

October 2020

Volume 23 Issue 8

# CITY OF DIAMOND BAR NEWS.COM

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## Diamond Bar Skatepark and Playgrounds Are Now Open

**CITY OF DIAMOND BAR**

**Diamond Bar** - The skatepark in Peterson Park and all outdoor playgrounds have re-opened in Diamond Bar following the latest guidance from the California Department of Public Health and approval by the Los Angeles County Public Health Department and Board of Supervisors.

In order to use the skatepark or playgrounds, individuals must not be exhibiting any signs or symptoms of COVID-19 (fever, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing) and must comply with the following safety and courtesy requirements:

- Wear a face covering over the nose and mouth at all times.

This is required for everyone age 2 and older.

- Keep a close watch on your children to ensure they maintain at least six feet of distance from non-household members.

- Wash or sanitize your hands and that of your children before and after using any playground equipment.

- Refrain from eating or drinking to ensure face masks are worn at all times.

- Limit your playtime to 30 minutes when others are present.

Additionally, it is advised that older adults and individuals with underlying medical conditions avoid playground areas

see **Open** page 2



Photo Courtesy: City of Diamond Bar.

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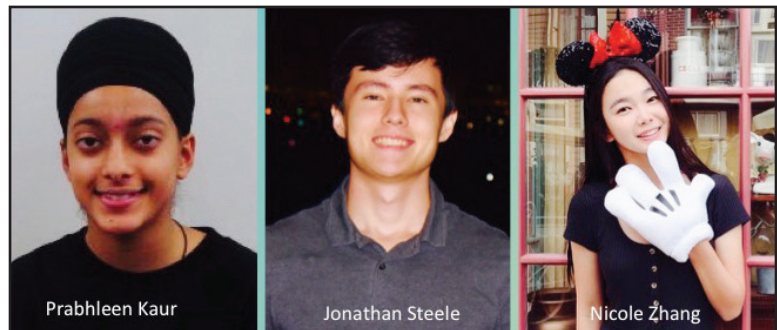
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**Our Response to COVID-19**  
To our members and advertisers:

We hope that you and your loved ones remain healthy and safe during the Covid-19 pandemic. Our thoughts and best wishes are with all in these difficult times.

### LOCAL NEWS

## 2021 National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists



Walnut High School seniors Prabhleen Kaur, Jonathan Steele, and Nicole Zhang have been named 2021 National Merit Scholarship semifinalists.

**KELLI GILE**

**Walnut** - Nineteen Walnut Valley USD seniors have been named 2021 National Merit Scholarship semifinalists, tak-

ing the first step in the highly selective process to earn the distinguished finalist honor.

see **Merit** page 3

## Walnut High Science Teacher Engages Students With Virtual Games, Labs, Collaboration

**KELLI GILE**

**Walnut** - Walnut High School science teacher Janice Zhen isn't letting distance deter her commitment to students.

"I'm doing everything I can to make sure the experience is as educational and fun as if we were in a physical classroom," the IB and Honors Biology teacher pledged.

"The biggest challenge has been hands-on experiments," said the 20-year veteran educator who has come up with a few solutions.

Zhen now conducts virtual



Walnut High School biology teacher Janice Zhen conducts virtual lab demonstrations for students during distance learning.

lab demonstrations via Zoom so that students can still ob-

see **Science** page 3

### Our Featured Businesses

## Centro Basco: French Cuisine In Chino

**MICHAEL ARMIJO**

**Chino** - If you're tired of the traditional restaurants in your area you have to try a classy and delicious place locally here in Chino since 1940. Centro Basco French Restaurant, located at 13432 S. Central Avenue, just south of



Centro Basco Restaurant is open Wednesday through Sunday and can be reached at 909.628.9014, [www.centrobasco.net](http://www.centrobasco.net), or just stop by at 13432 S. Central Avenue, just a block south of Chino avenue in Chino.

see **Cuisine** page 2

## Inland Christian Home: Quality Environment For Seniors

**STAFF REPORTS**

**Ontario** - Inland Christian Home, was founded by a number of local churches and began providing services in 1978. The primary mission



Inland Christian Home is located at 1950 S. Mountain Ave. in Ontario. To learn more about their facility or to schedule a tour, call (909) 467-6153 or (909) 983-0084 visit [www.ichome.org](http://www.ichome.org).

see **Inland** page 2



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PUBLIC RELATIONS

## Centro Basco: French Cuisine In Chino

**Cuisine from page 1**

Chino Avenue, has been the best kept secret and the oldest Basque restaurant in the Valley. Featuring delicious and tasty menu items brought here for the Basque lands stretch along the Pyrennes Mountains in the southern region of France and north region of Spain. The hometown of the owner Monique Berterretche can be found just outside of St. Jean Pied Port, France.

