



Discover WestCovina

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF WEST COVINA

April/May 2012

A publication
provided for residents by
the City of West Covina



WWW.WESTCOVINA.ORG

WEST COVINA CITY COUNCIL APPROVES EXPANSION AND UPGRADE PLAYGROUND AT PALMVIEW PARK

The West Covina City Council, at the March 6, 2012 city council meeting, voted to expand and upgrade the playground tot lot at Palmview Park, 1340 E. Puente Ave. The historic jet plane at this park will not be affected; it will remain as is.

New playground equipment will be purchased utilizing Community Development Block Grant funds. These funds will provide significant upgrades to the park's playground while achieving a higher rate of compliance with the recommendations of the Americans with Disabilities Act. In addition to the new playground equipment, new



ADA-accessible, structured exercise and recovery/cool-down features will be added.

The West Covina City Council takes pride in the quality of city parks. In addition to expanding city parks as funding becomes

available, the council feels it is important that they remain cognizant of the different needs of the community. These new upgrades take into account ADA accessibility.



CITY OF WEST COVINA SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

The City of West Covina is now accepting paid advertising in the city's newsletter, Discover West Covina. This newsletter, which has a distinctive brand in the community, is mailed to every home in West Covina. Not only does every residence receive this newsletter, but copies are placed on the front counters of city departments and it is posted on the city's Web site.

Businesses can receive great promotional exposure while helping the City fund a very important communication tool with the community. If you are interested in advertising, send an e-mail to advertising4discover@westcovina.org.

West Covina City Council Approves Street Rehabilitation Project

The West Covina City Council, at the March 6 meeting, approved moving forward with a street rehabilitation project that includes streets at various locations throughout the city.

The work will include repairing of damaged curbs, gutters and sidewalks, as well as replacement of handicap ramps at various intersections in order to comply with ADA requirements.

Total length of streets to be worked on: nearly 5 miles and more than 1 million square feet

and the sections to be rehabilitated, call the City of West Covina Public Works Department at (626) 939-8425 or visit the city's Web site

The rehabilitation project will consist of grinding down roughly two inches of existing asphalt concrete pavement and providing asphalt concrete overlay, and installing new pavement markings.

at www.westcovina.org.

The West Covina City Council considers the quality of our streets a priority and continues to move forward on these projects as funding becomes available.

For a list of all streets involved



FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT: PROPOSITION C TRANSPORTATION TAX, GAS TAX AND MEASURE R

Senior Housing Available at Newly Completed West Covina Senior Villas II

The West Covina Senior Villas II, West Covina's newest affordable housing built for senior citizens, is now open!

The three-story, 65-unit apartment complex is conveniently located at 1838 E. Workman Ave., with access to shopping, medical offices and public transportation. The complex offers one-bedroom apartments, each having its own



private patio/balcony and is equipped with a full kitchen, including refrigerator and stove. The complex has on-site laundry facilities, a community/recreation room and a patio area.

For information and availability at the West Covina Senior Villas II, call the leasing office at (626) 331-0208.



Suburban Water Systems Donates \$5,000 to West Covina

SPLASH PAD COMING TO DEL NORTE PARK!



At the March 6, 2012 city council meeting, Suburban Water Systems presented a generous donation of \$5,000 to the city. The monies will be used for a splash pad at Del Norte Park, located at 1500 W. Rowland Ave.

A splash pad is a play area with ground nozzles that spray water upward for children to play in. Splash pads are often surfaced in textured non-slip concrete or in crumb rubber.

The splash pad at Del Norte Park will include a full recirculating filtration system to reduce the amount of water used at this City facility.



This rendering shows what the new splash pad will look like.

CITY OF WEST COVINA SAVES \$225,000

First City to Reach 'Platinum Level Status'

The City of West Covina was recognized as the first local government of an eligible 111 cities in Southern California Edison's (SCE) service territory to advance to "Platinum Level Status," the highest level in SCE's Energy Leader Partnership Program.

The City's accomplishments in energy reduction and long-term energy planning have resulted in more than 92 million kilowatt-hours of energy savings between its municipal facilities and the community, which is enough energy to power 13,000 homes for a year. Through its efforts, the City has saved \$225,000 in energy costs in its municipal facilities.

