

Nominations accepted until Nov. 8 for Community Service Recognition. Go to [DuarteChamber.com](http://DuarteChamber.com) to submit one TODAY.

**SHOP DUARTE COUPONS**

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*"Our API scores are off the charts."*

- DUSD Superintendent Dean Conklin

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NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2010

# Duarte View

A bi-monthly community publication of the Duarte Chamber of Commerce, in its 90th year of service to the community.

## Community volunteers to be honored Nov. 24 at Mayor's Breakfast

Duarte will express its thanks to outstanding community volunteers at the 25th annual Mayor's Thanksgiving Prayer Breakfast and 23rd annual Duarte Chamber Community Service Recognition Awards, Wednesday, November 24.

The public is invited to attend the event that will take place from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. at the City of Hope, Cooper Auditorium, and 1500 East Duarte Road.

This year's featured speaker is Karen Robertson. Karen is a graduate and affiliate of CoachU. Prior to coaching, she was a classroom teacher, school administrator, college instructor, staff developer, public speaker, and professional clown. In addition, she has also written dozens of articles and several books.

Outstanding community volunteers will also be honored in

the categories of Civic Service, Service to Senior Citizens, Humanitarian, Service to Youth, Business, and Youth.

Also at the event, Duarte's Promise --- The Alliance for Youth will be launching its ninth annual "Holiday of Promise" project together with the Duarte Church and Clergy Association and numerous area businesses.

The "Holiday of Promise" project collect foods, personal items and gift donations from Monday, November 22, through Tuesday, Dec. 14, for both the Duarte Community Service Council and the Foothill Unity Center who provide baskets for needy families the week before Christmas.

The City of Duarte, Duarte Chamber of Commerce, Duarte Kiwanis Club, Duarte Church and Clergy Association, the City of Hope, Duarte Women's Club,

Duarte's Promise; The Alliance for Youth and Royal Oaks Manor jointly sponsor the annual program.

Tickets are priced at \$10, or \$8 for children and seniors, and can be purchased at the Duarte Chamber of Commerce or at City Hall or online at [www.duarte-chamber.com](http://www.duarte-chamber.com). A limited amount of tickets will also be available at the door.

There is an online form for nominating community volunteers for this recognition at [www.duartechamber.com](http://www.duartechamber.com). The deadline for submitting nominations is noon on Nov. 8, 2010. Paper forms are available at the Duarte Chamber of Commerce office at 1105 Oak Ave., Duarte.

For more information, call Duarte Chamber of Commerce at (626) 357-3333 or Duarte City Hall (626) 357-7931, ext. 266.

## Duarte to honor Veterans Nov. 11



Veterans, families of those currently serving, and the general public are invited to attend a special Veterans Day ceremony sponsored by the City of Duarte and Duarte's Promise; the Alliance for Youth at Thorsen Park, Tuesday, Nov. 11, at 9 a.m.

The City of Duarte annually ensures that veterans of the U.S. Armed Services and those currently serving the United States are personally honored and remembered every Veterans Day.

Thorsen Park is located at 2800 Huntington Dr. at Encanto

Parkway.

Seats will be available at the ceremony and refreshments will be served immediately afterwards.

The event will feature two guest Veteran speakers; one from WWII and one from the Iraq conflict.

Lyle Umenhoffer, a San Gabriel Resident, will recall his personal experience as one of the few survivors of the U.S.S. Indianapolis, on one of the most tragic incidents of W.W.II.

Staff Sergeant Hugo Caballero was raised in Chino Hills and is a four time combat veteran who fought in the Iraq war. Hugo served as both a interface control technician and a surveillance technician.

Duarte residents who are veterans are cordially invited. Please contact Alonzo Alatorre (626) 357-7931 ext. 265 to ensure that your name is read at the ceremony.

The city will also recognize the community's Blue Star families.

## Duarte's Encanto Park Bioswale Project to open in December

The City of Duarte will be unveiling its long awaited Encanto Park Bioswale and Outdoor Nature Classroom project in late November. The official dedication ceremony will be conducted on December 7 at 9 a.m. at the outdoor classroom location within the park located at 751 Encanto

Parkway. The dedication will include representatives from state, county and local elected officials, and over 90 students from local Valley View Elementary School who will be participating in the ceremony.

A bioswale is a constructed stream channel that conveys stormwater to the ocean slowly allowing water to infiltrate locally. They also replenish groundwater and reduce flooding along the main channels and rivers. The Duarte bioswale is a "naturalized" bioswale designed to look and function as a natural stream. Not only does it treat and infiltrate stormwater, it also creates natural habitat through the planting of native California plants. The bioswale ends in a small basin containing a thick layer of biologically active soil that further cleans and infiltrates local water.

The City built the project with both a \$508,000 grant from

the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountain Conservancy (RMC) and an additional \$100,000 Proposition A grant from County Supervisor Michael Antonovich's office. Funds were originally allocated back in 2008 but were suspended for a period of time as a result of the ongoing budget crisis in the State of California. The principal objective of the project was to enhance connections between the park and the river.

The creation of a 1,000-foot long bioswale along the western perimeter of City-owned Encanto Park began construction early this summer as the second step of a larger multi-faceted project that has opened up educational and recreational opportunities for visitors to the park and the adjacent San Gabriel River. The project also includes a small outdoor classroom, kiosk and interpretative signage.

Other components of the project include the previously completed Encanto Nature Walk; a 1500 foot in length multi use path with interpretive signage along the west bank of the San Gabriel River. The walk includes a river overlook that projects nearly 200 feet out into the river channel with stone benches, and attractive drought tolerant native landscaping. The area has been transformed from a previously fenced off and inaccessible space into a pleasant walk culminating at the historic Puente Largo Bridge. Total cost for the design and development of the Encanto Nature Walk/Bioswale Project was approximately \$758,000.

"The Encanto Nature Walk is destined to be one of the jewels in the regional Emerald Necklace Project," said Deputy City Manager Karen Herrera.

In 2006, the RMC provided the City with a \$150,000 planning grant for the bioswale project that will include interpretive signage, native landscaping and a small infiltration basin to manage storm runoff from the park.

Duarte's street maintenance staff will provide long-term maintenance of the project. For more information, call the City of Duarte (626) 357-7931, ext 221.



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

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More information is available on the web at [www.duartechamber.com](http://www.duartechamber.com) and [www.accessduarte.com](http://www.accessduarte.com).

[www.DuarteChamber.com](http://www.DuarteChamber.com)

- Community Calendar
- Local News
- Business Directory
- Web Site Links to Chamber Member Businesses

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## Ninth Annual "Holiday of Promise" Program Kicks Off Nov. 24

As part of a continuing effort to fulfill the Five Promises for local youth, Duarte's Promise, the Alliance for Youth, will be launching its ninth annual "Holiday of Promise" program collecting food, toys, personal care, clothing and household items at numerous locations during a three week period in November through December.

Together with the Duarte Church and Clergy

Association, the Duarte Community Service Council, the City of Duarte, the Foothill Unity Center, the Duarte Unified School District and other local businesses, Duarte's Promise intends to make the holidays brighter for over 400 Duarte families in need.

This year's event will be launched at the annual Mayor's Prayer Breakfast on Wednesday, November 24, at City of Hope's Cooper Auditorium starting at 7 a.m.

From November 22 through December 14, participants throughout the community will be collecting food, toys, personal care, clothing and household items, which will be picked up and delivered by city staff to the Duarte Community Service Council and Foothill Unity Center.

The groups, along with local youth and other volunteers, will then be assembling and distributing baskets with the collected items to local needy families in late December.

Join Duarte's Promise; the Alliance for Youth and its coalition of churches and other businesses in making a brighter holiday season for our families today by keeping the Five Promises alive and thriving.

For more information about the Holiday of Promise Project, please contact Duarte's Promise at 626-357-7931 extension 267.

## Duarte Fitness Center

The City of Duarte Fitness Center will be having its biggest sale of the year, December 1 through December 31. Annual memberships for Duarte residents start as low as \$100 with no monthly fees and make great Christmas gifts!

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

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



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- ❖ Family programs
- ❖ Adult and Family Services



www.maryvale-ca.org

For up to the minute information on programs call 626-280-6510, extension 334.

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Duarte, CA 91010  
626-357-1514

7600 East Graves Avenue  
Rosemead, CA 91770  
626-280-6510

# Ganging up on gangs: Father Gregory Boyle

By Neil Earle

Duarte City Council Member John Fasana introduced a very significant guest to a Duarte audience last weekend.

Gangs, gang warfare, gang violence—here are three of America’s most tragic urban problems. At last count there were about 11,000 gangs across the country with LA registering some 80,000 individual members.

The scope of the problem is such that it is hard for parents, teachers and community leaders to even get a handle on the problem let alone generate solutions.

Anyone attending Father Gregory Boyle’s talk at the Eighth annual Duarte Festival of Authors in Westminster Gardens on October 2 heard a sensible and compassionate voice beginning to cut through some of the pervasive fog.

Father Boyle is the nationally-recognized founder and inspiration behind Homeboy Industries, a program created in his Boyle Heights Parish in 1988 to create positive alternatives for gang-threatened youth.

What began as an elementary school/day-care/job-finding mission in the poorest parish in Los Angeles escalated after the civil unrest of 1992 into a program that now provides training, work opportunities and counseling (and yes, tattoo removal) for rival gang members working side by side.

Homeboy Bakery, Homeboy Silkscreen, Homeboy Maintenance, etc. are the visible manifestations of an intervention that is seen as a model across the country.

Boyle began by quoting Mother Theresa: “We’ve forgotten that we belong to each other.”

Separation, he says, is an illusion. “There’s always been US, not I or Them but US.”

Service, in Homeboy’s vision, is the hallway to the Grand Ballroom, but the Ballroom itself is Kinship. Kinship is but Father Boyle’s way of stressing the essential message of Jesus in his John 17 prayer, “That they all may be one.”

With that strong philosophical underpinning Homeboys developed the vision of serving each other as “enlightened witnesses”—returning people “back to themselves,” to all of us made in God’s image or as “the shape of God’s heart.” This healthy outlook dismantles messages of shame and disgrace. “We’re all more similar than different,” Jesuit-trained Gregory Boyle asserts.

## Inside Gang Psychology

“Hopeful kids don’t join gangs,” Father Boyle continued. “Recruits are always fleeing something. Gang violence is always about something else. For many kids life is a misery and misery loves company. When kids set out as shooters some night, for example, they’re not so much interested in shooting the target as they are at being killed themselves.”

Hmmm. These are hard-hitting insights but they set up what some might see as an even more bold insight: “Gangs are not a crime issue per se but a community health issue with law-enforcement aspects.”

Thus Father Boyle doesn’t believe too much in negotiating with gangs or even gang-to-gang negotiation as between Hamas and Israel in the Middle East, for example. No. This, he maintains, simply validates the gang structures.

“Not gangs but gang members” is his preferred approach. “They’ll come through my doors when they’re ready. No amount of my wanting them to have a life can best the fact of them wanting to have a life.”

Homeboys continues to deal with what he calls “a lethal absence of hope” in the face of funding cutbacks that led to the layoff of 330 of 427 employees on May 12.

That corner was significantly turned when \$3.5 million came in in 45 days.

