

City News

Published Monthly For Residents & Businesses in Diamond Bar

New Program Reward\$ Crime Tips

The City has added a new tool to its arsenal of measures aimed at combating property crimes in town – a reward program.

Report for Reward, as the program is known, was unanimously approved by the City Council last month, and goes into effect November 15, 2013.

It provides rewards of up to \$500 to individuals who provide information leading to the arrest of a person damaging property as a result of a residential or vehicular burglary in Diamond Bar.

Assistant City Manager David Doyle said the Report for Reward program lends reinforcement to the cooperative effort by City staff, Sheriff deputies, and community members to deter criminals from coming into the city to take what doesn't belong to them.

"The intent of this new program is to encourage everyone – whether they live here, work here, or are just visiting – to lend their eyes and instinct to our shared goal of keeping burglars out of our city," Doyle said.

"Our hope is that the financial incentive gives individuals that extra push to be actively vigilant of their surroundings and immediately report suspicious activities to the Sheriff's station," he added.

The Report for Reward program works this way:

- 1 Somebody comes upon a burglary in progress or suspicious activities or behavior, and calls the Diamond Bar-Sheriff's Station at 909.595.2264 (9-1-1 if it is in progress) with as much information as possible, such as the location of the incident, the description of the suspect or suspects, and vehicle license plate.
- 2 If the information provided leads to the identification and arrest of an individual who damaged someone's property as a result of a residential or vehicular burglary incident committed within city limits, the Sheriff's Detective Division will recommend the informer for a reward.
- 3 A reward committee consisting of the City Manager or designee and a sworn member of the Sheriff's Department will then review the recommendation and, if deemed qualifying, issue the reward to the informer.

For more information or tips on how to watch out and identify suspicious activity, visit diamondbarca.gov/RFR.

City Website Input Wanted

An update to the City website is in the works, and we would like your feedback to ensure the best user experience.

The website diamondbarca.gov, which has been in existence since 1996, went from a few static pages to an interactive, transactional site in 2003 to allow for online recreation class registration and the processing of requests for service.

In 2008, the site was modernized and expanded to include such elements as an "I Want To" tab containing quick links to information about often-requested City services and programs; an "In the Spotlight" section highlighting the latest topics of interest, such as upcoming special events and roadwork projects.

This coming year – in addition to a fresh look – the upgrades will result in improved search and navigation functionalities, opportunities for engagement through social media, and online directories of local businesses and community organizations.



To contribute your feedback, please visit diamondbarca.gov/survey to complete a brief survey. If you prefer, you may call us with your suggestions at 909.839.7055 or by email at info@diamondbarca.gov.



25th Anniversary Ambassadors Program

The countdown is officially on ... in just a few months, Diamond Bar will be celebrating 25 years of cityhood.

The plan is to dress up Diamond Bar in its birthday best from city limit and city limit, and to have year-round events and festivities that in one way or another celebrate our city's past, present, and future.

And so we are enlisting the help of the entire community – particularly if you own a business or serve on a community organization – and inviting you to become part of the City's 25th Anniversary Ambassador Program.

As an ambassador, you are allowed use of the City's commemorative 25th anniversary logo to brand your special events, and provided with posters and window stickers to decorate your storefront. In exchange, we will publicize anniversary-branded events or efforts via various City communication mediums and furnish 25th anniversary-themed giveaways for qualifying events.

Anyone interested in becoming an ambassador is encouraged to attend an informational meeting on Thursday, December 12, 2013 at 7 pm at Diamond Bar City Hall, 21800 Copley Drive.

For more information, contact the Public Information Division at info@diamondbarca.gov or 909.839.7055.

Holiday Decorating Contest

It's time again to break out your stash of decorations, and deck out your home for the holidays! The City is now accepting entries from residents wishing to participate in its annual Holiday Home Decorating Contest.

This year's contest categories are Best Holiday Spirit (festive lights and decorations), Best Use of Theme (specific theme throughout the entire display), and Most Innovative (incorporation of new technologies, and/or original methods or styles).

Winners in each category receive a special recognition yard sign, a mention in the City newsletter and website, and certificate of recognition from the Diamond Bar City Council.

Deadline for entries is 4:30 pm on Friday, December 13; judging takes place on Wednesday, December 18 between 7 pm and 10 pm.

For more information or to obtain an entry form, visit diamondbarca.gov/holiday, call 909.839.7070, or email atarazon@diamondbarca.gov.