During these challenging economic times, the City has used a forward-thinking approach to invest precious dollars into energy efficiency projects that will reap short- and long-term cost savings. The City of West Covina has completed projects that range from installing a cool roof on the Senior Center annex, to upgrading the heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems in City Hall and the Police Department, to installing solar film at City Hall. The City has also upgraded its indoor and outdoor lighting and converted its traffic signals to LED lighting.

When city budgets are tight, these savings prove critical to balancing the bottom line.





'5 Weeks of Green'

CLEAN-UP SATURDAYS AND MORE



Time for Spring Cleaning in West Covina!

Clean-Up Saturdays return April 21, running for five consecutive Saturdays. This annual spring-cleaning event is for West Covina single-family residences only. Items eligible for pickup include household furniture, household appliances and bundled residential wood waste.

In order to prevent trash from overflowing and spilling into the street, all trash must be contained in a trash bin or a closed container, such as a box or a bag. For this year's Clean-Up Saturdays schedule, see the Clean-Up Saturdays box below.

This year's "5 Weeks of Green" will also include the following events:

Saturday, April 21

Free E-Waste Collection, West Covina Maintenance Yard, 825 S. Sunset Ave., 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Accepted items include cell phones, computer monitors, CPUs, copiers, printers, scanners, fax machines, telephones and TVs.

Earth Day, West Covina Farmers Market, near Edwards Theatre at The

commemorative tree planting honoring several distinguished members of the community.

Saturday, April 28

Used Oil Filter Collection and Exchange, Pep Boys, 1540 E. Amar Road, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Receive a free oil filter and used oil collection

approximately one wheelbarrow per type and per resident. First come, first served. While supplies last.

Saturday, May 12

Southern California Edison Refrigerator/Freezer Pickup. Call (800) 234-9722 to arrange a pickup. Get \$50 for your old working refrigerator or freezer.

CLEAN-UP SATURDAYS SCHEDULE

- Trash day on Monday, Clean-Up Saturday will be April 21
- Trash day on Tuesday, Clean-Up Saturday will be April 28
- Trash day on Wednesday, Clean-Up Saturday will be May 5
- Trash day on Thursday, Clean-Up Saturday will be May 12
- Trash day on Friday, Clean-Up Saturday will be May 19



Lakes, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Kids crafts and activities, entertainment, archery demonstrations, transportation expo, worm tea brewing demonstrations, Earth Day prizes and giveaways.

Sunday, April 22

Arbor Day, Walmerado Park, 1 p.m. The National Arbor Day Foundation has awarded the City of West Covina the "Tree City USA" designation for the 30th consecutive year. To celebrate, West Covina Beautiful will host an Arbor Day observance, including a

container when you bring in a used oil filter (while supplies last; West Covina residents only). Call (626) 939-8458 for details.

Saturday, May 5

U-Haul Free Compost and Mulch Giveaway, City Maintenance Yard, 8 to 11 a.m. Free organic compost and mulch. Residents must bring their own shovel, bag or wheelbarrow. Limited to

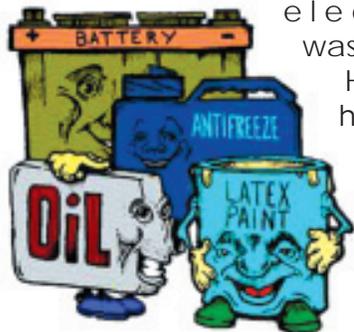
Saturday, May 19

Household Hazardous Waste and E-Waste Roundup, West Covina Maintenance Yard, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Bring unused paint, medicines, household cleaners, household and car batteries, used oil, filters, computers, etc. (see top of Page 5).

Advanced Composting Workshop, West Covina Senior Center, 9 to 11 a.m. Call (626) 939-8467 for more information and to RSVP.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE & E-WASTE ROUNDUP

Some things are too toxic to throw into the trash! On Saturday, May 19 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the West Covina Maintenance Yard, 825 Sunset Ave., you can dispose of household hazardous waste and electronic waste safely.



Household hazardous waste includes brake fluid, paint, paint thinner, cleaners containing acid or lye, pesticides and herbicides, household batteries, car batteries, pool chemicals, motor oil, oil filters, expired pharmaceuticals,



antifreeze, home-generated sharps and fluorescent light bulbs. Electronic waste includes computer monitors, televisions, computer CPUs, keyboards, printers, cell phones and similar electronics.



For more information, call (888) 253-2652 or (626) 939-8458, or visit the City of West Covina's Web site at www.westcovina.org/environment.

