at the Senior Center:

Fee Classes: Drawing, Mondays, 12:30-2:30 p.m., \$50 per 10-week class; Piano/Keyboard, Thursdays 10-11 a.m., \$50 per 10-week session; Piano (private lessons) Ten private 1/2 hour lessons, \$100; Strength Training Program, Mondays and Wednesdays or Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1-2 p.m., held at Duarte Fitness Center, \$70 for 10-week session. The next registration period for fee classes will begin March 9.

Ongoing Free Classes: Art Appreciation, Fridays 10-11:30 a.m.; Ceramics, Tuesdays, 9-11:30 a.m.; Cross Fit, Wednesdays 10:15-11:30 a.m.; English as a Second Language, Mondays & Thursdays, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.; Exercise with Shelly, Mondays & Fridays, 10:30-11:30 a.m.; Guitar, Tuesdays, 1 p.m.-2:30 p.m.; How to Write Your Own Life's Story,



JOIN DUARTE SENIORS at their next fun-filled excursion.

Mondays, 9:15-10:45 a.m.; Knitting, Mondays, 9-10 a.m.; Music Appreciation, Fridays 12:30-2 p.m.; Spanish, Beginning, Tuesdays & Wednesdays 11 a.m.-12 p.m.; Spanish, Intermediate, Mondays & Thursdays, 12:45-1:45 p.m.; Tai Chi, Fridays, 9-10 a.m.; Yoga with Weights, Fridays, 10:15-11:15 a.m.

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 at (626) 357-3513 or Intervale at (626) 966-9526.

BINGO

Bingo is held on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12:45-2 p.m., 25 cents per card.

HOW TO MAKE MEDICARE WORK FOR YOU

Every 2nd and 4th Friday of the month, by appointment. The Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP) Counselor provides unbiased information, counseling and assistance of Medicare and related health care coverage. FREE!

ACCESS TRANSPORTATION

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

VOLUNTEERING DOES A HEART GOOD!

The Duarte Senior Center is always in need of volunteers to help with food preparation, serving meals, table setups, craft projects, decorating, etc. If you would like to give back to the community, please consider being a volunteer. It will do your heart good! Call the Senior Center at (626) 357-3513 for more information and ask for Kelly.

AARP DRIVER SAFETY PROGRAM

The Duarte Senior Center, in cooperation with AARP, offers this class for persons 55 and older. The next program will be held on Tuesday, January 13 and Thursday, January 15, 1-5 p.m. The cost is \$12 with AARP membership and \$14 for non-members. Reservations are required.

LION'S SIGHT PROGRAM

Free vision care for low-income seniors on the second Thursday of each month. Three appointments are available per month. Call (626) 357-3513 to make an appointment. To qualify for the Lions Sight Program, interested parties must be 62 or over, have a yearly income below \$25,900, and must live in Duarte.

COED SOFTBALL TEAM

If you are interested in joining a coed softball team, please contact the Center at (626) 357-3513. Practices will begin the end of March.

FREE INCOME TAX PREPARATION

February 2 through April 14, 2009, trained volunteer counselors will be available to assist seniors with income tax returns for both electronic and manual filing. The service is by appointment only. Call the Senior Center at (626) 357-3513 to schedule an appointment.

Hurting?

There are so many ways in which pain comes into our lives: disappointed expectations, strained relationships, financial stress, abuse, neglect or just the everyday knocks of life. Jesus came to give people a way out of the patterns of pain in their lives. He was known as the Great Physician, not just of physical bodies, but of all kinds of hurts in people's lives. Maybe it's time you gave him a chance to bring healing to your life. You'll be glad you did.

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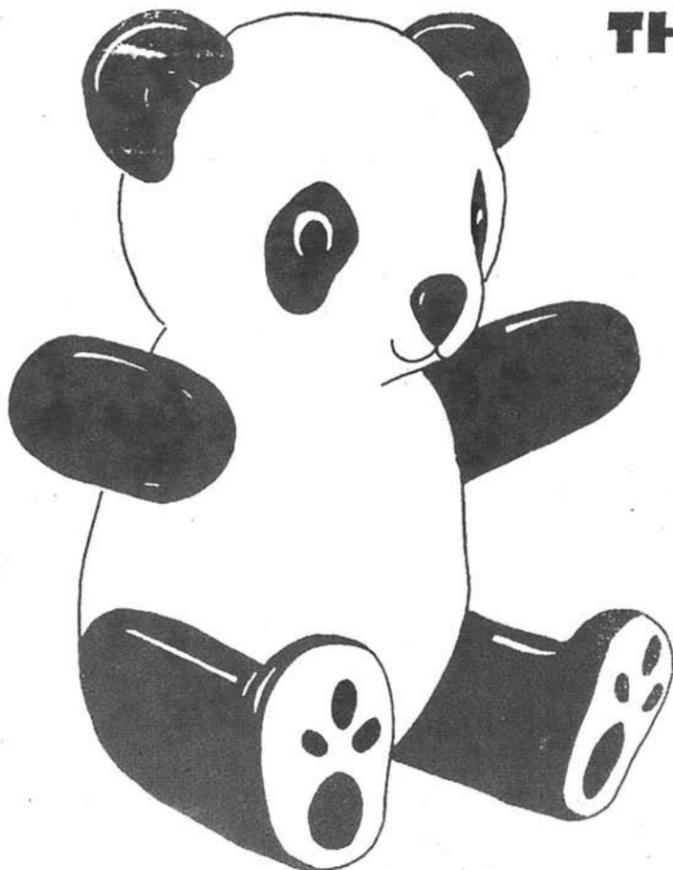
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Duarte Trail Crew back at work

It's the beginning of a new year, which means the trail crew has been hard at work on the Fish Canyon Trail.

The group of dedicated young men will be working from now until spring to prepare the nine-mile trail, making sure it is safe and beautiful for all to hike on Family Wilderness Day.

The crew is supervised by Duarte's Facilities Maintenance Supervisor, Steve Maroste, who coordinates all repairs and improvements done to the trail each year.

Youth are physically challenged on the trails and hills of the Los Angeles National Forest every week. They work rain or shine, while learning how to use tools, teamwork, and gain maturity.

The Public Safety Department refers these teenagers through the Youthworks Program, which helps youth on probation to complete their community service hours.

The most motivated and responsible participants are then recommended for the trail crew. This program was developed by Duarte Parks and Recreation Department to provide troubled youth with a positive learning and working experience to help better them.

The youth enjoy working on the trails because it provides a sense of responsibility and ownership, knowing that they are the reasons the trails can be accessible for the rest of the community annually.

For many, it also is the first part-time paid job they have received, which motivates their good work even further.

Past trail crew members have gone beyond just clearing brush

Duarte Elks donate dictionaries

The Duarte Elks Lodge #1427 presented dictionaries again this year to each third grade student in the Duarte and Monrovia school districts, each having five schools. Three private schools were also added this year.

The funding for this project came by way of a grant from the Elks National Foundation and was

supplemented by members of the Lodge. Lodge members started distributing the dictionaries in late September and finished in early November. They plan to keep this as an ongoing project for many years to come.

For more information about the Duarte Elks Lodge call (626) 357-6771.



PICTURED WITH DUARTE'S Valley View School students are (from Left) Gerald Delker, Duarte Elks Lodge; Robin Nelson, Valley View School Principal; and Sally Emerson, Duarte Elks Lodge Secretary.

and making repairs.

