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news and views from our town

San Gabriel

Grapevine

SUMMER 2007 VOLUME 11 • ISSUE III

www.sangabrielcity.com

San Gabriel Joins Cities Nationwide For America's Night Out Against Crime

They cook hot dogs and burgers, exchange desserts, paint faces, and meet with city officials, police, fire and military personnel. On Tuesday, August 7, neighborhoods throughout San Gabriel are being invited to join forces with thousands of communities nationwide for the "24th Annual National Night Out" (NNO) crime/drug prevention event. This is the 13th year that San Gabriel will participate in this event. Neighborhood Watch and National Night Out are programs to help make communities safer – and to strengthen police-community partnerships.

From 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., residents will lock their doors, turn on outside lights and spend the evening outside with their neighbors. Many Neighborhood Watch groups will be hosting block parties, cookouts, and other activities and will be visited by police, fire, city officials, a local radio station, and numerous branches of the armed forces.

"As people become more private we become more vulnerable to crime by not seeing, knowing, or noticing what is normal for our streets and neighborhoods. That is why Neighborhood Watch and National Night Out are so important," said Crime Prevention Officer Alex Acosta.

San Gabriel's Neighborhood Watch Block Captains agree. Russell and Carol Meals from the 800-block of Anderson Way said, "One of the best assets of San Gabriel's Neighborhood Watch Program is the monthly crime reports and newsletters provided by the Crime Prevention Office. These communications provide useful information for our neighborhood as well as advice on what we can all do to help fight crime. National Night Out helps people come together and meet neighbors for the first time."

Block Captains Peggy and Russ Hibbs from the 1200-block of Elm Street added, "Having the Neighborhood Watch program shows solidarity between the police department and the people in the neighborhoods they serve. It empowers citizens to feel they have a role in preventing crime. Neighborhood Watch has certainly made a difference on our block."

These block captains encourage others to join Neighborhood Watch. So on Tuesday, August 7, go out to your front yard as a Neighborhood Watch group, pull out a few chairs, and welcome your neighbors to join you.

"National Night Out is an extraordinary way to build neighborhood unity and strengthen police-community partnerships. Neighbors meet neighbors – and citizens and local law enforcement have the opportunity to enhance their relationships," said Police Chief David A. Lawton. "A safer neighborhood starts with you!"

If you would like to join San Gabriel's Neighborhood Watch program and participate in this year's event, please contact the San Gabriel Police Department Crime Prevention Office at (626) 308-2846.



Join the Fun at Kid's Day and Penny Carnival

Come celebrate the 7th Annual Kid's Day celebration at Smith Park! Join kids and their families on Sunday, August 5 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. You'll enjoy a free hot dog BBQ lunch, complete with all of the trimmings, plus ice cream. Activities include a variety of old-fashioned picnic games and contests, free recreational swimming (beginning at 1 p.m.), raffle prizes and more! In addition to the fun and games, informational booths will spotlight local organizations that serve kids and 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 for a chance to win candy and small prizes. Bring a bag full of coins and join us for this fun event! Other than participation in the Penny Carnival, there is no cost for this activity.

Kid's Day is sponsored by the San Gabriel City Council and is also made possible through the generous donations of community businesses and organizations.

Smith Park is located at 232 West Broadway. For more information on Kid's Day and the Penny Carnival, and for further details on how you can support this salute to children and their families through a donation, please contact the Parks and Recreation Department at (626) 308-2875.



Library to Get New Look

San Gabriel Library, located at 500 S. Del Mar Ave., closed at the end of April to begin an exciting major 11-month refurbishment project.

The San Gabriel Library project enhancements includes interior and exterior paint; new carpet and floor tile; new circulation and information desks; ADA upgrades of public restrooms; installation of automatic entry doors; parking lot refurbishments and installation of an elevator for improved access to the second floor meeting room. In addition, the Friends of San Gabriel Library are planning to furnish a quiet reading area in the new floor plan with funds donated in memory of Mayor Chi Mui who passed away in 2006.