CITY OF WEST COVINA & ATHENS SERVICES FOOD WASTE PILOT PROGRAM

The next time you eat at El Torito, Marie Callender's or Chili's in West Covina, know that your leftovers are being composted into soil amendment and fertilizers. These three restaurants have been participating in a Food Waste Pilot Program funded by AB 939 Waste Reduction funds.

Each day, organic waste, such as food scraps, soiled napkins, coffee grounds and cardboard packaging, are collected in 32-gallon bins and picked up from each restaurant by Athens Services. This material is weighed and transferred to American Organics for processing and composting.

"This program really opened the team members' eyes to the amount of waste we collect and the benefits of recycling food waste," Chili's General Manager Christina Uzeta said.

This pilot program improves the environment and helps businesses better manage their disposal costs. Additionally, it assists the City of West Covina to meet the state's waste diversion requirements.

During this pilot program period, more than 23 tons of organic materials have been collected from the three participating restaurants.

FOOD WASTE COLLECTION

All Food
fruits, vegetables, meat, poultry, seafood, shellfish, bones, rice, beans, pasta, bread, cheese and eggshells. ✓

Food-soiled Paper
waxed cardboard, napkins, paper towels, paper plates, paper milk cartons, tea bags, coffee filters, wooden crates, serviettes. ✓

Plants
food trimmings, tree trimmings, leaves, grass, brush, weeds. ✓

Athens Services
WEST COVINA



Attention West Covina Residents

Gas Company Warns Customers About Utility Imposters

Southern California Gas Co. ("SoCalGas") is alerting customers to be aware of persons who have recently posed as SoCalGas employees. According to a news account, the imposters distract an unsuspecting customer by performing "gas leak inspections" while an accomplice burglarizes the customer's home.

SoCalGas wants to assure all customers that all SoCalGas employees carry proper identification when called out to any job. Customers should verify the employee's proper uniform and identification before letting anyone into the home or onto the property.

Customer safety is a top priority for SoCalGas, and employees will always be

happy to wait while the customer confirms their identity.

Here are some tips to help customers identify SoCalGas employees:

- Be vigilant and question any persons who present themselves as representatives of the utility.
- SoCalGas workers who perform in-home appliance services, work on gas meters or work on gas pipelines wear uniforms. However, some other employees do not. Always ask for identification before allowing anyone inside the home or onto the property.
- The majority of authorized SoCalGas employees will be in uniform with company logo and carry an official employee badge.

Most field employees also drive a company vehicle.

• Most of the time, a SoCalGas employee visits a home or a business in response to a service request. If no one scheduled an appointment, call SoCalGas before allowing anyone inside the home or onto the property.

• Never leave the house unlocked and unattended. SoCalGas does not ask customers to leave their homes unattended.

• To verify the authenticity of anyone claiming to be a representative of SoCalGas, customers are encouraged to ask for proper identification or call the utility at (800) 427-2200; for Spanish, call (800) 342-4545. SoCalGas customer service representatives are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.



The Gas Company

CITY OF WEST COVINA
NOW OFFERING
PRE-SCHOOL PROGRAM

3 to 5 years of age ~ License #198016526
Palm View Center – 1340 E. Puente Ave.
Monday ~ Friday 6:30am – 6:00pm

\$20.00 Annual Registration Fee

<u>PART-TIME</u> (20hrs or less)	<u>FULL-TIME</u> (30 hrs or more)
\$105.00 per week	\$120.00 per week
\$25.00 per day	\$35.00 per day

For more information please call: (626) 339-4314

Get Into the Swim of Summer 2012



The City of West Covina offers many programs at the municipal pool, located at 1720 Merced Ave.

Swim lesson registration begins May 23rd for classes including Parent & Me (ages 6 months to 3 years), Tiny Tots (ages 3 to 5 years), six different levels of lessons, group swim lessons, individual lessons and more. Recreational swimming is also available at the city pool.

For more information about the many swim programs the City of West Covina has to offer, visit the city's Web site at www.westcovina.org or call the Community Services Department at (626) 939-8430.

You're Invited to

McINTYRE SQUARE GRAND OPENING

For the past four years, the former County Club Center in West Covina had been undergoing many renovations, transforming it into the now completed McIntyre Square, a first-class neighborhood center that offers state-of-the-art amenities, quality shops and a shopping experience that would be a combination of Disneyland and Victoria Gardens.

