

news and views from our town

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SAN GABRIEL • CA

San Gabriel

# Grapevine

SUMMER 2004 VOLUME 8 • ISSUE 3

[www.sangabrielcity.com](http://www.sangabrielcity.com)

## Hilton Hotel Opening this October in San Gabriel

Visitors to the City of San Gabriel will soon be able to stay at one of the most famous and distinguished hotel chains in the world. A three-star Hilton Hotel at 225 West Valley Boulevard is scheduled to open on October 27.

In addition to the 215 guestrooms/suites and Presidential Suite, the hotel offers a grand ballroom with seating for over 1,000, 12 multi-function rooms, an international restaurant, a rooftop garden, a 24-hour business center, piano lounge, fitness center with heated indoor pool and



whirlpool spa, and more.

The Hilton is conveniently located near the intersections of Valley Boulevard

and Del Mar Avenue, an easy stroll to a wide variety of shops and restaurants, the Interstate 10 freeway, and just two miles from the historic San Gabriel Mission.

The architecture is a classic Mediterranean style, featuring graceful arches in addition to warm wood paneling and granite tile floors. This building is a beautiful landmark for the City of San Gabriel.

Planning an event? Know of guests and clients who need a place to stay? In just a few months, you can tell them to check out the San Gabriel Hilton!



## Mission District Specific Plan Completed

After three years of community and stakeholder meetings, and City Council and Planning Commission public hearings, the 200-page *Mission District Specific Plan* has been completed and is available online at [www.sangabrielcity.org](http://www.sangabrielcity.org). The final plan is pending public hearing before the Council as this issue of the Grapevine goes to press.

The *Mission District Specific Plan* states how the goals of San Gabriel's new general plan will be implemented. Specific plans are not redevelopment areas. The *Mission District Specific Plan* instead proposes strategies for economic development, land use

and zoning, historic preservation and cultural resources, urban design, architectural design, and the circulation of people and cars to set the stage for revitalizing the Mission District.

The final document was made possible with the support of the community and City Council. Funding was provided by the State of California Department of Housing and Community Development Downtown Rebound Grant and the Federal Community Development Block Grant. Thanks to the many citizens who have helped bring the plan to fruition. For more information about the plan, call the City's economic development division at (626) 457-4630.

## General Plan Creating New Vision For City

"Ingredients for Success," San Gabriel's first new General Plan in 14 years, envisions the San Gabriel of tomorrow! Over the past four years, residents, business people and City staff worked closely together to formulate a General Plan adopted by the City Council on May 18. The plan outlines how the City will deal with such issues as housing, economic development, land use, mobility and open space over the next 10-15 years. The plan also includes policies and programs designed to make San Gabriel an even better place to live, work and play.

In addition to the General Plan, detailed plans are underway for three important areas of the city: the Mission District, Valley Boulevard, and Las Tunas Drive. Each of these plans will complement the General Plan and build on the strengths and address recommended areas of improvement in each of these areas.

The *Mission District Specific Plan* has been underway since 2002 and is designed to create a livable "village" atmosphere while stimulating economic vitality in the City's oldest district.

The *Valley Boulevard Neighborhoods Sustainability Plan*, or *Valley Vision* for short, is the first comprehensive plan dealing exclusively with this important area of the City. When completed, the plan will point the way to making the Valley Boulevard neighborhood a "sustainable" place — environmentally sustainable, economically sustainable and functionally sustainable.

Two rounds of public input have now been completed, as the City's team of staff and consultants has met with "stakeholders" in the neighborhood, including residents, businesspeople, architects and Realtors. These gatherings have resulted in some very valuable community input on such issues as traffic and transportation, land use, urban design and infrastructure — input critical to the plan's success.

Work is now underway on an environmental impact report that will be completed this fall. Planning Commission and City Council public hearings on *Valley Vision* are expected to take place by the end of the year.



Valley Boulevard

## Mission District Partnership Presents Movies, Memories & Motor Cars

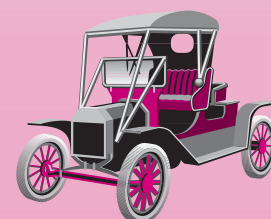


It's billed as *A Turn of the Century Experience*. On Sept. 19 from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m., come to the Civic Auditorium Plaza for a memorable community event.

