



# Discover WestCovina

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF WEST COVINA

June/July  
2010

A publication  
provided for residents by  
the City of West Covina



WWW.WESTCOVINA.ORG

## JULY IS PARKS & RECREATION MONTH!

Celebrate!

Celebrate Parks & Recreation month this July by visiting your neighborhood park with family and friends or try a community park you've never visited before. Check out all the affordable programming the West Covina Community Services Department has to offer in the Community Recreation Guide at [www.westcovina.org/cityhall/rec/guide.asp](http://www.westcovina.org/cityhall/rec/guide.asp).

Try a new recreation program or class, swim at the pool, visit a community center and meet the friendly staff, shoot some hoops at the gym, register for a day camp or take a leisurely walk surrounded by nature on one of the trails.

Don't be left out of all the fun! A recent public-opinion research study conducted by the California Park & Recreation Society revealed that 98 percent of California households visit a park once a year. Half of California households reported that someone in their household participated in a structured park program at least once in the past year.

Parks are a vital aspect of every community, so if you have no time for a vacation, then enjoy a "staycation" and visit your local neighborhood park with family and friends.

For more information on recreation programs and facilities, call Cameron Community Center at (626) 919-6966, Shadow Oak Community Center at (626) 965-0328, Galster Nature Center at (626) 919-0715, or visit City Hall, Room 316, (626) 939-8430.



## XXI Forever is Now Open at Westfield

The newly completed XXI Forever opened its doors on April 17 at Westfield West Covina. XXI Forever is the name for the newest flagship stores for Forever 21 that are opening throughout the country.

XXI Forever offers trendy fashions and accessories for young women and men. The new two-story XXI Forever in West Covina is one of the largest XXI Forever stores, covering more than 30,000 square feet of fashion needs as well as the 21Men clothing line.

The City of West Covina and the Community Development Commission assisted Westfield America and XXI Forever in providing entitlement assistance.

## Learn to Swim!

The City of West Covina is proud of its swimming programs and the vital role that safe swimming plays in the good physical and mental health of all ages and skill levels.

This summer, well-trained recreation aquatic staff will teach more than 2,000 swim lessons to youth, teens and adults, contributing to the quality of life in West Covina.

The public pool is also available to rent for private use. Come and enjoy the pool staffed by West Covina lifeguards for your next birthday party, luau or family event.

For reservation details and availability, or any aquatic program information, call the pool office at (626) 960-7266 or Cameron Community Center at (626) 919-6966. Information is also posted online at [www.westcovina.org](http://www.westcovina.org).



## Southern California Utilities Offer Discounts and Energy Efficiency Assistance

Southern California Edison (SCE) and Southern California Gas Co. (The Gas Company) have teamed up during the continuing economic crisis to help customers having trouble paying their utility bills.

SCE and The Gas Company offer the California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE) program, which provides a discount of 20 percent on qualifying customers' monthly electric and natural gas bills. Based on current estimates, nearly 155,000 SCE customers and 230,000 Gas Company customers are eligible for the CARE program but have not yet enrolled. Customers who sign up for CARE with one utility are usually enrolled in the other utility's program automatically.

To learn more about economic assistance and energy efficiency programs and other ways the utilities help customers keep current on their bills, visit SCE at [www.sce.com/assistance](http://www.sce.com/assistance) or call (800) 950-2356; and visit The Gas Company at [www.socalgas.com/extrahelp](http://www.socalgas.com/extrahelp) or call (800) 427-2200.

## How Dog Owners Can Help Keep West Covina Beautiful and Safe

**A**s the summer season approaches, more people will be allowing their dogs outside. Help keep West Covina beautiful and safe by remembering to follow the City of West Covina Municipal Code:

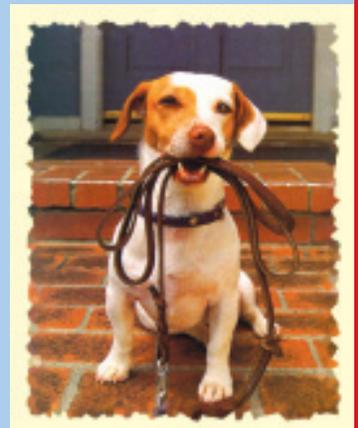
Section 6-4 – “Every person who is the owner of a dog ... shall keep upon premises under control of such person, restrained by a fence, cage, coop, chain, leash or other adequate means so that such animal shall not leave the premises upon which it shall be kept.

