

City News

Published Monthly For Residents & Businesses in Diamond Bar



Ten thousand candy-filled eggs will be spread throughout Pantera Park's grass field for children to collect as part of the annual Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by the City and the Diamond Bar Breakfast Lions Club.



The spring event, taking place on Saturday, April 11, begins at 8:30 am with a pancake breakfast provided by the Fire Explorers Post 19 for \$5 a plate. The free egg hunt follows at 10 am for children, toddler through sixth grade. Photos with the Easter Bunny will also be available for a nominal fee.

Children should bring their own baskets or bags to collect eggs. Pantera Park is located at 738 Pantera Drive in Diamond Bar. For more information, call the City's Recreation Services Division at 909.839.7070.

National Food Drive to Benefit Thousands

Next month, residents will again have the opportunity to participate in the largest annual one-day food drive in the nation. As it has since 1993, the National Association of Letter Carriers will be holding its Stamp Out Hunger food drive to benefit thousands of food banks or pantries nationwide. Those wanting to participate can simply place their nonperishable food items near their mailboxes before their letter carrier delivers the mail on Saturday, May 9. Examples of acceptable items include canned soup, pasta, rice, or cereal. For more information about the food drive or to sign up to receive an email reminder of the event, visit www.helpstampouthunger.com.



Spirit of Diamond Bar
1989-2009
20th Birthday

Celebrate the City's 20th Birthday!

If you like carnival rides, games, farm animals, classic cars, top entertainment, and giveaways, there's only one place you'll want to be at on Saturday, April 18...and that's Pantera Park.

That's where the City will be holding its annual Birthday Party from 11am through 5 pm, with carnival rides and some food booths operating until 8 pm for the first time ever.

And since this year also marks Diamond Bar's 20th anniversary as a City, several additions are planned to boost the value and experience of the already very-popular event.

The additions include family-friendly picnic games like tug-of-war, three-legged race, and watermelon-eating contest; and a Teen Action Zone featuring ten cool games and a two-hour concert by L.A.-based rock band Thornbird beginning at 5:30 pm.

Also in celebration of the City reaching its 20-year milestone, a special video recording area will give party guests an opportunity to express their congratulatory wishes on videotape. The messages will be featured as part of the commercials aired prior to the movies shown during this year's Summer Concerts and Movies in the Park series.

Other event components include the following:

An expanded **Disaster Preparedness Display** exhibiting a variety of public safety tools and

resources, and information on how to prepare for an emergency. For the first time, the display will also feature live demonstrations of a helicopter flyover and water drop, and vehicle extrication. The Fire Department's Shakey Quakey Schoolhouse will also give event guests the opportunity to experience



what an actual earthquake feels and sounds like and learn what to do (and not to do) when a real earthquake strikes.

A **Go Green Area** will provide visitors with simple and

effective ways to practice a green lifestyle, the chance to create a special Earth's Day craft using recycled items, and a free gift in exchange for a pledge to reduce, reuse and recycle.

At 3 pm, this year's honorees of Diamond Bar's annual **Outstanding Volunteer Recognition Program** will be presented a special award by the Diamond Bar City Council. This will be followed the cutting and distribution of free Birthday cake.

Free off-site parking will be available at Pantera Elementary School and the surrounding neighborhood, with continuous free shuttle service provided from each location to the park, beginning at 11:30 am.

For more event information, visit the City's website www.cityofdiamondbar.com or contact the City's Recreation Services Division at 909.839.7070.



Center gets a New Power Generator

The Diamond Bar Center is now even better equipped to serve the community following the installation of a new standby generator that will provide more than three days of continuous power to the 22,500 square foot facility in the event of an emergency or disaster. The 14-foot long generator, with a sound-attenuated and weather-protective enclosure, holds 700 gallons of diesel and is designed to start automatically upon detection of electric power loss. It took a six-man crew, including 2 crane operators, a couple hours to set-up the 13,000 lbs generator within a newly built spill containment system consisting of a concrete moat.



Businesses of the Month

And the winners are...



PostNet

Postal/Shipping/Printing Services
324 S. Diamond Bar Boulevard
909.860.1490
postnet129@aol.com

Hours:

Mon. – Fri., 8:30 am - 7 pm
Sat., 9 am - 4 pm



La Petite Academy

Early learning program for children
722 S. Grand Avenue
(909) 860-4009
www.lapetite.com

Hours:

Mon. – Fri., 6 am - 6:30 pm

Street Projects Improve Safety

Median Modifications

A better line of sight and safer entrance into two shopping centers are the result of a recent road improvement project.

