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San Gabriel Grapevine

AUTUMN 2009 VOLUME 14 • ISSUE IV

www.sangabrielcity.com

San Gabriel Goes Green

The San Gabriel City Council is formally linking, under the title of *San Gabriel Goes Green*, a variety of initiatives occurring throughout City departments designed to 'green' our operations and improve service to the community. The Council's action puts the City on record that we are no longer a business as usual kind of place when it comes to helping to preserve the environment.

San Gabriel Goes Green, posted on the City's web site at http://www.sangabrielcity.com identifies the actions the City has already taken, and how we can build on that foundation to achieve even greener results. The City Council supports initiatives to help protect the earth, make our operations more sustainable, and to conserve energy and water. Examples from the dozens of activities to be undertaken in the coming year include:

- Streamlining development review for green projects.
- Planting more trees.
- Investigating how we can establish community gardens.
- Purchasing environmentally friendly cleaning products.

Many of the issues that the City wants to address will require a sustained effort over many years, and participation from individuals, businesses, community groups, and other members of the community. Others are actions and programs that can be implemented in the short term to lead us toward the City's goal of being greener. Some of those short term successes are highlighted below.

"The City Council supports initiatives to help protect the earth, make our operations more sustainable, and to conserve energy and water"

REDUCING SOLAR EQUIPMENT PERMIT FEES

A recent newspaper article published research by the Sierra Club documenting that San Gabriel had comparatively high fees for reviewing plans and issuing permits for solar equipment. The Building Division was asked to figure out how to bring those fees more in line with other jurisdictions and thereby encourage more solar installations. Staff concluded that by assessing fees based on the cost of services rather than by valuation, fees could be cut in half, dropping San Gabriel's rank in the survey from fifth highest to below the median. The change was implemented in August.

REDUCING AIR POLLUTION

When vehicles wear out, the Public Works Division now purchases hybrid vehicles. Hybrids help to reduce the carbon imprint and improve air quality. Today, the City's current vehicle fleet is comprised of more than 25 percent alternative fuel vehicles, including 19 compressed natural gas and three electric/gasoline hybrids that have increased fuel efficiency and reduce pollution. In August, the City purchased two more hybrids to replace two outdated vehicles. The purchase was paid for by the grants from the Air Quality Management District.

The City is also retrofitting other vehicles not scheduled for replacement. The heavy duty diesel fueled fleet of vehicles was outfitted with particulate filters, removing harmful particulate emissions. Additionally, the City replaced one 1988 heavy duty diesel fueled vehicle with an ultra low emission medium duty gasoline vehicle producing both cleaner air and future fuel savings.

...continued on pg. 3

Voice Your Opinions at Way-Finding Signage Open Houses

The Economic Development Division is hosting three community open houses Nov. 3-4 for the public to preview and comment on three options for a logo design and sign system. These will create a visual identity for the City and improve way-finding signage.

According to Economic Development Manager Jennifer Davis, the goal of the project is to create a distinctive and memorable identity for the City that will celebrate its history, vitality, and diversity. Davis added that way-finding and identification signage will enable visitors to navigate to and throughout the town, find information on key destinations, commercial districts, and public parking, and learn about the City's significant historical place within the Los Angeles region.

OPEN HOUSE INFORMATION

Tues., Nov. 3	...12-3pm	....Grapevine Room Adult Rec. Center 324 S. Mission Dr.
Wed., Nov. 4	...11am-2pm	..San Gabriel Square 140 W. Valley Blvd.
Wed., Nov. 4	...4-8pm	.....San Gabriel Library 500 S. Del Mar Ave.

This project is a unique opportunity for the City and community to work together with design experts to communicate San Gabriel's unique and distinguishing characteristics. How San Gabriel is presented to the outside community is important in order to compete successfully with surrounding communities for businesses and residents.

The open houses are informal events and will be fun for participants of all ages. Participants will view design concept presentation boards and comment on design images, objects, colors, signage types, and local and visitor destinations. The final design concepts will be presented to the City Council and the San Gabriel Redevelopment Agency for approval.

