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Movie Night  
May 25**

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**MARCH-APRIL 2012**

# Duarte View

A bi-monthly community publication of the Duarte Chamber of Commerce, in its 91st year of service to the community.

## DUSD Special Education student athletes shine

By Joilyn Campitiello

A strong healthy body makes for a strong healthy mind. Teachers have long known the connection between physical activity and achievement in school. Hundreds of special education students gathered on the sports field of San Marino High School to participate in the San Gabriel Valley Spring Games on March 23.

More than 60 special education students from Duarte Unified participated in the games. Free busses were provided by the SGV Spring Games organization.

Participants also received a free t-shirt and lunch was provided. Students participated in a variety of track and field events including 50 and 100 yard dash, relay races, long jump and softball throw.

DUSD Special Education staff including teachers Lynn Lewis and Tracy Hall along with Adapted PE aide Danielle Jacques, worked many hours to register and prepare students for the event.

Participants included students from Duarte High, Northview, Andres Duarte, Royal Oaks, Beardslee and Valley View.

Students received ribbons for placing and participating in each event. Students with all types of disabilities participated in the games.

All students received cheers and shouts of encouragement as they ran, jumped and tossed the softball.

Smiles and laughter were abundant as students sprinted across the finish lines waving to the cheering crowd.



**ANDRES DUARTE STUDENT Julia Rodarte and aide Mary Jo Skinner pose after Julia's successful run the 25 meter race.**



**ANDRES DUARTE STUDENTS Marisol Murrillo-Gomez, Ester Loya, Malche Blanco, and Camelia Martinez-Granillo show off their ribbons with aide Refugio Haro.**



**VALLEY VIEW PRINCIPAL Robin Nelson congratulates Johnathan Castaneda and Jorge Real for their outstanding effort.**

## Multi-family dwellings start recycling in July

Beginning in July, residents of Duarte's 62 multi-family dwellings will do what the City's single family households have been doing since the 1980's – recycling.

The Duarte City Council recently voted unanimously to approve implementation by Burrtec Waste Services of mandatory recycling for all eligible 5-unit and larger multi-family dwellings in the City.

To relieve property owners of any burden associated with program design and implementation, the City of Duarte, together with Burrtec Waste Services, has designed a multi-family recycling program that can be tailored to each individual site while ensuring each property's compliance with State requirements.

Over the next three months, Burrtec will be distributing bilingual educational materials and conducting on-site property surveys detailing various recycling options, many of them highlighting a cost savings. It is estimated that 50% of the current multi-family customers will realize a cost savings as a result of the mandated recycling program. The types of information that will be dis-

seminated include door hangers, posters, newsletters, letters, news articles and website articles detailing the ease and benefits of the program.

Every eligible building will be provided with a recycling container, individual in-unit containers for tenants/owners and bi-lingual educational materials. Burrtec will also offer on-site resident education program for 16 unit or larger complexes detailing the location of the recycling bin, acceptable recyclable materials, how to use and store the indoor recycling container and familiarize residents with educational door hangers, and posters.

A listing of recyclables, including all beverage containers, plastic, paper, glass, cardboard, and metal products, will appear on the front of the bin. Only specialized recycling bins, designed to prevent scavenging and litter, will be used in conjunction with the program.

The mandate re-initiates a program first introduced as voluntary in 2009 when the City applied for and was awarded a \$57,500

*See Recycling on page 10*

## Sierra Fiat of Duarte Opens



**DUARTE CITY COUNCIL MEMBER Liz Reilly and City Manager Darrell George are all smiles at the grand opening celebration of Sierra Fiat of Duarte (March 22). The event kicks off weekend-long festivities to welcome the public offering food, refreshments and entertainment from 12 noon to 3 p.m. Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The new Duarte Fiat Studio is stocked with all three models of the Fiat 500 series – the Pop, Sport, and Lounge – in a variety of colors and feature packages. Sierra Fiat of Duarte is located at 1125 Central Ave. on Duarte's 210 Freeway adjacent auto row.**

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# Elizabeth Bagwell – A Shining Star in Duarte

Congresswoman Judy Chu honored one of Duarte's outstanding citizens March 10 at the Langley Senior Center in Monterey Park. On that day, Elizabeth Bagwell, who most people in Duarte know as the public affairs coordinator at the City of Hope, was given the Woman of Distinction Award by our Congressional representative, Judy Chu. Duarte Councilmember Margaret Finlay was chosen to emcee this prestigious event where Elizabeth was among 11 women in the San Gabriel Valley honored for her selfless dedication to our community.

"We have our work cut out for us nowadays in Congress in terms of simply protecting the hard-fought gains we have achieved for women in recent years," said Rep. Chu. "But every day, right here in our district, warriors such as these honorees are fighting countless battles on behalf of women,

and indeed on behalf of our entire communities. Whether it is in the classroom or on the police beat, in the business arena or on the PTA council, they are each doing their part to set a bright, guiding example for our daughters. It is my honor to recognize each of them with these awards as a small token of appreciation on behalf of the people of the 32nd District."

Elizabeth Bagwell is a graduate of Duarte High School and has worked at the City of Hope in Duarte for 25 Years. In her time at City of Hope, Elizabeth developed the cancer center's Speakers Bureau into a vital organization of more than 125 former patients who speak about cancer in the community. She



**DUARTE Councilwoman Margaret Finlay, Congresswoman Judy Chu, and Woman of Distinction Elizabeth Bagwell.**

*See Bagwell on page 5*

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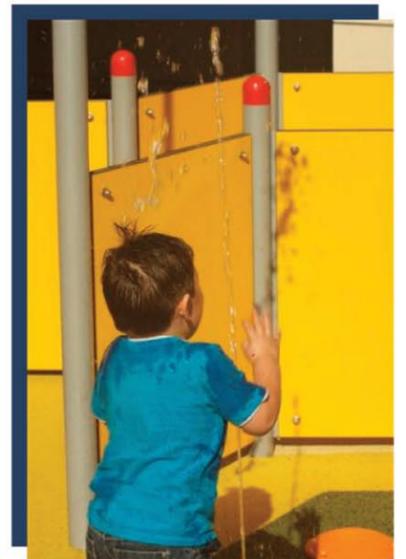
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# Duarte's good news of \$578,900 mid-year budget surplus tempered by uncertainty over the future of former redevelopment funds

For the first time in several years, the City of Duarte is looking at a substantial budget surplus at mid-year. What was originally projected to be a \$134,400 surplus when the 2011/2012 budget was adopted has grown to a surplus of \$578,900, increasing the year-end General Fund reserves to \$12.5 million, equating to 109% of General Fund expenditures.

The surplus is attributed to many factors such as program reductions, cost savings from recently negotiated union agreements, staff vacancies, higher than expected building permit revenues, lower than expected expenses and several grants.

"It's been a team effort over the past three years to right the ship and find ways to trim, cut, conserve and live within the new normal of this economy," said City Manager Darrell George. "A lot of work has been done in the last two years to make fiscally responsible adjustments and this budget reflects the fruits of our labor. However, there continues to be a lot of uncertainty over how the city's finances may be further impacted as a result of decisions yet to be made over former redevelopment funds and that will need to be dealt with in our next budget and probably several budgets thereafter," said George.

Approximately \$7.5 million of the \$12.5 million General Fund balance represents a transfer made in February 2011 as a repayment of the City's loan advance made to the Redevelopment Agency in prior years. In the event that this transfer is deemed invalid, and ordered surrendered to the State,

reserves would be reduced to \$5 million, which represents 44% of General Fund expenditures. At year end total General Fund expenditures are projected to be \$11,439,100, an increase of only \$18,000, as compared to the adopted budget. A majority of the General Fund departments are projecting to spend less than their budgeted amounts.

One of the larger reductions in expenses is due to \$130,000 in cost savings related to personnel changes and vacancies. Although the City has not implemented any employee layoffs, three staff positions were vacated and left unfilled in the last quarter of 2011. A retirement in March will leave another position temporarily unfilled, reducing the City staff count from 43 to 39. As a result, the City, historically known for its lean, efficient staffing, is down 13 full-time staff over the past three years, from a high of 52 full-time employees.

Other mid-year budget highlights:

- Legal expenses are expected to be \$71,000 less than originally budgeted.
- Supplemental Law Enforcement Safety Funds of \$112,000 will be used to offset costs associated with Los Angeles County Sheriff's contract.
- The December windstorm resulted in \$88,000 of unanticipated costs to the City for clean-up and repairs.
- Building permit fees are projected to increase by \$50,000 to a new total of \$350,000, due to remodels conducted by Wal-Mart, the

soon-to-open new 99 Cent Only Store, and the new Fiat dealership, as well as new construction at Phase two of the Huntington Courts housing development.

- Duarte was awarded a \$54,000 grant to implement a recycling program for Multi-Family housing.

- Duarte's Promise – The Alliance for Youth has been expanded to include additional Promise Fellows who are funded through the Duarte's Promise grant and partnering agencies matching grants. As a result, program revenues and expenses will increase in the amount of \$45,000.

- Reimbursements of approximately \$250,000 were received in conjunction with an Energy Efficiency Upgrade of City facilities completed in 2011.

- A Cal Recycle Grant of \$150,000 that can be used toward street resurfacing when recycled asphalt rubber is used will be used to offset costs related to the Highland Avenue rehabilitation project as well as the Area 1 slurry and cape seal projects.

- The City now qualifies for approximately \$36,000 in National Transportation Department funding which will partially offset the ongoing increases in fuel and repair costs associated with the free-to-the-public Duarte Transit system.