They have installed wooden steps making the trail safer, and informational signs to make it easier to follow for the public. Some have also gone on to work

for the City of Duarte.

For more information on the Fish Canyon Hiking Trail or the Trail Crew, call the Duarte Parks and Recreation Department at (626) 357-7931.



THE 2007-2008 DUARTE TRAIL CREW

Wells Fargo awards \$2,000 to Duarte youth programs

On Thursday, December 4, 2008 Wells Fargo's Los Angeles Regional President Brenda Ross-Dulan presented two City of Duarte Youth Programs with awards of \$1,000 each. The Duarte Youth Athletic Club, D.Y.A.C and the Duarte Area Resource Team, D.A.R.T., were the recipients of these awards.

In total, \$55,000 in grants were awarded by the 55 branches throughout the Los Angeles area. The City of Duarte is lucky to be able to work closely with store managers who care about the youth in their community. Arcadia branch manager, Jason Dopp, and Duarte's branch manager, Jessica Garcia, sought out our organizations and offered them these unsolicited grants.

Arcadia Manager Jason Dopp

explains that his branch chose to demonstrate its commitment to the community by partnering with the Duarte Public Safety Department's D.A.R.T. program, which promotes a safe community through its involvement with teenage youth prevention programs. Duarte Manager Jessica Garcia, has worked in the City and has seen, firsthand, the work that, Miguel Mejia, the director of the Duarte Youth Athletic Club, has done with the club. Jessica believes that providing young people the opportunity to be involved in organized sports, not only keeps youth occupied but also on a positive track through their teenage years.

Thank You Wells Fargo for Supporting Duarte Youth Programs!



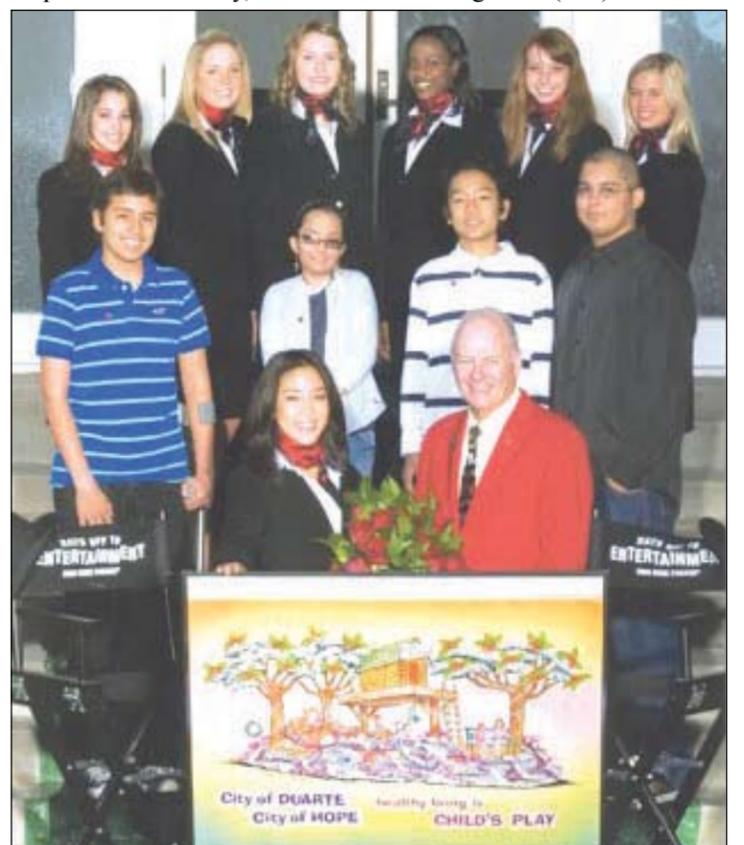
WELLS FARGO Arcadia Banking Store Manager Jason Dopp; Aida Torres, City of Duarte Youth Crime Prevention D.A.R.T. Program; Wells Fargo Los Angeles Crossroads Community Bank Regional President Brenda Ross-Dulan; and Wells Fargo San Gabriel Valley East District Manager Shirli Wolfe present a \$1,000 check to D.A.R.T.

City of Duarte / City of Hope Rose Float

2009 got off to a great start as the City of Duarte and City of Hope celebrated their 35th float entry in the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade. The float entitled "Healthy Living is Child's Play" featured pediatric patients from the City of Hope as float riders.

Participation in the parade was made possible by a fundraising golf tournament held in November at Brookside Golf Course. The tournament was sponsored by Image 2000, as well as by Walmart, the Phelps Group, Compass Marketing and United Rock Products.

For information on how to help support the City of Duarte/City of Hope 2010 float entry, contact Donna Georgino at (626) 357-7931.



THE PASADENA TOURNAMENT of Roses Queen and Court, made an appearance at City of Duarte/City of Hope Rose Float Golf Tournament along with the City of Hope float riders.

20th annual Duarte Family Wilderness Day

Duarte families are invited to experience one of the most beautiful, local, natural waterfalls in the Angeles National Forest. On Saturday, April 18, the Vulcan Rock Quarry will open their gates and allow access to the original Fish Canyon Trail.

The Fish Canyon Trail will lead you through the site of what was one of the premier outdoor recreation destinations in the San Gabriel Valley. During the early

1900's there were over 50 cabins in the canyon and even a dance hall at the mouth of the canyon. Most of the cabins were destroyed in the 1958 fire and flooding the next year. Remnants of the cabins can be found along the trail. At the end of the trail is Fish Canyon Falls. When the water runs high, the falls are a spectacular delight plunging 80 feet in three stages into an emerald pool."

The 3.2-mile hike through the wilderness requires sturdy hiking boots and hikers must carry their own water. Hearty hikers can hike the expanded 9-mile version if desired. Activities at Encanto Park will include a hands-on nature experiences, barbecue lunch,

and fun for everyone. This event is sponsored by the City of Duarte.

Check-in will begin at 7 a.m. at Encanto Park. Hikers will be transported to the trailhead by City of Duarte shuttle. The fee is \$15 for adults, \$12 for child ages 3-11, and children under 3 are free. Registration is limited to the first 300 hikers. There will be an additional \$2 late fee for registrations postmarked after April 13.

Flyers and registration will be available in February at Duarte City Hall. For more information, please call the Parks and Recreation Department at (626) 357-7931.

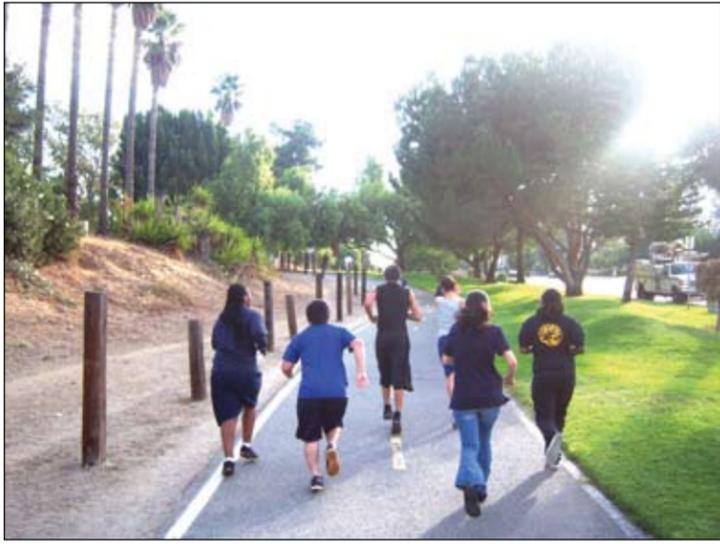


HIKERS GET TO RELAX and enjoy a barbecue lunch after a great hike to Fish Canyon Falls on Family Wilderness Day!

