

news and views from our town

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SAN GABRIEL • CA

San Gabriel

Grapevine

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A New Day Dawns for Valley Boulevard

Valley Vision, the Valley Boulevard Specific Plan, is now breaking new ground for the City of San Gabriel by introducing the concept of "sustainability" to new development for the first time.

WE'RE GOING GREEN

Sustainable development, which includes the concept of "green building," means development that conserves natural resources by utilizing materials, architectural design features, and interior fixtures and finishes that reduce energy and water consumption, toxic and chemical pollution and waste. Sustainable development also means creating communities that are more compact and transit oriented, by encouraging mixed-used development at major commercial nodes served by transit, thereby making the neighborhood more walkable and making it easier to get from home to work or shopping without relying on a car. Finally, it means putting in place policies to conserve the scale and character of existing residential neighborhoods and installing amenities such as street trees to improve the quality of life.

The project was almost entirely funded through a \$325,000 grant from the State of California. Some 117 cities competed for these funds, but only 14 communities were funded.

A PLAN THAT REFLECTS YOUR VISION

All of this, of course, would not have been possible without the support and input of scores of community members who contributed their thoughts and ideas. The standards of the Valley Vision plan replace the existing zoning and development standards within the commercial districts of the plan area. The plan protects existing single-family residential neighborhoods, while emphasizing new improvements through street tree plantings, trail development, and other amenities. In areas that are residentially zoned, new developments will follow existing standards. The plan contains a section on "green building" requirements for new construction. These standards apply to all new projects except:

- Single-family residences
- Multi-family developments with four or fewer units
- Renovation projects worth less than the replacement cost of the existing structure, whichever is greater
- Tenant improvement projects where proposed improvements do not negatively impact the original project's compliance with these standards.

A MORE BEAUTIFUL STREET

The plan also has a chapter dealing with sustainable streetscapes and identifies amenities that will be required of new developments. The plan covers the area roughly bounded by the Alhambra Wash on the north, New Avenue on the west, Walnut Grove Avenue on the east and the 10 Freeway to the south.

HOW WILL IT WORK?

Projects currently in the planning stages that have not obtained entitlements (i.e. Planning Commission or Design Review Commission approval) prior to the adoption of the plan, would now be subject to its standards. Fortunately, adoption of the plan was anticipated for some time and applicants applying for approval prior to the effective date of the plan were advised to design their projects to comply with the new standards.

All projects will still have to follow the normal entitlement process, including environmental review, and be approved by the Planning Commission and/or Design Review Commission as required.

WILL THE PLAN IMPROVE TRAFFIC?

The plan calls for attractive, strategically designed medians; pedestrian improvements; secondary access between parcels to traffic conflicts; and driveway consolidation wherever possible along commercial corridors to improve pedestrian safety and traffic flow. It also contains policies designed to improve traffic control and synchronization.

