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## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE

**2024 BEST OF ORANGE COUNTY** LAKE FOREST 1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE WINNERS





















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**Taste of Lake Forest** Returns

City Manager's Message

City News and **Ribbon Cuttings** 

**Grant for Digital** Marketing Program 3

Food Waste Laws

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**City Of Lake Forest Economic Development** 

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## TASTE OF LAKE FOREST **RETURNS WITH FLAVORFUL DELIGHTS AND COMMUNITY CELEBRATION**

The City of Lake Forest, in partnership with the Lake Forest Chamber of Commerce, proudly hosted the return of the Taste of Lake Forest on Friday, June 21, at Heritage Hill Historical Park from 4:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The event sold over 800 tickets and welcomed over 1,000 attendees including staff and volunteers. The Taste of Lake Forest was supported by sponsors including the Chairman of the OC Board of Supervisors Don Wagner's Office, Orange County Parks, and CR&R Environmental Services.

The Taste of Lake Forest, which had been an annual event from 2011 to 2019, made its return after a four-year hiatus. The event showcased culinary delights from 28 local vendors, live entertainment from 90s Rockshow. and a beer and wine garden. Throughout the evening, guests enjoyed the opportunity to sample from local restaurants while participating in opportunity drawings, listening to announcements from the Mayor, and celebrating with an awards ceremony. During the ceremony, all participating restaurants were invited on stage for photos.

Attendees were encouraged to vote for their favorite dishes throughout the event. In a close competition, Urban Grill and Wine Bar took home the coveted "Best Taste of Lake Forest" award, while Board & Brew and A Little Something Sweet tied for second place, and Bravo Avo claimed third place. The event's return not only celebrated Lake Forest's resilient business community but also spotlighted the local flavor of Lake Forest.

The Taste of Lake Forest will return once again in the spring of 2025.



A Message From City Manager **DEBRA ROSE** 

As Lake Forest continues to evolve and thrive, I'm excited to share recent developments that highlight our commitment to fostering a vibrant community and supporting local businesses.

2024 was certainly a year of celebration for Lake Forest and its residents. In January, we were all still reminiscing on the 20-year anniversary of the etnies Skatepark, which has grown into a hub for community and recreation. After a four-year hiatus, the Taste of Lake Forest made its comeback on June 21, 2024, at Heritage Hill Historical Park. The success of this event not only highlighted our City's vibrant business community but also celebrated the local flavor of Lake Forest. In November, the 86-acre Lake Forest Sports Park turned 10 years old, a testament to Lake Forest's commitment to preserving and highlighting green spaces.

Looking ahead to 2025, we are excited to launch the Main St. Digital Program in partnership with the Small Business Development Center ("SBDC") and Cal State Fullerton. This \$50,000 initiative, part of the City's Strategic Economic Investment Program ("SEIP"), will provide Lake Forest businesses with essential digital marketing training and support. After completing the program, eligible businesses will receive grants to fund digital advertising campaigns.

In addition to supporting local businesses, Lake Forest remains dedicated to sustainability and compliance with California's food waste laws. Through our partnership with CR&R Environmental Services, Lake Forest businesses can set up food scrap recycling programs at half the cost of trash service. This initiative not only ensures compliance with State laws but also promotes environmental responsibility within our business community.

Together, we continue to make strides in strengthening our local economy, enhancing sustainability efforts, and building a bright future for Lake Forest. Thank you for being an essential part of our community's success!



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## **CITY NEWS**

#### **BUSINESS IN THE NEWS**

- 20 years of thrills: Etnies Skatepark celebrates milestone anniversary
- Revolutionizing Business Communications: smplsolutions Further Expands smplVoice
- BIOLASE Enhances Education Offerings
- Octane and Kawasaki Announce Strategic Agreement
- Staar Surgical Expands Footprint in Lake Forest
- Double R Ranch rustles up a tech hub to help residents succeed in transition from homelessness
- Oakley Honors Veterans with Team Rubicon Partnership and Armed Forces Collection