New receptionist at City Hall



VISITORS TO Duarte City Hall can now expect to be greeted and assisted by the City's new receptionist, Roxanne Alatorre.



YOUTH RUNNING on the Royal Oaks Trail.

Duarte appoints new Teen Center Recreation Supervisor

The Duarte Teen Center has a new recreation supervisor. Marilyn Mays, who has 16 years experience in community center management in the cities of San Bernardino, San Diego, and Eugene, Oregon, will now oversee programs and activities at the City operated Teen Center.

Mays formerly spent three and a half years as the community service center supervisor for the City of San Bernardino where she managed community center classes, youth programs, teen programs and special events. Prior to that, in Eugene, she worked as a family support case manager to teen parents, and later served nine years as president and executive administrator of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) which included a large youth council program.

Born in Kansas City, Missouri and raised in San Diego, Mays began her career with the City of San Diego Parks and Recreation Department, where she served as assistant recreation center director.

Mays has earned numerous awards for community involvement and leadership in her career. She is also a certified mediator.

Mays said she is hoping to start some new programs and new classes at the Teen Center and to do more outreach to increase the usage of the facility. Currently about 60 to 70 high school age teens a day come to the center

to use the computer lab, play games, or participate in classes and other activities. The Duarte Boxing Club is also an active area of the Teen Center with 30 to 40 kids a day participating in competition and fitness programs. There are also now specific days for students from Northview Middle School to visit the Teen Center and participate in the programs.

Among Mays' plans are to start a teen book club. She is also working to develop a discussion group for teen girls that would begin in March. The discussion group, "Teens With Dreams," will provide an opportunity for the girls to talk about their concerns such as peer pressure, educational goals and relationships. Also in the works for the month of March is to host a 3 on 3 basketball tournament, and promote a Cesar Chavez essay contest for high school students.

Mays said she is impressed with the number of programs the city has available for the community's youth and teens, among them the new Mayor's Youth Council. The 11-member council meets the first Monday



RECREATION SUPERVISOR MARILYN MAYS

of each month at the Teen Center and is currently helping to develop a Youth and Family Master Plan for the city.

"Duarte has taken a progressive approach to be in tune with young people by instituting the Mayor's Youth Council. It's a strong leadership tool and a bridge between young adults and city government," said Mays.

Mays resides in the Redlands area where she is raising her three nieces and nephews.

For more information about the Duarte Teen Center, call Marilyn Mays at (626) 303-0863.

Don't be a couch potato!

By Courtney Spicer

One Saturday a month the D.A.R.T (Duarte Area Resource Team) and C.H.Y.L.L (Cardinals Help Youth Live Life) have been holding a Fitness Day. As individuals and as organizations we are making sure we live a healthy and active life.

D.A.R.T and C.H.Y.L.L. meet at Public Safety early in the morning, under the supervision of Frank Valenzuela and Meagan Talbert. We do numerous activities such as walks to the local park, running on the Royal Oaks Trail, or doing yoga at the Teen Center, and playing different types of sports.

Our motivation for this new

fitness program is to help us live healthy and active lives instead of being, "couch potatoes" by staying at home. This fitness class not only helps us stay active but is the most fun you can have while exercising on a Saturday. We have also come together as one to build great sportsmanship and teamwork.

To become a DART or CHYLL member you must be 10-19 years old, live in Duarte, have a "C" average and be willing to help out your community.

For more information on Fitness Day, D.A.R.T, or C.H.Y.L.L., please contact Aida Torres at the Duarte Public Safety Office at (626) 359-5671 ext. 316.



DOROTHY SMITH with the Duarte Community Services Council receiving the delivery of toys from School Resource Deputy Robert MacLean and Duarte youth volunteers.

2008 Neighborhood Watch Toy Drive

Despite our downward economy Duarte residents gave to those in need during the holidays. The hardest working volunteers in Duarte, our Block Captains in the Neighborhood Watch Program, once again assisted the Public Safety Department.

Block Captains encouraged their neighbors to donate toys that were delivered to the Duarte Community Service Council—an all-volunteer organization that has served the community for over 50 years.

This event helps us continue our support of the community we have pledged to serve. This year's efforts provided joy for over 500 children in Duarte.

The Duarte Public Safety Staff would like to thank Block Captains and Residents of the following streets for their generosity this holiday season!

- Amberwood Homes Assoc.
- 800 Block of Swiss Trails
- 2900 Block of Conata St.
- 3000 Block of Conata St.
- 2600 Block of San Pablo Way

- 1600 Block of Second St.
- 1100 Block of Maynard Dr.
- 2500 Block of Maynard Dr.
- 2500 Block of Dalbo St.
- 2300 Block of Rim Road
- 200 Block of Opal Canyon
- 200 Block of Greenbank Ave.

Youth Sports



BASKETBALL is a great way to exercise and have fun!

Duarte Youth Boxing Club Boxers Racking Up Wins Around So. California

Young boxers from the Duarte Parks and Recreation Duarte Youth Boxing Club have been racking up wins all around Southern California this year.

According to head trainer, Victor Valenzuela, Ryan Coulter, 15, (100 lbs.) a sophomore at Duarte High School, won his bout at the East L.A. Boxing Show on Feb. 14.

Johnny Barragan, 24, (152 lbs.) of Glendora, and Luis Sedano, 19, (132 lbs.) won their matches in two boxing shows in San Diego.

Luis Sedano, who is employed by the City of Duarte Parks and Recreation Dept., was named Outstanding Boxer in one of the shows.

At a show in San Fernando, Kirk Scoby, a 13 year-old Northview Middle School student, (105 lbs.) won his bout on a first stoppage.

Boys and girls basketball practice has already begun! Call now for availability. For boys and girls grades 3rd to 8th.



DUARTE YOUTH BOXING CLUB boxers, from left are Johnny Barragan, Luis Sedano, Jacobe Velasco, Joseph Martinez, Ryan Coulter, Kirk Scoby, and Paola Arana.

Paola Arana, 18, (101 lbs.), competing in the Open Division, female, and Joseph Martinez, 18, a DHS senior, competing in the novice division, won the USA District Championships in Pacoima.

Advancing to the regional tournament in Coachella on Feb. 21-22, where she is unopposed, Arana will move on to the U.S.A. Boxing Championships in Denver, Colorado, June 8-13, where the best fighters from around the U.S. will compete. Arana is a DHS graduate who now attends Citrus College.

In the past four years head coach Victor Valenzuela and assistant coaches, Eric Campugan and Louis Valenzuela have developed a highly competitive youth boxing program, with some 30 to 40 youths each day training out of the boxing ring at the Duarte

Teen Center.

Last year at the National Invitational Desert Showdown in Indio with over 600 of the top amateur boxers from around the country, Mexico and Canada competing, all seven Duarte Youth Boxing Club boxers came home with honors.

Five, including Paola Arana, Ryan Coulter, Steven Salinas, Jacobe Velasco, 14, and Tino Dominguez, 16, won championship belts. Joseph Martinez received a silver medal and Luis Sedano, a bronze.

To compete in amateur boxing, boxers must be certified by USA Boxing Federation.

The Duarte Youth Boxing Club is open to youngsters 8 years old and up.

For more information, call the Duarte Teen Center at (626) 303-0863.