Father Boyle believes in the old adage that prevention is better than cure. “Keeping kids out of detention saves the system \$1.6 million per year. That’s a bargain.”

Among the overflow crowd, some of them sporting tattoos, many students from Duarte High School, America’s Promise, and DART representatives were hanging on Boyle’s every word. He knew how to hold attention.

Possessor of a droll sense of humor, Father Boyle amused audiences with the escapades of three young men invited to accompany him to a White House conference and reception hosted by First Lady Laura Bush.

When actress Diane Keaton showed up at a Homeboy-run Cafe a brash young waitress insisted she had seen her famous

customer somewhere before. When Keaton tried to brush it off with fake modesty the waitress-with-attitude retorted: “I know. I know. We were locked up together.”

Such anecdotes and more pepper Boyle’s memoir *Tattoos on the Heart* which was available for sale at the Festival.

Thanks should go to Festival of Authors organizers Friends of the Duarte Library’s Nita Norgard, Pat De Rose, and Mary Barrow.

Westminster Gardens and their capable staff for once more providing our citizens and dozens

of visitors with substantial food for thought.

To miss it is to really miss something worthwhile. Here’s to next year.

*Neil Earle is a pastor and journalist who hosts DCTV’s commentary show “A Second Look.”*

“Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly. I can never be what I ought to be until you are what you ought to be.”

— Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

## Duarte Chamber Upcoming Networking Events

**November 11/ 11:30 am-1:00 pm**  
**Business Seminar Series, “Is your Business protected against Discrimination.”**  
 Includes lunch at City Hall Community Center. Open to public  
 1600 Huntington Dr., Duarte

**November 16/ 7- 8:30 am**  
**Good Morning Duarte, A Networking Breakfast at Cabrera’s Mexican Cuisine**  
 1856 Huntington Dr., Duarte

**December 9/ 5-7:00 pm**  
**Holiday Network Mixer and Toy Drive**  
 Co-Hosted by the Duarte Community Service Council Bring a Toy!  
 1434 Buena Vista- Enter on Central Ave., Duarte

**You can make your reservation on line at**  
[www.duartechamber.com](http://www.duartechamber.com)  
**or call the Chamber office at (626) 357-3333**

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#### Duarte View

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**Jim Kirchner**..... *Editor*  
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For advertising information and rates, please call the Chamber.  
 Deadline for articles and ads for the Jan.-Feb. issue is Dec. 13, 2010.

#### Duarte Chamber of Commerce

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Diana Sparagna fell in love with the peaceful, friendly environment of the San Gabriel community from the day she opened her mediation retreat, Resolution Solution, in Monrovia just about this time last year. The quiet tree-lined streets, the abundance of good restaurants, the business friendly environment... What's not to love? Her decision to establish a mediation and arbitration firm grew out of her many years of experience and observation that certain types of cases can be resolved quickly, economically, not to mention far less stressfully, by means of skillful professional mediation. Diana's three decades in the practice of law has been a natural schooling in the ability to quickly and accurately lay out for both sides the issues at stake, while, at the same time, bringing to bear during that process the objectivity and legal acumen required to reach a compromise that everyone can agree upon.

Diana has always maintained that it is essential that all parties need to resolve their disputes early on before they become entrenched in litigation. She prides herself in the successful resolution of disputes with spouses, business partners, insurance companies, Labor Leaders, and government official's litigation costs have an opportunity to skyrocket. Diana was once described by a grateful client as a "mediator with uncommon, common sense," and indeed to become the personification of the "Golden Mean" has always been her personal and professional goal. It was with this in mind that Diana established a Resolution Solution Retreat based in Monrovia, where the disputing parties can work together toward a mutually satisfying solution in the tranquil and productive environment, rather than a law office courthouse. Diana is always ready to take on any challenge that comes her way with high energy and motivation to offer the best chance to resolve her client's conflicts.

**PERTAC**

**Michael J. Kinney**  
**2030 Central Ave., Duarte**  
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*Personal Emergency Response Team Ambassador Corps*

This high school community service program was developed as a means for training students about emergency preparedness. Then it was realized that our high school students can become an excellent community service resource.

Caltech's Office of Earthquake Program is expanding their research to learn more about Multi Hazards. A request was made at Caltech, in 2004, for a volunteer community service organization to be formed to help out residents during emergency situations.

The Duarte Rotary Club was instrumental with their Supreme Court case in 1987 that allowed women to join all adult service clubs. The utilization of PERTAC through Rotary High School Interact Service Clubs is becoming our new challenge.

The goal of PERTAC is to network high school community service clubs together so that the students can share ideas. PERTAC is the communication and printed material resource for high school community service clubs.

Sacramento is establishing a new program called **Map Your Neighborhood**. The goal is to have trained students working in groups of two taking surveys of their neighborhoods. Their Objective is to obtain lists of the needs and resources that are available in each neighborhood.

Caltech's request is to educate community service club members so that they will become qualified to take and completed accurate **Map Your Neighborhood** surveys. It has been learned that our residents are willing to talk to students who are doing worthwhile community service projects. The student surveys will be reviewed before submitted as a document for emergency service organizations.

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# Citrus College salutes our veterans

By Dr. Edward C. Ortell,

Citrus College Trustee, Duarte Area Representative

Few of us would dispute the life-changing power of education. For veterans who are making the transition from military service to civilian life, the impact of education is even more profound.

Today, thousands of service men and women are returning home from the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. Often the most significant aspect of their transition from soldier to civilian is their entry or return to college. I am pleased to report that Citrus College is at the forefront in providing veterans programs and services that are transforming the lives of veterans.



DR. EDWARD C. ORTELL

The Citrus College Veterans Program began in 2006, when Citrus College history instructor Dr. Bruce O. Solheim observed that more and more young veterans were taking his Vietnam and World War II history classes as a way to cope with the personal impact of war. Dr. Solheim started the Citrus College Veterans Program and the Citrus College Veterans Network as a means of helping these young veterans. Later that year the Veterans Book Fund was established, and the college held the first annual "Saluting Our Veterans," a college and community event to honor all veterans.

In 2007, the college partnered with the Veterans Administration to create "Boots to Books," the country's first college course designed to assist veterans in making the transition to civilian life. "Boots to Books" now serves as a model for similar programs at colleges and universities nationwide.

In 2008, Citrus College was one of 10 colleges in the country to receive a \$100,000 grant from the Walmart Foundation to develop and support programs to assist student veterans. With funding from the grant, the college opened our Veterans Center, which serves as the headquarters for the Veterans Program and a place where student veterans can meet, receive the latest information regarding benefits and attend workshops.

Citrus College's Veterans Program was recently placed in the national spotlight. During President Obama's White House Summit on Community Colleges on October 5, 2010, the program was one of four community college veterans programs featured in a video shown at the summit. In addition, GI Jobs, a magazine devoted to helping enlisted personnel transition from military service to the civilian workforce, named Citrus College a Military Friendly School for 2011.

In recognition of the program's merit, the U.S. Department of Education has awarded Citrus College a "2010 Centers of Excellence for Veteran Student Success Program" grant in the amount of \$400,000. Citrus College was one of 15 colleges, out of 292 applicants in the nation, chosen to receive this award.

Credit for the success of the Citrus College Veterans Program goes to the efforts of our dedicated faculty and staff, as well as the leadership of Superintendent/President Dr. Geraldine M. Perri and Vice President of Student Services Dr. Jeanne Hamilton. The college has embraced the veterans' cause and worked to develop our nationally-acclaimed Veterans Program.

I can personally attest to the life-changing power of education on veterans. Like so many young people, my father entered the military with little more to his name than a high school diploma. Today at age 91, he holds a bachelor's degree, a master's degree and a doctorate and has taught astronomy at Citrus College, El Camino College and the University of Dubuque. Our country provided him with the opportunity to acquire a college education and he, in turn, has educated thousands of college students.

As Veterans Day approaches, we are reminded that we owe our veterans a tremendous debt of gratitude. They have made many sacrifices in the service of their country, and for Citrus College it is an honor and privilege to assist them in acquiring the education that will allow them to continue contributing to society and succeed in life.

# The Gas Company offers customers earthquake preparedness and natural gas safety tips

As millions of people get ready to participate in this week's California ShakeOut practice drill, Southern California Gas Co. (The Gas Company) is reminding customers to prepare in advance for when the next real "Big One" hits.

The Gas Company offers these safety tips to help reduce the chance of injuries or property damage from the next quake:

- Before an earthquake:**
- Securely strap water heaters to prevent them from moving or toppling over. The water heater should be fastened securely to the wall studs in two places -- the upper and lower one-third of the tank -- with heavy bolts and metal straps.
  - Replace semi-rigid (aluminum or copper) gas appliance connectors with approved connectors made of corrugated metal. These are less likely to crack during an earthquake. Connectors and water heater strapping kits are available at most hardware and home improvement stores.
  - Know where the natural gas meter is located. Gas meters are commonly located above ground next to the home on the side, front or back, but may also be in a cabinet or below ground level.
  - Have a 12-inch or larger adjustable wrench handy to manually turn off the gas meter should it be necessary if a gas leak is suspected after an emergency.
- After an earthquake:**
- Do not turn off the gas meter after an earthquake, unless there is a gas smell, the sound of gas escaping, or other signs of a gas leak such as dirt, water or debris being blown into the air, or a fire near a pipeline. Once the gas has been turned off, it may take The Gas Company several days to restore service, depending on the magnitude of the emergency. Do not turn the gas back on yourself.
  - If an appliance appears to have a leak, turning off the valve between the appliance and gas line may stop the leak. If not, shut off the gas at the meter.
  - If there is an apparent gas leak, remain calm. Do not light a match, candle or cigarette, and do not turn electrical devices -- not even a light switch -- on or off. From a safe location, call The Gas Company at 1-800-427-2200 or 1-800-342-4545 in Spanish, 24 hours a day, seven days a week; or call 911.
  - If a gas leak is suspected and it is safe to do so, turn the gas off at the meter. Using an adjustable wrench, make a quarter-turn of the valve, moving it from a vertical position to a horizontal position. This will shut off the flow of gas. (A diagram and instructions for turning off the gas meter are printed in the "Survival Guide" section of most telephone directory white pages and is also available at [www.socalgas.com](http://www.socalgas.com)).
  - If the gas is shut off at the meter, do not turn it back on. Call The Gas Company to turn the meter back on and check your natural gas piping and equipment for safe operation.

For more natural gas safety information, visit The Gas Company's website at [www.socalgas.com/safety](http://www.socalgas.com/safety).

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# Duarte Library and Friends of the Duarte Library News

## THE 8TH DELIVERED

The weather was uncertain but the attendance and depth in diversity of authors, speakers and panel discussions were winners. A few sprinkles did not hamper the enthusiasm of 50 authors.

FDL say a generous thank you to the many student volunteers and their supervisors who gave a large portion of their day to assist in the production of the festival, who had a genuine interest in the event and who performed many tasks to better serve the over 500 visitors.

They were the DUSD principals, students from Azusa Pacific, DHS members of Interact, Key Club, DART, the Duarte Woman's Club and Friends of the Duarte Library.

