

Duarte COMMUNITY News

Employee Spotlight

Director of Public Safety Services Brian Villalobos has been with the City of Duarte for five years. Villalobos works closely with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's, Fire, and Probation Departments to ensure that their services meet the needs of the city, residents, and businesses. He directly oversees Code Enforcement, Animal Control, Crime Prevention, and Emergency Preparedness services.



A small, close-knit community with Council, employees, and residents working together to improve the City is what Villalobos loves about working for Duarte. He also respects the City's commitment to youth through its numerous youth programs, Teen Center, and recently completed Youth and Family Master Plan. Some of Villalobos' hobbies include fishing, reading, and jogging.

Gerard Batista, Field Services Supervisor, has worked for the City of Duarte for approximately 10 years supervising, organizing, and planning daily operations for the Field Services maintenance crews.



Operations include resident requests, irrigation changes, electrical and construction projects, and monitoring weed abatement, landscape, tree, and concrete contractors. Batista also monitors expenditures, and conducts

performance evaluations to achieve departmental goals.

Batista loves working for a City that has helped develop his career by both educating and helping him establish a strong, ethical understanding of public service. What Batista likes most about the City of Duarte is its curb appeal. Residents often praise the beauty and cleanliness this City displays, and he is proud that the Field Services Division plays a major role in this area. Batista's personal interests include food, golf, horticulture, and Portuguese Folklore dancing.



Duarte to Appeal Denial of Vulcan Lawsuit

The Duarte City Council voted unanimously on June 14th to continue its challenge to the City of Azusa's 2010 approval of the Vulcan Materials Co. mining expansion project by authorizing an appeal to the State Court of Appeal. The lawsuit, originally filed in August of 2010 and first heard in late March of this year, was denied by the Superior Court on May 9th. The City has until August 8th to file its appeal.

The appeal process starts a new review by a three-judge panel located in Los Angeles at the State Court of Appeal. The process, comparable to the initial lawsuit, will involve preparation of an administrative record, the filing of approximately three briefs, a hearing, and eventual ruling. It could take anywhere from nine to fifteen months to complete.

Council Adopts a Surplus Budget for 2011-12

Determined to budget within "the new normal" of economic reality, the City of Duarte has adopted an approximate \$11.4 million 2011-12 general fund budget reflecting \$700,000 in cuts, including over \$300,000 in personnel and approximately \$400,000 in programs. Should union negotiations prove successful, Duarte could be headed for its first budget surplus of approximately \$135,000 in five years. Even so, if the State abolishes Redevelopment, the City would be back to the drawing board for additional service reductions.



As part of the regular June 28th Council meeting, the annual budget presentation emphasized cutting deficit spending, reducing personnel expenses, and eliminating underutilized programs. Reductions included the elimination of one special assignment deputy at a savings of \$220,000; charging 50% of the school resource officer to Duarte Unified School District for a savings of \$52,000; making youth, teen, and senior programs and excursions self-sustaining which will save \$29,000; relocating Public Safety offices from rented space in the Target shopping center to a City-owned building, for a long-term savings of \$90,000 annually; and reducing recreation supervision at Encanto Park during the school year. The newly proposed cuts are on top of already more than one million dollars in cuts Duarte made in the previous two years, including allowing eight full-time staff positions to remain vacant at an annual savings of \$830,000, and the reduction of several contracts and services.

CDBG Grant Funds Local Programs and Service Groups

The City will grant Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to local programs and service groups for fiscal year 2011-2012. Duarte's long-running Home Improvement Program held its annual lottery in May and selected 15 homeowners for home improvement grants, focusing on roof/window replacements, paint, etc.



The City also provides registration fee grants to qualified youth participating in the Duarte Hawks Football/Cheer Program, as well as the Southland Opera Music Composition Program offered through Duarte schools. City Code Enforcement Programs also receive a portion of the funds. For more information on CDBG programs, call the Community Development Department at (626) 357-7931, ext. 262.

Did you know....

In Southern California, it costs more to produce electricity in the summer, when energy demand is at its peak. When you use energy wisely, you'll be saving money and the environment. That's why the City of Duarte and Southern California Edison (SCE) are partnering to encourage energy efficiency and conservation.

For example, switch off unnecessary lights at the end of the day and turn off office equipment. Even using your washing machine, dryer, or dishwasher before noon or after 6pm can help conserve energy.

