

City News

Published Monthly For Residents & Businesses in Diamond Bar

Dog Park Grand Opening

Get Ready to Unleash the Fun!



Every dog has its day, and in Diamond Bar that day will be Saturday, November 17 when the City holds a special event to celebrate the grand opening of its dog park – Bark Park at Pantera.

Dogs and their owners alike are invited to stop by to help break in the community's first off-leash dog area, which sits on a 1.35-acre plot of land located at 738 Pantera Drive.

The event gets underway at 1 pm and will feature brief remarks by the Diamond Bar mayor followed by a ceremonial ribbon-cutting and first access to the park's two fenced areas – one for small dogs and the other for larger dogs weighing more than 25 pounds.

As a treat, the first 100 attendees will receive a special "doggie bag" packed with pet-themed giveaways as well as coupons for local dog-related goods and services.

Consistent with the hours of operation of other city parks, Bark Park at Pantera will be available for use, after opening day, every day from sunrise to sunset.



Other park amenities include an ADA accessible walkway leading to the park, a drinking fountain with pet bowl, park benches, trash receptacles, and doggie waste bags.

For more information about this grand opening

event, contact the City's Public Information Division at 909.839.7055 or visit www.diamondbarca.gov/dogpark.

Shop Diamond Bar

Buy, Dine & Fuel Up Local – Every Cent Counts!



With November marking the start of the holiday shopping season, the City again encourages everyone to make a conscious effort to shop local first.

When you buy goods or services from a Diamond Bar-based business, you help ensure more of your money stays in your community benefiting you, your family, and your neighbors.

That's because one percent of the sales tax amount of every purchase made within city limits goes into the City's General Fund and invested back into the community in the shape of public safety services, street and road improvements, and public park upkeep.

Before crossing city lines for your next purchase, ask yourself if the item can be found in one of the stores located in the more than a dozen shopping centers and plazas along the city's major thoroughfares.

Additional Reasons to Shop in Town...

- Support your community nonprofits; when nonprofits need extra funding or publicity, it is local businesses they turn to for help. Your support enables them to contribute more to local causes.
- Help create and maintain local jobs; small businesses are typically owned by residents who in turn employ other residents.
- Save time and money...and Mother Earth; shopping in town means you drive less and consume less gas, which frees more of your time, saves you money and helps cut air pollution.
- Keeps our businesses open; all businesses, particularly those that are small and independently-owned, rely on the patronage of community members for their survival.



Holiday Diamond Ride

As further incentive to make your holiday purchases in town, the City is again offering residents free cab rides to and from a Diamond Bar shopping center from November 23, 2012 through January 1, 2013.

To set up a ride, residents must be at least 18 years of age and show a valid photo ID as proof of Diamond Bar residency at the time of pickup.

Holiday Diamond Ride, as this program is called, aims to support local businesses and boost sales tax revenues. It is financed through the City's Proposition A Transit Tax Fund. To reserve a trip, call 800.578.6555.



Stop by to find that "special something" for yourself or for someone else

Dozens of booths with an assortment of handcrafted items perfect for holiday gift giving will fill the Diamond Bar Center when the City holds its annual craft

fair on Saturday, December 1 from 9 am to 2 pm.

In addition to handicrafts ranging from jewelry to home goods, the fair will feature free, supervised holiday-themed arts and crafts activities for children and keepsake photo packages with Santa for a nominal fee. A snack bar will be available, with purchases benefiting the City's teen group – DB4Youth.

Diamond Bar Center is located at 1600 Grand Avenue. Admission and parking are free. For more information, call the City's Recreational Services Division at 909.839.7070 or visit www.diamondbarca.gov/crafts.



Home Holiday Decorating Contest
PAGE 2



Through My Lens
Photo Contest
PAGE 2



Volunteer on Patrol
Program
PAGE 3

Diamond Bar
Through My Lens
Photo Contest
 open to Diamond Bar residents of all ages

Residents with an eye for photography and community pride are invited to enter the City's "Diamond Bar Through My Lens" photo contest before the November 30 deadline.

Now in its fifth year, this contest aims to raise community spirit while highlighting the various aspects of Diamond Bar as captured through residents' camera lenses.

Photos may be color or black & white and feature people, pets, places, or nature as long as they are taken within city limits.