Here's just a couple of titles that received attention at the festival: C.B. Shiepe, "Cliff Falls," Patricia Kikinos, "Angel Park: A Novel," Victor Cass, "Telenovela," Thelma Reyna, "The Heavens Weep for Us," Fr. Gregory Boyle, "Tattoos on the Heart," and Dr. Gary Small, "The Naked Lady that Stood on her Head."

We are grateful to our partners; Westminster Gardens for offering their spacious Memorial Park for all to enjoy, their staff, Bernadette Chang, Dir. of Marketing and the supervision given by Judy Thorn-dike, Exe. Dir. of Westminster Gardens, a Retirement Oasis the day of the festival

Vroman's Books, Pasadena provided the books that were sold at the festival book store and financial support came from Royal Oaks Manor; Foothill Transit; Duarte Chamber of Commerce; Barrow/Hoffman Public Relations; Fresh and Easy Market, Duarte; Michael Antonovich, LA County Supervisor; and numerous personal donations from FDL members, which gave substantial assistance to the success of the FOA.

## FDL MIXED IT UP WITH CABRERA'S MEXICAN CUISINE

To better prepare the business community to attend the Festival of Authors the FDL offered a Mixer at the Duarte Library on Thursday late afternoon Sept. 23rd. Many new chamber mem-

bers were eager to hear from Reed Strege, Community Library Manager of the numerous resources available to any one with a library card.

Guests were treated to a generous sampling of appetizers prepared and presented by Leo Cabrera, Cabrera's Mexican Cuisine, 1856 Huntington Dr., Duarte.

## ADULT LITERACY AWARD

At the annual Duarte Education Foundation Dinner Oct. 17, The Village Restaurant, 1521 Huntington Drive, Duarte, Terri Lujan, Dir. DHS Performing Arts Dept. on behalf of the Executive Board of the California Reading Association presented the Friends of the Duarte Library the 2010 recipient of the Adult Literacy Partnership Award.

The Award recognizes outstanding contributions of those businesses or a community organization in California whose primary role has made a significant contribution to the development of adult literacy.

Pat De Rose, Festival Coordinator, member of the FDL, and avid reader received the award. Pat was in large part responsible for creating a wonderful event and this award will make the occasion even more memorable.

The festival gives us all another reason for a true sense of pride in Our Town, Duarte.

## GETTING OLDER

The time to celebrate is coming in 2011; the Friends of the Duarte Library will turn 50.

The FDL was established by Duarte Woman's Club member Aloysia Moore in 1961. She had been instrumental in the formation of library service in Duarte in 1950 in a small room on the Mr. and Mrs. Wayland Morrison estate; now known as Westminster Gardens, a Retirement Oasis in Duarte.

Aloysia was elected the first permanent president and was appointed as Library Regional Council Member to the Advisory Board for the County Library.

Although very small, the request system of the County Library gave the community access to the vast resources of the

system.

In 1954, a storefront building in the Bank of America Square was made available. The present library was built by the city of Duarte in 1966 and continues to offer a vast wealth of information simply go to [www.colapublib.org](http://www.colapublib.org).

Your free for the asking personal library card, is available at the circulation desk. Students may also apply for a library card with approval of a parent.

We invite you to make 2011 the year you decide to actively contribute to the library by becoming a member of the Friends of the Duarte Library.

Our purpose is to support and promote and develop an even better Duarte Library. Pick up a membership application and choose how you would like to assist in a special event, activity or by attending a monthly meeting to see who we are.

The purchase of a book for \$1 on the shelves near the circulation desk will also go to the purchase of new books for the library collection.

Shhh... there's a very positive rumor that your Duarte Library is scheduled to receive new carpet now that will give us all reason to come and visit the library in 2011.

We are extremely fortunate to have library services 6 days a week, M-Th, 11-8, Fri. & Sat. 11-6. Or call 626-358-1876.

## A NEW ADDITION

In order to better utilize available space in the library

Reed Strege asked the FDL to consider purchasing a shed for the storage of your gently used books that will supply the turn style shelves opposite the check out desk.

Books are yours for a \$1 each and the selection of frequently refreshed.

## IN-N-OUT READING PROGRAM

Oct. 9-Nov. 20, ages 4 -12. Sign up > Read 5 books a week > Receive a coupon for a free hamburger or cheeseburger at In-N-Out.

## HALLOWEEN PARTY

Fri.- Oct. 29 - 3:30-4:30 p.m. Ages 12 and under. Costumes ready, come for a fun time at the Duarte Library; stories, games, treats and a trick or 2

## STORYTIME AT THE DUARTE LIBRARY

School Age, Thurs. 6 p.m. Pre-School/Toddlers, Fri. 11:15 a.m.

## TEEN EVENTS

Teen Read Week 10/18/10-10/23/10 > Get a free book > ask Eileen Penson, <[epenson@library.lacounty.gov](mailto:epenson@library.lacounty.gov)>

Tues. Oct. 12., 3:30 - Learn how to record and edit your own podcasts. Free earbud for participants

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**Now do the math: If 70 percent of the water we use is outdoors, and we're able to reduce our outdoor watering by a third, we're actually saving 23 percent of our overall household water use. That's some serious water conservation!**

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Information about California-friendly gardens can be found at: [www.bewaterwise.com](http://www.bewaterwise.com)



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## Green Award

*Continued from page 8*

funded by the Measure G bond passed by voters in 2004, and allows the college to avoid using mechanical equipment during peak electrical usage times.

In addition to enacting policies and procedures to improve sustainability, Citrus College has also encouraged its faculty and staff to take an active role in making the college greener.

"We introduced the Citrus College Green Team in 2008 as a forum for the college community to explore ways to be more environmentally responsible," said Kim Holland, Citrus College's director of workforce development and chair of the Green Team.

"We have also provided faculty and staff with many opportunities to become involved in the college's sustainability efforts, by offering externships in energy, hosting workshops on topics such as Greening Your Curriculum and A Sustainable Approach to Textbooks, presenting environ-

mental awards, and holding events on campus such as our annual Earth Day Celebration."

Citrus College's efforts to address environmental issues have not gone unnoticed.

In 2008, the Irwindale Chamber of Commerce presented the college with its Leading the Way in Environment Initiatives Award after it reduced its solid waste by 79.4 percent.

And now, the 2010 Green Community College Summit Leadership Award will be added to the list of recognitions.

"It is quite an honor for Citrus College to be known as a Green Campus. This award serves as an affirmation of our commitment to improving our environment and would not have been possible without the dedication and talent of Citrus College's exceptional faculty and staff," said Dr. Gary L. Woods, president of the Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees. "Our hope is that our efforts have been beneficial to Citrus College and its surrounding communities, as well as to the entire planet."

"If something is exceptionally well done, it has embedded in its very existence the aim of lifting the common denominator rather than catering to it."

— Edward Fischer,  
writer, scholar



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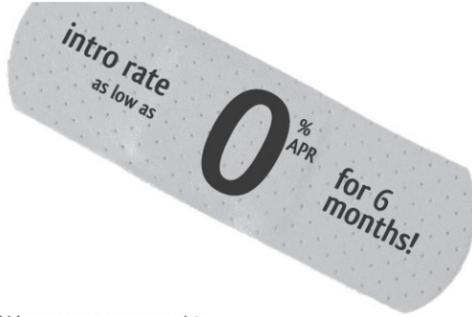
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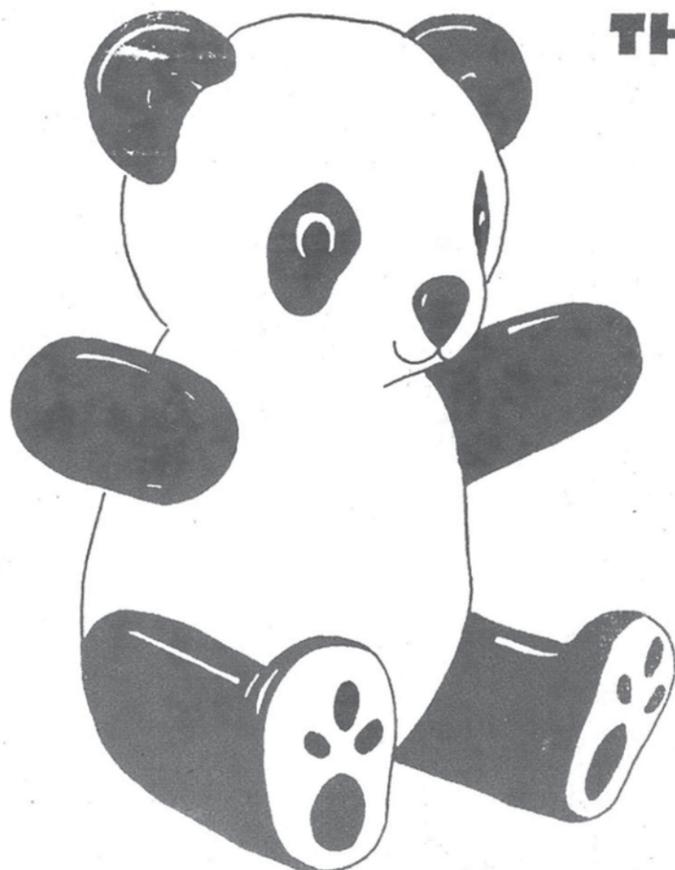
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Taste of Duarte May 18, 2011

# Citrus College Recognizes Spring Honors Students from Duarte

Dr. Edward C. Ortell, member of the Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees, representing Duarte, Arcadia, Azusa and Monrovia, is pleased to announce the names of the students who have earned a place on the President's List and Dean's List for spring 2010.

on academic excellence and high standards underscores the importance of this achievement," said Dr. Ortell. "These students are to be congratulated for their discipline and hard work."

"Today's increased emphasis The following stu-

dents are on the President's List: Alexander D. Abanes, Merry Alyce Boltd, Antonio Luigi Cava, Danya Elizabeth De Leon, Fabiola Diaz, Monique R. French, Elisabeth Breiman Gibson, Seth David Gibson, Wesley William Gunter, Heather Lee Heimbruch, Brandon Louis Katz, Richard Yeol Kim, Jose Luis Lazcano, Derrick K. Lee, Nichole Dior Martinez, Hospicio Escudero Naron, Rachael Nicole Near, Walter Orozco, Chelsea Catherine Padgett, Violeta Jackeline Panameno, Christian Ramirez, Jana Rydlova, Carlos A. Sanchez, Adriana Tellez, Ivan Jesse Torres and Taylor Renee Yocum.

The following students are on the Dean's List: Anthony John Acosta, Dana Rae Brewer, Lauren Marie Burns, Angela K. Chan, Pedro De Leon, Dean-Paul Hideo Denniston,

Rachel M. Ducut, Alyssa Duffin, Reynice Alina Gonzales, Carey Evan Gunter, Jessica Gutierrez, Denise M. Haren, Fiona Simone Henry, Jeffrey W. Jepsen, Kasandra Lynn Jones, Chen Li, Fonter Loera, Anthony Joseph Martinez, Mitchell Michaelis, Matthew Monge, Sean Thomas Moore, Melissa Yvonna Ortega, Lizeth Preciado, Katherine Jennifer Randall, Juan Rangel, Kelvin Ricardo Reynolds, Jacob Smith, Alex Vargas and Ruth Ann Wigglesworth.

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.