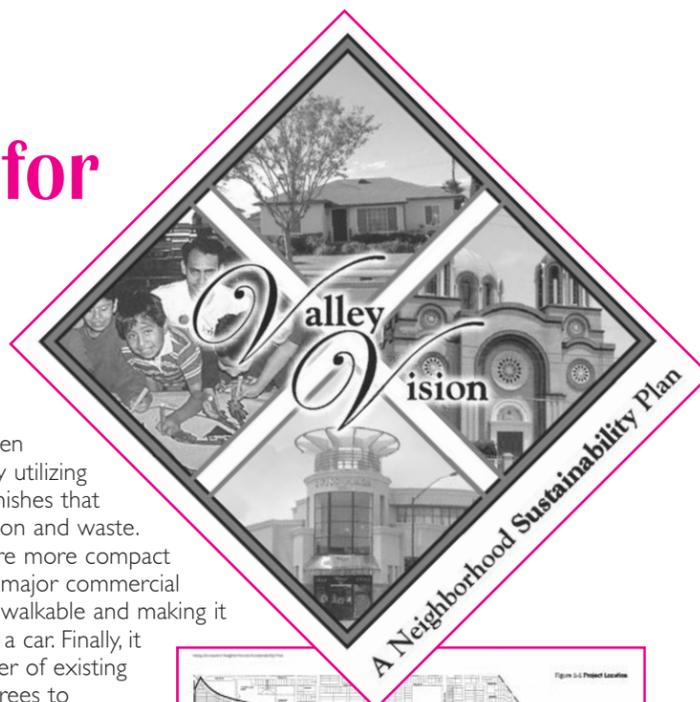
SAFETY A PART OF PLAN

The plan has an appendix devoted to the principles of *Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED)*. Valley Vision calls for creating a pedestrian path along the Alhambra Wash, development of "pocket parks" and community gardens in the Valley Boulevard neighborhood, and the establishment of a community shuttle to reduce auto dependence. The City is also analyzing a possible impact fee for streetscape improvements and a requirement for spending on public art.

WHAT'S NEXT?

One entire chapter of Valley Vision is devoted to implementation strategies, many of which will be mid- to long-term in nature. A number of these deal with establishing appropriate financing mechanisms for capital improvements envisioned by the plan. As mentioned above, fees will be created for streetscape improvements and public art. Other examples of possible future implementation measures would be the establishment of a Business Improvement District (BID), where property and/or business owners assess themselves for business improvements or the creation of a special assessment district to develop public parking.

For more information, please call the Planning Division at (626) 308-2806. Bound copies and CDs of the plan are available for purchase at City Hall, 425 S. Mission Drive. You may also review the plan at the San Gabriel Public Library, 500 S. Del Mar Avenue or on the City's website at www.sangabrielcity.com.



Street Festival Celebrates 94 Years of Incorporation

The City of San Gabriel is marking its 94th birthday with the San Gabriel Chamber of Commerce's Annual Street Festival in the historic Mission District, April 27-29. Bring your family, bring your friends! There's something for everyone – carnival rides, games, food booths, displays by local merchants, crafts and artwork, and great entertainment.

One of the key events is an art show hosted by the San Gabriel Fine Arts Association in Grapevine Park from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday. The Historical Association Museum will also be open.

On Sunday afternoon, the 2007 Outstanding Older American Award will be presented and birthday cake will be provided for all. Another great activity planned for Sunday is the City's Arbor Day celebration. Read all about the City's efforts to beautify the community and the activities

planned to celebrate Arbor Day on page 2. Interested in booth space or need more information? Please call the Chamber of Commerce at (626) 576-2525.



FESTIVAL HOURS & PROFESSIONAL ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE

Friday, April 27

Festival Hours, 3-11 p.m.
On Stage – 6 p.m. Kuylday
8 p.m. Electric Mayhem

Saturday, April 28

Festival Hours, 12-11 p.m.
On Stage – 5 p.m. Pamela G
7 p.m. Susie Hansen Latin Band

Sunday, April 29

Festival Hours, 12-10 p.m.
On Stage – 6 p.m. In The Flesh



Upcoming San Gabriel Civic Auditorium Events

Music! Dance! Theater!

FRIDAY-SUNDAY, APRIL 27-29

City of San Gabriel & Chamber of Commerce presents "Annual City of San Gabriel Birthday Celebration & Street Fair" Rides, entertainment, game & food booths all located in the historic Mission District. Fun for the entire family!

FRIDAY, MAY 4, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 5, 2 p.m. & 8 p.m.

SUNDAY, MAY 6, 2 p.m.

San Gabriel Valley Music Theatre

Rodgers and Hammerstein's

"The King and I"

For info/tickets call (626) 282-1440

SAT, MAY 12, 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, MAY 13, 2 p.m.

Pasadena Dance Theatre

"Beauty and the Beast"

For info/tickets call (626) 683-3459

TUE/WED, MAY 15-16

9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

"Greg and Steve in Concert"

For info/tickets call (800) 548-4063

SATURDAY, MAY 19, 7 p.m.