Featuring lunch menu items, served from 11 am to 2:30 pm, such as breaded shrimp, fet-

tuccini Alfredo, calamari steak, rib eye and flat iron steak, lamb chops and their famous meatloaf meals, among many other menu items.

Centro Basco also serves burgers and sandwiches: Angus beef, steak, French dip, tuna salad, tuna melt, Lukinka sausage and meatloaf on sandwich bread, among other items.

For dinner, a four course meal will be impressive among you spouse or your clients. Serving French onion soup, salad, and bread, entrees include roasted chicken, chicken cordon blue, breast of chicken parmesan, fettuccini alfredo, Lukinka sau-

sage and noodles, fresh baked salmon, trout, breaded shrimp, rack of lamb, angus prime rib (14 oz), rib eye and flat iron steak, veal cutlet or pork loin chops just to name a few!

During lunch and before dinner you can always relax in their full service bar, open to those who want to have a relaxing drink prior to eating. Always greeted with a smile and a handshake, always feel free to enjoy the Basque family atmosphere.

Their freshly made entrees for lunch or dinner are always made from scratch and always available the four course meal option,

with soup of the day, salad, sourdough bread, and main course. The freshness of the food is always obvious along with the feeling of the Basque Country: friendliness and sense of family that is experienced amongst the Basque people. An atmosphere that makes coming to Centro Basco in Chino a unique, memorable and cherished experience.

Centro Basco Restaurant is open Wednesday through Sunday and can be reached at 909.628.9014, [www.centrobasco.net](http://www.centrobasco.net), or just stop by at 13432 S. Central Avenue, just a block south of Chino avenue in Chino.

See ad on page 4.

## Inland Christian Home: Quality Environment For Seniors

**Inland from page 1**

of the community is a reflection of the heritage of its founders: to provide quality affordable individualized care to seniors in a Christian environment, it's a place you can feel right at home. The community's non-profit status promotes this mission as there are no owners who profit from its operation and all the revenues received are reinvested into the operations of the facility.

As the baby boomer generation continues to age, it is important to know they have options. The aging process is not always an easy one and, at times requires the assistance of others. Inland Christian Home offers a community that assists in many ways. Its primary

mission is to provide quality, affordable, individualized care to seniors in a Christian environment, making it a place you can feel right at home.

Inland Christian Home, being licensed as a Continuing Care Retirement Community (CCRC) through the Department of Social Services, provides many different levels of care which include Independent Living, Assisted Living, Memory Care, Adult day care, Skilled Nursing and Rehab and Custodial Home care Services. The availability of different levels of care and service arrangements on the same grounds, offers seniors very unique advantages. Our philosophy is to encourage our residents to live as independently as possible at the lowest level of care. Our residents' individual

needs and desires are always considered in the arrangement of these services. We want Inland to be their home, not the facility in which they live, where all are treated as individuals and they participate and are given choices in how they live.

The availability of different levels of care and service arrangements on the same grounds offers residents some very unique advantages. Residents can continue to reside at the community even though their abilities may change. Resident and their families have the comfort in knowing that their needs will be met. Inland Christian Home is a close-knit community that promotes the maintaining of social relationship residents have with other residents, friends, and family.

Inland Christian Home also provides services to those who prefer to stay in their own homes. Custodial Home Care services make it possible by providing assistance with housekeeping, cooking, shopping, meal preparation, bathing, and dressing through educated caregivers.

Inland Christian Home is here to promote aging in place, and gives seniors the ability to live at the lowest level of care even though their abilities change and their families have the comfort in knowing their needs will be met; making it a place you can feel right at home.

Inland Christian Home is located at 1950 S. Mountain Ave. in Ontario. To learn more about their facility or to schedule a tour, call (909) 467-6153 or (909) 983-0084 visit [www.ichome.org](http://www.ichome.org).