## Citrus College Receives Green Community College Award

By Stacy Armstrong

Citrus College was recently awarded the Green Campus Award, one of five leadership awards presented during the 2010 Green California Community College Summit.

According to Summit organizers, the college was honored because of the programs and policies it has implemented to address sustainability issues. These include creating green curricula, implementing green building standards, and waste reduction.

"Citrus College is extremely proud to be the recipient of the Green Campus Award," said Dr. Geraldine M. Perri, Citrus College superintendent/president. "In recent years, we have made great strides toward becoming a greener institution."

Dr. Perri stated that several important developments have made it possible for Citrus College to become more eco-friendly.

"Our forward-thinking sustainability initiatives, such as our green building standards and waste reduction program, have allowed the college to operate more efficiently," she said. "At the same time, the creation of a Solar Preparation pilot program and an Energy Systems Technology program, as well as the introduction of new courses in water conservation and environmental management, has allowed us to meet industry needs and begin educating a green workforce."

The completion of the Central Plant in 2007 has also helped the college reduce its carbon footprint, Dr. Perri says. This state-of-the-art heating and cooling system was

See Green Award on page 6



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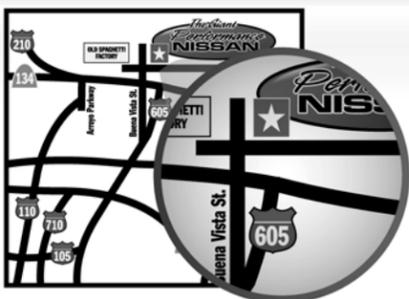
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# Duarte Elks Lodge Charity Campaign

The Duarte Elks Lodge's Bikes For Kids program has gotten underway this fall, with the Lodge supplying bicycles to children in the school district that

need a way to get to school. Bikes are donated to the Lodge and repaired by Lodge members. The Elks work with the school district to determine which children may

be in need of a bicycle.

Elk members have also distributed close to 800 dictionaries to all local 3rd graders in both the Duarte and Monrovia school districts. This is the 4th year that dictionaries have been supplied by the Elks Lodge.

The Elks are also donating to the National Guard food bank located in Azusa, benefiting those that are returning from service and are now unemployed.

Look for their Casino Night in January, Charity Ball coming in February, and Golf Tournament coming soon as a way to get involved and support some of their many charitable causes.

Join Lodge members each Monday evening at 5 p.m.

for their Monday Night Football Open House. They offer \$5 all-you-can-eat, and \$2 tap beer. Sunday mornings, they offer a Breakfast Buffet from 8-10:30 a.m. The buffet features scrambled eggs, omelets, bacon, sausage, ham, hash browns, French toast, waffles, fruit, coffee, orange juice and more, all for only \$6 for adults and \$4 for children under \$12. Check online at [www.duarteelks.org](http://www.duarteelks.org) for their schedule of Sunday dinners. Public is welcome to breakfast, dinner, and Monday Night Football.

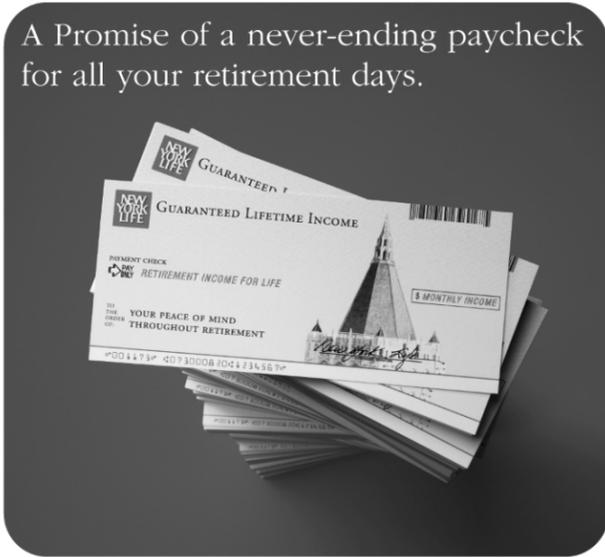
Whether it is supporting local veterans; providing help to disabled children; supporting Boy and Girl Scouts; or providing assistance to needy families in the community, the Duarte Elks Lodge is a charitable organization serving Duarte, Monrovia, and Irwindale. The Lodge is located at 2436 Huntington Dr., Duarte.

Any donations to the Bikes For Kids Program or the Food Bank can be made at the Lodge on Thursday evenings from 6:30-7:30 p.m., Sunday mornings from 8-10:30 a.m., or Monday evenings

from 5 p.m.

Get to know the Elks and find out what the organization is all about. You might find it's just the kind of charitable organization you need to start giving back to your community.

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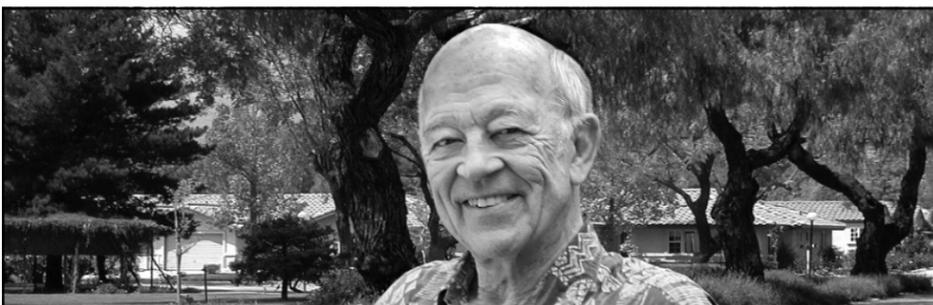
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Worship.....10:00 A.M.  
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Small Paws	0-12 lbs	\$12
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Small Paws	0-12 lbs	\$40-45
Medium Paws	21-50 lbs	\$45-50
Large Paws	51-80 lbs	\$50-60

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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.

### COOKBOOKS FOR SALE

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

### LUNCH

The Senior Center serves lunch Monday thru Friday at 12 p.m. to individuals over 60 years of age or the spouse of someone over age 60 for a suggested donation of \$2 per person. Reservations are required 24 hours in advance, and for "choice day" reservations are required 48 hours in advance. Call (626) 357-3513 for reservations.

### ACCESS TRANSPORTATION

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

### MEALS ON WHEELS PROGRAM

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

Services. For more information, please contact the Senior Center at (626) 357-3513 or Intervale at (626) 858-8382.

### HOW TO MAKE MEDICARE WORK FOR YOU!

Every 2nd Thursday and 4th Friday at the Duarte Senior Center by appointment the Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP) Counselor provides unbiased information, counseling and assistance on Medicare and related health care coverage including: Medicare Part D, "Extra Help" for Medicare Part D, Medicare HMOs, Medicare PPOs, Medicare Supplement (Medigap) Insurance, Long Term Care, Medi-Cal & Medicare Savings Programs. Call the Center at (626) 357-3513 to schedule an appointment.

### FREE FLU SHOTS

It's that time of year again; don't get caught by the flu bug! On Tuesday, November 9 from 9 a.m.-11:30 a.m. the LA County Department of Health Services will provide free flu shots for seniors 55 years and older at the Duarte Senior Center.

### VOLUNTEER TAX PREPARERS NEEDED

Would you like to be an AARP volunteer in preparing income tax returns for seniors of low to middle income?

AARP volunteers are required to attend training classes in January. Volunteers are asked to spend at least 4 hours per week during the tax season, beginning February 1 and continuing through April 15.

Volunteers work as a team and are not expected to work alone. All equipment will be provided and training materials will be available at no charge. If interested, contact the Senior Center at (626) 357-3513.

### CLASSES

The Senior Center offers a variety of classes for adults 55 years and older. Classes offered this winter will include, **Classes with Fee:** Chair Yoga, Chess, Piano/Keyboard, Piano private lessons, Sewing, Strength Training, Western Line Dance, Yoga, Zumba Gold. **Classes Ongoing:** Art Appreciation, Ceramics, Cross Fit, English as a Second Language, Exercise with Shelly, Guitar, How to Write Your Own Life's Story, Knitting, Music Appreciation, Spanish - Level I (Beginning) and Level II (Intermediate), and Tai Chi. For more information, please call the Duarte Senior Center at (626) 357-3513.

### DINNER WITH US

The Duarte Senior Center partners with many local restaurants to provide an evening meal at the Duarte Senior Center. Participants have an opportunity to enjoy a restaurant menu while dining at the Center. Seniors and their adult family members are welcome to participate. For more information, call the Center at (626) 357-3513.

### CHANGES TO MEDICARE 2011

Are you confused about how Medicare works?

Date: Tuesday, December 7  
Time: 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Come to this information presentation and a representative from the Center for Health Care Rights will discuss: Medicare Benefits, co-payments and deductibles and recent changes in Medicare. The Center for Health Care Rights is a non-profit organization that provides free information and help with Medicare. Reservations are requested by calling the senior center at (626)

357-3513.

### AARP DRIVER SAFETY PROGRAM

Dates: Tuesday & Thursday,

January 18 & 20

Time: 1-5 p.m.

Fee: \$12 for AARP members & \$14 for non-members

Conducted by AARP at the Duarte Senior Center. Auto insurance companies are required by law to offer discounts to course graduates age 55 and older. Attendance required at both sessions. Reservations and payment are required please call the Senior Center to make an appointment for this event at (626) 357-3513.

### EXCURSIONS

The City of Duarte will begin taking registration for the following excursions at Duarte City Hall on December 6. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. We accept Visa and MasterCard for purchases over \$25.

### Rose Float Viewing and Brunch at the Tam O' Shanter

Sun., Jan. 2

7:30 a.m.-1:30

p.m.

Fee: \$34

Brunch included

### Richard Nixon Presidential Library with lunch at Pollies Pies

Thurs., Jan. 13

9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Fee: \$30

Lunch included

### La Mirada Theatre "Till Death Do US Part" Late Nite Catechism 3, starring the original Maripat Donovan

Sun., Feb. 6

Time 3-10 p.m.

Fee: \$58

Dinner on your own

### The Colony Theatre Company in Burbank and

### dinner at The Office Bar and Grill

"Moonlight and Magnolias"

Thursday, February 10

4:15 p.m.-11 p.m.

Fee: \$55

Dinner included

### Palm Springs Indian Canyons and Windmills Tour

Thursday, March 10

8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Fee: \$52

Lunch included

### Laughlin Riverside Casino

Tues.-Thurs., March 22-24

9 a.m.-6 p.m.

Fee: \$118 double occupancy, \$145 single occupancy

Includes one breakfast buffet and one "your choice" buffet. Must be 21 years of age and older.

Excursion brochures are available at City Hall or the Senior Center. The brochure provides in-depth information about upcoming excursions.



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September is Life Insurance Awareness Month and a great time to take steps to help protect your family. Do you have questions about life insurance that are keeping you from acting?

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- ▶ Can life insurance help pay my child's college tuition or my mortgage in the event of my premature death?
- ▶ Can life insurance help protect my business?

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Information on our new series for 2011 will be announced very soon.

