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San Gabriel

Grapevine

SUMMER 2010 VOLUME 15 • ISSUE VII

www.sangabrielcity.com



Join Us 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. It’s one of San Gabriel’s best known traditions, garnering national acclaim and proud local support.

What is it? National Night Out.

On August 3rd, neighborhoods throughout San Gabriel are being invited to join forces with thousands of communities nationwide for the “27th Annual National Night Out” (NNO) crime/drug prevention event. This is the 16th year that San Gabriel will participate in this event.

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, City officials, a local radio station, and numerous branches of the armed forces.

Neighborhood Watch is one of the most popular programs in San Gabriel, and National Night Out has become a tradition in which Neighborhood Watch groups host block parties and help give crime a going away party.

Neighborhood Watch and National Night Out programs help make communities safer – and also strengthen police-community partnerships.

“When we are at home, we often spend a lot of time inside, in front of the television set or computer monitor searching the web, or in our back yards, hidden behind fences,” said Crime Prevention Officer Alex Acosta. “We become more vulnerable to crime by not seeing or knowing or even noticing what is normal on our street, or our neighborhood. That is why Neighborhood Watch and National Night Out are important events in San Gabriel.”

Join your Neighborhood Watch group on August 3rd by meeting with your neighbors, putting up a few chairs in your front yard, and letting criminals know they’re not wanted in your neighborhood. The purpose of Neighborhood Watch is to be visible, to get to know your neighbors and to become aware of what is happening where you live. A safer neighborhood starts with 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,” states Police Chief David A. Lawton.

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

Join your Neighborhood Watch group on August 3rd by meeting with your neighbors, putting up a few chairs in your front yard, and letting criminals know they’re not wanted in your neighborhood

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

Join the Pobladores Walk to Los Angeles and Make History

Join the Walk to Los Angeles – relive the historic journey and join the celebration of San Gabriel’s place in history. The adventure begins 6 a.m., Saturday, September 4 at Plaza Park, adjacent to the San Gabriel Mission. Walkers head west for nine miles along Mission Road to be greeted in Los Angeles with a warm welcome and festivities

Walkers head west for nine miles along Mission Road to be greeted in Los Angeles with a warm welcome and festivities at El Pueblo Historical Monument at Olvera Street

at El Pueblo Historical Monument at Olvera Street. The Walk takes approximately three hours to complete and public transportation is available to bring walkers back to San Gabriel.

Los Angeles’ founding came ten years after the San Gabriel Mission was founded in 1771 as the fourth mission established in the Franciscan chain of 21 California missions. A key chapter in California history, the Walk reenacts Los Angeles’ 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.

For information about the Walk to Los Angeles, call (213) 485-8372. For information about the Mission’s 239th Fiesta celebration, contact Chuck Lyons or Algis Marcuska at (626) 457-3034.



McIntosh Named Outstanding Older American 2010

Each year San Gabriel selects an outstanding older citizen to honor for his or her contributions to San Gabriel. This year’s honoree is a leader in her efforts as a volunteer for the San Gabriel community. Margaret McIntosh or Peggy as her friends know her, served on the Board of Directors of the La Casa Community Center for 12 years and continues to volunteer.

Margaret is a 57-year member of the American Legion Auxiliary, and has volunteered with programs in San Gabriel schools, including Girls State and the Americanism Essay Contest. She is also a 22-year member of the American Legion, holding several offices including Post 442 Commander and District 18 Commander. During her involvement with the Legion, she was Chairman of Post 442 student scholarship, which distributed over \$60,000 since 1988.



Margaret is a 57-year member of the American Legion Auxiliary, and has volunteered with programs in San Gabriel schools, including Girls State and the Americanism Essay Contest

Peggy also serves on the District 18 Honor Guard, which provides military honors at veterans’ funerals throughout the San Gabriel Valley.

Peggy is a member of the San Gabriel Presbyterian Church and has been a church school teacher and Superintendent of the Primary Department and Elder.



Upcoming Events at the Mission Playhouse

Music! Dance! Theater!

SUN., AUG. 29, 12 p.m.

Dr. Eduardo Lopez-Navarro
No Mas Drama!
For info/tickets call (626) 582-8912
www.lopeznavarro.com

SAT., SEPT. 11

Time to be determined
Chinese American Dancing Group
Special event
For info/tickets call (626) 823-3323

SAT., SEPT. 25

Time to be determined
Hanyi
For info/tickets call (562) 921-3020
www.hanyiinc.com

SAT., OCT. 2

Time to be determined
Folklorico Mi Tierra
For info/tickets call (626) 827-0945

SUN., OCT. 3, 2:30 p.m.

Organ and silent film
Oktoberfest
For info/tickets call (888) 528-6722
www.latos.org

SAT., OCT. 9

Time to be determined
Bread of Life
For info/tickets call (818) 353-2996

MORNING PERFORMANCES WEEK OF OCT. 11

Children's Theatre Experience presents
Theatre for Young People
For info/tickets call (800) 514-2787
www.ctexperience.com

SUN., OCT. 17, 2 p.m.