## Diamond Bar Skatepark and Playgrounds Are Now Open

**Open from page 1**

services, visit [www.diamondbarca.gov/COVID19](http://www.diamondbarca.gov/COVID19) or call City Hall during its open hours of Monday-Thursday 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Friday 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**Los Angeles County Public Health Officer Order Regarding the Reopening Protocol for Outdoor Playgrounds**

The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health is adopting a staged approach, supported by science and public health expertise, to allow certain venues to safely re-

open. The requirements below are specific to Outdoor Playgrounds permitted to be open by the Order of the State Public Health Officer. In addition to the conditions imposed on these specific venues by the Governor, these venues must also be in compliance with the conditions laid out in this Checklist.

This protocol applies to outdoor playgrounds located in parks, campgrounds, and other publicly accessible locations. Indoor playgrounds and family entertainment centers are not currently allowed to open.

An outdoor playground is defined as those playgrounds

which are located fully outdoors, publicly accessible, free for entry and use, operated by a city, state, county, or federal government, designed primarily to serve nearby residents within a half a mile and typically includes recreational equipment, like play structures, slides, swings, etc. intended to enrich children's physical health and development. Outdoor playgrounds can provide state-mandated outdoor space for preschools, but their use should be scheduled in advance to avoid overlap with the public or with other schools.

City and County agencies

reserve the right to keep a playground closed if infection control or physical distancing requirements cannot be safely adhered to.

For the full list of protocols, visit: [http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/coronavirus/docs/protocols/Reopening\\_Outdoor-Playgrounds.pdf](http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/coronavirus/docs/protocols/Reopening_Outdoor-Playgrounds.pdf)

Learn more about the temporary changes to City operations, and access links to resources on how to protect yourself and others during this global health emergency: [www.diamondbarca.gov/covid19](http://www.diamondbarca.gov/covid19), call (909) 839-7000 or visit [info@diamondbarca.gov](mailto:info@diamondbarca.gov).

## Sixth Grader Sews, Donates Doggie Bowties

**KELLI GILE**

Chaparral Middle School 6th grader Ava Benitez has been busy building a "Dog Bowtique" online business during the COVID-19 quarantine.

She sews and sells personalized ties, bandanas, and ID tags on Facebook, Instagram, and Etsy.

Ava also donates the ador-

able creations to local animal shelters in hopes of fostering furry adoptions.

"I feel very happy doing something I like for the dogs that I feel passionate about," the 11-year-old shared.

In the past two months, she has donated more than 80 bowties to the Inland Valley Humane Society, Ranch Rescue Team, and Baldwin Park Ani-

mal Care and Control.

Her mother, Mary Ann, credits her daughter's service mentality to values instilled and lessons shared by teachers during her years at Maple Hill Elementary.

"I'm proud of the positive thing she's done in the midst of the pandemic!"



Ava Benitez, sixth grader (middle).



# 2021 National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists

## Merit from page 1

These high achieving students represent the top 1% in the country.

The students were among some 16,000 nationwide that were chosen from a pool of 1.5 million.

Congratulations to the following students on this accomplishment:

**Diamond Bar High School:** Sritaran Bondada, Emily Chen, Aaron Hao, Brandon Kam, Caitlin Lee, Camille McCurry, Celine Shen, Nathan Song, Claire Wang, Derek Wang, Benjamin Wu, Chelsea Wu, Breanna Yang, Jacob Zhi, Erin

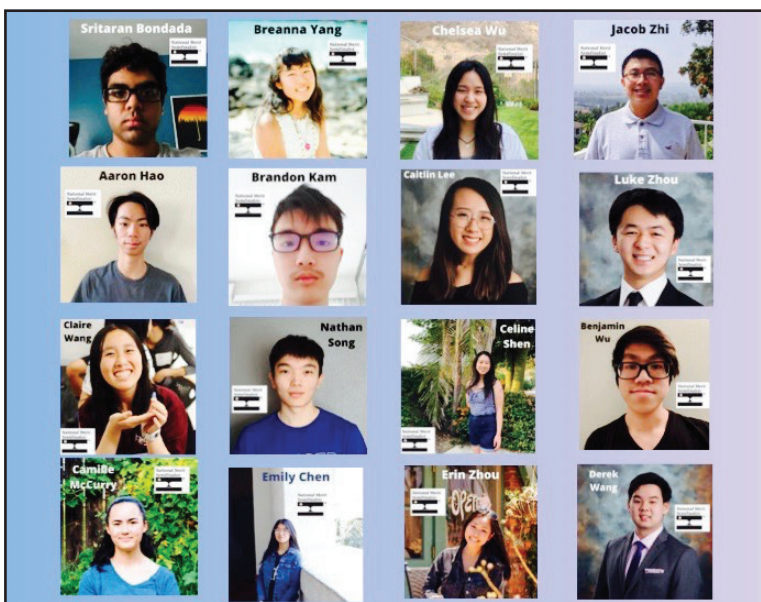
Zhou, and Luke Zhou.

