

Duarte COMMUNITY News

2012 Winter Edition



Employee Spotlight

Becky Evans
Administrative Secretary
Becky Evans has been with the City of Duarte for 22 years. She is responsible for providing administrative support to the Community Development Department, and serving members of the public with a smile! Throughout her years of service, Evans said she loves the people she has met and has become friends with. Evans likes the sense of community in the City.



Her interests include taking Zumba classes, dancing, and new adventures. Evans believes in living life to the fullest...living, loving and being happy!



Pam Romero
Administrative Secretary for the Parks and Recreation Department, has been with the City for 27 years. She provides administrative support to the department, and

creates the Senior Center and Teen Center monthly newsletters, as well as the Parks and Recreation quarterly newsletter. Romero is also responsible for the department's flyers, commission packets, assistance with grant forms, and is a CPR/FA instructor for the City staff.

Romero loves helping the community she lives in. "It's rewarding!" she explains. She enjoys working in the Parks and Recreation Department where everyone has a real commitment to making Duarte better. What she likes most about the City is the proximity to the San Gabriel Mountains and the ability to take her dog on a run using the multipurpose trail on Royal Oaks Drive. Romero's interests include spending time with her grandchildren and family, aerobics, sewing, and scrapbooking.

Youth Summit Set for February 25th



The Duarte Mayor's Youth Council will host its second annual Duarte/Monrovia Youth Leadership Summit on Saturday, February 25. The event will take place from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm at Santa Fe Middle School, 148 West Duarte Road, Monrovia. Registration is free.

To register, call (626) 256-8229 or email gchavez@ci.monrovia.ca.us.

Redevelopment's End Hinders Duarte's Development

With the state's decision to abolish redevelopment upheld by the California State Supreme Court and a set February 1, 2012 deadline for agencies to shut down operations and begin liquidating assets, Duarte, along with the approximately 400 other redevelopment agencies throughout the state are getting a startling glimpse of what the future may hold for their communities. The financial impact and loss of the redevelopment tool will put a chokehold on many already strained City budgets.

Much of what Duarte is today is the result of redevelopment that began in the late 1970's. Then, the recently opened 210 freeway cut through Duarte and diverted traffic off Huntington Drive. Specifically, more than 175 blighted areas were cleared paving the way for new industrial and retail centers including Duarte's 210 Freeway Auto Row, and retail centers anchored by Target, Wal-Mart, Ralph's, LaZ-Boy, and Best Buy that generated 5,000 new jobs and increased property tax revenues. The property tax increment derived from those projects allowed the City to provide unique services and

facilities including the creation of a dozen parks and sports fields, the Duarte bike path, the Rancho Duarte Golf Course and more than 130 acres of open space. More than 2,000 new homes were built as a result of redevelopment including Duarte Gardens and Huntington Courts as well as a total of 358 units of affordable housing. The Civic Center complex including City Hall and the Performing Arts Center were all redevelopment projects.

Plans for future redevelopment projects such as the proposed Transit Oriented Development adjacent to Duarte's future Gold Line station and revitalization of the Mike's Food, Big Lots shopping centers will now require alternative funding.

To prepare for the dismantling of the Agency, the City Council recently voted to become the successor agency to the RDA, with the responsibility of winding up some and taking on the other administrative tasks as required under the new law.



Published quarterly by the City of Duarte, Duarte Community News contains information on City issues, policies, events, and programs. It is published and distributed quarterly to residents and businesses within the community.

Elected Officials

Mayor John Fasana
Mayor Pro Tem Liz Reilly
Councilmember Tzeitel Paras-Caracci
Councilmember Margaret Finlay
Councilmember Phil Reyes

Duarte City Hall

1600 Huntington Drive
Duarte, California 91010
Monday - Thursday 7:30 am - 6:00 pm
Business (626) 357-7931
Fax (626) 358-0018
www.accessduarte.com

Parks Make Life Better!

Recreation Spring Classes

The Duarte Recreation Department offers classes for adults, teens, children and families. Spring recreation classes to be offered will include Amazing Arts, Ballet, Belly Dancing, Chess, Computer Training, Cooking the Fun & Healthy Way, Folklorico, Golf, Guitar, Hip Hop Dance, Homework Helper, Karate, Kidz Love Soccer, Mini Picassos, Modern Dance, Piano, Polynesian Dance, Racquetball, Salsa Dance, Sewing, Sing and Play, Tumbling, Vocals, Watercolor Workshop, Yoga and Zumba.

