



Discover WestCovina

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF WEST COVINA

October/November
2012

A publication
provided for residents by
the City of West Covina



WWW.WESTCOVINA.ORG

WEST COVINA BALANCES BUDGET

Message from City Manager Andrew Pasmant

On August 1, 2012, the West Covina City Council adopted a balanced budget for Fiscal Year 2012-2013 in the amount of \$97,064,566, which includes a \$51.5 million General Fund budget. In order to balance the budget, the City Council approved a number of staff-recommended cuts, adopted pension reform and reprogrammed various special funds. The budget was balanced without the use of City reserves.

For the past few years, the City of West Covina has reduced its operational costs to adjust to the declines in revenues. The City's strategy has been to minimize the impacts to frontline services that residents and businesses expect, especially public safety. The City has made cuts in staffing – 107 positions eliminated since 2007 – reduced funding

for materials and supplies, instituted pension reform, and implemented organizational changes and strategic use of reserves.

Throughout this period, the City has left major public services relatively intact. While some of these changes are long-term and intended to result in permanent cost savings to the City, other changes are short-term and intended to be reversed as the City's fiscal situation improves.

Employee labor groups also deserve credit for bridging the gap by agreeing to pay their share of their pension costs and for the approval of new retirement formulas that will provide long-term budget stability for the City. The shifting of pension costs to employees alone saves the City \$3 million a year.

This is by no means a perfect budget, nor does it end the fiscal challenges facing the City. The adoption of the Fiscal Year 2012-2013 budget does provide structural changes

for the future and provides frontline police and fire services as the City's top priority.

There is a lot of optimism that over the next couple of years, the City of West Covina will enjoy increased revenues from the opening of new businesses and the completion of the planned revitalization of the auto center. Hopefully, this will speed up the recovery of the recession.

Regardless, your local leaders have put West Covina residents first by developing a balanced budget with a small surplus, something that many cities across the state are struggling to do. The next couple of years will be challenging, but the City of West Covina has the personnel and leadership to make the right decisions.

West Covina City Council Opens New Facility with a 'Splash'!



During the heat of summer, the West Covina City Council came to the rescue by opening a new splash pad. This new facility provided relief for residents, giving them an opportunity to cool off from those hot days in the San Gabriel Valley. This new facility is located at Del Norte Park, 1500 W. Rowland Ave., and is open year-round.

The West Covina City Council continues to give priority to the children in our community. This new facility is another example of how the council continues to provide safe places for youth to have fun that are close-by and free to use.

FREE PANCAKE BREAKFAST

RED RIBBON RALLY

Saturday, October 20, 2012

7:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

West Covina High School Quad
1609 E. Cameron Ave at Lark Ellen



Special Guest Appearance by the Camarena Family.

Join the The Rotary Clubs of West Covina, The West Covina Police and Fire Departments, City Hall, and Community Leaders as we kick off National Red Ribbon Week with a **Free** Pancake Breakfast, booths, trackless train, bouncers, slides, and entertainment.



WCPD 75TH ANNIVERSARY



On June 21, the West Covina Police Department commemorated its 75th anniversary with a formal ceremony at the Civic Center for the purpose of honoring the men and women of the police department, past and present, who have served this community with distinction since 1937. "The men and women of the West Covina Police Department work exceptionally hard and do an outstanding job delivering quality public safety services to this community," Police Chief Frank Wills said.

November Reminders from West Covina Fire Department and YMCA

Every year, people die as a result of residential fires, and the sad part is many of them could have been prevented with properly functioning smoke alarms. The West Covina Fire Department has witnessed deadly fires in homes with missing or non-working smoke detectors. Changing smoke alarm batteries at least twice per year is one of the simplest, most effective ways to reduce these tragic deaths and injuries. In fact, working smoke alarms nearly cut in half the risk of dying in a home fire.



To help save lives and prevent needless injuries, the West Covina Fire Department has joined the "Change Your Clock, Change Your Battery" campaign. The program urges all Americans to adopt a simple, life-saving habit: changing smoke alarm and carbon monoxide detector batteries when changing clocks to daylight savings time. A new law in California requires any home with an attached garage or fossil fuel source to have a

carbon monoxide alarm installed. Carbon monoxide is particularly dangerous because you can't see or smell it, and at high levels it can kill a person in minutes.

Follow these helpful tips: 1) Install alarms outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home including a basement; 2) Keep alarms clear of dust and debris to ensure proper operation; and 3)

Ensure that alarms are securely plugged into a working outlet or, if battery-operated, have working batteries that are changed at least twice a year.

When daylight savings ends **November 4**, the West Covina Fire Department recommends residents use the "extra" hour they save from the time change to test smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors by pushing the test button, planning "two ways out" and practicing escape routes with the entire family. Families should also prepare a fire safety kit that includes working flashlights and fresh batteries.

And, on **November 18**, don't forget about the San Gabriel Valley Puente Hills YMCA 31st Annual Turkey Trot! You can get all the information you need at www.sgvymca.org.