Duarte City Council members and administrative staff will convene in a budget workshop on April 30 at 4 p.m. to discuss

# \$30 million in incentives available for business energy efficiency projects

Southern California Gas Co. (SoCalGas) has announced that more than \$30 million in rebates and incentives are available this year to business customers for qualifying energy-efficiency projects. The announcement was made at SoCalGas' annual Business Expo in Pomona, Calif., where over 300 business representatives learned how they could save energy and money through the utility's programs and latest green technologies.

SoCalGas' incentives cover many types of natural gas equipment, as well as energy saving projects. The incentive payouts are based on the amount of natural gas saved, and they often reach several thousands of dollars per project.

Six local businesses also were recognized by SoCalGas for their outstanding efforts in energy efficiency and conservation. Because of their efforts, these businesses have reduced emissions and saved more than 2,531,588 therms of natural gas, the equivalent of taking 3,500 cars off the road.

"These businesses have proven that using natural gas efficiently means getting more for less," said Hal D. Snyder, vice president of customer solutions for SoCalGas. "We make every effort to help our customers plan for a sustainable

future by providing services and incentives that can positively affect their bottom line."

Air Products and Chemicals, Inc. in Carson was one of the six to receive an Energy-Efficiency Excellence Award at the Expo. Another Energy-Efficiency Excellence Award went to Huntington Memorial Hospital in Pasadena, Calif., for their pursuit of advancing energy efficiency solutions in their daily operations. Other award recipients included the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, California Farms LP in Bakersfield, Cate School in Carpinteria, and Archer Daniels Midland in Colton.

In addition to the announcement of Energy-Efficiency Excellence Award recipients, the Expo featured workshops for local business owners who want to save money by using green technologies and strategies. Participants learned how to identify, evaluate and select the technologies that best fit their financial goals while reducing waste and improving energy efficiency. There were also exhibitors and vendors showcasing the latest energy-saving tools for those in attendance.

Business owners and representatives had an opportunity to learn about SoCalGas' On-Bill Financing program, which provides qualified energy-efficiency projects with interest-free loans for up to \$100,000. They also learned how the utility can identify process improvements that can help save energy, lower operating costs, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. In addition to the

variety of assessment tools to help business customers identify convenient energy efficiency improvements, rebates are available for more than 100 pieces of qualifying energy-efficient equipment, such as steam traps, insulation, boilers, water heaters, and a variety of foodservice equipment.

For more information, business owners and representatives can visit SoCalGas' website at [socalgas.com/energyefficiency](http://socalgas.com/energyefficiency).

2012/2013 fiscal year budget. The workshop is open to the public.

For more information about the mid-year budget and upcoming budget workshop, call Duarte City Hall at (626) 357-7931.

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For advertising information and rates, please call the Chamber.  
 Deadline for articles and ads for the May-June issue is April 26, 2012.

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# Next Duarte Family Movie Night in the Park on May 25

Duarte's popular Movie Nights in the Park returns this spring with two evenings of family entertainment.

The fun began on Friday, April 20 at the Maxwell Elementary School field. Hosted by Duarte Public Safety, the evening included a complimentary BBQ dinner, courtesy of community non-profit, Marvell West, a special performance by the Duarte High School Jazz Band at 7 p.m., followed by the featured presentation of a hit family movie.

Los Angeles County Parks furnished the popcorn.

Maxwell School is located at 733 Euclid Ave.

On Friday, May 25, Movie Night will be held at Beardslee Park, 2000 Buena Vista St., from 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. A complimentary BBQ dinner and popcorn are also on the menu along with the feature movie presentation.

Duarte Movie Nights in the Park are made possible through the sponsorship of THINK Together, SCE Federal Credit Union, L.A. County Parks & Recreation, Santa Anita Family YMCA and Y Life Project, Duarte's Promise—The Alliance for Youth, Duarte Rotary's Interact Club, Duarte Kiwanis' Key Club and Builders Club, Duarte Lemonade Brigade, Life Church of Pasadena, and Marvell West.

For more information, contact Aida Torres at [a2torres@lasd.org](mailto:a2torres@lasd.org), or call (626) 359-5671, ext. 316.

# Generate Retirement Income More Efficiently

By Patrick D. Miller, Agent,  
CA Ins. Lic #0602970  
New York Life Insurance Co.

Retiring at last. You have earned it by every measure. But now, you face an important transition in your personal financial plan. You have finished accumulating retirement assets and are now beginning to distribute them as income to support your retirement lifestyle. The choices you make now can certainly impact your long-term financial situation.



Patrick Miller

### PRESERVING YOUR ASSETS

Building a systematic withdrawal plan around a sustainable withdrawal rate is a smart effort for making your money last, but it may not be enough. Assume you have a retirement portfolio worth \$1 million. Initially, annual withdrawals of 5% (\$50,000) seem conservative. You may be surprised to learn however, that at that rate there is only a 90% chance your money will last just 20 years. In other words, one in ten people following this seemingly conservative withdrawal strategy could potentially outlive their retirement nest egg later in life.

In addition to careful consideration of withdrawal rates, retirees must be aware of the significant risk market volatility poses. Erratic swings in equity-based investments can decimate portfolio values without warning - seriously threatening potential future income since percentage-based withdrawals shrink as total assets are eroded.

Holding onto what you have - asset preservation - is a top priority for retirees. Though you may not know how long you'll live, you do know that running out of money is not a scenario you hope to experience. If only there were guarantees... The good news is: there are.

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This educational third-party article is being provided as a courtesy by Patrick D. Miller, CLTC, CA Ins. Lic.#0602970, New York Life Insurance Company. For additional information on the information or topic(s) discussed, please contact (Patrick D. Miller, CLTC) at (301 N. Lake Ave, Suite 500, Pasadena, CA 91101; Phone: 626-356-7618).

<sup>1</sup> Source: Internal New York Life analysis. Hypothetical example of assets held in an untaxed account of \$1,000,000. Systematic withdrawal plan rates, and associated portfolio duration based on hypothetical allocation between equities and bonds; 125 basis point annual fund management expense. This illustration is based on a Monte Carlo model simulation of 1,000 scenarios each of correlated equity and bond returns using an economic scenario generator. Correlations estimated using historical monthly S & P 500 Index and Barclay's U.S. Aggregate Index returns over 20 years (1989-2009). Equity and bond returns are assumed to be normally distributed. Each withdrawal rate is adjusted annually for 3% inflation. This model is intended to be an indicator of potential returns at various confidence levels and is not designed to be a forecast of future investment performance.

A Monte Carlo simulation analyzes probabilities and seeks to identify the number of years your profile will last, given your financial profile. The simulation is hypothetical, does not reflect past performance, and is not a forecast of future results. Simulation results may vary with each use and over time. Each client's results depend on individual factors which a simulation does not account for, such as how investment decisions are implemented in reality and the costs of investing. A simulation may not capture how asset classes fall in and out of favor over time. These factors can influence a client's results materially.

<sup>2</sup> New York Life's Guaranteed Lifetime Income products are issued by New York Life Insurance and Annuity Corporation, (A Delaware Corporation), a wholly owned subsidiary of New York Life Insurance Company. Guarantee is based on the claims paying ability of the issuer. Product available in jurisdiction where approved.

<sup>3</sup> Payout based on female, 75 years-old, Single Life with Cash Refund payout option, with 3% Annual Increase Option as of 10/31/2011. Payout amounts vary depending upon age, gender, premium amount, payout option selected and interest rates at time of policy issue. In general, income annuities have less liquidity than investment portfolios. Guarantee is based on the claims paying ability of the issuer. Payments consist of interest and return of premium.

<sup>4</sup> Must be selected at time of purchase, policy owner must be at least age 59 ½ at the time of the first payment. Other restrictions may apply.

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# Redefined mission for community colleges – focusing on student achievement and success

By Dr. Edward C. Ortell,  
Citrus College Trustee, Duarte  
Area Representative

California's community colleges have been many things to many people, since the adoption of California's Master Plan for Higher Education in the 1960s. Community colleges have served as an affordable point of entry for millions of first-generation degree-seeking college students; a place to obtain high quality vocational skills requisite for workers wanting a new or better job; and a place for community members to acquire knowledge and fulfillment in their quest for life-long learning.

However, the community college paradigm is about to change. The demand for accountability in education, with its focus on outcomes, and the state, national and

international economic crisis of the past few years are just two of many factors that have juxtaposed to lay a foundation for transformative change in California's community colleges. The core mission of California's community colleges is being revised and enrollment priorities have been refocused on three objectives: transfer to four-year colleges and universities; the award of workforce-oriented certificates and degrees; and the acquisition of basic skills that will support both of these pathways.

In January 2011, the California Community Colleges Board of Governors convened a "Student Success Task Force" to examine best practices for promoting student success and to develop statewide strategies to implement them. Over the next few months,



DR. EDWARD C. ORTELL

the 20-member task force, made up of community college leaders, faculty, students, researchers, staff and external stakeholders, examined topics critical to student success. Their work resulted in 22 recommendations aimed at improving the educational outcomes of students and increasing workforce preparedness in the state. Following a public vetting process, the recommendations were finalized, and in January 2012, they were approved by the California Community Colleges Board of Governors.

Several of the recommendations reflect changes that are already underway at many colleges, while others are entirely new concepts. They will be implemented through statutory and regulatory changes and by dissemination of best practices.

