

City News

Published Monthly For Residents & Businesses in Diamond Bar

WINTER Snow Fest

Combine hours of holiday entertainment with dozens of children's crafts and games...then throw in 90 tons of snow for playing and sledding, and you get the City's annual Winter Snow Fest!

This year, the popular family-friendly event takes place on Saturday, January 19 at Pantera Park, 738 Pantera Drive.

From 10:00 am until 4:00 pm, park grounds will feature one stage with nonstop entertainment by local performers, two snow play areas, four snow-covered sledding hills, and several activity and game sections.

Also, food and refreshments will be available for purchase with proceeds benefiting local nonprofits, and Flurry the Sledding Penguin will be available for photo opportunities.

Event admission and access to the snow play areas is free, however sledding is subject to a \$5 fee for unlimited rides and punch cards to participate in four games or crafts cost \$1.

Parents are encouraged to dress their children in closed-toed shoes and gloves. No outside sleds will be allowed.

Free shuttle service to and from Pantera Park and the surrounding neighborhood will be available regularly throughout event hours. For more information, visit www.diamondbarca.gov/wsf or call 909.839.7070.



Free Street Sweeping Magnet

The 2013 edition of the City's popular street sweeping schedule is now available for pickup at various City locations, including City Hall (21810 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar Library (21800 Copley Drive), and the Diamond Bar Center (1600 Grand Avenue).

As a reminder, the winter season's weekly sweeping schedule will continue through the end of January before returning to the regular twice-a-month frequency. For more street-sweeping related information, visit www.diamondbarca.gov/streetsweeping.

Keep it within easy view - stick to your refrigerator, file cabinet or any other iron-surface product!



Let's Recognize Our Volunteers!

Do you know someone – a relative, neighbor, classmate, or business owner – whom you feel should be recognized for his or her contributions to making our community a better place?

Here's a great way to say "thank you!" – It's free, easy to do, and only comes around once a year ...the City's annual Outstanding Volunteer Award Program. The nomination process takes only a moment and can be done online www.diamondbarca.gov/ovan. All you need is to provide contact information for you and your nominee, and write a brief summary highlighting how your nominee improves the lives of others in our community.

The City established the Outstanding Volunteer Award Program as a means to recognize individuals of all ages who are committed to serving the Diamond Bar community through volunteerism.

Nominees are selected in each of the following categories: adult (18 years and older) and youth (17 years or younger). Awards are presented in April during the City's Annual Birthday Party, this year set for Saturday, April 13.

The nomination period closes on Friday, March 2. For more information, contact the City's Community Services Department at 909.839.7060.



Helipad Improvement Nearing Completion

Efforts by the Los Angeles County Fire Department to improve its Diamond Bar helicopter landing site (helipad) are currently underway and anticipated to be completed by early next month.

Located adjacent to the East Gate Drive Reservoir on a hilltop in the vicinity of Pantera Park, this helipad consists of two square concrete helicopter landing pads. It was first built in 2006, and has since been maintained on an annual basis and as needed.



The enhancements made as part of this latest maintenance efforts included the re-grading and compaction of the site, the repair of eroded areas, the improvement of drainage channels, and the installation of native plantings for slope stabilization.

The helipad, like others constructed and maintained by the L.A. Fire Department, is used strictly for emergency purposes. It plays an important role in local and regional wildland fire detection and suppression operations by providing a safe landing site for aircrafts' fuel and water tanks to be refilled.

Additional L.A. County Fire Department helipads in the greater Diamond Bar area are located in Rowland Heights, City of Industry, San Dimas, and Pomona.

Helipad Project Featured in "In a DB Minute"

How many gallons can the Fire Department's firefighting aircraft carry? How much time does it take to refill a typical water-dropping aircraft? While improvements were being made to the Diamond Bar helipad, which location in town served as a temporary "helistop"?

Got a couple minutes? Watch the City's latest edition of "In a DB Minute" to get the answers to these questions as well as more details about the improvements made to the Diamond Bar helipad.

"In a DB Minute" is available on the City website www.diamondbarca.gov/videos and the City's YouTube page www.youtube.com/DiamondBarCA.

