



Easter Bunny, egg hunt, more at Spring Fling



Celebrate Earth Day and spring at the city's annual Eco-Fun Faire and Spring Fling on April 15 at Oak Canyon Nature Center.

Children ages 3-11 can participate in an egg hunt, games, crafts, lunch and photos with the Easter Bunny. All attendees can also visit the Eco-Fun Faire to learn more about how to reduce, reuse and recycle to help the environment.

Check-in begins at 10 a.m., with activities running until 2 p.m. Children are asked to bring their own basket or container for the egg hunt. Please note that artificial grass is not allowed on the Oak Canyon Nature Center grounds due to the wildlife.

Pre-registration is highly recommended. Free lunch is limited to the first 600 participants. To register, call (714) 765-5191.

Spring is here, so look out for coyotes



Spring has arrived, which means residents across Southern California are starting to see more animals, including coyotes and snakes, in their neighborhoods and backyards.

Encounters with local wildlife are a fact of life, but take these easy steps to keep your family, pets and property safe.

- Closely supervise cats and small dogs when outdoors; keep them indoors if possible
- Keep pet food indoors
- Pick up fallen fruit from trees
- Store trash in covered, heavy-duty containers
- Remove potential shelter spots in your backyard, such as thick brush and weeds, and openings under porches and decks
- Eliminate garbage, debris and lumber piles
- Check fencing and eliminate access points to roof tops
- Change automatic sprinkler settings regularly

The city of Anaheim works with OC Animal Care on wildlife concerns in our city. For more what you can do, visit OCPetInfo.com.

New community center at Ponderosa



By year's end, residents around Ponderosa Park will have a new community center offering services for families.

Last year, the city broke ground on an 18,400-square-foot community center to replace an outgrown facility at the park.

The community center will play a big role in the lives of residents, many of them first- or second generation immigrants.

The facility is what we call a family resource center, offering homework help, field trips, sports, video games for kids. There are English-language, parenting, fitness and other classes for parents. Job seekers can get help with resumes and employment search, and anyone can get assistance with translation, filling out forms or referrals to legal aid and other nonprofit services.

Designed with the help of residents, the community center is at the heart of a \$16 million renovation taking shape at Ponderosa Park.

The project started with a 10,000 square-foot skate park, which opened last fall, and continues with the building of the community center. Next up is a new playground, water play area, outdoor plaza, outdoor exercise stations picnic areas and a community garden.

The entire project is set to finish in early 2018.

USA Volleyball donates equipment to schools



Students in the Anaheim Union High School District have brand new gear, after USA Volleyball donated \$200,000 worth of volleyball equipment last month.

Totaling more than 4,500 pieces, the donation included volleyball game jerseys, tank tops, practice warm-ups, jackets, kneepads and shoes.

USA Volleyball presented the donation at a commemorative event. At the event, 100 students from Katella, Magnolia and Savanna high schools also got to play on the same courts where USA Volleyball's national teams practice.

Since 2006, Anaheim has been the training site for the U.S. Men's National Volleyball Team, where they have gone on to win gold and bronze medals at the 2008 and 2016 Olympic Games, respectively.

Joining them in 2009, the U.S. Women's National Volleyball Team has since won silver and bronze medals at the 2012 and 2016 Olympic Games, respectively.

The national teams practice at the American Sports Centers on Anaheim Boulevard. For more, visit USAVolleyball.org.

Want to get involved in your city?



The City Council is reviewing all city boards and commissions and will consider appointments as early as April 25.

The city's nine boards and commissions advise the City Council on important matters concerning the city's land use, open space, recreation and city operations.

Board and commission members are some of the first people to address important issues in Anaheim.

So now is the time to apply and make an impact on your community.

Openings:

- Budget, Investment & Technology Commission
- Community Services Board
- Cultural & Heritage Commission
- Housing & Community Development Commission
- Library Board
- Parks & Recreation Commission
- Planning Commission
- Public Utilities Board
- Sister City Commission

If you're an Anaheim resident and interested in serving on a board or commission, submit your application by April 17.

A first review of applications is set for April 7. The Council will begin appointing all board and commission members on April 25.

For more details or to apply online, visit Anaheim.net/boardsandcommissions or call (714) 765-5166.

Host a student from Japan this summer



Bring the magic of Mito, Japan, into your home this summer by becoming a host family for exchange students.

Each year, the Anaheim Sister City Commission welcomes students from Mito and introduces them to everything Anaheim.

During their weeklong stay from July 28 to Aug. 6, the students will learn about Anaheim, visiting some of the top spots in the city. Think the Packing House, CtrCity, City Hall, Angel Stadium of Anaheim and, of course, Disneyland.

This is a once in a lifetime opportunity for the students and also for Anaheim families. Families will get a great experience and receive a stipend for serving as hosts.

Mito, just north of Tokyo, is one of three Anaheim sister cities along with Spain's Vitoria-Gasteiz and Pudong, China.

For more on becoming a host family, visit Anaheim.net/SisterCity.

Biking for clubs



Anaheim High and Sycamore Junior high school students will hit the pedals in support of their favorite campus clubs on Saturday, April 8.

Everyone is invited to the first Colony Bike-A-Thon at Anaheim High School for a day of family fun featuring a carnival, food, booths and activities.

Students have collected pledges and will ride a route spanning the Anaheim High campus and the Colony District. Younger students will ride around the high school's track.

The city of Anaheim is helping sponsor the event along with the Anaheim Union High School District Foundation, TheCyclist.com and Visit Anaheim.

Motorcycle officers from the Anaheim Police Department will perform riding demonstrations, while Anaheim Fire & Rescue will hand out helmets to promote biking and skating safety.

Community Services and Anaheim Public Utilities also will be there with helpful information for residents.

Here's what you need to know:

When: Saturday, April 8

Time: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Location: Anaheim High School

More info: (714) 765-5104

See your art on Anaheim water bottles



Student artists across the city could see their work on city of Anaheim water bottles passed out at community events.

Anaheim Public Utilities, our provider of water and electricity, is holding a student art contest for Water Awareness Month in May. Kids will have a chance to win prizes and promote water conservation.

All Anaheim students, from grades seven to 12, can submit artwork or a 30-second video that promotes the contest theme of “Every Drop Counts.”

Winners in the artwork category could have their work featured on Anaheim water bottles. Contestants in both categories will be entered to win an iPad.

Contest submissions are due by April 28. For more details, see the contest [flyer](#).