

City News

Published Monthly For Residents & Businesses in Diamond Bar

Veterans Exhibit Needs Your Photos

The City is looking for photographs featuring retired or discharged service members who live or have lived in Diamond Bar.

If you have photographs tucked away of your service years or that of your relatives, consider loaning them to the City for use in a special exhibit that will be displayed during this year's Veterans Day Ceremony planned for November 8, 2012.

Photographs for exhibit consideration should feature veterans in uniform and/or during active service, and be received by City Hall no later than 5:00 pm on Monday, October 15. They will be returned to their owners no later than Friday, November 23.

Submissions may be walked in to City Hall during the business hours of Monday through Thursday 7:30 am to 5:30 pm or Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 pm, or mailed along with a description of the photo, a contact name and phone number, and a return address.

If preferred and brought in person to City Hall, photographs will be photocopied and returned the same day.

Diamond Bar City Hall is located at 21810 Copley Drive. For more information, call 909.839.7067.



School is Back in Session - Pedestrian Safety Urged

With a new school year off to a start, student safety is first and foremost in the minds of City officials.

Prior to the reopening of schools last month, the City took steps to reinforce the areas where drivers can expect to see pedestrians.

First, it renewed its two-year contract for crossing guard services at elementary and middle schools with major intersections, and then it completed its annual improvement of school crosswalk and related pavement markings.

Equally important is drivers and pedestrians alike exercise safe behaviors within school zones.

Drivers are reminded that the speed limit is 25 mph when children are present, and that it is necessary to yield to pedestrians at crosswalks (marked or unmarked) and when making a right or left turn at intersections. Also, it is illegal to pass a school bus that is stopped with flashing red lights indicating that is boarding or disembarking passengers.

Likewise, pedestrians are asked to pay attention when crossing streets by not using their electronic devices and always stopping and making eye contact with the driver



This year's school zone restriping efforts amounted to 53 crosswalks, as well as 53 Stop and stop bars, 38 Slow School Xing, and 9 Stop Ahead pavement markings receiving a new coat of paint. Photographed is Senior Maintenance Worker Jason Fuentes (left) and MCE Corporation Employee Luis Castro.

before stepping off the curb. Whenever possible, cross where there are traffic signals or crosswalks.

To further help ensure the safety of students on their journeys to and from school, the Diamond Bar-Walnut Sheriff's Station will have an increased presence in and around school zones when children are present during the start and dismissal of school days to ensure that traffic laws are being followed.

Send Your Congratulations to Olympic Medalist Alex Morgan!

With Alex Morgan on the U.S. Olympic women's soccer team, the entire Diamond Bar community had even more reason to tune in to the 2012 Summer Olympic Games held in London.

And when it was made official that the American team had scored Olympic gold, everyone in town was filled with pride in the incredible and historic achievement by the Diamond Bar High School graduate.

The City invites everyone who would like to send their personal best wishes to Alex Morgan to do so via special message sheets available for signing through the end of September at Diamond Bar City Hall (21810 Copley Drive), Diamond Bar Community Library (21800 Copley Drive), and Diamond Bar Center (1600 Grand Avenue).

Once filled, these message sheets will be bound to create a special Congratulatory Book that will be presented to Miss Morgan and/or her family at their earliest convenience and availability.

For more information, call the City's Public Information Division at 909.839.7055.

Dog Park Back on Track

Despite a setback resulting from the original contractor failing to submit necessary paperwork within the deadline specified in the contract, plans for a dog park in Diamond Bar are back on track.

Following last month's bidding for a new contractor and approval of award of contract by the City Council, a revised schedule for construction of the park calls for a preconstruction meeting to take place mid-September.

The 30-day construction period will follow in early October, with the opening to the public anticipated sometime mid to late November.

Once completed, the park will be located at 738 Pantera Drive on a 1.35 acre area known as Pantera Park Meadow. It will feature an ADA-compliant walkway with handrails, two separate fenced and gated play areas for small and big dogs, benches, trash receptacles, bag dispensers for pet waste, and a dog-friendly drinking fountain. For more information, please visit www.diamondbarca.gov/dogpark.



Book Donation = FREE Fair Admission



Don't forget that Thursday, September 6 is Diamond Bar Day at the Fair, which means you can trade a new or gently-

used book for free admission into the fairgrounds from noon to 6 pm.

