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MARCH-APRIL 2008

Duarte View

A bi-monthly community publication of the Duarte Chamber of Commerce, in its 87th year of service to the community.

Duarte High School: California Academic Decathlon State Champions

By Dr. Bill Martinez, Principal, Duarte High School

On March 7, a team of 15 Duarte High School students boarded a plane for Sacramento. The team was confident yet nervous, determined yet humble.

And with good reason; this Duarte High School team was headed for the State Championships. The Academic Decathlon State Championships, that is.

This competition consists of teams of students competing against each other, not for an hour or an afternoon, but over the span of two days.

The students compete in a variety of areas, including science, economics, art, speech, and a "super quiz". Only the top 55 schools in the state were invited to Sacramento.

Duarte was invited because we finished second in the County of Los Angeles Academic Decathlon finals on February 7, beating such powerhouse schools as Beverly Hills, Palos Verdes Peninsula, San Marino, La Canada, Arcadia, Glendora and Diamond Ranch.

In the regional competition, all of the schools competed against each other. In Sacramento, the schools were divided into three categories based on their size.

The small schools division consisted of schools with fewer than 650 students, the medium schools division for schools of 650 to 1300 students, and the large school division for schools

of more than 1300 students. Our students competed in the medium schools division.

Duarte High School won their division, and they are the State Champions of the California Academic Decathlon Medium Schools Division.

Duarte High currently has 1200 students. Of these, approximately 68% are Hispanic, 10% are African American, are 12% Anglo, 4% Asian, and 3% Filipino.

Duarte High consists of students from a number of cultures. Forty-three percent of the student body at Duarte High comes from households that are considered to be economically disadvantaged.

I only mention these statistics because occasionally Duarte High, and the entire community of Duarte for that matter, is seen as a place where education is not a high priority.

Instead, it is perceived that we gather as a community only to discuss gang issues or shootings, as opposed to achievement. This is a challenging image to overcome.

The achievement of this Academic Decathlon Team is a wonderful example of the outstanding students we have in Duarte, and what can happen when students know that they are supported and respected.

The coach of the State Championship Academic Decathlon Team is Robert Grebel, and the



DUARTE HIGH SCHOOL Academic Decathlon Team members are huddled around their trophy shortly after winning the Medium Schools Division in Sacramento.

students are Arthur Amador, Christopher Amurao, Lucas Bondi, Daniel Colin, Talin Darkjian, Evan Finlay, Yonathan Lie-Christiano, Gayle Manahan, Hayden McFarlane, Amber Nicholson, Vanja Primorac, Mozzum Saleem, Oliver Solorzano, Samantha Thomas, and Juan Urena.

Amber Nicholson took an individual gold medal in the speech category, and Hayden McFarlane took bronze in the science category.

Of these 15 students, two are

sophomores, two are juniors, and 11 are seniors. The students are Hispanic, Caucasian, Filipino, Asian, and Armenian.

Next year, as college freshmen, these Duarte High graduates will be attending UCLA, USC, BYU, Long Beach State, Stanford, and either Harvard or Yale. They have very bright futures, and they have worked tirelessly to get to this point.

Their teachers and their parents have also worked very hard, and should be recognized for their

commitment to these kids.

Great things are happening in Duarte and at Duarte High. We are very proud of all of our students.

We celebrate our diversity, and we know that we are richer because of what we can learn from each other.

We have placed the value of student success in a culture of caring and respect at the top of our priority list.

We are confident that we have our priorities in the right order.

Duarte Residents.... Show Your Support for the Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension Now

The Duarte City Council is asking residents who support the Gold Line Foothill extension to voice their support now!

Metro has released the Draft 2008 Long Range Transportation Plan. Currently the Gold Line is not funded. Your input is crucial at this point to ensure the future of the Gold Line Phase through the City of Azusa.

The Council invites all interested residents to attend a meeting targeted to San Gabriel Valley residents and let your voice be heard.

The meeting for the San Gabriel Valley will be on Tuesday, April 8, 6 p.m., at Potrero Heights Elementary School, 8026 East

Hill Drive, Rosemead.

For information on this meeting, please call (213) 922-2833 or go to metro.net/longrangeplan.

If you are unable to attend, please send an email to metroplan@metro.net or write to them by April 25, 2008 to the following address: Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, Countywide Planning & Development, One Gateway Plaza, Mail Stop: 99-23-2, Los Angeles, CA 90012, Attention: Robert M. Calix

Here are some key points about the project to use either at the meeting or in written correspondence.

- In terms of readiness (en-

vironmental clearance, level of engineering and design, municipal/public review and support), the Foothill Extension is ahead of all regional light rail projects under consideration for funding in Los Angeles County.

- In terms of population and employment, the San Gabriel Valley is the fastest growing region in Los Angeles County.

- The San Gabriel Valley is the only sector of Los Angeles County without a mass transit alternative.

- \$28 million has already been invested toward the implementation of this project. None of these funds were allocated through METRO funding.

- Over \$2 billion of public and private investment has already been committed to Transit Oriented Developments throughout the Foothill Extension corridor.

- A total economic development benefit of \$43.5 billion is projected over the period from 2008 to 2030 in the form of private investment, household spending, and increased property taxes.

- The Construction Authority's capital request of \$80 million, which can leverage \$320 million in federal support to complete Phase 2(A), is just over one-half of one percent of the total County Rail and Transitway Capital budget in the current Long-Range Transportation Plan.



Duarte Chamber of Commerce
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Meeting in Duarte brings more than 40 experts together to find long term solutions to end gang violence

The need for collaboration and coordination and a long-term commitment to the problem was the consensus of the more than 40

public officials, law enforcement and community organization representatives who met on Feb. 13 at the Duarte Community Center



DUARTE MAYOR PHIL REYES at the microphone at Duarte City Hall press conference with the more 40 experts he brought together to discuss solutions to the problem of gang violence.

to discuss solutions to curtailing gang violence.

"We need to invest in our social capital. But we need to have a sustainable, strategic, comprehensive plan to deal with this problem and break the cycle," said Duarte Mayor Phil Reyes who spearheaded the meeting.

Participants included Monrovia Mayor Rob Hammond, Monrovia/Arcadia/Duarte (MAD) Town Council Chairman David Hall, Duarte City Manager Darrell George, Monrovia City Manager Scott Ochoa, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Captain Richard Shaw, Monrovia Police Chief Roger Johnson, Duarte Public Safety Director Brian Villalobos, as well as representatives for County Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich and State Senator Gloria Romero.

"We don't need a menu of programs. We need first and foremost coordination and collaboration and a long term commitment to the problem, a minimum of 10 years. Gang violence is cyclical," said Tony Massengale, a gang prevention coordinator and 30-year veteran of the Los Angeles County Human Relations Commission. "We have to break the cycle, yes. Arrest, yes. But who will fill the vacuum?" he asked.

Some of those present pointed to programs directed to kids and families. GRIP, an award-winning gang prevention/intervention program in the City of Paramount targets kids as early as the second grade to "plant seeds that gang activity is not for them" and educates parents about basic gang activities, gang clothing that can mark their kids to be jumped into gangs and things they can do to keep kids from joining gangs.

"We have to go to the root of the problem, look at the cause and stop putting on the band-aids," said Natalie Salazar, director of the Community Law Enforcement Partnership Program of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, who moderated the meeting.

Parent patrols, increased Neighborhood Watch participation, job training and placement

of high-risk youth are ways that the community can take part in the short term and long-term solution. "There is a role for everyone," said Salazar.

"This collaboration is so necessary to handle the issue that we face. Now is the time for implementation," said MAD Town Council's Chairman Hall, who noted that county area residents are also mobilizing and banding together to make their streets safer. More than 100 people turned out recently in the county area for a Neighborhood Watch meeting.

The most immediate response has been to quell the violence with "unprecedented law enforcement resources in the area," according to Sheriff's Captain Shaw — a combined law enforcement task force "to put an end to the violence" that includes District Attorney, federal agencies, police departments from surrounding cities, 37 Sheriff's deputies from Temple Station, Operation Safe Street deputies, four homicide teams, a dedicated sergeant and detective, 17 officers from the Monrovia Police Department and supervisor and 17 California Highway Patrol officers.

As of March 6, the effort had resulted in 169 arrests, 44 searches, 31 parole searches, 23 firearms recovered and 422 interview reports.

But all acknowledge that the real work will have to be done by the people in the communities themselves.

"I feel a different vibe in the room today that the endless cycle that is feeding the gangs is going to be addressed. Something dif-

ferent is going to bring the gang cycle to an end," said Shaw.

Duarte Unified School District Superintendent Dean Conklin noted that the schools are working hard to ensure that the campuses remain safe from gang violence. The district meets monthly with the Sheriff's Dept. and Duarte Public Safety. There are graffiti removal programs on all campuses, character education starts at the elementary school level, campus programs go beyond the normal school day to 6 p.m. The high school has partnered with Citrus College to offer college level classes on campus. There is also a college program at Citrus for Mt. Olive students. At Parent night on the Internet and on campus, "parents are asked to dream what they want for their kids and then we make it happen," said Conklin. "We are raising up kids who have dreams to go to college and own their own businesses. But we don't have all the answers. We're open to ideas," he said.

"What concerns me is that with all the resources we have, some how we're missing the boat," said Duarte City Councilwoman Lois Gaston. "There is a part of our population this is missing the boat. Nobody wants to hire that kid who comes out of jail. We have to get around that socio-economic divide."

Fr. Charles Ramirez of Immaculate Conception Church in Monrovia, one of several clergy who participated in the meeting talked about how the churches in the community have come together to work on the problem.

"We're breaking down denominational walls, ethnic walls. I remind my parishioners that violence is a sin. We need to promote a culture of life not of death. Peace starts in the home with the parents. It all starts with forgiveness and love," he said.

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Duarte Chamber Announces Online Community Calendar

The Duarte Chamber of Commerce is revamping its website and is inviting community clubs, organizations, and businesses, whether they are Chamber members or not, to submit their calendar of upcoming events to be included on the Chamber's website, DuarteChamber.com.

Interested parties are invited to visit DuarteChamber.com/submit_event.html to complete a simple form and submit it to the Calendar Editor for review, all online.

If you have any questions please contact the Duarte Chamber office at (626) 357-3333. Remember to check the Community Calendar often for upcoming events at DuarteChamber.com.

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For advertising information and rates, please call the Chamber.

Deadline for articles and ads for the May-June issue is Apr. 24, 2008.

Duarte Chamber of Commerce

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Citrus provides career training in the public works and water sectors

By Rachel White

As concerns regarding the nation's economy grow and unemployment numbers rise, is offering a specialized training program for individuals seeking a career or promotion within the public works and water industries.

With median hourly earnings for public works and water professions, such as highway maintenance workers and water systems operators, ranging from \$20 to \$26 an hour and supervisor salaries ranging from \$50,000 to \$85,000 annually, these are high-wage/growth careers.

Citrus was awarded a \$213,000 grant from the Economic and Workforce Development branch of the California Community College Systems Office in order to upgrade the skills of workers in our community.

Citrus has formed a partnership with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, Pasadena Public Works Department, and Pasadena Water and Power.

These employers have com-

mitted a total of \$243,000 in in-kind services, including employee release time, to attend classes.

In addition to regularly scheduled public works classes held at and online classes, Citrus now offers public works and water technology classes at these employer sites to provide education to their workers already in the field.

Employers select the public works and water classes that will benefit their employees.

Classes are applicable to the Citrus College Public Works and Water Technology Certificates and the Associate of Science Degree in Applied Arts for Public Works or Water Technology.

Employees receiving training through can climb the water or public works career ladder and improve their eligibility for promotion and pay increase.

Employees will benefit from an improved skill level of their workforce.

Citrus has also worked with the East San Gabriel Valley ROP to introduce high school students to

careers in public works and water technology.

This class includes projects and worksite learning with public works and water employer partners. High school students who complete the class will receive assistance submitting an online application to as well as registering for the water and public works programs at Citrus, preparing them for entry-level jobs.

The International Society of Arborists has approved to award 30 units of continuing education to students who successfully complete the Municipal and Urban Tree Care class offered at the Pasadena Public Works Department.

With so many exciting developments, has secured its reputation as a training leader for these highly specialized careers.

If you are interested in learning more about the public works and water programs, call the Citrus College director of vocational education at (626) 914-8701 or e-mail kholland@citruscollege.edu.

SAFYMCA Campaign Supports Financial Assistance Program

"Kids Need Heroes" is the theme of the Santa Anita Family YMCA's 2008 Support Campaign and right now, the SAFYMCA is looking for more such heroes to help reach its campaign goal of \$150,000. Funds raised in the annual campaign support the SAFYMCA's Financial Assistance Program which helps ensure that anyone in need of YMCA programs or services can receive them regardless of their ability to pay full fee.

"These are challenging times for kids and families in our communities. The SAFYMCA is committed to help youth find a purpose, find a dream, and help struggling families and the elderly who are sometimes forgotten," said SAFYMCA board member Tyler Tripp, co-chair of the campaign with fellow board member Todd Adamson.

In the last two years the SAFYMCA has awarded more than \$220,000 in scholarship assistance to help more than 2,000 deserving youths, families and seniors within its service

area communities of Arcadia, Bradbury, Duarte, and Monrovia utilize the SAFYMCA's programs and services. Such services include after school programs, day camps, sports and mentoring programs, and health and fitness memberships.