Any dog ... may be off the premises of its owner ... if the animal is under the control and supervision ... and is restrained by a chain, rein, harness, or leash ... leash shall not exceed six (6) feet in length.”

Section 27 – “It shall be unlawful and a nuisance for any person owning, keeping, or having in his/her custody any animal ... to defecate or urinate on public property or improved public property other than that which belongs to the animal owner or custodian, or in any other way, create a nuisance.”

Section 6-31 – “No person having custody of a dog ... or other domestic animal shall allow such animal in any public park or public place ... unless such animal is restrained by a substantial leash not to exceed six (6) feet in length and is in charge of a person competent to restrain such animal.”

For more information on West Covina's municipal code, visit [www.westcovina.org](http://www.westcovina.org).



## Census Bureau Personnel Currently Visiting Residents

The United States Census Bureau mailed out questionnaires in mid-March. Approximately 75 percent of residents responded by filling out and mailing in their questionnaires. However, approximately 25 percent of residents did not return their questionnaires. Therefore, Census Bureau personnel are visiting those residences through the month of July in an effort to achieve a complete count.

To make sure residents know about the census takers, it is important that West Covina residents are aware of the following:

- All census takers carry official government badges marked with their name only. No photograph is included.
- Most census takers might carry a "U.S. Census Bureau" bag.
- The Census Bureau will not ask for Social Security information, immigration status, or bank account or credit card numbers, nor will employees solicit donations.
- Census takers will not contact you by e-mail, so beware of e-mails claiming to be from the Census Bureau.
- Most importantly, census takers will never, under any circumstances, ask to enter your home.



The City of West Covina encourages everyone to complete and return the questionnaire, as the information is used to determine funding and electoral districts.

If you are unsure about the identity of a census taker, you may call the Los Angeles Regional Center of the Census Bureau at (818) 717-6700.



## Spend Your Summer in West Covina Parks!

SPACE TO PLAY AND LEARN • SPACE TO BE SAFE AND SECURE • SPACE TO CREATE AND IMAGINE

**T**he West Covina Community Services Department is committed to providing safe, secure recreation facilities for youth, teens and adults to play and learn.

A well-trained, enthusiastic recreation staff has prepared a menu of summer programs that foster human development and encourage

participants of all ages to create and imagine.

During this economic time, check out the West Covina Community Recreation Guide posted on the City's Web site at [www.westcovina.org](http://www.westcovina.org) for affordable summer programs and events. Don't miss out on the fun! Last year, more than 29,000 participants

enjoyed the Cameron Community Center alone.

For more information on recreation programs and facilities, call Cameron Community Center at (626) 919-6966, Shadow Oak Community Center at (626) 965-0328, Galster Nature Center at (626) 919-0715 or visit City Hall, Room 316, (626) 939-8430.

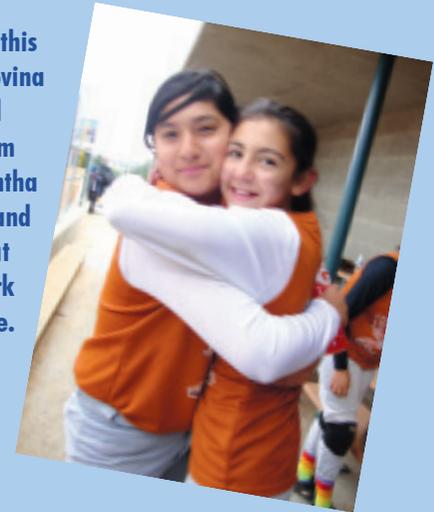
# Live, Work & Play in West Covina

In the last two issues of Discover West Covina, we asked residents to send us photos showing people as they "Live, Work & Play in West Covina." Here are some of the photos we received. We will include more photos in future issues, so keep them coming!



**Above:** Ileana Allan took this photo at the West Covina Symphony's performance of "Beethoven's 8th Symphony" on April 25.

**Photo right:** Lilly Urena sent this photo of West Covina Girls Softball "Skittles" team members Samantha Medrano, left, and Alyssa Arias at BLD Sportspark during a game.



**Above:** Marilyn Carrillo sent this photo of her 5-year-old daughter, Daisy Carrillo, playing next to a snowman at Winterfest at the West Covina Civic Center.