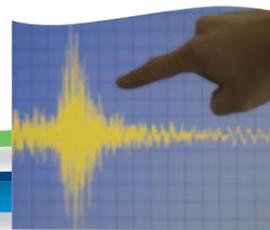
Sign up to be notified via email when new In a DB Minute videos are posted by visiting www.diamondbarca.gov/esubscriptions.



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Diamond Bar
Through My Lens
Photo Contest

open to Diamond Bar residents of all ages

Stay Tuned for Photo Contest Winners ...

Pictorial answers to the question posed by the City's annual photo contest "What do you see through your lens?" ran the gamut from playful pets to serene nature scenes.



Several dozen residents participated in the City's fifth contest resulting in the submission of more than 130 entries in the categories of People, Pets, Places, and Nature.



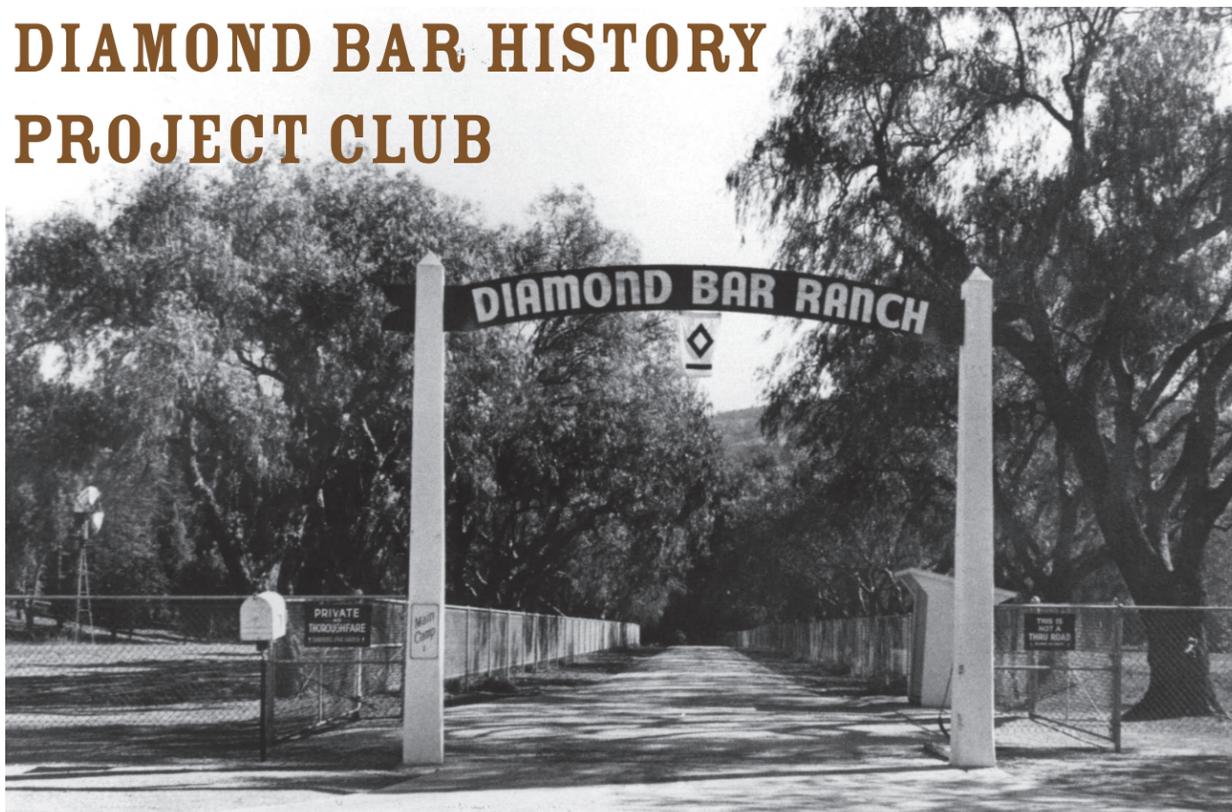
Entries will be judged the first week in January 2013, with the winners announced shortly thereafter. Congratulatory certificates and cash prizes, courtesy of the Diamond Bar Community Foundation (DBCF), will be presented to contest winners at the January 15 City Council Meeting.