Produced by the Mission District Partnership, visitors will be transported back to a time when the price of Coney Island dogs, cotton candy, sno-cones, a bag of hot popcorn and a ticket to a movie only cost a nickel. Vintage cars will be on display as well as student art projects from the local schools. There will be pie-eating contests, photo booths, a strolling Dixieland Band and the ever-popular Barber Shop Quartet.

The centerpiece of the afternoon will be the First Annual Silent Film Festival starring Chris Elliott on San Gabriel's own Mighty Wurlitzer Theatre Pipe Organ. Before 'talkies,' the Wurlitzer was the voice of the movies, creating the mood for each scene as the audience read the dialogue at the bottom of the screen. Laurel and Hardy, Buster Keaton and other silent giants will be featured in a collection of comedy shorts where the chase and the ultimate crash are the only plot you have to know. Two performances are scheduled for the afternoon.

After the show, visitors are encouraged to dine at one of the fine restaurants in the Mission District. Special menus will be featured during the Turn of the Century Experience. See you on Sept. 19!



Please turn to General Plan, page 4





## Upcoming San Gabriel Civic Auditorium Events

### SATURDAY, JULY 24

Rayven's Dance Academy, 3 p.m.  
For information/tickets call (626) 222-1570

### SUNDAY, JULY 25

Esperanza Flores Dance Group presents Fiesta International, 2004, 2 p.m.  
For information/tickets call (909) 393-3926

### SATURDAY, JULY 31

Tarj Entertainment Musical variety/comedy show, 8 p.m. Info/tickets call (714) 883-6219

### FRIDAY, AUGUST 13

YIP Children's Choir of Hong Kong 8 pm  
For information / tickets call (949) 733-8333

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 15

Kawn Foundation: A Cantonese Opera 2 pm  
For information / tickets call (626) 840-5525

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 21

Han-Yi Productions presents Z-WAY Concert 8 p.m. Info/tickets: (562)-404-2867

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 22

Ying Enterprises 2004 Music Festival, 8 p.m.  
For information/tickets call (626) 683-1900

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 26

Los Angeles County/Rio Hondo Police Academy Training Program  
Rio Hondo Police Academy Graduation Admission by invitation only, 10 a.m.  
For info/tickets call (562) 692-0921, ext. 4225

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

Bin Hee Productions: When East Meets West, 7:30 p.m. Info/tickets call (626) 318-3532

### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

Star 4 Productions Vocal entertainment, 7:30 p.m.  
For information/tickets call (626) 443-3838

### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Tarj Entertainment: Filipino entertainment, 8 p.m.  
For information/tickets call (714) 883-6219

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Supreme Circle Performing Arts Corp. Chinese opera, 2 p.m.  
For information/tickets call (626) 943-9869

### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Mission District Partnership: Movies, Memories & Motor Cars "A turn of the century experience," Auditorium Plaza Free admission, 1 p.m. - 7 p.m.

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Miss Taiwanese USA Foundation presents 2004 Miss Taiwanese USA Pageant 7 p.m.  
For information/tickets call (310) 541-0108

### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

Los Angeles Theatre Organ Society Octoberfest 2004, 2 p.m. (time subj. to change) German food, beer and music featuring The Mighty Wurlitzer Theatre pipe organ. Info/tickets: (888) 528-6722

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2

San Gabriel Police Dept. Police & Fire Safety Expo 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free admission  
For information call (626) 308-2860

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9

Lotus Foundation Asian Legacy Festival 2004, 7:30 p.m. Info/tickets call (626) 616-2290

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10

San Gabriel Chinese Opera Association Chinese opera. Info/tickets: (626) 576-5055

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16

San Gabriel Folklorico Mexico En Su Esplendor 7 p.m. Info/tickets: (323) 254-6859