Registration for the spring session of classes begins March 12. Visa and MasterCard are accepted for purchases over \$25. Classes begin the week of March 26.

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

Register for Youth Mini-Soccer

Beginning March 12 the City of Duarte Parks and Recreation Department will begin taking registration at City Hall and at all local supervised playgrounds for youth mini soccer for girls and boys 4 – 13 years of age. The fee is \$25 per child and includes a t-shirt uniform.



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

Junior Olympics Track and Field Meet

The City of Duarte Parks and Recreation Department will once again host the annual Junior Olympics Track and Field Meet on Saturday, April 14, 2012, at Duarte High School Stadium. Boys and girls born 1995-2003 from Andres Duarte, Beardslee, Maxwell, Royal Oaks, Valley View and Northview Schools will participate in the event. This meet will act as a qualifying meet for the SCMAF San Gabriel Valley Track and Field Championships in May.



Contact your school for more information on participating or call (626) 357-7931.

Spring Membership Sale!

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



During the sale, residents can enjoy one full year of exercise, aerobics and aquatics or racquetball for only \$128. Non-resident rates start as low as \$176, and there are no monthly fees or dues. The Fitness Center 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.

Teen Center Special Events

Teen Cultural Awareness Training

Date: Wednesday, February 15

Time: 3:30 – 6:00 pm

Fee: Free!

This activity-based training is designed for youth ages 14 -18. Participants will explore cultural differences, discuss respecting and honoring diversity, and examine personal attitudes in regard to intolerance.

Cesar Chavez Essay Contest

Students grades 9-12 can compete in an essay-writing contest on why they are inspired by the life of Cesar Chavez. Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. Entry deadline is March 23. Winners announced March 29.

L.A. Fan Night

On Friday, March 16 from 7:00 – 9:00 pm. the Duarte Teen Center will host LA Fan night! Come join us for Lakers Basketball on the big screen TV, food, and half time mini games! Wear a Lakers t-shirt, hat, anything with Lakers on it and get free admission into the event! If you are not wearing Lakers gear, admission is \$2 including snacks!

Adult Excursions

Registration for all excursions is held at City Hall beginning March 12 at 7:30 am. We accept Visa and MasterCard for purchases over \$25.

Harrah's Rincon Casino

Tuesday, April 10, 8:00 am – 5:30 pm, \$30 (Lunch on your own)

Cirque Du Soleil "Iris"

Wednesday, April 25, 11:00 am – 5:30pm, \$110 (Delicious lunch included)

"The Capitol Steps" at Caltech's – Beckman Auditorium

Sunday, May 6, 12:30 pm – 6:00 pm, \$43 (Delicious lunch included)

Battle of the Dance

Wednesday, June 20, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm, \$45 (Delicious lunch included)

For more information, please call (626) 357-7931, ext. 201.

Cesar Chavez Volunteer Day

The 8th Annual Cesar Chavez volunteer Project, sponsored by Duarte's Promise: The Alliance for Youth and Westminster Gardens, will kickoff at 9:00 am on Saturday, March 24, 2012, at Westminster Gardens, 1420 Santo Domingo Avenue, Duarte.



A continental breakfast and lunch provided by Westminster Gardens will keep volunteers well fed as they complete a variety of beautification projects on the campus. For more information or to volunteer for the project, call Duarte's Promise: The Alliance For Youth at (626) 357-7931, ext. 267.

Lemonade Brigade Launches

Kids and lemonade stands. It's a childhood rite of passage, a chance to make your own money, be your own boss. Now, for some 15 to 20 Mount Olive High School students, the old-fashioned lemonade stand model will guide them into successful entrepreneurship. Called "The Lemonade Brigade," this business model calls for each glass of lemonade to be made by the students using all natural ingredients to ensure a high quality product that is expected to be priced at approximately \$2 per glass.



Robin Salzer, owner of Robin's Wood Fire BBQ and Grill in Pasadena came up with the idea of the Lemonade Brigade to get teens to work together, gain leadership, organizational, critical thinking and entrepreneurial skills. Inland Community Bank, Specialty Promotions, Duarte Unified School District, Rancheros Restaurant and the City of Duarte have all agreed to work with the young entrepreneurs in various capacities to ensure their success as well. Mount Olive Principal Kevin Morris will provide the teens and the enterprise with the day-to-day supervision and oversight.

For more information, or to contact the Duarte Lemonade Brigade for an event, call Chamber of Commerce at (626) 357-3333.