To improve college and career readiness, Recommendation 1 focuses on collaboration between community

colleges and K-12 school districts. Recommendation 2 focuses on strengthening support for entering students, including developing common statewide assessment tests and requiring students to create a personal educational plan and participate in assessment and orientation. In addition, those students who demonstrate a lack of college readiness will be required to participate in support services. Students will also be required to declare a program of study early in their academic careers.

One of the most significant components of the recommendations is to incentivize successful student behaviors. This would be accomplished by giving the highest enrollment priority to courses that advance students' academic progress. In addition, those students receiving Board of Governors fee waivers would have to meet various requirements in order to continue receiving this benefit. To improve basic skills education, Recommendation 5 prescribes the development and implementation of a comprehensive strategy for addressing basic skills needs, as well as the development of an alternative basic skills curriculum.

California's community colleges have an outstanding history of benefiting local economies and the quality of life for people in the communities they serve. For example:

- California community colleges are the state's largest workforce provider, offering associate degrees and short-term job training certificates in more than 175 different fields.

- California community colleges train 70 percent of California nurses.

- California community colleges train 80 percent of firefighters, law enforcement personnel, and emergency medical technicians.

- 28 percent of University of California graduates and 54 percent of California State University graduates transfer from a community college.

- Students who earn a California community college degree or certificate nearly double their earnings within three years.

The Duarte area has certainly benefited from students who have achieved success at the community college level and gone on to become vital, contributing members of the community.

## Bagwell

Continued from page 2

has conducted more than 100 health fairs, providing needed health information to residents through churches, parks and other community locations. Additionally, Elizabeth also works with the ROP program at Duarte High School, helping students receive credit for participating in a 6-week work/study program at City of Hope.

Elizabeth has been an active leader on the Duarte Chamber of Commerce Board since 2000. She served as Board President in 2005 and was named Officer of the Year in 2005 and 2006. She has served on various committees while on the board and continues to frequently host the "State of the City" Luncheon and the Mayor's Prayer Breakfast. In addition to her Duarte activities, this past year she served as Chair of the Irwindale Chamber Environmental Committee and led the committee to increase their outreach and activities. Elizabeth also serves as a Board Member for the Monrovia Chamber of Commerce.

Aside from all of her involvement with local chambers, Elizabeth has been recognized by community groups such as the NAACP and Duarte High School for her outstanding community contributions. She has also been recognized for her leadership and vision as the current Committee Chair and past committee member of Congresswoman Chu's 32nd District Artistic Discovery, the local installment of a nationwide Congressional Art Competition.

Citrus College offers associate degrees in 29 programs of study and certificates of achievement and skill awards in 58 career/technical programs. I am pleased to note that Citrus College awarded a record 1,246 associate degrees during the 2010-2011 academic year, and that Citrus College is consistently listed among the nation's 1,100 leading two-year institutions by Community College Week. In this year's annual issue, "Top 100 Associate Degree Producers" the publication ranked Citrus College 52nd among two-year institutions in the number of associate degrees awarded to Hispanic students and 27th among the top 50 institutions awarding associate degrees in multi-interdisciplinary studies (liberal arts/general studies). The publication also ranked Citrus College 45th in a new degree category: practical nursing, vocational nursing, and nursing assistant. Our most recent issue of the Citrus College News Magazine features students who have been successful in the college's Administration of Justice program, as well as a variety of other programs college wide. An electronic version of the magazine can be found at: <http://www.citruscollege.edu/pio/magazine/Pages/default.aspx>

The California State Legislature will soon introduce legislation to implement several of the Student Success Task Force recommendations. Other recommendations are currently being reviewed and discussed by community colleges and their stakeholders throughout the state. The goal of this comprehensive plan is to ultimately strengthen the community college system by expanding those structures and programs that work and to realign resources with what matters most to the state and our local community – student achievement and success.

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Raul and Alfredo, Circa 1940

# Service clubs help send ambulance to El Salvador

Through a cooperative effort with three community service organizations, and spearheaded by Margaret Finlay and Reina Diaz, another ambulance is making its way to El Salvador. This time the destination will be the state or department of La Union. Duarte Rotary Club, Duarte Kiwanis Club and Quota International of Monrovia and Duarte will be helping to fill the ambulance with much needed medical supplies to take to the people of La Union.

Margaret and Reina have been working with ambulance companies for a number of years and have been connecting organizations in other countries with the ambulance providers that are donating ambulances that have been taken out of service. It all began in 2005, when as California Contract Cities President, Margaret Finlay, a councilmember in the City of Duarte, was asked to select a recipient organization to donate an ambulance to. Her good friend, Reyna Diaz, a Salvadoran-born Duarte School Board Member, said that she knew of many economically disadvantaged towns in El Salvador that needed an ambulance. The town



REINA DIAZ and Margaret Finlay with an ambulance being sent to El Salvador.

of Quezaltapeque was selected and they raised money with the help of the Rotary and Kiwanis Clubs in Duarte to ship the ambulance to El Salvador.

Since that time, they have worked together with other ambulance companies to take ambulances to other cities in Central America. They both say that they place ambulances in towns where there is a need and the ability to maintain the vehicle. Reina has explained that in many parts of Central America, patients are taken to hospitals in the back of old pick-up trucks. But over

the years, these ambulances have served to inspire other people to donate because as people have noted "I know exactly where my donations are going. Margaret and Reina bring back photos of the people that benefit from my giving." Other organizations that have been involved are Boy Scouts, the Duarte High School Interact Club and Key Club, church organizations, WalMart, etc. One young man from Duarte High School did his Eagle Scout project by organizing a blanket drive for the little Salvadoran babies that were leaving the hospital

wrapped in newspaper, instead of warm blankets. Medical kits and dental hygiene kits have also been assembled by women's organizations and taken to Central America along with the ambulances. The ambulance this year

has been donated to El Piche, a Salvadoran organization in the U.S. that is fundraising to pay for the shipping to El Salvador. The governor of La Union will be there to receive the ambulance later on this year.

## Foothill Extension, Pasadena to Azusa Update

While the design work progresses well on the 11.5-mile alignment project, pre-construction work continues. Crews are along the right-of-way surveying, identifying underground utilities and investigating soil conditions. This work will continue through late 2012, when major construction is scheduled to begin.

The I-210 Gold Line Bridge project is on schedule. The temporary structure, called falsework, that will support the superstructure as concrete is placed, is complete.

Crews are now installing the bridge "formwork," which is effectively a mold into which concrete will be placed to shape the bridge. The formwork must be precise to result in the artist's vision the design elements along the superstructure's exterior. The formwork will take just over a month to install, and crews anticipate placing the concrete in mid-May.

In March, the last of the three design-build contracts began the procurement process.

In the next several months, Statements of Qualifications will be developed by interested teams wanting to compete for the "Intermodal Parking and Enhancements design-build project."

This final contract is responsible for design and construction of the six station parking facilities, as well as numerous enhancements planned around each station that will make it easier and more pleasant for riders to access the stations on foot, bike or by bus.

Learn more about the Foothill Extension and sign up to receive e-newsletter updates or construction alerts at the Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension Construction Authority's website - [www.foothillextension.org](http://www.foothillextension.org).

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 Tri-City Chamber Mixer at Sierra Fiat of Duarte  
 1125 Central Ave., Duarte

**May 15/ 7:00 am-8:30 am**  
 Network Breakfast at Cabrera's  
 1856 Huntington Dr., Duarte

**May 16 / 5 pm-8 pm**  
 Taste of Duarte & Business Expo  
 \*Open to the Public  
 At Westminster Gardens  
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**Tickets: Presale: \$25 Adults / \$20 Seniors (55+) & Children (6-12yrs). Children under 6 free**  
**At Door: \$30 Adults / \$20 Seniors (55+) & Children (6-12yrs).**  
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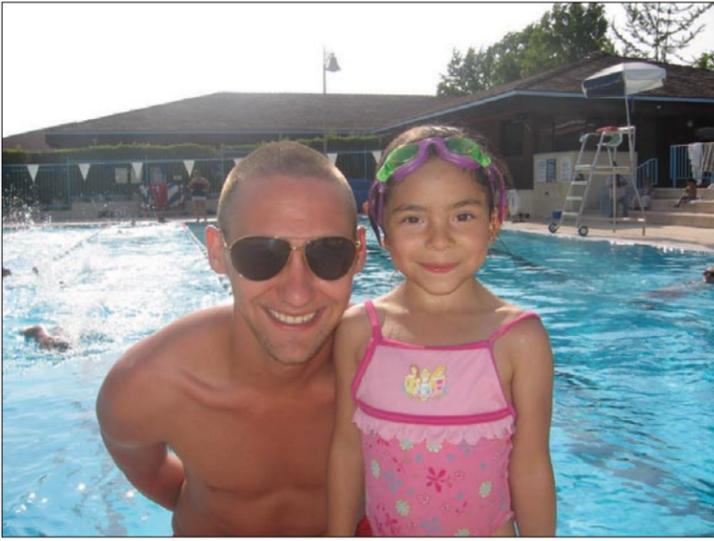
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**COME ENJOY Spring Break swimming at the Duarte Fitness Center pool!**

## Duarte Fitness Center spring membership sale & aquatics program

It is time to get into shape. Save 20% during the Spring Sale at the City of Duarte Fitness Center. Sale prices are available March 23 through April 1.

During the sale, Duarte residents can enjoy one full year of exercise, aerobics and aquatics or racquetball for only \$128.

Non-resident rates start as low as \$176, and there are no monthly fees or dues.