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20

Farmers Insurance & City of San Gabriel present The East LA Classic Theatre production of Much Ado About Nothing - Mariachi Style (times TBA) Special performances for fourth-grade students only. Info/tickets: your local school

### SATURDAY OCTOBER 23

Los Angeles Classical Chinese Orchestra, 7 p.m.  
For information/tickets call 626 284-6940

### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29

9:15 a.m., 11:30 a.m. (+8 p.m. Friday only)  
Children's Theatre Experience: The Music Man  
For information/tickets call (800) 514-2787

All events and artists are subject to change or cancellation without prior notice. Always call the auditorium to confirm dates. To hear recorded event information, call (626) 308-2868. Unless indicated, all tickets are sold by the producing company presenting the event.

Call the Auditorium Box Office at (626) 308-2865 for more information.

## Protecting Your Family from West Nile Virus



While summer means baseball, fun at the beach and vacations with the kids, it's also the prime season for mosquitoes. The West Nile virus (WNV) was first found in mosquitoes and birds in California in 2003. The virus is transmitted to people by infected mosquitoes. Mild symptoms may include fever, headache, body aches, nausea, a skin rash on the trunk of the body, and/or swollen lymph nodes. If you think you have been bitten by a mosquito and experience these symptoms, please seek medical attention immediately.

The San Gabriel Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District routinely surveys for mosquito-borne diseases such as West Nile. Adult mosquitoes are routinely trapped and tested. The District also provides free home and yard inspections for mosquito sources, as well as mosquito fish to interested residents for placement in ponds, water gardens and watering troughs.

You can protect your family from WNV by doing the following:

- ~ Avoid outdoor activity at dawn and dusk during mosquito season (now to October).
- ~ Wear loose-fitting long pants and long-sleeve shirts when outdoors.
- ~ Use approved mosquito repellents containing DEET.
- ~ Stock large troughs with mosquito fish and clean small containers weekly.
- ~ Properly maintain swimming pools, wading pools and spas.
- ~ Drain all standing water on property.
- ~ Ensure doors and windows have tight-fitting screens in good repair.
- ~ Clean and change birdbaths once a week.
- ~ Regularly clean rain gutters of debris to prevent water from puddling.
- ~ Seal septic tank covers and other openings tightly to prevent adult mosquitoes from entering to lay eggs.
- ~ Repair broken or leaking faucets and watering equipment.



For more information, please contact the San Gabriel Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District, (626) 814-9466, www.sgvmosquito.org.

## Temporary Canopy Structures



The San Gabriel City Council adopted a new ordinance effective March 6 dealing with temporary structures, which include canopies, carports, or tent-like structures made from cloth, vinyl or plastic. These structures are not attached to the ground by means of a foundation like a regular building. Under the new law, temporary structures are prohibited in any zone in the City if they are located in the front yard, in the street-side yard of a corner lot, or anywhere they are visible from the public right of way. Temporary structures not meeting these criteria are permitted, provided they comply with applicable setback and lot coverage requirements.

The intent of the new law, written in response to resident concerns, is to protect the appearance of the City. Many other cities in California have adopted similar restrictions on temporary structures. Property owners who have existing temporary structures that do not comply with the new regulations should have received a letter from the City informing them of the new law and providing them with a copy of it. Property owners with nonconforming existing structures are required to either remove them or relocate them to comply with the new law.

For more information on the new rules regarding temporary structures, contact the City's Community Development Department at (626) 308-2806.



## Fire Department Dispatching System Facilitates Quick Response

When you call the San Gabriel Fire Department, a staff of highly trained fire and rescue dispatchers from the Verdugo Fire Communications Center handles your inquiry.

Prior to joining the Verdugo Fire Communications Center in April 2000, the Fire Department operated with a firefighter/dispatcher; a firefighter assigned at the start of each shift also handled dispatcher duties.

With San Gabriel's inclusion in the Verdugo dispatching system, dispatchers with years of experience have now assumed these duties.