In 2007, nearly 50% of the 2,445 kids participating in SAFYMCA's day camp and after school programs were able to participate because of the Financial Assistance Program. In addition, 1,181 youths learned character-building values such as fair play, teamwork, honesty and respect through YMCA youth sports and mentoring programs. More than 1,100 seniors improved their health through fitness classes and workouts in the wellness center.

The SAFYMCA is located at 501 S. Mountain Ave. in Monrovia. The facility is open 7 days a week, 96 hours a week and offers dozens of sports programs, exercise classes and activities on a member and non-member basis for children, teens, adults, seniors and people with special needs. It also offers free on-site supervised child-care while members use the facility.

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

SERIES WITH THE MAYOR

Emphasis on Building Better Business/Government Relationships

Duarte Mayor Phil Reyes will host the second in a series of "Business Connection with the Mayor" breakfast meetings on Thursday, May 8, from 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. at the Duarte Community Center, 1600 Huntington Dr.


"The purpose of the quarterly meetings is to create an ongoing two-way dialogue between the business community and the City on items of mutual importance, including building relationships, enhanced communication, business retention, job development for adults and youth, and possible public/private partnerships," said Deputy City Manager, Karen Herrera.

The meeting will feature a roundtable discussion format with table topics to be selected in advance based on information gathered via an e-mail survey targeted to Duarte Chamber of Commerce members, the top 25 sales tax producers, large landowners and employers. Duarte Public Safety Director Brian Vilalobos will give a presentation on business safety. Participants will also get an update on current City projects and programs.

There is no charge to participants. Burttec Waste Industries is co-sponsoring the breakfast.

For more information or to attend the event, call Duarte City Hall at (626) 357-7931, ext. 220 or send e-mail inquiries to evansr@accessduarte.com.

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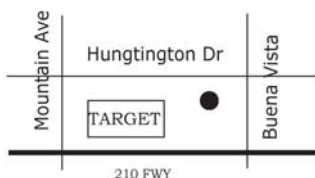
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The Gas Co. has \$18 million available for businesses to improve energy efficiency

As part of its ongoing campaign to help businesses save money, save energy and reduce greenhouse-gas emissions, Southern California Gas Co. (The Gas Company) is offering more than \$18 million in rebates and incentives to its business customers this year for making their business operations more energy-efficient.

In 2007, business customers took advantage of more than \$8 million in incentives through the company's energy-efficiency programs.

"On top of the incentives, the savings continue with lower monthly energy bills from the reduced use of natural gas," said Mark Gaines, The Gas Company's director of customer programs. Last year's program activity is saving more than 20 million therms of natural gas annually—resulting in customer savings of more than \$10 million per year.

"By taking advantage of The Gas Company's programs, we have earned rebates totaling more than \$100,000 over the past three years," said Juliann Rogers, energy manager at Carl's Jr. restaurants. "And we're looking for more."

Virtually any of the utility's 250,000 business customers can benefit from these programs. The Gas Company helps meet a variety of needs by offering a broad mix of energy-efficiency programs, including:

- The Business Energy-Efficiency Program, which provides incentives of up to \$1 million per customer, per year for equipment replacement and/or improving business processes;
- The Express Efficiency Rebate Program, which offers rebates of up to \$200,000 per customer, per year to offset the cost of new, energy-efficient equipment;
- The Savings-By-Design Program, which provides financial incentives of up to \$150,000 per commercial customer and \$500,000 per industrial customer, encouraging energy-efficiency improvements in conjunction with expanding existing facilities, adding new facilities, or adding new equipment;
- The Industrial End User Program, offered at no charge, which helps industrial customers work through technical issues to identify and quantify cost savings from complex energy-efficiency projects; and
- The Advanced Home Program, which encourages builders to develop new single-family and multi-family homes that incorporate sustainable design and higher energy-efficiency standards.

For more information on The Gas Company's energy-efficiency rebates and incentives for business, visit www.socalgas.com/energyefficiency, contact a representative from The Gas Company, or call (800) GAS-2000.

All incentives and rebates are subject to change without notice and will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis as long as funding is available. These programs are funded by California utility customers and administered by The Gas Company under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission.

Southern California Gas Co. has been delivering clean, safe and reliable natural gas to its customers for more than 140 years. It is the nation's largest natural gas distribution utility, providing safe and reliable energy to 20.1 million consumers through 5.6 million meters in more than 500 communities. The company's service territory encompasses approximately 20,000 square miles in diverse terrain throughout central and Southern California, from Visalia to the Mexican border. The Gas Company is a regulated subsidiary of Sempra Energy (NYSE: SRE). Sempra Energy, based in San Diego, is a Fortune 500 energy services holding company.

State of City / School District April 2

EVENT WILL ALSO HONOR FOUR OUTSTANDING DUARTE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

Duarte Mayor Phil Reyes will present his assessment of the State of the City and Duarte Unified School Board President Rose Brooks-Mitchell will discuss the State of the School District at a luncheon on Wednesday, April 2, presented by the Duarte Chamber of Commerce.

The luncheon will be held at 11:30 a.m. at the City of Hope Cooper Auditorium, 1500 Duarte Rd. Tickets to the luncheon are \$25 per person.

The event, sponsored by the Gas Company, a Sempra Energy Utility, will also honor four outstanding public employees with the Duarte Chamber's 5th annual Community Employees of the Year Awards.

For more information and reservations, call Duarte Chamber of Commerce, (626) 357-3333.

Roadway Work Scheduled

The City of Duarte recently awarded project "Royal Oaks Drive and Mount Olive Drive Pavement Rehabilitation" to All American Asphalt of Corona, California. Work includes the removal and replacement of 1 1/2" to 2" of the pavement, construction of 2 new handicap ramps, new striping/markings and raised pavement markers. Project limits on Royal Oaks Drive are between Highland Ave. and Greenbank Ave; and on Mount Olive Drive between Huntington Drive and Royal Oaks Drive. The majority of the work will be performed during the last week of March while Duarte students are on Spring Break. We anticipate minimal inconvenience to our residents and commuter traffic; however on-street parking restrictions and detours will be necessary during the removal and replacement phase of this project. The public's cooperation and patience during construction is very much appreciated. For further information, please contact Steve Esbshade, Duarte Engineering Division Manager, at (626) 357-7931 ext. 233.

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Duarte Council Member Paras-Caracci Featured in New Video

Duarte City Council Member Tzeitel Paras-Caracci is featured in a new video launched today by the National League of Cities (NLC) as part of "American Cities '08, the Road to the White House Runs Through America's Hometowns", a focused effort to raise the voice and concerns of cities in the ongoing presidential campaign.

The video, now airing on www.americancities08.org and on YouTube, asks a series of tough questions of the candidates and identifies seven core policy areas where cities want to work with the next President and Congress. In addition to the video, the campaign includes a new website and publications that can be used by local officials in candidate forums, town hall meetings, with local media, or in any session with the candidates.

Paras-Caracci is on the NLC Board of Directors and chairs the CityFutures Panel on Democratic Governance. In the video, she discusses the need for candidates to address poverty in this country.

"We are at an important crossroads in our history," said Cynthia McCollum, NLC president and Madison, Ala., council member. "Hometown issues are national issues. Huge challenges face all of us — the ongoing housing crisis, our crumbling infrastructure, the changing pattern of jobs, the need for neighborhood

redevelopment, public safety, support for young families and children. These are issues that matter to the majority of Americans whether they live in downtown Philadelphia, a prosperous suburban city or a rural town."

NLC's new website, www.americancities08.org, provides information for the presidential candidates, local elected officials, and citizens who want to know more about how national policies affect cities. The site also features statements from the candidates on these important issues, where available.

For more information on American Cities '08 or to set up an interview, contact Sherry Conway Appel, 202-441-3160 (appel@nlc.org) or go to www.americancities08.org.

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Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District offers up some water wisdom for a really dry year.

We are currently experiencing the driest period in the history of Southern California. While we have sufficient supplies to meet our current demands, there is a risk of future water shortages if the drought continues. You can help prevent shortages by using water efficiently and conserving whenever possible.

- 1) Run only full loads in the washing machine and dishwasher. Saves up to 9,600 gallons a year.*
- 2) Water your lawn only when it needs it. Step on your grass. If it springs back when you lift your foot, it doesn't need water. Adjust your sprinklers to water your grass fewer days per week. Saves up to 18,000 gallons a year. Better yet, especially in times of drought, water with a hose.
- 3) Don't run the hose while washing your car. Use a bucket of water and then a quick hose when you are finished. Saves 150 gallons each time. For a two-car family that's up to 14,400 gallons a year.
- 4) Install water efficient showerheads or flow restrictors. Saves 6,000 to 9,600 gallons a year. Call us or drop by the office, to ask for your free water conserving shower head.
- 5) Fix leaky faucets and plumbing joints. Saves 7,300 gallons a year for every leak stopped.
- 6) Shorten your showers. Even a one or two-minute reduction can save up to 8,400 gallons a year.
- 7) Use a broom instead of a hose to clean driveways and sidewalks. Saves 150 gallons or more each time. At once a week, that's more than 7,800 gallons conserved each year.
- 8) Don't use your toilet as an ashtray or waste basket. Saves up 7,200 gallons a year.*
- 9) Capture tap water. While you wait for hot water to come down the pipes, catch the flow in a watering can to use later on house plants or your garden. Saves up to 3,600 gallons a year.
- 10) Don't water the sidewalks, driveway or gutter. Adjust your sprinkler so that water lands on your lawn or garden where it belongs and only there. Saves 6,000 gallons a year.

For more information on water conservation, visit the Upper District website at www.usgvmwd.org and www.bewaterwise.com.

* Several times each year the Upper District offers residents in the service area, free high efficiency toilets and rebates for the purchase of high efficiency clothes washers. High efficiency toilets and washers are a great way to save water in your home. For details and dates of our next program, please contact us by e-mail at info@usgvmwd.org or telephone (626) 443-2297.

Upper District Board of Directors

Division 1: Dr. Anthony R. Fellow Division 2: Frank F. Forbes Division 3: Leon M. N. García
 Division 4: R. William "Bill" Robinson Division 5: Alfonso "Al" Contreras

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D.A.R.T. out this spring!

By Courtney Spicer

I truly don't know where I would be if it wasn't for the Duarte Area Resource Team, (D.A.R.T.) Before I was in D.A.R.T. I was getting into a lot of trouble at school and at home, I was slacking off in my grades and had no idea of where my future was going. D.A.R.T. has opened my eyes to new experiences, showed me that I have many choices in life, and that with hard work and determination I can accomplish a lot!

I am a DART officer, as part of our responsibilities as officers we conduct meetings at the Duarte Public Safety office and come up with fun activities for all of DART to participate in. We have a lot of different activities and events. This school year has been really fun and I did a lot of things that I would of never thought of doing! We participated at The Route 66 Parade and at the Rose Float Pavilion, helping with crowd control and as security guards. We also helped the Chamber of Commerce at Hats of to Duarte as parking attendants, and at the concerts at the park. Most recently we helped Washington Mutual Bank with their grand opening event, February 8th and 9th. We did face painting and fingerprinting for kids and distributing public safety flyers. "Wamu" has become our biggest sponsor and because of them we can buy shirts and sweaters and go on cool field trips.

As part of being in D.A.R.T., I was encouraged to pull up my grades and do well in school and at home. After we work community events we receive hours toward trips and places like Raging Waters, Fresno State University, and Universal Studios and even play Laser Tag against The Duarte Deputies.

The advisors at D.A.R.T. are the best and listen to you and give you the best advice, they are, School Resource Deputy Robert MacLean and Public Safety Coordinator Aida Torres.

When my friends hear me talk about D.A.R.T. they ask "Why would you do it, if you are not getting paid?" I might not be getting paid but just being able to help make sure our community stays clean and safe is all worth it! D.A.R.T. has really made me a better person in life.

To become a DART member you must be 14-19 years old, live in Duarte, obtain at least a 2.0 GPA and be willing to help out your community. For more information please contact the Duarte Public Safety Office at (626) 359-5671 ext. 316.



ADVISOR DEPUTY ROBERT MACLEAN and DART members at the Rose Float Pavilion December 31, 2007.



WAMU GRAND OPENING event February 8.

New helmets for kids \$5!

A new shipment has come in!

Silver, blue, black, white, red or pink helmets are available for Duarte youth between 3 to 18 years of age for only \$5 at the Public Safety Office (in the Target Shopping Center Office) every Wednesday from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.

To purchase a helmet, the parent or guardian must accompany the child and show proof of Duarte residency.

The helmet will be properly fitted onto the youth to ensure their safety.

For more information, call (626) 357-7938.

Local harvest

Apples, oranges, lemons or limes if you



YOUTHWORKER hard at work.

have an abundance of fruit growing in your yard, don't let them go to waste!

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

Harvesters are equipped with bags, boxes, fruit pickers and a ladder to carefully pick fruit directly from your trees. Harvesters can also stop by your home to receive fresh fruit that has already been picked.

The Foothill Unity Center has been providing food and other necessities to local families in need for over 20 years.

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

Got Guilt?

The past can be a heavy thing to pack around and the usual fixes don't offer any lasting help and most end up leaving you feeling even more guilty. While we can't undo the mistakes and wrong choices of the past, there is hope concerning guilt. God can free you from your past and start you over with a new life. What have you got to lose, except of course, your guilt?

God Forgives!