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Figueroa

Continued from page 1

The Board of Education is comprised of five members: Board President Francisco Figueroa, Board Vice President Kenneth Bell, Board Member Rose Brooks-Mitchell, Board Member Reyna Diaz and Board Member Pam Kawasaki. This group of five prides themselves in having one of the best boards in the state of California. Each has the ability to look at issues from a unique perspective, all the while maintaining mutual respect. While this board has been together they have implemented the following:

- Passing board policy that required maintaining a 5% reserve of the district's budget.
- Hiring an architect to study facility needs. Passing a bond in 1997 to address these major projects such as creating state of the art classrooms around the district, remodeling restrooms, repairing roofs and parking lots, the new Northview Gymnasium, and the new DHS Library to state a few.
- Implementing "Interest Based Bargaining". Duarte prides itself in having

one of the best relationships with their employee group in the county. As part of the Board's work, they have improved beginning teacher salaries from being on the bottom 25% in the county to the top 25% in the county.

- Advocating for the District's Master Plan. The board along with district administrators developed beliefs, vision and mission.

In his role as President of the Board this year, Mr. Figueroa's goals include working with the City of Duarte to develop a plan for a joint library/resource center and to improve student performance in math at the secondary level. The main overall goal of the Board this year is to remain solvent, and to develop a budget that keeps Duarte School District focused on educating children.

Both Mr. Figueroa and Mr. Bell have been long-time Board members. Mr. Figueroa counts passing the \$44 million bond as one of his proudest moments as a board member as it allowed the district to improve student achievement, provide a quality workplace and most importantly changing public perception. Mr. Bell counts Duarte High School's California Distinguished School Award as one of his proudest moments as a board member.



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From the desk of the Superintendent

*Dr. Dean Conklin, Superintendent,
Duarte Unified School District*

The state of the economy at both the state and federal level is a major topic in the news these days. In many ways, this is a defining moment for Duarte, California, and the United States. Please allow me to explain how the Duarte Unified School District is dealing with this budget crisis.

Almost 87% of the revenue Duarte receives comes from the state budget. For this reason, it is our responsibility to monitor the economic situation very closely, and we are doing just that. Last year, we cut approximately \$1 million dollars from our school district budget of \$35 million. These cuts were made as far away from our students as possible, with the majority of the cuts coming from the district office and the facilities department.

During the Special Legislative Session that began on November 5th, Governor Schwarzenegger proposed another \$2.5 billion dollars in cuts from education. That represents another \$2 million for the Duarte Unified School District. It will be nearly impossible to make these reductions without cutting the programs or people who work with your children everyday. That is why we are doing our best to let Sacramento know that our school budgets should not be reduced.

While it is important for you to know how the financial crisis affects Duarte Unified, it is also very important for you to know that the students in Duarte are doing better than ever in our schools. Thanks to an extremely dedicated group of teachers, classified staff members and administrators, as well as parents who are committed to their children's education, our test scores are improving at almost every school. More of our students are also graduating from Duarte High School and Mt. Olive with the skills they need to be successful in college and the workplace.

These are challenging economic times. We need our best effort to get through these times without sacrificing the education of our children. Our staff will continue to focus on teaching and learning, and the students of the Duarte Unified School District will continue to grow.

The entire Duarte community wants to see our kids grow up and become productive and contributing citizens. Thank you for doing your part and rest assured that even in these difficult economic times, we are doing our part as well.



DR. DEAN CONKLIN

Girls Club Debuts at Maxwell



MAXWELL GIRLS CLUB members (from left) are Bianca Alvarez, Ulvia Hernandez, and Yvette Castellanos.

By Mary Gonzales, Principal

At Maxwell Elementary we provide opportunities for our students to grow mentally, physically and socially. The boys and girls develop their physical skills through our P.E. program and extra curricular sports. They have opportunities to sing in choir and learn to play the piano. We make sure students learn how to make good decisions through the "Too Good for Drugs" program.

This year, under the direction of the Outreach Consultant, Jennifer Romero, we have added a club for our sixth grade girls. In this club the girls have assisted the staff in preparing for community events. This December they made seasonal ornaments. During January the girls will focus on learning proper etiquette and social skills. We want our girls to be prepared, self-assured and confident.

Bianca Alvarez says she likes the club because she is learning how to make different crafts. Yvette Castellanos likes it because, "We get to spend time with our friends and talk to other girls and get to know them better." Ulvia Hernandez said that

Mrs. Romero is a good leader and teaches them things they don't know.

Other exciting events this past month include getting ready for a Categorical Program Monitoring (CPM) review. Maxwell Elementary, along with schools Northview and Duarte High, will host the review team. Schools are selected by the number of categorical programs as well as the number of students participating in each program.

Maxwell has the largest English Language learner population among Duarte's elementary schools. Maxwell staff is familiar with the current educational research, skilled in scientifically based instructional strategies and perform as a team. These factors have prepared the staff to be ready for any challenge.

Maxwell Elementary has definitely had a very successful beginning to the school year. We grew 43 points on our API. We met our AYP targets and can officially say we froze year one in program improvement. Teachers, parents and students are proud of their accomplishments and continue to work toward greater goals.

Continued Academic Excellence

By Janice Kolodinski, Principal

On Monday, December 15, 2008 State Superintendent of Public Instruction Jack O'Connell announced that 200 California schools were selected for the 2008-09, Title I Academic Achievement Award. They represent 88 school districts in 27 counties. Included in the list is Royal Oaks Elementary.

The Title I Academic Achievement Award may be given only to schools receiving federal Title I funds as authorized by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. To be eligible for the Title I School-wide Program, a school must enroll 40 percent or more of socio-economically disadvantaged students.

To meet the criteria for this distinction, the school must demonstrate that all students are making significant progress toward proficiency on California's academic content standards. Additionally, the school's socio-economically disadvantaged students must have doubled the achievement targets set for them for two consecutive years.

Royal Oaks attributes its success in closing the achievement gap to high quality teaching and collaboration across all grade levels, as well as early identification and strategic interventions for students who are at risk of not meeting the standards. It also acknowledges the support of a strong parent and community contingency who care about and support the success of all students at Royal Oaks.

The 200 awardees will be honored at a special award ceremony held in conjunction with the annual California Title I Conference scheduled for April 27-28, 2009, at the Anaheim Marriott Hotel in Anaheim.

Beardslee Celebrates

By Jennifer Janetzke, Principal

Beardslee Elementary celebrated the holidays by hosting our annual Winter Performance on December 9, 2008 at the Performing Arts Center. Our second, third, fourth, and some of our fifth graders entertained their parents with songs such as "Jingle Bell Rock" and "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer".

It was such fun to see the children all dressed up in their holiday clothing and sharing some music to an auditorium filled with parents, friends, and family of Beardslee students!

The month of December also brought a special parent meeting hosted by Deputy MacLean of the LA County Sheriff Department.

He brought information to our parents on how they can become more involved in the community through the Neighborhood Watch Program, reporting graffiti to the Graffiti Removal hotline, and how to help ensure the safety of their children outside the school day.

He passed out magnets and answered numerous questions from the parents in attendance.

Finally, we ended the month of December with our 1st trimester awards assembly on December 19.

Children in all grades received awards for perfect attendance, academic achievement, improvement in all areas, and citizenship.

What a treat it is to recognize students for their accomplishments and to celebrate with their families all of the hard work they are doing here at school!