The nearest county libraries for customers seeking library services are:

- Rosemead Library, 8800 Valley Blvd., Rosemead or
- Temple City Library, 5939 Golden West Ave., Temple City

The San Gabriel Library book drop will remain open for customer convenience when returning library materials. To assist in providing library services to the community, library

staff will present regular Preschool Storytimes and Family Storytimes, plus additional services at the City's Parks and Recreation offices:

- Story Times – "Preschool Storytime" and "Family Storytime" will be held at the Parks and Recreation Center, 250 S. Mission Drive. Children of all ages and caregivers are invited to participate in stories, songs and crafts. Preschool Storytime is every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. and Family Storytime is every Saturday, beginning July 28 at 2 p.m.
- Library Services – Materials checkout and library card registration are available at the Adult Recreation Center, 324 S. Mission Dr., Tuesday 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. and Friday 12 – 1 p.m. For more information, please call (323) 722-5621.

Funds to improve the library had been requested by the City of San Gabriel for many years and renovation was made possible by funding provided by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors. Thanks to the efforts of the City Council, including former Mayor Chi Mui and Los Angeles County Supervisor Michael Antonovich, the community can look forward to greater access and improved library services. It is anticipated that the library will re-open in spring 2008.

The San Gabriel Library is part of the County of Los Angeles Public Library. For additional information, please call (562) 940-8416 or visit the County Library website at www.colapublib.org.

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



Upcoming San Gabriel Civic Auditorium Events

Music! Dance! Theater!

FRI., JULY 27, 7:30 p.m.
SAT., JULY 28, 7:30 p.m.
San Marino Recreation Department & Bella Voce Inc. presents "Grease"
For info/tickets call (626) 793-0215

SAT., AUGUST 25, 8 p.m.
Hanyi Inc. presents "The Z-Way Concert"
For info/tickets call (562) 921-3020

SAT., SEPTEMBER 1, 6 p.m.
"Festival Del Cuatro"
Featuring top Cuatro players from Puerto Rico
For info/tickets call (805) 447-7846
www.festivaldelcuatro.org

SUN., SEPTEMBER 9, 3 p.m.
Taiwanese United Fund presents "Formosa Dreaming"
An orchestral and choral performance
For info/tickets call (626) 447-3601

SAT., SEPTEMBER 22, 8 p.m.
San Gabriel Valley Music Theatre Benefit Event
For info/tickets call (626) 282-1440

WED., SEPTEMBER 26, 8 p.m.
Los Angeles Philharmonic presents A free community concert
For info/tickets call (626) 457-4600

SAT., SEPTEMBER 29, 7 p.m.
Jenny An Studio presents "Chinese Dance"
For info/tickets call (626) 818-0845

SUN., SEPTEMBER 30, 7:30 p.m.
Chinese Artists Association concert
For info/tickets call (626) 922-5028

SAT., OCTOBER 6, 8 p.m.
Hanyi Inc. presents "The Z-Way Concert"
For info/tickets call (562) 921-3020

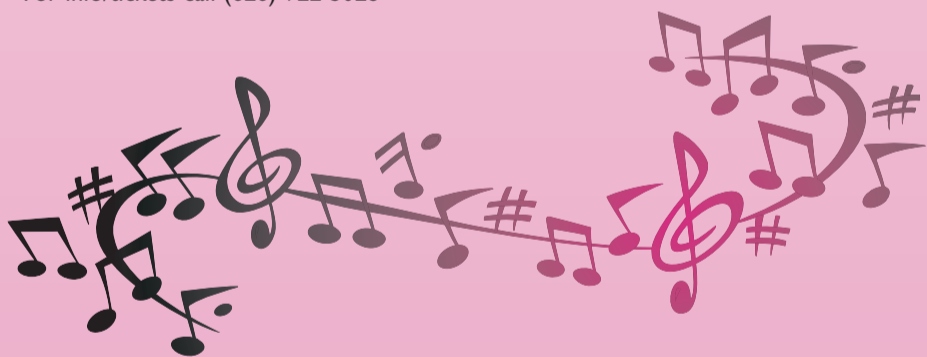
WEEK OF OCTOBER 8 MORNING PERFORMANCES
Children's Theatre Experience presents "Theatre for Young People"
For info/tickets call (800) 514-2787

THURS., OCTOBER 25, 10 a.m.
Theatreworks USA presents "Theatre for Young People"
Tickets will be available at your local school district
For info/tickets call (800) 497-5007

SAT., OCTOBER 27, 7 p.m.
American Chinese Dance Association
For info/tickets call (626) 643-9434

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. Check www.sgcivic.org or the Event Hot Line for changes and newly added performances at (626) 308-2868.

Call the Auditorium Box Office at (626) 308-2868 for more information.