WEST COVINA CITY COUNCIL APPROVES RESIDENTIAL STREET IMPROVEMENTS

The City of West Covina City Council recently approved the execution of residential street rehabilitation work throughout the city.

This project will consist of grinding down (cold-milling) two inches of existing asphalt concrete pavement and provide asphalt concrete overlay, repair of damaged curbs and gutters, sidewalks, construction of wheelchair ramps, adjustment to manholes, new pavement messages and striping.

This street improvement project is going to involve 46 segments of various residential streets throughout the City of West Covina. The street sections are selected based on the condition of the pavement, with the streets in the worst condition given priority.

The West Covina City Council considers street improvements a high priority for both safety and maintaining quality



neighborhoods. The cost for these improvements will be \$1.5 million, using funding from gas tax, Community Development Block Grant funding and Measure R. No general fund money is being used for this project.

Work will be completed by mid-November.

ZUMBA!

A new class is offered at the Senior Center. Zumba Gold is zumba geared for the active older participant. It's on Thursdays at 10 a.m. in the center's North Wing. Cost is \$4 per session or \$15 per month. For more information, call the Senior Center at (626) 331-5366.



Thank You West Covina!!



FROM 09/01/12 EXPIRES 11/30/12

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WEST COVINA BLD CELEBRATES FIVE YEARS!

Since the opening of Big League Dreams five years ago, it has exceeded goals of becoming the premier sports facility in the region.

“BLD was a tremendous undertaking by the City of West Covina,” City Manager Andrew Pasmant said. “Through the leadership and dedication of the West Covina City Council, city staff, partnerships with other government entities, and the community, the city successfully transformed one of the nation’s largest landfills into a landmark.”

As a result, the project has earned 13 international, state, and regional awards.

To finance the project, the City of West Covina/West Covina Community Development Commission issued bonds to pay for BLD, as well as the Heights Center. The annual payment on these bonds is paid from non-general fund sources. There is no



burden on residents to pay for these improvements.

The City has benefited from other revenues generated in association with BLD. The Heights generates new sales tax, property taxes and business license fees in excess of \$600,000. And, each year the BLD project attracts more than 300,000 visitors, who spend money at local establishments, generating more tax dollars.

When BLD opened, it had approximately 250 softball teams, 27 baseball/softball tournaments, 50 soccer teams and 10 special events annually.

Today, BLD has more than 350 softball teams, 50 baseball/softball tournaments – 80 percent of which are youth tournaments – 79 soccer teams and 30 to 40 special events for major corporations annually.

West Covina residents and businesses benefit from this facility. It generates much-needed revenues, improved the community affected by the former landfill, and provides a place for all ages to come and play. Most people don’t know that BLD is a city park that is open at no charge, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information, visit www.westcovina.bigleaguedreams.com.

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WEST COVINA CITY COUNCIL OPENS NEW PLAYGROUND AT PALMVIEW PARK



This summer, the West Covina City Council opened a newly expanded and upgraded playground at Palmview Park, 1340 E. Puente Ave. New playground equipment was installed at the park, purchased with Community Development Block Grant funds.

Photo courtesy of April McKettrick

TO ADVERTISE IN DISCOVER WEST COVINA, CALL WEST COVINA CITY HALL AT (626) 939-8400 OR E-MAIL ADVERTISING4DISCOVER@WESTCOVINA.ORG.

Bath & Furry Works Pet Salon

Commends West Covina City Council for Creating New Dog Park

This summer, the West Covina City Council unveiled a new dog park for the community, and the owner of Bath & Furry Works Pet Salon here in West Covina is thankful.

The new dog park was constructed for dogs to be able to exercise and play off-leash in a controlled environment under the supervision of their owners. There are two separate play areas, separating the smaller dogs from the larger dogs.

The construction of this new facility was paid with grant funding, without using taxpayer General Fund dollars.

This special park, located at Del Norte Park, 1500 W. Rowland Ave., is free to use, providing dogs an opportunity to run and socialize with other dogs, while bringing the community together.

And, if you want your dog to look good before heading over to the park, or after a day of play, take your pet on over to Bath & Furry Works Pet Salon, located at 447 N. Azusa Ave. in West Covina. All first-time clients receive 20 percent off.

For an appointment, call (626) 966-3828. Owner Macy Tran, who believes "Grooming is an Art and Art Takes Time," looks forward to meeting you and your furry friend.



Cookie and Lexy enjoy getting groomed at Bath & Furry Works Pet Salon.

CELEBRATE HALLOWEEN AT 'GHOSTER PARK' - IT'S FREE!

(And YMCA Turkey Trot in November)

To celebrate Halloween, the Galster Park Nature Center and the City of West Covina Community Services Department will present a night of ghosts and goblins, tricks and treats, costumes and carvings. Join us on **Saturday, October 27** from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Come dressed to scare and go on a "spooky hike." Prizes will be awarded for the "Best Carved" pumpkins. Bring your own pre-carved pumpkin to the contest. Galster Park Nature Center is located at 1620 Aroma Drive, West Covina. For more information, call (626) 939-8490.