Democracy in Action at Andres Duarte

By Joilyn Campitiello, Principal

At Andres Duarte students are learning more than reading, writing and math, we're learning to be good citizens. Students in grades 3-6 participated in a nation wide mock election in November. Students went on line and cast their vote for president along with other students from all over the nation. In addition, our 5th grade as part of their US History curriculum, wrote letters to the President-elect Obama.

Here's what one our students had to say:

Dear President-elect Obama,

I can't wait until January 20th because that's the day you become President of the United States. On the day you were chosen president, many people were crying. Most were tears of joy, however. People were so enthusiastic about the fact that there would be an African-American president.

People did not believe that an African-American would ever be chosen president of the United States because of racism. Racism is when people judge you based on the color of your skin. When you were elected president, you gave lots of people hope that change can come.

I believe you will make a good president because you are a strong leader. I will be watching you on January 20, 2009. Good luck.

Sincerely,
Kameron Johnson

Child Develop.

By Bobbi Brzozowski, Director

MALE ROLE MODEL DAY

Head Start and State Preschool Dads came to preschool for a day during the fifth annual Male Role Model Day. Preschoolers watched in awe as their fathers and those of their friends participated in their daily classroom activities. Seeing their fathers in the preschool demonstrates the importance of school, and of learning for the children.

RECRUITING NEW PRESCHOOL FAMILIES

Preschool Works! Parents tell us that when their children enter kindergarten, they realize just how much the children learned in preschool and how glad they were that their children had the preschool experience. Don't miss out for your child. NOW is the time to plan for preschool for your young children. Children who turn three between now and the end of the school year can start school on their third birthday if all enrollment requirements have been met. Eligible children who will be three years old by December 2, 2009 may be able start preschool in September. Applications can be picked up between 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday all year long in the Child Development Office on the Andres Duarte campus. Head Start serves children who have disabilities. Se habla espanol.



BEARDSLEE HEAD START/STATE PRESCHOOL Dads Rene Chacon and Hector Gomez Sr. from Mrs. Velusamy's class show an interested audience of preschoolers how to fold the American flag.



BEARDSLEE PRESCHOOL Dads Christopher Hernandez, Mr. Monterroza and Sylvia Ochoa read to preschoolers in Mrs. King's class during Male Role Model Day.

Northview Intermediate

By Miriam Fox, Principal

As the new calendar year commences the end of the first semester is just around the corner and so is our grade reporting cycle.

Receiving grades in the mail is a time for rejoicing for many families, for others it is a time of stress and anxiety.

So as you review your student's grades and if you fall in the "stress" category consider the following suggestions:

1. Have a conversation with your son/daughter but do so when you are calm, keeping the tone of the conversation civil and supportive.

2. Ask your student specific questions about what they believe resulted in the poor grades. Help them brainstorm the causes for their low performance.

3. If some of the grades are satisfactory or exceptional ask them what they did differently in those classes as compared to the classes where they did not do as well. Point out the differences.

4. Clarify your expectations, be specific about what grades you expect them to achieve for the next grading period. Ask their opinions about the expectations you have expressed and together set goals.

5. Call the school to establish contact with teachers, if necessary request that a communication system be set up between the teacher(s) and you that provides frequent or weekly feedback about progress. Northview offers a daily progress report for students whose parents request it.

6. Establish a set of consequences positive and negative in response to your child's improvement or lack thereof, make sure to communicate your consequences clearly to your son/daughter.

7. Then follow up, follow up, follow up with your son/daughter daily. Check their school agenda where they should be writing down their homework, get on Edline where every homework assignment is posted daily. Ask for Grade Pro reports that teachers provide for you on a regular basis, these are generally sent home with your student.

8. Don't hesitate to ask for one of the many supplemental support services that our school offers such as: (contact our Outreach Consultant, Mr. Turner @ 599-5605.)

- a. Morning math tutoring (Monday through Thursday from 7:00 a.m.-7:45 a.m. in rooms 110 and 111.)

- b. After school peer tutoring program (Monday through Wednesday from 3:00-4:00 p.m. in the library)

- c. Intervention classes held during the school day as part of a student's daily schedule (i.e. "Reach" English Language Arts class etc.)

- d. After the Bell Program (offered two times per year in 8 week sessions) usually specific students are invited, however we also accommodate parental requests.

- e. Student Success Team meetings to allow parents to meet with teachers and develop action plans to address student progress.

- f. On site counseling services through Pacific Clinics

- g. And...a multitude of community sponsored programs through for example the Teen Center and Pamela Park.

Duarte High School

By Eric Barba, Principal

Fall was a busy time at Duarte High School.

From athletics, to music, to academics every Falcon had their fair share of the hustle.

Academics are always first at DHS.

Continuing with our efforts to create a college going campus, the DHS staff and students were busy in the following academic activities.

- Counselors were busy providing workshops on graduation requirements, A-G college entrance requirements, college applications and financial aid.

- DHS hosted the administration of the SAT exam.

Several of our falcons were in attendance.

- The *Falcon Mentors* program was created where 9th grade students are mentored in their Life Management class by outstanding 12th grade students.

- All Physiology and Anatomy students have visited the science lab at Citrus College for a full day of lab activities with a Citrus College Professor.

- Jennifer Nakamura received an award in Sacramento from the California Reading Association

- Our Academic Decathlon team took 1st place in an area scrimmage hosted by Duarte High School on November 15th. Area schools that competed were Gladstone, Azusa, La Canada, Glendora, San Marino, and Arcadia.

- Mock Elections were held on campus on November 4th.

- The Youth 2 Youth club participated in a youth exchange forum with a high school in San Diego.

We had an exiting sports season. Girl's Tennis, Volleyball, Football and Cross Country all had exiting seasons.

All of our students participated with passion and showed great sportsmanship.

Both Football and Cross Country had notable seasons.

Football ended 5-1 in league securing the 2nd place slot and advancing to the quarter-finals.

Cross Country took 4th place in league and advanced to first round CIF as a team.

While each of our athletes deserves praise there are a select few that stand out above the rest.

Duarte High School had 9 students that qualified as *Scholar Athletes*. A *Scholar Athlete* is a junior or senior member of any varsity sport with a minimum GPA of 3.3.

Alex Aguayo (Boy's Cross Country)

Erica Christianson (Volleyball)

Jackie Garcia (Girl's Cross Country)

Jocelyn Gayton (Girl's Cross Country)

Ryan Haase (Football)

Leonard Larino (Boy's Cross Country)

Yadira Marquez (Girl's Tennis)

Heather Rossiter (Volleyball)

Stacy Sandoval (Girl's Tennis)

We are so proud of all our students and all that they have accomplished on and off the field. Expect more great things as Duarte High School continues in its quest to be the Premier High School of the San Gabriel Valley.

Ringling in the New Year at Valley View

By Robin Nelson, Principal

We are excited to welcome in 2009 at Valley View Elementary, while looking back at an amazing 2008. We enjoyed a wonderful winter program, had some very successful fundraisers and a first class Literacy Week.

In December, we took the Polar Express on winter trip around the world to celebrate many different cultures. The committee worked hard to decorate, plan and perform a fun program.

The evening started with our talented Valley View Chorus under the direction of **Miss Char Wilson**, Room 21, **Ms. Ruth Munoz**, and 18, **Ms. Becky Troy**, performed a Holiday Medley with a live band led by **Ms. Ruth Munoz**, Room 16. **Mr. Garry Prado**, led us through "Christmas Around the World".