We just thought you'd like to know.
From your neighbors at

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Glen Gibson, Pastor

www.newlifeduarte.org



DUARTE KIWANIS CLUB

Kiwanis International is a worldwide service organization appealing to men and women who have the desire to become personally involved in making their communities better places in which to live. As a group, these men and women achieve what individuals cannot do alone. Working together, Kiwanis willingly accept the challenge of community improvement and leadership, assuming personal responsibility for humanitarian and civic projects that public authorities are not prepared to or are unable to perform. These projects are primarily local in nature. They include such activities as assistance to youth and the aging, conservation of natural resources, development of community facilities, and creation of international understanding and goodwill. Whatever their goals may be, Kiwanians are motivated by a common desire to serve and achieve an appreciation of good fellowship.

Meetings are held on the following:
1st, 3rd, and 5th Tuesday of every month
Westminster Gardens
1420 Santo Domingo Avenue
Duarte, CA 91010
12:00 p.m.

Should you have any questions, please contact:
Silvia Hurtado
(626) 357-7931



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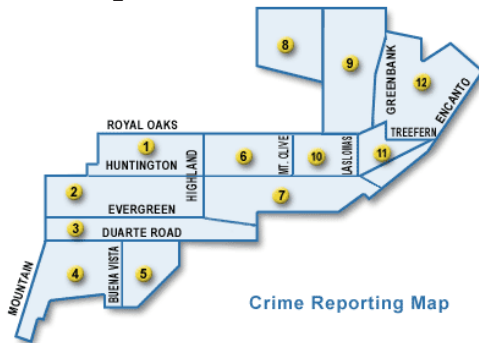


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Reported home burglaries



RESIDENTIAL BURGLARIES YEAR TO DATE			
January to December 2007			
Area	2007	2006	2005
1	7	2	5
2	3	3	3
3	3	1	2
4	8	4	5
5	0	1	4
6	1	2	3
7	7	2	10
8	6	0	0
9	6	1	4
10	5	3	6
11	1	2	1
12	1	4	4
Jan. to Dec.	48	25	47
Year End Totals	48	25	47

VEHICLE BURGLARIES & THEFTS			
January to December 2007			
	2007	2006	2005
Vehicle Burglaries	97	106	69
Vehicle Thefts	87	82	108
Jan. to Dec. Totals	184	188	177
Year End Total	184	210	185

Statistician Sonja Tanner

Updated January 31, 2008

DECEMBER 2007 1600 Block of Huntington Drive – Area 1

Between, Wednesday, December 5, and Wednesday, December 26, the unknown suspect(s) entered the secure home while victims were on vacation, point of entry is unknown, and stole 2 pairs of gold cufflinks, a diamond watch, a tennis bracelet, and \$8,000 in currency.

900 Block of Lewiston Street – Area 4

On Wednesday, December 12, the unknown suspect(s) entered the home through an unlocked window and stole a lockbox with \$2,500 in currency, and a stereo receiver.

1800 Block of Warrington Avenue – Area 4

On Saturday, December 22, the unknown suspect entered the home through an unlocked window, after being confronted by victim the suspect ran, nothing was stolen.

2000 Block of Huntington Drive – Area 7

On Monday, December 10, the unknown suspect entered the vacant home after prying open the front door nothing was stolen.

400 Block of Las Lomas Road – Area 9

On Tuesday, December 4, the unknown suspect(s) entered the home after breaking a window and stole two watches and a pair of diamond earrings.

1100 Block of Calle Malaga – Area 10

On Saturday, December 1, the unknown suspect(s) entered the secure home, point of entry is unknown, and stole cosmetics and a CD player.

300 Block of Tocio Drive – Area 12

Between Tuesday, December 18 and Wednesday, December 19, the unknown suspect(s) entered the home through an unlocked door and stole a flashlight.

Public Safety 2007 in Review

By Brian Villalobos
Director of Public Safety
Coordination

In 2007, the City of Duarte reported a 4% decrease in Part I crimes from 2006. Although the crime drop may seem small, the highest decrease reported by Duarte residents was in violent crimes or crimes against persons.

Violent Crimes include assaults, which dropped approximately 30% compared to 2006 and is the lowest number ever recorded in the City of Duarte. Only five years ago, 78 assaults were recorded (2001). Robbery (or taking property by force) was down 34% since 2006.

Property crime has shown a different pattern in our City. Vehicle burglaries in 2007 totaled 97, demonstrating a 23 % decrease from 119 in 2006. However, the months of November and December 2007 showed indications of an increase in vehicle burglaries.

This trend goes hand in hand with the holidays, as thieves look for a quick way to make a buck. The majority of vehicle burglaries occur when burglars enter an unlocked, or open door, or window.

Auto thefts were also down in 2007. Eighty-five vehicles were reported stolen, a 7% decrease from 2006 91 stolen vehicles.

Residential Burglaries increased dramatically in 2007, from the 2006 all time low of 25 to 48 in 2007. This increase was felt all along the Foothill cities. With the help of Neighborhood Watch a serial burglar was arrested and this individual faces 7 years 10 months behind bars. Neighborhood Watch in Duarte is an essential part of law enforcement. Thank you Neighborhood Watch Volunteers!

In the month of December, one murder took place in the City, and in and around that time there was

an increase in gang violence in the Monrovia-Duarte Area. In the month of January a special task force was implemented to combat the recent flare of gang violence. The team is made up of members of the L.A. District Attorney's Office, federal agencies, police departments from surrounding cities, 37 Sheriff's deputies from Temple Station, Operation Safe Street deputies, four homicide teams, a dedicated sergeant and detective, and 17 officers from the Monrovia Police Department including their supervisor, as well as 17 California Highway Patrol officers. The effort has so far resulted in 169 arrests, 44 searches, 31 parole searches, 23 firearms recovered and 422 interview reports.

The safety of Duarte's residents is of utmost importance to the Duarte Public Safety Department, L.A. County Sheriff Department, and the City of Duarte's elected officials.

Although many plans can take effect, it is the residents in the community who must take a stand and get involved in their community to make any plan work. We all want and deserve a safe neighborhood. Get involved! Stay informed! Take a Stand Against Violence!

Call Temple Station to make an immediate report at (626) 448-9861 or Sgt. Bobby Wyche at the Duarte Sheriff's Satellite Station to provide us with information by calling (626) 359-5671, ext. 304. You may also contact Special Assignment Deputies, Deputy Avila at ext. 305 and Deputy Frederickson at ext. 306, if you have any information that you may feel will lead to arrests.

You may also leave an anonymous tip you by simply calling the Sheriff Satellite Station Anonymous Crime Tip Hotline (626) 359-5671 ext. 462, all calls are confidential. Se habla español.

DUARTE WELCOMES...

Deputy Marcelo Sepulveda

Although Deputy Sheriff Marcelo Sepulveda is our new motorcycle deputy, he is not new to the City of Duarte. Sepulveda has worked in the City of Duarte as a patrol and crime deputy for over two years. He enjoyed working in our small, friendly City so much, that when he decided to make a bilateral career move in the Department, he requested to stay in Duarte.

Prior to becoming a deputy, Sepulveda attended East LA College, but it has been his twelve years of service that has taught him how to patrol and deal with criminals. His Los Angeles Sheriff's Department career began with a year at Century Regional Detention Facility in Lynwood. He then worked custody for six years at the Twin Towers Correctional Facility in Downtown Los Angeles. He received training in the South El Monte, Rosemead and Temple City communities. He then requested to be assigned to the Duarte Sheriff's Satellite Station to work the area on a regular basis. He admits he loves the atmosphere of a close-knit community. He describes himself as a people person. Sepulveda enjoys talking to people and seeing how, "[he] can make their lives simpler." Sepulveda, a native of Chile is fluent in Spanish and is able to assist Spanish speakers and new immigrants and educate them on the law.

After completing the L.A. County Sheriff Motorcycle School this past December 2007, he felt ready to take on his new assignment and since January he has been making sure Duarte streets are safe for motorists and pedestrians. He describes the three week training as, "the most difficult and technical" schooling he has ever attended. He would like to remind residents to pay close attention to the speed limits around their community and especially around school zones. Drive safe and pay attention to pedestrians and traffic laws. Remember safety is a priority and although it is an old saying we must not forget, "Click it or ticket".



DEPUTY MARCELO SEPULVEDA

CITY OF DUARTE Crime Statistics

	'00	'01	'02	'03	'04	'05	'06	'07
CRIMINAL HOMICIDE	0	1	1	0	3	0	1	1
RAPE	8	3	2	8	3	1	2	1
ROBBERY	32	28	32	35	28	18	44	29
ASSAULT	69	78	75	50	59	40	53	37
RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY	41	34	54	39	55	47	25	48
OTHER BURGLARY	66	45	60	56	58	73	61	71
VEHICLE BURGLARY	90	63	67	61	123	72	119	97
GRAND THEFT	57	65	78	71	70	62	77	82
AUTO THEFT	78	90	83	72	132	113	91	85
ARSON	4	1	3	2	4	1	0	1
TOTAL CRIMES	445	408	455	394	535	427	473	452



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Worship 10:00 A.M.

Children's Sunday School 10:30 A.M.

Search for New Citrus College Superintendent/President Intensifies

By Dr. Edward C. Ortell

President, Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees

Harry Truman, the 33rd President of the United States, once said that "progress occurs when courageous, skillful leaders seize the opportunity to change things for the better." From our origins as the first community college in Los Angeles County to the establishment of an Associate Degree in Nursing Program in 2007, Citrus College has been an institution defined by progress. This progress can be credited, in part, to the six leaders who have held the position of superintendent/president during the school's 93-year history.

Most recently, Michael J. Viera, Ph.D. has served at the helm of Citrus College and his five-year tenure has been marked by significant positive change. Viera oversaw the passage of Measure G in March 2004, which has resulted in a building program designed to upgrade and modernize the campus. Today, at least seven new buildings have been completed, are under construction, or are in the planning phase.

Since Viera first stepped into the position of superintendent/president, great strides have been made in the areas of enrollment, technology, and advocacy. Citrus College has also received two Title V Hispanic Serving Institution grants and numerous state grants. However, Viera's greatest contribution has been strengthening the campus's service to students. The creation of learning communities, an increase in high school outreach, the expansion of distance learning, and the introduction of new instructional programs have all occurred during his tenure.

Now, Citrus College is again preparing for a changing of the guard. In a letter presented to the Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees during their October 2, 2007 meeting, Viera announced his intent to retire at the end of the spring 2008 semester. While the campus will greatly miss Viera's dedication and commitment to our students, we are looking forward to continuing the tradition of extraordinary executive leadership that has helped make Citrus College what it is today.

With over 30 superintendent/president vacancies currently at community colleges throughout the state, our search for a new leader will be a formidable task. In November, nineteen individuals were appointed to the Citrus College President Search Committee. These individuals represent the campus's Academic Senate, Adjunct Faculty, Alumni Association, Associated Students, Foundation, Classified Staff, Faculty Association, Management Team, and Supervisor/Confidential group. In addition, two members serve as representatives from the community.

Citrus College hired Community College Search Services to aid in the search process. In December, representatives from each constituent group had the opportunity to share their insights, opinions, and concerns regarding the president search with search consultant Dr. Leslie Purdy. A similar meeting, which was open to the public, was held for members of the community.

At the same time, Citrus College employees have been actively promoting the superintendent/president position at a variety of community college-related conferences throughout the country. Thus far, response has been positive and interest high. Interested candidates have indicated that they are drawn to Citrus College because of its outstanding reputation and beautiful location.

Applications and nominations for the position of Citrus College superintendent/president will be accepted until the position is filled. However, the search committee will begin reviewing applications on March 24. A limited number of candidates will then be invited to interviews scheduled in April.

As Duarte's representative on the Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees, it is an honor and privilege to serve the citizens of this city at such a momentous time. I assure you that the search community, my colleagues on the board, and myself will do everything in our power to select a superintendent/president who will continue the tradition of academic excellence for which Citrus College is known.



DR. EDWARD ORTELL

2008 Route 66 Parade Update

Mark your calendars now for the 2008 Duarte Route 66 Parade, Saturday, September 20.

The Duarte Route 66 Parade Committee has started the planning and is looking for additional members who would like to help with this traditional event. Meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month at the Elks Lodge, 2436 Huntington Drive, Duarte.

A new website has been launched – www.duarteroute66parade.com – which includes entry forms for sponsors, parade entries and marching bands.

All the committee members are very excited to announce a new contest. Community members are invited to engage their creative selves and come up with this year's theme for the parade AND create the logo! The theme will be a part of all the publicity, programs, and literature and the logo will be used on t-shirts, magnets and all the 2008 memorabilia.

In addition to announcing the winner in the local media, the contest winner will be one of the VIP's on the day of the parade and will ride in one of the great cars in the parade.

The deadline for receiving entries in the Theme and Logo

contest is April 23 with the committee announcing the winning entrant on April 30. The contest is open to everyone.

Entries can be sent to: Duarte Route 66 Parade, Attn: Theme Contest, P.O. Box 66, Duarte, CA 91009-0066.

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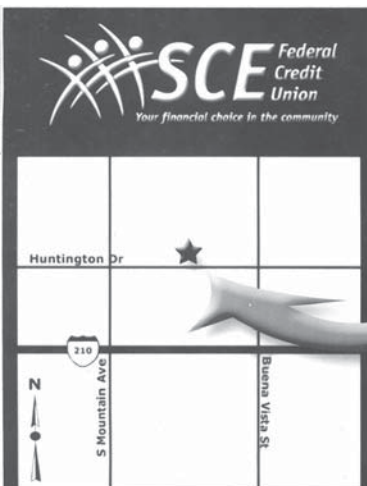
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Call 1-888-237-1333 or visit www.calamwater.com to learn more about water conservation and how you can make a difference.