Co-sponsored by the DBCF, the "Diamond Bar Through My Lens" photo contest is open to all ages and aims to showcase the photography talents of Diamond Bar residents while raising community pride.

For more information about the contest, visit www.diamondbarca.gov/photocontest or call the City's Public Information Division at 909.839.7055.



DIAMOND BAR HISTORY PROJECT CLUB



For the past couple years, the City has been actively seeking the donation or loan of memorabilia reminiscent of Diamond Bar's early days.

The search has turned up a considerable quantity of documents dating back to the 1950s, photographs, newspaper clippings, and even artifacts that include a cattle branding iron. These items, along with others donated by the Diamond Bar Historical Society, are temporarily being stored at Diamond Bar City Hall.

A dedicated group of volunteers with an interest in helping preserve the history of Diamond Bar came together this past fall and has since met twice a month to help brainstorm ideas on how to best organize the available items and identify information gaps.

The group is 24 members strong, but needs more individuals to join in its efforts. Meetings are held the first and third Monday of the month from 9 am until 11:30 am at City Hall, 21810 Copley Drive. For more information, call the City's Public Information Division at 909.839.7055.

Donating to the DB History Project

Next time you are cleaning out your garage or storage unit, keep Diamond Bar in mind.

Before you label an item "junk" and throw it out, take a closer look to see it may have significance to

the history of Diamond Bar. Perhaps there are family photos, student school projects, yearbooks, postcards, or advertising material you no longer need or have use for.

Unsure if your items qualify as a "historical treasure"? Call the City's Public Information Division at 909.839.7055.

Videotaping your Story

Don't have time to spare or items to donate? Then share your story!

Also as part of its effort to preserve the history of Diamond Bar, the City is looking for current or past residents to video document their story.

Videotaping may take place at the Diamond Bar Center (1600 Grand Avenue), City Hall (21810 Copley Drive), or we will gladly make arrangements to come to you.

For more information or to schedule your video appointment, call the City's Public Information Division at 909.839.7055.



Holiday Home Decorating Contest Results

Congratulations to the winners and thank you to everyone who participated!

This past holiday season, more than a dozen residents answered the call to dress up their homes in their festive finest and participate in the City's Annual Holiday Home Decorating Contest!

Participating homes were judged on the evening of Wednesday, December 12, based on display creativity, curb appeal, and use of lighting.

Now in its fourth year, the City's Holiday Home Decorating Contest is aimed at recognizing Diamond Bar residents who enhance the spirit of the season in the community while making an effort to incorporate energy-efficient practices into their outdoor holiday trimmings by using at least one strand of LED lights.



Best Holiday Spirit
450 N. Prospectors



Most Energy Efficient
1380 Rolling Knoll



Best Neighborhood Display: Farel Avenue (1020, 1040, and 1041)

Be Prepared!

Free CERT Training

If disaster preparedness is on your list of New Year's resolutions, here's a good starting point – the Los Angeles County Fire Department's Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) program. Developed through FEMA, CERT is a free 21-hour training course in basic safety and life saving skills taught by firefighters and trained emergency volunteers. Individuals must be at least 18 years of age to participate.

This course is taught in three class sessions that cover disaster preparedness, fire safety, emergency medical operations, light search and rescue operations, disaster psychology, terrorism, and fire extinguisher training. The program concludes with a course review, a disaster simulation exercise, and graduation of participants who attended all three sessions.

The next CERT course training will be offered on Saturdays, January 19, January 26, and February 2 from 8:00 am until 4:00 pm at the Los Angeles County Fire Department - East County Regional Training Center, located at 3325 Temple Avenue in Pomona.

For more information or to register for the course, call 909.469.2659. Reservations may also be processed online at www.fire.lacounty.gov/cert.

Disaster Preparedness For Seniors

The City will offer a free disaster and emergency preparedness seminar for adults age 55 and older on Thursday, February 28 from noon to 1:30 pm at the Diamond Bar Center.