**November 10, 2010**  
**Discrimination, Is Your Business Protected?**  
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**Time : 11:30 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.**  
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**Where:** City of Duarte Community Center, 1600 Huntington Dr., Duarte, CA 91010  
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or register online at [www.duartechamber.com](http://www.duartechamber.com), or by calling 626.357.3333  
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Foothill Workforce Investment Board

## From the desk of the Superintendent

Dr. Dean Conklin, Superintendent,  
Duarte Unified School District

**“Education is not the filling of a bucket, but the lighting of a fire.” W.B. Yeats**

A fire has been lit and we are burning bright. At a recent board meeting our student representative, Mr. Matt Monge, impressed the Board of Education and me, when he quoted a line from an article I had written for the Duarte View. He stated, “The Duarte Unified School District is a hidden gem, but it’s glow is burning brighter and brighter.” He further commented that this was indeed true and he was proud of our schools and school district. Well Nick, our fire has indeed been lit and we are casting a glow that can be seen across the valley. In the words of our board member Pam Kawasaki, “Our gem of a school district is smoking hot!”



DR. DEAN CONKLIN

To start, our API scores are off the charts. Our teachers, staff and students have not buckled under the obstacles placed in their way with the state’s economic woes. Conversely, they have attacked this new era as an opportunity; an opportunity for new beginnings. Andres Duarte hit the charts by scoring a whopping 804 with a growth of 43 points; Beardslee scored 774 showing a gain of 30 points; Maxwell came in at 731 gaining 18 points; Royal Oaks attained an impressive 870 with a 20 point growth; Valley View continued their climb at 840, a 14 point gain; Northview topped the charts with an incredible point gain of 58, making their API score 755 and Duarte High School came in at 750, with a 43 point growth. It also must be pointed out that the Duarte Unified School District, as a whole, achieved the most growth of any school district in the San Gabriel Valley... a 38 point gain! But, that’s not all...

Valley View Elementary is in contention for a prestigious Golden Bell Award. The Golden Bell Award recognizes excellence in education through outstanding programs that address the changing needs of students while ensuring that the needs of all children are met. The program also supports educators who have invested extra time and energy to make a demonstrated difference for students. The winners of the Golden Bell Award will be announced in San Francisco this coming December. Valley View is always a winner in our eyes!

Mt. Olive is currently in the process of implementing ‘project based learning’ which is integrating math, science and other subject areas to create the many raised garden beds you see as you enter the driveway of Mt. Olive. Also, the Mt. Olive students are working with our Andres Duarte and Maxwell students on vermiculture (worms) and composting... just another of the many areas of ‘greening’ that Mt. Olive has been working on and garnering awards.

At Beardslee School, Katie Durban, was selected as a recipient of the “School Literacy Grant” given by the American Literacy Corporation. It is awarded to teachers who demonstrate an outstanding commitment to teaching literacy in unique and novel ways and who have a positive impact on their student’s academic performance through their approach to literacy.

Another award winning teacher, Cindy Mitchell from Andres Duarte was surprised when she was awarded with \$1,000 in school supplies, including a teacher chair and a digital camera. As part of the Adopt-A-Classroom program, Cindy was acknowledged by Office Max for her efforts in increasing the scores for Andres Duarte and for her excellent teaching. Office Max calls the event A Day Made Better. On another note, Tina Frausto’s art project, a four panel mural depicting the growth of the City of Duarte; starting from the Tongvas Indian Era, through the Rancho Days, continuing on to the Citrus Farm era and finally a snapshot of Duarte’s as it is seen today, including the Gold Line extension! The mural took a First Place Ribbon at the Los Angeles County Fair.

Maxwell’s own Erin Fish has been recognized by Assembly Member Dr. Ed Hernandez in his 3rd Annual Tools 4 Schools supply drive. Assembly Member Hernandez’ office initiated this program in response to the dire need for adequate school supplies. The program also recognizes outstanding teachers who have gone beyond the call of duty in educating children. An excerpt of the essay submitted on behalf of Ms. Fish... **“Erin Fish is a beloved teacher at Maxwell Elementary School. Not only do her students adore her, but parents as well seek her out, and we all know how important that relationship is in a child’s learning development. I have known Erin for eight years while serving as a board member. I am in awe of her teaching style. Erin exudes an aura of joy and is always approachable...the children, her students, sense this, and a great synergy is put into place that aids in the overall learning of her students. There is no reason at all for a child in Erin’s class not to learn. Whatever the challenge or problem, Erin will sleuth it out and find a way make learning happen!”** Congratulations to Erin... and many thanks for all that she does to benefit the children of the Duarte Unified School District.

So Mr. Monge, as you can see the Duarte Unified School District is indeed casting its radiance across the valley. We have clarity with our 20/20 vision, and we are showcasing our brilliance as we strive forward and prepare for a 21st century learning environment. Thanks for your comment Matt. It is great to see that students are on board.

## Beardslee’s grand slam

By Jennifer Janetzke,  
Beardslee Principal

How does a grand slam in baseball fit in with Beardslee’s goal for all students to achieve academic success?

Imagine this great moment in a baseball game...the bases are loaded, the next batter steps up and with one mighty swing sends the ball flying out over the outfielders’ heads and over the fence!

It’s a grand slam bringing in four mighty points for the baseball team!

The crowd goes wild and so does the team!

At Beardslee, we are working on our own version of a grand slam!

We are challenging our students to score their own grand slam by accomplishing three main goals.

First, we want our students to have outstanding attendance so they are in their classrooms and learning as much as possible.

Second, we want our students to complete all of their homework and class work. Beardslee’s teachers give assignments so that their students can practice the skills they need to master for their grade level. If our students complete their work, they will certainly be successful!

The third challenge in our grand slam is for our students to give 100% effort each day while they are at school. Effort is so important for success, and we want our students to learn that fact early on in their lives!

These first three challenges are important and vital for success, but the fourth challenge in our grand slam is perhaps the most important. To meet this challenge, we want our students to simply believe in themselves. If they believe in themselves the way the Beardslee staff believes in them, we know that our “team” will achieve the ultimate goal: A grand slam year for our students! With that grand slam will come a tremendous celebration and a crowd of Duarte residents cheering for us and sharing in our success!

So, if you see a Beardslee student or staff member around town, please ask them how they are doing in their quest for a grand slam! Together, we can help our students dream, believe, achieve, and succeed!



PARENT MIRNA CORNEJO and daughters Vanessa and Stephanie show their projects from Eric Carle’s *The Grouchy Lady Bug*, at Royal Oaks Family Literacy Night.



STUDENTS SHARING A HUG at Andres Duarte (Malche Blanco, Pranav Vyas, Marisol Murillo-Gomez).

## Cougar PSSA going strong

By Joilyn Campitiello, Principal

The 2010-2011 Andres Duarte Cougar Parent Student Staff Association has an exciting year planned for our students and their families.

Led by President Denise Cooley, Vice President Valerie Mendoza, and Treasurer Mary Jansen, the PSSA has already provided a dinner fundraiser at Back to School Night, completed a CheeseCake Fundraiser and entertained families with an outstanding Halloween Carnival.

These busy parents sell ice cream every week and honor teachers on their birthdays with cards and treats.

This year they will provide three Family Picnics to compliment our Mexican Heritage, Black History and Flag Day Assemblies. Their hard work pays off in big ways.

Fundraisers support sixth grade students going to Outdoor

Science School and pay for every child to attend a field trip or special assembly based on their grade level curriculum. They also support our Track Team and provide monetary support for our school programs.

We are also grateful to have volunteers from Westminster Gardens joining us this year. Students will receive special attention from a wonderful group of Westminster Garden residents who will provide hands-on Science lessons, Read Alouds, Math tutorials and Critical Thinking experiences.

How lucky the students of Andres Duarte are to have seniors with so much love and experience coming into their lives.

Special thanks to Reverend Doug Edwards and Andrew Gutierrez for working with us to form this unique school community partnership as part of the Duarte Youth & Family Master Plan.

## Literacy Month at Royal Oaks School

By Janice Kolodinski, Principal

October was Literacy Month at Royal Oaks and several events highlighted the focus at this high performing school in Duarte. All events brought parents and community members, students and staff together around literature and literary themes.

On October 8, the school-based activities were kicked off with the annual Community Read-in when parents and community members volunteered to read to classes.

Over 32 volunteers gathered in

the cafeteria for muffins donated by Mimi’s before heading off the classrooms.

Among the regularly returning volunteers were Duarte Mayor, Margaret Finlay, Councilwoman, Lois Gaston and School Board President, Ken Bell.

Royal Oaks is seldom for want of readers as most classes have two or even three different readers sharing their favorite stories and a love for books.

Also in the month of October was Family Literacy Night. This year families moved from one activity station to the next, listening to Eric Carle stories and doing activities together.

The parent engagement with their children was a sight to behold as they worked together to water color shells for a hermit crab; glue colored paper flower pedals and tiny seeds; paint symmetrical dots for a butterfly; and make a lady bug wind sock. Teaching and Learning Coach, Krystine Leckrone is to be commended for her outstanding coordination of the event.

Literacy Month at Royal Oaks will conclude with the annual Literacy Parade. Students and staff dress up as characters from favorite stories, often coordinated together. One year Mr. Armas was Goldilocks and his students all bears. Another year Ms. Leckrone was Cruella DeVille and the entire kindergarten class the 101 Dalmatians.

What will be the great memory this year?



## Maxwell School

By Esther McDonald, Principal

**A park? Have you seen the Maxwell Park?** Thanks to our Head Custodian Manny Gil, Maxwell parents, students and Mr. Brad Patterson, Director of Maintenance for Duarte Unified School District, we have an environmentally friendly park greeting our Maxwell community every day.

Last year “Mr. Manny” was given the charge of trying to reduce the amount of water we were using on our grass quad area. A lovely tree was surrounded by a large about of green grass, but frequently, the grass was immersed in too much water due to some drainage issues.

Manny Gil has a passion for plants, all kinds of plants, but he is an expert when it comes to drought resistant native California plants. Manny redesigned the grass area, reduced the need for water by over 40% and created a park that invites anyone to stop,

look at nature (there are humming birds, butterflies and birds who have made Maxwell Park theirs) and enjoy the day.

**Parents! Parents Everywhere!** At Maxwell Elementary School our parents have always been interested in working with our teachers. This year they have decided to organize and become a team, supporting our entire learning community.

At the first parent meeting there were over sixty (60) parents who participated, willing to take leadership roles, help out with fund raisers and looking forward to creating an extended learning community that includes everyone in the family. Our Parent Education Center continues to offer classes requested by our families.

We are fortunate indeed to have a community that is working as a team to support our goal of 100%, every child a success!



# Northview, Reaching New Heights

By Michelle Randall, Assistant Principal

Northview Intermediate has started the new school year off with a bang. Our students shined like the stars they are on the 2010 CST (California Standards Test) raising our API (Annual Performance Index) by 58 points.

We are so proud of all they have accomplished. We attribute our success to increased teacher collaboration, an increased focus on academics and an attitude of “Failure is not an Option”.

With the open of school on September 7, we have implemented many changes at our school with the promise of keeping academics at the forefront of everything we do.

Some of those changes include: an increase in advance placement classes in both Mathematics and English Language Arts, early release (ERD) every Thursday at 1:53 p.m. to increase teacher collaboration time, one lunch period for all students increasing our ability to have more adult supervision available, elimination of school uniforms but the successful implementation of a conservative dress code and the implementation of our school-wide accountability system.

This system increases student accountability by monitoring their attendance, academic participation and assists us to intervene earlier with students in need.