Entries will be separated by age divisions with the winning photographs selected in December. Winners from each division will receive a monetary prize courtesy of the Diamond Bar Community Foundation and their photos may be published in the City's 2013-2014 Calendar & Services Guide and featured on the City website.

Complete contest rules, official entry form, and digital entry requirements are available online www.diamondbarca.gov/photocontest. Questions may be directed to the City's Public Information Division at 909.839.7055 or via e-mail at photocontest@diamondbarca.gov.



Free Sandbags at Fire Stations

Free sand and sandbags are available, while supplies last, at most County of Los Angeles fire stations, including, 119 (20480 Pathfinder Road) and 121 (346 Armitos Road).

Each household is limited to 25 sandbags and residents are required to fill their own sandbags; a shovel is recommended. For more information call Fire Station 119 at 909.598.4290 or Fire Station 121 at 909.396.0164.

Effective Use of Sandbags

When properly used, sandbags are a simple and effective way to redirect water and debris flows away from properties. However, it's important to keep in mind that sandbags are for low-flow protection (maximum of two feet), that they don't guarantee a water tight seal, and that they deteriorate when exposed for several months to continued wetting and drying.

To form an effective sandbag wall:

1. Fill sandbags half-full with sand or soil and fold the tops down.
2. Place them on their folded top, tightly against one another, lengthwise and parallel to the direction of water flow.
3. When stacking sandbags, stagger the second and subsequent layer of bags, similar to the pattern of bricks on a wall.

Instructional information for the use of sandbags is available at most fire stations.



Calling All Holiday Enthusiasts! Home Holiday Decorating Contest



Time to Locate Your Stash of Holiday Décor!

We're counting on you to contribute to the local festive atmosphere by dressing up your home's façade and front yard in holiday finery and entering into the City's fourth annual Home Holiday Decorating Contest.

This year's award categories are "Best Holiday Spirit," "Most Energy Efficient," and for the first time "Best Neighborhood Display," which recognizes three or more homes on a block.

Since the contest is aimed at recognizing residents who make an effort to incorporate energy-efficient practices into their outdoor holiday trimmings, all entrants must use at least one strand of LED lights, regardless of the category entered.

To enter, pick up an entry form at City Hall (21810 Copley Drive), the Diamond Bar Library (21800 Copley Drive), and the Diamond Bar Center (1600 Grand Avenue) or register online at www.diamondbarca.gov/holiday.

Deadline for entries is 4:30 pm on Friday, December 7, 2012. Judging takes place Wednesday, December 12 anytime between 7 pm and 10 pm; entrants are asked to have their lights and decorations on during this time.

Winners in each category receive a special recognition yard sign, a mention in the City channel, website, and newsletter, and recognition at an upcoming City Council meeting.

For more information or to request a form by email or mail, call 909.839.7013.



Holiday Toy Drives

Help lighten Santa's load by contributing to the L.A. County Fire Department's annual Toys for Tots drive aimed at benefiting local qualifying families during the holidays.

Starting Monday, November 26 through Thursday, December 20, toy drop-off boxes will be available at Diamond Bar City Hall (21810 Copley Drive) as well as all three Diamond Bar fire stations (119 – 20480 East Pathfinder Road, 120 – 1051 South Grand Avenue, and 121 – 346 Armitos Road).

Toys should be new and unwrapped, and suitable for ages newborn through 17. For more information about Spark of Love, visit www.fire.lacounty.gov or call 323.881.2411.

DBCF Gala Fundraiser

Tickets are still available for purchase for the Diamond Bar Community Foundation's 9th annual Holiday set to take place Saturday, November 12 at the Diamond Bar Center.

Ticket prices are \$100 each, \$175 for two, or \$1,000 for a table; nonprofits may secure a table at a reduced rate of \$500.

Event proceeds benefit Diamond Bar-based art, culture, and recreation programs. Diamond Bar Center is located at 1600 Grand Avenue.

For more information, visit www.thedbcf.org, email jodyroberto@yahoo.com, or call 909.860.6088.

Drainage System Maintenance Reminder

Here's a reminder for homeowners living in hillside areas to take a moment, before the next heavy rain event, to inspect their drainage system and address any issues that can potentially lead to slope instability or flood damage.