Whether you work, live, dine, play, or attend cultural, historical, or arts programs in San Gabriel, please stop by and tell us what you think! Children are welcome to accompany their parents and caregivers. Light refreshments will be served.

For more information on the project, go to www.sangabrielcity.com or call Jennifer Davis, Economic Development Manager or Robin Scherr, Housing and Economic Development Specialist, City of San Gabriel at (626) 308-2806.

Trot, Race or Walk at Annual Turkey Trot

Don't run — trot on down to Vincent Lugo Park for the 31st Annual Turkey Trot! The 5/10K Race, 1K Youth Run, and 5K Fun Walk will be held on Saturday, November 14. Check-in time begins at 7:15 a.m. for all walk and race participants.

The Fun Walk will begin at 8 a.m., followed by the Youth Fun Run at 8:25 a.m., and the 5K/10K Race at 8:40 a.m. The first three race finishers in each of the nine age categories will receive ribbons. First place winners also receive a medal and turkey gift card. The 5K Fun Walk is for all ages. A large digital clock will be displayed at the finish line and computerized results posted online following the race.

Other race highlights include post-race refreshments, raffle drawing for great prizes, and more!

The entry fee is $26 for the 5K/10K Run or $11 for the Youth Run/Fun Walk, on or before October 28. Beginning October 29, the fee is $31 for 5K/10K or $16 for Youth Run/Fun Walk. Turkey Trot T-shirts will be available for sale.

To register or for more information, contact the Parks and Recreation Department at (626) 308-2875, or register online at www.sangabrielcity.com.

Upcoming Events at the Mission Playhouse

Music! Dance! Theater!

SAT., OCT. 31, 1 p.m.
Ballet Folklorico de Carolina
For info/tickets call (626) 848-2962

SUN., NOV. 1, Time TBA
Jayvee Dance Studio presents
Dance Recital
For info/tickets call (626) 300-0178
www.jayveedance.net

MON., NOV. 2, 6:30 p.m.
San Gabriel Valley Music Theatre presents
The Monday Night Cabaret – Broadway at the Playhouse
For info/tickets call (626) 282-1440
www.sgvmusictheatre.org

SAT., NOV. 7, 7 p.m.
SUN., NOV. 8, 4 p.m.
Li's Ballet Studio
For info/tickets call (626) 285-4888
www.lisballet.com

SAT., NOV. 14, 7 p.m.
SUN., NOV. 15, 7 p.m.
Chinese American Dancing Group
For info/tickets call (626) 823-3323
www.chineseamericandancinggroup.com

SUN., NOV. 22, 7 p.m.
Chinese American Ballet Association
For info/tickets call (626) 284-7911

DEC. 12-13, 19-20, 2 p.m.
DEC. 12, 19, 7:30 p.m.
Pasadena Dance Theatre presents
The Nutcracker Ballet
Special Student Performances
DEC. 10-11, 16, 18, 10 a.m.
For info/tickets, group sales call (626) 683-3459
www.pasadenadance.org

Local School Holiday Concerts

TUES., DEC. 15, 7 p.m.
Temple City High School
For info/tickets call (626) 548-5000

WED., DEC. 16, 7 p.m.
Jefferson Middle School
For info/tickets call (626) 287-5260

SUN., JAN. 10, 3 p.m.
Olympia Youth Orchestra
Fung Ho, conductor
For info/tickets call (626) 447-5839
www.olympiaphil.org

FRI., JAN. 15, 7 p.m.
Temple City High School
Annual Dance Concert
For info/tickets call (626) 548-5000

SAT., JAN. 16, Time TBA
LA Theatre Organ Society
"Wurlitzer Weekend"
For info/tickets call (888) 528-6722
www.latos.org

SAT., JAN. 23, Time TBA
Hispanics for LA Opera
LA Opera Benefit Event
For info/tickets call (213) 972-7338
www.laopera.com
www.hispanicsforlaopera.com

The San Gabriel Mission Playhouse is pleased to be the venue of choice for the events listed above. All events are presented by independent producers and are subject to change and/or cancellation without notice. Check www.missionplayhouse.org or the event hotline for changes and newly added performances at (626) 308-2868.

