

City News

Published Monthly For Residents & Businesses in Diamond Bar



America Recycles Day Event

WHAT:

Free electronics recycling, paper shredding and mulch giveaway event

WHEN

Saturday, November 12 – 10 am to 2 pm

WHERE

AQMD parking lot
21865 Copley Drive in Diamond Bar

DETAILS TO NOTE:

Event is free and open to the public; however participation in paper shredding and mulch giveaway requires proof of Diamond Bar residency (photo I.D.)

Microwave ovens are subject to a \$5 disposal fee.

Paper shredding is limited to 2 boxes per household, and cardboard items are not accepted.

Mulch distribution will be handled on a first-come, first-serve basis until supplies are depleted. Residents should bring their own shovel and containers to collect their supply of mulch (up to 80 gallons per household).

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact the City's Environmental Services Division at 909.839.7035 or GreenDB@DiamondBarCA.gov.

Shop Diamond Bar First

Whether you're looking to cross off your holiday shopping list, grab a bite to eat, or simply fill up your gas tank, it pays to do so within one of the more than a dozen shopping centers and plazas along the city's major thoroughfares.

That's because when you spend within city limits, more of your money returns to our community in the form of one percent of your sales tax dollars.



Scan for shopping center locations

Collectively these pennies add up and contribute toward the betterment of our community by helping fund services that include public safety, park maintenance, and recreation.

*Shop Local
Whenever Possible –
Every Cent Counts!*



Holiday Diamond Ride

Starting Friday, November 25 through Sunday, January 2, residents 18 years of age and older can arrange for free cab rides from their home to a Diamond Bar shopping center and back home, as part of the City's annual Holiday Diamond Ride program.



The program, financed through the City's Proposition A Transit Tax Fund, is aimed at making shopping a little easier for residents while supporting local businesses and boosting sales tax revenues.

Proof of Diamond Bar residency (driver license or utility bill) will be required to book a trip. For more information or to set up a ride, call 800.578.6555.



Diamond Bar Center will be your shopping destination for locally handmade items when the Ballroom is again transformed into the City's popular Candy Cane Craft Fair on Saturday, December 3 from 9 am to 2 pm.

Well-timed for the gift-giving season, the craft fair will

showcase the wares of over 40 local craft artisans, including jewelry, art, accessories, and home goods. Keepsake photo packages with Santa for a nominal fee and free supervised holiday-themed crafts and activities to entertain little ones will also be available.

Admission and parking to the event is free; Diamond Bar Center is located at 1600 Grand Avenue. For more information, contact the City's Recreation Services Division at 909.839.7070.

USPS Survey Hits Homes

United States Postal Service has mailed out the survey that it will use to determine whether Diamond Bar addresses remain split between two postal code boundaries or unified under the "91765 ZIP Code" boundary.

The survey was mailed only to the approximately 3,000 Diamond Bar residents and businesses whose addresses fall within the "Walnut 91789 ZIP Code" area. In order for the unique Diamond Bar 91765 ZIP Code to take effect citywide, the USPS must receive a majority of replies in support of the change.

To have their vote counted, survey recipients must complete and return their survey (in the postage paid envelope provided) to USPS before Wednesday, November 30.

Learn more about this ZIP Code consolidation effort by visiting www.DiamondBarCA.gov/ZipCode or contacting the City's Public Information Division at 909.839.7055.

Drainage System Maintenance

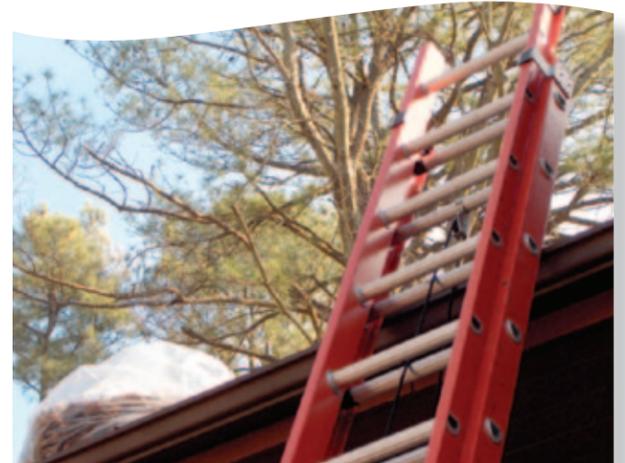
Homeowners, particularly those living on hillside areas, are reminded to survey their properties and address any drainage issues in preparation for potential heavy rain and flooding this winter season.