Discover your creative side, register for an oil painting class.
PAGE 2



Sandbags are FREE at local Fire Stations
PAGE 2



Support your community by shopping locally.
PAGE 3

School

Happenings

Story contribution by the
Pomona Unified School District

Fields Renovated, Teacher Recognized, and Reading Program Planned

Renovations to the track and football fields at Diamond Ranch, Garey and Pomona High School have been finished just in time for football season. The new fields were dedicated at the schools' first home games of the year. The renovations are possible thanks to funding provided by the voter-approved Measure PS.

The Board of Education recognized Betty Cavanaugh as Teacher of the Year, as chosen by the Association of Pomona Teachers. Ms. Cavanaugh has been a visual arts teacher at PUSD for 36 years. In that time, her students have won 137 national and international awards. She currently teaches Project Lead the Way classes at Palomares Academy and part-time in the GATE department at UC Riverside's Extension Center.

Pomona Unified will be participating in Together We Read, a local area reading initiative. The program promotes literacy and the reading of classic literature among area youths and adults. This year's selected work is Jeanne Houston and James D. Houston's Farewell to Manzanar.

Story contribution by the
Walnut Valley Unified School District

Tickets Available for DBHS Drama

The Diamond Bar High School Drama Department proudly presents *The Man Who Came To Dinner* by Moss Hart & George Kaufman.

Drama teacher Beatrice Casagran directs the 28-member cast. This comedy in three acts debuted in 1939 at the Music Box Theatre in New York City and in movie theaters in 1941. The song "What Am I To Do" was written by Cole Porter specifically for the show. *The Man Who Came To Dinner* features eccentric radio celebrity Sheridan Whiteside who is forced to stay with a prominent Midwestern family during the winter. During his stay he manages to thoroughly disrupt their well-ordered lives. The hilarious characters and situations are sure to tickle your funny bone while you fall in love with all the eccentricities!

Shows are November 7, 9, 15 and 16 at 7 p.m. Admission is \$10 for students and \$12 for adults. The Diamond Bar High Theatre is located at 21400 Pathfinder Road in Diamond Bar.

Tickets for the show may be purchased online at seatyourself.biz/dbhsdrama or at the door.

Live Homework Help

Students struggling with school work or adults seeking guidance with re-entering the job market will be glad to know that free help is available online, thanks to the County of Los Angeles Library.

The one-to-one online tutoring service known as Live Homework Help provides homework or subject-specific assistance to K-12 grade school-age students in the areas of English, science, math, and social studies. It also offers help to individuals taking introductory college courses, pursuing a GED, searching for a job, or preparing for the naturalization test.

Live Homework Help tutors are certified teachers, university professors, graduate school students, college students, and professionals who are experts in their fields. Help is available every day in 20-minute blocks in both English and Spanish from 3 pm to 10 pm and in Vietnamese from 4 pm to 7 pm; a County library card is required.

For more information or to access Live Homework Help, visit www.colapublib.org.

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.



Gas Log Set Discount for a Healthy Hearth

If your home has a wood-burning fireplace – and you've been contemplating the idea of switching to a clean-burning gas log set – here's incentive to do so now:

As part of its Healthy Hearths initiative, the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) is offering residents up to a \$125 discount from the price of purchasing and installing gas log sets to replace existing wood-burning fireplaces, as well as up to \$75

worth of hearth product accessories.

This initiative also includes the Check Before You Burn program that curtails wood burning from November through February every year on days when unhealthy air quality levels are forecast.

For more information and to obtain a list of retailers who offer this discount, visit healthyhearths.org and click on "Gas Log Incentives."



Original artwork by Timothy Robert Smith. Mr. Smith has a M.F.A. in Studio Art, and his art has been exhibited at Copro Gallery in Bergamot Station.

part of the city's winter recreation class offerings.

The 10-week class will meet January 4 through March 8, 2014 on Saturday mornings from 8:30 am to 11:30 am in the Heritage Park Community Center, 2900 Brea Canyon Road.

Students will learn color tones, shading, perspective, and composition to create realistic looking oil paintings that capture the essence of the still lifes and photographs used as references.

The registration fee of \$227 does not include materials; a list of needed supplies will be provided during the first class meeting. For more information or to register, call the City's Recreation Services Division at 909.839.7070.

Oil Painting Class

If learning to paint like a professional artist is on your wish list, then you're in luck! Los Angeles-based oil painter and muralist Timothy Robert Smith is set to teach an oil painting class for art-enthusiasts ages 12 and older as

Free Sandbags

The rainy season is here, and once again sand and sandbags are available, free of charge, at most County of Los Angeles fire stations.