And, on Sunday, November 18, the San Gabriel Valley Puente Hills YMCA invites you to participate in the 31st Annual 1k/5k/10k Turkey Trot. For more information, call (626) 961-3480.



'NATIONAL NIGHT OUT' EVENT PROMOTES NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY

This summer, the City of West Covina participated in the annual "National Night Out," an event promoting public safety, spearheaded by the West Covina Police Department and coordinated with the National Town Watch Association and local Neighborhood Watch captains. By increasing neighborhood awareness and unity, this event serves to prevent crime.





WELCOME TO CAN ACADEMY

SAT PSAT ACT 课程

名师指导 长年开课 免费试听 免费模拟考试

大学升学考试准备课程如SAT、PSAT、ACT、AP及托福。多达12年丰富经验的老师，SAT成绩平均提高200至300分以上。

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| SAT考试2200分以上 | 奖学金 \$ 1,000 |



19小时的课程 \$ 160/周 (15小时数学+ 4小时模拟考试)

课后辅导

课后辅导的上课时间是周一至周五下午三点半至六点半，为一年级至十二年级的学生提供阅读，文法，写作，代数，几何，生物，化学，AP英文，AP历史，AP生物，AP化学，AP物理，AP中文，AP西班牙文及各种才艺训练；更可代安排接送。

英文阅读写 + 数学 \$110/周 中文班 \$65/周

周六精华课程班

周六提供各科精华及才艺班，AP各科专业辅导班，包括SAT，PSAT，ACT，英文，数学，写作与演讲，AP课程，中文，美术，电脑等等。

美术班 \$18/周 电脑班 \$18/周

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- ✓ A comprehensive variety of classes to choose from, for grades one through twelve.
- ✓ Outstanding test-preparation classes.
- ✓ Transportation arrangements available.

AFTER SCHOOL CLASSES

After school classes are held between 3:30pm and 6:30pm Monday through Friday during the school year. Both English and Math classes are available as well as Chinese. With the help of talented and experienced teachers, the students will improve their academic performance while having fun and make lasting friendships.

ENGLISH + MATH \$110/WEEK CHINESE \$65/WEEK

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19 HOURS (15 HOURS + 4 HOURS TESTING) \$160/WEEK



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Director



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& Dance



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AP Math



Mr. Troutman
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& Math



Ms. Estrada
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& Math



Mr. Fauson
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& Math



Mr. Johnson
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& Math



Ms. Wang
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Elevating health care. Together.

Join us at one of our upcoming Fall community events.

Unless otherwise noted, call (888) 456-2847 to register or for more information.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2
10 A.M.-12 P.M. OR 6:30-8:30 P.M.

Road to Survival

Ten-week support group for those who have experienced the loss of a loved one.

Citrus Valley Hospice in West Covina • FREE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11
7-9 A.M.

Drive-thru Flu Clinic

For adults only, while supplies last.

Foothill Presbyterian Hospital in Glendora • FREE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11
6:30-7:30 P.M.

Obesity & Breast Cancer

Presented by oncologist Dr. Sharon Yee, Queen of the Valley • FREE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25
8:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

Diabetes Action Summit: Creating Healthy Communities

Held in partnership with Assemblymember Roger Hernandez and City of Hope.

City of Hope in Duarte • FREE

For more information or to RSVP, please call (626) 960-4457.



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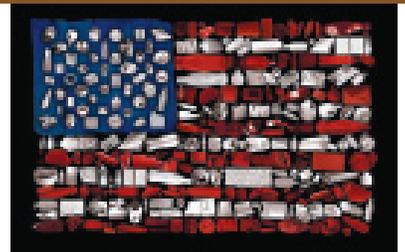




OCT. 20 Free E-Waste Roundup
9 a.m. to 1 p.m. @ City of W.C.
Maintenance Yard. (626) 939-8458



OCT. 20 Used Oil & Filter Collection
9 a.m. to 1 p.m. @ Pep Boys,
West Covina. (888) CLEAN-LA



NOV. 12 America Recycles Day
8 a.m. to noon @ West Covina
Farmers Market. (626) 939-8458

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WEST COVINA CARES AND IT SHOWS

The West Covina Fire Department thanks the community for donating more than 2,000 gifts for last year's "Spark of Love" Toy Drive. Thanks to your donations, more than 1,000 area children received toys for the holidays. The many smiles and heartfelt thanks from the children would not have been possible without your support.

All West Covina fire stations will be collecting toys again this year. Starting November 23, unwrapped toys may be dropped off at any West Covina fire station.

The "Spark of Love" program finds it most difficult to provide toys for youths ranging from 11 to 16 years old, so we could use your help with this age group, too. For more information on how to donate and locations of fire stations, contact Fire Capt. Doug Montgomery at (626) 338-3899.

Every morning, he loves to stop and smell the lavender and the roses in our courtyard.

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