Drainage systems on private property are the responsibility of the property owner, and at minimum require that slopes drain properly, gutters and downspouts are clear of debris, and landscaping on or near drains along retaining walls is well-maintained.

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, it is important to ensure that efforts to protect one's property do not result in diverting water onto a neighbor's property where it could cause damage.

More information, including additional warning signs of a possible slope failure, is available at www.DiamondBarCA.Gov/SlopeMaintenance.



Recreation, Community, and Park Improvements

Washington Park

Residents living on or near Washington Street and Lincoln Avenue can look forward to a new mini park as soon as early summer of 2012. Work starts this month to convert a 15,000 square-foot vacant parcel of land into a lighted park featuring a tot lot with rubberized surfacing, picnic tables and benches, decomposed granite walkways, small turf area, and rock seat walls featuring tiles decorated by the park's neighborhood children.

Improvements to Silver Tip Park

A series of improvements aimed at improving accessibility at Silver Tip Park are now underway. These improvements include retrofitting existing walkways and creating a new path to current ADA standards, installing rubberized surface paths within play areas, and establishing two accessible playgrounds - one geared for 2- to 5-year-olds and another for 5- to 12-year-olds.

Also as part of this project, measures will be installed to improve drainage throughout the park site. Funding for this project comes from several sources, including the City's Community Development Block Grant program and Park Development allocation, as well as Quimby, and Proposition A "Safe Parks Act" funds. Completion of this project is anticipated early spring 2012.

Trail Improvements Enter Final Phase

The final phase of a multi-phased effort to improve the Sycamore Canyon Park trail is moving from plan to reality.

Work is now in progress to create a timber-step path to link the trail to a plateau behind the homes on Rio Lobos, where a riparian habitat will be restored using native shrub and tree species, and a "par course" with various exercise stations will be built.

Further contributing to a positive trail visiting experience, this project will also include the installation of additional benches and interpretive exhibits detailing the area's flora and fauna and points of interest along the trail.

Work is anticipated to be completed early February 2012.

To follow the progress of any of these projects, use your smartphone to scan this QR Code or visit www.DiamondBarCA.gov/ParkConstructionProjects.



Happy Retirement, Lorry!

More than 200 members of Diamond Bar's four senior clubs recently came together to give thanks and bid farewell to former City employee, Lorry Meyer.

Lorry retired last month following 9 years of service during which she was tasked with overseeing services and programs for the city's age 55-and-older population.

Organized by the Diamond Bar Seniors Club, the October 4 retirement reception featured presentations by the senior club presidents and members of the Diamond Bar City Council. Additional guests in attendance included a handful of Lorry's family members and friends.

Under Lorry's tenure, the City's inventory of programs available to seniors grew considerably and now includes free financial, legal, and health seminars, weekly drop-in board games, one-day trips and extended excursions, themed dinner dances, and an array of enrichment classes through a partnership with Mt. San Antonio College.



Patsy Wilson (r), President of the Diamond Bar Senior Club, set the tone for the retirement reception with moving remarks about Lorry Meyer's positive contributions toward the smooth operation of senior activities.

Signalized Intersection Now Operational



The new traffic signals at Brea Canyon Cutoff Road, where the southbound State Route 57 on- and off-ramps are located, went live last month. The new traffic signals, to be operated and maintained by Caltrans, created a fully signalized four-way stop intersection to improve the flow of vehicular traffic through the area. Funded by Traffic Mitigation Fees, the project also created new traffic signing, pavement markings, and curb ramps reconstructed to ADA safety standards.