Co-sponsored by Foothill Communities RSVP, this seminar aims to teach older adults how to increase their self-sufficiency and what steps they can take ahead of time to prevent or minimize injuries during a disaster. Participants will also learn which items are necessities for a well-stocked emergency kit, and at least one attendee will take home a complimentary kit. Light refreshments will be served.

The seminar is free and open to all adults age 55 and older, but advanced registration is required. To reserve a spot, call 909.839.7070.

Need Sandbags?

Free sand and sandbags continue to be available at all Los Angeles County fire stations. There is a 25-bag limit per household; and a shovel is recommended to bag sand since sites are self-service.

Here in Diamond Bar, both fire station 119 (20480 Pathfinder Road) and fire station 121 (346 Armitos Road) are stocked with sand and sandbags.

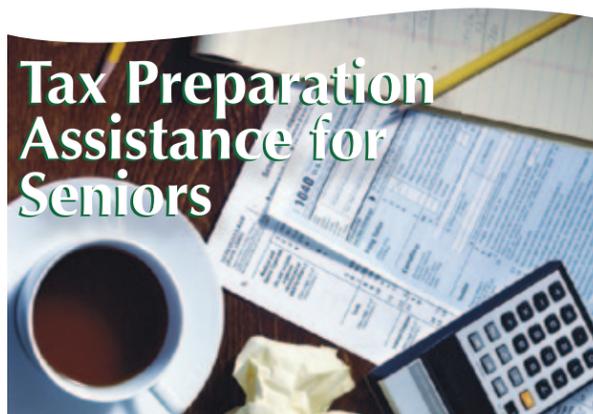
Tips on Proper Sandbag Use

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.

For more information to confirm availability of supplies before visiting, call Fire Station 119 at 909.598.4290 or Fire Station 121 at 909.396.0164.



Tax Preparation Assistance for Seniors

Thanks to a special partnership with the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), the City will again be assisting Diamond Bar taxpayers age 55 and older prepare and file their income tax returns.

Assistance will be available Wednesday mornings February 6 through April 6, 2013 at the Diamond Bar Center. Appointments are required, and filers should bring with them copies of their previous year's tax returns, and all other documents reflecting income and expenses for 2012.

The Diamond Bar Center is located at 1600 Grand Avenue. For more information or to make an appointment, call the City's Recreation Services Division at 909.839.7070.

School Happenings

Story contribution by the Walnut Valley Unified School District

Evergreen Elementary Student Council spearheaded a campaign to help Hurricane Sandy victims. They arrived early, made posters, and manned a collection table before school for donations for a few weeks. They enthusiastically greeted students and parents in the mornings and with their passion, they raised \$620 for the American Red Cross. Student Council Advisors Lily Chang and Shelby Coomber, two fourth grade teachers assisted students in the drive.



"This is just one more example of the caring, compassionate and proactive students and staff at Evergreen," Evergreen Elementary School Principal Carolyn Wills said.

Free Holiday Tree Collection

Here's a reminder that both Waste Management and Valley Vista Services are offering its residential customers free pickup of live holiday trees through Friday, January 11.

To prepare your tree for pickup, remove the stand and all decorations including tinsel, lights, and ornaments. Then, simply place it curbside or by your dumpster on the morning of your regularly scheduled collection day.

After Friday, January 11, customers who wish to get rid of their tree through their waste hauler may use the free "bulky item" collection service.

For more information, call Waste Management at 800.266.7551 or Valley Vista Services at 800.442.6454.

For Your Safety... Home Heating Safety

TIP – When it comes to heating your home, never use gas or electric ovens. If you are using a portable heater, keep combustible materials such as paper, clothing, or furniture at least three feet away, and remember to turn it off before going to bed or leaving the room. Smoke alarms should be installed in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area, and on every level of the home. Be sure to test your alarms at least once a month.