Another highlight of this year’s open was our Back to School Night on September 29.

This event was well attended with a social hour, PTSA meeting and classroom visitations built into the night.

Parents were encouraged to come early for social hour to meet and greet other parents, then our PTSA welcomed and encourage all parents to become members and get involved.

Lastly, families were release to visit classrooms where our teaching staff pre-

sented information regarding their classroom expectations, addressed teaching the State standards and allowed time for parent questions.

We thank all in attendance and look forward to working together towards each child’s success.

Future events will include our PTSA fall fundraiser, activities during Red Ribbon Week (October 25-29), our fall Renaissance Rally “Out of this World”, and Shop Night at Fresh and Easy on November 3.

We appreciate your support and hope to see you at our upcoming events.

The success of our students at Northview is priority one. We continue to grow, evolve and learn from each other for the betterment of our students and our school.

As we continue to focus on academics, character education, and student accountability, we encourage you as a parent or community member to get involved in our school.

Thank you to all our active parents and community members, our philosophy is “Together WE are Stronger” and we need your support and participation to achieve this.



PTSA PARENTS hosting a booth at the picnic following the Route 66 Parade.



THE POLO FAMILY at Back to School Night.



MRS. WEISS, NV Algebra teacher presenting at Back to School Night.



MS. MARTINEZ welcomes parents and students.

## Child Development

It has been a wonderfully busy beginning of the school year for our Head Start/ State Preschool students, teachers, and child development support staff.

We had students, parents and staff march in the Route 66 parade.

On October 22, dads, grandpa’s, uncles, and brothers joined us for our Male Role Model Day.

Since the beginning of school we have had successful parent workshops with lots of helpful information presented.

A visit to our preschool classrooms will find, happy busy students engaged in the joyful act of learning by doing.

If you are the parent of a preschool child, we invite you to give us a call – contact our office staff at (626) 599 -5120.



MAXWELL SCHOOL in Duarte’s Route 66 Parade.

# Duarte Council to Study City Service Charges

On December 14, 2010, the Duarte City Council will conduct a public hearing on to adopt a new resolution on City service charges.

Duarte's last comprehensive service charge update was completed in 2005.

The calculation of services charges is based on the actual staff hours, supplies and overhead related to the actual service provided to the community.

State law requires that service charges not exceed the actual cost of providing services.

Cities may establish charges for services through the adoption of either ordinances or resolutions.

For ease of understanding and to enhance transparency, Duarte gathers service charges into a master schedule and adopts them as part of a single resolution process.

This approach allows charges to be updated in a less cumbersome fashion while providing the general public opportunities through the public hearing process to address the council in person as well as to submit comments in writing.

Reductions in traditional tax revenues have made cities more dependent on service charges for budget balancing.

The general public typically prefers that people pay for the services they receive, rather than fund these items through higher taxes.

When charges reflect actual cost, market forces are brought into play, making governments operate more like businesses.

For additional information on City Service Charges, contact the City of Duarte Administrative Services Department at (626) 357-7931 ext. 211.

# Duarte Teen Center

The 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 through 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.

## COMPUTER LAB

The Computer Lab located in the Duarte Teen Center is open Monday through Friday, 3 p.m. 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. There is also a scanner and printer available for use.

## UPCOMING EVENTS!

### Turkey Shoot Contest!

Tuesday, November 16, 3:30 p.m.  
Come shoot as many 3-point basketball shots as you can. Top winners will win a turkey to take home for Thanksgiving! Free

### Winter Holiday Festival!

Thursday December 16, 6-8 p.m.  
Come join us at the Teen Center for a celebration of the winter holidays! Hanukkah, Christmas, Kwanzaa! There will be musical choirs, food, cultural presentations, a holiday play and much more! Free

### Knott's Berry Farm Excursion

Tuesday, December 21, 9 a.m.-7 p.m.

Come join the Teen Center for a winter excursion to Knott's Berry Farm! Thrill rides and good times with friends! Sign up now, space is limited. Lunch on your own. \$30

### Financial Aid and Scholarship Workshop

Tuesday, December 28, 6-8 p.m.

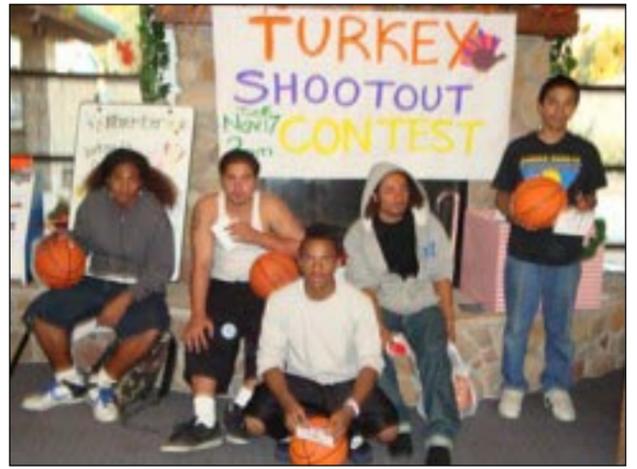
It's crunch time to start applying for financial aid and scholarships if you plan to attend college! Need tips, resources, and advice on how to apply? Attend the workshop! Sign up now, space is limited.

### Martin Luther King Jr. Essay Contest

Students grades 9-12 will compete in an essay-writing contest on why they are inspired by the life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. 200 word minimum - 500 words maximum. Prizes will be awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. Entry deadline is January 6, 2011 at 5 p.m.

### Volunteer Intern Program

Want work experience, on the job training, networking and relationship building with future employers? Positions available with the City of



PARTICIPANTS ARE READY to take on the challenge at the Teen Center's Turkey Shootout Contest.

Duarte. Contact the Teen Center for more information. Space is limited and interviews will be held on January 13, 2011.

## ON-GOING ACTIVITIES

### Drama Club

The drama club meets once a week. Club members participate in poetry jams, oratory, skits, and improvisation. Class meets Thursdays from 4-5:30 p.m.

Membership Fee - \$5 every 6 months

### Girls Night Out

This program is for teen girls grades 9 through 12. The group meets twice a month to discuss various topics ranging from peer pressure, goals, self esteem, relationships, and much more. Sign up now! November 30 and December 14 & 28 Free

### Movie Mondays

Come relax and enjoy one of the latest movies at the Teen Center! November 22 and December 13 & 27 from 4-6 p.m. Free

### Nutrition/Cooking Class

Learn to make quick and easy nutritious meals, while having fun with friends! Class meets once a week on Wednesdays from 3:30-5 p.m. \$2 per class

### Teen Book Club

Come join the Teen Book Club! The Book Club meets once a month to discuss various books from a designated reading list. Meet new friends and find new adventures in the world of good books! Sign up now book purchase required. Club meets on the first Friday of the month from 4:30 - 6 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. 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 throughout the USA and at our annual Boxing Show. The Duarte Teen Center Gym is open Monday through Thursday from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Friday from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. There is a \$10 monthly fee for each participant. Non-residents are welcome for \$20 per month. Register now at the Duarte Teen Center. Call (626) 303-0863 for more information or just stop by to see if you are interested.





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# Valley View School



By Robin Nelson, Principal

The Dolphins have started the 2010-2011 school year off with some exciting events. We enjoyed a UCLA football game and marched in the Route 66 parade.

On October 2, 30 students attended the UCLA football game at the Rose Bowl.

UCLA's I'm Going to College program is the nation's largest collegiate community outreach effort.

Offered to the Southern California school systems, this unique program couples the excitement and tradition of UCLA Athletic events with a message about the importance of higher education.

The 4th-6th grade students had the opportunity to learn "the 8 clap", meet football players and other UCLA athletes, and enjoy an exciting football game.

The PTA gladly paid for our bus transportation. Scott Moses did an outstanding job organizing and planning this life-long

memory for our kids.

Thanks to Heather Klindworth, Char Wilson, Tom Silverman and James Moses for chaperoning this event. It was a LONG day and we were certainly tired but it was fun!

Dan D. Dolphin led the way for Valley View at the Annual Route 66 Parade.

Riding proudly in a dune buggy provided by the Kearn Family, Dan delighted the crowd as usual. We had over 70 students wearing our bright yellow t-shirts cheering their way down the parade route.

Heather Klindworth was the organizer this year and she did an amazing job making the event run smoothly for everyone.

As we approach the holidays, Valley View will have several fundraisers available. You can buy your holiday pies, a beautiful tree or enjoy our Take-A-Break Thursdays.

We appreciate the continued effort of our remarkable PTA.

# Duarte Recreation Class Registration



THE DUARTE RECREATION Department offers a variety of youth and adult dance classes.

The Duarte Parks and Recreation Department will begin taking registration for Winter Recreation classes on Monday, December 6. Registration is on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Mail in registrations may be sent to the Duarte Parks and Recreation Department, 1600 Huntington Drive, Duarte, CA 91010-2592. Please include the participant's name, address, daytime telephone number, age, class, time, and class fee.

If you would like a receipt, please include a self-addressed stamped envelope. (Registrations received prior to December 6 will be returned.)

You can also register by phone with Visa or MasterCard for purchases over \$25 beginning Tuesday, December 7, 357-7931.

Classes will begin the week of January 3.

A variety of youth, family, and adult classes will be offered including: Ballet; Ballet Fitness; Belly Dancing; Cheer; Computers; Dance Your Buns Off; Dog Obedience; Folklorico; Golf; Guitar; Healthy Cooking; Hip Hop; Karate; Kids Love Soccer; Mini Picassos; Polynesian Dance; Racquetball; Salsa Dance; Tennis; Tumbling; Watercolor; Yoga; Youth CPR, First Aid with Babysitter Training and Zumba.

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

Gift Certificates for recreation classes are available, and they make great holiday gifts!

# The Arts at Mt. Olive High School

By Kevin Morris, Principal

Mt. Olive Alternative High School offers an engaging and exciting standards-based art appreciation elective class for our students. The class is designed around hands-on learning integrated with Language Arts and Art History, taught by Mt. Olive's very own, Melinda Branch.



STUDENT'S PORTFOLIOS reflect both drawing and painting projects.



MANY INTEGRATED PROJECTS include Route 66 mural, Mt. Olive Bulldogs mural, and birdhouses for the M.O.O.S.E. garden. Future projects include stained glass mosaic sides for concrete benches and rock paintings for the front of the school, adding beauty to function.



PRACTICAL DESIGN PROJECTS include a new Mt. Olive T-shirt and Duarte Library bookmark contest. Trips to the Norton Simon and Getty Museum and to Duarte's City of Hope have expanded the art awareness of Mt. Olive students. We have some very talented students that may be famous one day. Enjoy their beautiful works of art!

# Foothill Unity Center

Thank you for all your continued support and assistance for Foothill Unity Center. We could not do our work without you.

It's that time of year again where we are busy preparing for the upcoming Thanksgiving and holiday events.

Last year we served more than 2,000 pre-registered families with more than 3,000 children and with our current demand for services we are looking to meet or surpass those numbers.

These distribution events are great opportunities to gather with your social group or service club and make the holidays much nicer for those in our community, by serving local families face-to-face, with Love and Dignity.

