

City News

Published Monthly For Residents & Businesses in Diamond Bar



25th Anniversary Web Page

A special web page diamondbarca.gov/DB25 dedicated to the City's 25th Anniversary is now live.

The page features a calendar of city-wide special events and promotions commemorating the City's 25th anniversary, as well as information on how businesses and community organizations can become "Ambassadors."

Future content planned for the page includes video and still images, news articles, and other announcements associated with the City's 25th Anniversary celebration.

Check out the webpage and add it to your favorites to make sure you don't miss out on special events and deals honoring Diamond Bar's 25 years of cityhood.

City Named Among 50 Safest

Low crime rates among other family-friendly attributes recently earned Diamond Bar a spot among the top "50 Safest Cities in California."

The recognition was issued in November 2013 by SafeWise, a home security company, after it examined data from the latest FBI-released Crime in the United States Report and conducted its own research of cities statewide with a population of 20,000 or more residents.

Diamond Bar is consistently rated as a coveted place to call home, and has been included in the "100 Best Places to Live" list by CNN Money Magazine in 2012, noted as a runner-up to the "50 Best Places to Raise your Kids" list issued by Bloomberg BusinessWeek in 2009 and again in 2010, and was the only city statewide to make it on the "10 Best Towns For Families" statewide list published by Family Circle Magazine in 2007.



Bridal Show Set for March 23



photo courtesy of Darren Isomoto (2013 Diamond Bar Through My Lens Photo Contest Entrant)

Here's some good news if you got engaged over the holidays.

Diamond Bar Center, one of the area's most sought after wedding venues, will be the site of a special Bridal Show on Saturday, March 23 .

From 11am to 3pm, brides and grooms-to-be are invited to stop by to scope out caterers, florists, venues, and other wedding-related vendors for their memorable day.

Admission is free for brides and \$5 for guests. Diamond Bar Center is located at 1600 Grand Avenue.

Vendor applications will be accepted until Friday, February 7. For more information, visit diamondbarca.gov/bridalshow or call 909.839.7065.

Crime Statistics Record An Overall Decline

Year-end crime statistics for 2013 disclosed a six percent reduction in overall Part I crimes committed within Diamond Bar city limits when compared with the previous calendar year.

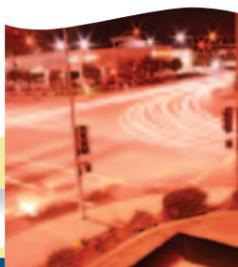
Part I crimes are serious offenses comprising homicide, rape, assault, arson, robbery, burglary, auto theft, and petty theft.

A breakdown of the eight crimes reflects that while there was a slight increase in robbery incidents from 17 in 2012 to 24 in 2013, most other categories saw a decrease. Specifically, there were 8 fewer burglaries, 50 fewer petty theft incidents, and 4 fewer auto thefts.

Diamond Bar's Service Area Lieutenant Anthony Tachias credited the crime reduction to the Sheriff's policing strategies including extra patrolling, increased visibility and specialized forensic efforts, as well as efficient community policing which includes greater participation from residents in the Neighborhood Watch program.

Recent approaches implemented by the Diamond Bar-Walnut Sheriff's Station and aimed at suppressing criminal activity include the hiring of a new special assignment deputy whose responsibilities include tracking the latest crime trends and formulating practical and effective solutions, as well as creating a new "Town-Hall style" community meeting program that will be launched next month.

For more information about forming or joining a Neighborhood Watch group, contact the City's Public Safety team at 909.839.7077 or 909.839.7079.



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Food Drive Benefits Food Pantry PAGE 4

This Month in 1989...

February was a critical month for proponents of the March 7, 1989 cityhood ballot measure, particularly for those running for seats on what would become Diamond Bar's first city council.

In addition to heavy advertising and campaigning efforts, city council hopefuls also participated in two "Meet the Candidates" events. The first event was held on Tuesday, February 21 from 6:30pm to 9:30pm at Northminster Presbyterian Church, and the second was held at the same time the following day at Chaparral Middle School.

Also this month, the Diamond Bar Improvement Association teamed up with the Diamond Bar Municipal Advisory Council to host the final two of four City Government Seminars.