Jack Vrtar Named Outstanding Older American

When you look for the quintessential citizen volunteer, Jack Vrtar stands out. Jack unselfishly volunteers his time and energy in making a positive contribution to the citizens and his community.

Jack has dedicated a significant portion of his available time at the San Gabriel Police Department. In 1999, he joined the Department as part of the Volunteer Seniors on Patrol (VSP) program. He assists the Patrol, Traffic and Crime Prevention Bureaus and helps with the Block Captain's Workshop, National Night Out, Community Safety Expo, Kid's Day and the annual Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup Relay Race.

Jack's current assignment includes vehicle parking enforcement and community patrol service. Whether there is a Department Open House or a special event, you can always rely on Jack to lend a helping hand.

Jack truly exemplifies what a volunteer and community-oriented person is all about – making a significant contribution that benefits the community as a whole. His tireless assistance and positive interactions with the public and Police Department personnel add to the quality of life in San Gabriel.

Jack was recognized as the Outstanding Older American at the City's 3-day birthday party in April and at a reception hosted by the Los Angeles County Commission on Aging. Congratulations on this great achievement Jack!



Castillo Joins Community Development Family

A new face is greeting City customers at City Hall, as Laura Castillo, Community Development Clerk, joins the San Gabriel family.

Laura is often the first person many customers will meet when they call or visit City Hall.

She works closely with the Community Development Department's customer service team to make sure that the public is greeted cordially, treated respectfully and assisted efficiently. On a typical day, Laura may handle more than 40 calls and 50 customers at the busy Community Development public counter.

"I'm looking forward to serving the citizens of San Gabriel," said Laura. Her warm smile and confident manner has already won the admiration of her colleagues. She brings with her significant experience in community development. For the past six years, she has worked at the city of Whittier, where her duties included qualifying loans for city business assistance programs.

We welcome Laura to the San Gabriel family. Drop by and say hello!

Tips on Staying Cool This Summer



Did you know that during vigorous exercise the human body can lose up to one liter of sweat an hour?

During these hot summer months, it's important to keep ourselves and our loved ones hydrated and protected from the heat.

Our bodies normally shed heat through evaporation of sweat. Ordinarily, this heat-regulating mechanism works well, but when the body generates more heat than it can release, we become overheated or hypothermic. Exposure to higher temperatures, vigorous activity, or a combination of both can lead to serious medical problems. Illness from heat exposure can take the following three forms:

HEAT CRAMPS

Heat cramps are painful muscle spasms that occur after vigorous exercise. This results from a salt imbalance within our muscle cells and usually is brought on by excessive sweating. Treatment includes removing yourself or others from the hot environment, resting, and drinking fluids.

HEAT EXHAUSTION

Heat exhaustion is caused by excessive heat exposure, stress, and fatigue, which is due to hypovolemia – the loss of water and electrolytes from heavy sweating. Heat exhaustion is the most common serious illness caused by heat. Signs and symptoms can include dizziness, weakness, or faintness with accompanying nausea or headache. Individuals may have cold, pale, clammy skin (internal temperature may be very high). As with any heat-related emergency, remove the individual from the hot environment, peel off excessive layers of clothing, encourage the person to lie down, and if possible sip water.

HEATSTROKE

Heatstroke is the most serious of the three heat-related emergencies. It occurs when the body's normal temperature cannot be sustained and rises to the level where body tissue is destroyed. Individuals with heatstroke will usually have hot, dry skin and, most importantly, experience a change in behavior, which could also lead to unresponsiveness. This of course, is a medical emergency and requires not only the same measures mentioned above, but also aggressive cooling measures and a 911 call.

Keeping yourself hydrated is very important, especially if you work outside. Also, keep in mind that the very young and the elderly cannot tolerate heat as well as others; heat can have a compounding effect on them. Sunny weather is a great time to get outdoors, so remember to be sensible about exerting yourself, rest and drink plenty of water.

Jefferson Middle School Gym Opens

Anticipation in the eyes of a child is not reserved for the holidays. Noses had been pressed up against the glass to the new Jefferson Middle School Gymnasium for several weeks before the official ribbon cutting held on May 22.

The 18,500 square-foot facility has state-of-the-art locker rooms and sports equipment but was also designed with music on its mind. The bleachers fold out on one side to face a performance platform that can entertain from the inside; or during our perfect California weather, the bleachers can do an "about face" and entertain the masses under the sun or stars. This is achieved by a huge door that rolls up to reveal the platform from the outside. With this new facility, the San Gabriel Unified School District can showcase Jefferson's award winning music programs as well as athletic programs to the entire San Gabriel community.