The Fitness Center is located at 1600 Huntington Drive, next to City Hall.

At the Fitness Center you can choose from a wide variety of activities including strength training equipment, Stairmasters, treadmills, bikes, and Elliptical Trainers.

The Fitness Center also has two courts available for either racquetball or wallyball. Aerobic classes are offered at various times daily.

The spring aquatics program will begin March 31.

The pool will be available

Monday through Friday for lap swimming from 6:30 a.m. to 8 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through Thursday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., and 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. on weekends.

Recreational swim will be held during spring break (April 2 – 6) from 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. and on weekends from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. for all ages.

Two sessions of swim lessons will be offered this spring. Session 1 will run from May 7 – May 17, with registration beginning April 30.

Session 2 will run from May 21 – June 1, and registration begins May 14. Priority registration will be available to City of Duarte residents with valid ID at 6 a.m. the first day of registration.

All non-residents may register beginning at 8 a.m. Check with the Fitness Center for class times and levels being offered.

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

## Youth Recreation mini-soccer games

The City of Duarte Parks and Recreation Department is currently taking registration at Duarte City Hall and at all local supervised playgrounds for youth mini soccer leagues.

The fee is \$25 per child and includes a t-shirt. Practices are scheduled to begin the week of March 26.

Children born in 1999 - 2003 (in a grade no higher than 6th) will play in separate boys and girls leagues.

Practices will be conducted

during the week, after school, and will be held at local supervised parks.

Games will be held on Saturdays at Otis Gordon Sports Park.

The field size for league games is about half the size of a normal field and the goals are also smaller.

This fun and exciting 6 on 6-player league is perfect for all skill levels.

For more information call (626) 357-7931.



**MINI SOCCER is a fun team sport for Duarte Kids.**

## SCE FCU gives students a lesson in BIG money at the Federal Reserve Bank

Thirty-two Duarte High School students were selected to tour the interior workings of the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco's Los Angeles branch on January 18, a trip arranged and sponsored by the SCE FCU Foundation. The students selected had previously attended financial education classes through the SCE FCU Foundation, and this fun field trip was a fitting compliment to their financial literacy achievements.

Chaperoned by teachers and Credit Union managers, students got up close and personal with billions in cold hard cash. While they never touched any of it, they did get to see the process of how it's delivered, verified, sorted, strapped and stored in a vault the size of a football field. They learned how worn out currency is taken out of circulation and destroyed, and they also witnessed



**DUARTE HIGH SCHOOL students and teachers gather outside the entrance of the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco's Los Angeles branch.**

the impressive security measures taken to protect all that money.

Students watched Federal Reserve Bank employees load currency into the high speed

computer-controlled machines that can intercept potential counterfeits and destroy old, worn out notes. They got to stand at the gate of the gigantic vault and actually experience the "smell of new money."

One of the highlights of the tour was a display of currency notes dating back to the earliest forms of US currency, and an explanation of how and why the design of our currency has changed throughout our country's history.

Amazed by the sight of all that cash, the students also learned about the Federal Reserve itself. As the central banking system of the United States, the Fed conducts the nation's monetary policy, supervises and regulates banking institutions, maintains the stability of the financial system, and provides financial services to depository institutions, the US government and foreign official agencies.

Most people think the Federal Reserve is a government agency, but the students learned that's not true. Despite its name, the Fed is actually an independent nonprofit, operating within the government.

After the 75-minute tour, the students were treated to a gourmet lunch and a special presentation on Community Economic Development – specifically, how their personal financial behaviors will affect the economy of the local community where they live and work.

Since these students have already participated in the Foundation's financial education training, this presentation helped reinforce the importance of smart money management skills. It was a rich experience the students will not soon forget!

## Lois Gaston honored with Distinguished Service Award



**KIWANIS DIVISION 35 Lt. Governor Lon Salgren is presenting Lois Gaston with the Kiwanis Distinguished Service Award.**

The Duarte Kiwanis Club and Division 35 have honored Lois Gaston with the Kiwanis Distinguished Service Award. Lois has been a member of Kiwanis for the past two years and has been busy coordinating many activities including Mentoring for the ACT-SO program and the first Duarte Kiwanis Magic Show fundraiser. Lois is being honored for her years of service throughout the Duarte community. The Kiwanis Division 35 Lt. Governor, Lon

Salgren, was on hand to present Lois with her award along with members of Kiwanis Cubs from Duarte, Monrovia and La Puente, Rotary Club of Duarte and QUOTA Club of Monrovia.

The Duarte Kiwanis Club has lunch meetings the first, third and fifth Tuesdays of the month at Westminster Gardens. For further information on speaking or joining the club, contact Dr. Diane Hernandez at drdiane@drhernandezoptometry.com.

## Duarte Recreation spring classes

The Duarte Recreation Department is offering classes for adults, teens, children and families. Spring recreation classes include Ballet, Belly Dancing, Cheer and Dance, Chess, Computer Training, Cooking the Fun & Healthy Way, Folklorico, Golf, Guitar, Hip Hop Dance, Homework Helper, Kidz Love Soccer, Mini Picassos, Piano, Polynesian Dance, Racquetball, Rumba & Merengue Dance, Salsa Dance, Sewing, Sing and Play, Tennis, Tumbling, Vocals, Watercolor Workshop, Yoga, Zumba. Registration for the spring session of classes begins March 12. Discover, Visa and MasterCard are accepted for purchases over \$25. Classes begin the week of March 26.

For information on how to register, please contact the Duarte Recreation Department at (626) 357-7931, Monday through Thursday, 7:30am to 6:00pm or visit [www.accessduarte.com](http://www.accessduarte.com).



**COOKING STUDENTS LEARN about healthy food alternatives through hands on participation and taste testing.**

# Claudia Heller named DWC WOTY

Celebrating its 63rd anniversary, the Duarte Woman's Club (DWC) reaffirmed its commitment to volunteerism and sisterhood recently at a banquet catered by Burger Continental held at the Duarte Community Center.

Two new members were initiated and the Club's most coveted award – Woman of the Year – was presented to Claudia Heller, a member since 1986. Past presidents and past Women of the Year recipients were honored.

Louise St. Andre, who moved to Duarte in 2005, and Margaret Toon, a Duartean for more than 42 years, were formally initiated into the Club by Jean Glass, membership director. They are now part of the "TEAM" which is the theme of the Club's president, Carolina Flores-Helizon, and stands for: Together Everyone Achieves More.

Heller was honored for her community volunteerism over the past 30 years. She served as DWC president from 1990 to 1992, and was previously named Woman of the Year in 1993. She continues to serve as president of the Duarte Historical Society.

The DWC was organized on March 25, 1949, federated with the State in 1956 and incorporated



**DUARTE Woman's Club member Kathy Delker pins Claudia Heller as this year's DWC Woman of the Year.**

in 1967. Club projects are many and include help with the CSC Christmas baskets and Foothill Unity's Adopt-An-Angel Program, awarding scholarships to students from Duarte and Mount Olive High Schools, monthly fruit donations to the Duarte Senior Center, and assistance to the city in several local community activities.

The Club meets in the evening, usually at the Duarte Community Center, on the first Thursday of each month from October to June.

Women over the age of 18 are invited to join. For more information, call Glass at (626) 358-3718.

# Duarte Kiwanis Club Sponsors New Builders Club at Northview Intermediate

Northview Intermediate School chartered their first Builders Club in February. The Builders Club is the Middle School Club for the Kiwanis International family of various clubs and service organizations.

The Northview Builders Club has started engaging in service with the help and mentoring of the Duarte High Key Club. The Key Club has been instrumental in training the new club members, and modeling the behavior of volunteerism. The Builders Club has volunteered for the recent Kiwanis Magic Show and is participating in this year's first Movie Night – the Kiwanis One Day Event for Duarte.

Teacher Ryan Johnson has encouraged the tremendous participation – over 40 members to



date – and is key to teaching the leadership skills to the new team of officers: President, Katrina la Madrid; Vice President, Chrisley Banzuela; Treasurer, Ronnel Rosales; and Secretary, Louis Chen. Duarte Kiwanis presented the officers with their banners, bell and gavel at a recent meeting with Principal Dr. Michael Chavez, Vice Principal, Michelle Randall, Superintendent Dr. Terry Nichols

and School Board President, Reyna Diaz all in attendance. Dr. Chavez shared that when he began teaching, he also started a Builders Club at his first school and is proud to see the tradition continuing with Northview.

For further information on providing a program or joining the Duarte Kiwanis Club, contact Dr. Diane Hernandez at drdiane@drhernandezoptometry.com.

## Citrus College recognizes honors students from Duarte

Dr. Edward C. Ortell, member of the Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees, representing Duarte is honored in revealing the names of the students who have earned a place on the Dean's List for fall 2011.

"These students have demonstrated the qualities required for academic excellence and exemplify what every Citrus College student strives to be," said Dr. Ortell. "I have no doubt they will continue on a path towards success in both their communities and in their individual career fields."

The following students are on the President's List: Lauren Marie Burns, Robert Carlos Cabrera, Cheyenne Concepcion, Jonathan David Cooper, Seth David Gibson, Austin J. Goldsmith, Christopher Aaron Granillo, Carey Evan Gunter, Heather Lee Heimbruch, Shuo Fen Hsu, Jayme Lynn Jacinto, Leonard Larino, Kristian Maurizio Magnani, Hospicio Escudero Naron, Kayla Marie Oriza, Melissa Yvonna Ortega, Chelsea Catherine Padgett, Lizeth Preciado, Jeremy Collin Quock, Marisela Ramirez, Sarah Danielle Segobia, Elizabeth Chris Tannous, Ruth Ann Wigglesworth and Taylor Renee Yocum.