McIntyre Square, located at Citrus Street and South Garvey Avenue, is truly a neighborhood center. The McIntyre Company revived the center with the goal to provide West Covina residents more than just another shopping center.

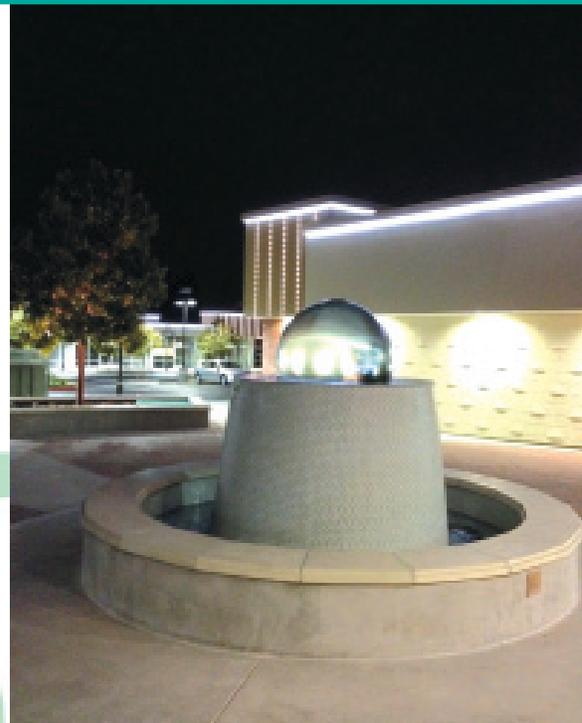
McIntyre Square was designed and built to provide residents a "downtown" square ambiance, where families can spend their night out, couples can enjoy dates and young adults can intermingle in a venue where the community can gather and socialize. In addition, McIntyre Square welcomes residents to taste the

juicy blood oranges that surround the center when they are in season.

No detail was overlooked when The McIntyre Company renovated the center: the design of the buildings, the glamorous lights that illuminate the buildings, the parking lot lights that offer a nostalgic look, the lush landscaping that's not only aesthetically pleasing but has an alluring aroma, the 50-foot mature cedar tree that provides shade to the central square, the spectacular custom-designed water fountain with suspended glass ball, the soothing sounds of music playing throughout the center, and free Wi-Fi for the center's tech-savvy patrons.

McIntyre Square's grand opening ceremony is scheduled for Wednesday, April 11th from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. to commemorate the renovation of the center.

For more information, visit www.facebook.com/McIntyreSquare or call The McIntyre Company at (626) 332-2978.



Mark Your Calendar
for April 28th

3rd Annual 5K Run/Walk

On Saturday, April 28 at 8 a.m., the Rotary Club of West Covina will hold its third annual 5K race at Westfield West Covina.

Funds from the race will benefit one of the local middle schools in West Covina, by assisting with the installation of a fitness trail and exercise equipment to be installed on campus. This is the Rotary Club's second effort to address the issue of childhood obesity in West Covina through the donation of funds raised from this event.

For further details or to register to participate, visit the Web site at www.wcrotary.com and look for the "Heart of the Valley 5K run" tab or call (626) 692-8467.

Castucci Foundation and West Covina City Council present
Egg-Citing Hunt on Saturday, March 31st, 10:00 a.m. to noon.
Call (626) 939-8430 for information.



twitter



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on Twitter!

@CityofWCovina



Photo courtesy of SGV Tribune, Watchara Phomicinda

West Covina Fire Department
personnel receive training on new
CPR technology to aid citizens.
L-r: Firefighter/paramedic Mike
Browne, fire engineer Hardy Mosley,
fire Explorer Carlos Cano and fire
Explorer Jonathan Saucedo.



An Arbor Day tree planting
ceremony was held at Monte
Vista School as part of the Dr.
Seuss 50th birthday celebration.

Have any new ideas for "Discover West Covina?" E-mail us:
Discoverwestcovina@westcovina.org or mail to: West Covina City Hall,
City Manager's Office, Attn: PIO Sue Williams, 1444 W. Garvey Ave., West Covina, CA 91793



WEST COVINA
CITY COUNCIL

Mayor: Mike Touhey
Mayor Pro Tem: Shelley Sanderson
Councilmember: Steve Herfert
Councilmember: Fred Sykes

City of West Covina
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