Here in Diamond Bar, these stations include 119 (20480 Pathfinder Road) and 121 (346 Armitos Road). Residents need to bring shovels and bag their own sand; there is a 25-sandbag limit per household. Should firefighters be out on a service call when you visit, wait for personnel to return or go to the next nearest fire station. Sand and sandbags are also sold at most home improvement stores.

For more information, call the City's Public Works Department at 909.839.7040.



New Office Building

A new two-story professional office building is starting to take shape on the northeast corner of Brea Canyon Road and Washington Street. Known as the Brea Canyon Business Center, the building is 21,794 square feet in size and comprises 11 office condominiums.

Units are available for individual purchase, and each come equipped with an air conditioning unit, electrical sub-panel, vertical window blinds and pre-wired alarm system.

Construction completion is not anticipated until April 2014; however 40 percent of the units have already been sold. Additional information, including the building floor plan, unit size, and purchase cost is available online at cgmddev.com or by calling 626.913.8939 ext. 204.



The former Shell gas station property on the northeast corner of Diamond Bar Boulevard and Palomino Drive has gone from blight to bright following a two-year effort by the City to restore it to a productive state. This effort resulted in a court order to place the property under receivership in February and later in August to initiate construction to facilitate improvements to the exterior of the building.

Last month's completion of these improvements to the property's façade, hardscape, landscape, and drainage system means the court-appointed receiver can now focus his efforts on securing a buyer for the property. At the time of publishing, a buyer had not yet been identified; however the receiver reported receiving several inquiries into the purchase of the property.

While the look and function of the property will ultimately be up to the new owner, it is anticipated that it will remain a gas station with a mini-mart and drive-thru car wash.

For more information about the property, contact the City's Building Official Raymond Tao at 909.839.7021.

Shop Local this Holiday

Here's a reminder that when you buy your holiday gifts from a local merchant, you are supporting local businesses, helping keep jobs in town, and generating sales tax dollars that fund valuable public services that include public safety, park maintenance, and recreational programs and services. So, before you head out of town to do your shopping, take a closer look at what Diamond Bar merchants have to offer. For a map of shopping centers in town, visit diamondbarca.gov/shoppingcenters.



Gas Pipeline Reminder

Natural gas fuels a number of enjoyable activities in our home – from warm showers to hot meals – but chances are we typically don't give much thought to how this gas reaches our home.

Public Affairs Manager Tina Javid with Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) recently attended a City Council meeting for the purpose of imparting important information regarding natural gas safety to community members in attendance and those tuning in to DBtv from home.

Ms. Javid began her presentation by providing an overview of SoCalGas' service territory of 20,000 square miles and the 94,000 miles of pipeline it operates. She reminded the public that, in Diamond Bar, there is transmission pipeline that travels between Grand Avenue and Pathfinder Road and underneath the 57 Freeway. The general location of this and other major natural gas pipelines can be viewed online by visiting the Gas Transmission and High Pressure Distribution Pipeline Interactive Map at socalgas.com/safety/pipeline-maps or the National Pipeline Mapping System website at npms.phmsa.dot.gov.

Also as part of her presentation, Ms. Javid provided the following gas pipeline safety tips:

Call 811 Before You Dig. Because pipelines may be located anywhere – under streets, sidewalks, and private property – and sometimes just inches below the surface, contractors and residents are advised to call 811 at least two business days before digging for project of any size, from installing a mailbox to landscaping. Underground Service Alert will coordinate with SoCalGas and other utility owners in the area to mark locations of buried utility-owned lines, free of charge.

Recognize and Report a Pipeline Leak. Your sense of sight, hearing, or smell will alert you to the presence of a gas leak. Some of the visual signs include dirt or water being blown into the air, dead or dying vegetation (in an otherwise moist area) over or near pipeline areas, or exposed pipeline following a natural disaster. Also, gas escaping from a line or appliance produces a hissing, whistling or roaring-like sound, and releases a strong sulfur-like odor. If you suspect there may be a gas leak, you are asked to immediately evacuate the area and from a safe location, call SoCalGas at 800.427.2200.



Thanksgiving Centerpiece Demonstration

Because there's no better way to dress up your dining area for the holidays than with a festive centerpiece, the Diamond Bar Library is holding a free Thanksgiving Centerpiece Demonstration on Saturday, November 23, 2013 from 2 pm to 3 pm. This demonstration will cover the step-by-step process for creating harvest-themed arrangements. At the conclusion of the event, several audience members will be randomly selected to take home a professional-crafted centerpiece. Seating is limited and will be filled on a first-come basis. The Diamond Bar Library is located at 21800 Copley Drive. For more information, call 909.861.4978.