San Gabriel Chinese Opera
For info/tickets call (626) 576-5055

SAT., OCT. 23

Time to be determined
Pasadena Dance Theatre
For info/tickets call (626) 683-3459
www.pasadenadance.org

SUN., OCT. 24

Time to be determined
Li's Ballet Studio
For info/tickets call (626) 285-4888
www.lisballet.com

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



Mission Playhouse Welcomes San Gabriel Fine Arts Association

The Glass Room at the Mission Playhouse is now the new home for the San Gabriel Fine Arts Association (SGFAA). Thanks to the generous support of the Women's Division of the San Gabriel Chamber of Commerce, Playhouse staff was able to renovate and refurbish the Glass Room, cleaning and polishing floors, installing new windows, new awnings, new gallery lighting and re-configuring the room to allow the hanging of art pieces on the walls as well as free-standing displays.

Throughout July, SGFAA will be showing paintings on the theme of Americana to celebrate Independence Day. August will feature an Abstract and Collage show with an opening reception on August 8th from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

SGFAA will be staging a Grand Opening on Sunday, September 12th from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Glass Room and launching their Invitational Fundraiser show. Fall session workshops begin September 13th.

San Gabriel Fine Arts Association (SGFAA)

Glass Room Gallery at the Mission Playhouse
320 S. Mission Drive
San Gabriel, CA 91776
Opening times: noon-4pm.
www.sgfaa.org

Commissioner's Dinner Salutes Volunteer Service

The volunteer members of San Gabriel's appointed commissions – Planning, Design Review, Parks and Recreation, and Civil Service Commission – were recognized for their service to the citizens of San Gabriel on May 27th at the San Gabriel Country Club.

More than 60 people attended the event, organized by the City Clerk's office. Congratulations to Commission members for their contributions in making San Gabriel a better place to live and work.

City's Commitment to Infrastructure Delivers Results

Delivering on the Council's commitment to rebuild San Gabriel's infrastructure, more than \$11.1 million in new capital and special projects will be funded in the City's FY 2010-11 budget. Recent projects included:



GREAT STREETS The Great Streets Program has completed \$6 million in infrastructure improvements on arterial and local streets in San Gabriel since February 2008. In May, Bilton Way and Hazell Way in the San Gabriel Village were reconstructed. Sidewalks, curbs, and drive-ways were repaired as well. The San Gabriel Boulevard rehabilitation project replaced the roadway pavement from Mission Road to Broadway and was completed in March.

LAST TUNAS DRIVE This summer, the Las Tunas Drive Street Light Retrofit Project is scheduled to start construction. The \$1.4 million project will replace the antiquated underground electrical system on the north and south sides of Las Tunas Drive from the westerly City limits to the easterly City limits. Although short term plans call for changing out only the light components, the existing poles will ultimately be replaced, and new street lights will be added at selected locations.

Future Projects

The City's Capital Improvement Program and Pavement Management Program have been developed to support the replacement and improvement of infrastructure throughout the City. The City continues to seek funding for these improvements; funding has already been identified for more than \$52 million in improvements over the next five years, although the plan ultimately proposes to deliver more than \$120 million in capital upgrades.

To be ready when funding becomes available, several improvement projects are under design including the intersections of San Gabriel Boulevard and Las Tunas Drive, San Gabriel Boulevard and Broadway, the San Gabriel Boulevard Streetscape Project and the Las Tunas Drive Pedestrian Enhancement and Streetscape Project.

The City's Capital Improvement Program and Pavement Management Program have been developed to support the replacement and improvement of infrastructure throughout the City

ON THE HORIZON: ALAMEDA CORRIDOR EAST, "GATEWAY TO AMERICA"

The Alameda Corridor East (ACE) San Gabriel Trench Project is scheduled to start construction in summer of 2011, taking three years to complete. The City is working with the ACE Construction Authority to determine the extent to which the streets adjacent to the project will be impacted, and those streets are under consideration for pavement improvement as well. As more information becomes available on the project, look for reports in this publication, on the City's website and cable scroll.

LEARN MORE

For more information on the Great Streets program and infrastructure projects, contact Algis Marciuska of the Engineering Division at (626) 308-2806, ext. 4632, amarcuska@sgch.org. If your street is not scheduled for re-paving, you can always request that potholes be filled or routine spot repairs be made by calling the Public Works Department at (626) 308-2825 (weekdays from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.). Touch "1" to speak with the street supervisor.

Lugo Park Construction Begins This Fall

The long awaited Lugo Park project construction (Phase I) will begin this fall. The project was delayed due to the State of California freezing grant funding for the project. City staff has been working to finalize plans to create an updated open space for family gatherings, community celebrations and spend a pleasant afternoon.