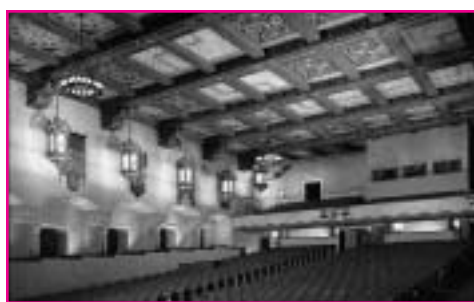
The City now shares dispatching service costs with eight other cities. Benefits include common radio frequencies for easy communication, alarms broadcast into each station with hard copies of the response information on station printers, printouts on the Mobile Computer Terminals on the vehicles, current hospital status for paramedic transports, and a statistical analysis of the year's emergency calls at year's end.

With inclusion into the Verdugo system, San Gabriel became a partner with the following cities: Burbank, Glendale, Pasadena, San Marino, South Pasadena, Arcadia, Sierra Madre, and Monrovia. There are a total of 33 fire stations in the Verdugo system, including 33 engines, nine truck companies, 18 paramedic rescues, one paramedic squad, and assorted air units, Hazmat and Urban Search & Rescue units, and command vehicles.

As part of the Verdugo system, San Gabriel units can have another jurisdiction's resources assigned to help at a San Gabriel emergency.

Some notable statistics: Last year the Verdugo dispatchers answered over 98,000 calls; 51,441 generated responses for Verdugo agencies. Dispatchers also translated calls in 14 languages. They typically answer 11.3 calls and handle almost six emergency incidents per hour. The average duration of a call is 66 seconds, and they are answered 95 percent of the time in less than six seconds. It takes 42 seconds to process a 911 call, and after it is sent to the radio dispatcher it takes only 8.3 seconds to dispatch the units.

For more information on the Verdugo Fire Communications Center, please call (626) 308-2880.



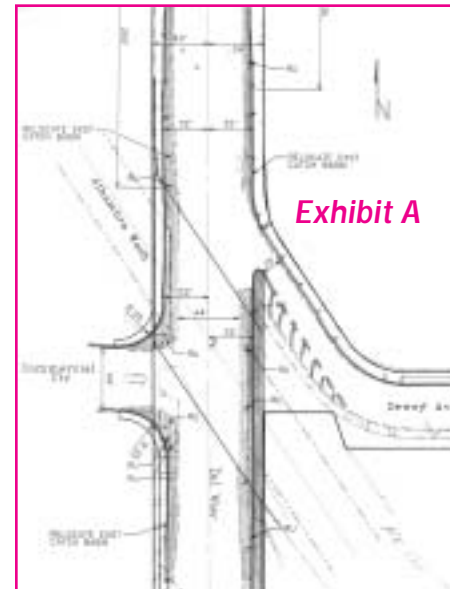
## Come Tour the Civic Auditorium

The San Gabriel Civic Auditorium, formally known as The Mission Playhouse, is now available for tours. Built in 1927 as the permanent home of the Mission Play, it is one of Southern California's most historic theaters.

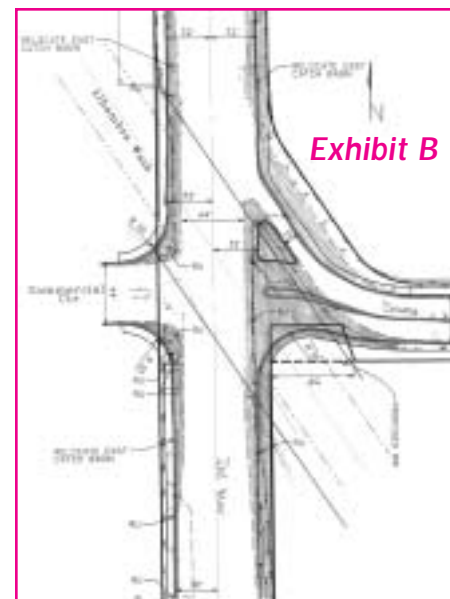
School, civic and private groups of ten or more are encouraged to see just how the magic is created. Tours are conducted by appointment only and reservations are a must. Times and dates are based on availability and event scheduling, and there is no admission charge. To schedule a tour, please call (626) 308-2865, ext. 226 and ask for Bill Shaw or Steve Wilkinson.