Office Building Nearing Completion

A new professional office building being built in the Diamond Hills Plaza is nearing completion, with several tenants lined up and ready to move in.

When completed in early January 2012, the three-story, 36,142 square-foot building will comprise 30 unit office spaces ranging in size from 375 to 2,407 square feet.

At publishing time, only 15 percent of office space remained available. Secured tenants to date include a medical group which will take residence on the first floor, as well as two dentist offices, a trading company, a CPA practice, and a structural engineering firm.

Diamond Hills Plaza is located on Diamond Bar Boulevard, between Cold Spring Lane and Fountain Springs Road. Pricing and availability inquiries may be directed to Peichin Lee with CGM Development at 626.354.8843.



November City Office Closures

Here's a reminder that City offices will be closed Friday, November 11 in observance of Veterans' Day and Thursday and Friday, November 24-25 in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday. Note that if your refuse collection or street sweeping day falls on or after November 24, your services will be delayed by one day.

Change the Time, Change the Batteries



When setting your clocks to fall back to standard time again on Sunday, November 6, it is also a good idea to inspect and if necessary replace the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, in 2003-2006, smoke alarms were present in only two-thirds of all reported home fires and operated in just under half of the reported home fires.

Working smoke alarms continuously scan the air for smoke; however they wear out over time. Replacement of smoke alarms older than 10 years old is strongly recommended.

Holiday Decorating Contest 2011

Get Your Tinsel, Ornaments and Lights Ready!



The City's annual Home Holiday Decorating Contest is now open for entries.

Outdoor decorations must fall within the category of "Best Holiday Spirit," "Best Lawn Display," or "Most Energy Efficient," and use at least one strand of LED lights, regardless of the category entered.

Now in its third year, the contest aims to recognize Diamond Bar residents for contributing to the community's festive atmosphere through outdoor holiday trimmings, while incorporating energy-efficient technologies.

Paper entry forms are available for pickup at City Hall (21825 Copley

Drive) and the Diamond Bar Center (1600 Grand Avenue). Online registration is available at www.DiamondBarCA.gov/HolidayDecoratingContest.

Deadline for entries is 4:30pm on Friday, December 9. Lights and decorations should be visible when judging takes place on Wednesday, December 14 from 7 pm to 10 pm.

Winners in each category will be acknowledged with 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, contact the City's Environmental Services Division at 909.839.7035 or GreenDB@DiamondBarCA.gov.

Register
Online!



Holiday Gala Fundraiser

Help Support Art, Culture and Recreation Programs

The Diamond Bar Community Foundation is hosting its 8th annual Holiday Gala fundraiser on Saturday, November 12 at the Diamond Bar Center. Attire is semi-formal; and ticket prices are \$100 per individual, \$175 per couple, or \$1,000 for a table of 10.

New this year, nonprofit organizations can secure a table at the event at a 50-percent 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.

Story courtesy of the Walnut Valley Unified School District

Walnut Valley Unified Tops 900 API

Walnut Valley Unified School District has topped the 900 mark – scoring 903 on the 2011 California Academic Performance Index (API).

The Board of Trustees recognized all 15 District schools during an October 3 meeting attended by students, parents, teachers, staff, and administrators. Leaders of our teachers, classified, and parent associations were included in the recognition. Board President Cindy Ruiz congratulated everyone in the audience including members of the community for their continued support. Despite our continued State financial challenges, we wanted to pause and celebrate tonight, because you continue to do great things for kids, she said. "We appreciate everything you do for our school district every day. This really is a time to celebrate you and our district's successes. We've all heard the saying 'it takes a village' - YOU are our village," she said.

API measures yearly academic performance and growth of districts and schools on a variety of performance measures. They are given a score on a point scale that ranges from 200-1,000. A district or school reaching 800 is an excellent score.