The following students are on the Dean's List: Alonzo Edward Alatorre, Kalpana Avula, James Joseph Barza, Daisy C. Campugan, Yiu Joe Chan, Fabiola Diaz, Renee Jasmin Estephan, Anthony V. Garcia, Richard Albert Guzman, Katelynd Jane Lee, Andrea Lopez, Samantha Lynn Montalvo, Angelie Escudero Naron, Heidi Alejandra Payes, Joshua Yohane Polk, Juan Rangel, Viviana Vivero and Alana Christi Zion.

To be eligible for the President's List, a student must have a 3.8 GPA with a minimum of 6 units completed in the semester to be recognized with at least 24 units completed at Citrus College, excluding non-degree applicable courses.

To be eligible for the Dean's List, a student must have a 3.5 GPA in at least 6 units in the semester to be recognized with a minimum of 12 units completed at Citrus College, excluding non-degree applicable courses.

## What's all the squawking about?

Parrots squawking overhead, a yellow breasted chat posing in clear view, and an egret gracefully flying low were just a few of nature's gifts focused on by two dozen binocular-toting birders on a recent birding expedition led by ornithologist Kimball Garrett and sponsored by the Duarte Historical Society.

The group was pleased to catch a glimpse of the endangered Least Bell's Vireo. Attracted by the willows found in flood basins, this bird's decline is due to loss of riparian habitat.

Some 53 species of birds were spotted around the bioswale area of Encanto Park, across the Puente Largo Bridge and near the first



northern weir. An abundance of lush greenery, colorful flowers and a mild clear morning added to the ambience.

Garrett is collections manager at the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History and co-author of several birding guides including Birds of Southern California, a comprehensive guide to the region's 350 species of birds, which is scheduled to be released this summer.

# Duarte Historical Society banquet May 14 features Pacific Electric Railway

All aboard! With the promise of a memory-stirring evening, the Duarte Historical Society will present Michael Patris and Steve Crise at a banquet on Monday, May 14, 5:30 p.m. at the historic Old Spaghetti Factory, 1431 Buena Vista Street, Duarte.

The co-authors of the newly released Arcadia Publishing book *The Pacific Electric: Then and Now* will share seldom-seen images depicting the "same exact sections of the railway as it looks today and how it looked more than 60 years ago."

"It has been more than 50 years since the Pacific Electric Railway ceased operations in Southern California," says Patris, "yet many remnants of that once great system exist today. Some sections are still quite recognizable while others bear no resemblance to their former use."

"We are excited to present

this program which promises to be entertaining and educational," says Claudia Heller, president of the Duarte Historical Society. The authors will be on hand to sign and sell their book.

The authors serve on the Board of the Pacific Electric Railway Historical Society. Patris is the founder of the non-profit Mount Lowe Preservation Society, Inc. and author of Mount Lowe Railway, which is in its eighth printing.

A lasagna dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. followed by the program. Reservations are a must. Tickets are \$22 per person and include the show and dinner.

Mail checks payable to The Duarte Historical Society, c/o Claudia Heller, 277 Opal Canyon Road, Duarte, CA 91010

For more information, call (626) 358-0329.

## Claudia Noel Heller

When Claudia Noel Heller is on the job you know it is going to get done. She is not on board for glory or popularity; she is truly a pioneer for the community. Duarte would not be the same without her vision, caring and actions. Not only was she able to bring dreams to life, but she was also raising the money, doing the research, planning, and driving it to the end.

What you may not have known about Claudia. She was named after her Uncle Claude, first born of 7 to Lewis and Jean Garrett. Claudia grew up under the D in the Hollywood Hills, attended and graduated from Hollywood High. In High School Claudia got her first taste of her future. As president of her sorority Lambda Chi she started her journey of organizing and leadership. During her years at Hollywood High she met her high school sweetheart whom soon became her husband, Alan Heller.

During their time together they found they shared the same passion of travel and discovery. Often they would leave very early in the morning drive and explore everything they could in a one-day radius so she could be home by curfew. Marriage was welcomed right out of High School so their travels could reach beyond that one-day radius. They spent many summers in Hawaii, Alan surfing the big wave and Claudia tanning on the beach. In the summer of 1974 they packed up their camper (the one with the "Make Love not War" sticker on the back) and traveled around the United States.

Claudia and Alan soon found themselves as parents of three and in the year 1979 bought their first home in Duarte, California. For years they attended all sports with Kare Youth League, and shared their knowledge and passion for travel with their children. From river rafting, scuba diving, camping to off-roading, hiking and spelunking the Heller family was always on the go. Claudia is an understanding mother. Always very wise with her advice and very compassionate when it's not followed.

Over time in Duarte Claudia immersed herself into community work. With great pride in her community and its leaders she worked to make Duarte "Our Kind of Town". In effort to do her part in making our town safe Claudia not only organized her block for The Neighborhood Watch, but also wrote the monthly Neighborhood Watch newsletter. Claudia also took a big part in bringing the community together. She helped organize the first Duarte parade, organized many bird watching tours, served as president of the Woman's Club, and the President of the Duarte Historical Society for many years.

Claudia has taken a great part in preserving Duarte's history by leading the historical society, erecting statues, and putting into writing the stories of the community and its people. The most memorable event was the moving of the Museum. It was quite a scene of the house coming down Huntington Drive with Claudia and the community parading behind it with cheers of success.

Now Claudia finds herself as a grandma and retired, but don't think for a minute this has slowed her down. On the contrary she is currently attending all her grandchildren's sports events, taking care of her elderly father, traveling to every crazy place Alan has an itch to explore, and publishing her first book.

Claudia Noel Heller is a great person to honor. Her qualities as a woman, from nurturing and wise to honest and adventuresome, along with her passion for history and the community make her "Woman of the Year". She has touched many of us with her friendship and compassion, and challenged some of us to put aside our differences and come together as a community. Claudia has made a difference in Duarte and in all the lives she has touched.



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## Recycling

*Continued from page 1*

CalRecycle grant to fund and promote the costs associated with launching a citywide multi-family recycling program. Duarte's CalRecycle grant covers the costs of educational materials, collection, recycling containers, bins and some minor personnel costs. The program, then only in its earliest outreach stage, was interrupted for 18 months by the ongoing state budget crisis. In the interim, the California Legislature signed into law AB 341 requiring CalRecycle to increase the diversion of solid waste from the currently required statewide level of 50% to 75% by 2020. To achieve this goal, the new law requires all multi-family complexes of 5 units or more to begin recycling by July 1, 2012.

In 1988 Duarte became the first city in the San Gabriel Valley to introduce residential curbside recycling. In 2011, Duarte residents recycled more than 1,153 tons of their recyclables.

For more information, call Burrtec Waste Services at 1-866-287-7832 or the City of Duarte (626) 357-7931, ext. 221.

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Membership is open to the community. \$15 is required to establish a new membership, of which \$5 goes into your savings account and \$10 is donated to the SCE FCU Foundation and put to work in the local community to provide no-cost education and assistance programs. \*Limited-time offer, rates subject to change. Rate shown is for a 12-month used auto loan with automatic repayment. Rate and finance amount is based on member loan qualifications and vehicle value. Other rates and terms are available.

## Senior Center Activities

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

### HOT LUNCHESES

The Duarte Senior Center serves hot lunches Monday through Friday to individuals over age 60 or the spouse of someone over age 60. You must call 24/48 hours in advance to reserve space for lunch. Reservations are requested by calling (626) 357-3513. The suggested donation is \$2.

### MEALS ON WHEELS

Eligible seniors can receive a hot lunch and cold dinner plate delivered each weekday, or seven frozen meals delivered once a

week by YWCA Intervale Senior Services. For more information, please contact the Senior Center at (626) 357-3513 or YMCA Intervale at (626) 214-9465.

### MEALS ON WHEELS VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED!

If you possess a current CA driver's license, have access to a personal vehicle, and proof of insurance, you are eligible to volunteer to deliver to homebound seniors. Meals are delivered Monday through Friday, and no special training is required, just a compassionate individual who will brighten the days of the recipient. To become a volunteer please contact the YWCA Intervale at (626) 214-9465.

### ACCESS TRANSPORTATION

This program provides transportation for individuals with

disabilities. For eligibility or more information call (800) 827-0829.

### HOW TO MAKE MEDICARE WORK FOR YOU

The Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP) Counselor provides unbiased information, counseling and assistance on Medicare and related health care coverage. Appointments are available every 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday and 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of each month from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. for FREE help. Call (626) 357-3513 for an appointment.

### AARP DRIVER SAFETY PROGRAM

The Duarte Senior Center, in cooperation with AARP, will be offering an AARP Driver Safety Class for persons 55 and older and there will be two different classes offered: 4-hour refresher course on Thursday, May 17, 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.; 8-hour class on Tuesday, July 17 and Thursday, July 19 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

The eight-hour class, split up in two four-hour sessions, is a comprehensive classroom driver re-training course geared to the specific needs of older motorists. If you take the 8-hour course your attendance is required at both sessions. The cost is \$12 for members (AARP card required at registration) and \$14 for non-members. Reservations are required. For more information, please call the Duarte Senior Center at (626) 357-3513.