## Del Mar Alhambra Bridge Design Update

The Los Angeles County Public Works Department-Design Division has completed its analysis of the bridge at Del Mar Avenue over the Alhambra Wash.



The existing bridge, built in 1939, is approaching the end of its useful life. It was designed for lighter truckloads than today's design standards, which is 25 percent heavier than the design for the existing bridge. The maintenance costs are higher for repainting the existing steel bridge. The existing bridge's steel frame members could be very expensive. A new bridge has been designed to current seismic design loads and truckloads. The bridge replacement cost is more than a standard bridge widening. However, the age of the structure, the long-term maintenance costs on the existing bridge and its low truckload capacity justify its replacement.



In conjunction with the proposed bridge replacement project on Del Mar Avenue, City staff and the Los Angeles County Public Works Department-Design Division have investigated realigning Dewey Avenue at Commercial Center to create a four-way intersection. Caltrans has indicated they may have safety funding that would offset the cost of realigning Dewey to make a safer intersection.

The City Engineer will be setting up a meeting so that residents may express their opinion. Some residents of the Norwood-Strathmore area have voiced concerns about access and traffic circulation in their area, but others may have concerns about increasing traffic along Dewey Avenue.

For more information about this project, please call the City's Engineering Division at (626) 308-2800, ext. 4631.



## Fire Department Awarded Homeland Security Grant Funds

The San Gabriel Fire Department has been tentatively approved for \$287,000 in Homeland Security Grant funding. Approximately \$172,000 is earmarked for Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) equipment, to go on a new USAR vehicle. The USAR vehicle was approved last year with 2003 Homeland Security Grant funds. The remaining \$115,000 will be used for training of personnel in Urban Search and Rescue operations.



This USAR vehicle is currently in use in L.A. County

To date, this brings the total approved grant funding for the Fire Department from the Department of Homeland Security to \$824,793.56. The funds are to be utilized as follows:

- \$10,298.64 for Personal Protective Equipment and antidotes for chemical agents
- \$397,000 for an Urban Search and Rescue vehicle, which has been ordered and should be delivered by the end of the year
- \$302,494.92 for Urban Search and Rescue Equipment
- \$115,000 for training

Once all equipment and training are in place, the Fire Department will become an area-wide resource for heavy rescue operations with staffing support provided by the Alhambra, Monterey Park and South Pasadena Fire Departments.



San Gabriel Police Department Officers Vincent Salazar, Aron Stafford, Robert Barada and Christine Nolasco were all recognized for their efforts in removing drunk drivers from the roads

## Officers Garner Recognition from Mothers Against Drunk Driving

The Los Angeles County Chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) held the 2003 Law Enforcement Recognition Program on March 25. The program recognizes officers throughout the Los Angeles County area who excel in their efforts to remove drunk drivers from the road.

MADD commends the ongoing efforts of all law enforcement throughout the Los Angeles County area. It recognizes qualifying peace officers with a specially designed recognition certificate and a pin that may be worn on the officer's uniform.

This year, several officers throughout Los Angeles County were recognized, including four from San Gabriel Police Department. Officers Vincent Salazar, Aron Stafford, Robert Barada and Christine Nolasco were all recognized for their efforts in removing drunk drivers from the roads.

## Painting the Town – San Gabriel Works Hard to Remove Graffiti

The City of San Gabriel is serious about graffiti removal. Graffiti devalues property and diminishes the beauty of the landscape. It affects our quality of life and detracts from the sense of community enjoyed by the residents of San Gabriel.

### What is graffiti?

Graffiti is vandalism. It is any unauthorized description, word, figure or design that is marked, etched, scratched, drawn or painted on any surface without the owner's permission. Graffiti is a crime that is punishable by a court of law as a misdemeanor or even a felony.

### How has the City of San Gabriel responded to the issue of graffiti?

Last year, the City contracted with Urban Graffiti Enterprises to provide enhanced graffiti-removal services, including weekly surveys, 24-48-hour response after receipt of a complaint, on-site custom color matching and two-hour response after receipt for removal of any offensive or profane graffiti.