These free, public seminars featured presentations on County/City/State Relationships by Cal State Poly, Pomona and League of California Cities – L.A. Division, and a presentation titled "Councilmembers' Working Agenda: Legal, Ethical Parameters by the University of La Verne.

Grand Avenue Beautification Project Open House Planned

Mark your calendars, and join us March 19

Photograph of Grand Avenue and Diamond Bar Boulevard intersection taken by Christopher Rivas (2011 Diamond Bar Through My Lens Photo Contest – First Place Winner)

A combination of landscaping, paving, lighting, and public furnishings is set to enhance Grand Avenue at the Diamond Bar Boulevard and Longview Drive intersections later this year.

The \$1 million worth of beautification work, currently in the conceptual phase, will be funded in great part with a federal grant secured under the SAFETEA-LU transportation bill for the restricted purpose of improving public rights of way along Grand Avenue.

The intersections of Grand Avenue/Diamond Bar Boulevard and Grand Avenue and Longview Drive were selected for streetscape enhancements because they serve as primary gateways to the city.

An open house is planned for Wednesday, March 19 from 6:30 to 8pm in the Diamond Bar City Hall building for the public to meet with City staff and project consultants, and take a look at the design concepts before they are presented to the City Council for consideration.

The event is open to the public, and attendance by residents and business owners is encouraged.

Diamond Bar City Hall is located at 21810 Copley Drive. For more information, visit diamondbarca.gov/grand or call the city's Public Works Department at 909.839.7040.

City's 25th Anniversary – Ambassadors Wanted

Businesses and community organizations still have time to sign up to become an "Ambassador" and be part of the City's year-long 25th anniversary celebration.

Participation is Free and Easy

Use an existing event or promotion, or come up with a new way to mark this special milestone of Diamond Bar's 25 years of cityhood.

Ideas can range from special events to discounts or even namesake dishes.

Once you have the idea, contact the City's Public Information Division at 909.839.7055 or info@diamondbarca.gov and we will provide you with the commemorative anniversary logo so that you may brand your event marketing materials. The City in turn will add your activity to the official 25th Anniversary Calendar of Events and help with publicity.

All businesses and community organizations who become "Ambassadors" will be acknowledged and recorded for historical purposes.

Extended Library Hours

The Diamond Bar Library is now open an hour earlier Monday through Thursday.

Its new operating hours of 11am to 9pm Monday through Thursday and 10 am to 5pm on Friday and Saturday have been in place since January 2, 2014.



Diamond Bar Library celebrated the grand opening of its new location on the 1st floor of the City Hall building, 21800 Copley Drive, on July 28, 2012; the 37-year old branch was previously located on Grand Avenue.

Three times its former size, the 18,245 square foot library features several study rooms, a children's area, teen space, and more than 30 public computers that include 11 for general use, 10 for children, 6 for teens, and 6 specifically for early learning.

For more information, visit colapublib.org/libs/diamondbar or call 909.861.4978.

Free Emergency Alerts – Are you Registered?

Takes only a few minutes

When the next emergency strikes, will you know what steps to take to ensure your safety and that of your family?

You will if you are registered to receive free emergency alerts from the City of Diamond Bar.

The City implemented its emergency alert notification system in 2009 as a means of providing timely and accurate information to residents about impending or in-progress emergencies, and safety instructions if any are necessary.

Landlines are automatically programmed into the system; however individuals with unlisted numbers, those who have recently changed their phone number, or those who use a mobile phone as their primary line are strongly encouraged to visit diamondbarca.gov/emergencyalerts to add or update their information.

For more details about the emergency alert system, visit the City's website or call the City's Public Information Office at 909.839.7055.

Free Street Sweeping Schedule

Residents who have yet to get their hands on the City's 2014 Street Sweeping magnet schedule are encouraged

to do so, while supplies last. The popular 7" x 4" magnet is free and available at the Diamond Bar Center, 1600 Grand Avenue; Diamond Bar City Hall, 21810 Copley Drive; and the Diamond Bar Library, 21800 Copley Drive.