**Above:** Lilly Urena sent this photo of West Covina Girls Softball team "Skittles" at BLD Sportspark after a win.

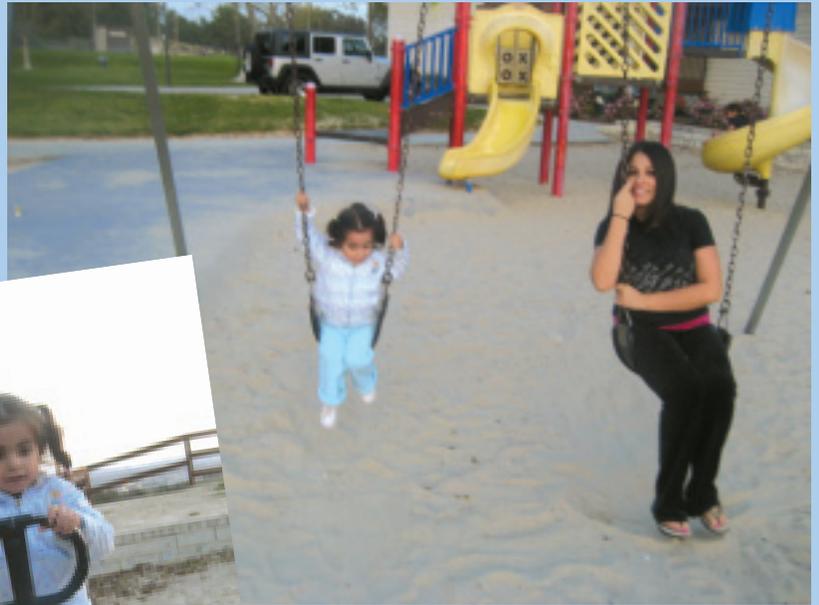


**Photos right:** West Covina resident Chris Beatty's 7-year-old daughter, Jayme Leilani Beatty, playing with the West Covina Youth Soccer league at the field of Edgewood Middle School.





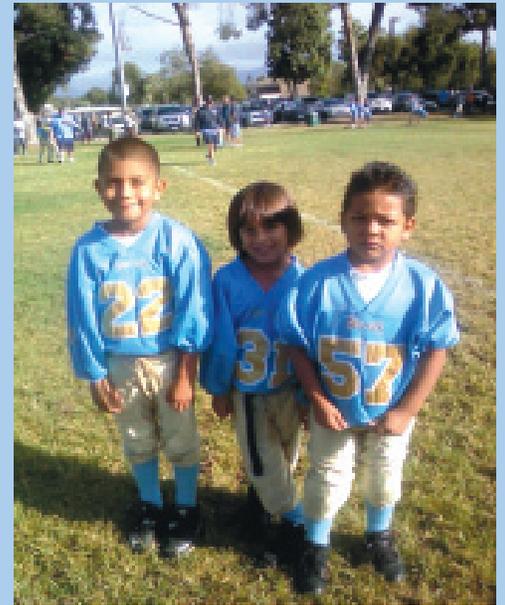
Above: E Morales sent this photo of Franklin Morales, Player of the Game for the West Covina Yankees Foal Division at Walmerado Park.



Photos above and to the left: Glenda Coronado recently visited Shadow Oak Park with her mom and her 3-year-old niece.



Above: Letty Renteria's son playing for West Covina American Little League at Cortez Park in West Covina.



Above: Letty Renteria sent this photo, "West Covina Bruins love WC"

**SHOW US HOW YOU 'LIVE, WORK & PLAY' IN WEST COVINA!**

The City of West Covina is looking for photos of people doing the typical things you do as you "Live, Work & Play" in West Covina. Send us photos of you enjoying a city park, taking a city class, gardening in the yard of your West Covina residence, working at a local West Covina business, purchasing a car at a West Covina auto dealership, shopping at one of the shopping centers, visiting West Covina City Hall, buying goodies at a bakery, shopping at a local grocery store, having lunch at a local restaurant, etc. Please note that all photos must be taken in West Covina, at a West Covina location.

Send us your photos and we will include some of them, as space permits, in future editions of Discover West Covina. E-mail your photos to [discoverwestcovina@westcovina.org](mailto:discoverwestcovina@westcovina.org) or mail them to West Covina City Hall, City Manager's Office, PIO Sue Williams, 1444 W. Garvey Ave., P.O. Box 1444, West Covina, CA 91793.

## Transportation Services Available in West Covina

### GO WEST

Go West provides service to many West Covina destinations, including Westfield West Covina, Eastland Shopping Center, West Covina Civic Center, Cameron Community Center and many others. At 50 cents each way, Go West is a real bargain.