Energy management at home and work is the first and best way to conserve. By becoming more energy conscious, you'll help California conserve valuable energy now and in the future.



Green Living Tips

Trillions of bags are used annually and are harming our environment. Plastic bags break down into small, hazardous waste that poison soil, trees, wildlife, and water supply.

Reduce the use of plastic and paper bags by using reusable totes. By using reusable totes, most stores will give you credit or discounts on your purchases! Switching to reusable bags can save on the average over 300 bags per person!



Phase Two of Huntington Courts Underway

Phase II of Huntington Courts, a 14-home residential development, is underway and slated to be completed this fall. The development, located on Huntington Drive just east of Mount Olive Drive, was approved by the City in 2006 for the construction of both detached and attached homes.

Phase II will offer homes ranging from 1,234 to 2,000 square feet. Buyers will be able to choose from either 2, 3, or 4 bedroom models. Homes also feature: upgraded kitchen cabinets, granite counter tops, travertine tile backsplashes, stainless steel appliances, beautifully structured interior arches, upgraded flooring, interior laundry rooms, limestone in the bathroom, and an attached two-car garage.



For more details, contact the listing agent, Rana Madain, at (626) 827-9951 or the Community Development Department at (626) 357-7931, ext. 231.

Important City Numbers

Duarte City Hall
(626) 357-7931

Building and Planning
(626) 357-7931, ext. 230/235

Business Licensing
(626) 357-7931, ext. 213

City Manager's Office
(626) 357-7931, ext. 223

Parks and Recreation
(626) 357-7931, ext. 201

Field Services
(626) 357-7931, ext. 205

Planning
(626) 357-7931, ext. 230/235

Public Safety
(626) 357-7938

General Municipal Election Set for Nov. 8

A General Municipal Election will be held in the City of Duarte on Tuesday, Nov. 8, 2011, for two members of the City Council for four-year terms. Requirements to be a candidate for City Council are: United States citizen, registered voter in Duarte, 18 years of age or older, and a resident of an election precinct in the City.



Nomination papers will be available in the City Clerk's Office beginning Monday, July 18. The filing period for nomination papers and Candidate's Statements is July 18 through Aug. 12 at 5 p.m. If any incumbent does not file by 5 p.m. on Aug. 12, the filing period is extended to Wednesday, Aug. 17 at 5 p.m. A non-refundable filing fee for nomination papers is \$25. If a candidate chooses to submit a statement in the voter pamphlet, a printing deposit is also required at the time the nomination papers are filed. Printing costs range from \$200 - \$800.

The final date to register to vote in the November election is Monday, Oct. 24. Voter registration forms are available at Duarte City Hall and on the California Secretary of State website <http://www.sos.ca.gov>.

Major League Softball

This sports league organization provides men's, women's, and coed leagues for the Duarte Parks and Recreation Department with games played at Otis Gordon Park. For further information, contact Major League Softball at (818) 559-8787 ext. 3 or online at mlsoftball.com.



Adventure Club/Excursions

Looking for something adventurous to do this summer? The Duarte Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring two one-week sessions of fun and daily excursions. Adventure Club is available to teens and kids ages 8 through 17. It will be held Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Royal Oaks Park. The price is only \$105.00 per session, with lunch and all excursions included. Session I is August 15 through August 19, and Session II is August 22 through August 26.

Each day will be highlighted by a trip to places such as the beach, miniature golf, Knott's Berry Farm, Raging Waters, and Universal Studios.

Registration is going on now at Duarte City Hall, 1600 Huntington Drive. For more information, please call the Duarte Parks and Recreation Department at (626) 357-7931.

Free Summer Lunch Program

The U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Duarte Unified School District, with Duarte Parks and Recreation Department assistance, are sponsoring a free summer lunch program for children ages 18 years and under at the following locations and times:

Beardslee School Outdoor Amphitheater:

1212 Kellwil Way, Monday – Friday,
June 27 through August 5, 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Andres Duarte School:

1433 Crestfield Drive, Monday – Friday,
July 6 through August 19, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Duarte Teen Center:

1400 Buena Vista Street, Monday – Friday, June 27
through August 5, 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

There are no limits on the number of participants served. For more information, please call (626) 357-7931 or the School District at (626) 599-5000.