Drainage systems on private property are the responsibility of the property owner, and at minimum require regularly ensuring all slopes drain properly, gutters and downspouts are clear of debris, and overgrown landscaping on or near drains along retaining walls is removed.

More complex drainage matters such as broken irrigation lines above or on the slope, signs of erosion from water running over the slope or other earth face, and tilting of walls or fences on or near the slope, may necessitate an inspection by a licensed civil/structural or geotechnical engineer.

When implementing water diversion measures, take care that efforts to protect one's property do not result in diverting water on to a neighbor's property where it could cause damage.

More information, including additional warning signs of a possible slope failure, is available at diamondbarca.gov/slopemaintenance.



Join the Sheriff's VOP Program

If you are considering a career in law enforcement or simply want to contribute to the safety of your community, the Diamond Bar/Walnut Sheriff's Station invites you to join its Volunteers on Patrol program.

Created in 1994, the Diamond Bar Volunteers on Patrol (V.O.P.) team is made up of a couple dozen volunteers who work a minimum of 16 hours per month carrying out a variety of non-hazardous patrol duties.

These duties include performing residential vacation checks and park safety checks, conducting traffic control, issuing parking citations, and carrying out directed patrol assignments.

To help prepare new recruits for V.O.P. responsibilities, the Sheriff's Station teams up one new volunteer with two existing ones so that he or she can act simply as an observer during the first few work shifts.

The new volunteers then play an ancillary role to experienced V.O.P. members and are in training until they are confident carrying out their tasks. As a final step, volunteers complete an 8-hour driver's training course to obtain clearance to drive a marked sheriff's vehicle.

Throughout the year, volunteers are also encouraged to participate in Volunteers on Patrol academies where they obtain future training in the areas of personal safety procedures, patrol tactics, and radio codes.

In order to become a V.O.P. volunteer, one must be at least 18 years of age, have a valid California driver license, pass a background check, and have no felony or certain misdemeanor convictions.

Volunteers on Patrol program applications are available in person at City Hall, 21810 Copley Drive in Diamond Bar as well as at the Sheriff's Station, 21695 Valley Boulevard in Walnut. It is also available for download on the City website www.diamondbarca.gov/VOP. For more information, contact Volunteer Coordinator Sergeant Mark Saldecke at 909.595.2264 or mcsaldec@lasd.org.



Former Sheriff's volunteers Al Berke and Ginger Hicks are pictured during a past City Birthday Part event documenting children fingerprints and other vital identification information as part of the Operation KidPrint program, which can prove useful to law enforcement should a child be reported missing.

Beware Distraction or Ruse Burglaries

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department continues to advise the public to beware of a burglary scam involving individuals posing as utility workers to gain access into people's home.

The perpetrator of this scam, known as a distraction or ruse, poses a pretext that may involve going together with the resident into the kitchen or backyard to test the water, to a neighboring house to check on a broken pipe, or out on the street to look at the electrical power lines.

Whatever the ruse, the crook is looking to get the resident to an out-of-the-way location while leaving the front door unlocked, so an accomplice can enter the home and pick up valuables such as money and jewelry.

To help residents discern legitimate from phony service visits, the Sheriff's Department recommends everyone keep the phone numbers to all local utility companies easily accessible. It also provides the following tips:

- If you did not request service, call the utility company the suspect claims to represent to verify if there are workers in the area. Do not rely on the suspect to provide you with a phone number because it could be fake.
- Ask for a work identification badge, business card and work order; suspects will sometimes wear official-looking clothing; such as, uniforms, hard hats, or reflective vests.
- Do not give them access to your house until you are absolutely sure they are legitimate. If you do leave the house with them, pick up your keys and lock the door.

If a visit seems suspicious or something "doesn't feel right," trust your gut and immediately contact the Diamond Bar/Walnut Sheriff's Station at 909.595.2264 or call 911.

School Happenings

Story contributed by the Pomona Unified School District

Learn Computer Science at Lorbeer

Opportunities to learn about computer science as a career are opening at Lorbeer Middle School. Seventh and eighth grade students can enroll in the "Middle Years Computer Science" (MYCS) class. In partnership with Harvey Mudd College in Claremont, this cutting-edge program provides a state-of-the-art iMac computer lab where students can gain real-world experience with the latest in computer technology.