#### RIBBON CUTTINGS

ALDI

Angela Kung Acupuncture & Wellness Center Areteem Institute

Bliss Animal Hospital

Bosch eBike Systems

Boys & Girls Club of Laguna Beach

Bubbly Paws

Discount Mattress Lady

Fauna Veterinary Collective

Fetch! Pet Care OC Central

Gameday Men's Health

Goodwill OC

Goodwill OC, Lake Forest Donation Center

Lakani Dental Care

Mathnasium

Morena's Mexican Cuisine

ONYX Golf

Presotea

Redshift Coffee Roasters

Sana'a Café

Sonesta Simply Suites

Soul Aloe

The DEN

Valhallan Esports Training

Yoga Six

## CITY OF LAKE FOREST TO IMPLEMENT GRANT FOR **LOCAL BUSINESS DIGITAL MARKETING IN 2025**

The City of Lake Forest ("City") approved \$50,000 to be allocated toward the Small Business Development Center's ("SBDC") Main St. Digital Program ("Program"), a targeted initiative aimed at enhancing the digital presence of local businesses. Developed under the City's Strategic Economic Investment Program ("SEIP"), in partnership with the SBDC and Cal State University Fullerton Auxiliary Services Corp ("ASC"), this Program is poised to offer support to local businesses in developing an online presence.

The Program offers virtual, group-format training sessions and personalized consulting over a four-week

period to eligible businesses in Lake Forest. Sessions will cover various aspects of digital marketing, such as setting up online profiles, leveraging social media for customer engagement, and utilizing paid advertising to drive sales. Upon completion of the program, qualifying businesses will receive grants to support digital advertising campaigns. Completion of the Program not only equips businesses with practical digital skills but also positions them for sustainable growth in a competitive market landscape.

For more information on the program, please visit www.lakeforestca.gov/en/sbdc.

## **SORTING OUT FOOD WASTE LAWS**

If your business handles food. you're likely familiar with the various laws on food waste: AB 1826, AB 827, and SB 1383. Here's a quick guide to help make sense of these requirements:

• AB 1826: Requires businesses and multi-family properties to separate food scraps and landscaping waste from regular trash.

• AB 827: Mandates food establishments with customer self-service areas to provide separate bins for food scraps, recyclables, and trash.

• **SB 1383:** Expands on AB 1826, requiring food scrap programs and mandates certain businesses to donate edible food For more information, visit the to recovery organizations.

You may set up a food scrap recycling program by contacting

the City's waste hauler. CR&R. at LakeForest-Recycles@crrmail. com. CR&R can assist with implementation and training. Food scrap recycling containers are available at half the cost of regular trash service, potentially enabling compliance at no extra cost.

City's website: www.lakeforestca. gov/en/trashandrecycling/mercial-

#### How To Recycle: What Goes Where RECYCLABLES ORGANICS LANDFILL Glass From The Kitchen Mixed Products (i.e. Plastic/Metal Combination) Plastics (Numbers 1 through 7) Styrofoam Vegetables Metal Plates, Cups, Towels, Meat/Poultry • Empty Aerosol cans and Napkins • Dairy/Eggshells Aluminum & Tin Cans Non-Numbered plastics Seafood/Shellfish Bread/Grains/Pasta • Aluminum Foil Candy Wrappers Detergent Containers Coffee Grinds Chip Bags • Food-Soiled Paper Milk Containers Plastic Film Food Scraps/Leffovers Pet waste/litter Cardboard (flattened) Paper Mirrors (Computer, White, Colored, Palm fronds Grass Shredded, Newspaper Leaves Flowers Weeds Prunings DO NOT PLACE HAZARDOUS WASTE OR BATTERIES IN ANY OF YOUR WASTE CARTS OUSEHOLD Hazardous wastes are products that are flammable, corrosive, reactive or toxic. This includes batteries of all types. Please DO NOT dispose of hazardous waste in any CR&R containers HAZARDOUS Examples of Hazardous Waste include: • Fluorescent light tubes • Household batteries • Latex or water based paint • Non empty aerosol cans • Thermostats • High intensity discharge lam Customer Service: 800.826.9677 • www.crrinc.com

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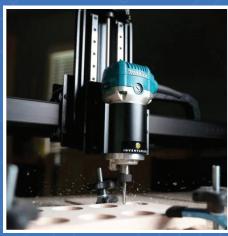
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