Utility Companies Offer Helping Hand

For more than 100 years, utility companies like the Southern California Gas Company and Southern California Edison (SCE) have been part of the fabric of our communities. The Gas Company delivers clean, safe and reliable natural gas to its customers, and SCE is the primary electricity supply company for much of Southern California. Through a variety of programs, these utility companies also strive to assist those who are most in need, and support programs that serve the community and preserve the environment. In today's tough economic times, they may help you lower your energy bills, increase energy efficiencies, and offer customer assistance through a variety of programs, some of which are outlined below.

The Southern California Gas Company offers several assistance programs to their customers to help reduce winter heating bills and increase energy efficiency. Some of these include:

California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE): Provides a 20 percent discount on the monthly gas bill for eligible households who may not be able to make their monthly payment. Customers may be automatically eligible if they currently receive benefits from the Women, Infants and Children, Healthy Families, Medi-Cal, Food Stamps, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families or LIHEAP programs.

Direct Assistance Program: Provides energy-saving minor home improvements to income-qualified renters and homeowners.

Medical Baseline Allowance: Customers with a person in the home with certain medical conditions, who may require additional heating to sustain their health, may qualify for additional natural gas at the lowest baseline rate.

Gas Assistance Fund: Provides a one-time grant to customers during the winter who are income-qualified and unable to pay their bill.

For more information on the Gas Company's assistance programs, call (800) 427-2200 or visit http://www.socalgas.com/residential/asssistance. For energy saving tips, visit http://www.socalgas.com/energyefficiency.

SCE may also be able to help you lower or better manage your energy bills, or provide assistance through their community or bill payment assistance programs like the ones summarized below:

California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE): If you meet specific income guidelines established by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), you can receive a 20% or more discount on your electric bill through the CARE Program. Call CARE's helpline at (800) 798-5723, or visit http://www.sce.com/careandfera.

Medical Baseline Allocation: If you or a full-time resident in your home depend on electricity-powered life support or mobility equipment or have a qualifying illness, you might be eligible for SCE's Medical Baseline Allocation, lowering your overall bill. To find out if you qualify or to get an application, call (800) 655-4555 or visit www.sce.com.

Free Energy Surveys: SCE offers free energy surveys for all residential customers, and an Energy Management Assistance program for income-qualified customers pointing out ways you can save money. For more information, call (800) 736-4777.

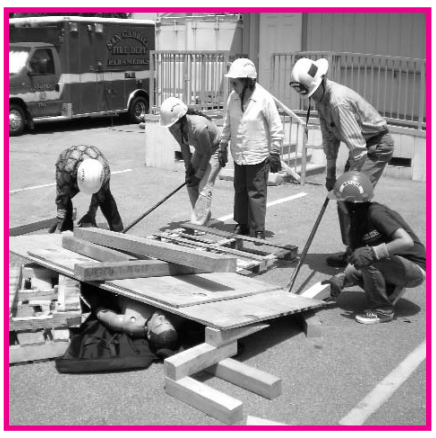
The Department of Community Services and Development offers a Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) providing financial assistance to eligible households to offset the costs of heating or cooling their home. Call 866-675-6623 for more information.

"They may help you lower your energy bills, increase energy efficiencies, and offer customer assistance"

Facing temporary financial difficulties? With the Energy Assistance Fund (EAF) program, income-qualified residential customers can get help paying their electric bills. SCE's customers, employees and shareholders make EAF possible through contributions. To receive assistance, you must make your request through a community-based agency. Call EAF at (800) 205-8596 for information.

Programs are also available if you or another full-time resident of your home is older than 62 or is disabled, or if you or someone you know occasionally forget to pay a bill on time – then the Friendly Reminder Notification Program could be the answer. For more information, call (800) 655-4555 or visit http://www.sce.com.

San Gabriel Fire Department Offers Free CERT Training



The San Gabriel Fire Department will be offering another Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) course. The first class will be on November 10, from 6-9 p.m. The remainder of the classes will be on November 11-12 and November 17-19. All classes will be held at Fire Station 51 located at 1303 S. Del Mar Ave.