Lorbeer's MYCS course introduces students to the field of computer science through an exploration of engaging and critical thinking activities with an inquiry-based approach. Students learn algorithm development, interface design, and programming. They also study the limits of computers and the societal and ethical issues surrounding the field of technology. Students are taught foundational computer science knowledge through the creative, collaborative, interdisciplinary and problem-solving nature of computing.

MYCS teachers attend a rigorous program of professional development in a Summer Institute at Harvey Mudd College. They then share these technological concepts with Lorbeer's MYCS students through hands-on projects such as the annual school yearbook.

The MYCS program is designed to capture students' interest in computers at an early age and develop their talents within a strong, supportive, educational framework. Interested students are encouraged to enroll in this innovative career and college-readiness program by contacting Lorbeer Middle School at 909.397.4527.



Lorbeer students Ian Simpson and Viet Truong are pictured working on laying out the annual school yearbook.

Story contributed by the Walnut Valley Unified School District

Walnut Valley Honors its Teachers

Walnut Valley Unified School District paid tribute to fifteen 2011-2012 Teachers of the Year during its Salute to Teachers awards program held on October 17. Congratulations to the following Diamond Bar educators who were among those named 2011-2012 Teachers of the Year by their respective schools:

Kelly Howard – Castle Rock Elementary
Erin Donnelly – Chaparral Middle School
Sandy Davis – Diamond Bar High
Cathy Patterson – Evergreen Elementary
Lynda Keelan - Maple Hill Elementary
Cindy Giang - Quail Summit Elementary
Debbie Myers - South Pointe Middle School
Jennifer Yi - Walnut Elementary

Sandy Davis, an English teacher and Peer Counseling advisor at Diamond Bar High, was recognized as the District Teacher of the Year and Los Angeles County Teacher of the Year. She will now advance to the California Teacher of the Year competition.



Sandy Davis was named a Los Angeles County Teacher of the Year on September 21.

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

November 2012

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3 Eco Expo Event
4 Daylight Saving Time (Move clocks back 1 Hour)	5 	6 Election Day www.lavote.net	7	8 Veterans Recognition Ceremony	9	10
11	12 Veterans Day Observed City Offices Closed	13 	14	15 	16	17 Dog Park Grand Opening (see page 1 for details)
18	19 	20 	21	22 Thanksgiving Holiday City Offices Closed	23 Thanksgiving Holiday City Offices Closed	24
25	26	27 	28	29	30 City Photo Contest Submission Deadline (see page 2 for details)	

December 2012

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1 Candy Cane Craft Fair (see page 1 for details)
2	3 	4 	5	6	7	8
9	10 	11 	12	13 	14	15
16	17 	18 	19	20	21	22
23	24 Christmas Eve City Offices Closed	25 Christmas Holiday City Offices Closed	26	27 	28	29
30	31 					

*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



City of Diamond Bar
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Elected Officials

Mayor.....Ling-Ling Chang
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

COMMUNITY-MINDED TEENS...

The City recently publicly thanked and said goodbye to its 2012 crop of "Volunteens." Members of the City's Parks and Recreation Commission took time during their regular September 27 meeting to present each of the 51 teens with a special certificate for their participation in the City's summer "Volunteer" program. At the conclusion of presentations, "Volunteen" graduates and their parents and friends were treated to cake and fruit juice. Applications for the 2013 summer Volunteen program will be available at the end of February 2013. The program is open to Diamond Bar residents ages 13 to 15, and those selected will assist in one of a variety of City-sponsored summer programs such as pre-school, day camp, youth sports, senior programming, and Concerts in the Park. For more information, visit www.diamondbarca.gov/volunteens or call 909.839.7024.



SCIENCE-SAVVY STUDENTS...

Fueled up with new facts about science and university life, Diamond Bar students, from left, Valery Paredones, Leslie Sim, and Grace Valencia are photographed during a September 26 meeting of the Diamond Bar-Walnut branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW). All three girls were winners of this year's AAUW-sponsored one-week residential summer Tech Trek Science & Math Camp held at the UC Irvine campus, and attended the meeting to thank AAUW members and share their camp experiences. Tech Trek aims to inspire and encourage girls entering 8th grade to continue their interest in the disciplines of science, math and technology, and potentially pursue a career in one of these fields. Learn more about AAUW by calling 909.861.4822 or 909.860.7870.