Only seven unified school districts countywide and 17 unified school districts in the state have an API of 900 or above. There are 1,050 school districts in California, of which 330 are unified (K-12).



Castle Rock Elementary Principal Carol Sullivan with Nora Johnston, 3rd grade teacher; Helen Pan, 4th grade; Catherine Zhang, 3rd grade; Patrick Zhang, 4th grade, Tori Kwon, 4th grade; and Odile Dawid, parent. Additional event photos available at www.wvusd.k12.ca.us

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).

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), don't guarantee a water tight seal, and deteriorate when exposed for several months to continued wetting and drying.



To form an effective sandbag wall:

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

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.

Diamond Bar Through MyLens Photo Contest

open to Diamond Bar residents of all ages

Residents Choice Award...five entries are vying for your online vote. The entry with the most online votes takes the award as well as a \$100 check, courtesy of the Diamond Bar Community Foundation. Take a moment to visit

www.DiamondBarCA.gov/photocontest

between 8am on 10/31 and 10pm on 11/6 to view the entries and vote. For more information, contact the City's Public Information Division at 909.839.7059.

Past photo
contestant entries



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 | 909.839.7015 |
| 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 | 909.869.0701 |
| 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 Hotline | 909.839.7027 |
| Graffiti Hotline | 800.794.7384 |
| *For emergencies, dial 9-1-1 | |



City of Diamond Bar
21825 Copley Drive ♦ Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4178
909.839.7000 ♦ 909.861.3117 Fax
www.DiamondBarCA.gov ♦ info@DiamondBarCA.gov

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Mayor..... Steve Tye
Mayor Pro Tem..... Ling-Ling Chang
Council Member..... Ron Everett
Council Member..... Carol Herrera
Council Member..... Jack Tanaka
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

TOMORROW'S WORKFORCE... The more than 7,000 combined hours clocked by the latest batch of summer youth volunteers were recognized with special Certificates of Appreciation from the City's Parks and Recreation Commission during its regular meeting of September 22. The 61 teens ages 13 to 15 participated in the City's Youth Volunteer Program, this past summer, contributing a minimum of 5 work hours a week to assist in the areas of Summer Day Camp, Youth Sports, Tiny Tots, Concerts in the Park, and senior services. Applications for next year's Volunteer Program will be available the end of February 2012. For more information about the program, visit www.DiamondBarCA.gov/Volunteers.



NEIGHBORS UNITED... In a show of solidarity, more than two dozen residents from the Silver Rain Drive and Meadow Glen Road area last month participated in a Neighborhood Watch discussion hosted by Deputy Mark St. Amant from the Diamond Bar/Walnut Sheriff's Station. During the two-hour meeting, attendees were alerted of the latest crime trends and got tips on how to better secure their homes, all while getting to know each other better. To date, there are more than 75 Neighborhood Watch groups

now operating in several Diamond Bar neighborhoods. To find out if there is a group established in your area or for assistance in starting up a new group, call 909.839.7077.

PIGGYBACKING PROJECTS... By retrofitting conventional incandescent traffic lights to light emitting diode (LED) in tandem with last month's planned installation of battery backup systems at several major intersections, the City was able to minimize traffic light downtime. To minimize impact on motorists, the City handles conversions of traffic lights over to LED bulbs when replacing burned out incandescent bulbs.



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 2011

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|----|----|---|----------------------------------|--|--|--|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 Election Day www.lavote.net | 9 Veterans Recognition Ceremony | 10 | 11 Veterans Day Holiday - City offices closed | 12 America Recycles Day Event <i>Details on page 1</i> |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 Thanksgiving Holiday - City offices closed | 25 Thanksgiving Holiday - City offices closed | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | |

December 2011

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|----|--|----|----|----|--|--|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 Candy Cane Craft Fair <i>Details on page 1</i> |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 Christmas Holiday City Offices Closed | 24 |
| 25 | 26 Christmas Holiday City Offices Closed | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |



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