Since the inception of the enhanced graffiti removal program, Urban Graffiti Enterprises has painted or removed approximately 40,000 square feet of graffiti from more than 1,500 sites. For Fiscal Year 2004-05, the budget for graffiti abatement has been increased, showing that San Gabriel is serious about graffiti removal.

A successful graffiti-abatement program uses several strategies in its war against graffiti, including:

- **Rapid Response** — removal or covering of graffiti within 24-48 hours of its appearance or reporting.
- **Reporting Hotlines** — increased and timely reporting is essential to the success of a rapid-response strategy.
- **Vigilance** — is necessary and effective. If a wall is tagged, painted and tagged over and over again, eventually the tagger will go somewhere else or give up.
- **Monitoring** — of frequently targeted or highly vulnerable locations and structures for rapid response.
- **Color-Matching** — matching the color of paint to the existing surface color helps promote a clean community and maintain a better quality of life.

### What should you do if you see graffiti on private property or your property is vandalized?

Report the graffiti location as soon as possible to Urban Graffiti's Hotline at (626) 815-4900. To report graffiti on public property and rights-of-way, please contact the Public Works Division at (626) 308-2825. For more information, please contact Rita Estrada, Neighborhood Improvement Services Manager, at (626) 308-2806, ext. 4636, [restrada@sghc.org](mailto:restrada@sghc.org).



National Night Out turned festive last year on Leslie Avenue

## San Gabriel Joins Nationwide Effort to Fight Crime

On Tuesday, August 3, neighborhoods throughout San Gabriel are being invited to join forces with thousands of communities nationwide for San Gabriel's "21st Annual National Night Out" (NNO) crime/drug prevention event. This is the tenth year that San Gabriel has participated in National Night



Residents of Wedgewood Avenue support NNO

Out, which is sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch (NATW), and co-sponsored locally by the San Gabriel Police Department. It will involve over 9,900 communities from all 50 states, U.S. territories, Canadian cities and military bases around the world. In all, over 35 million people are expected to participate in "America's Night Out Against Crime" on August 3. National Night Out is also supported in part by the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance.

From 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., residents in neighborhoods throughout San Gabriel will lock their doors, turn on outside lights and spend the evening outside with their neighbors. Many Neighborhood Watch groups throughout San Gabriel will be hosting block parties, cookouts and other activities, and will be visited by police, fire, and City officials. The U.S. Army, U.S. Marine Corps and a local radio station are expected to return again this year.

National Night Out has four objectives: heighten crime- and drug-prevention awareness; generate support and participation in local anti-crime efforts; strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community relations; and send a message to criminals letting them know neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

"National Night Out is an extraordinary way to build neighborhood unity and strengthen police-community partnerships," said San Gabriel Police Chief David A. Lawton. "Neighbors meet neighbors — and citizens and local law enforcement have the opportunity to enhance their relationships. On August 3, we invite all San Gabriel residents to join forces with us to give crime and drugs a going-away party."

## MEET YOUR CITY EMPLOYEES



Grace Song, Teresa Tena, and Donna Vine in their "natural habitat"

Three new staff members in the Community Development Department are delivering on San Gabriel's commitment to outstanding customer service.

Assistant Planner Grace Song brings a wealth of experience to the Planning Division. Grace, who began her career with San Gabriel as an intern two years ago, has also worked as a planner with the City of Montebello. Grace received her undergraduate degree in political science from UC-Riverside, and her master's degree in public administration at USC.

Teresa Tena has joined the Building Division as Community Development Permit Technician, responsible for management of the Building Division's customer care. Teresa has an outstanding background, including certifications from the International Conference of Building Officials, and a background including plan checking and plan-check management with the cities of Monterey Park and Rancho Cucamonga. Teresa has already set new standards for performance, providing critical counter assistance to the Building and Engineering Divisions.

Donna Vine has joined the Community Development Department's administrative staff as a Community Development Clerk, assisting the department secretary and all five divisions in handling phone and counter inquiries, managing incoming projects and maintaining our files. Donna comes to us with a degree in human relations from Cal Poly, Pomona and a background in the private sector; she is an outstanding addition to the Community Development family.