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Senior Center Activities

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

HOT LUNCHES

The Duarte Senior Center serves hot lunches Monday through Friday to individuals over age 60 or the spouse of someone over age 60. You must call 48 hours in advance to reserve space for lunch. Reservations are requested by calling (626) 357-3513. Check in for lunch must be conducted by 11:45 a.m. or the lunch will be given to someone on the waiting list. The suggested donation is \$2.

MEALS ON WHEELS

Eligible seniors can receive a hot lunch and cold dinner plate delivered each weekday by the American Red Cross or seven frozen meals delivered once a week by YWCA Intervale Senior Services. For more information on either of these programs, please contact the Senior Center at (626) 357-3513 or the Red Cross at (626) 966-9526.

AMERICAN RED CROSS MEALS ON WHEELS VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED!

If you possess a current CA driver's license, have access to a personal vehicle, and proof of insurance, you are eligible to volunteer to pick up meals from a local retirement home and deliver to home-bound seniors. (Meals are delivered M-F between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.) No special training is required, just a compassionate individual who will brighten the days of the recipient. To become a volunteer please contact the American Red Cross at (626) 966-9526.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Duarte Senior Center is always in need of volunteers to help with food preparation, serving, table setups, craft projects, boutiques, decorating, etc. If you would like to give back to the community, please consider being a volunteer. For more information contact Kelly at (626) 357-3513.

ACCESS TRANSPORTATION

Provides transportation for individuals with disabilities. For eligibility or more information call (800) 827-0829.

TAX ASSISTANCE OFFERED

The Duarte Senior Center has trained counselors to help seniors with tackling tax forms. The counselors are available every Tuesday until tax day, so call the Center at (626) 357-3513 for an appointment. It's important to come prepared with copies of last year's tax forms, all forms that show income received, and all records of deductions including charitable contributions. Appointments are required.

55 ALIVE MATURE DRIVING PROGRAM

The Duarte Senior Center, in cooperation with AARP, will be offering a 55 Alive Mature Driving class for persons 55 and older on Tuesday, April 17 and Thursday, April 19 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. This eight-hour class, split up in two

four-hour sessions, is a comprehensive classroom driver re-training course geared to the specific needs of older motorists. Auto insurance companies are required by law to offer discounts to course graduates age 55 and older. Attendance is required at both sessions. The cost is \$10 and reservations are required. For more information, please call the Duarte Senior Center at (626) 357-3513.

DINNER WITH US

The Duarte Parks and Recreation Department partners with many local restaurants to provide an evening meal at the Duarte Senior Center. Participants have an opportunity to experiment with different restaurant menus while dining at the Center. The cost is \$7 per person. Senior citizens and their adult family members are welcome to participate. For more information, call the Center at (626) 357-3513.

CLASSES

The Duarte Senior Center will begin taking registration for the spring session of classes beginning on March 10, and classes will begin the week of March 24. Registration hours are Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Classes are for 10 weeks unless otherwise noted. All classes are for adults 55 years and older. THERE ARE NO REFUNDS. Classes offered this spring will be: Art Appreciation, Arthritis Exercise, Ceramics, Crochet and Knitting, English as a Second Language, Exercise with Shelly, Guitar, Low Impact Aerobics, Piano/Keyboard, Piano private lessons, Spanish, Strength Training, Tai Chi, and Yoga with light weights.

EXCURSIONS

The City of Duarte Parks and Recreation Department is currently taking registration for spring trips. You can pick up a brochure at City Hall or the Senior Center to receive in-depth information about the following trips:

Agua Dulce Vineyards and Sweetwater Café, Wednesday, April 9, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., \$41; Ojai - Lunch at Soule Park Golf Club, Thursday, April 24, 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., \$40; Helen Woodward Animal Center, Jag's Diner and Bates Nut Farm, Wednesday, May 7, 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m., \$50; Getty Villa in Malibu Museum, Thursday, May 22, 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m., \$19; Harrah's Rincon Casino and Resort, Tuesday, June 10, 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m., \$8 (with \$5 gaming coupon); and Tibbies Great American Cabaret at the Queen Mary, Sunday, June 29, 12:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m., \$73. Visa and MasterCard are accepted for purchases over \$30.

MOTHER'S DAY TEA AND FASHION SHOW

On Wednesday, April 30, from 3:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m. the Duarte Senior Center will host a Mother's Day Tea and Fashion Show. The day will start off with a fashion show given by Draper and Damon, and will be followed by a Tea. Family members are welcome to attend this event. The fee will be \$10 per person. Reservations must be made in person at the Senior Center.

SENIOR COED SOFTBALL TEAM

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



PARTICIPANTS have an opportunity to experiment with different restaurant menus while dining at the Senior Center in the "Dinner With Us" program.

Duarte HS Falcons



MEMBERS OF THE Duarte High School Falcon Football Team were honored and presented certificates by the Duarte City Council for their recent CIF playoff participation. Senior Chris Harris earned the Montview League Offensive MCP and made the 2007 Tribune All-Area Team.

Cesar Chavez Project Kickoff March 29

A major theme in the life of the late labor organizer Cesar Chavez was to urge people to join hands and work together for positive change. To commemorate Chavez's birthday, the City of Duarte, Duarte's Promise; the Alliance for Youth, the City of Hope, and the community will honor his legacy by both hosting his esteemed colleague Dolores Huerta and by improving an area of the City of Hope's "Hope Village" on Saturday, March 29.

"What a historic event," said Mayor Phil Reyes. "We are honored and proud to have Dolores Huerta, a true champion of social justice and founder of the farm workers union visit our community."

Dolores Huerta worked with Cesar Chavez for over 30 years until his death in 1993. Ms. Huerta first met Chavez through her association with the Stockton Chapter of the Community Service Organization in the early 1960's. Together, they founded the Robert Kennedy Medical Plan, the Juan De La Cruz Farm Workers Pension Fund, and the Farm Workers Credit Union, the first medical and pension plans and credit union in history for farm workers. They also formed the National Farm Workers Service Center which provides affordable housing with over 3,700 rental and 600 single family dwelling units, and educational radio with over nine Spanish-speaking radio stations throughout California, Washington and Arizona. Huerta will be introduced by her friend and colleague, Dr. Jose Calderon, Professor of Sociology and Chicano Studies at Pitzer College since 1991.

The volunteer project will kickoff at 9 a.m. on Saturday, March 29, at the entrance to City of Hope. From there, volunteers will be escorted to Hope Village for a traditional continental breakfast and program. Breakfast will be provided courtesy of McDonald's, La Miche Paleteria and La Paloma, all local Duarte dining establishments.

The third annual Cesar Chavez volunteer event is one of a number of volunteer projects, programs, and events sponsored by Duarte's

Junior Olympics Track And Field Meet



DUARTE'S FINEST ATHLETES run for the gold at the Jr. Olympics Track Meet.

The City of Duarte Parks and Recreation Department will once again host the annual Junior Olympics Track and Field Meet. The event will take place Saturday, April 5 at Duarte High School Stadium. Entries for boys and girls born 1993-2001 will be taken from Andres Duarte, Beardslee, Maxwell, Royal Oaks, Valley View, Anita Oaks and Northview Schools. Medals will be awarded to 1st place finishers, and ribbons for 2nd place through 5th place in each event. Schools will try to win the Junior Olympics School Champion title. A large trophy is awarded to the winning elementary school team. All registration for the meet will be taken at the schools. Participants will have a wide choice of events to choose

from; the Alliance for Youth. In 2000, Duarte was named by the national America's Promise organization as an official "Community of Promise." Since then, more than 100 local businesses, organizations, individuals, government schools, and communities of faith have partnered in a commitment to ensure that the needs of young people are served through five promises: ongoing relationships with caring adults (parents, mentors, tutors, coaches); safe places and structured activities during non-school hours; a healthy start and future; marketable skills through effective education; and opportunities for youth to give back through community service.

For more information, please call Raquel Anguiano with Duarte's Promise; The Alliance for Youth at Duarte City Hall, (626) 357-7931, ext. 266.



MINI SOCCER is a fun way for children to participate in a physical activity.

Youth Recreation Mini-Soccer

Duarte Parks and Recreation is currently taking registration at Duarte City Hall and at all local supervised playgrounds for youth mini soccer leagues. The fee is \$20 per child and practices are scheduled to begin the week of

March 31. Boys and girls born in 1995-1999 (in a grade no higher than 6th) will play in separate boys and girls leagues. Practices and games will be conducted during the week, after school, and will be held at local supervised

parks. The field size for league games is about half the size of a normal field and the goals are also smaller. This fun and exciting 6 on 6-player league is perfect for all skill levels. For more information call (626) 357-7931.

Duarte Fitness Center Membership Sale & Aquatics Program

It is time to get into shape. Save 20% during the Spring Sale at the Duarte Fitness Center. The sale prices are available March 23 through April 1. During the sale Duarte residents can enjoy one full year of aquatics, exercise, and aerobics for only \$100. Non-resident rates start as low as \$140, and there are no monthly fees or dues. The Fitness Center is located at 1600 Huntington Drive, next to City Hall.

At the Fitness Center you can choose from a wide variety of activities including strength training equipment, Stairmasters, treadmills, bikes, and Elliptical Trainers. The Fitness Center also has two courts available for either racquetball or wallyball. Aerobic classes are offered at various times daily.

The spring aquatics program will run from March 22-June 21. The pool will be available Mon. through Fri. for lap swimming from 6:30 a.m. to 8 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mon. through Thurs. from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., and 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. on weekends. Recreational swim will be held during spring break and on weekends.

Beautification Awards

Duarte residents are encouraged to begin preparing their homes and businesses for the 29th Annual Beautification Awards. Judging will be held in the month of April and the awards ceremony to honor the winners will be conducted at the May 27 Duarte City Council meeting. All homes and businesses within the City of Duarte will be judged by local service organizations. The City of Duarte encourages residents to improve and beautify their homes and businesses and would like to recognize those who go above and beyond the norm in making the outside of their homes and businesses presentable. Beautified homes and businesses add to Duarte's appeal in the San Gabriel Valley and helps foster community pride and involvement. For more information, please contact Parks and Recreation at (626) 357-7931 ext. 203.

Two sessions of swim lessons will be offered this spring. Session 1 will run from May 5-May 15, with registration beginning April 28. Session 2 will run from May 19-May 30, and registration begins May 12. Priority registration will be available to City of Duarte residents with valid ID from 6 a.m. to 8 a.m. the first day of registration. All non-residents may register beginning at 8 a.m.

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

To protect our neighborhoods from gangs . . .

- **Parents** are urged to supervise their children and teens. Be sure youth do not dress in gang attire, clothes or jewelry that attract gang members' attention.
- **Youth** should make good use of resources available that offer positive involvement, such as Monrovia's Youth Center, the Boys & Girls Club, Santa Anita Family YMCA, Duarte Teen Center, and numerous after school programs.
- **Pastors** are asked to speak to their congregations and inform parishioners to treat others with respect and not to promote hatred or violence. Make all of our churches safe havens for persons who feel threatened.
- **Neighborhood meetings** are being planned to dispel rumors; to seek citizen involvement as Block Captains and to revitalize or form Neighborhood Watch groups.
- **Residents** of neighborhoods where gangs tend to hang out MUST cooperate with our police investigations. Everyone can help by reporting any unusual activities or incidents that might lead to gang violence or other illegal activities in our communities.
- **Report Anonymous Tips** to (626) 357-7938 ext. 462.
- **Witnesses** should come forward and help identify shooters. Families and friends of gang members need to cut themselves loose from those who bring violence into their lives – for their own safety and the safety of all of us.
- **Law Enforcement and Gang Specialists** are patrolling our streets. Arrests have been made and more are expected.

Together, We can stop this violence. We must!!! We Will!!!!

Duarte Recreation Spring Classes



BALLET PARTICIPANTS have fun preparing for their dance performance.

The Duarte Recreation Department offers classes to adults, teens, children and families.

Spring recreation classes to be offered will include Arts & Crafts, Amazing Arts, Ballet, Belly Dancing, Cheer & Dance, CPR & First Aid-Babysitter Training, Cooking the Fun & Healthy Way, Dog Obedience, Folklorico, Guitar, Hip Hop Dance, Homework Helper, Kids Love Soccer, Mini Picassos, My Little Artist and Me, Polynesian Dance, Racquetball, Salsa Dance, Skateboarding,

Tennis, Theater Workshop and Tumbling.

Registration for the spring session of classes begins March 10 and is on a first come, first served basis.

Mail-in registration is available. Visa and MasterCard are accepted for purchases over \$30. Classes will begin March 29.

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

City of Duarte Home Improvement Grant Offer

The City of Duarte is offering grants for the purpose of completing exterior improvements to your home, such as window replacement, roof replacement, or exterior painting.

This program is open to qualifying residents within the incorporated area of the City of Duarte. The applicants for this upcoming application period will be determined using a lottery system. Priority will be given to those properties that have never received a grant. Applicants' gross yearly income (before taxes) cannot exceed the amount shown in the table below.