Completed mid March, the project involved modifying two median islands along a heavily traversed section of Diamond Bar Boulevard between Grand Avenue and Clear Creek Canyon Drive.

The modifications included reducing the width of the medians to improve the line of sight for motorists making left turns into either or the two nearby shopping centers.



Safety Measures

Several safety measures were also recently implemented on Strange Creek Drive near Overlook Ridge Road. A stop sign, pavement legend, and regulatory signage were added to the residential street in response to concerns from motorists about sight distance issues when attempting to make left turn onto Overlook Ridge Road.

The need for the measures was further justified by a traffic study conducted by staff from the City's Public Works Department and a traffic consultant. The work cost less than \$400 and was funded by the City's signing and stripping maintenance budget allocation for FY 2008-2009. For more information on either of these projects, contact the City's Public Works Department at 909.839.7040.

Preventing Home Burglaries

How daytime home burglaries typically occur:

1. The suspect, usually in a rental car, will survey the neighborhood for a target home.
2. Once they've made their selection, they will park their car one or two houses away and walk up to the door and knock or ring the bell.
3. If someone answers, the individual will leave after making up an excuse for being there, such as looking for a friend, relative, or lost pet.
4. If no one answers, they will sometimes kick open the front door or more likely go to the backyard looking for an open door or window. Surprisingly, they often find one. If not, they break a kitchen or bathroom window.
5. In an average of about 6 minutes, the suspect has found cash or jewelry and made it out the front door.

To help prevent your home from becoming a target of burglary, the Walnut/Diamond Bar Sheriff's Station recommends the following:

1. Secure your doors and windows, even when you are home. Consider installing secondary locks.
2. Verbally respond to knocks or doorbell rings, even if you do not open the door. Do this by telling the person you are not available at the moment or make noise to let them know you are home.
3. Never answer your door in the middle of the night unless it's someone you know and

expect. If a stranger knocks on your door after dark saying they need help or were in an accident, offer to call the Sheriff's Station for them without opening the door. Have your phone ready to call 911.

4. Make sure your front porch is illuminated so you can see who's knocking.
5. Talk to your neighbors and enlist each others help to watch for suspicious activity. You should also consider joining or forming a Neighborhood Watch team.

You come home to find your front door shattered or open. You're sure you locked your door before leaving to work or to run a quick errand. What do you do?

1. Step away to a safe distance. Don't enter the house.
2. Go to the neighbor's house or use your cell phone to call 911.
3. Keep your eye on your house and look around for anyone you do not recognize or unusual cars. Do not confront the suspect(s), but if possible note the car's license plate.

For more information or to report suspicious activity, contact the Sheriff's Station at 909. 595.2264. For information about Neighborhood Watch, call 909 839.7077 or 839.7079.

Friends Wine Soirée



Friends of the Library will be hosting its 16th annual Wine Soirée benefiting the Diamond Bar Library on Sunday, April 19. The event will be held from 4 to 7 pm at the Diamond Bar Center (1600 Grand Avenue) and feature food, wine tasting, music, and auctions.

Tickets are \$50 per person in advance and \$60 at the door. Tickets are available at Basically BOOKS, 3211 S. Brea Canyon Road; the Diamond Bar Library, 1061 Grand Avenue; PFF Bank and Trust (now U.S. Bank), 1175 S. Grand Avenue; and Xavier's Florist, 1220 "D" Diamond Bar Boulevard; or by calling 909.861.2002. For more information, call Kathleen Newe at 909.576.8536.



"Relay for Life" Needs You

With Relay for Life only two months away, event organizers are looking for individuals to join the fight against cancer by forming a team, sharing their story, making a donation, or just spreading the word.

Diamond Bar's event will take place Saturday and Sunday, June 13 and 14, at Lorbeer Middle School, 501 N. Diamond Bar Boulevard.

It kicks off on Saturday with an opening ceremony at 8:30 am followed by the Survivors Lap at 9 am. Later that day, at 9 pm, a luminaria ceremony will



be held to remember those who lost their battle with cancer. The event concludes on Sunday at 8:30 am.

Relay for Life is the American Cancer Society's signature 24-hour event that raises money and awareness for cancer research, prevention, education, early detection and patient services.

More information about

Relay for Life events, including upcoming fundraisers is available at www.relayforlife.org/diamondbarca or by contacting Online Chair Kathleen Romero at kmr93@aol.com.

Earthquake Readiness a Must

With new research published by UC Irvine scientists that suggests Southern California is overdue for major earthquake activity and the commemoration of April as Earthquake Preparedness Month, the Diamond Bar Sheriff's Team would like to remind readers that advance preparation is critical in reducing the potential impact of a disaster.