International Culture & Art

Exchange Society

"May Flower" Vocal Concert

For info/tickets call (626) 318-6953

SATURDAY, MAY 26, 7 p.m.

SUNDAY, MAY 27, 4 p.m.

Li's Dance Studio

Dance Recital

For info/tickets call (626) 286-4888

SATURDAY, JUNE 2, 6:30 p.m.

Le Studio Dance

Spring Gala – Dance Recital

For info/tickets call (626) 792-4616

SUNDAY, JUNE 10, 3 p.m.

Olympia Youth Orchestra

For info/tickets call (626) 447-5839

SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 7:30 p.m.

Asian Arts Talent Foundation

For info/tickets call (626) 309-9274

SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 7 p.m.

SUNDAY, JUNE 24, 2 p.m.

Pasadena Civic Ballet

"It's a Small World"- Spring Dance Recital

For info/tickets call (626) 792-0873

SAT, JUNE 30, 2 p.m. & 8 p.m.

"Tsang Festival"

Taiwanese pop songs

For info/tickets call (626) 264-0678

FRI/SAT, JULY 6-7, 8 p.m.

SUNDAY, JULY 8, 2 p.m.

Shanghai Ballet

"The Butterfly Lovers"

For info/tickets call (323) 263-7777

SATURDAY, JULY 21, 7 p.m.

"Moonlight Attractions"

4th Annual Mexico, Magia y Encuentro

Mariachi Performance

For info/tickets call (323) 269-3561

The San Gabriel Civic Auditorium 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.

Call the Auditorium Box

Office at (626) 308-2868

for more information.



City To Host Arbor Day

Interested in helping the City with its efforts to beautify the community? Then come join us on Sunday, April 29th for the Arbor Day celebration held in conjunction with the Street Festival. There will be opportunities to participate in crafts and activities to learn about trees. The City will also host an Arbor Day poster contest with the local elementary schools. Winning posters will be displayed in Grapevine Park as part of the annual art show.



Arbor Day has been observed nationwide since 1872. In fact, Ingredients for Success, the City's 2004 General Plan Update calls for planting 10,000 trees by 2010.

Trees bring many benefits to our community: reducing heating and cooling costs, moderating the temperature, cleaning the air, producing life-giving oxygen, and providing a habitat for wildlife. Trees are also renewable resources that provide paper for everyday use, wood for homes, and fuel for fires. Trees beautify the community, provide shade in hot weather, increase property values, and enhance the economic vitality of business areas with attractive landscapes.

In the weeks prior to the event, street trees will be planted along the north and south sides of Las Tunas Drive just east of Alanmay Street to Santa Anita Avenue. Several street trees will also be planted as part of the Rebuilding Together Program. As improvements are made to a residential home, a number of trees will be planted on that residential block in celebration of Arbor Day.

For more information, please contact Public Works Manager Bob Bustos at (626) 308-2825 ext. 221.

San Gabriel Bell Awards Program

The annual Bell Awards program recognizes and honors completed projects that enhance the architectural and economic vitality of the City's residential and business communities. Awards will be presented this fall to architects, designers, and/or property owners who have designed structures that enhance and promote the unique character of existing neighborhoods.

This year, nominations will be accepted in the following five categories: new commercial, commercial/remodel, new single-family residential, single-family additions/remodel, and new multi-family residential. Evaluation criteria will be based on the City's adopted Commercial, Single-Family, and new Multi-Family Residential Design Guidelines, which focus on eight design principles: shelter, balance, rhythm, integrity, detail, substance, transition, and character.

Nomination forms are now available and applications are due by Monday, June 4th. Anyone with a background in design who is interested in participating as a judge in this half-day event is welcomed to contact the Planning Division at (626) 308-2806. Please stop by the Community Development Department at City Hall for more information about the Bell Awards or to obtain a nomination form. Nomination forms will also be available on the City's website at www.sangabrielcity.com.