This is the perfect opportunity to enjoy all the L.A. County Fair has to offer – food, games, rides, interactive exhibits, and shopping areas – while supporting your hometown volunteers, businesses, and nonprofits. For more information, visit www.diamondbarca.gov/diamondbarday or call 909.839.7067.

Book donations will benefit several local nonprofit bookstores and one national book organization.



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Drainage Improvement Project Underway

Efforts to improve drainage along Golden Springs Drive will wrap up mid September. The work extends 800 feet west from Lavender Drive and consists of constructing a concrete curb and gutter, catch basins, and underground lateral drain lines.

Construction is taking place from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm Monday through Friday and, at times, requires the closure of traffic lanes; however a minimum of one lane in each direction will be maintained open at all times.

When completed, this project will help alleviate flooding and water stagnation that occurs in the area during heavy rainfall.

Motorists are reminded to drive with caution and follow posted speed limits when passing through this and any other construction work areas.

Pathfinder Road Erosion Control Project

Stormwater runoff control measures are now in place along the southern side of Pathfinder Road from Diamond Bar Boulevard to just west of Presado Drive. The project, completed early last month, involved the construction of a low slough wall and the widening of the existing sidewalk to join the new wall. Efforts are aimed at maintaining the water flow along the sidewalk and directing it into the gutter that leads into the storm drain.



2012 Princess Tea Party

Princesses ages 10 and under are invited to don their royal finest and join this year's Miss Diamond Bar and her court of four princesses for a magical time on Saturday, September 22.

For the fourth consecutive year, Diamond Bar Library and Miss Diamond Bar Pageant are teaming up to hold a Princess Tea Party filled with fairytale-themed activities, including storytelling, singing, dancing, games, and giveaways.

This popular dress-up event will be held from 1pm to 3pm in the Diamond Bar City Hall - Windmill Community Room located at 21810 Copley Drive.

Reservations are recommended and can be made by contacting the Diamond Bar Library at 909.861.4978.

City Trails Public Meeting

The City has an opportunity to apply to the State Habitat Conservation Fund (HCF) Program for a matching grant to improve a popular city trail, and needs you to be part of the visioning process.

A public meeting to gather ideas and feedback from all interested community members will be held on Tuesday, September 11 from 7 pm to 8 pm at the Diamond Bar Center, 1600 Grand Avenue.

All Diamond Bar trails will be discussed during this meeting, but a special focus will be placed on the Grand View Trail Link which is next set to undergo improvements.

The Grand View Trail Link connection begins off the Grand View Trail that is accessible via the Diamond Bar Center lower parking lot.

The state HCF grant the City hopes to secure will supplement a federal grant secured by staff this past summer through the federal Land and Water Conservation Grant Fund to carry out a series of enhancements on the trail.

These enhancements include extending the trail through the creation of a dedicated paved pathway with lodge pole fencing along both sides from the starting point to the Canyon Loop Trail near Dare Court. Installation of a gazebo rest area and interpretive signage is also planned.

For more information about the city's trails or the September 11 public meeting, call the Community Services Department at 909.839.7060.



The Grand View Trail Link is part of the 3.5 mile Summitridge Park Trail system, which is known for its panoramic views of the San Gabriel Valley.

SCHOOL HAPPENINGS!

Story contributed by the Walnut Valley Unified School District

Keeping Kids First

Summer School Classes Held in Walnut Valley

Over 3,000 students benefited from a wide variety of summer school courses offered in the Walnut Valley Unified School District from June 11 through July 19.

Walnut Valley Educational Foundation's Summer Enrichment Program helped students better retain what they learned in a fun-filled education setting while gaining confidence in their abilities. Classes reinforced academic skills in core subject areas such as Math, Language Arts, and Science while preparing students academically and socially for the next grade level. This year, the program also offered a Spanish Language class.

Chaparral, South Pointe, and Suzanne Middle School students attended classes ranging from Comic Art and Cartooning and Algebra Readiness to Jane Shaffer Writing and PSAT prep. Two new courses – Geometry Readiness and MATHCOUNTS Academy- helped promote a stronger interest in mathematics. Students worked to become mathletes by participating in high-end, interactive mathematical problem-solving individual and team competitions. Math whizzes enjoyed challenges in number sense,



Using a geoboard, teacher Larry Pinto helps South Pointe 7th grader Jason Lam in the Geometry Readiness class.

probability, statistics, patterns, Pythagorean theorem, area, 3D Geometry, equations, and number theory.