Budget Process Announced

The fiscal year 2012-13 budget preparation process is underway at City Hall. The annual City Council budget workshops are scheduled for April 30th and May 1st at 4:00 pm. Both workshops are open to the public and will take place in the Community Center located at 1600 Huntington Drive. For more information, contact the Administrative Services Department at (626) 357-7931, ext. 211.



Gold Line Extension Update

There is a lot of activity underway for the Foothill Extension project. Kiewit Parsons Joint Venture (the design-builder completing the light rail extension) is actively engaged in the initial design process and is undergoing pre-construction activities such as surveying, utility location identification, and work permit applications. There is a significant amount of design and pre-construction activities to complete before major construction will begin later this year.

In the meantime, construction on the I-210 Gold Line Bridge is going well. The bridge is on schedule to be completed this coming Summer, in time to be turned over to the Kiewit Parsons team for next steps. For more information, visit the website at www.foothillextension.org.

State of the City/School/Citrus College

Duarte Mayor John Fasana will present his assessment of the State of the City and Duarte Unified School Board President Reyna Diaz will report on the State of the School at a luncheon on Tuesday, March 6, 2012 presented by the Duarte Chamber of Commerce. Dr. Geraldine Perri, President of Citrus College will also speak.

The luncheon will be held from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm at Westminster Gardens, 1420 Santo Domingo Avenue, Duarte. Tickets to the luncheon are \$20 per person. For information and reservations, call the Chamber of Commerce at (626) 357-3333 or purchased online at www.duartechamber.com under the Events tab.

Get Back to Work Job Fair

Bjm
BestJobsMagazine.com

The City of Duarte and Duarte Chamber of Commerce will again partner with Best Jobs Magazine on Tuesday, March 20, 2012 to host another "Get Back to Work" event. Open to the general public and free, the event will take place from 9:30 am - 1:30 pm at the Duarte Community Center, 1600 Huntington Drive and feature some 15 to 25 employers. For more information or if you are an employer and would like to participate, call the City of Duarte at (626) 357-7931 or Charles Cotrell with Best Jobs Magazine at (714) 468-8472.

Graphics Designer: Roxanne Breceda

Snapshots Around the Community

Calendar of Events



Duarte/Monrovia Youth Leadership Summit
Saturday, February 25, 2012, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
Santa Fe Middle School, 148 W. Duarte Road, Monrovia



2012 State of the City/School/Citrus College
Tuesday, March 6, 2012, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm
Westminster Gardens, Packard Hall, 1420 Santo Domingo, Duarte



4th Annual Hayden 5K Run, Family Walk and Roll
Saturday, March 10, 2012, 9:00 am
Santa Teresita, 819 Buena Vista Street, Duarte



Get Back to Work Job Fair
Tuesday, March 20, 2012, 9:30 am - 1:30 pm
Duarte Community Center, 1600 Huntington Drive, Duarte



Duarte Family Walking Club
Every Saturday until March 10, 2012, 9:30 am
Locations Vary

Commission Meetings

Commissions meet at the Community Center Lounge



Planning Commission
Third Monday of the Month at 7:00 pm



Traffic Safety Commission
First Tuesday of the Month at 7:30 pm



Public Services Commission
Second Wednesday of the Month on Odd Months at 7:00 pm



Economic Development Commission
First Wednesday of the Month on Even Months at 6:30 pm



Public Safety Commission
Third Tuesday of the Month at 7:00 pm



Parks and Recreation
Second Monday of the Month at 7:00 pm



Mayor's Youth Council
First Monday of the Month at 6:00 pm
* Meet at the Teen Center



Youth and Family Committee
Fourth Monday of the Month at 6:30 pm

Council Meetings

Council meetings are every second and fourth Tuesday of the month in the Duarte Community Center located at 1600 Huntington Drive, Duarte. Council meetings begin at 7:00 pm. Agendas and minutes can be obtained by visiting www.accessduarte.com



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Sign up for Email Alerts & Enews

Interested in receiving local community events and crime trend updates? Sign up now for Duarte's email alerts system. This alert system will inform you on the latest crime and community information. To begin receiving alerts, send your name, address, and phone number to duartecrimetrips@lasd.org or click onto "Enews Sign up" on the accessduarte.com home page.



The City of Duarte wants your feedback on our publication. This publication is prepared by City employees to inform residents and businesses of our latest news. Please contact Karen Herrera at (626) 357-7931, ext. 221 or by email at herrerakaren@accessduarte.com with your comments, ideas, and/or photos. Consider the environment and recycle.