Open House Festivities Celebrate City Services

PUBLIC WORKS DIVISION

Ever wonder how the City keeps traffic flowing smoothly, maintains sidewalks and streets, and trims trees and plants so our community always looks great? Find out at the City's Public Works Division Fifth Annual Open House, on Thursday, May 24, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Open House is held in conjunction with National Public Works Week, May 20-26, and will be at the Public Works Corporate Yard, 121 W. Mission Road (behind the police station).

Throughout the day, there will be demonstrations featuring the 50-foot aerial truck, brush chipper, and displays on traffic signals and street lighting, street signs, pavement markings, concrete and asphalt. There will also be a display to demonstrate how the auto shop prepares a police car for service. Public Works Division crewmembers and management will be on hand to greet the public and answer any questions.

So come join us for a fun-filled day and have a complimentary lunch too, courtesy of the Public Works Division! For information about the event, please call the Public Works Division at (626) 308-2825.



FIRE DEPARTMENT

Experience a fire drill, view some historical equipment, and kids – get your face painted! Come on down to the San Gabriel Fire Department's annual Fire Service Day Open House on Saturday, May 12th, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Members of the Fire Department will be offering tours of Headquarters Station 51, live fire drills, "Jaws of Life" auto extrication demonstrations, face painting, free giveaways, balloons, antique fire equipment displays, and fire engine displays, including the Urban Search and Rescue vehicle.

If that's not enough, the Open House includes free hotdogs and punch from 11 a.m. until the food and drinks run out. Community organizations joining the festivities include the San Gabriel Chamber of Commerce, San Gabriel Humane Society and Southern California Edison. For information about the Fire Service Day celebration, call (626) 308-2880. We hope to see you there!



Summer Programs Provide Loads of Fun for Kids

Get ready for a summer of fun! The San Gabriel Parks and Recreation Department is gearing up for an exciting summer complete with playground activities, free lunch program, and day trips. The Smith Park program will be open from June 25 to August 15. All other summer playgrounds are open from July 2 to August 15, for youth ages 5 to 16, and are located at Washington School, Marshall School, and Dewey School. Additional school locations are to be determined. This drop-in program will be open Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Friday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The free lunch program will again be available to all children 18 years of age and under. Lunch will be served weekdays between 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. at Lincoln School,

Marshall School, Dewey School, McKinley School, Roosevelt School, Smith Park, Vincent Lugo Park, and Washington School. The lunch program is administered by the San Gabriel Unified School District and the Garvey School District.

Youth trips and special events include a day at El Capitan Theatre, Raging Waters, Golf 'N' Stuff, Bowl & Swim, and Disneyland. Registration forms for youth trips, including fees and more information, are available at playground sites and at the Recreation Office, 250 South Mission Drive. For more information, please contact the Recreation Department at (626) 308-2875.



Summer Swim at Smith Park Pool

Swim lessons are not only fun for children and adults, but learning how to swim may help avoid pool accidents. This summer, the City of San Gabriel Parks & Recreation Aquatics Program will be offering lessons at Smith Park Pool for beginning swimmers and refresher courses for the experienced swimmer. Lessons will be held Monday through Friday beginning June 25. Saturday lessons kick off July 7 and continue for five consecutive Saturdays.

Although swim lessons are a valuable tool in preventing pool accidents, remember that no swim class can drown proof a child – children must be constantly supervised when they are around pools or bodies of water.

SGUSD Schools Compete in Mock Trials

The Jefferson Middle School and Gabrielino High School Mock Trial teams recently celebrated the completion of another highly successful competition season. Mock Trial is an annual competition, sponsored by the Constitutional Rights Foundation, in which students act as attorneys, witnesses and officers of the Court while they argue a hypothetical criminal case. This year's case, *People v. Campbell*, dealt with issues of attempted school bombing and bullying.

Jefferson Middle School fielded two teams in a field of 37 middle schools. One team went to quarterfinals (top eight), and they finished in the top two, narrowly losing to Wesley School, a private school in North Hollywood. Jefferson student Guadalupe Mejia was honored as the outstanding witness of the Middle School competition.