Diamond Bar and Walnut High summer programs offered credit recovery, enrichment, and advancement courses including World History, Algebra, Geometry, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Civics, Computer Systems, Digital Photography, Physics Honors, and SAT Prep.

Rootbeer-toberfest October 6, 2012 from 2 pm to 3 pm

Next month, the Diamond Bar Library outdoor reading garden will be the setting of a fun event reminiscent of Bavaria.

Residents are invited to enjoy great music while sampling a variety of German dishes and root beers. A drawing at the conclusion of the event will have one lucky attendee taking home a root beer stein trophy.

Reservations are not required, however space is limited and seats will be filled on a first-come-first-served basis.

Diamond Bar Library is located at 21800 Copley Drive (parking and main entrance in the back of the building). For more information, call 909.861.4978.



Implementation of Housing Element

In 2011, the City Council adopted its 2008-2014 Housing Element Update, which was subsequently certified by the California Department of Housing and Community Development.

As part of the implementation of this state-mandated Housing Element Update, the City is obligated to designate specific sites where multi-family housing could be developed in the future.

Since the City currently does not have any property with zoning that is suitable for new affordable housing, the State requires that the City rezone at least 16.3 acres of land with a density of 30 units per acre in order to accommodate a minimum of 490 multi-family housing units.

While there is no specific development project associated with this proposed rezoning effort, the City still needs to prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to evaluate the environmental impacts that could result from such a project.

The area being studied for rezoning is located in an undeveloped hillside area along the west side of Chino Hills Parkway/Phillips Ranch Road. It is adjacent to Diamond Ranch High School, just south of Diamond Ranch Road and Scenic Ridge Drive.

The study area, which encompasses approximately 80 acres, is part of a larger area known as Tres Hermanos, and is owned by the City of Industry.

The EIR which the City is currently in the process of preparing evaluates two potential development sites within this area, each of approximately 30 acres in size. The EIR process will be used to assist staff in ultimately identifying which of those two sites should be rezoned. Because of the slope conditions on these sites, the site that is eventually recommended for rezoning will need to yield 16.3 net buildable acres to accommodate the 30 unit-per-acre density requirement.

Staff is working toward releasing a Draft EIR later this fall, after which a 45-day public review period will follow, and any individual or agency with an interest in this rezoning effort will have an opportunity to provide comments about the analysis in the Environmental Impact Report. A Final EIR is anticipated to be released in the winter of 2013.

More detailed information on the City's Housing Element Update rezoning effort is available on the City website www.diamondbarca.gov/housingelement.

Earthquakes Serve As a Reminder to Prepare

Last month's series of small earthquakes centered near Yorba Linda serve as a reminder that earthquakes occur without warning, and that we need to be prepared for them.

With September being National Preparedness Month, it's a good time to take a moment to gauge your level of preparedness by asking yourself the following questions:

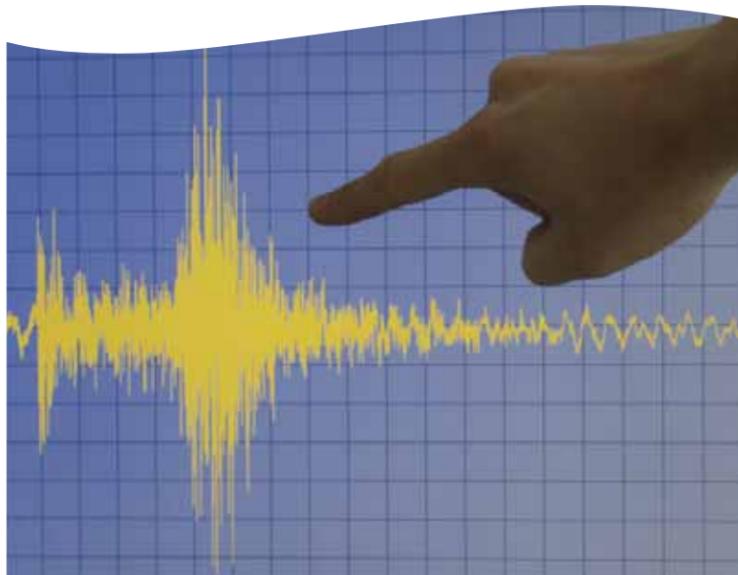
Do I have at least one disaster supply kit on hand stocked with such items as a three-day supply of water and non-perishable food, first aid kit, flashlight and batteries, and prescription medications?