**Walnut High School:** Prabhleen Kaur, Jonathan Steele, and Nicole Zhang.

All semifinalists have an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 7,600 National Merit Scholarship awards worth more than \$30, to be awarded in spring 2021.

To move onto the finalist round, students are judged based on an application covering their academic record, leadership abilities, employment, participation in school and community activities, and honors and awards received.

Students must also write an essay and be recommended by a high school official.



Sixteen Diamond Bar High School seniors have been named National Merit Scholarship semifinalists.

# Walnut High Science Teacher Engages Students With Virtual Games, Labs, Collaboration

## Science from page 1

serve, collect data, and make conclusions.

For labs that require common materials, she asks students to search for materials available at home.

The teens record themselves performing experiments and then submit on the Flipgrid video discussion website.

For labs that don't require materials, such as learning how exercise affects breathing rate, the class is able to participate together on Zoom.

"It makes the learning more fun!" she said.

Zhen delivers live instruction on the Zoom platform and checks for understanding using Peardeck where students answer questions using text, drawing, and multiple-choice.

"I can see their answers in real time and provide feedback," she said.

"It's a great way to engage all students and start insightful discussions."

To encourage collaboration remotely, Zhen often assigns students to Zoom breakout rooms for discussions and completing tasks.

One popular assignment is the Escape Room challenge that requires students to work together while solving different levels of clues.

"Today, you'll be using the scientific method in order to get out of this room that I trapped you in!" the chuckling teacher said.

Students enjoy applying the information learned in class to solve the puzzles and compete with each other, she commented.

Zhen also keeps the online sessions lively with games of Jeopardy, Kahoot!, Quizizz, Taboo, and Pictionary – all via Zoom, of course.

"What is gold?" freshman Phoebe Chin quickly responded to the 'What metal is heavier, silver or gold?' question.

"Congratulations, you scored 100 points!" the teacher chimed.



Walnut High students conduct experiments at home.

The next category was Enzymes for 500.

"This might be a hard one," Zhen prompted, reminding students to keep their hands on the virtual buzzers.

The teacher uses a free version of BuzzIn.live that adds a "cool sound effect to the challenges" and creates online game boards with JeopardyLabs templates.

"It would not be Jeopardy without the buzzer!" she said.

"The next question is: List three factors that might affect enzyme activity," Zhen recited.

"Temperature, PH, and concentration," answered freshman Marcus Truong.

"That is correct!"

Before the game begins, the biology teacher sends students an online access code.

A big green buzzer pops up on computer screens once they sign in.

Zhen is able to see the first player who buzzes in and wins the opportunity to answer the question.

"Students love the sound of the buzzer which stimulates the competitiveness in them!"

# What Lessons Should We Have Learned from This Pandemic?

## NANCY STOOPS

First and foremost, I want to say we take so many things for granted. Hopefully this pandemic has taught us to be grateful everyday for our lives, our health, our families, our friends, our pets, the beauty of nature, all the freedom we have and the abundance of basic necessities that most of us have. Hopefully we all have learned to be more patient and understand that after a storm we can find a rainbow if we take the time to look. I also hope that people have learned to be more present and mindful and have learned to live in the moment. Each moment we have the honor of being in is truly a gift. This is why it is called the present and hopefully you don't

throw presents away, instead you embrace them.

I hope that if you had some extra money, time, food, clothing or other basic essentials you made some donations. There is still a huge need and I promise it will make you feel better. There are many people that don't have the basics right now due to the pandemic and also the wildfires and could really use a hand right now. Instead of feeling sorry for yourself do something great with all of that emotion. By helping others whether they be people or animals you are making a difference. If everybody could give a little right now, we'd all feel better.

I hope all of you have found some inner strength you didn't even know you had. So

today and every day pat yourself on the back for who you are with the promise that tomorrow you will be an even better version of yourself. I hope all of you are doing well and know that we will all survive and come better versions of our already amazing selves!!!!!!

This article was written by Nancy Stoops M.A., M.F.T. Nancy is a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist. She has a private practice in Diamond Bar and is currently accepting new clients; she is also a motivational speaker who can inspire your employees or group members. Nancy runs free family support groups, a group on loss for seniors, and groups for more information about any of these services feel free to con-



tact her at 909 229-0727. You may e-mail Nancy at nancyjstoops@verizon.net You may purchase Nancy's books Live Heal and Grow and Midnight the Therapy Dog at Amazon.com.