Each of these employees represents the City Council's commitment to hiring the best people to provide the City of San Gabriel with outstanding community service. They will look forward to working with you on your next visit to City Hall!

## PATH Program Now Includes Third-Graders

In 1997, the City of San Gabriel introduced the Progress and Accomplishments Through History (PATH) Program. PATH was developed for fourth-graders, and it combined local government education with the study of California mission history. The program has now been redesigned for third-graders as part of their study of community. PATH provides an opportunity to teach and learn about San Gabriel's rich history and local government services.

The pilot program kickoff consisted of a day of presentations for all third-grade classes at each of the San Gabriel Unified School District (SGUSD) elementary schools — McKinley, Roosevelt, Coolidge, Washington and Wilson, and was well received by over 500 students and their teachers.

During the summer, workshops were held for the 20 employees who volunteered to serve as PATH speakers. Speakers make two visits to their assigned classrooms. The first visit is a slide show that illustrates San Gabriel from early times to the present, after which the students are given a My City San Gabriel handbook. The second visit is a presentation about what the respective speaker does for the City.

San Gabriel is excited to have this opportunity to continue to build on the strong relationship between the City and SGUSD for the betterment of the entire community.



## 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  
7:30 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

San Gabriel Unified  
School District  
Congratulates

McKinley School and  
Washington School



2004 California  
Distinguished Schools

## The San Gabriel Grapevine

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Juli Costanzo, Vice Mayor  
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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.



City of  
San Gabriel  
www.sangabrielcity.com

## City Developing Hazard Mitigation Plan

Last April, the San Gabriel City Council passed a resolution establishing support for the development of a hazard mitigation plan. In accordance with requirements of the Federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, the mitigation plan is designed to ensure the health, safety and welfare of its citizens in the event of a natural disaster.

The Act establishes a national program for pre-disaster mitigation. Cities must prepare and submit a local hazard mitigation plan to qualify for pre- and post-disaster mitigation funds.

Since April, a core group representing a cross-section of individuals and organizations in San Gabriel has formed to review the needs and concerns of all interested groups. The core group keeps participants and the community up to date on the plan, and it includes City staff, the public, local businesses and interest groups.

The deadline for submission of a local disaster mitigation plan to FEMA is November 1, 2004. The plan will first be submitted to the City Council for approval and then to the state Office of Emergency Services for review. The plan will include mitigation activities the City already engages in, and also include any newly proposed mitigation activities.

If you have any questions, or would like information about the City's hazard mitigation plan, please contact Fire Battalion Chief Richard Garstang at (626) 308-2880.



## Kid's Day is Back!

Gear up for the Fourth Annual Kid's Day celebration! This annual event, to be held Sunday, August 8, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Smith Park, is a celebration of kids and their families. Kid's Day will kick off with the summer playground program's most popular special event, the annual Penny Carnival. Kids of all ages (that includes you, too, parents!) can try their luck at a variety of challenging game booths, in the hopes of winning candy and small prizes. Also

included in the penny carnival will be displays by the San Gabriel Police and Fire Departments and a dunk tank where local "celebrities" will offer an inviting target to the carnival-goers. Bring a bag full of coins and join us for this fun event!

The Kid's Day celebration will continue with a free hot dog BBQ lunch complete with all of the trimmings, a variety of old-fashioned picnic games and contests, free recreational swimming (beginning at 1 p.m.), ice cream, raffles, prizes and more! Other than participation in the Penny Carnival, there is no cost for this activity. Kid's Day is sponsored by the City of San Gabriel City Council and is also made possible through the generous donations of community businesses and organizations.

## Hundreds of People to Reenact Key Chapter in 18th Century California on September 4th

In celebration of San Gabriel and Los Angeles' shared living history, hundreds of people will rise before dawn on Saturday, September 4th, lace up their walking shoes and participate in *Los Pobladores-Walk to Los Angeles*.