### Ways To Help

- Host a Food Drive
- Decorate Holiday Angels
- Adopt Holiday Angels
- Donate your time and good spirit for sorting and distribution days
- Sponsor these special events with monetary donations
- Support the Foothill Unity Center's Auxillary fundraising events

To register for these volunteer opportunities or for more information, call us at the Mon-

# Duarte Recreation Youth Sports

## BOYS AND GIRLS BASKETBALL LEAGUES

The Duarte Parks and Recreation Department will begin taking registration December 6 for Youth Basketball leagues for boys and girls.

Games will begin in January and children born in years 1997-

2002 are eligible to play.

Practice sites will include Beardslee Park, Royal Oaks Park, Valley View Elementary, Andres Duarte School and Northview School. The fee is only \$20 and includes a T-shirt uniform.

For more information, please call 357-7931.



IF SHOOTING HOOPS is something you like to do, come join the Duarte Recreation Department's youth basketball leagues.

rovia Foothill Unity Center to get involved at (626) 358-3486.

Or, email [rweaver@foothillunitycenter.org](mailto:rweaver@foothillunitycenter.org) to get the signup form.

# Duarte Recreation Holiday Activities



THERE ARE LOTS OF FUN CRAFTS to make at the Duarte Parks and Recreation Department's holiday events.

### HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING AND FIESTA

Begin the holiday season with this fun family special event! The official City of Duarte Christmas Tree is a beautiful living Redwood tree that has been growing for years in front of the Duarte Senior Center.

Join the Duarte Parks and Recreation Department on Thursday, December 2, from 6:30-p.m. (tree lighting at 8 p.m.) for this special holiday event.

We will celebrate the season with musical performances featuring cultural dancers, carolers and a few surprises.

Additionally, a traditional tamale dinner including two tamales, rice, beans, chips and a soda will be served for only \$6 per person.

Santa Claus will be in town at the tree lighting, so bring your little elves to play games, make holiday crafts, and talk to *Santa Claus!*

The Duarte Senior Center is

located in the Duarte Town Center at 1610 Huntington Drive.

For more information please call (626) 357-7931.

### BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

On Saturday, December 4 the Duarte Rotary Club will host its annual Breakfast With Santa. The event will be held at the Duarte Community Center, 1600 Huntington Drive from 8 to 9:30 a.m. Tickets are \$4 for adults and \$2 for children ages 10 and under. All proceeds will benefit Rotary's local service projects.

Those in attendance will be treated to a delicious pancake and sausage breakfast cooked by Rotary Club members. Santa Claus will be available for pictures.

### SANTA'S MAILBOX

Here's a chance to write directly to Santa the old-fashioned way! This holiday season Santa will have a mailbox located at the Duarte Recreation Department in City Hall.

Letters may be deposited there or mailed to 1600 Huntington Drive, Duarte, CA 91010-2592, Attn: Santa Claus. A return address & phone number must be included with the letter.

All letters will be forwarded to the North Pole and will be answered in writing by Santa.

Letters will be accepted November 29 through December 9. For more information, please call (626) 357-7931.

### SANTA'S INBOX

Santa is accepting letters via email November 29 through December 9. To send Santa an electronic letter, email [santa@accessduarte.com](mailto:santa@accessduarte.com). Be sure to include your name and Santa will email you back.

### SANTA'S HOTLINE

Children can talk to Santa Claus directly! Calls will be routed to the North Pole for children to enjoy a fun conversation with the one and only Santa Claus on Tuesday, December 14 from 3-5 p.m. Call (626) 358-5425 to talk to Santa before he gets too busy getting ready for Christmas.

### SANTA'S VISIT AND HOLIDAY PARTY

Santa will visit Beardslee Park from 2:45-3:15 p.m. followed by a visit to Royal Oaks Park from 3:30-4 p.m. on Wednesday, December 8 before heading to the Duarte Community Center at City Hall for Santa's Holiday Party.

The Duarte Recreation Department will get children into the holiday spirit with a very special event. **Santa's Holiday Party** will be held at the Duarte Community Center, 1600 Huntington Drive on Wednesday, December 8, from 4-5:30 p.m. There will be holiday games, crafts, music, prizes, and refreshments, and a visit from Santa Claus!

RSVP for this free event by calling the Parks and Recreation Department at 357-7931. Limited to the first 90 participants.

## HONORING ALL WHO SERVED *Veteran's Day*



Join the City of Duarte  
in the celebration of Veteran's Day on  
Thursday, November 11, 2010 at 9:00 a.m.  
Thorsen Park  
2800 Huntington Drive  
Duarte, CA 91010  
For more information, call Alonzo Alatorre,  
Duarte's Promise at (626) 357-7931, ext. 265



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activities. Check it out.



# Duarte Unified School District



*"Through education in Duarte I will grow confident and considerate, and able to face a diverse and ever changing world."*

## Important information about Measure E – for Duarte Schools

[www.duarte.k12.ca.us](http://www.duarte.k12.ca.us)

### Official Ballot Statement

"To improve learning in neighborhood schools and attract/ retain quality teachers by upgrading classroom technology, improving facilities that prepare Duarte students for collage/ high demand jobs, repairing aging roofs, plumbing, restrooms and electrical systems, improving school security/ safety systems, renovating, acquiring, construction/ equipping classrooms, sites, facilities and schools, shall Duarte Unified School District issue \$62 million of bonds at legal rates, with independent citizens' oversight, mandatory annual audits, no money for administrators' salaries and all funds staying local?"

**Measure E will upgrade Duarte school facilities to attract and keep the best teachers and protect our local quality of education.**

**A** good education is the best way to help Duarte children prepare for success in life-whether they pursue college and careers, or high demand technical jobs directly after graduation. This is the goal of Measure E. Duarte schools are performing today under the enormous threat of devastating State budget cuts. Measure E provides stable local funding for needed school facility upgrades

and educational technology – projects that will keep the best teachers in Duarte and protect the quality of Duarte neighborhood schools. Taxpayer protections are REQUIRED. NO funds can be spent on administrators' salaries. Only facilities and equipment upgrades are allowed. Independent Citizens' Oversight and mandatory audits will ensure that funds are spent properly. Measure E is a smart investment. As facilities are upgraded, our local economy will also get a needed boost. The longer we wait to make these improvements the more expensive it will be. Help protect the local quality of education, maintain property values, and ensure Duarte children get the technologies they need to successfully prepare for college, careers and high demand jobs.

### Measure E will:

- **ADD TECHNOLOGY-** computers, internet access, advanced educational technology
- **UPGRADE JOB TRAINING FACILITES** for college prep and high demand jobs
- **REPAIR OR REPLACE** deteriorated roof, plumbing, restroom, HVAC, and electrical systems

- **MODERNIZE** outdated classrooms, libraries and instructional equipment
- **IMPROVE ENERGY EFFICIENCY** and reinvest the saving back into instruction
- **COMPLETE SAFETY UPGRADES** on school sites, grounds, equipment and drop-off/ pick up zones

### THE FACTS:

- Every penny benefits Duarte schools
- NO funds can be taken away by the state
- Measure E is tax deductible
- Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee – REQUIRED
- Good schools protect property values



## Duarte High School students in action.

### Mr. Y and Video Production Students



### Mr. Ho and Graphic Design Students





## What is Measure E?

Measure E, on your November ballot, seeks authorization to raise needed funding for rehabilitation, upgrades and new technology to neighborhood school facilities in the Duarte Unified School District. ALL Measure E funds stay local to benefit Duarte public schools and children. Measure E funds cannot be taken by the State. NO funds can be used for administrators' salaries. Independent Citizens' Oversight and mandatory audits will ensure that funds are spent properly.



## The Measure E Ballot Question (a summary of the measure) reads:

*"To improve learning in neighborhood schools and attract/retain quality teachers by upgrading classroom technology, improving facilities that prepare Duarte students for college/high demand jobs, repairing aging roofs, plumbing, restrooms and electrical systems, improving school security/safety systems, renovating, acquiring, constructing/equipping classrooms, sites, facilities and schools, shall Duarte Unified School District issue \$62 million of bonds at legal rates, with independent citizens' oversight, mandatory annual audits, no money for administrators' salaries and all funds staying local?"*



## What will Measure E do?

- Upgrade classroom computers and provide advanced educational technology;
- Improve facilities that prepare Duarte students for college and high demand jobs;
- Rehabilitate deteriorated roofs, plumbing, restrooms, HVAC, and electrical systems;
- Modernize outdated classrooms, libraries and instructional equipment;
- Improve energy efficiency and reinvest the savings back into instruction;
- Complete safety upgrades on school sites, grounds, equipment and drop-off/pick-up zones.



## How will upgraded facilities impact the quality of classroom instruction?

Modern, well-maintained classrooms, educational technology, labs and equipment help create a quality teaching and learning environment. Overcrowded, outdated school facilities don't. Without adequate facility improvement resources, money earmarked for educational programs may have to go toward facility repairs.

## What about ongoing maintenance at Duarte schools?

District maintenance and operations staff work hard to maintain Duarte schools and keep them in good working condition with limited resources. The scope of repairs and renovations identified within the current needs assessment go beyond the scope and means of standard school maintenance budgets.



## How much will Measure E cost?

The cost to homeowners will be \$36.00 per \$100,000 of assessed property value. Remember, this is based on the assessed value of your home and NOT the market value. The entire cost of Measure E is deductible on state and federal income taxes.

## Will businesses share in the cost of Measure E?

Yes, both commercial and residential property will help pay for school facility improvements.

## Didn't we just approve a school bond for Duarte schools? How is this different from the earlier bond?

In 1998 voters approved a local school bond measure, Measure B, to repair/upgrade Duarte school facilities. Today's Measure E will authorize the school district to COMPLETE the important facilities improvement work started with the passage of Measure B. Measure E is based on a comprehensive facilities master planning process. The process included a review of all instructional programs to determine specific needs and the corresponding classroom instruction and technology needs, space requirements and student space needs.

## How can I be sure that Measure E funds will be spent properly?

Measure E REQUIRES a clear system of accountability including an Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee and annual independent audits to ensure that the money is spent properly. By law, money from the bond measure must stay local and can only be used to complete specific facility projects at the three neighborhood schools within Duarte Unified School District.

## What about using state funds or lottery funding for repairs?

Unfortunately, sources like the State Lottery cannot be used for facility upgrades because by law, Lottery funds can only go directly into classroom instruction. Lottery funds comprise less than 2% of the Duarte Unified School District annual budget. Bond measures are the only mechanism available for periodic school renovations and upgrades.



## No one in my household attends local schools. How will this impact me?

Quality schools are the foundation of a quality community. Good schools help maintain property values. Home resale values are directly impacted by the quality of our schools.



## Who will vote on Measure E?

All registered voters who live within the Duarte Unified School District boundaries are eligible to vote on Measure E on the November ballot. To pass, Measure E must receive at least 55% support from those who vote on the measure.

## If voters approve Measure E, when will construction begin?

Once voters have approved the ballot measure authorizing funding, planning will begin immediately with construction to follow on a proactive timeline starting with critical safety projects first. The Measure E Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee will monitor projects to ensure the money is spent properly.



## Hearts and Hands- Serving Our Youngest Students DUSD Head Start/ State Preschool

By: Kaye Ekstrand, Child Development Director

Head Start/ State Preschool teachers, aides, and office staff know the importance of early learning experiences. Each school day 256 three and four year old students are greeted in their preschool classrooms by teaching staff members whose hands have carefully prepared developmentally appropriate learning activities. In addition, these teachers and aides prepare for their little ones with kind and loving hearts, mandatory for anyone who works with young children.