A CERT member is someone trained and prepared to respond after a disaster in their neighborhood. Each member must complete all six three hour classes to become certified. The classes are scheduled to accommodate the needs of each participant. Topics covered include community disaster preparedness, team organization, medical operations, damage assessment, disaster simulation, fire suppression, and light search and rescue.

Here is what past CERT graduates have said about our program:

"I'm so glad that I took this free course. It has taught me to open my eyes to everyday situations." – *Tony Lee*

"CERT classes are an essential element for all communities. I highly recommend them to all members of our San Gabriel community and hope they take advantage of this opportunity." – *Leticia Lee*

For more information, please call Dennis Barwick at the San Gabriel Fire Department at (626) 308-2880. You can also obtain more information by visiting these websites: www.sangabrielcity.com; www.cert-la.com, or www.fema.gov/emi/cert.

中文 www.sangabrielcity.com | español www.sangabrielcity.com

Join Your Neighbors at San Gabriel's Christmas Tree Lighting Party

Lights will be lit, carols will be sung and cocoa will be served! What better way to launch the holiday season than to join your neighbors and help decorate the City Christmas Tree in Plaza Park.

Everyone is invited to the Christmas Tree Lighting Party on December 1, 6 p.m. at Plaza Park. Jefferson Middle School Orchestra and Chorus will entertain you while you greet your friends and renew acquaintances. Plaza Park is located across the street from City Hall at 428 S. Mission Drive.

Your children can create their own decorations to hang on the City Christmas Tree. The tree will be lighted at 7 p.m. to officially welcome the holiday season. Following the lighting of the tree, Santa will arrive on the vintage fire truck to pay a visit to all of the children.

This free activity is sponsored by the Women's Division of the San Gabriel Chamber of Commerce. Please come join the carol singing and spread the holiday spirit by bringing an unopened non-perishable food item for the San Gabriel Coordinating Council's Christmas Basket Program.

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Santa to Visit City Neighborhoods Again

Santa has decided, once again, to take a break from the hustle and bustle at the North Pole and visit San Gabriel. He needs to check in with the children of our City to make sure his gift list is up to date, so Santa Claus will be here December 20-23. He will be touring our streets looking for good girls and boys, courtesy of the San Gabriel Fire Department.

"Santa will begin each night's journey at approximately 6 p.m. and will return to the North Pole at 9:30 p.m., weather permitting"

The City will be divided by Del Mar and the railroad tracks. Santa will visit the southwest part of the City on December 20; the southeast area on December 21; the northwest area on December 22; and the northeast area on December 23. Santa will begin each night's journey at approximately 6 p.m. and will return to the North Pole at 9:30 p.m., weather permitting. Santa travels as many streets in San Gabriel as possible, but he cannot promise he will be able to visit every street.

San Gabriel Goes Green

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SAVING ENERGY

The Public Works Division will replace the current overhead street name signs. The existing signs use two 100 watt lamps to light the sign at night. The new signs are reflective and don't require any electricity to be seen at night. Southern California Edison will provide a rebate for the energy savings.

Purchasing the environmentally friendly overhead lights has produced another benefit – enough cost savings to fund the replacement of the City's pole mounted street name signs. These will also be replaced with the same reflective material. While not saving electrical energy, it will certainly save wear and tear on drivers who will find that their headlights will now illuminate the signs, making it easier to navigate at night. A small grant was secured from 3M to help defray costs.

Replacement of the green overhead street signs should be completed before the end of the year. Replacement of the 1,700 pole street name signs will take longer, but should be finished in 2010.

GREENING THE PROPOSED NEW CITY YARD

The Public Works Division is beginning to design a new maintenance facility at 911 E. Grand Ave. It will replace the current City Yard, which is located behind the Police Department, allowing the Police Department to expand their 1950s-era building. The new City Yard will use sustainable features and green technology as much as possible. The Public Works Division is committed to constructing an environmentally friendly building.