Room 6, **Ms. Tracy Hall**, and room 14, **Ms. Priscilla Crisci**, delighted us with "Feliz Navidad."

The third grade team, **Ms. Tami Cutler**, **Mr. Harvey Fenster**, and **Mr. Billy Martinez**, presented "It's a Small World" and "Od Yavo Shalom".

The fifth grade class, **Mr. Scott Moses**, performed "Snow Miser/Heat Miser". The evening ended with "We Wish You a Merry Christmas."

Thanks to all of the performers, aides and teachers who made this a night to remember.

The PTA raised money this fall to support the students and staff at Valley View. They sponsored some very fun rewards for the top-selling students. Several students were treated to a limousine ride to lunch. The kids enjoyed the red-carpet treatment all the way to Home Town Buffet.

In addition, they put on a fun DJ party for the children's enjoyment one afternoon. A great time was had by all.

The Dolphins celebrated Literacy in style. The committee planned some great activities for the students designed to promote reading and writing.

The week began with a fun assembly to kick off the festivities. The highlight of the week was the



VALLEY VIEW CHORUS



DAN D. DOLPHIN dancing with the DJ.

Family Literacy Night. Parents joined their children to enjoy a Reader's Theater, and a Sale on a Sea of Books.

Thanks to our hard working planners, **Char Wilson**, **Tricia**

Franklin, **Krista Juarez** and **Ruth Munoz**.

As you already know- Valley View is Really Special! We look forward to a fun, challenging and successful 2009.

Pride and Purpose

By Kevin Morris, Principal

MT. OLIVE PRIDE

How do you instill pride and purpose? For starters, teacher, David Karp, the Mt. Olive Student Leadership Team, and Pasadena Art Center Artist, Demetrius May created a master piece when they completed the Mt. Olive Mural of Pride on the South wall of Room 5 and Room 3. The mural reads, "Mt. Olive Bulldogs" with the backdrop of our beautiful mountains. You can view the mural driving Eastbound or Westbound on Central Avenue and on the Northbound 605 freeway off-ramp to Huntington Drive.

KEEPING HOPE ALIVE

Mt. Olive teachers, Melinda Branch, David Karp, Marge Bloom, Mark Smith, and 20 Mt. Olive students participated in the City of Hope: Walk for Hope to Cure Breast Cancer. This is the second time Mt. Olive has participated in this event to help save lives and we are committed to supporting this event every year. Also, with the support of Duarte community members we were able to sponsor each student who walked the 2-mile course. We salute and THANK YOU for supporting our students, and the fight against breast cancer.

COMMUNITY UNION PROGRAM

We are hosting the Community Union Computer Redeployment Program at Mt. Olive for our students. Community Union is a nonprofit organization that provides free computer training and technology integration skills. At the end of the 10-week training program each Mt. Olive participant will receive a free computer!

CITRUS COLLEGE AND MT. OLIVE PARTNERSHIP

In collaboration with Citrus College we are currently running several programs to service our students. The first is the Noncredit Counseling and Matriculation Program which is free of charge and provides CAHSEE tutoring, academic tutoring, individual skills assessment, ESL classes, career counseling, academic advisement, parenting skills groups, and various other workshops. Classes are held at Mt. Olive and Citrus College and again are free of charge. Secondly, We are hosting our very first Citrus College Level Course on campus. The name of the course is Counseling 156 and is open to all Mt. Olive Seniors and juniors. The class will run for 10 weeks on Fridays from 9 a.m.-

12 p.m. The course is designed to help students transition to college life. Students will receive practical information about college services, effective study habits, and individual educational planning. The emphasis is on college and career decisions as catalysts for growth. The third piece of this program is geared towards enrolling Mt. Olive Seniors into Citrus classes on campus during the winter, spring and summer sessions. During the month of December, Citrus Guidance Counselors enrolled several students and also administered the online placement test at Mount Olive. This is a wonderful partnership with Citrus, which over the past year has proven to be extremely beneficial for the success of our students. On a final note, we are hosting our second FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) Workshop for our college bound seniors on February 11, at Mt. Olive at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call (626) 599-5902 and ask for Marge Bloom, Outreach Consultant.

Great things continue to happen at Mt. Olive! We are altering the course of alternative education into one with higher academic rigor and more community outreach. Which translates to instilling pride and purpose in our students.

The Gas Company urges customers to enroll in assistance programs

As working families struggle to make ends meet due to the current economic downturn, Southern California Gas Co. (The Gas Company) is urging customers to take advantage of the utility's assistance programs – programs that can help reduce winter heating bills and increase energy efficiency.

"I was really excited when I discovered The Gas Company's CARE program and how they are reaching out to people that are in need of help," said Reola Robinson, an Inglewood resident. "I am grateful for the assistance that we've received because we can now make our budget."

Robinson qualified for the California Alternate Rate for Energy (CARE) program, which provides a 20-percent rate discount on the monthly gas bill for eligible households.

Customers may be automatically eligible if they currently receive benefits from the Women, Infants and Children, Healthy Families, Medi-Cal, Food Stamps, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families or LIHEAP programs.

"We strongly encourage customers to call us, especially if they're having trouble paying their bill by the payment deadline," said Michelle M. Mueller, vice president of customer operations. "We are here to help."

In addition to CARE, The Gas Company offers a wide range of assistance programs for qualifying customers on a limited income or with special medical needs.

- The Direct Assistance Program provides energy-saving home improvements to income-qualified renters and homeowners. Services include; door weather-stripping and caulking to keep unwanted drafts out of the home; ceiling insulation to help the home stay cooler in the summer and warmer in the winter; low-flow showerheads that can save energy used to heat water; furnace replacement (owner occupied only) and other minor home repairs.

- Customers who have a person in the home with certain medical conditions – who may require additional heating to sustain their health, may qualify for additional natural gas at the lowest baseline rate through the Medical Baseline Allowance program. There are no income requirements for the Medical Baseline program; however doctor certification is required.

- The Gas Assistance Fund helps provide a one time grant to customers during the winter who are income qualified and unable to pay their bill.

The program, which runs from the beginning of February through the end of April, or until funds are depleted, is administered by the United Way of Greater Los Angeles and is funded by donations from customers and employees of The Gas Company, as well as shareholders of Sempra Energy, The Gas Company's parent company.

The Gas Company offers hundreds of dollars in rebates for the purchase of energy-efficient appliances and can provide customers with a free energy and water-saving kit.

The kit includes three faucet aerators and a low-flow showerhead to help customers save

energy and water.

These devices allow air to enter into the water stream, maintaining a high-pressure flow while reducing water usage – ultimately saving money.

Customers can enroll to the assistance programs by visiting The Gas Company's web site, www.socalgas.com/assistance, or call toll-free at (800) 427-2200 or (800) 342-4545 in Spanish. To learn how to conserve energy at home, customers can visit www.socalgas.com/energyefficiency.

Southern California Gas Co. has been delivering clean, safe and reliable natural gas to its customers for more than 140 years.

It is the nation's largest natural gas distribution utility, providing safe and reliable energy to 20.3 million consumers through 5.6 million meters in more than 500 communities.

The company's service territory encompasses approximately 20,000 square miles in diverse terrain throughout Central and Southern California, from Visalia to the Mexican border.

Royal Oaks Park Building Gets Makeover

The 40 year-old recreation building at Royal Oaks Park is undergoing major renovations that will include three new bathrooms, a remodeled classroom and the addition of a lobby where parents can observe their children as they participate in recreational classes.