Family Size	Gross Yearly Income
1	\$41,450
2	\$47,350
3	\$53,300
4	\$59,200
5	\$63,950
6	\$68,650
7	\$73,400
8	\$78,150

Residents can pick-up/fill-out pre-applications during regular City Hall business hours in the Community Development Department from **March 3, 2008 through April 30, 2008**. The deadline for submitting pre-applications is **April 30, 2008**.

For complete details on the application procedure, please visit City Hall and pick-up an information handout or download the handout on our website at www.accessduarte.com. If you have any questions, please contact the Community Development Department at (626) 357-7931 between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 6 p.m., Mon. through Thurs.



THE 3.2-MILE HIKE through the wilderness requires sturdy hiking boots and hikers must carry their own water.

Wilderness Day April 19

Duarte families are invited to experience one of the most beautiful, local, natural waterfalls. On Saturday, April 19, the Vulcan Rock Quarry will open their gates and allow access to the original Fish Canyon Trail.

The 3.2-mile hike through the wilderness requires sturdy hiking boots and hikers must carry their own water. Hearty hikers can hike the expanded 9-mile version if desired. Activities at Encanto Park will include a 24-foot climbing wall, hands-on nature experiences, barbecue lunch, and fun for everyone. This event is sponsored by the City of Duarte and Vulcan Materials Company.

Hikers may check in at Encanto Park beginning at 7 a.m. Hikers must be transported to the trailhead by a City of Duarte shuttle. The fee is \$12 for adults, \$9 for child ages 3-11, and children under 3 are free. Registration is limited to the first 300 hikers and all participants will receive a free souvenir. T-shirts will be available for \$10. There will be an additional \$2 late fee for registrations received after April 14. Flyers are available at Duarte City Hall, Monday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m. For more information, please call the Parks and Recreation Department at (626) 357-7931.

Spring Into Health

HEALTHY KIDS CAMP

During spring break, boys and girls ages 7-10 will learn the importance of proper nutrition and exercise through field trips, cooking demonstrations, and guest speakers.

Participants will be introduced to the new MyPyramid, taught how to read nutrition product labels, and to distinguish between good fats and bad fats.

They will also learn to make healthy food choices at fast food restaurants, participate in field games for physical activity, and more!

This camp will be both fun and educational, so join the Duarte Parks and Recreation Department

to take a bite out of obesity and other unhealthy medical conditions!

Healthy Kids Camp will be held March 24-March 28 from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. at Mt. Olive High School.

Registration limited to 20 participants. Fee is \$20. Instruction will be provided by Jasmine Klinton, Nutrition Coordinator, and the Teen Nutrition Council.

For more information, contact the Duarte Parks and Recreation Department at 357-7931 ext. 260.

Funding for the Healthy Kids Camp is provided by the California Department of Health Services & Los Angeles Collaborative for Healthy Active Children.



SPRING HEALTH CAMP participants share their knowledge with others.



JOIN US as we visit Knotts Berry Farm!

Youth Spring Break Activities

BREAKFAST WITH THE EASTER BUNNY

On Saturday, March 22, the Duarte Rotary Club will host its annual Breakfast With the Easter Bunny.

The event will be held at the Duarte Community Center, 1600 Huntington Drive from 8 to 9:30 a.m.

Tickets can be purchased in advance at Duarte City Hall, and cost \$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.

The Easter Bunny will be available to visit and for pictures. All children with a ticket will receive a free book.

For ticket information for this

fun filled morning, please contact the Parks and Recreation Department at (626) 357-7931.

EASTER EGG HUNTS

The City of Duarte Parks and Recreation Department will conduct the annual Duarte Easter Egg Hunts.

Egg Hunts will be held at Royal Oaks and Beardslee Parks on Saturday, March 22 beginning at 10 a.m. SHARP!

The event is open to three divisions 3-4 years, 5-7 years and 8-10 years old. There is no charge for this event.

Parents are asked to stay out of the hunting grounds and no baskets or bags will be allowed. For more information call (626) 357-7931.

SPRING CRAFT DAY

The City of Duarte Parks and Recreation Department will conduct a Spring Crafts Day at

Beardslee, Encanto and Royal Oaks Parks on Monday, March 24 at 3 p.m.

There is no charge for this activity. Sign up at your local playground.

For more information call (626) 357-7931.

KNOTT'S BERRY FARM YOUTH EXCURSION

An excursion to Knott's Berry Farm will be held on Thursday, April 27. Register now at Duarte City Hall or at local supervised playgrounds.

Ride on Sierra Sidewinder, Xcelerator, Supreme Scream, Montezuma's Revenge, Ghost Rider Roller Coaster and many more thrilling rides and attractions. The fee is \$22 for 8-11 year olds and \$25 for 12-17 year olds. Space is limited.

For more information call (626) 357-7931.

Duarte Library collection and programs grow with a little help from "Friends"

By Nita Norgard

Where can you see a magic show, participate in a hands-on sculpture workshop or buy a book for less than a \$1? It's all happening in the next 2 months at the Duarte Public Library, 1301 Buena Vista St.

You're off to a good start when you create the time to visit the Duarte Library to check out books, attend a free monthly special program or get acquainted with the weekly group sessions for teens, preschool and elementary school levels.

Many of these special programs are funded by the Friends of the Duarte Library. You might want to Save the Date for:

Bjlane, plein air artist, March 29, 2008, 2 p.m. Bjlane, a Duarte resident will give a one

hour sculpture workshop. Space is limited so it's a First Come basis. Bjlane presented a plein air workshop at the library last year and the audience enthusiastically requested she return to do another workshop. She also displayed a few of her paintings and provided one of her paintings for the silent auction at the Festival of Authors 2007. Her sculptures will be on exhibit in the library display case inside the Buena Vista entrance during the month of March.

Book Sale - April 12 - 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and the "Magic of Reading" Show at 2 p.m. It's the one-day only, all-L.A. County Libraries Book Sale and a special children's magic show. If you'd like to pass along a few of your gently used books, give the Friends of the Duarte Library,

Nita Norgard, a call at (626) 358-1276. We'll arrange to pick up your books. This is a donation in support of the Friends and a book to a new reader.

Friends Scholarship Recognition Dinner May 28 - Royal Oaks Manor. Demonstrate your support for the academic accomplishments of the two high school recipients selected to receive \$500 scholarships given jointly by the Friends

of the Duarte Library in partnership with The Old Spaghetti Factory Restaurant, Duarte. Dr. Bill Martinez will also be honored for his outstanding contributions

over his career of 28 years of teaching, guiding, and decision making that has propelled DHS to becoming a Distinguish School and has advanced Duarte students.

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SCE Federal Credit Union Becomes City of Hope's Latest Platelet Partner

City of Hope put out the call and SCE FCU is answering. With City of Hope patients using more blood and platelets than at any other hospital in Southern California, and with platelets only having a shelf life of five days, City of Hope is in constant need of donors. Hence their new campaign, "The Platelet Partnership." The Credit Union eagerly signed on to help make a difference.

SCE FCU, a \$400 million, full-service financial institution based in Irwindale, with a branch in Duarte, is encouraging employees and members to donate platelets during March 24-March 28, at the City of Hope Campus in Duarte. Donation time can vary based on body size and blood counts, but can usually be done in 90 minutes. To learn more about how you can join the Credit Union in this special effort, visit their website at scefcu.org or call (800) 866-6474 ext. 4500.



CELEBRATING THE PARTNERSHIP are (left to right) Latascha Johnson, Community Outreach Specialist for City of Hope's Whole Blood, Platelet and Community Outreach Donor Center; Eileen Beeson, SCE FCU's Duarte Branch Manager; and Christy Marrugi, SCE FCU's Business Development Executive for the Duarte area.

Duarte Employees Community Group

City of Duarte Employees have come together to form the Duarte Employees Community Group. The group was formed in April, 2007, for the purpose of providing volunteer services and funding to nonprofit organizations and groups located in the City of Duarte.

Duarte employees are proud of the city in which they work and enjoy giving of their time to help provide much needed services to its residents. Employees have volunteered hours to the Rebuilding Together Project and the Duarte Rose Float Pavilion.

They also raised funds at the Annual City Picnic, raising enough funds to purchase a heart monitor for the Duarte Senior Center. The heart monitor is currently being used by Duarte Senior Center patrons.

Senior Center Supervisor Peggy Diamond says, "It's awesome - it's here for the senior's convenience. They can continually monitor their health, while participating in other programs."

Duarte employees look forward to providing residents with many more meaningful volunteer services that will impact their lives.

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*Rim Brightener *Rain Wax *B.C Express Wax
*Tire Dressing *Exterior Dressing

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From the desk of the Superintendent

Dr. Dean Conklin, Superintendent,
Duarte Unified School District

PRINCIPAL TO RETIRE

Dr. Bill Martinez, Principal of Duarte High School, announced his retirement that will take effect at the end of the school year. On behalf of the entire staff in Duarte, as well as the thousands of students who have been so positively impacted by Dr. Martinez, I offer my congratulations on an outstanding career.

Dr. Martinez began his career in 1970 as a teacher at Northview. Over the past 38 years, he has served as a teacher, Dean, Assistant Principal, and of course, Principal. Dr. Martinez is a very well educated individual, having earned a Doctor of Jurisprudence (J.D.) in addition to his B.A. his M.A. Both of his children, Billy Martinez and Stacy Nunez, have chosen to follow in their father's footsteps. Stacy is a teacher at Duarte High, and Billy is finishing up his student teaching at Valley View. Bill's son in law, Cristian Nunez, is also with us as an ROP teacher.

Bill has many, many accomplishments for which he can be proud. One of the most significant is the fact that just last year Duarte High was named both a California Distinguished School and a Title I Academic Achievement Award Winning School. I will never forget the joy that I saw in Bill's face when he shared with me the good news about these accolades. Bill was not looking for personal recognition, rather he was truly excited about the commitment that teachers, students and staff had made, and he delighted in their collective success.

Bill, we will miss your enthusiasm and your dedication. We are so happy that we have the rest of this school year to make all of those retirement jokes at your expense. Most of all, we respect your commitment to the students in Duarte.



DR. DEAN KONKLIN

The Duarte High School Academic Decathlon Team is going to the State Finals in Sacramento

EDITOR'S NOTE: This story was written prior to the Academic Team's victory in Sacramento in March. It covers the victorious event that led to Duarte High's trip to the State Finals.

By Dr. Bill Martinez, Principal

We are ecstatic at Duarte High School. Yes, ECSTATIC!!! We are ecstatic because the **Duarte High School Academic Decathlon Team** finished first in its division and second overall in the Los Angeles County Academic Decathlon 2007-2008 competition. Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools Dr. Darlene Robles presented the award to the team on February 7, 2008 at the Quiet Cannon Country Club in Montebello. The team won a school record 65 individual and team medals plus a school record three trophies.

The Duarte High School Academic Decathlon Team members are: Kevin Amador, Christopher Amurao, Lucas Bondi, Daniel Collin, Talin Darkjian, Evan Finlay, Yonathan Lie-Christiano, Gayle Manahan, Hayden McFarlane, Amber Nicholson, Vanja Primorac, Mozzum Saleem, Oliver Solorzano, Samantha Thomas and Juan Urena. Senior Hayden McFarlane placed second in Los Angeles County with 8,506 points. Lastly, **WE ARE GOING TO THE STATE FINALS** in Sacramento on March 7, 8, 9, and 10. Congratulations to the team and to Coach Grebel.

MORE ACADEMIC RECOGNITIONS

In other great news, the Los Angeles County Regional Oc-

cupation Program invited four Duarte High School students to compete in the LA County ROP competition this spring. The students selected are: **Swati Puri, Nick Acuna, Louis Bonilla and Jesus Urena-Lopez**. They will be competing against the best students from each of the high schools in Los Angeles County. Congratulations to the group and their coaches: Al Scalise, Michelle Trail and Johanne Auger. We wish you the best at competition. Also, **Swati Puri** was selected as the Duarte High School representative to Girls' State. This award is a great honor because each high school sends only one eleventh grade representative to Girls' State. Swati and the rest of the girls from all the high schools in the state will work on their leadership skills. The leadership skills the students learn this summer are to be used in their respective schools.

COLLEGE NEWS

Duarte High School has been an SAT preparation and testing site for many years now. To assist more of our students develop a college going culture, we have also joined forces with the ACT Program. We became an ACT preparation and testing site in February 2008. Our first on site ACT test was February 9, 2008. We hope this opportunity will assist many more students to be college bound.

Mrs. Houlemard asked me to remind you that we will be giving a practice SAT exam at Duarte High School on April 19, 2008. The cost is \$20. The deadline for



DUARTE HIGH SCHOOL Academic Decathlon team members.

Duarte High's Academic Decathlon Team heads for State Finals

EDITOR'S NOTE: This story was written prior to the Academic Team's victory in Sacramento in March. It covers the victorious event that led to Duarte High's trip to the State Finals.

By Dean Conklin,
Superintendent,
and Julie Davey

"March Madness" is taking on new meaning in the City of Duarte as enthusiastic fans prepare to follow their team's progress to the upcoming state finals, hoping to cheer them on to victory.

But, it is not basketball that has thrust a local team into the spotlight. It is academic achievement.

Duarte High School placed second in the highly competitive County of Los Angeles Academic Decathlon finals on Feb. 7, finishing second to Alhambra's Mark Keppel High School while beating out such prestigious schools as Beverly Hills High and San Marino High and earning a trip to the state finals.

A total of 56 teams and more than 500 students participated in the County playoffs.