The event, which starts at 6 a.m., pays homage to Los Angeles' settlers, who trekked from the San Gabriel Mission to what is now Olvera Street in 1781. The founding of Los Angeles came 10 years after Mission San Gabriel was founded in 1771, as the fourth mission established in the Franciscan chain of 21 California missions. This year's Walk also coincides with San Gabriel Mission's three-day '233 Fiesta de San Gabriel' from Sept. 3-5.

Join in celebrating San Gabriel's place in history and importance to the region. To return to the Mission, walkers can board a Department of Transportation bus from Olvera Street for a free ride back to San Gabriel. The *Walk to Los Angeles* unites our wonderfully diverse community in recognizing and celebrating the contributions of all people and events that have shaped the City.

For more information about the Walk to Los Angeles, call City Hall at (626) 308-2802. For information about the Mission Fiesta, contact Algis Marcuska at (626) 457-3034.

## 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, special events and day trips. Summer playgrounds are open from June 28 to August 18 for youth ages 5 to 16. The playgrounds are located at Lincoln School, Vincent Lugo Park, Marshall School, Roosevelt School, and Smith Park. 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 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, McKinley School, Roosevelt School, Smith Park, Vincent Lugo Park, and Washington School. This 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 the beach, a Dodger Game, Raging Waters, the Little Folks Fair, 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 on any of these programs, please contact the Recreation Department at (626) 308-2875.

## GENERAL PLAN, CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

Two years ago, the City received a grant to develop "livable community" strategies for the Las Tunas Drive corridor. The *Las Tunas Drive Revitalization Strategy* will incorporate recommendations on land use, transportation and traffic-calming measures. It will include a toolkit of strategies tailored to the specific needs of Las Tunas Drive. It will also be accompanied by recommendations for capital improvements necessary to implement the plan. The strategy is being prepared for adoption by the City Council and will be implemented subject to future funding availability.

For information about any of these exciting future plans and how you can participate in them, contact City Planner Mark Gallatin at (626) 308-2806, ext. 4623 or mgallatin@sgch.org.

## shortTAKES



Chamber  
Golf

Tournament

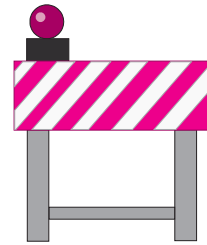
Benefits  
Scholarship  
Program

On September 16, the San Gabriel Chamber of Commerce will host its annual golf tournament. The tournament will be held at Brookside Golf Course in Pasadena. Proceeds will benefit the Chamber's Jeanne E. Raya Scholarship Fund, as well to support services and programs for Chamber members.

Contests will include "longest drive" and "closest-to-the-pin." Various business sponsorship packages are available. Tournament fee includes green fees, electric cart, golfer goodies and dinner.

For more information, please call (626) 576-2525.

## Watch out for the Men in Orange



What do you do when approaching a street maintenance project? Observe and follow the directions of the men and women in orange. These individuals have received special

training on how best to provide a safe and effective work area.

Prior to beginning a street maintenance project, careful consideration is given to setting up a safe work zone in order to warn, control, protect and expedite vehicular and pedestrian traffic.

Following their instructions will greatly minimize the possibility of damage to public and private property, and to the construction project and equipment. It also reduces confusion for motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians traveling through the construction area.

For more information, please contact the Public Works Division at (626) 308-2825.

## Dance the Afternoon Away

Each week, music drifts across the dance floor and the room comes alive as seniors dance to the live sounds of the Lloyd Duo! The City of San Gabriel Parks and Recreation Department sponsors a Senior Dance each Wednesday from 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. The dances are held in the Padillo Room of the Adult Recreation Center, 324 South Mission Drive in the historic Mission District.

Admission to the dance is \$3.00, which includes a light refreshment. Come out and join this friendly group for an afternoon of dancing and fun! For more information, please call (626) 308-2875.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 21

Chamber Mixer  
San Gabriel Mission  
428 Mission Dr.

### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18

Chamber Mixer  
Autunno  
409 S. Mission Dr.

### WED., SEPTEMBER 15

Chamber Mixer  
San Gabriel Mission High School  
254 S. Santa Anita St.

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