Do I have a well-practiced, updated family disaster plan that includes information such as how my family will get in contact with each other and where we will meet? Does it consider family members with special needs and pets?

Have I taken the necessary steps to make my house earthquake-ready, including placing beds in areas that are not next to large windows or right below hanging lamps, or glass items (mirrors, picture frames, etc.), attaching the water heater and heavy furniture or appliances to the nearest wall, and moving heavy objects away from exit routes?

Tip: When an earthquake hits, DROP (onto your hands and knees), take COVER (under a sturdy desk or table), and HOLD ON (to your shelter or your head and neck) until the shaking stops. If you're in a wheelchair and unable to follow the above steps, lock the wheels and protect the back of your head and neck.

For more earthquake safety tips, visit <http://www.ready.gov/earthquakes>.



Pet Licensing Compliance Campaign

Pet owners are advised that Inland Valley Humane Society (IVHS) will soon be conducting its annual canvass for unlicensed dogs and cats in Diamond Bar.

This effort, which gets underway sometime in the fall, involves trained, full-time IVHS employees going door to door from 7 am to 5 pm Tuesday through Saturday verifying that pets are properly licensed and issuing citations to owners of unlicensed pets.

Employees conducting the canvassing will be in IVHS uniform consisting of navy blue-colored slacks or shorts and a blue polo with logo, and will have proper identification and an IVHS badge.

As a reminder, State law requires that all dogs 4 months of age or older be vaccinated against rabies and have a current license. City ordinance also requires Diamond Bar residents keep their annual dog and cat licenses updated and tags affixed to their pet's collar or harness at all times, except when indoors.

Pet license fees for one year are \$35.00 for dogs (\$15 if spayed or neutered) and \$10 for cats (\$5 if spayed or neutered). Pet owners age 60 and older are eligible to pay a reduced fee of \$7.50 for an altered dog license.

A penalty fee of \$25 is assessed when a dog/cat is not licensed within 45 days of entering a city or when a license has expired more than 30 days.

To obtain a new pet license or renew your existing one, visit IVHS at 500 Humane Way in Pomona during its business hours of Monday through Saturday 8 am to 5:30 pm and Wednesday 8 am to 7 pm or go online to www.ivhsspca.org. For information regarding the canvassing, call 909.623.9777.



City History Project Seeks Volunteers

A group of Diamond Bar residents with an appreciation for local history and memorabilia preservation recently took on the task of sifting and organizing items related to the community's pre-incorporation days.

This small volunteer group held its first meeting last month at Diamond Bar City Hall to brainstorm ideas on how to best organize the available items and identify information gaps.

Starting this month, the group plans to meet twice a month and welcomes anyone interested to join in their efforts.

September meetings are scheduled to take place on the 10th and 24th from 8 am to 11 am in Diamond Bar City Hall, 21810 Copley Drive.

For more information about the City's ongoing History Project, call the Public Information Division at 909.839.7055 or visit www.diamondbarca.gov/historyproject.



For Your Safety...

Tip – Increase your chances of recovering your valuables, if ever stolen, with four steps: Etch your driver license number and state abbreviation onto your electronics, make a list of all item models and serial numbers, create a visual (video or photograph) record, and store the inventory list and photographs/video footage in a safe place away from home such as a safety deposit box in your bank. Should your property be recovered, this will help law enforcement more quickly identify you as the rightful owner.

Diamond Bar/Walnut Sheriff's Station 909.595.2264
(dial 911 for all EMERGENCIES)

FREE Weekly e-newsletter

If you haven't already signed up for the City's newest method of communication – DB Connection, you can do so by visiting www.diamondbarca.gov/esubscription.

The weekly electronic newsletter is delivered right to the inboxes of subscribers every Monday morning, and features information about upcoming City events, trip opportunities, construction projects, and more.