The California state finals will be held March 8, 9, 10 in Sacramento where the Duarte Falcons will pit their collective brain power against the best academic

matriculation is April 16. What is unique about this particular test (April 19) is counselors will go over the test results and review test strategies with the students on May 6. By the way, **the last day to turn in the FAFSA application is March 2. Seniors do not miss the deadline.**

SPORTS NEWS

The Montview League honored a number of our fall athletes. The league recognized **Stacy Sandoval** for winning the league's singles tennis title. **Karla Salas** was honored for her third place finish in cross country, while **Darius Reese, Chris Harris, Andrew Vasquez, Austin Goldsmith, Tim Starr and Randy Castaneda** were all league in football. **Chris Harris** was not only All Montview League in football, but he was also the Montview League's Offensive MVP. Chris was selected to All Mid Valley and All CIF teams. Chris has committed to Utah State. We may have a few more signings in the weeks to come.

Please take care of yourselves. Until next time,

Dr. M

The Caring Administrator

teams from across the state.

As in any serious competition, training, coaching and teamwork combine to create success for the winners. And this is the stuff dreams are made of.

Despite having a much smaller student body to draw from (Mark Keppel High, for example, is double the size of Duarte High), our great team of high-caliber students worked diligently, believed in themselves and focused on excellence. Their coach, Robert Grebel, inspired them and spent countless hours motivating and encouraging them.

The 15 team members and Grebel were recently honored at a Duarte City Council meeting where a packed house of school district officials, council members and Duarte residents sang their praises.

Duarte Mayor Phil Reyes said, "This like David and Goliath. The Falcons beat some of the biggest and the best through their hard work, dedication and discipline – all characteristics of a winning team. Our young people are winners!"

"We are so proud them!" Duarte High Principal Bill Martinez said. "In the past, we've had success in sports, in dramatic and musical productions and in art and cultural events, but this is huge. It validates the academic excellence in our school as well."

This news is wonderful and is reflective of the great students, faculty and parents we have in our district.

This is the third time, Duarte High's academic prowess has been recognized, recently being named a California Distinguished School for 2007, and also receiving the 2007 national Title I Academic Achievement Award.

Director of Curriculum for DUSD Terry Nichols, former Duarte High principal, was instrumental in initiating the academic decathlon team in 2003 when he hired Grebel, who had eight years in academic coaching at Marina High School in Orange County.

"Robert Grebel has been the driving force behind our successful team," Nichols said.

Team members are: Amber Nicholson, Talin Darkjian, Hayden McFarlane, Kevin Amador, Oliver Solorzano, Chris Amurao, Lucas Bondi, Evan Finlay, Vanja Primorac, Daniel Collin, Mozzum Saleem, Yonathan Lie, Gayle Manahan, Samantha Thomas, and Juan Urena.

Any sports story highlights team leaders. Here are the academic equivalents of Duarte

High's MVPs and their stats:

* Hayden McFarlane, senior, was the 2nd highest scoring athlete in Los Angeles County (out of over 500 competitors). He earned 10 overall medals and scored 8506 points, one of the top scorers in the state at the county level

* Amber Nicholson, senior, was a four-year member of the team, earning 9 overall medals.

* Talin Darkjian, senior, was a three-year member. She earned 8 overall medals.

* Lucas Bondi, senior, was a three-year member. He earned 8 overall medals.

* Chris Amurao, senior, was a rookie in Academic Decathlon. He earned 8 overall medals.

One of Grebel's students from the team two years ago, Sandra Avila, has been serving as his assistant coach.

It has been a life-changing experience for team members.

"Now I have something I can truly be proud of that will positively affect the rest of my life," said Samantha Thomas.

And for Lucas Bondi, "This year has been incredible. We started with our fuel tanks full, and we kept on going the entire season even when we were weary from the studying."

Talin Darkjian added, "Making state this year was the perfect ending. This journey has been the most significant part of high school for me and the most rewarding experience I have had in my life so far."

Duarte City Council member Margaret Finlay whose son, Evan, is a member of the team, accompanied the group to the East Coast this past summer and is also ecstatic.

"These kids washed cars, had bake sales and did everything possible to pay for their trip to Washington, D.C. The theme of this year's competition was the American Civil War. They went to the actual sites to learn, to study, and to prepare for this decathlon, and, boy, did that pay off!"

Amber Nicholson summed it up. "Our team is different from others in that, we play for the love of the game. This year, at the beginning of our season (2007-2008) our team made the decision to make it to the state competition."

"Every action each member made was directed toward this goal and it was extremely rewarding to see our dreams and everything we've worked for this past year come to fruition," she added.



KINDERGARTENERS representing the classes of Mrs. Bossi-Solorzano, Mrs. Chiu and Mrs. Martinez get ready to entertain the crowds with "Puff the Magic Dragon".

BEARDSLEE

A day in the life

By Wendy Wright, Principal

Greatness begins here! That is Beardslee School's motto. A typical week at Beardslee can give you some insight as to why I believe it to be true. Come with me and visit the greatness that can be found on Kellwil Way!

Pick any morning. The bell rings at 8:15 a.m. and students and teachers move to their classrooms where school begins at 8:20 sharp. First on the agenda is the pledge of allegiance over the loudspeaker. Each day, two students lead the school in our salute to the flag. Immediately following, a staff member reads the Words of Wisdom, based on one of the character traits. This morning, Mrs. Valerie Durham shares some thoughts on respect. Teachers follow up with a short class discussion on the values presented each morning and ask students to think about how they can live the trait.

8:30 rolls around and it is time for Oral Language Development. Students move to different classes assigned by their level of proficiency in English. Teachers instruct students in improvement in English, school-wide until 9:00 a.m. At 9:00 a bell rings signaling the time to move back to their homerooms for English Language Arts. Again, some students move to work with our Mrs. Cynthia Wells, our Literacy Coach, or to Miss Danielle Vollers, our Special Education Teacher. All students focus on reading and writing using the state standards, as a guide.

If the day is Tuesday, grade levels report to the black top so that they can participate in our Physical Education program. All students, K-6, receive an hour of instruction from our PE teacher, Mr. Smith, and Steve Venegas, Duarte's Promise fellow. As the students develop their physical abilities, teachers meet by grade level and are joined by Mr. Moses, the Outreach Consultant, Mrs.

Wells, and me so that we can collaborate on ways in which to improve student achievement. Assessment data is analyzed, strategies are shared, and teachers talk about what is working!

Recesses are lively times at any school. At Beardslee, not only do you see our able Proctors monitoring student play, but we have additional help from our Peer Mediators. Students in 4-6 grades are taught Peer Mediation techniques by Mrs. Angie Salas and Miss Veronica Martinez. They take their skills to the playground and assist students with problem solving.

11:00 a.m. is math time! Students are given direct instruction on the state standards to improve their mathematical thinking and computation. In our first grade classes, Cognitive Guided Instruction takes students to new levels of thinking. Students can be seen solving math problems in ways that they can explain.

At 11:30 our lunch schedule begins. Students have the option of getting food from the cafeteria or choosing items from our salad bar. Mrs. Maria Pender, cafeteria manager, and her staff ensure that all have healthy food and all enjoy. On a recent Friday, our Safari Reading Club held the second party of the year during lunch. All students who had read for twenty minutes every day since September were invited for a nacho lunch and DJ Party. 375 students participated in this lovely but noisy celebration!

The afternoons are devoted to the content areas of Social Studies and Science. Teachers ably instruct student incorporating art and music into the afternoon subject areas. Another session of Physical Education is completed some afternoons.

School is dismissed at 2:42; however that is not the end of many students' day. More than 80 students participate in our Think Together program, coordinated by Richard Thoele. Think Together runs until 6:00 p.m. every evening. Students are given time to complete their homework with the tutoring skills of the program leader. Additionally students



PEER MEDIATOR Angela Gregory serves up juice to all the readers at a recent Safari Reading DJ Party.

Maxwell is not ordinary but, *extra ordinary!!*

By Mary Gonzales, Principal

Maxwell has many of the programs that you would not expect to find at your regular public schools, beginning with a first class music program. **Karina Avila our music teacher** teaches 2nd through 4th grade students how to read music and play the piano. It's not uncommon to hear the children talk about classical composers, and the parts of a sonata. How many of us know the meaning of exposition, development, and recapitulation? Maxwell students do.

These same students enhance their mathematical reasoning by playing a variety of computerized mathematical games. When you visit the lab you see a little penguin that runs up and down and across the screen. Gigi the penguin is estimating, calculating and predicting as it moves through a variety of obstacle courses. All the while this little penguin "Gigi" is controlled by the student. Students are developing critical thinking and mathematical reasoning as they "play" these games.

What else does Maxwell have that you would think is unique to a private school. **Christine Montgomery, Lynette Bridges, and Claudia Flores** and first grade teachers; **Louise Bayer, Rosemarie McLain, and Maryann Volmert** give their students open ended problems to solve. Sounds like work? Not really. Students are laughing and enjoying their conversations with other students as they figure out the answers to the math problems. Students do this as they manipulate plastic teddy bears, buttons and cubes.

This teaching method is known as Cognitively Guided instruction or CGI and instructors must be well trained and understand child development. That is why our teachers are very special.

Our reading incentive program could win honors. This program, Reading counts, motivates readers. It begins with great books.

participate in physical activity and the final hour is spent enriching their academics with further experiences. In addition to Think Together, Beardslee offers after the Bell classes on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. These extended learning opportunities in math assist students in meeting the grade level criteria.

But the school doesn't close at 6:00! Night classes in English Language Development are offered to adults wanting to improve their English. Wednesday night the Ballet Folklorico group run by Mrs. Figueroa meets on our stage to dance the evening away! Migrant Education holds parent information meetings. Three times a year the Beardslee Parent Staff Association holds a Parent Pot Luck/Education evening. Recently on a cold, rainy evening, we dined with 86 families as our Kindergarten class performed. Dr. Conklin was on hand to share a few words, our BPSA held a drawing for an iPod, and classes were given on our district website, the school plan, and Paul Villegas spoke on community safety.

Not everyone is fortunate enough to attend Beardslee School. However, I hope you have a better notion of why I believe: Greatness begins here! I invite you to come to see for yourself!



CREATING ART on a Saturday.

Students read fiction, nonfiction, and curriculum-connected books based on their interests and reading level. Students take a computer-generated quiz to test their comprehension.

Individual student progress is monitored by both teacher and **Leticia Lozano Maxwell's** literacy coach. Students who read the required number of books attend a barbecue, and ice cream party. At the end of the year those who meet the target will go to Magic Mountain. Last year 90+ students went to Magic Mountain.

How about Saturday School? Does that sound like punishment? Not to our 36 students, grades 4 to 6 who attend our Maxwell

School's Saturday Academy. Students in the academy learn to use technology to research their projects. They are using the internet to meet and talk to students over the world through closely supervised and monitored internet sites.

Students take drama and art classes through the Academy. They write and produce their own plays. The scenery is created in the art class which is taught by a professional artist. This past weekend children created masks that will be included in our Black Awareness celebration.

As you can see, Maxwell has many of the programs that you would not expect to find at your regular public schools.



USING THE INTERNET to talk to students in different countries Saturday Academy.

Child Development

By Bobbi Brzozowski, Director

CALLING ALL PRESCHOOLERS

We are now accepting Preschool Applications for Fall, 2008.

Call (626) 599-5120 for information. Hablamos español.

Don't miss out on our Duarte USD opportunities to prepare your child for kindergarten.

NEW PRESCHOOL OPPORTUNITY

Each year we receive applications and requests for preschool service from families who do not qualify for our federally funded Head Start program, or our state-subsidized State Preschool program. To meet the needs of more Duarte families, we plan to open a **Tuition-Based preschool** in September, 2008. The class will be housed at our Andres Duarte site and will operate in the morning, with extended day opportunities from 7 a.m. until 6 p.m.

For more information or to apply, please contact Bobbi at (626) 599-5121.

DID YOU KNOW?

Our largest preschool program is our **Duarte State Preschool**

which serves 168 preschoolers and their families. State Preschool is funded by a grant through the California Department of Education with the goal of preparing students for kindergarten. Children in our State Preschool program need to be three or four years old by December 2, and need to meet the income eligibility criteria. We have both morning and afternoon State Preschool classes at Beardslee and Andres Duarte and an afternoon class at Maxwell.

Duarte Head Start serves 88 Duarte families. Head Start is funded through a grant with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Head Start. It is a fully subsidized child development program with a strong social services mandate, working with the entire family and establishing family goals for all participants. Head Start is designed to serve the neediest children in the community. In fact we are mandated to serve a certain number of children who have disabilities. Our Head Start classes are located on the Beardslee, Andres Duarte and Maxwell campuses. At this time all Head Start classes are morning classes.

"Lessons to teach our children"

By Miriam Fox, Principal, Northview Intermediate

Having been a resident of Duarte for the past 40 years, it saddens me to see the violence that is going on in our community at this time. This past February, I attended the funeral services for one of the victims, a young man who was in the first seventh grade class that I had here at Northview.

Brandon Lee graduated last year from Duarte High School, a highly popular young man, who was the captain of the football team and my son's classmate.

The loss of any human life due to senseless violence is always painful, but this one hit especially close to home.

During the viewing, when I approached the casket to pay my respects I was overwhelmed by his obvious youth. His face was beautiful and smooth and devoid of any wrinkles, he had not been given the opportunity to live long enough to earn his wrinkles.