Catch a FREE Ride

Looking forward to holiday shopping but dreading the hassle of finding a parking space? If so, then the City has just the solution.

Starting Friday, November 29 until Wednesday, January 1, residents may take advantage of free cab rides to and from a shopping center within city limits as part of a special program that transforms the City's Diamond Ride specialized transit service into "Holiday Diamond Ride."

Holiday Diamond Ride, aimed at supporting local businesses and keeping tax dollars in town, is open to Diamond Bar residents age 18 and older with proof of Diamond Bar residency (driver license or utility bill).

For more information, visit diamondbarca.gov/holidayride; to set up a ride, call 800.578.6555.

For Your Safety... Holiday Shopping Safety

When making multiple purchases in one shopping trip, it's sometimes convenient to lighten your load by occasionally taking packages to your car and then returning to the store or mall. If you are in the habit of doing this, be sure to drive your car to a new location in the parking lot. Would-be thieves may be on the prowl for holiday shoppers dropping their purchases into their trunk and returning to continue shopping.

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

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 meetings (normally held in the AQMD/Government Center) have been temporarily relocated to the Windmill Community Room of City Hall, 21810 Copley Drive, due to construction work happening at the AQMD.

- 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
- For the specific day and time your street is swept, refer to the "No Parking" sign on your block.

November 2013

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2 Eco Expo Event
3 Daylight Savings Time Ends Move clocks back one hour	4 Street Sweeping	5 Election Day www.lavote.net Street Sweeping	6 Street Sweeping	7 Veterans Recognition Ceremony Street Sweeping	8 Street Sweeping	9
10	11 Veterans Day Observed City offices closed	12 Street Sweeping	13	14 Street Sweeping	15	16
17	18 Street Sweeping	19 Street Sweeping	20 Street Sweeping	21 Street Sweeping	22 Street Sweeping	23
24	25	26 Street Sweeping	27	28 Thanksgiving Holiday City offices closed	29 Thanksgiving Holiday City offices closed	30
31						

*City Council meetings take place at the AQMD/Government Center, 21865 Copley Drive, (City Council meetings, normally held in the AQMD/Government Center, have been temporarily relocated to the Windmill Community Room of City Hall, 21810 Copley Drive, due to construction work happening at the AQMD). City Commission meetings are held at Diamond Bar City Hall (21810 Copley Drive). Additional event and meeting details are available at DiamondBarCa.gov/eventcalendar



City of Diamond Bar
21810 Copley Drive ♦ Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4178
909.839.7000 ♦ 909.861.3117 Fax
www.DiamondBarCA.gov ♦ info@DiamondBarCA.gov

Elected Officials

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

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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

STUDYING SOLUTIONS...

Improving safety around schools was on the minds of City staff, Sheriff's personnel, and school principals from Walnut Valley and Pomona Unified school districts when they met in September for the City's annual get-together. Typically held a month into the start of a new school year, the annual Principals' Meeting provides for the free exchange of information on issues concerning school safety with the aim of together coming up with viable solutions. This year's topics included pedestrian safety, school traffic, and property theft prevention.



TEEN VOLUNTEERS THANKED...

The City recently publicly thanked and bid farewell to the 2013 group of "Volunteens." Members of the City's Parks and Recreation Commission took time during their regular September 26 meeting to present 72 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 beverages. Applications for next year's Volunteen program

will be available at the end of February, 2014. The program is open to Diamond Bar residents ages 13 to 15; those selected 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 diamondbarca.gov/volunteens or call 909.839.7024.

December 2013

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2 Street Sweeping	3 Street Sweeping	4 Street Sweeping	5 Street Sweeping	6 Street Sweeping	7 Candy Cane Craft Fair
8	9 Street Sweeping	10 Street Sweeping	11 Street Sweeping	12 Street Sweeping	13 Deadline to Enter Holiday Decorating Contest (Details on Page 1) Street Sweeping	14
15	16 Street Sweeping	17 Street Sweeping	18 Street Sweeping	19 Street Sweeping	20 Street Sweeping	21
22	23 Street Sweeping	24 Christmas Eve City offices closed Street Sweeping	25 Christmas Day City offices closed Street Sweeping	26 Street Sweeping	27 Street Sweeping	28 Street Sweeping
29	30 Street Sweeping	31 Street Sweeping				