Gabrielino High School also fielded two teams in a field of 77 Los Angeles County high schools. One team finished in the top 16, and the other finished in the quarterfinals, losing to Los Angeles County champion Harvard-Westlake. In 12 years of competing, Gabrielino has always been in at least the top 16, in a field that varies from 65 to 80 schools. Jefferson has won a County championship, and is a regular semifinalist, and Gabrielino has also won a County championship, and has been a finalist five times.

Both Jefferson and Gabrielino's teams are coached by retired Gabrielino teacher George Carney, assisted by teachers Allison Hussar at Jefferson and Shawn Peters at Gabrielino.

Recycle Used Motor Oil & Filters Collection Event in May!

When: Saturday, May 5 (9-11am)

Where: Barnes Park
350 South McPherrin Ave.
Monterey Park

- ◆ Bring up to 5 gallons of used oil and 5 used filters.
- ◆ Participants may pick up a free used oil drain container.

For more information, call the Community Development Dept., at (626) 308-2806 ext. 4631.



RECYCLE
USED OIL FILTERS



RECYCLE
USED OIL

Preventing Auto Theft

The San Gabriel Police Department reminds you, that to a thief, there's nothing as tempting as a car. Don't ever leave a car unattended with the keys in the ignition, because a significant number of vehicles are stolen this way. Family members should know how to protect their car against theft. Licenses and registration papers that a thief could misuse should never be left in the car. Keys should be carefully guarded. If the keys have punch-out numbers, remove them and keep them at home for reference. Park in well-lit areas, close all windows, and activate any anti-deterrent device you may have. You should also put packages or valuables out of sight. If you park in a commercial lot or garage, leave only the ignition key with the attendant. Lastly, if you have a garage – use it! Lock both your vehicle and the garage door.



HERE ARE SOME OTHER BASIC TIPS:

- Park in well-lighted areas.
- Close all windows and lock all doors.
- Always activate any anti-deterrent device you may have.
- Put packages or valuables out of sight: Pull out radios, CD and cassette players, and other expensive items that are in full view, which may invite theft.
- If you park in a commercial lot or garage, leave only the ignition key with the attendant.
- If you have a garage, use it! Lock both your vehicle and the garage door.

WHEN APPROACHING YOUR CAR:

- Don't take your time. Move quickly, have your keys in your hand.
- Make sure no one is hiding in, or under, your car. Carry a flashlight to check dark areas. Be aware of occupied cars nearby.
- Keep your car locked, whether you're in it or not.
- Drive into your garage front first, so the headlights illuminate the total area. Your garage is a perfect place to be attacked. When entering a security garage, stop by the gate after entering and wait for it to close behind you. Many criminals use the time between a car entering and the gate closing to sneak in.

WHILE YOU'RE OUT DRIVING:

- Be alert to what is going on around you at all times. Daydreaming can be a mistake.
- Keep your doors and windows locked.
- Allow room between your car and the car in front of you so you can maneuver quickly if you need to get away.
- Avoid the curbside lane whenever possible. Fast operators can break a car window and be inside within seconds.
- Always put your child in the front seat.
- Avoid idling your car in neutral. You might have to move quickly.
- Keep your wallet/purse out of sight while driving. Never leave it on the seat next to you.
- Keep your car in good repair. Never allow the fuel gauge to fall below halfway.
- Be careful at stoplights. Carjackers often bump into the back of a car to get the driver to pull over. If you are bumped and it seems suspicious, motion to the driver to follow you. Move at a slow, steady pace to the nearest gas station, police or fire station, or well-lit, well-populated area.

IF SOMEONE TRIES TO TAKE YOUR CAR:

- If your windows are up, your car is locked, and you can maneuver out of the way – hit your horn and step on the gas.
- If the carjacker has a weapon, give up your car! Never argue or fight.
- If your child is in the car and you are forced out, try everything you can to get your child. If you can't, contact the police immediately.
- Do not reach for anything in the car. The perpetrator may think you are reaching for a gun and shoot you.

For more information, please call the San Gabriel Police Department Crime Prevention Office, (626) 308-2846.