Amidst all of the sadness in the church, it was this loss of opportunity that struck me the most. He never had the opportunity to complete college, play pro football, enjoy one more holiday season with his family, or earn his wrinkles. As a member of this community and a caretaker of its youth, I struggled to understand what I or for that matter any of us can do to help put an end to this violence that is destroying our peace of mind and our youth.

So forgive me if this news article is not focused on the particular events occurring at Northview, but rather focuses on what we all can do to help make our wonderful city safe again and how we can protect our most valued resource, our children.

Below I have listed some points that may help us through these difficult times, I hope they help.

1. Know that your children are safe at our schools. **Every school site has safety procedures** inclusive of carefully monitoring every one who attempts to enter our campuses. Reassure your children that they are safe

at school. School is one of the safest places to be.

2. Keep in mind that these have **been incidents of gang violence**. It is important however to note that not all victims have had direct gang affiliations.

3. **Make arrangements about how your son/daughter will get to and from school.** If possible pick them up and drop them off or ask a neighbor, friend or family member to help you with this. If your child(ren) has/have to walk to and from school, discuss which are the safest routes to follow. Check with the schools regarding after school programs where your student can be supervised by responsible adults while completing homework and engaging in other extra-curricular activities. Many of these programs are free.

4. If at all possible **avoid being at or near residences or other locations that are often visited by gang members.** Although not all of the victims have had gang affiliations, many have been near locations that gang members frequent.

5. **Do not allow your children to walk around the community unescorted,** especially in areas that you know are unsafe.

6. **Be aware of who your son/daughter associates with and know where he or she is at all times.** Get to know their friends and the parents of their friends. Teenagers might view this as nosey or intrusive, too bad, stay the course, and let them know that being informed about their whereabouts and who they are with is a non-negotiable part of your parental responsibilities.

7. **Do not allow your children to dress in gang attire.** Often our sons/daughters will insist that what they are wearing is just fashionable not representative of gang clothing. Help them understand that the clothing might mistakenly identify them as gang members and place them at risk. Educate yourself about the trends in gang attire.

8. Through frequent dialoguing make sure that your children know that the **police are here to serve**

and protect us as community members. Encourage them to report to you any illegal activity they might inadvertently witness or suspect is occurring.

9. **Purposefully engage your children in positive activities** such as sports, youth clubs, religious training and activities. Intentionally and consistently help them make connections with the type of individuals you believe will cast a positive influence on them.

10. **Be intolerant of gang activity in your neighborhood,** get together with neighbors and form a Neighborhood Watch group. Do not take unnecessary risks but report to the authorities any issues of concern. Reporting can occur anonymously, use this to your advantage. **(To make anonymous reports call the Duarte Sheriff's substation at 626-357-7938 ext. 462.)**

As I conclude this article I want to make it clear that none of us has all of the answers but certainly one of the strongest deterrents for preventing this type of devastating criminal activity lies within the lessons we teach our youth directly through our words and indirectly through our actions.

We must explicitly teach our children to resolve their conflicts with others by using the power of their words and not physical aggression. The acts that many gang members inflict upon others are a result of many little lessons that they learned at home and on the streets while growing up. They learned well the lessons about retribution, vengeance, the use of force and intolerance, all of which abound in our society.

It is the responsibility of parents and the guardians of our youth, which all of us are, to teach the right lessons that focus on compassion, understanding, tolerance, and the power of dialogue in resolving conflicts.

Can you commit day after day to stepping up to the plate to help support and shape the character of our youth? If aloud or in your mind you just said "Yes!" then find the manner in which you can most effectively serve, and start today.

Mt. Olive Instructional Programs and Support Services

By Kevin Morris, Principal

As students face challenges in the traditional school setting, Mt. Olive can be the opportunity for them to attend school and get back on track academically. We offer educational options designed to meet the unique needs of every student who has struggled in the traditional educational setting. The objectives of Mt. Olive are to provide students the opportunity to:

- Attend school with smaller class sizes
- Receive a quality standards based education
- Participate in individualized programs of instruction
- Make up credit deficiencies through direct-instruction, PLATO Learning, Regional Occupational Program (ROP), and independent study
- Develop positive self-esteem, confidence and personal satisfaction
- Develop a sense of responsibility
- Complete requirements that meet State competency and graduation requirements
- Be provided counseling and guidance services for every student
- Be provided tutoring services for every student
- Be offered a second chance to succeed

INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

Mt. Olive has 10 educational programs available to meet the varied needs of our students.

- Continuation Program
- Drop-Out Prevention Program (SB 65)
- Drop-Out Recovery Program (AEOP)
- 6th Grade Suspended Expulsion Program
- Grade 7/8 Opportunity Program
- Grade 9 Opportunity Program
- Adult Education Program
- Independent Study Program

gram

- Regional Occupational Program (ROP)
 - Special Education
- ### Continuation Program

This high school diploma program has been developed for students' ages 16 through 18 whom have not been successful at the comprehensive high school. Students who are considerably behind in credits and/or who have had behavior challenges at the comprehensive high school may be transferred, involuntarily, to the continuation program at Mt. Olive High School. Students can remain in this program or "earn" their way back to the high school. Parents may also voluntarily place their child in Mt. Olive.

Dropout Prevention (SB 65)

This high school diploma program has been developed to assist students "at risk" of dropping out of high school. The Outreach Program is open to all high school students. Students are placed in the program after all other interventions at the high school have failed. Students can remain in the program or "earn" their way back to the high school.

Dropout Recovery (Alternative Education Outreach Program)

This high school diploma program has been developed to assist students who have already dropped out of school. The AEOP program is a state dropout recovery program.

The AEOP program is open to students who have been out of school for at least 45 days. Students can remain in the program until they receive their high school diploma.

6th Grade Suspended Expulsion Program

This limited program has been developed to offer Grade 6 students an alternative to expulsion. Placement is ordered by the Board of Education. The curriculum

taught is equivalent to that offered at the regular sixth grade program. Students will remain in the program for the extent of the period of suspended expulsion.

7th and 8th Grade Opportunity Program

This grade 7/8 opportunity program has been developed to assist students who have not been successful at the intermediate school. Students who are not succeeding academically or who have become "challenging" at their school may be transferred to the Opportunity Program at Mt. Olive High School. Students are placed in the program after all other interventions have failed. The curriculum offered is equivalent to that offered at the intermediate school. Students will remain in the program for at least one semester and must "earn" their way back to their home school.

9th Grade Opportunity Program

This grade 9 opportunity program has been developed to assist students who have not been successful at the high school. Students who are not succeeding academically or who have become "challenging" at their school may be transferred to the Opportunity Program at Mt. Olive High School. Students are placed in the program after all other interventions have failed. The curriculum offered is equivalent to that offered at the high school. Students will remain in the program for at least one semester and must "earn" their way back to their home school.

Adult Education

This high school diploma program has been developed for students ages 18 through adult who have not received their high school diploma. Students receive instruction in all subjects needed in order to earn their high school diploma. Anyone eighteen (18) or older may enroll in this program. For more information call (626) 599-5902.

Independent Study Program

This limited high school diploma program is reserved for students whose life circumstances make it impossible for them to attend school on a regular basis. Students receive weekly assignments, must agree to complete 20 hours of work at home and must check in with the school one hour each week.

Regional Occupational Program (ROP)

The Regional Occupational Program provides tuition free, hands-on job training for high school students and adults. Students may enroll in ROP classes at Mt. Olive, Duarte High School, or another district. Because ROP is a job-training program, students are not paid while attending these classes but receive experience and high school credit toward graduation. ROP also offers the opportunity to learn while you earn. If you are working, you may enroll in a Cooperative Vocational Education (CVE) class. You will work your normally assigned hours, learn on the job and attend classes once a week. High school students can earn credits toward graduation for time spent on the job as well as for classroom experiences.

SUPPORT PROGRAM SERVICES

AB 1802 Counseling Services

Every student is guaranteed counseling services that include academic planning, registration review, credit checks, Individual Learning Plans, personal counseling, parent information, college counseling, financial aid planning, career counseling, and graduation checks. If students require services above and beyond that which the school can supply, the staff will refer students to the appropriate agencies. The staff at Mt. Olive is working hard to develop a program of Integrated

Services that will be available to all students and their families.

Learning for Life

Learning for Life field trips and group activities blend character development, career education, life skills, and academic learning into a comprehensive program geared to reinforce social skills, critical and creative thinking, ethical decision making, conflict resolution, and self-esteem. The programs aim is to prepare tomorrow's workforce through exposure to career management activities and skills.

Citrus College Noncredit Counseling and Matriculation

Noncredit Counseling is free of charge and provides CAHSEE tutoring, academic tutoring, individual skills assessment, ESL classes, career/occupational counseling, academic advisement, personal counseling, support and parenting skills groups and various workshops. Classes are held at Mt. Olive and Citrus College.

D.A.R.T. (Duarte Area Resource Team)

D.A.R.T., in conjunction with California PAL, sponsors the "Life After High School Program". The program takes 9th-11th grade high school students on a field trip to California State University at Fresno and engages them in 3 days of workshop topics dealing with college life, applying for financial aid, life skills, job opportunities, apprenticeships, college selection and much more.

Career Planning

Career Planning is available to all students. Students have the opportunity to attend the DHS Career Expo and career fairs at Citrus College. All students will receive a copy of the Los Angeles County ROP Career and College Planning Guide. Career planning

See Mt. Olive on page 18

Valley View

By Robin Nelson, Principal

The stars at Valley View were brightly shining on February 1. Twenty-two stars performed at the annual Valley View Talent Show. It was a variety show extraordinary.

The PTA sponsors this annual event to showcase our children's performance abilities. Shauna Pierce and Michelle Randall worked tirelessly to plan the show, prepare the students and dazzle all of us.

We got to hear all of our fabulous singers: **Madeline Camp, Justine Cruz, Rachael Lickfelt, Andrew Foley, and Rebecca Oseguera.**

Dancing was certainly in fashion this year, we enjoyed dancing from: **Diane Guiragossian, Kiah Ware, Rachel Pierce, Reine Nakamura, Rachel Chavous, Kaila Almanza, Sarah Bouza, and Caira Benton.**

There were several monologues beautifully presented by:



VALLEY VIEW'S GOT TALENT

Thaddeus Smith, Jessica Richards, Kayla Wilson and Sophia Camp. Our talented musicians played their instruments for our listening pleasure: **Anthony Smith, Zachary Chapjian, Randy Galarza, and Olivia Leyva.** Additionally, **Jacob Sousa** entertained us with his magic show.

The auditorium was jam-packed and the parents were beaming with pride. The 6th grade class and Student Council sold drinks and treats for the audience.

After all the performances, the judges had the difficult task of choosing the winners.

First place was awarded to **Reine Nakamura** for her amazing clogging, 2nd place to **Sophia Camp** for her clever monologue, 3rd place to **Jessica Richards** for her amusing Harry Potter reading, 4th place to **Thaddeus Smith** for his delightful monologue, 5th place to **Caira Benton** for her creative Hip-Hop dance and 6th place to **Madeline Camp** for her charming song.

These six very talented students will audition for the District Talent Show on March 15 at the Performing Arts Center. I hope you will be able to come see our kids perform and hopefully win!

Andres Duarte

By Joilyn Campitiello, Principal

Andres Duarte celebrated Black History Month with its 17th annual Black History program, "A Journey Through African American History" on February 22. Skits included Ruby Brown's first day at school, Rosa Parks' historic day on the bus and recitations of speeches by Martin Luther King and Malcolm X. The Black History program is long standing tradition at Andres Duarte started by past principal Sylvia Whitlock. Staff members Cynthia Woodman, Jennifer Hopson, Tina Frausto, Sharon Wade, and Arreitha Jackson head up the committee planning this year's program. In addition to an exciting program, students were treated to a Soul Food tasting table at recess.

Andres Duarte students and staff support student achievement monthly with Cougar Pride Days. Students who have successfully completed homework and class work in addition to good attendance and behavior, are rewarded with a free dress day, lunch al fresco, and fun lunchtime activities. A monthly author's breakfast honors student authors from each

class. Students receive hot chocolate in their own ceramic mug with the logo, "I'm an Andres Duarte Author" etched across the front. More than 75 student authors in grades K-6 have been honored so far this year.

How can we help our students achieve their dreams? Parents and community members answered this very question at the Andres Duarte World Cafe held last fall. Now is the time to take action and begin planning. At the World Cafe 2 in March parents and community members will forge out a plan to support our students in meeting their dreams. Community members interested in helping, please contact our school office!

Royal Oaks

By Deitra Reed, Principal

Royal Oaks continues on its journey of providing an enriched instructional program. We build on our traditions with the sixth grade students attending their annual Outdoor Science School the week of February 19-22. This four-day experience of hands-on science study was conducted in a living classroom. Months of preparations by the sixth grade teachers added meaningful experiences to textbook learning. The excited discussions from the students illustrated how much learning occurred during this week in the scenic hills and coastal tidepools of Malibu. Mrs. Fender is recognized for her excellence in organizing this challenging event.

Royal Oaks Penny Parade was a great success! All students commemorated Lincoln's Birthday by bringing pennies (and other coins) to school that week. Classes collected coins, stacked coins and counted by 5s, 10s and 25s. Student Council exemplified their leadership skills in organizing the event and determining the gift to be purchased for the school. Thank you, Mrs. Fetchik and her first grade team for advising these Royal Oaks leaders.