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### CHINO HILLS

continued on page 6



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## Pastor's Corner: To Tell or Not To Tell

MARK HOPPER

Many years ago we took our children on a trip to California. We spent two days at Disneyland and then drove north to visit my brother and his family in Grass Valley. Our kids enjoyed time with their cousins and we enjoyed catching up with my brother and his wife.

One day we went to a pumpkin patch and each of our kids and the cousins selected their own pumpkin. They looked forward to carving and decorating their own pumpkins for Halloween when we got home. On our way back to Arizona we realized we would need to stop at the border for an agricultural inspection. We knew we would be asked by the border agent if we had any agricultural products that we were bringing into Arizona from California.

My wife and I had a lively dis-

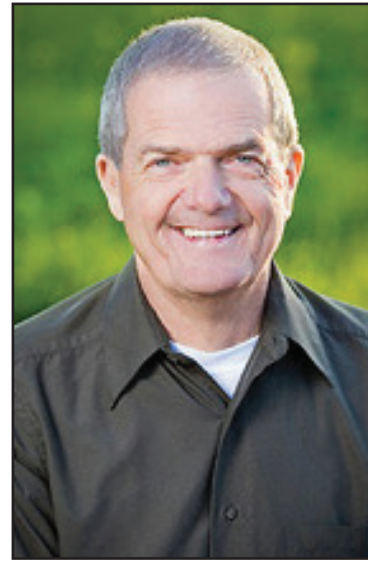
ussion about what we should say to the agriculture inspector. If we said that we did not have any agricultural items – our children would get to keep their precious pumpkins. But, our children would also know we did not tell the truth. On the other hand, if we did tell the border agent that we did have some agricultural items - their personal pumpkins might be confiscated at the border and they would have nothing to carve for Halloween.

What would you say if you were faced with a similar situation? Do you tell or not tell? Do you disclose or conceal. Do you tell the truth and risk the loss of the precious pumpkins? Or to you tell a lie and hope you don't get caught?

A man named Abraham faced a similar test. His wife was beautiful. He told her to lie and tell people she was his sis-

ter. He told the same lie when he was asked about her. Abraham was afraid someone might kill him and take his wife (Genesis 20). Years later his own son Isaac did the same thing following of his father's example (Genesis 26)!

I know people are more important than pumpkins. I believe it is better to tell the truth and face the consequences than to tell a lie. There is a verse in the Bible that says, "Put aside falsehood and speak truthfully" (Ephesians 4:25). Your reputation is on the line and your children may follow your example. When we got to the border we decided to tell the inspector about our precious pumpkins. We held our breath – then he said no problem. Pumpkins are permitted! Let me encourage you to tell the truth. We were glad we did and you will be too. You can find more stories



and articles by Mark Hopper at his web site - [letmarkencourageyou.com](http://letmarkencourageyou.com). His book with 365 stories and articles (one for each day of the year) is available for \$25 which includes postage - contact him at [markh@efreedb.org](mailto:markh@efreedb.org)

## Autism Mom: School Lunches

MELODY KRAEMER

Philippians 2:4 NKJV.

*"Let each of you look out not only for his own interests but also for the interests of others."*

My boys and I go out almost every day to pick up school lunches. If anything, it gets us out of the house for a bit and gives us a break from on-line school.

On this one particular day, as I turned down the school street, there was a car in front of me that was going very slow. It was obvious this person was looking for something or someone. I just drove around them and proceeded into the school.

I was anxious to get the

school lunches and get home before school started again. I still had to drop off something to a friend of mine, but she lived just right behind where the school was.

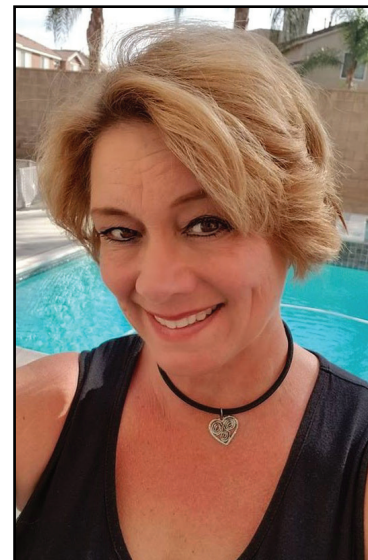
As I left my friend's house, I got in my car as a car pulled up beside me. They rolled down their window (it was that same car in front of me at the school going slowly). She asked if I knew how to get to the school. (I was confused a bit since she was right in front of the school.) I started to explain to her to go down the street, turn right, turn right again, and go to... I could see her face was saying, "what?"