Annual HHW & E-Waste Roundup

Los Angeles County's mobile Household Hazardous Waste and Electronic Waste (HHW/E-Waste) Collection event is coming to Diamond Bar on Saturday, February 15, 2014.

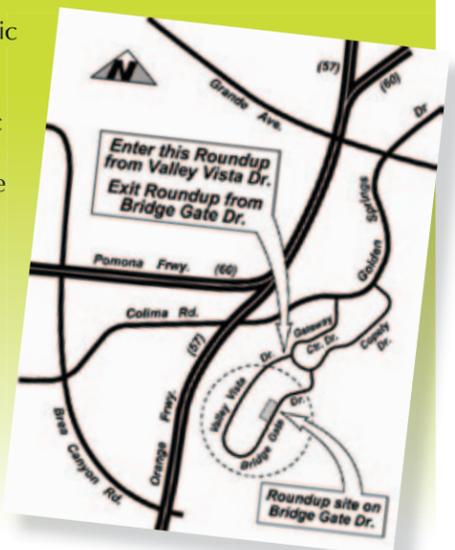
The public is invited to bring by their household hazardous or electronic waste for safe, legal, and free disposal.

The drive-thru 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 vehicle 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 1.800.238.0172. For details about the event, call the City's Administration Department at 909.839.7013.



2014 Volunteen Program

Teens, here's advance notice that the City's Volunteen Program will begin accepting applications on Monday, February 4 for this year's summer work and leadership training.

As a Diamond Bar Volunteen, you will have hands-on opportunities to experience working for a local government agency in the parks and recreation area.

Volunteens will have the choice of assisting 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.

To be eligible to participate in the Volunteen Program, students must be between the ages of 13 and 15, and able to work June 2 through August 15 for a minimum of five to a maximum of 40 hours per week.

Certificates of Recognition and letters noting the community service hours contributed are issued to all Volunteens at the conclusion of the program.

To learn more about the Volunteen program or to download the application beginning February 4, visit diamondbarca.gov/volunteen.



2013 Volunteen Angela Song is photographed teaching two youngsters how to craft the classic square stitch lanyard during the summer concerts series held annually at Sycamore Canyon Park.

Grants to Pay for New Public Trail

The City is elated over recent news that it was successful in securing a much-needed grant from Los Angeles County Fourth District Supervisor Don Knabe for its Grand View Trail & Link project.

This \$300,000 grant, funded through the Supervisor's 2013 Competitive Trails Grant Program, means that the trail project will be 85 percent grant funded. Additional grants secured to fund the project include two Land and Water Conservation grants for \$121,220 and \$89,670, a Habitat for Conservation grant amounting to \$89,639.

Currently under construction, the project will create a new half-mile stretch of trail that starts at the overflow

parking lot at the Diamond Bar Center and connects to three other existing trails within Summitridge Park to form a 2.75-mile loop that ends on the western parking lot of the Diamond Bar Center.

Summitridge Park Trail System is known for its panoramic views of the San Gabriel Valley – Mount Baldy to the north, Los Angeles Civic Center to the west, and Chino Hills and Tres Hermanos to the east.

It is anticipated that the trail will be open to the public late summer 2014. For more information about the city's existing walking and biking trails including a downloadable map, visit diamondbarca.gov/trails.



Avoid False Alarm Service Charges

Residential, business, and commercial security system owners are reminded that, per Section 5.08.030 of the Diamond Bar Municipal Code, excessive false alarms constitute a public nuisance and are subject to a service charge.

An alarm system is deemed a nuisance when it generates three or more false alarms during a rolling 12-month cycle. The first two instances of a false alarm do not incur a fine; however the third and subsequent false alarms will each be assessed a \$125 service charge.

A false alarm is the non-emergency or accidental activation of the security system due to poor management or maintenance which results in a response by the Diamond Bar-Walnut Sheriff's

Station during which responding deputies do not find any evidence of responding deputies do not find any evidence of an emergency situation or attempted criminal offense.

False alarms resulting from a natural disaster or Edison-triggered interruptions of electrical service are exempt from service charges, and do not count against the alarm owner.

Also, since false alarm responses are tracked on a rolling 12-month cycle starting from the latest response, the count resets to zero at the end of a 12-month alarm-free period.