City Updating Lugo Park Master Plan



Anyone who has visited Vincent Lugo Park can't help but admire and smile at the wonderful creatures of La Laguna de San Gabriel, commonly known as "monster park." As the City continues to develop a master plan that will benefit both residents and visitors, extensive research undertaken by 'Friends of La Laguna,' a resident group that was formed to support the preservation of La Laguna, has uncovered a lot of interesting historical facts and details not only about the park, but also about Benjamin Dominguez, the gentleman who designed and built the playground.

In an effort to preserve La Laguna as part of the renovation of Vincent Lugo Park, the City has created a proposal that will allow renovation plans to continue around the play area. La Laguna will be fenced off as discussions continue on how to conserve it while bringing the structures up to current accessibility and safety standards.

This assessment of the playground by safety, construction and environmental experts is necessary to evaluate the compliance of the structures with guidelines set by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and with current state and federal playground standards. The proposal also calls for a continued partnership between the City and the 'Friends of La Laguna.'

The Vincent Lugo Park master plan was conceptually approved by the City Council in November 2005. This plan will be redrawn to incorporate La Laguna. A timeline for approval of the revised master plan and the preservation of La Laguna is still under development.

For more information about the Lugo Park renovation project, please contact the Parks and Recreation Department at (626) 308-2875.

"The King and I" Coming to San Gabriel

The San Gabriel Valley Music Theatre will present Rodgers and Hammerstein's Tony-award winning musical, "The King and I", May 4-6 at the legendary San Gabriel Civic Auditorium.

Based on the 1951 book, *Anna and the King of Siam* by Margaret Landon, the play tells the story of British educator, Anna Leonowens, who became English teacher to the children of King Mongkut of Siam in the early 1860s. The musical opened on Broadway at the St. James Theatre on March 29, 1951 and starred Gertrude Lawrence as Anna, and a then mostly unknown Yul Brynner as the King. Brynner reprised his role in the 1956 motion picture, which also starred Deborah Kerr as Anna.

Most notable from the rich and sweeping score is "Whistle a Happy Tune," "Getting to Know You," "Hello, Young Lovers," "I Have Dreamed," "We Kiss in a Shadow," the delightful "March of the Siamese Children," and the spectacular "Small House of Uncle Thomas" ballet.

Boasting a cast of 45, "The King and I" is the final production of the Music Theatre's inaugural season, which included "The Sound of Music" and "The Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber." Directed by Bill Shaw, and choreographed by Rikki Lugo, both San Gabriel natives, "The King and I" will feature lavish sets and costumes along with a full, live orchestra.

Performances are Friday, May 4th, 8 p.m.; Saturday, May 5th, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., and Sunday, May 6th at 2 p.m. Orchestra seats are priced at \$20, \$30, and \$40 with a limited number of Terrace Box Seats at \$60. With only four public performances scheduled, tickets will be at a premium, so order now. For reservations, please call (626) 282-1440.

The King and I

May 4 thru 6, 2007

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
6 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 MAY 16

Chamber Mixer & Business Expo
5:30-7:30 p.m.
San Gabriel Union Church
& Christian School
117 North Pine Street

WEDNESDAY JULY 18

Chamber Mixer
5:30-7:30 p.m.
San Gabriel Mission
428 South Mission Drive

For more information, please call the Chamber Office at (626) 576-2525.

The San Gabriel Grapevine

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



www.sangabrielcity.com

Fire Department Offering CERT Training

The San Gabriel Fire Department will be offering a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) course at Fire Department Station 51, 1303 S. Del Mar Ave. in San Gabriel. The course is tentatively slated to be held every Saturday morning at 9 a.m.

A CERT member is someone trained to prepare for and respond after a disaster in their neighborhood. Groups of 10 or more comprise a team and team training is preferred but not required. Each member must complete four, four-hour classes to become certified. Topics covered include disaster preparedness; medical operations; damage assessment; disaster simulation; fire suppression; light search and rescue; and team organization and disaster technology.