Started in December, the work on the building is scheduled to be completed in April, according to Parks and Recreation Director Donna Georgino.

The project was made possible through a combination of a \$251,000 state grant from the California 2002 Resources Bond Act and Quimby funds. Prior to applying for the grant Parks and Recreation staff spent nearly four months surveying users of the park to determine what were the greatest needs.

"The survey indicated that park users wanted new restrooms, heating/air conditioning, and an observation lobby. All of these requests were incorporated into the renovation plans for the building," said Georgino.

The 2,800 square foot building

Patrick D. Miller elected to New York Life Chairman's Council

Patrick D. Miller, CLTC has been elected a member of the 2009 Chairman's Council of New York Life Insurance Company today. Members of the elite Chairman's Cabinet rank in the top three percent of New York Life's elite sales force of approximately 11,000 licensed agents.

As a Chairman's Council member, Patrick is invited to attend the Chairman's Council meeting held this year in Bermuda.

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

will also have a new "storefront look" on the outside. The front of the building which formerly was an outdoor stage has been redesigned to serve as the building's new entrance that will also be handicapped accessible.

Shook Building Systems of Mira Loma, California is the contractor on the project.

For more information, call Donna Georgino at Duarte Parks at (626) 357-7931, ext. 204.

Pasadena.

Pat and his family have lived in Duarte nearly 25 years. Married to Arlene over 28 years they have 3 sons, Paul 23, David 20, and Scott age 16. The Millers have attended Lake Avenue Church in Pasadena since 1977 where Pat is the Director of Prison Ministries.

New York Life Insurance Company, a Fortune 100 company founded in 1845, is the largest mutual life insurance company in the United States and one of the largest life insurers in the world. New York Life has the highest possible financial strength ratings from all four of the major credit rating agencies. Headquartered in New York City, New York Life's family of companies offers life insurance, retirement income and long-term care insurance. New York Life Investment Management LLC provides institutional asset management and retirement plan services.

Please visit New York Life's web site at www.newyorklife.com for more information or www.patrickmiller.nylagents.com.

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Duarte Teen Center

All Duarte teens can take advantage of the great programs available at the Duarte Teen Center in 2009! The Center is located at 1400 Buena Vista Street. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 3 to 8 p.m. All teens grades 9 through 12 with school ID are welcome. Participation is free but Teen Center registration packets need to be filled out. For more information, please call (626) 303-0863

COMPUTER LAB

The Computer Lab at the Duarte Teen Center is open Monday through Friday, 3 to 6:30 p.m. The lab is equipped with 12 computers and is a great place to enhance computer skills, learn new programs, chat on the Internet, do school work, and play various games.

ACTIVITIES

High school students can get involved in a variety of activities at the Duarte Teen Center! Come watch a movie on our big screen TV! Movie Mondays are January 12, January 26, February 9 and February 23. Movies will begin at 3:30 p.m. and there is no charge for viewing. Refreshments will be sold.

On the first Tuesday of the month, join the Teen Center for a birthday celebration with cake and gifts for those born in that month. Drop-in tutoring for all teens in grades 9 through 12 is available on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. These activities are all free!

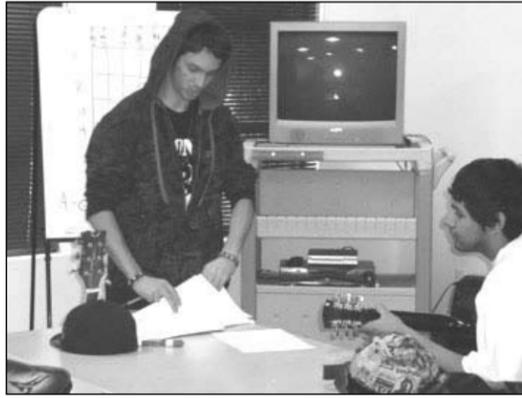
YOUTH BOXING PROGRAM

This is an excellent program to help boys and girls ages 8-17, develop their self-esteem and self-discipline. Our knowledgeable instructors are here to teach the fundamentals of boxing while developing footwork, speed and upper body strength. The training program will also help your child gain physical flexibility, stamina, and coordination.

Classes are scheduled Mondays through Friday. There is a \$10 monthly fee for Duarte students and a \$20 monthly fee for non-residents.

EXCURSIONS

The Teen Center is planning a trip to Boomers Monday, January 19 from 11:30 a.m.-6 p.m. for only \$15. Spend your day off from school miniature golfing, rock climbing, or racing. On Monday,



PEER TEACHING offers the opportunity for students to learn from each other.

February 9 from 1 p.m.-5 p.m. enjoy an afternoon of Bowling for only \$12. Lunch on your own.

SPECIAL EVENTS

The Teen Center will be offering an Air Hockey tournament on Thursday, January 22.

A Ping Pong tournament will be held Thursday, February 19 and a Wii tournament will be held Tuesday, February 10.

All tournaments are free and begin at 3:30 p.m.; awards will be given to the winners!

Don't miss out on an exciting game of crab soccer on Thursday, February 5 at 3:30 p.m. or an afternoon of Wallyball on Thursday, January 8 held at the Duarte

Fitness Center at 3:30 p.m.

Northview students can come to the Teen Center for games, tournaments, snacks and music. Take a tour of the Center and hang out with your friends on Friday, January 23 and Friday, February 20 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Snacks

will be sold.

TEEN CLASSES

The Teen Center offers Computer Basics, Drawing, Drivers Education, Polynesian Dance, Sewing and Watercolor classes for teens ages 13-18. Classes are offered for a small fee, financial assistance is available. Registration for the next session of classes will begin March 9.

Teen Center Participants can learn to play Guitar or Piano on Thursday afternoons. Classes are taught by their peer through a Peer Teaching program. Peer Teaching classes are free. For more information contact the Duarte Teen Center at (626) 303-0863.

Duarte Library Welcomes Eileen Penson

Eileen Penson has been selected as the Teen Services Librarian for the Duarte Public Library. She brings a wealth of experience, having worked for the Pasadena Library for a number of years.

"I look forward to weaving my experience and strong interest in teen services into the community," Eileen stated, and "I hope to further strengthen the programs and services the library has to offer teens. I have always had an interest in reading and going to the library has been a happy part of my entire life".

Duarte Public Library provides opportunities for teens to be involved in their communities. The more attached teens are to the library and community, the more likely they will support the library in the future as adults.

Eileen received her bachelor's degree from Cal. State University Los Angeles, and her Master's in Library Information Science from San Jose State University.

Sacramento

Continued from page 1

tax revenues to remain with local government and be spent for local purposes.

* Requires the State to fund legislative mandates on local governments or suspend their operation.

While in Sacramento, Gaston, Finlay and George met with leadership in the Senate and the Assembly on both sides of the aisle: Senators Bob Dutton, Albert Torrico, Bob Huff and George Runner and Assembly Members Fiona Ma, Paul Krekorian, Norreen Evans, Cameron Smythe and Hector de la Torre. Duarte representatives explained the difficulties that cities are facing due to decisions that have been made in Sacramento. Finlay, Gaston and George made these further points to our state elected officials:

1. End this budget crisis now. As locally elected officials, we are required to work together as a council and pass a budget in a timely manner, and the state should be held to the same standard. It makes it difficult for cities to manage our budgets if we don't know what money will be taken from us at the state level (in anticipation of this budget crisis, Duarte has frozen some non-vital services and we have been building up a healthy reserve to weather this economic storm).

2. Do not enact programs at the state level without considering the economic impacts on local government unless funding is provided.