At that moment, I said, follow me. So I had her follow me to

the front of the school. I pointed to the open driveway to get in, and I made a U-turn to go home. My son asked what I was doing, and did I know her? I said, no, I don't know her, but whenever you can help someone do it. He said, I bet she appreciates you getting her to the school. I replied, Well, we may just have answered her prayer.

"Remember, whenever you're in a position to help someone, be glad and always do it because that's God answering someone else's prayers through you."

Melody Kraemer is the Editor and Publisher of Macaroni Kid Jurupa Valley-Eastvale and Autism Mom Adventures. For more information or general en-



couragement, feel free to email her at: [autismmomofboys@gmail.com](mailto:autismmomofboys@gmail.com).

## Pastor's Corner:

DENNIS MORALES

*"In the day when I cried out, You answered me, and made me bold with strength in my soul."* Psalm 138:3

Daniel faced a powerful king and he faced Lions with great strength. When we read of Daniel facing Lions in the Lion's den, you have to wonder how Daniel was able to do it. Yes, he trusted God, but something brought him to the place of trust. We are told in Daniel 6 that a law had been passed prohibiting prayer to any god or any human other than the king. In fact, the punishment for breaking this law was being thrown to the Lions. It appears that what Daniel does next is what gives him strength. "When Daniel learned that the law had been signed, he went home and knelt down as usual in his upstairs room, with its windows open toward Jerusalem. He prayed three times a day, just as he had always done, giving thanks to his God" (Daniel 6:10 NLT).

Scripture tells us that Daniel

had always done this. Daniel was wired to pray when things got difficult. If obeying God meant certain death, he trusted God. It causes me to think about the things I do when things get difficult. I believe Daniel knew one of the keys to standing was actually kneeling. We are encouraged to resist worrying about anything; instead, pray about everything (Philippians 4:6 NLT). Daniel did just that. Daniel prayed and God gave him the strength to stand in the Lions Den.

As we read, Daniel trusted God, and God shut the mouths of the Lions. What are you facing today? Does it feel like a mountain? Do what Jesus did and go to the mountain and pray. God is able to shut the mouth of the enemy. God is also able to move mountains (Matthew 17:20). God is able to make you strong (Philippians 4:13). Pray and walk in His strength today.

Due to school closures, Calvary Chapel Eastvale is temporarily meeting in a "Drive In format" at American Heroes Park at 8:30am and 10:30am.



All midweek services can be viewed on Facebook Live at 7pm. Download our online bulletin to stay current at [calvaryeastvale.org](http://calvaryeastvale.org).

Join Calvary Chapel Eastvale for Bright Night. Bright Night is a fun and safe alternative to Harvest festivities for families on October 31st at 5PM through 8PM at the American Heroes Park, 6608 Hellman Ave. This is a free drive-thru event for all ages to enjoy the free candy, treats, and music. You can even join in the festivities by decorating your vehicle! For more information, visit [www.calvaryeastvale.org](http://www.calvaryeastvale.org) or see event flyer on page 7.

Continued from page 3

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# DIAMOND BAR ESPORTS LEAGUE

## ROCKET LEAGUE

Compete from home against others in the community!

REGISTRATION DATES: August 17 - September 4

Register online at [DIAMONDBARCA.GOV/RECREATION](http://DIAMONDBARCA.GOV/RECREATION)



CITY OF DIAMOND BAR

# BUSINESS RECOVERY PROGRAM

Business Grants | Outdoor Dining Rules Relaxed | Signage Restriction Rules Relaxed

COVID-19 Assistance for Diamond Bar Businesses



City of Diamond Bar

# HALLOWEEN COSTUME CONTEST



OCTOBER 1 through NOVEMBER 1

Your photo entry must be submitted by November, 1.

INFO: (909) 839-7070 or WWW.DIAMONDBARCA.GOV/ SPECIALEVENTS

City of Diamond Bar

# PUMPKIN DECORATING CONTEST



OCTOBER 1 - NOVEMBER 1

DIAMOND BAR RESIDENTS ALL AGES

Your photo entry must be submitted by November, 1.

INFO: (909) 839-7070 or WWW.DIAMONDBARCA.GOV/SPECIALEVENTS