A visitor to DUSD Heart Start/State Preschool classrooms would also find parent volunteers, office staff members, and numerous consultants offering help in the form of serving food, providing speech or OT services, reading to children, supervising small groups, playing games, and helping prepare science, math, or language activities.

The hearts and hands of the adults that surround the youngest students in the Duarte Unified School District belong to dedicated individuals that wear bright pink Child Development T-shirts with a colorful handprint with a heart embroidered on the palm, The logo is a visual reminder of the hard work and love that go into working with Duarte's Head Start/ State Preschool students and families.

## Duarte Unified School District Health Services – Caring for Students and Families

By: Lisa Trafecanty

We in Health Services care about the health of our students and families in Duarte! We have been around for decades, providing services mandated by state regulation and the California Education Code, such as school-wide screenings for vision and hearing. The Coordinator of Health Services - Lisa Trafecanty MSN, RN - oversees the services, as well as the seven health aides at the K-12 school sites. The Child Development program also has a registered nurse, Diana Hilton, who oversees the health services and health aide at the preschool level.

Duarte is proud to be one of the few districts in Los Angeles County to still be able to provide a school-based clinic. The Health Services Center, located on the Beardslee Elementary School campus, provides physicals and immunizations to children of all ages in Duarte and the surrounding areas two days a week during the school year. It was originally started with a grant to meet the health needs of the children in the Duarte community; it continues to meet those needs even today. We are also able to help families sign up for low- to no-cost health insurance. A Nurse Practitioner, a billing clerk, and an insurance enrollment specialist staff the clinic. We collaborate with other agencies in the community and the County of Los Angeles to provide for the health needs of those around us.

The **STARTALK Chinese Program** was a huge success this summer thanks to our own Dr. Michael Chavez, Director of Curriculum, K-12, Duarte High School principal Eric Barba and Luis Haro, Assistant Principal and the Duarte Education Foundation. Startalk is one of several federal government initiatives put into practice to enhance the national capacity for critical need languages such as Arabic, Chinese, Hindi, Persian, Swahili, Turkish and Urdu; through new and expanded programs from kindergarten - college and into the work force. The focus is on summer programs for 1st – 12th grade students. Our first successful summer course ended with a Chinese New Year Program Ceremony, replete with food, games, Chinese calligraphy and ended with a beautifully orchestrated LION DANCE. We look forward to another rewarding class next summer.

**Christian Ramirez**, a Duarte High School graduate has been named Citrus College Man of the Year, 2010. Christian, who has a documented learning disability, entered Citrus College and struggled to stay afloat. Due to the outreach of some of his professors Christian started utilizing better study techniques and made progress in overcoming his problems. He started excelling in his classes and eventually graduated with the highest GPA, became one of the top math and economics students at Citrus. He was one of 50 students recognized nationally as 2010 Coca-Cola Bronze Scholars. Christian will be furthering his studies at UCLA where he will

study, what else...math and economics. We'd like to welcome **Brian Volz, our new Food Services Director**. He has already proven to be part of our school district family...when one of our kitchen staff was taken ill, Brian quickly donned a hair net, and pitched right in, prepping and assisting, showing his team spirit and his commitment to our DUSD family. Welcome Brian!

Duarte High School has a **new band teacher...Mr. Richard Torres**. Mr. Torres is a recent graduate of Cal State Fullerton. He spent a 'hectic' first week working the band student's morning, afternoon and evenings in order to perform in the Route 66 Parade; they did a stellar job. Welcome Mr. Torres!

... **FINALLY** ...

**Erin Fish, a teacher at Maxwell Elementary school** is one of several recipients of Assembly member Ed Hernandez' 3rd Annual Tools 4 Schools program. This drive was initiated in response to teachers' dire need for adequate school supplies in their classrooms. With the help of concerned and reputable community leaders working together, improving the quality of education for our children is gaining momentum. Last year, sixteen teachers from eight different districts were provided with classroom supplies. This is indeed a worthy cause and we are justifiably proud that one of our own is being recognized. Congratulations Erin!

are obesity and asthma.

Health Services is a key part of the Duarte Unified School District for the health of the students, and the health of the community as a whole. We are proud to be of service!



## Rocks the API!

By: Joilyn Campitiello

Last May, at the start of the testing week, Andres Duarte students were challenged by their principal to "show the world what they know" and did they ever!

Each year students in California public schools participate in the state accountability system known as the API or Academic Performance Index. Students in grades 2-10 take standards-based tests in English Language Arts and Math. At the elementary level, fifth graders take a Science exam as well.

After many years of steady growth, Andres Duarte has finally reached, and passed, the state mandated goal of 800, with an API of 804. Each



year, schools are required to make 5% growth on their API. Expected growth is generally 4 to 6 points per year. This year, Andres Duarte made an impressive increase of 50 points. Andres Duarte's API has grown more than 310 points since the inception of the API program in 2000.

Students and teachers are to be commended for this amazing growth. They took the principal's challenge to show the world what they know and became the third school in Duarte Unified to score above 800. Proud is an understatement, this principal is bursting with admiration for the amazing students of Andres Duarte School. What an honor it is to serve as their principal.

## AN EVOLVING MT. OLIVE HIGH SCHOOL

Mt. Olive High School is an ever evolving compendium of alternative learning students. They are nurtured at Mt. Olive by a wealth of caring, understanding, and respect...all given without reservation by the teachers and staff on this small Duarte campus.

Recently district officials sat down with some of the students at Mt Olive to listen to their thoughts. We found that the students had a lot to say...

The students have taken responsibility for their learning at the campus, and they are proud to be Mt. Olive students. They are also aware of the negativity that occasionally surrounds their school. The students are quick to point out that the adverse opinion of others is not founded on facts. Quite the contrary, they insist Mt. Olive is known to them as a school that 'works together.' As one student states, "Mr. Karp gathers students together and they



work hard...the teachers do a wonderful job instilling positive ways to deal with problems...Mr. Morris shows all of us that we can have a second chance, that we can make a positive difference in life." Another student writes, "We are not only a school, we are also a big family. Before I got here to Mt. Olive I didn't like going to school, but they changed that because we work all together like a family." Yet another student observes, "Not all students of Mt. Olive are bad students as everybody assumes we are. Most of us were sent here because they were behind in credits not because of their behavior."

So you might ask, why did we take the time to sit down with the students of Mt. Olive? The answer is simple. While I have always believed that the students of Mt. Olive deserve the same care and respect as every other student in the district, these young Mt. Olive students read an article in which I referenced some of the 'troubled

students' at Mt. Olive. The students wanted me to know, most vehemently, that they are worthy of being treated with respect, and that they are working diligently to dispel the misconceptions that surrounds their school. As the Superintendent of the district it is my job to insure that all students are treated with care and respect. The students at Mt. Olive are indeed working hard to earn that respect, and they deserve the care that they are given. Today, 'troubled' is not a word that should be used to describe the students at Mt. Olive. Most have challenges, and many have made questionable academic decisions. However, the climate of the campus has changed over the last six months, and it will continue to change. We will focus more on vocational needs for the students to insure that the classrooms are relevant and engaging. Our expectations, as the curriculum continues to change, will be that the effort put forth by students will also continue to grow. The momentum that has been established at Mt. Olive will continue as the word 'troubled' is replaced by words like 'confident' and 'enthusiastic' young adults. I applaud their forthrightness, their daring to be themselves, their sense of worth... their sense of self! We have a great deal to be proud of at Mt. Olive.

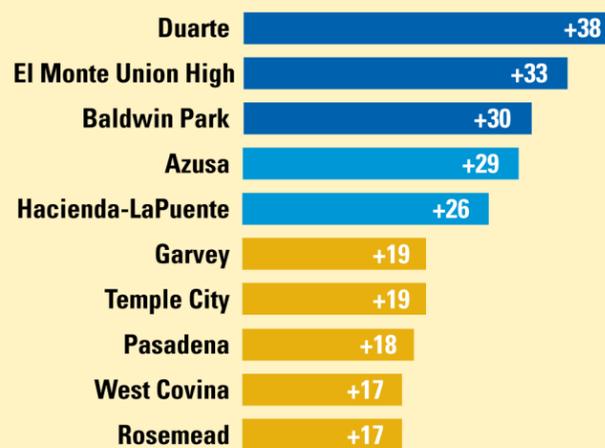
### Duarte Schools Have Largest API Growth in District

#### Duarte Unified School District API Scores 2009-2010

School	2009	2010	Growth
Andres Duarte	759	804	+43
Beardslee	744	774	+30
Maxwell	713	734	+18
Royal Oaks	850	870	+20
Valley View	826	840	+14
Northview	697	755	+58
Duarte High School	707	750	+43
District	734	772	+38

1620 Huntington Drive  
Duarte, CA 91010  
(626) 599-5000  
(626) 599-5078 FAX  
(M-F, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. PST)

### TOP 10 SAN GABRIEL VALLEY DISTRICT'S API GROWTH (2009-2010)



## Duarte Unified School District Calendar of Events

### October

October	11	Staff Development Day
October	15	Valley View Carnival
October	18-22	Parent Conference Week - Minimum Day
October	19	Principal for a Day
October	20	CEC Meeting
October	25	Royal Oaks Hearing Screening
October	25-29	Red Ribbon Week
October	19	Principal for a Day
October	19	Principal for a Day

### October

November	11	Holiday - Veterans Day
November	12	Non student/non teaching day
November	22-24	Non student/non teaching day
November	25	Thanksgiving / Legal Holiday
November	26	Local Holiday

### December

December	9	Organizational/Regular Board Meeting
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## The American Literacy Award, an Amazing Story...

Story telling at Beardslee is an award winning venture and an unusual story in and of itself. It goes like this... Once upon a time (last year) Beardslee School's Katie Durban used literature circles to read and analyze novels (The Tale of Despereaux, Esperanza Rising, and Island of the Blue Dolphins) with her students. Together they read the stories, analyzed characters, identified themes, discussed symbolism, defined vocabulary, and made connections between the plots of the stories and their own personal lives. Due to this creative approach to literacy Ms. Durban's students experienced tremendous success on their benchmark assessments and on the CST's. Katie Durban was selected as a recipient of the "School Literacy Grant" given by the American Literacy Corporation. It is awarded to teachers who demonstrate an outstanding commitment to teaching literacy in unique and novel ways and who have a positive impact on their student's

academic performance through their approach to literacy. This is not the end of the story...

As a result of her selection, the judges made an appointment to observe her teaching a lesson. Unfortunately, as a result of budget cutbacks Katie was no longer employed in our district. As fate would have it, the enthused Beardslee staff came up with a plan. They all pitched in, and a classroom was assembled. A surprised Katie was called in, and a mock teaching lesson was shown to a very impressed judge.

Katie did in fact win the American Literacy Award and \$2,000 was given to her and \$500 to the school. Beardslee is currently in the process of finding a children's author who would be willing to come talk to the students as a way to spend that \$500.00.

Katie is truly an amazing teacher! Whoever finally receives the benefit of her teaching skills will be blessed indeed!