Jefferson Middle School will also be hosting the City's recreation program that includes a variety of sports camps beginning July 2 through August 15, for youth, ages 10 to 14. This program will be open Monday through Thursday, 1-3 p.m. For more information about recreation programs, please contact the Parks and Recreation Department at (626) 308-2875.



Pool Safety Tips

School is out and residents in San Gabriel will be looking for fun ways to cool down as summer temperatures heat up. Whether it's a public pool or your own pool, the city encourages you and your family to keep safety in mind. Here are some basic safety tips:

- Learn to swim. The best thing anyone can do to stay safe in and around the water is to learn to swim. This includes adults and children. The San Gabriel Parks and Recreation Department offers American Red Cross swim lessons for youth and adults at Smith Park Pool. For more information, interested residents can contact the Parks and Recreation Department.
- Never leave a child unobserved around water. Your eyes must be on the child at all times. Adult supervision is recommended.
- Install a phone by the pool or keep a cordless phone nearby so that you can call 911 in an emergency.
- Learn CPR and insist that babysitters, grandparents, and others who care for your child know CPR.
- Post CPR instructions and 911 or your local emergency number in the pool area.
- Enclose the pool completely with a five-foot high fence with vertical bars as per the 2001 California Building Code. Openings in the fence should be less than four inches wide at intermediate rails. Alarm devices should be installed at all windows and doors of the pool enclosure.



- The gate should be self-latching and self-closing.
- Never leave furniture/objects near the fence that would enable a child to climb over the fence.
- Always keep basic lifesaving equipment by the pool and know how to use it. Pole, rope, and personal flotation devices are recommended.
- Keep toys away from the pool when not in use, as these can attract young children into the pool.
- Pool covers should always be completely removed prior to pool use.
- If a child is missing, check the pool first. Go to the edge of the pool and scan the entire pool bottom, and surface, as well as the surrounding pool area.

To learn more about pool safety features and code compliance for swimming pools, contact Senior Building Inspector Evan Zeisel at (626) 308-2806, ext. 4627, ezeisel@sgch.org. For aquatic classes offered this summer, contact the Parks and Recreation Department at (626) 308-2875.

AMERICAN RED CROSS SAN GABRIEL POMONA VALLEY CHAPTER

430 Madeline Drive
Pasadena, CA 91105
E-mail: info@sgpvarc.org
Phone: (626) 799-0841
Fax: (626) 799-4802

Correct Signage Helps Businesses and Residents

San Gabriel prides itself as a great place to live, shop, and eat! Like the residential community, businesses are equally important and share in the pride of ownership of their shops and storefronts. Summarized below are some of the key sign opportunities that are permitted, and the limits established by the City's sign code ordinance to help advertise merchandise and services.

With few exceptions, all signage, including window signs, requires zoning approval and a sign permit. An application must be completed, fees paid, and plans submitted before a sign permit will be issued (\$60 minimum fee).



WINDOW SIGNS

The San Gabriel Municipal Code limits window signs to three and window signage cannot cover more than 25 percent total frontage glass area, which includes doors consisting of glass. Information pertaining to hours of operation and credit cards are exempt. A single sign indicating if a business is "open" or "closed" is also exempt so long as the sign does not exceed 18" x 24".

PORTABLE SIGNS

Each business in a commercial zone is allowed to display one portable sign. Signs may not exceed a width of 2' 6" and may not be more than four feet high. A business owner who wishes to maintain a portable sign in the public right-of-way must also submit and maintain a public liability insurance policy.

Portable signs cannot: (a) Reduce the walkway or sidewalk clearance to less than 36 inches; (b) Block motorists' views of vehicles at public right-of-way intersections; or (c) Interfere with persons entering or exiting parked cars.

Portable signs may not be displayed from vehicles parked in front of or adjacent to the businesses, whether on public or private property. This includes banners affixed to a vehicle. The portable sign should be stabilized so as to withstand wind gusts or should be removed during windy conditions.

Portable signs should be designed to incorporate the colors, textures, and features of the building in front of which they are to be placed. Signs made of plywood, pressboard, or paper products are not permitted; signs made of metal, burnished wood, or other materials having a natural appearance are allowed. Finishes should be of high quality and durable.