For more information, please call Dennis Barwick at the San Gabriel Fire Department, (626) 308-2880. Also log on to www.cert-la.com, www.fema.gov/emi/cert and www.sangabrielcity.com for additional resources.



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Golf Tournament Benefits Scholarship Program



On Wednesday, May 23 the San Gabriel Chamber of Commerce will host its annual golf tournament at Brookside Golf Course in Pasadena. Proceeds will benefit the Chamber's Jeanne E. Raya Scholarship Fund, as well as supporting services and programs for Chamber members.

Contests will include longest drive and closest-to-the-pin. This year's tournament offers numerous ways to promote your business including tee and tournament sponsorship packages, along with opportunities to advertise your business by donating items to the golfer 'goody' bags and the evening's drawings.

Additionally, participation will benefit the Chamber and its programs while also providing participants with an opportunity to interact with local business owners, potential customers and Chamber members. The golf fee includes green fees, electric cart, golfer goodies and dinner.

For more information, please call the Chamber office at (626) 576-2525, or visit www.sangabrielchamber.com.

Youth-in-Government Grooming Tomorrow's City Leaders

Youth in Government (YIG) at Gabrielino High School continues to attract a wide variety of students who participate in this unique annual local government experience. The program, now in its 11th year, has become an effective platform for preparing tomorrow's city government leaders. City Clerk Iris Vuong and Deputy Clerk Stephanie Chang did an excellent job conducting the election, where there were a record 19 candidates running for YIG Council. Congratulations to Mayor Kathleen Van, Vice Mayor Andy Tien and Councilmembers Jimmy Chen, Ellen Hoang and Jonathan Hu for a successful campaign, and to all the students who participated in the 2006-2007 YIG program!

A major element of the program is shadowing, where students share "a day in the life" with their elected or appointed City official counterpart. Shadow days give students a hands-on, behind the scene experience in how the City is run, what services the City provides, as well as what duties and responsibilities are necessary to make their community an excellent place to live. On Youth in Government Day, the students get a tour of the City where they enjoy demonstrations by Public Works, Police and Fire Departments and the Civic Auditorium.

This year, the City was privileged to welcome the Honorable Ronald S.W. Lew, the nation's first Chinese American judge, U.S. District Court, as the keynote speaker. In addition to the value of education and achievement, Judge Lew stressed the importance of being involved and making a difference.

"The progress of today is a result of past leadership," Judge Lew said. "But the future is dependent on our youth of today."

The City of San Gabriel commends Gabrielino High School Principal Dr. Murphy for his continued support of YIG and sincere thanks to school YIG Coordinators Marcos Andrade and Kathleen Monahan.



shortTAKES

Henna Painting Demonstration

The Ziba Beauty Center will be presenting a henna painting demonstration at the San Gabriel Public Library on Wednesday, April 25th, 4 p.m. Called "mehndi" in India, henna painting is typically used for special occasions, particularly for brides on their wedding day. The patterns of mehndi can be quite intricate and are usually applied to the hands or feet. Traditions in India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh sometimes expect bridegrooms to be painted as well.

For more information, please contact Lisa Zimmerman, Young Adult Librarian, at (626) 287- 0761.



Get Your Passports in San Gabriel

Passports are currently required for all travelers who enter the U.S. by air travel. Effective Jan. 1, U.S. citizens traveling between the U.S. and Canada, Mexico, Central and South America, the Caribbean, and Bermuda by land or sea must present a valid U.S. passport to enter the U.S. Normal processing period for passports is six weeks and processing can take longer if there are questions regarding the submitted paperwork. Expedited passport processing usually takes two weeks, but there is an additional fee for this service. Passports are also accepted as identification for all types of legal needs throughout the U.S.

For your convenience, the San Gabriel Parks & Recreation Department can help you with all your passport needs. Staff is available to assist with passport photos, registration and renewal Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., and Tuesday from 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

The Parks & Recreation Department is at 250 S. Mission Drive. For more information please call (626) 308-2875.

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