### MOVIES

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

### BINGO

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

### BUNCO

First Wednesday of the month from 12:45 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. Sponsored by the Duarte Woman's Club. Win Prizes and meet new people. RSVP by calling (626)



PARTICIPANTS ENJOY THE COMPANY of others on adult excursions.

357-3513. \$1 per person.

### CLASSES

The Duarte Senior Center is currently taking registration for the spring session of classes, and classes will begin the week of April 2. Registration hours are Monday- Friday, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Classes are for 10 weeks unless otherwise noted. All classes are for adults 55 years and older. THERE ARE NO REFUNDS.

Fee classes include: American Art Appreciation, Be Fit, Chair Yoga, Chess, Cross Fit, Exercise with Shelly, Get Fit, How to Write Your Own Life's Story, Music Appreciation, Piano/Keyboard, Strength Training Program, Western Line Dance: Beginning & Intermediate, and Yoga.

Ongoing free classes include: Ceramics, English as a Second Language, Guitar, Knitting, Spanish Level I, Spanish Level II, Tai Chi, and Watercolor.

### EXCURSIONS

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

Harrah's Rincon, Tuesday,

April 10, 8 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., \$30 with lunch on your own; Cirque du Soleil "Iris", Sunday, April 22, 9:45 a.m. – 5 p.m., \$120 with brunch included; The Capital Steps, Sunday, May 6, 12:30 p.m. – 6 p.m., \$43 with lunch included. Battle of the Dance, Wednesday, June 20, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., \$45 with lunch included.

**NO REFUNDS:** In the event of a participant cancellation, an attempt will be made to fill the spot from the waiting list. If successful the participant will receive a gift certificate equal to the amount of the trip minus a \$10 service charge.

### ADULT EXTENDED EXCURSIONS

**Rockies Highlights by Train,** 9 days, 12 meals, June 9, 2012, \$3,599 – Based on double occupancy (Includes deluxe hotel accommodations, overnight train journey, and round-trip airfare.) On Wednesday, October 26 at 1 p.m., there will be a preview of the sights and attractions participants will enjoy on the trip.

**Heritage of America,** 10 days, 13 meals, October 5, 2012, \$2,799 – Based on double occupancy (Includes deluxe hotel accommodations and round trip airfare.) On Wednesday, November 9 at 1 p.m., there will be a preview of the sights and attractions participants will enjoy on the trip.



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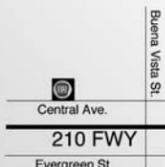


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## Residential street maintenance project for all residential streets west of Highland Ave.

The Duarte City Council recently awarded a \$1.15 million slurry seal and cape seal project to All American Asphalt of Corona. This project is funded through a combination of State Gas Tax and the CalRecycle Grant.

The CalRecycle Grant reimburses the City one dollar (\$1.00) for every square yard of asphalt rubber aggregate membrane (ARAM) constructed. We estimate that 132,500 square yards of ARAM will be placed in the course of this project. \$132,500 will be returned to the City via the Cal-Recycle Rubberized Pavement Grant for the recycling of approximately 11,000 used rubber tires.

Boundaries of the project are: All residential streets west of Highland Avenue from the north to the

south city limits.

There are two products being constructed under this contract. The streets in fair condition will receive a surface treatment of an asphalt rubber aggregate membrane (chip seal), followed by an application of a Type II slurry seal.

This combination of materials is known as a "cape seal." The remaining streets, which are good condition, will receive just the Type II slurry seal.

All of the streets have had any failed pavement areas removed and replaced; and all pavement cracks 1/4" or greater have been sealed with asphalt rubber under separate contracts.

The City has not yet determined when the work will begin; however, as the ARAM product requires placement during warm weather, the work will occur sometime between mid-May and late summer of this year.

Further details will be available on the City of Duarte's website, www.accessduarte.com.

## You can come home again

Dr. Terry Nichols, Superintendent,  
Duarte Unified School District

The American author Thomas Wolfe was wrong when he wrote "You can't go home again." I am living proof that you can come home. On February 22, I returned to the Duarte Unified School District as the Superintendent. I am thrilled to return to my "professional home" here in Duarte.

My work in Duarte began in 1998 as the principal of Northview Intermediate School after a career as a special education teacher, coach and principal in my home state of Arkansas. Over the next eleven years I served the Duarte community as the principal of Duarte High School and as a director and assistant superintendent of educational services. In 2009 I was appointed as the Superintendent of Schools of Claremont Unified where I intended on finishing out my career. But, after a year and a half as the superintendent in Claremont, I couldn't resist the opportunity to come back and lead Duarte Unified as the Superintendent.

It has always been my professional goal to make sure we keep the focus on the student in the classroom, no matter what outside forces may be doing to public education.

The teachers and administrators in Duarte are carrying out that goal for students every single day and the cumulative success is remarkable as evidenced by the accomplishments of our schools. Royal Oaks Elementary is a candidate for becoming a National Blue Ribbon school and Valley View Elementary won a Golden Bell Award from the California School Boards Association. Four of our schools have been recognized as California Distinguished Schools and in 2009-2010, the increase in Duarte's Academic Performance Index scores was the highest in the San Gabriel Valley. This is all thanks to the hard work of our teachers, support staff, administration, parents, community and most importantly, the students.

I look forward to reconnecting with all of my old friends here in Duarte and leading the Duarte Unified School District to continuing success in the years ahead. And, I'm thrilled to be "home."



DR. TERRY NICHOLS

## Valley View events

By Robin Nelson, Principal

The Daddy/Daughter Sock Hop, the annual Talent Show and Founder's Day Celebration were three exciting and fun events that brightened up the winter and early spring at Valley View.

We had our first Daddy/Daughter Sock-Hop in February. It was a rousing success. We had dancing to the oldies, hula-hoop contests, bubble gum chewing and delicious root beer floats. **Shauna Pierce** did another great job organizing the event with help from our tireless PTA. The cafeteria was decorated, and the music was loud. There was an awesome DJ (me) that kept it entertaining and fun. I have a feeling it is a new Dolphin tradition.

Twenty-four acts performed at the annual Valley View Talent Show. It was a variety show extraordinaire. The PTA sponsors this annual event to showcase our children's performance abilities. The event was hosted by our own **Randy Galarza** and **Zachary Chapjian**.

We got to hear all of our fabulous singers: **Diana Gonzalez, Leilani Huerta, Justine Cruz, Alia Alshoushi, Rebecca Isip, Amil Johnson, Pilar Peinado, Lola Villareal, Elise Ponce, Nicole Ochoa, and Jordin Davis.**

Dancing was certainly in fashion this year. We enjoyed all styles of dance including Lyrical Ballet, hip-hop, Flamenco and Native American Dance featuring: **Aubrey Alarcon, Alexa Diaz, Georgina Diaz, Janellie Gonzalez, Valerie Gonzalez, Ella Jamison, Ivanka Leon, Dalilah Martinez, Diya Shah Patel, Cristina Salgado, Diego Casas, Michael Lopez, Bellina Brieno, Alexis Garcia, Raymond Santellan, Skylynne Aubert, Kyle Banzuela, Joy Curry, Diane**

See Valley View on page 13

comes, all the hard work will pay off, and you will be very proud of yourself for what you have accomplished."

### JESSICA SANCHEZ

G.P.A. 4.25

**AP Classes:** AP Biology, AP World History

**Elective courses and special programs:** French 1, 2, 3, Computer Aided Drafting (CAD), Peer Counselor, Ambassadors (Choir), Duarte High School Early College Program: 27 college semester units from Citrus College

**Extracurricular Activities:** Swim Team, Duarte Area Resource Team (D.A.R.T.), Mayor's Youth Council, California Scholastic Federation (CSF), La Vida Nueva, Choir

**Advice to students aspiring to go to college:** "Don't be scared to apply, you just might get accepted."

### BRANDON PARK

G.P.A. 4.6

**AP Classes:** AP World History, AP Biology, AP English Language and Comp, AP Calculus AB, AP US History, AP US Government, AP Physics, AP Calculus BC, AP Chemistry, AP English Literature

**Elective courses and special programs:** Spanish 1, 2, ROP Graphic Design, Design for Web, Engineering Applications of Physics,

**Extracurricular Activities:** Solar Boat Team, Cross Country, Pacific American Volunteering Association (PAVA), Duarte



FREDDY MURGUIA, Danny Robles, Carlos Guillen, and Jennifer Sanchez practice their chant describing a full moon.

## Beardslee is G.L.A.D.

While all of the Beardslee students are happy to be at school each day, our second and third graders are especially G.L.A.D.! What is making them so excited? It is the G.L.A.D. strategies that their teachers are using to help them build their language skills and academic knowledge! G.L.A.D. stands for Guided Language Acquisition and Design and it means that the teachers are using specific strategies to help their students learn new vocabulary, explain difficult concepts in understandable ways, and increase their knowledge of the world around them.

Our second and third grade teachers spent seven days this year learning how to use these strategies. Not only did they learn the theory behind the strategies, but they also worked together to plan out a science unit that fully uses these language building strategies. For example, the third grade teachers planned a fantastic unit on astronomy for the third graders! They have spent the last month teaching the students all about astronomy, including information about the moon, stars, and the sun. One of the students' favorite strategies is the chants that they use to summarize the facts they have learned. Not only are the students able to say the

chant from memory with hand motions, they are also able to explain in great detail what those phrases mean!