For the location of shuttle stops, assistance in locating the stops closest to



you and route schedules, call (800) 425-5777 or visit the City's Web site, [www.westcovina.org](http://www.westcovina.org), to view route maps and schedules.

### WESTCO DIAL-A-RIDE

WestCo Dial-A-Ride is a shared curb-to-curb service provided on an appointment basis for seniors and disabled residents of West Covina. Customers may travel to or from any location within city limits, for any purpose. Fares are 50 cents one way. Escorts and children younger than 5 ride free. Fares must be paid at time of boarding.

Customers will need to submit an application to the City of West Covina before they can begin using the service. For

an application, call the Community Services Department at (626) 939-8430, or visit the City's Web site at [www.westcovina.org](http://www.westcovina.org). Allow five business days for processing your application.

### ACCESS SERVICES

Access Services is a public transportation service mandated by the Americans with Disabilities Act. This service is available for people who are unable to independently use the bus or light-rail services in Los Angeles County for all or some of their trips.

For more information, call Access Services Customer Service at (800) 827-0829 and press "1" or visit the Web site at [www.asila.org](http://www.asila.org).

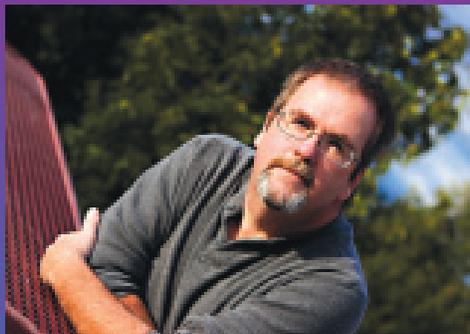
## Local Published Author Works with City of West Covina's Community Services Department

The Community Services Department presents several opportunities for residents to witness the various talents of artist and published author Bill Wilbur, whose most recent western-themed novel is "Saragosa," written for his father.

### Artist's Luncheon

Wilbur is the owner of Eden Luna Photography in West Covina. As a local resident, he takes great pride in capturing the unique elements of West Covina's architecture, landmarks and obscure scenes that make this city interesting.

On Wednesday, June 23, Wilbur will be the guest of honor at the Senior Center's Artists Luncheon beginning at 10 a.m. Seniors and guests will be challenged to identify common photos of notable images and artifacts in West Covina. For more information, call (626) 331-3508.



**Bill Wilbur** Photo by Evelyn Wilbur

### Photo and Creative Writing Contest

An accomplished artist himself, Wilbur champions opportunities for individuals to explore the artists inside them. If you have a novice or advanced interest in photography or writing short stories, visit the City's Web site at [www.westcovina.org](http://www.westcovina.org) for rules and instructions to enter a contest for youth and adults.

All contest entries must be submitted by e-mail to [artist@westcovina.org](mailto:artist@westcovina.org). Winners will be selected each month.

### Writer in the Window

If you've ever wondered what it takes to write a western novel, now's your chance to see it, literally, in action! On Thursday, June 17 from 7 to 9:30 p.m., the City of West Covina and Barnes and Noble Booksellers, 960 Lakes Drive, will host "Writer in the Window."

This free event will feature a live writing segment by Wilbur in the window of the bookstore. The audience will be invited to call out western-related subject matter, and without delay, Wilbur will create a story based on audience input. Upon completion, the audience will be treated to an authentic and original reading by the author himself.

During the event, families can partake in a number of thematic activities, including several raffles and cartooning instruction with local cartoonist Jonathan Burrell.



## Sign Up Your Child for Tiny Tots Program

In the City of West Covina's Tiny Tots program, children learn their ABC's and 1-2-3's in a fun-filled, activity-oriented environment. The instructors from Bright Stars Academy are geared up to teach children colors, shapes, numbers and the alphabet. Having fun is mandatory! Each session is filled with music, arts and crafts, games, outdoor play and story time.

For more information on the Tiny Tots program, recreation classes or facility rentals held at Shadow Oak Community Center, call (626) 965-0328, or visit the City Web site at [www.westcovina.org](http://www.westcovina.org).

## West Covina Honored with 'Distinguished School' and 'Academic Achievement' Awards

**A**t a recent West Covina City Council meeting, the mayor presented recognition and congratulations to elementary schools in West Covina that were selected by the California State Department of Education.

The "2010 Distinguished School Award" honorees are Vine Elementary, Rowland Elementary and Merced Elementary. This award identifies and honors schools that

have demonstrated educational excellence for all students and progress in narrowing the achievement gap. In order to qualify for this award, these schools were required to meet a variety of criteria, including federal and state accountability measures, yearly progress, and the requirements stipulated by the Academic Performance Index.