Jobs for Teens

The City of Duarte is recruiting for five local teens to serve on the Teen Nutrition Council.

The Teen Nutrition Council is responsible for assisting with the planning and implementing of activities related to Duarte's Healthy Choice Project. Teen Nutrition Council members serve for one year and receive a monthly stipend of \$100.00.

Persons interested must file a City application with a copy of current school ID card and school transcripts at Duarte City Hall by September 15 or the Teen Center by Friday, September 16. For more information, please contact Jasmine Klinton at (626) 303-0863 ext. 404.

Summer Park Program

Four park sites are currently open Monday through Friday from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. for recreational activities. Royal Oaks Park, Encanto Park, Beardslee Park, and Otis Gordon Sports Park offer arts and crafts, sports, games, and special events all supervised by trained recreation leaders.

This is a drop-in program and not a day care program. Children 5 to 12 years of age are welcome to drop by or leave anytime during the hours of operation. The summer playground program began June 27 and will end on Friday, August 12. For more information, please call (626) 357-7931.



Swimming Lessons Available

The Fitness Center Pool offers swimming lessons for all ages and skill levels. The swim instructors are all Red Cross certified and very experienced. Lessons are offered mornings and evenings Monday through Thursday.

The cost of a 2-week session is only \$30.00. There are a limited number of class times and spaces. Registration begins at 6 a.m. for Duarte residents and 8 a.m. for non-residents one week prior to the beginning of each session. Sessions are: August 8 – August 18, August 22 – September 1 and September 12 – September 22. For more information, call the Duarte Fitness Center at (626) 357-6118.

Duarte's Calendar of Events

	Sun	M	T	W	Th	F	Sat
JULY 2011						1	2
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	31						

	Sun	M	T	W	Th	F	Sat
AUGUST 2011		1	2	3	4	5	6
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	28	29	30	31			

	Sun	M	T	W	Th	F	Sat
SEPTEMBER 2011					1	2	3
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	25	26	27	28	29	30	

Key for Calendar

- Back to School Program**
7:00 p.m., Community Center
- Council Meeting**
7:00 p.m., Community Center
- Duarte Splashtacular**
1:30 - 3:30 p.m., Duarte Pool
- Duarte Boxing Show**
1:00 p.m., Duarte High School
- Economic Development Commission Meeting**
6:30 p.m., Community Center
- Get Back to Work Event**
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., Community Center
- Household Hazardous Waste**
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.,
July 30 - Citrus College
August 20 - Santa Anita Race Track, Gate 6
- Library Grand Opening**
9:00 a.m., Duarte Library
- Mayor's Youth Council Meeting**
6:00 p.m., Teen Center
- Movie Night**
6:00 - 9:30 p.m., Otis Gordon Park
- Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting**
7:00 p.m., Community Center
- Planning Commission Meeting**
7:00 p.m., Community Center
- Public Safety Commission Meeting**
7:00 p.m., Community Center
- Public Services**
7:00 p.m., Community Center
- Route 66 Parade & Picnic**
10:00 a.m., Huntington Drive
Between Cotter Avenue and Mt. Olive
- Summer Concert Series**
6:30 p.m., Duarte Park
- Teen Movie Night**
7:00 p.m., Duarte Park
- Traffic Safety Commission Meeting**
7:00 p.m., Community Center
- Youth and Family Committee Meeting**
6:30 p.m., Call for Location

City Hall will be closed on July 4th.

For more information on the Community Calendar, visit our website at www.accessduarte.com or call City Hall at (626) 357-7931.

Published by the City of Duarte, Duarte Community News contains information on City issues, policies, events, and programs. It is published and mailed quarterly to all residents and businesses in Duarte. For more information, contact the City Manager's Office at (626) 357-7931.

City Employees

City Manager.....Darrell George
 Assistant City ManagerKristen Petersen
 Public Safety Director.....Brian Villalobos
 Parks and Recreation Director.....Donna Georgino
 Community Development Director.....Craig Hensley
 Deputy City Manager.....Karen Herrera
 City Clerk.....Marla Akana

Elected Officials

Mayor.....Tzeitel Paras-Caracci
 Mayor Pro Tem.....Lois Gaston
 Councilmember.....John Fasana
 Councilmember.....Margaret Finlay
 Councilmember.....Phil Reyes



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. Please consider the environment and recycle.

Graphics Design: Roxanne Breceda