Another G.L.A.D. strategy that the students really enjoy is building sentences together. In this strategy, the students select examples of nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, and prepositional phrases all related to the topic of astronomy and put them together to create complex, detailed sentences. They know to put the words in the correct order so their sentences make sense, and they can also explain how using a variety of words in their sentences helps them sound more sophisticated as students. It is inspiring to watch eight and nine year olds write sentences that are clearly at the college level in complexity and sophistication!

When asked what their favorite thing about G.L.A.D. is, their responses included:

Christopher Baez, "Learning this way is fun!"

Jackie Magana, "I learn better this way because I'm learning new words."

Danny Robles, "We can learn by moving around and that gets our wiggles out."

Congratulations second and third graders and keep up the great work!



THE STUDENTS in Ms. Chow's class practice their chant describing the phases of the moon.

Public Library Volunteer, Heal the Bay, Governor's Service Award, Certificate of Honor from Korean Consulate General, Korean American Running Team, Martial Arts, Traditional Korean Drums,

**Advice to students aspiring to go to college:** "Perfection is what you pursue, not what you achieve. Make your effort to grasp whatever you can reach, but do not spread your wings too far."

As the 5 students profiled have proven, Duarte High School and the City of Duarte provide the best resources for student success.

Academically, these students took advantage of AP courses, Early College, ROP and other elective courses offered at DHS. They also got involved in extracurricular activities at DHS and in the City of Duarte. One note of particular significance is that 4 of 5 students admitted to UCLA were DHS Early College students each with approximately 1 year's worth of college units completed. At DHS we are all proud of all our senior students as they pursue their passion and post-secondary dreams.

## Duarte goes to college

It's that time of year in Duarte when our senior students begin to make plans for their next steps. If you walk into the Duarte High School front office your eyes will be caught with the banner's draped across the foyer. When a student receives a college acceptance letter they bring them in to our guidance secretary and she creates a sign for each student and for each university they are accepted.

The class of 2012 continues the Duarte College Going Culture. With new acceptances being added daily the office is filled with great news and opportunities. Opportunities are not given, they are earned. For that reason 5 of our DHS students from the class of 2012 are profiled to inspire and set the example for all future falcons out there.

The following five students were recently accepted to the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA). UCLA is among the most competitive of the University of California Schools. In 2011, only 25.48% of students that applied to UCLA were admitted. Of those students admitted, 86.36% had a 4.0 or above. This year UCLA received over 72,600 freshman applications (a record high) for a class of just over 5,400 new freshmen. These DHS students share what it takes to go from Duarte to UCLA.

### ELIZABETH TANNOUS

G.P.A. 4.24

**AP Classes:** AP Chemistry, AP World History, AP Statistics

**Elective courses and special programs:** ROP Video Productions, ROP Emergency Medical Response, ROP Office, ROP Recreation Leader, Engineering Applications of Physics, French 1,

2, 3, 4, Duarte High School Early College 38 college semester units from Citrus College

**Extracurricular Activities:** American Red Cross, Mayor's Youth Council, Chemistry/Math Tutor, Duarte Public Library Volunteer

**Advice to students aspiring to go to college:** "Get involved."

### VIVIAN VIVERO

G.P.A. 4.32

**AP Classes:** AP Biology, AP Spanish, AP Calculus AB

**Elective courses and special programs:** ROP Graphic Design, Computer Aided Drafting, Psychology, Spanish 2, 3, Duarte High School Early College Program: 30 college semester units from Citrus College

**Extracurricular Activities:** Swim Team, Duarte Area Resource Team (D.A.R.T.), Mayor's Youth Council, California Scholastic Federation (CSF), La Vida Nueva

**Advice to students aspiring to go to college:** "When everything begins to get difficult, just take a moment to reflect on your dreams and remember that all of your efforts are going to make them come true."

### VATCHE GULESSERIAN

G.P.A. 4.42

**AP Classes:** AP Biology, AP English Language and Comp, AP Calculus AB

**Elective courses and special programs:** Woodshop, Spanish 1, 2, Psychology, Duarte High School Early College Program: 30 college semester units from Citrus College

**Extracurricular Activities:** Swim Team, Biology Tutor

**Advice to students aspiring to go to college:** "When the time



THE DADDY-DAUGHTER SOCK HOP

## Northview Intermediate

By Dr. Michael Chavez  
Principal, Northview Intermediate

At Northview Intermediate 2012 is off to a great start as students found themselves involved in a wide variety of learning opportunities and activities. Students participated in events such as field trips, debate competitions, the Renaissance Rally, Youth Summit, Science-Technology-Engineering-Mathematics (STEM) conference, beach clean-up, sports, California Junior Scholastic Federation (CJSF) and our P T S A Founder's Day event. These activities gave Northview students opportunities to shine!



During February and March, the Northview debate team participated and excelled in debate competitions throughout the region. Our PTSA Founder's day event celebrated the hardwork, dedication and support of our parents, students and staff members. Special thanks goes out to all members of the Northview community, as a wonderful evening of food, fun and fundraising was enjoyed by everyone present.

Students "Go Green" with a beach clean-up. On February 11th, 40 Northview students participated in a beach clean-up at Huntington Beach hosted by community partner Simple Green. Students helped to clean up debris and trash from the wetlands. The annual event teaches students about the importance of protecting the environment and giving back to the community.

Youth Summit was a great success. Over 300 students participated in the city sponsored Duarte-Monrovia Youth Leadership Summit. At the summit entitled SWAG-Serving With A Goal, students self-selected workshops on topics such as financial preparedness, college planning, zumba, boxing, art, movie make-up and cooking. The annual event fosters student's belief in themselves and their goals for the future.

March also proved to be busy starting with Northview's Renaissance Rally entitled "Grades Rising: Grades are the Word." Over 300 students were honored for

academic excellence. Students transformed the gym into a 1950's soda shop. Those who qualified received a t-shirt and were honored during their award parade recognizing students with grade point averages of 3.00-3.49; 3.50-3.99; 4.00 grade point average; and those whose G.P.A improved by 0.50 or higher. Students and staff participated in a variety of per-



performances, fun competitions, dancing and skits, with the entire school in attendance including school board members, district officials and many Northview parents. Special thanks to Sonic Burger and Simple Green for their community partnership in helping to provide for this event. Also in March, our California Junior Scholarship Federation (CJSF) students spent a day at Knotts Berry Farm networking with other CJSF students from different regions of California.

Northview students excel in a STEM event. STEM is an ac-



STUDENTS dissecting squid.

are created and maintained. They participated in a plankton drag, where they identified their discoveries with a microscope, dissected a squid, interacted with the touch tanks by petting sharks and bat rays, and even got to spend the night sleeping with the sea life!

Opportunities and experiences for students to learn, grow, challenge themselves and excel at Northview is an ongoing process. The Northview learning community is proud of the many outstanding accomplishments of our students and appreciates the hard work of staff and parents, which lead to present and future student success. Our students and staff live by the motto "Believe, Achieve, Succeed."



STUDENTS at the STEM Conference.

## Valley View

(Continued from page 12)

Guiragossian, Jasmine Arellano, Audrey Krizek, Marissa White, Juliette Zamora, Natalie Parseghian, Emily Sousa, Brandon Karagozian, Audrey Renlla, Krizia Canas, Camila Gonzalez, Isabella Iniguez, Natasha Kearl, Rachel Pierce, Julian Cruz, Alexis Carroll and Robinn Titular.

Our talented musicians played their instruments for our listening pleasure: Natalie Kearl, Darin Galarza, Randy Galarza, and A.J. Smith. Additionally, two students performed brilliant monologues, Jaina Johnson and Alyssa Renskers.

The auditorium was jam-packed and the parents were beaming with pride. Cici Carroll and her phenomenal support team: Florencia Ponce, Sherry Cruz and Shauna Pierce did an amazing job.

Our faithful and fabulous PTA did a fantastic job at our annual Founder's Day celebration. This year Denise Figueroa was the

Founder's Day Chair. Denise did an extraordinary job with the help of Laura Silverman, Shauna Pierce, Mary Haynes and Ani Yousoufian; they planned and worked hard to make this year's Silent Auction and raffle another huge triumph. Founder's Day is a tradition at Valley View. Our families and staff come together to eat, enjoy the performances, honor our school community and support the classroom teachers.

As always, a good time was had by all. The Valley View Chorus and some of the talent show acts performed several numbers that delighted the audience. The deserving people that were honored are as follows: Alicia Chapjian for Very Special Person, Lois Gaston for Honorary Service Award, Arcadia Assistance League Operation School Bell for Continuing Service Award, Laura Silverman for Golden Oak and Krista Juarez as the Golden Apple Teacher.

We appreciate the support of our parents, teachers, and staff for rising to every occasion for our school community. We sure know how to have a good time at Valley View.

## Maxwell students take a journey through African American history

By Dr. Kelly Buckley, Principal

The students at Maxwell Elementary celebrated Black History by performing "Dreams": A Journey through African American History, a theatrical play written by Jennifer Hopson, first grade teacher at Maxwell.

"Dreams" was a reenactment of the lives of African Americans from slavery to now. The students were exposed to the challenge of slavery, racism, segregations, discrimination, and unfair laws that African Americans overcame over the last 200 years.

The play honored Harriet Tubman, Rosa Parks, Louie Armstrong, Phyllis Wheatley, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Ruby Bridges, President Barack Obama and many others who have excelled despite of the challenges they endured.

Through song, dance and drama the students depicted the lives, accomplishments, and the positive contributions that African Americans have made to society. It is because of the strength, persistence, integrity and courage that many African Americans are afforded the many opportunities that they experience today.