The work has just begun, and the Public Works staff knows there are many in the community who would be willing to lend their ideas and expertise to this endeavor. Staff will provide updates in city publications, or you can call the Public Works Division at (626) 308-2825. Staff will also use the City's website, www.sangabrielcity.com, to post information as it becomes available.

SHARING YOUR STORY

Do you have suggestions to share on how to live a greener life? Send your ideas to greensangabriel@sgch.org. The City will post selected responses on the City website at www.sangabrielcity.com.

McGruff's

PAW PRINTS

S.G.P.D.

Personal Safety Tips Will Keep You Safe

"Don't let your guard down and give burglars, muggers, and pickpockets a better chance to do their dirty work," states Chief David A. Lawton of the San Gabriel Police Department.

There were 9.9 million victims in 2008 (up 22 percent from 2007), with a total loss of $48 billion according to the 2009 Identity Fraud Survey Report.

Here are some personal safety tips from the Crime Prevention Office to help keep you safe.

WHEN TRAVELING

- Place your lights, television, or radio on an automatic timer so that it looks and sounds like someone is at home.
- Ask a neighbor to watch your home and park in the driveway from time to time.
- Don't forget to have mail and newspaper deliveries stopped. If it piles up, it's a sure sign you're gone.

OUT FOR THE EVENING

- Turn on lights and a radio or TV so it looks like someone is home.
- Be extra cautious about locking doors and windows when you leave, even if it's just for a few minutes.
- Draw the drapes so that items in your house cannot be seen from outside.

SHOPPING

- Stay alert and be aware of what's going on around you.
- Park in a well-lighted space, and be sure to lock the car, close the windows, and hide shopping bags and other items in the trunk.
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash. Pay with a check or credit card whenever possible.
- Deter pickpockets and purse-snatchers. Don't overburden yourself with packages. Be extra careful with purses and wallets. Carry a purse close to your body, not dangling by the straps. Put a wallet in an inside coat or front pants pocket.
- Shopping with kids? Teach them to go to a store clerk or security guard if you get separated.
- When returning to your vehicle, be aware of vehicles parked too close to yours. Pay particular attention to vans with sliding doors. People have been kidnapped from perpetrators who park their vans very close to another vehicle. When the victim squeezes in between the vehicles, the perpetrators open the sliding van door, grab the victim, and drive away.

IF A STRANGER COMES TO YOUR DOOR

- Criminals sometimes pose as couriers delivering gifts or flowers. And it's not uncommon for people to try to take advantage of others by going door-to-door for charitable donations when there's no charity involved. Ask for identification, and find out how the funds will be used. If you aren't satisfied, don't give. Help a charitable organization you know and respect instead.
- Use 180-degree door viewers to see who is at the door. Try to purchase door viewers made out of a solid material so someone could not poke a sharp object through them and block your vision.

TAKE INVENTORY

- It's a good time to update – or create – your home inventory. Take photos or make videos of items, and list descriptions and serial numbers. If your home is burglarized, having a detailed inventory can help identify stolen items and make insurance claims easier to file.
- Make sure things like TVs, VCRs, stereo equipment, cameras, camcorders, sports equipment, jewelry, silver, computers, home office equipment, and power tools are on the list. The Crime Prevention Office provides inventory sheets and engravers to San Gabriel residents free of charge to mark your property – just call (626) 308-2846.

DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE

- Driving under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or other controlled substances can greatly reduce and impair your ability to respond to daily driving conditions. Impaired drivers are the single greatest threat to motorists today.
- One out of every two Americans will be involved in an alcohol-related traffic collision during their lifetime. Be a friend for life and be a designated driver. We also encourage you to buckle up – seat belts and child restraints save lives.

中文	español
www.sangabrielcity.com	www.sangabrielcity.com

Neighbors Unite Against Crime at National Night Out Celebration

Hamburgers, hot dogs, salads, homemade pies, children's games, and long tables filled with families enjoying a warm evening is what San Gabriel's National Night Out was all about.