Following are a few tips to assist you with your preparation:

Prepare your House

Take the necessary steps to make your house earthquake-ready, like 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, moving heavy objects away from exit routes, and shut off your gas line. Visit the So Cal Gas Company website www.socalgas.com for a step-by-step guide on how to disconnect your line.

Create an Emergency Plan

Create an emergency plan or update your existing one. The plan should include an evacuation checklist, important phone numbers (if possible, one for an out of state contact), and a strategy for reaching each other in different situations. Remember to regularly review your plan to ensure the information is current.

Assemble an Emergency Kit

Prepare an emergency kit for your home, car, and work. It is recommended that each kit consist of at least one week's supply of water, food, medication, and other necessities for each person or pet in your plan. Other items include a battery-powered radio and batteries, a flashlight, first-aid supplies. For your kit, you could use a backpack, large bag, plastic container, or clean trash bin with a lid. Be sure to periodically check your kit and replace expired food, water, and medical supplies as needed.

Attend a Disaster Presentation

Consider attending a free disaster preparedness presentation held monthly by the San Gabriel Pomona Valley Chapter of the American Red Cross. The hour-long presentations, taught by disaster specialists, will feature a special section of earthquake safety. Upcoming presentations include Tuesday, April 21 at the Chapter's Pasadena headquarters and Tuesday, May 19 at the Pomona branch. The trainings start at 6:30 p.m. For more information or to register, call 626.799.0841, ext. 203 or email perez@sgpvarc.org.

Additional information about emergency preparedness can be found at www.cityofdiamondbar.com.

Let's Talk "Trash" ... Collection That Is

Whether you call it trash, waste, rubbish, junk or garbage we all have it and want to get rid of it. That is why the "who" and "how" of refuse and recycling collection is not only important for the Diamond Bar community, but for the environment.

While the current waste hauler agreements are still in effect for almost two more years, the City Council has authorized staff to begin reviewing service levels and explore the possibility of extending current agreements beyond the August 2010 expiration date.

Early negotiations allow ample time to examine all aspects of current services and identify enhancements for the future. The review process began earlier this year and is expected to continue through summer 2009. If negotiations are not successful, the City will solicit additional proposals.

The current waste haulers, Waste Management, Inc. and Valley Vista, Inc., have provided refuse and recycling collection for residents and commercial customers since 2000.

We realize refuse collection and recycling programs are important to our residents and that is why you are encouraged to stay informed about this and other City services. Sign up to receive email notices when City Council meeting agendas are posted online at www.cityofdiamondbar.com.

For more information, contact the Public Works Department at 909.839.7040 or send an email to publicworks@ci.diamond-bar.ca.us.

Permit Expiration Notification



Property owners and contractors with building permits lacking all the required inspections have received or will be receiving a courtesy notice in the mail with instructions on how to bring their properties into compliance.

The City's Building and Safety Division began sending out the notices last month as part of their efforts to ensure that all construction or renovation projects within the City are consistent with general building principles and in compliance with State-mandated construction standards.

Beyond complying with health and safety standards, inspections of construction work in progress further benefit property owners by protecting property values and facilitating the future sale of the homes or businesses.

For more information, please contact the Division at 909.839.7020.



Ask City Hall

Answers to commonly asked questions about City services, codes, and other matters pertaining to living and working in Diamond Bar.

Q: My neighbors and I have noticed a lot of stray shopping carts in our neighborhood. Isn't it illegal to take carts from retail stores and is there anything we can do about it?

A: Yes. Shopping carts are private property and provided to shoppers as a customer service. Removing them from their respective store parking lot is illegal.

Also, carts left on sidewalks or streets create visual blight and pose hazards to motorists, pedestrians, and bicyclists. This makes them a violation of 12.04.140 of the City's Municipal Code that prohibits encroachment within public streets and sidewalks.

Personnel from the City's Neighborhood Improvement Division regularly patrol City streets for health, safety, and aesthetic concerns that, if ignored, could lead to neighborhood decay.

When it comes to abandoned shopping carts, the Division calls the store the cart belongs to, and informs the manager about the cart(s) and the location. You and your neighbors can do the same.

Following are phone numbers to some of the major retail establishments in the area. Be sure to ask for the manager.