Students learned that many Africans young and old, were sold into slavery, endured segregation and had to fight for civil rights. It is our hope that the content from "Dreams" will propel our students to persevere when they experience adversity. We want our students to dream because some

dreams come true! This play also celebrated the community support needed to educate our students.

There were guest appearances from Mrs. Lois Gaston, former city council member, New Hope church choir, Holy Assembly Praise dancers, Maxwell's custodian and health aide, and former students.

Over 200 parents and community members attended the event held in the Maxwell Elementary auditorium. Some of the students were interviewed and shared the impact the play had on them. The students made statements such as, "It was fun learning about the good and bad times that African Americans lived through." "I did not understand segregation; now I do." "Awesome experience!"



"HARRIET TUBMAN AND THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD"

## Transition Kindergarten August 27, 2012

Duarte Unified School District is pleased to announce new program options for five year olds.

The California Department of Education has amended the required birthday for admission to Kindergarten and established a Transitional Kindergarten program which will begin in the 2012-2013 school year.

The legislature planned a gradual implementation with eligibility for Transitional Kindergarten (TK) if the child has their fifth birthday by:

- November 2-December 2 for 2012-13
- October 2-December 2 for 2013-14
- September 2-December 2 for 2014-15

In order for Duarte USD to provide instruction that will enable our students to leap ahead, we will implement the TK program district-wide for

all students born after Sept. 2, this coming fall.

This program is a first of a two-year kindergarten program that utilizes a modified Kindergarten curriculum that is age and developmentally appropriate.

Teachers will be highly qualified and meet all credentialing requirements for the state of California.

Kindergarten registration began on March 1, 2012.

Parent information meetings will be scheduled to share information about both programs and the kinds of services that the district is going to provide to meet the needs of all students and further explain the benefits of the Transitional Kindergarten program.

If you have any questions, please call Wendy Wright, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services.

# Math, science and families come together at Royal Oaks

By Janice Kolodinski, Principal

Families at Royal Oaks gathered on March 13th for the 3rd Annual Family Math and Science Night. The goals of the event were to bring families together, spark student interest in math and science, and give parents ideas for ways to bring math and science into every-day life.

Over 100 students, parents and teachers participated in the increasingly popular event coordinated by Teaching and Learning Coach, Krysty Leckrone. The cafeteria was transformed for the evening into a math and science exploratorium with over 20 activities and experiments. All the resources were provided at each learning center with instructions for participation.

It was thrilling to see parents and students learning together, fully engaged, and talking about math and science concepts with excitement and curiosity.

Some of the most popular centers were measuring bubbles, graphing portions of teddy grahams, estimation, and Oobleck,



MARCELA CAMACHO explores Oobleck with her family.

a substance made very popular by Dr. Seuss.

At the end of the event parents said it had been a fantastic evening, and students were sorry it had to end. Nonetheless, families left with great ideas about how to engage their children in math and science at home. For example,

glasses with different amounts of water make different tones; they learned about the endless possibilities of using measurement for fun while teaching their kids important concepts for geometry; and the right combination of water and oil can make a tornado in a cup.

## Duarte Teen Center

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

All Duarte teens grades 9-12 with school ID are welcome. Participation is free, but Teen Center registration packets must be filled out and returned.

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

### YOUTH EMPLOYMENT WORKSHOP

Youth between the ages 15-18 will participate in an employment workshop on Wed., April 25 3:30 p.m.-5 p.m. The workshop will include tips on finding a job, gaining employment experience, resume writing, filling out job applications, interview tips, and how to be successful once you land a job. There will also be local employers on site to speak with the participants about employment opportunities. Please register in advance at the Teen Center. Space is limited. Free!

### CINCO DE MAYO CELEBRATION

Celebrate Cinco de Mayo at the Teen Center on Thursday, May 3 at 3:30 p.m. There will be traditional Mexican food for all to enjoy for \$1 per person.

### TEEN EXCURSIONS

#### Magic Mountain Excursion

On Thurs., April 5, the Teen Center will be heading to the mountain for plenty of excitement and thrill rides! Ride the new Green Lantern! Trip leaves the Teen Center at 8:30 a.m. and returns to the Teen Center at 6:30 p.m.

### ON GOING ACTIVITIES

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

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

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

Girls Night Out – This free

program is for teen girls grades 9-12. Discuss various topics ranging from peer pressure, goals, self esteem, relationships and much more. The group will meet Tuesdays: March 20, April 3 & 17, and May 1 & 15 from 3:30 p.m. – 5 p.m.

### YOUTH BOXING PROGRAM

Join the fun and excitement with Duarte Boxing Program at the Duarte Teen Center! Boys and girls ages 8-18 years old are welcome! You'll learn all of the fundamentals of boxing and get in incredible shape! Make new friends, feel more confident about

yourself and have lots of fun!

You will gain flexibility, stamina, and coordination as well as make new friends. Our knowledgeable trainers provide a safe and stimulating learning environment for all levels of youth. You can train for fun and physical activity or for a chance to compete against other youth in the United States and at our annual Boxing Show. The Duarte Teen Center Gym is open Mon.-Thurs. from 4-8 p.m. and Friday from 4-7 p.m. There is a \$10 monthly fee for each participant. Non-residents are welcome for \$20 per month. Register now at the Duarte Teen Center. Call (626) 303-0863 for more information or just stop by to see if you are interested.



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# The Arts at Mt. Olive High School

By Kevin Morris, Principal

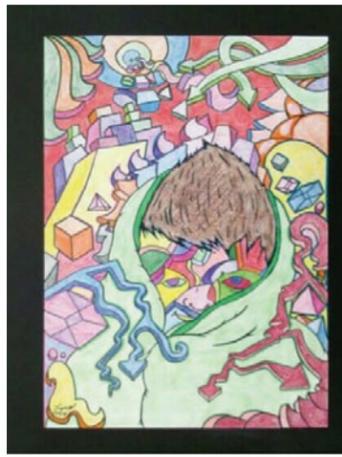
Yes, the arts have come to Mt. Olive High School and in 2010-11, the Duarte Unified School District saw the need to provide curriculum in the arts for the students of Mt. Olive. To the benefit of the students they gave us Ms. Heather Messner to teach art. Ms. Messner has brought to Mt. Olive an engaging and exciting standards-based art class designed around collaborative integration



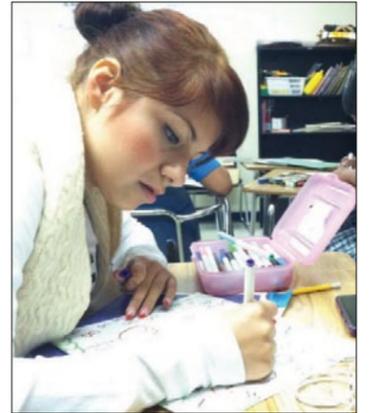
of arts with language arts, sci-

ence and history. Projects created by the students include stained glass, tiled mosaics, water colors, paintings, pencil sketches, photography and garden sculptures.

In addition, Ms. Messner



is also the lead teacher for Huntington Library's Fairchild Challenge for high schools which fosters interest in the environment by encouraging students to appreciate the beauty and value of nature, develop critical thinking skills, understand the need for biodiversity and conservation through the integration of the arts, science, math, and language arts. Some of the top high schools in the San Gabriel Valley are competing in this competition.

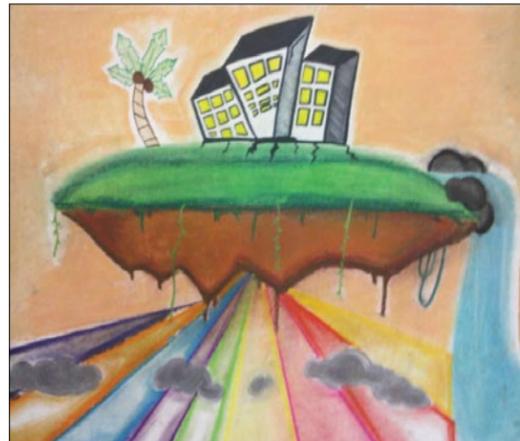


credit is due, Ms. Messner is an amazing teacher with an eye for talent and a love for the arts.

Other original design projects include the Mt. Olive t-shirt, hoodie, hats and logo for the Mt. Olive's student run business, Duarte Lemonade Brigade. We have some very talented students that may be famous one day, but let's give credit where



credit is due, Ms. Messner is an amazing teacher with an eye for talent and a love for the arts.




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## Jr. Olympics Track Meet

Duarte Parks and Recreation is hosting the annual Junior Olympics Track and Field Meet on Sat., April 14, at Duarte High School Stadium. Boys and girls born 1997-2005 can inquire about participating at their local school. Participating schools include: Andres Duarte, Beardslee, Maxwell, Royal Oaks, Valley View, and Northview. Medals will be awarded to 1st place finishers, and ribbons for 2nd place in each event. Schools will compete to win the Junior Olympics School Champion title, which includes a large trophy awarded to the winning elementary school team. This meet will act as a qualifying meet for the SCMAF San Gabriel Valley Track and Field Championships that will be held in May. All registration will be taken at your local school. For more information call (626) 357-7931 or call your school.

# Taste of Duarte.com and Business Expo

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May 16  
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- Curves for Women, 1159 Huntington Dr.
- Frontier Hardware, 2137 Huntington Dr.

**TICKETS** • Advance: \$25 adults - \$20 seniors and children 6-12  
• At Gate: \$30 adults - \$20 seniors and children 6-12

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