San Gabriel's National Night Out celebration held on August 4 showcased 44 block parties throughout the City with over 3,000 residents participating. This is the 15th year that San Gabriel has officially participated in National Night Out and has won the National Award for cities of 50,000 or less five times in a row!

"It's nice for neighbors to get out and talk to each other, to know each other by face and name," Crime Prevention Officer Alex Acosta said.

Most of the parties ran from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. and were hosted by a block captain or a neighbor on the block, who organized everything from ice cream socials to barbecues. Local law enforcement, fire/rescue, government officials, military units and KIIS-FM radio stopped by the neighborhoods to meet people and answer any questions they had.

"The first time we learned about National Night Out, we'd never even heard of it," Block Captains Gene and Angela Williams said. "We thought this would be a good idea to get our neighbors together."

"It's such a wonderful thing for the neighborhood to come together," Gene said. "We always have a great time. We are a very close-knit neighborhood. We both grew up in a neighborhood where you sat on your porch and waved to your neighbors as they walked by. You knew everyone by first name, and if a child got hurt they could run to any neighbor's house for help. We've got a long way to go to get back to that kind of life, but this is a good start."

"It's so easy just to pull into your garage and go into your house," said Police Chief David A. Lawton. "But when you participate in events like National Night Out, it helps break down barriers, and it's easier to say, *I know those people, they're my neighbors*."

If you would like to start a Neighborhood Watch program on your street, contact the San Gabriel Police Department Crime Prevention Office at (626) 308-2846.

City & School Board Meetings

San Gabriel City Council
1st & 3rd Tuesdays
7:30 p.m., Council Chambers

San Gabriel Board of Education
2nd & 4th Tuesdays
7 p.m., District Office

Planning Commission
2nd Monday
6:30 p.m., Council Chambers

Parks & Recreation Commission
1st Monday
7:30 p.m., Council Chambers

Design Review Commission
4th Monday
7 p.m., Conference Room A,
2nd Floor, City Hall

Community Calendar

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 18
Networking Mixer, 6-8 p.m.
Autunno
409 S. Mission Dr.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 16
Special Holiday Mixer, 5:30-8 p.m.
CHEC Building, San Gabriel Valley Medical Center
261 Junipero Serra Dr.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 20, 2010
Networking Mixer
San Gabriel Fire Department
1303 S. Del Mar Avenue

The San Gabriel Chamber of Commerce is currently accepting applications from businesses/services that would like to host a Mixer during 2009. Please send your information to the Chamber at 620 W. Santa Anita St., San Gabriel 91776 or email Sandy Rosco at rosco_sandy@yahoo.com. You must be a member of the Chamber of Commerce to host a Mixer.

The San Gabriel Grapevine

San Gabriel City Council
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Albert Y.M. Huang, Vice Mayor
Mario De La Torre, Councilmember
David R. Gutierrez, Councilmember
Kevin B. Sawkins, Councilmember
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Workhorse Creative, Graphic Design

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The San Gabriel Grapevine 是由聖蓋博市政府出版的季刊,如需索取進一步資料,請與市府的行政主管辦公室聯絡,電話是 **(626) 308-2803**.

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These icons direct readers to the City's website for articles translated into Chinese and Spanish.

City of San Gabriel
www.sangabrielcity.com

LIGHT UP SAN GABRIEL

Holiday Decorations Award Program

The City of San Gabriel, in conjunction with the Women's Division of the Chamber of Commerce, has established this award program to honor residents and businesses for spreading holiday cheer. Winners will be notified by letter and will be recognized during the week of December 14 with a visit from Santa and the San Gabriel Fire and Police Departments. Winners will receive a sign to display and a certificate of recognition, as well as special gifts from the City Council.

NOMINATION FORM

Everyone is encouraged to nominate a residential property, including apartment buildings, and businesses for consideration. Self-nominations are encouraged. Properties must be in the City limits of San Gabriel to qualify. Properties that won an award within the past 5 years, current City Council members, City Commissioners, full-time City employees and members of the Selection Committee are NOT eligible for the award.