Diamond Bar/Walnut Sheriff's Station 909.595.2264
LA County Sheriff's Department 909.595.2264
LA County Fire Department 909.629.9671
(dial 911 for all EMERGENCIES)

Free HHW/E-Waste Collection

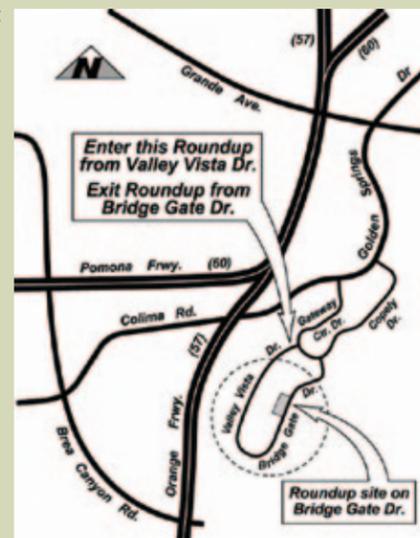
If you have hazardous or electronic waste you need to dispose, next month you will have your chance to get rid of it safely, legally, and at no cost.

Los Angeles County's mobile Household Hazardous Waste and Electronic Waste (HHW/E-Waste) Collection event is coming to Diamond Bar on Saturday, February 16, 2013. The collection will be stationed within the Gateway Corporate Center 1300 block of Bridge Gate Drive from 9 am until 3 pm.

To participate, simply load your items (if liquid, in original or non-leaking sealed containers) into your trunk. Once at the collection site, you will be directed to a drop-off location where event staff will retrieve your items from your car, without you having to get out.

As a reminder, there is a limit of 15 gallons or 125 pounds of hazardous waste per trip and white goods (refrigerators, stoves and washing machines), tires, ammunition, explosives, and radioactive materials are not accepted.

For more information or a complete list of what you can and cannot bring, call 1.800.238.0173. For details about the event, call the City's Administration Department at 909.839.7013.



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



City of Diamond Bar
21810 Copley Drive ♦ Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4178
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www.DiamondBarCA.gov ♦ info@DiamondBarCA.gov

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Mayor Pro Tem..... Ron Everett
Council Member..... Ling-Ling Chang
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

CRAFTS GALORE... If an original handmade craft made it into your stocking or under your tree this past holiday, chances are it came from the City's annual Candy Cane Craft Fair. The popular event, held on Saturday, December 1 at the Diamond Bar Center, hosted 74 local crafters selling everything from one-of-a-kind jewelry to home décor, and children's clothing. While adults browsed and shopped, children were entertained by "Santa's elves" with holiday-themed crafts that included holiday ornaments, marshmallow snowmen, and greeting cards. Additional event photos are available at www.diamondbarca.gov/photogallery.



HOT DOG!... Bark Park @ Pantera Park proved to be 'pawsitively' a hit with the more than 200 dogs who attended the grand opening festivities on Saturday, November 17, 2012. Following brief remarks by the Diamond Bar mayor and a snip of ceremonial 'leash,' the eager four-legged guests were allowed to romp leash free in one of the two enclosed areas designated by weight. In addition to the fenced areas covered with six-inches of wood fiber similar to the material used for playgrounds, Bark Park also features an ADA accessible drinking fountain with pet bowl, doggie walk waste bags, trash receptacles, and park benches. Access to the dog park is available near the Pantera Park basketball courts. For more information about the dog park, visit www.diamondbarca.gov/barkpark.

VETERANS REVERED... In keeping with its annual tradition of honoring and remembering Diamond Bar veterans for their service and sacrifice, the City held its annual Veterans Recognition Ceremony on Thursday, November 8 at the Diamond Bar Center. The patriotic ceremony featured a live performance by the award-winning South Pointe Middle School Band, a presentation of awards to 10 veterans who had not previously been recognized by the Diamond Bar City council, as well as a brief video highlighting a few community veterans and their experiences of serving in the United States Armed Forces. Additional event photos are available online www.diamondbarca.gov/photogallery.



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 is taking place somewhere within the city; see neighborhood signage for your street's designated day and time.

January 2013

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1 New Year's Day City Offices Closed CC Meeting Canceled	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19 Winter Snow Fest (see page 1 for details)
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

February 2013

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 President's Day City Offices Closed	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

*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