Target

747 Grand Ave. • 909.610.2149

Ralphs

1180 Diamond Bar Blvd. • 909.860.6999

Big Lots

1139 Diamond Bar Blvd. • 909.396.7775

Kmart

249 Diamond Bar Blvd • 909.861.7741

Market World

21080 Golden Springs Dr. • 909.839.1121

H-Mart

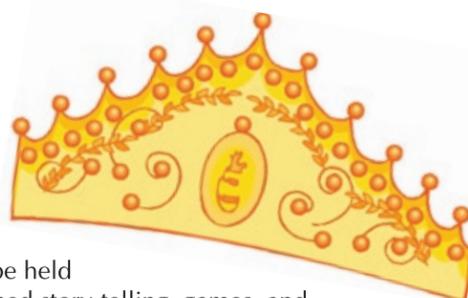
2825 Diamond Bar Blvd. • 909.839.0300

You can reach the Neighborhood Improvement Division by phone at 909.839.7030 or by email at neighborhoodimp@ci.diamond-bar.ca.us.

A Fairytale Event

Miss Diamond Bar and her court will be making their way to the Diamond Bar Library next month and want to invite all young girls, aged 10 and younger, to don their favorite princess outfit and join them for this special event.

Sponsored by Miss Diamond Bar Pageant, Inc., the event will be held Saturday, May 16 from 2 pm to 4 pm and feature princess-themed story-telling, games, and prizes. Diamond Bar Library is located at 1061 S. Grand Avenue. For more information or to sign up, call 909.861.4978. Space is limited.



Stay Connected With a Free e-Subscription

Residents interested in being informed of matters coming before the Diamond Bar City Council are encouraged to visit the City's website and sign up for an e-Subscription. The free service notifies subscribers by email when new meeting agendas are posted online.

The service may also be used to receive notifications when new City jobs become available or when the latest City News or Community Recreation Guide are released.



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 Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4178
 909.839.7000 ♦ 909.861.3117 Fax
www.cityofdiamondbar.com
info@ci.diamond-bar.ca.us

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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	909.839.7015
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	909.839.7075
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	909.860.1904
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 Hotline	909.839.7027
Graffiti Hotline	800.794.7384
Job Hotline	909.612.4636 x 1410

*For emergencies, dial 9-1-1

Elected Officials

- Mayor** Ron Everett
- Mayor Pro Tem** Carol Herrera
- Council Member** Wen Chang
- Council Member** Jack Tanaka
- Council Member** Steve Tye
- City Manager** James DeStefano

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. For more information, contact the Public Information Division at 909.839.7056.

Snapshots Around The Community

CERT Grads...

With personnel from Fire Station 121 on hand to make it official and offer congratulatory remarks, 36 residents of Diamond Bar and surrounding communities last month joined the ranks of the local Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). The new CERT members participated in an intensive three-day training that emphasized self-reliance and proper response to a crisis or disaster. Taught by firefighters, the training included classroom education in topics including disaster preparedness, fire safety/suppression, emergency medical operations, light search and rescue, and disaster psychology. It culminated with a hands-on exercise simulating a 7.0 earthquake. For more information about CERT, call 888.CERT.939 or e-mail CERT@fire.lacounty.gov.



Jogging For Fun-ds...

A second grade class from Armstrong Elementary added a touch of green to the school's annual fundraising jog-a-thon by dedicating its fun jog to an environmental cause. In the weeks leading to the jog, Ms. Muriet's 2nd grade class (pictured here sporting green shirts) learned about the origin and meaning of

the recycling symbol. On the day of the 30-minute jog, the class scrambled to complete the most laps around the one-eighth of a mile long course. In keeping with the green theme, all event participants emptied their water bottles onto the field's trees. The money raised from Ms. Muriet's class and other classes went to a fund benefiting school programs.

State of the City...

A packed house filled the Diamond Bar Center's Grandview Ballroom last month to hear the Mayor deliver the annual State of the City Address. In his speech, the Mayor cited a number of capital improvement projects that came to fruition in 2008 and provided an update on several regional transportation projects on the drawing board. The Open House that preceded the Address gave the residents and business owners in attendance the unique opportunity to learn about the makeup of City Hall and speak directly to City staff about the topics of their choice. The taped address is available for viewing every Thursday at 7 pm through the end of the month on the City's website at www.cityofdiamondbar.com and on the City's cable television channel, DBTV3.



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
- City Birthday Party - 11 am to 8 pm at Pantera Park, 738 Pantera Drive
- Easter Egg Hunt/Pancake Breakfast - Starts at 8:30 am at Pantera Park, 738 Pantera Drive
- Memorial Day - City offices closed
- Mother's Day

April 2009

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 <small>Last Day to File Taxes</small>	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

May 2009

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					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

*All meetings take place at the AQMD/Government Center, 21865 Copley Drive. Additional event and meeting details are available at www.cityofdiamondbar.com.