A Selection Committee from the Women's Division will visit each nominated site and choose residential and commercial winners from each of the following four areas of the city:

- Northwest (North of Fairview Avenue, west of Del Mar)
- Northeast (North of Fairview Avenue, east of Del Mar)
- Southwest (South of Fairview Avenue, west of Del Mar)
- Southeast (South of Fairview Avenue, east of Del Mar)

The committee will base their decision in part on the following criteria:

• Originality • Seasonal Theme • Effort Expended

Nominee:_____

Address:_____

Email Address:_____ Phone#_____

Nominated By (optional):_____

Nominations are due no later than 12 noon on Tuesday, December 8. They may be dropped off or mailed to 425 S. Mission Dr., or faxed to the Community Development Department at City Hall, (626) 458-2830. You may also nominate a property by email at Ldelacruz@sgch.org or visit the City's website at www.sangabrielcity.com to download a Nomination Form.

Judging will take place December 10-11. Please be sure your display is ready to be viewed by these dates.

CITY OF SAN GABRIEL
Sponsored by the Women's Division of the Chamber of Commerce
Community Development Department • 425 S. Mission Drive • San Gabriel, CA 91776
Phone (626) 308-2806 • Fax (626) 458-2830 • www.sangabrielcity.com

shortTAKES

Play Area Now Local/State Landmark

Complete with Ozzie the Octopus, Minnie the Whale and Sammy the Snail, La Laguna de San Gabriel is a unique play area located within Vincent Lugo Park. In addition to being a popular destination for children and parents alike, La Laguna is also now a local and a state landmark.

On June 16, the City Council adopted Resolution 09-12 designating La Laguna as a local landmark. Several features of La Laguna made it eligible for designation as a historic structure, including: tangible evidence of the City's past and a special element that exemplifies San Gabriel's cultural history; it is identified with a person that significantly contributed to the culture and development of the City (Benjamin Dominguez, the artist of La Laguna); it is a key focal point, and it is a historic feature that has helped retain the character of the City for more than a half century.

Receiving another honor at the July 31 meeting of the State Historical Resources Commission, La Laguna was added to the California Register of Historical Resources. La Laguna was eligible for this status based on its "highly unique and masterfully rendered hand-sculpted concrete play structures."

The nomination was initiated by the Friends of La Laguna, a non-profit group formed around the preservation of this unique cultural resource. La Laguna now joins a distinguished list of San Gabriel historic properties that are listed on the California Register, including the Mission San Gabriel Arcángel, and the Ortega-Vigare Adobe.

Video Parking Enforcement Program Keeps Kids Safe

With the start of the new school year, police department personnel have once again switched into high gear providing increased presence around public and private schools within the City. The goal is to re-educate parents on the importance of safe driving and parking habits in and around schools.

Unfortunately, parent drivers are often the primary threat to child safety. Parent/driver actions seem to be based on their desire to pick up and drop off their child as close as possible to school entrance(s) and the need to get to their next destination as quickly as possible. Adding to the problem is the fact that many schools within the City are located in residential neighborhoods on streets that were not designed for increased traffic flow and vehicle parking. This combination may lead to unsafe driving and parking practices.

In order to curtail parking related issues, the San Gabriel Police Department will once again begin the Video Enforcement Program in and around public and private schools within the City. The program is designed to educate, enforce, and deter drivers from committing parking related offenses. Parking enforcement officers throughout the City may be videotaping parking offenders at schools (K – 12). The offending vehicle's registered owner(s) will then be sent a parking ticket in the mail and a fine will be assessed for any violation(s).

Observed driver behavior that threatens safety includes the following:

- Driving too fast
- Blocking crosswalks while waiting to reach the drop off point in front of the school
- Pulling away from the curb without making sure it is safe to do so
- Double parking, which disrupts traffic flow
- Parking in red or white curb zones and No Parking zones
- Violation of u-turn and left turn prohibitions

Observed driver behavior that increases safety:

- Obeying all traffic and parking laws
- Use of crosswalks
- Decreased speed
- Walking your child to school
- Courteous behavior

For more information on the Video Enforcement Parking Program, please contact the San Gabriel Police Department Traffic Bureau at (626) 308-2860.