3. Protect local government revenues. Many cities are caught in the economic crisis that affects all jurisdictions. Declining revenues and the need to protect vital services, such as police and fire, require the Legislature's effort to help cities preserve a high quality of life for our citizens.

George, Gaston and Finlay also met with the Governor's liaison to local governments and were briefed on what was currently happening with the budget. However, none of the representatives would make any guarantees for cities as the budget at this point looks to be a moving target. It appears that until the public turns up the heat on our state representatives, the cities will continue to be left out in the cold.



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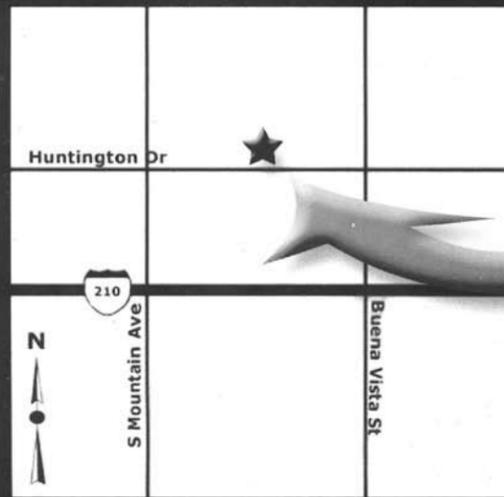
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City taps Coach Rodney Jefferson to help expand programs to local youth

Adding to its tools and resources to build positive programs and recreational outlets for youth, the City of Duarte has enlisted the aid of a local coach highly regarded for his work and mentoring skills with at-risk youth.

Rodney Jefferson, founder and director of "A" Game Fundamental Basketball Clinic for the past nine years, has been signed to a consulting contract to work with City staff to help develop strategies, resources or programs that the City may utilize to reduce gang-violence and increase youth employment. He is also a former recruiter of athletes for the Citrus College Men's Basketball program and the former head Junior Varsity coach at Monrovia High School.

Jefferson, a life-long resident of the Monrovia/Duarte area has a Bachelor's Degree in Communications from Cal State Los Angeles. With City staff direction and input, Jefferson has been asked to help create new opportunities and collaborations with existing programs targeted to both youth and young adults, ages 17-25.

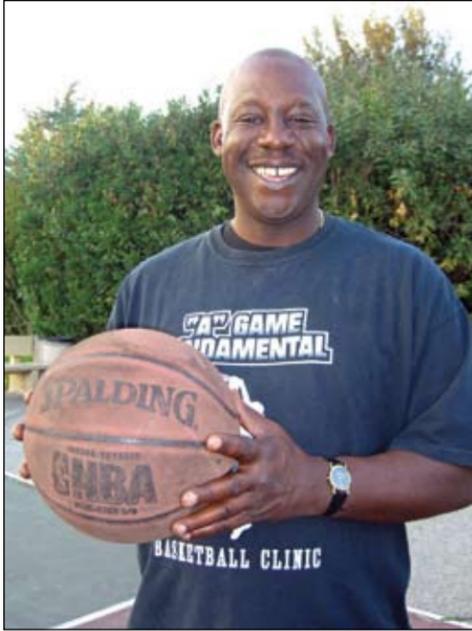
He will also work to explore and develop for consideration a youth discussion group facilitating open communication and connections to available youth

programs and services.

"We've been impressed with Rodney's track record and success in working with all youths particularly through his 'A' Game Fundamental Basketball Clinic," said Deputy City Manager, Karen Herrera. "His program has served hundreds of local children over the past nine years and combines basketball skills training with life skills training, health and nutrition education and high school and college preparation with year-round follow-up. While the City has many positive programs in place for youth, we believe Rodney can help us cast our net even wider to reach more of our community's youth," she said.

Other new programs under consideration are a weekend evening basketball program that would take place at a local school site.

Herrera said Jefferson will also bring a basketball clinic to



RODNEY JEFFERSON

Duarte youth over spring break between April 13th and 17th.

"Our goal is to work with local businesses, high schools and junior colleges to create an avenue for young people to learn skills that will fortify and enhance their livelihood," said Jefferson.

For more information on this new youth effort, contact Duarte City Hall at (626) 357-7931, ext. 221.

Prescription Drug Discount Program



BECKY EVANS of the City of Duarte (center) talks to residents Olga Foster, left, and Ofelia Peña about the new Prescription Drug Discount Program available to residents of the City and County areas of Duarte through a National League of Cities program administered by CVS/Caremark. Duarte residents can save up to 20% off the retail price of prescription drugs by presenting the discount card at neighborhood pharmacies including CVS, Rite Aid, Walgreens and Target. Duarte residents and their family members can use the card any time their prescriptions are not covered by insurance. The discount cards are available at various city offices including City Hall, as well as the Duarte Chamber, Duarte Library, Senior Center, and local pharmacies. For more information, call Duarte City Hall (626) 357-7931, ext. 220.

SAFYMCA

Continued from page 4

camp, sports and mentoring programs, and health and fitness memberships.

For information about contributing to the SAFYMCA Support Campaign, or to learn more about any of the programs or services offered by the SAFYMCA, call (626) 359-9244, or visit the Santa Anita Family YMCA web site at www.safymca.org.



BUSINESS LEADERS kick off 2009 campaign to support the Santa Anita Family YMCA's Financial Assistance Program. From left: SAFYMCA Chief Executive Officer, Damon Colaluca; SAFYMCA Chief Volunteer Officer, Donna Baker of Dickson Podley Realtors; and campaign co-chairs Patrice Reinhard of Dreams Built True; and Todd Adamson of Adamson Chiropractic.

YMCA receives commendation



THE NONPROFIT Santa Anita Family YMCA is presented with a commendation from the office of California State Assemblyman Anthony Portantino honoring the organization for its efforts to improve the health and fitness of people of all ages in the community. From left to right: President and Chief Volunteer Officer, Donna Baker; Lerna Kayserian, field representative for Assemblyman Portantino; SAFYMCA Wellness Director, Karen MacNair, and Development Director, Cheryl Reynolds.

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DYAC Baseball/Softball Opening Day Feb. 28

Former Dodger Great Rudy "Lawman" Law and Duarte Youth Acres Pioneer Monty Montgomery to Participate in Ceremony

Play ball will be call of the day when 260 Duarte kids, ages 4 to 14 suit-up for the 55th annual Duarte Youth Athletic Club (DYAC) baseball/softball opening day. Festivities will take place on Saturday, Feb. 28 at Duarte Sports Park, 1401 Central Ave. starting with a pancake breakfast served from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Opening day ceremonies will begin at 11 a.m., featuring appearances by former Los Angeles Dodgers great Rudy "Lawman" Law and Assemblyman Anthony Portantino. Former Duarte Mayor, Monty Montgomery, who as a young dad helped start Duarte Youth Acres, (the former name of DYAC) and current Mayor John Fasana will throw out first balls to launch a series of exhibition games to begin at 12 noon.

Attendance at the DYAC opening day festivities is free. Tickets for the pancake breakfast are \$5 for adults and \$4 for kids. Proceeds from the breakfast, snack bar and a 50/50 raffle will help support the nonprofit DYAC organization that has served generations of Duarte children. On sale will also be Dodger tickets for Family Dodger Day, on April 19 and DYA/DYAC 55th season commemorative t-shirts.

For more information, call Miguel Mejia at (626) 676-8737 or Ed Houlemard at (310) 930-1557.