Portable signs should also be removed from their outdoor location at the close of each business day. When a permit application is approved, an official city tag will be placed on the sign showing permit approval.

NEON SIGNS

Except for one single "open" sign, all neon signs (i.e., exposed gas-filled lighting tubes) are prohibited. A permitted "open" sign cannot exceed 18" x 24".

TEMPORARY SIGN BANNERS

Banners may be displayed for a period of either 30 or 60 consecutive calendar days, with a maximum display period of 180 calendar days per calendar year. Multiple display periods are permitted on a banner permit, provided that the total amount of display days doesn't exceed 180 per calendar year. Only one banner sign is allowed to be displayed, except where a single business occupies a building located at the intersection of two major streets, in which case one banner sign may be displayed on each side of the building facing on the major street.

When a new business first opens to the public, a temporary "Open for Business" sign may be displayed for a maximum period of not more than 60 days, with the approved banner permit. There is no charge for an "Open for Business" banner permit.

PROHIBITED SIGNS

The following types of signs and other advertising devices are prohibited:

- Animated signs
- Balloon signs (with some exceptions)
- Pennants and flags (unless approved as part of a special events permit)
- Emitting signs (emit sound, color or visible matter, e.g., smoke or steam)
- Projecting signs
- Roof signs and pole signs
- Vehicle mounted signs
- Light bulb strings (except for holiday decorations)
- Signs pertaining to a home business occupation
- Signs on public property

If you are planning to install a new sign or make a change to an existing sign, you may obtain an application for a sign permit from the Planning Division. For more information, please contact staff at (626) 308-2806.



Thousands Reenact San Gabriel's Place in History and Los Angeles' Founding

Last year, nearly 1,500 people and the world's most famous "mouse" arrived bright and early in San Gabriel for the Walk to Los Angeles celebrating San Gabriel and Los Angeles' shared, living history.

The record numbers of walkers, dignitaries and celebrities from throughout the region and Mickey Mouse made new history in San Gabriel. Acclaimed actor Tony Plana and star of ABC's series "Ugly Betty" was the Master of Ceremony for the kick-off in San Gabriel, and we couldn't have done it without the over 100 volunteers who helped showcase San Gabriel and welcome the public to our great city!

We look forward to another great event in 2007! You are invited to become part of San Gabriel and Los Angeles' shared, living history by joining the Walk to Los Angeles on Sunday, September 2. Beginning at 7 a.m. at San Gabriel Mission, walkers head west for nine miles along Mission Road and are greeted with a warm Los Angeles welcome as well as festivities at El Pueblo Plaza (Olvera Street) in Los Angeles. The Walk takes approximately three hours to complete and free transportation from Olvera Street to the Mission will be provided.

The founding of Los Angeles came 10 years after San Gabriel Mission Archangel was founded in 1771 as the fourth mission established in the chain of 21 California missions. The Walk reenacts the original settlers' final nine-mile trek from San Gabriel Mission to the Los Angeles River, where, on September 4, 1781, they founded El Pueblo de la Reina de Los Angeles.

If walking nine miles is too strenuous, then take time over the Labor Day weekend to enjoy the Mission's 236th La Fiesta de San Gabriel. Thousands of people from Los Angeles and Orange counties attend the three-day Fiesta from Friday, August 31 through Sunday, September 2 to view the restored mission, museum and mission grounds – and to see and experience our beautiful historic San Gabriel Mission District.

For information about the Walk to Los Angeles, please call (213) 485-8372. For information about the Mission's 236th Fiesta celebration, contact Algis Marcuska at (626) 457-3034.



Mission Fiesta dancers Elizabeth and Julie Sanchez escort Mickey Mouse on stage at the 2006 Walk to LA. Photography by: Ezekiel Tarango

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, AUG. 15
Chamber Mixer, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
Mueller Realty
320 W. Las Tunas Drive

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 19
Chamber Mixer, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
New Century Ford, Lincoln Mercury
1172 E. Las Tunas

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 17
Chamber Mixer, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
WSGV Association of Realtors
1532 S. Palm

The San Gabriel Chamber of Commerce is currently accepting applications from businesses/services that would like to host a Mixer during 2007-2008. 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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Juli Costanzo, Councilmember
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Albert Y.M. Huang, Councilmember

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



City of
San Gabriel

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MTA Recommends City Receive \$2.5 Million for Street Projects

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) has recommended that San Gabriel receive more than \$2.5 million for various street improvement projects. MTA funds a wide array of transportation projects including bikeways and pedestrian facilities, local roads and highway improvements, and serves as transportation planner and coordinator, designer, builder and operator for all of Los Angeles County.