The "2010 Title I Academic Achievement

Award" honorees are Orangewood Elementary and San Jose-Edison Academy. This award is given only to schools receiving federal Title I funds, which is the single largest federal educational program for K-12 public education.

Congratulations to all students and faculty for being honored with these state awards. Keep up the great work!

## SHOP LOCALLY, BUY IN WEST COVINA

*Sales Taxes from All Purchases Are Used for Your City Services*



**Clippinger Chevrolet**  
1932 E. Garvey Ave. South  
(626) 732-0081

**Clippinger Chrysler-Jeep-Dodge**  
298 N. Azusa Ave.  
(626) 339-3900

**Clippinger Ford**  
2000 E. Garvey Ave. South  
(626) 339-6291

**Clippinger Mazda**  
2539 E. Garvey Ave. North  
(626) 966-0681

**Crestview Cadillac**  
2700 E. Garvey Ave. South  
(626) 966-7441

**Norm Reeves Honda Superstore**  
1840 E. Garvey Ave. South  
(626) 756-3800

**Penske Audi**  
2016 E. Garvey Ave. South  
(626) 384-3400

**Penske Mercedes Benz**  
2010 E. Garvey Ave. South  
(626) 859-1200

**Reynolds Buick/Pontiac GMC**  
345 N. Citrus St.  
(626) 966-4461

**West Covina Nissan**  
205 N. Citrus St.  
(626) 732-1000

**West Covina Toyota/Scion**  
1800 E. Garvey Ave. South  
(626) 859-7400



**NORM REEVES  
HONDA SUPERSTORE**



**PENSKE AUDI**



**WEST COVINA  
NISSAN**

# SAVE THESE DATES!

**SATURDAY, JUNE 19** - Electronic Waste Roundup, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.,  
West Covina Maintenance Yard, 825 S. Sunset Ave. Call (626) 939-8458.

**SATURDAY, JUNE 26** - Free Smart Gardening Composting Workshop,  
9:30 to 11:30 a.m., West Covina Senior Center, 2501 E. Cortez St.  
Call (626) 939-8458 to reserve your bin and spot in the workshop.

**SATURDAY, JUNE 26** - San Gabriel Valley Job & Resource Fair,  
10 a.m. to 1 p.m., West Covina City Hall, 1444 W. Garvey Ave.



*The City of West Covina's 2010 Earth Day event drew a large crowd of several hundred West Covina residents to Galster Wilderness Park for a fun-filled day of "earth-wise" activities.*



## WEST COVINA CITY COUNCIL

Mayor: Shelley Sanderson  
Mayor Pro Tem: Steve Herfert  
Councilmember: Roger Hernández  
Councilmember: Sherri Lane  
Councilmember: Mike Touhey

City of West Covina  
1444 W. Garvey Ave.  
P.O. Box 1440  
West Covina, CA 91793

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## Home Energy Performance: Does Your House Measure Up?

*San Gabriel Valley Energy Wise Partnership  
to Host Free Workshop on July 10*

Did you know that simple weatherization measures are some of the most affordable and effective ways to achieve energy and money savings in your home? While solar panels may be all the rage, simple, affordable improvements will eliminate your home's wasted energy and increase your comfort.

The San Gabriel Valley Energy Wise Partnership will host a free workshop in West Covina on Saturday, July 10 from 9 a.m. to noon. The workshop will take place in the Community Room at West Covina City Hall, 1444 W. Garvey Ave.

This workshop will offer money-saving solutions ranging from quick energy-efficiency fixes to green remodeling or retrofitting options so you can take advantage of the latest technology, rebates, tax credits and incentives available to homeowners that help offset the costs of these improvements.

Space is limited, so registration is required. Call (626) 564-9702 or visit [www.sgvenerywise.org](http://www.sgvenerywise.org) to register to attend.



**HAVE ANY NEW IDEAS FOR "DISCOVER WEST COVINA?"  
E-MAIL US: [DISCOVERWESTCOVINA@WESTCOVINA.ORG](mailto:DISCOVERWESTCOVINA@WESTCOVINA.ORG)  
OR MAIL TO: WEST COVINA CITY HALL,  
CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE, ATTN: PIO SUE WILLIAMS,  
1444 W. GARVEY AVE., P.O. BOX 1440, WEST COVINA, CA 91793**