Find it Fast Phone Directory

City Services	909.839.7000
City Council	909.839.7010
Building & Safety	909.839.7020
City Clerk's Office	909.839.7010
City Manager's Office	909.839.7010
Community Development	909.839.7030
Community Services	909.839.7060
Facility Reservations	909.839.7070
Finance	909.839.7050
Human Resources	909.839.7018
Library	909.861.4978
Neighborhood Improvement	909.839.7030
Planning	909.839.7030
Post Office	909.860.2469
Public Information Office	909.839.7055
Public Safety Services	909.839.7076
Public Works/Engineering	909.839.7040
Recreation Services	909.839.7070
Senior Services	909.839.7068
Transit Information	909.839.7045
Voter Registration	562.462.2748
Business Information:	
Business Licenses	909.839.7030
Chamber of Commerce	909.869.0701
School Districts:	
Pomona Unified	909.397.4700
Walnut Valley Unified	909.595.1261
Utilities:	
So Cal Edison (electric)	800.611.1911
So Cal Gas (gas)	800.427.2200
Time Warner (cable TV)	888.892.2253
Verizon (telephone)	800.483.5000
Walnut Valley Water	909.595.7554
Waste Disposal:	
Valley Vista (businesses)	800.442.6454
Waste Management (residents)	909.599.1274
Public Safety:	
Animal Control	909.623.9777
Fire (LA County)*	909.629.9671
Police (LA Co. Sheriff)*	909.595.2264
Vector Control	562.944.9656
24-Hour Hotlines:	
Building Inspection	909.839.7027
Employment Opportunities	909.348.8300
Field/Weather	909.348.8310
Graffiti Removal	800.794.7384

*For emergencies, dial 9-1-1



Calendar Key

- City Council Meeting* - starts at 6:30 pm
- Planning Commission Meeting* - starts at 7 pm
- Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting* - starts at 7 pm
- Traffic & Transportation Commission Meeting* - starts at 7 pm
- Transit Late Night - City Hall open until 7 pm
- Street Sweeping Week
- Fall Fun Festival - Heritage Park, 4:30 - 8:30 pm recommended for ages 2 to 8
- Hall of Horrors - Heritage Park, 6 - 9 pm recommended for age 8 and older

September 2012

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2	3 Labor Day Holiday City Offices Closed	4	5	6 Diamond Bar Day at the Fair (details on page 1)	7	8
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

*City Council meetings take place at the AQMD/Government Center (21865 Copley Drive), while City Commission meetings are held at Diamond Bar City Hall (21810 Copley Drive). Additional event and meeting details are available at www.DiamondBarCa.gov/eventcalendar



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Mayor Pro Tem..... Jack Tanaka
Council Member..... Ron Everett
Council Member..... Carol Herrera
Council Member..... Steve Tye
City Manager..... James DeStefano

Postal Customer

Published by the City of Diamond Bar, City News contains information on City issues, policies, events, and programs. It is published and mailed monthly to all residences and businesses in Diamond Bar. Every effort is made to ensure that the information printed in this publication is correct. If you find typographical errors or become aware of any inaccuracies, please let us know by calling 909.839.7056.



Snapshots Around The Community

A NEW CHAPTER UNFOLDS... Remarks by City Council and several elected officials followed by a snip of a ribbon marked the official opening of the new Diamond Bar Community Library on Saturday, July 28, 2012. Several hundred residents turned up for the special event replete with family-friendly activities and the opportunity to break in the new 27,000-square foot, state-of-the-art facility. Located on the first floor of the Diamond Bar Civic Center (21810 Copley Drive), the new library offers patrons access to more than 80,000 books and materials, 37 public computer workstations, 3 self-checkout stations, 3 study rooms equipped with audio-visual capabilities, and Wi-Fi technology throughout the building. For more photos of the Grand Opening event, visit www.diamondbarca.gov/photogallery.



CONCERTS CABLECAST... The 21st season of the City's popular Concerts in the Park program may have come to a close on August 22, but Time Warner Cable (Ch. 3) and Verizon FiOS (Ch. 47) subscribers can catch a rebroadcast every Monday and Thursday at 8 pm or Saturday and Sunday at 1 pm and 6 pm. All concerts are also posted for viewing on the City website diamondbarca.gov/videos. Concerts are updated every three weeks. To view the latest DBtv programming schedule, visit www.diamondbarca.gov/dbtv.

Friends, from left, Noah Samarin, Jennifer Hynes, and Cari Baca are pictured relaxing and enjoying time together while listening to doo-wop tunes by The Alley Cats during the August 8, 2012 event.

TEENS! TEENS! TEENS!... In what has become an annual tradition, the City-sponsored teen group DB4Youth "In Action" held its 5th annual Teen Night Out on Friday, July 20 from 7 to 10 pm. The event had a couple hundred teens meeting up at Sycamore Canyon for three hours of socializing, dancing, and friendly competing in prize-incentive activities that included Big Foot racing, sumo wrestling, and water balloon tossing. For more information about DB4Youth "In Action", visit www.diamondbarca.gov/db4youth.



October 2012

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