To access alarm-related information on the City's Municipal Code, visit diamondbarca.gov/municode and type "alarm systems" in the search field at the top right corner.

Firefighter Preparatory Seminars



Individuals on the fire service career path are encouraged to take advantage of a free Firefighter Preparatory Seminar being offered by the Los Angeles County Fire Department this spring.

The seminar, designed for individuals preparing to take the Firefighter Trainee Examination this coming summer, will be offered on March 29 and again on May 31 at Western University located at 309 E. 2nd Street in Pomona. Meeting time is 8am to 5pm, with a one-hour lunch break.

Instruction will be led by the Fire Department's human resources and firefighting training teams; topics to be covered include introduction to fire service, recruit and probationary firefighter expectations, written and oral interview preparation, and the CPAT (California Physical Agility Test).

Participation is free, but registration is required and may be processed online at fire.lacounty.gov; seating is limited to those who registration. For more information, visit fire.lacounty.gov.

For Your Safety... answer the doorbell or knock on your door

While you may want to disregard when a stranger sounds your doorbell or knocks on your door, it is important to acknowledge you are home. If you would rather not open, simply speak to the individual through your locked door. If they purport having the wrong house, try to get a description of the individual and vehicle. If intuition tells you something is not right, call the Sheriff's Station immediately. The tactic of burglars knocking on a door or ringing the doorbell and breaking in if no one answers is so common that it has been nicknamed "knock-knock burglaries."



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 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.

February 2014

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*City Council meetings take place at the AQMD/Government Center, 21865 Copley Drive. City Commission meetings are held at Diamond Bar City Hall, 21810 Copley Drive. Additional event and meeting details are available at DiamondBarCa.gov/eventcalendar



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www.DiamondBarCA.gov ♦ info@DiamondBarCA.gov

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Elected Officials

Mayor..... Carol Herrera
Mayor Pro Tem..... Steve Tye
Council Member..... Ling-Ling Chang
Council Member..... Nancy A. Lyons
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



HELPING HANDS ... More than 300 items of canned goods and non-perishables were collected this past holiday by members of DB4Youth "In Action" as a result of its first food drive benefiting the St. Denis Church food pantry. Pictured organizing the donations for delivery to the pantry are DB4Youth members Garrett Masuda (left) and Vinit Adani. B4Youth "In Action" is the City-sponsored teen group open to Diamond Bar residents and students age 12 to 18. In addition to making a difference in their community, DB4Youth members also get to meet other teens in the area, plan and operate events and programs, and earn volunteer credit to fulfill a class requirement or boost job or college applications. For more information on how to become a member, visit the City website diamondbarca.gov/db4youth or call Community Services Coordinator Alison Meyers at 909.839.7062.

Outstanding Volunteers Award Nominations

A free and meaningful means of thanking individuals who donate their time and talent to brighten the lives of others is the City's Outstanding Volunteer Awards Program.

Created to recognize community members whose volunteer efforts improve Diamond Bar living, the program accepts nominations in the adult (18 years and older) and youth (17 years or younger) categories. The deadline for nominations is Friday, March 14; an online form is available at diamondbarca.gov/ovan.

Nominees may be a relative, friend, neighbor, colleague, classmate, fellow church congregant, or business owner. Individuals selected for recognition will be presented with special certificates by the Diamond Bar City Council and other local elected officials during the City's 25th Annual Birthday Party, which is set for Saturday, April 12.

For more information, contact the City's Community Services Department at 909.839.7060.

Holiday Home Decorating Contest Winners

The City thanks everyone who entered into the City's 2013 Holiday Home Decorating Contest, and congratulates the top vote getters.

And the winners are, **Mark Martinez** for **Best Holiday Spirit**, **Patty Knoll** for **Best Use of Theme**, and **Tom Monk** for **Most Innovative**.

Created in 2009, the contest aims to recognize Diamond Bar residents who help enhance holiday cheer in the community through their outdoor decorations.

Homes are scored on display creativity, curb appeal, and use of lighting. Each of the winners receives a festive 48" tall vinyl sign to display on their front lawn.

Details about this year's Holiday Home Decorating Contest will be available online diamondbarca.gov beginning in late October.

March 2014

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