Reading Counts is thriving! Mrs. Nina Thompson, library aide, compliments the reading enthusiasm as students earn points by passing comprehension tests on the computer of their recently read library books. The Royal Oaks PTA provides positive incentives to all students who meet their monthly goal of points earned. Watch the library window to see which classes are soaring to success.

Mileage Club addresses the health trends of the nation's children as it motivates students to increase their physical stamina. An additional benefit is the encouragement to win at the Royal Oaks Tack Meet and bring home a trophy from the District Track Meet. Mrs. White, Mr. Armas, Mrs. Quick and Mrs. Thompson team to build school spirit and strong bodies.

Mind Research Institute is expanding, with grades K-5 now attending the math computer lab. Sixth grade will implement a new Accelerated Math program. Mrs. Karina Aviles' Mind Research Institute music classes are joyfully playing piano keyboards in grades two through four.

After school opportunities include enrichment in Chess Club and Spanish Class. Think Together offers homework support and After the Bell helps with skills intervention. There is something for everyone at Royal Oaks.



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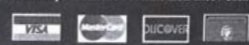
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The many faces of the Duarte Teen Center

By Louis Bonilla

The DTC is made up of about a dozen staff members. Each of who contribute a bit of themselves to the DTC. Its function in regards to the teens is based almost exclusively on the topic of the week brought up by the staff. There are a plethora of social experiences that occurs between the staff and teens. This type of environment at the DTC keeps the teens entertained and coming back.

Although each DTC staff member is important, there are a particular few that stand out of the rest. These particular few influence the teens as well give the DTC a sense of life with their ideas, thoughts, opinions, and personality. With out these staff members there would be no motivation within the teens to come to the DTC.

The most known staff member that all the teens love is Larry; our Wiseman. Many of the teens and staff members tend to seek his help and opinion on about anything that troubles them. Larry will listen attentively to every word that is said then shares his opinion while being unbiased. To show how unbiased he is, Larry will share his own experiences so that we can relate. He is a great mentor and listener to all the teens.

When it comes to girl talk, the teens will go to Vanessa. Vanessa loves to talk about fun situations that occur at the DTC. The teens enjoy her company and socialize whenever she is working. Vanessa is not only a person to have fun conversations with but is also someone to ask for advice about style and fashion.

These staff members I speak of are the most popular of the particular few that I mention. Then if your curious as to who might the other staff members might be, why not come to the DTC to see for yourself. In my opinion working here as the DTC tutor, the teens leave laughing with a smile on their face coming back the next day. All the more reasons to come socialize with friends and our staff; so don't hesitate to visit the DTC because we welcome everyone even your if you are new here or not.

Mt. Olive

Continued from page 16

is also available through the various branches of the military.

Community Union Program

Nonprofit Corporation providing free computer technology training, public speaking, business training, and a free computer to students that complete one of their four-10 week courses. This program is open to all students in grades 7-12.

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Duarte Teen Center

The Duarte Teen Center has a lot of great activities happening this spring! The Center is located at 1400 Buena Vista Street in Duarte. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 3 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. and Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 2 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.

ON-GOING ACTIVITIES

Students can always get involved in a variety of activities at the Duarte Teen Center! Come watch a movie on our big screen TV! Movie days are held two Mondays a month. On the first Tuesday of the month, join the Teen Center for a birthday celebration with cake for all and gifts for those born in that month. Drop-in tutoring for all teens grades 9-12 is available on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3 p.m.-6 p.m. These activities are all free!

YOUTH BOXING PROGRAM

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

You will gain flexibility, stamina, and coordination as well as make new friends. Our knowledgeable trainers provide a safe and stimulating learning environment for all levels of youth. You can train for fun and physical activity or for a chance to compete against other youth in the United States and at our annual Boxing Show. The Teen Center Gym is open Mon. through Thurs. from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Fri. 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 Teen Center. Call (626) 303-0863 for more information or just stop by to see if you are interested.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Tournaments being held this March and April include Pool tournaments on Wed., March 5 and April 2; an Air Hockey Tournament on Tues., March 11; and a PS2 Tournament on Tues., April 8. Ping Pong

Tournaments will be held Thurs., March 20 and April 24, all tournaments begin at 3:30 p.m. and winners will receive a prize. On Fri., March 14, the radio station Power 106 will be visiting the Teen Center with music, free items, and a pizza-eating contest. The cost is \$1 to participate. Don't miss out on our St. Patrick's Day BBQ on Mon., March 17, at 3:30 p.m. Enjoy cheeseburgers, chips, fresh fruit, and drinks for only \$1.

There is a Northview Game Day scheduled for Fri., April 18, from 3 p.m.-6 p.m. Northview students can come to the Teen Center for games, tournaments and food. Take a tour of the Center and hang out with your friends.

The Spring BBQ will be held Fri., April 11, at 3:30 p.m. with cheeseburgers, chips, fresh fruit, and a drink for only \$1. Enjoy a great game of Dodgeball on Thurs., April 17, at 3:30 p.m.; Nachos and drinks will be sold. Also, join us for Crab Soccer on Thurs., May 22, at 3:30 p.m.

Attention all Duarte High School seniors! Do you want to increase your chances of getting a scholarship for college? Pick up a DHS Local Scholarship application from the high school office and attend this workshop. The Teen Center will conduct the Scholarship Workshop on Wed., April 23 at 4 p.m. This workshop will assist you in filling out the application and give you tips on how to enhance your application.

The Teen Center will celebrate Cinco de Mayo on Monday, May

5, at 3:30 p.m. There will be traditional Mexican food, music, and activities for only \$1!

The annual National Day to Prevent Teen Pregnancy takes place on Wed., May 7. Join the Teen Center on this day to focus the attention of teens on the importance of avoiding too-early pregnancy and parenthood. There will be an online survey at 3 p.m. with games and special activities at 4 p.m. Refreshments will be provided. This event is free!

END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR CELEBRATION

Duarte High and Northview students are welcome to celebrate the end of the school year with In-N-Out Burger. The In-N-Out Trailer is coming to the Teen Center on Tues., May 27, from 3:30 p.m.-5 p.m. For \$6 you can get a hamburger or cheeseburger, chips, and a soda. You must purchase your ticket in advance at the Teen Center, tickets go on sale March 3 and meals are limited, so sign up early. Don't miss out on a fun day with great food, music, and activities!

SPRING BREAK EXCURSION

The Duarte Teen Center's annual spring break trip will be to Magic Mountain on Wed., March 26 from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. The price for the excursion is \$25 and will cover tickets and transportation. Spring break is a great time to seek excitement at Six Flags Magic Mountain. You must pre-register and pay at the Duarte Teen Center.



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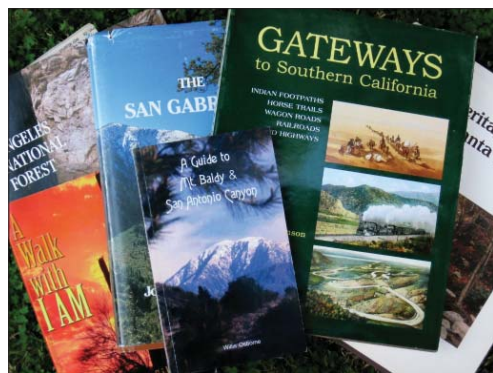
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Book signings by local natural history authors, book and art display at Historical Museum April 19

What secrets are hidden in the San Gabriel Mountains, backdrop to and its neighboring foothill communities?

The answer to that question as well as other interesting aspects of local history are discussed in several books which will be signed and sold by their authors on Saturday, April 19, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Duarte Historical Museum, 777 Encanto Parkway.

The program, to coincide with the City of Duarte's Family Wilderness Day Hike to Fish Canyon Falls, will also feature a book sale by The Friends of the Duarte Library and an art show featuring the work of plein air artists.

Participating authors are John W. Robinson, "The San Gabriels and Gateways to Southern California"; Paul Rippens, "The Night of the Flood: The St. Francis Dam Disaster," "A Hiker's Guide to the Historic Mt. Lowe Railway," and "Heninger Flats"; Elizabeth Pomeroy, "Pasadena: A Natural History," "John Muir:

A Naturalist in Southern California," and "Theodore Payne in his Own Words"; Willis Osborne, "A Guide to Mt. Baldy & San Antonio Canyon"; and James Gray Silence, "A Walk with I AM".

"Anyone who enjoys our local mountains, and especially hikers making the trek on Family Wilderness Day, will want to visit with these authors to learn more about the natural history of the area," said Claudia Heller, president of the Duarte Historical Society.

Highlights of Duarte's past are on display at the Museum. Several historical video programs will be shown continuously throughout the day in the museum library, including footage of the 1938 flood that altered the course of the San Gabriel River and a program featuring interviews with adventuresome locals who spent their summers in the cabins that once dotted the foothills. Admission is free.

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

SAFYMCA Installs Donna Baker as Chief Volunteer Officer

Monrovia resident, Realtor, and active community volunteer Donna Baker is the new Chief Volunteer Officer of the nonprofit Santa Anita Family YMCA Board of Directors.

At a ceremony held at the Monrovia Restaurant, Monrovia City Manager Scott Ochoa performed the honors in formally installing Baker and other members of the 2008 executive committee to two-year terms in office.

Baker, director of Heritage Home Dickson Podley Realtors in Monrovia, where she was the number one sales associate in 2007, succeeds Monrovia businesswoman Patrice Reinhard in the leadership role of the SAFYMCA.

Baker was first elected to the board in 2004, and was elected vice president of the board in 2006. She is also a major contributor to the Monrovia Historic Preservation Group, a charter commissioner of the City of Monrovia Historic Preservation Commission, president of the Monrovia Day Association, and member of the Monrovia/Duarte chapter of Quota International.

"What attracted me most about the Santa Anita Family YMCA is that no one is ever turned away for inability to pay. It's a privilege to contribute my efforts to an organization that daily provides so many valuable programs and services and makes a positive difference in lives of people of all ages in the community. I look forward to a fruitful year for the SAFYMCA," said Baker.

Baker said her goals as Chief

Volunteer Officer include adding additional enthusiastic and involved members to the board, achieving fundraising campaign endeavors and "getting the word out about the SAFYMCA and the great things it offers to the community".

Other newly installed members of the 2008 executive committee of the SAFYMCA board of directors are Vice President, Kathy Taylor, a Monrovia based Certified Public Accountant; Treasurer, Steve Baker, who also serves as the elected treasurer for the City of Monrovia; Secretary, Pat Barnes, a probate attorney from Arcadia; Member-at-Large, Diane Balsamo, a home loan

consultant with Countrywide; and Immediate Past President, Patrice Reinhard, owner of Dreams Built True Construction in Monrovia.

The SAFYMCA is located at 501 S. Mountain Ave. in Monrovia. The facility is open 7 days a week, 96 hours a week and offers dozens of sports programs, exercise classes and activities on a member and non-member basis for children, teens, adults, seniors and people with special needs. It also offers free on-site supervised child-care while members use the facility.

For more information call (626) 359-9244, or visit the Santa Anita Family YMCA web site at www.safymca.org.



NEWLY INSTALLED MEMBERS of the executive committee of the nonprofit Santa Anita Family YMCA Board of Directors are left to right: Vice President, Kathy Taylor; Immediate Past President, Patrice Reinhard; Treasurer, Steve Baker; Member-at-large, Diane Balsamo; and Chief Volunteer Officer, Donna Baker.

Sheri Uhlig named 2007-2008 DWC WOTY



PAST DUARTE WOMAN'S CLUB WOTY recipient Jean Glass and President Kathy Delker (from left) announcing Sheri Uhlig as 2007-2008 Woman of the Year.

Celebrating the 59th anniversary of the Duarte Woman's Club, the members recently honored the past presidents and past women of the year, culminating the evening with the announcement of the 2007-2008 Woman of the Year ("WOTY"): Sheri Uhlig. Past WOTYs presented a skit in which members baked a pretend cake, each contributing an ingredient representing Sheri's many talents. By the skit's end the identity of the recipient was obvious.

Sheri has spent countless hours volunteering not only for projects of the Woman's Club, but a myriad of organizations within Duarte. She isn't the one chairing a meeting or delegating jobs to others. Sheri is the one flipping the burgers, cleaning up, serving refreshments, or building a prop. She is as much at home baking a cake or planting a garden as she is working with a drill and saw.

"A member of DWC since 1996, she has served as Hospitality Chairman as well as a member of the Nominating Committee. She brings to our club a genuine sense of caring, concern, friendship and laughter. The Duarte Woman's Club is honored to have Sheri Uhlig represent them as their Woman of the Year for 2008," said DWC president Kathy Delker.

"This is an honor, especially coming from a group of such dedicated volunteers," said Sheri. She was presented with the traditional WOTY silver bracelet.

Special presentations were also made to long-time club members: Irene Burgess, 40 years; and Nita Carey, 50 years.

LONGTIME RESIDENT and community volunteer Nita Carey is honored for her 50 years of membership and service to the Duarte Woman's Club at the Club's 59th anniversary meeting. Presenting her with a 50 year pin and certificate is Woman's Club President Kathy Delker.

Ambulance Donated to El Salvador



MEMBERS OF THE Rotary Club of Duarte pose with an ambulance that the club and Westmed Ambulance jointly donated to the town of Metapan, El Salvador.



A CROWD TURNS OUT in the town plaza of Metapan, El Salvador to greet the arrival of the ambulance. Rotary Club members, Donna Georgino, director of Duarte Parks and Recreation and Duarte Councilwoman Margaret Finlay helped deliver the ambulance to Metapan.