Pending MTA approval, tentatively slated for the end of this month, this would represent the largest single funding recommendation the City has ever received through the "Call for Projects" process. Four of the City's six projects submitted by the Engineering Division received funding; all four are recommended for the full level requested.

The projects pending approval by the MTA include:

| AMOUNT REQUESTED | PROJECT | % OF REQUEST RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING |
|------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| \$783,000 | San Gabriel Blvd/Broadway Improvements | 100% |
| \$576,000 | San Gabriel Blvd/Las Tunas Intersection Improvements | 100% |
| \$550,000 | San Gabriel Citywide Bus Shelter Installation | 100% |
| \$641,000 | Las Tunas Drive Streetscape Enhancement | 100% |

San Gabriel also continues to make significant infrastructure improvements that are helping both residents and businesses. Here's a capsule snapshot of key projects currently underway:

INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

San Gabriel Boulevard at I-10 Landscape Project
(Estimated cost: \$420,100)
• Estimated completion September 2007

Fairview Road – Montecito to Abbot and Circle to Del Mar
(Estimated cost: \$457,000)
• Estimated start of construction (pending Caltrans/FHWA approval) fall 2007

Roses Road – Mission Drive to Del Mar
(Estimated cost: \$756,000)
• Anticipated construction late fall 2007 or early 2008

San Gabriel Blvd – Mission Road to Las Tunas Drive
(Estimated cost: \$4,000,000)
• Anticipated construction late spring to mid-summer 2008

Live Oak – Junipero Serra to California
(Estimated cost: \$350,000)
• Construction timetable to be determined

Gladys – Chestnut to Central and Central – Gladys to San Gabriel Boulevard
(Estimated cost: \$155,000)
• Estimated completion September 2007

Alegro Square – Valley Blvd south to end
(Estimated cost: \$101,000)
• Estimated completion mid-October 2007

Charlotte – Chestnut to Central
(Estimated cost: \$102,500)
• Estimated completion November 2007

Charlotte – Central to Mission Road
(Estimated cost: \$102,500)
• Construction timetable to be determined pending funding

shortTAKES

Exciting New Marketing Opportunities for Chamber Members

Keeping current with technology, the San Gabriel Chamber of Commerce now offers our members the opportunity to market their business or service by placing an ad on the Chamber's web site. The cost for a six-month ad is \$300; \$550 for one year.

The member's business card is placed on the Chamber's website directory. Prospective customers can click on the business card to be linked to the member's website for information about the business or services.

Opportunities for residents and non-business owners to join the Chamber of Commerce and enjoy all member benefits, except voting privileges are also available. Regular Chamber memberships range in price from \$100 to \$300. However, resident or non-business owner Chamber membership is available for \$50 per year.

Resident members are invited to all Chamber events, such as the monthly Networking Mixers and the annual golf tournament. Several local businesses also extend discounts to Chamber members.

To discuss how Chamber membership can benefit your business, please contact San Gabriel Chamber of Commerce Marketing and Public Relations Director Sandy Rosco at (626) 576-2525 or log on to www.sangabrielchamber.com.

shortTAKES

Kids Travel Club

The Kids Travel Club will be visiting Raging Waters, Boomers, Bowling & Movie, John's Incredible Pizza, the El Capitan Theatre, 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 Parks and Recreation Department at (626) 308-2875.

Sounds Like A Good Idea

Next time you visit the San Gabriel Civic Auditorium you'll notice how crisp and clear the acoustics are – the Civic's sound system has been undergoing significant improvements and is almost complete.

Key elements of the project include a new center cluster of speakers hanging above the front of the stage, and the sound booth. The final look of the booth will mimic the walls of the Theatre's European style box seats. Great care has been taken to ensure the new booth looks as if it was original.

New sound equipment has been purchased and is ready for installation. The new sound console, the Midas Legend 3000, is a state-of-the-art mixing console capable of handling sound needs for any event. All new cable, patch bays and audio effects are on order and will be housed in the new sound booth. Theatregoers and sound engineers will marvel at the warm new sound in this legendary theatre.