Phase I will include:

- Developing new trails for walking and running
- Provide visitor-serving amenities, such as educational/interpretive kiosks and an outdoor classroom
- Preserve La Laguna de San Gabriel
- Improve park space for picnics, recreation and community-wide activities
- Create a multipurpose athletic field

The historic La Laguna de San Gabriel playground is not included in this phase. Friends of La Laguna is working to raise funds to restore the playground to its 1960s glory. The Laguna restoration will be part of a future phase. To support La Laguna preservation, please visit www.friendsoflalaguna.org or call (626) 287-3346.

In addition to City funding, the project is funded through grants from San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC), the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors Fifth District Cities Excess Funds, Los Angeles County Measure A Discretionary Funds, and California State Proposition 40.



Playhouse Improvements Slated

In addition to making sure that a huge array of diverse and exciting live events go off without a hitch, staff members at the Playhouse are constantly seeking to improve facilities and services for clients, producers, artists and audiences via a range of renovation projects.

Improvements to technical facilities this year have included upgrades to the sound system with the installation of a new center cluster line array speaker stack, new wiring to fully connect up the sound board to new equipment and, for the first time, fill speakers on the balconies to enhance audience experience.



Work continues on the full replacement of dimmer racks and the third and final stage of this work will be completed this summer to ensure that the lighting system is up to spec in supporting the 300 new energy-efficient stage lights acquired last year with the assistance of Edison Rebates.

Producers and audiences alike have been delighted with the recent installation of a full size movie screen and state-of-the-art DVD projector.

These new facilities, made possible via a generous donation from the Peter Crotty Foundation, have opened up a whole new approach to staging at the Playhouse where static backdrops can be replaced with multimedia displays and projections adding a new and exciting dimension to shows such as the hugely successful *Miss Saigon* staged in May by the San Gabriel Valley Music Theatre.

Inside and out, the building itself has undergone significant improvements this year, not least of which is a new high-tech polyurethane foam roof covering, which will provide a seamless leak-free, light reflective, insulating layer, providing increased energy efficiency and protection from water damage. Ceiling repairs will be taking place too. Plaster cracks caused by earthquakes will be patched and paint re-touched by our renovation artist Evan Wilson.

To complete the picture, performer facilities are being improved, thanks to generous support from San Gabriel Rotary for refurbishments to the Green Room.

Improvements include new Saltillo tile, new windows, new countertops and re-finished cabinets. With support from local businesses Modern Lighting and Sherwin-Williams, staff has installed new lighting fixtures and given the Green Room a new coat of paint.

City Gets Big Turnout for Public Works Open House

The Public Works Department's Open House, held on May 20th to celebrate National Public Works Week, got an enthusiastic reception from more than 200 people in attendance. In addition to the general public, other attendees included students and teachers from La Casa Preschool, Options Preschool and San Gabriel Mission School's third grade class.

San Gabriel dignitaries included Mayor Albert Huang, Vice Mayor David Gutierrez, and Councilmembers Juli Costanzo, Mario De La Torre and Kevin Sawkins.

The open house featured tours with exhibitions and demonstrations of Public Works Department functions; a Southern California Edison crew also brought two large demonstration trucks. Athens Services served hot dogs, which were cooked on a barbecue grill shaped like a replica of a trash truck.

The Public Works Department would like to thank all who attended and its sponsors and supporters: Athens Services, Pacific Sanitary, Sakaida Nursery, Southern California Edison, West Coast Arborists, Winzler & Kelly and Zumar Industries.

Design Guidelines Help the Environment

The City of San Gabriel continues to implement *San Gabriel Goes Green* – the City's sustainability action plan adopted last year. The City Council will amend the City's Design Guidelines to make it easier to use alternative building materials. New sustainability principles will be added to the document to make our commitment to sustainability in design more explicit. The new language includes:

- Conserve natural resources. Use environmentally sustainable products and materials. Minimize waste.
- Retain existing buildings and use sustainable materials when upgrading the structure rather than demolishing the design fabric of the community.
- Incorporate as many sustainable design features as feasible on the site and in the design of both the exterior and interior of buildings.
- Use sustainable materials in the context of historic styles when they are authentic in use and detail, and when they are consistent with the character and design of the neighborhood.
- Consider the selection of materials with as high a recycled content as generally available whenever possible.
- Reduce development stormwater runoff impacts on the quantity and quality of water resources. Use permeable paving for driveway, parking lot, and outdoor patio surfaces.
- Use native or adapted plants for their lower maintenance, water efficiency, ornamental and pest tolerance characteristics. If turf is part of the design, use drought tolerant turf grass.

With these guidelines, staff and the Design Review Commission will have greater flexibility to approve alternative green materials for construction and rehabilitation projects.

For more information, contact Planning Manager Carol D. Barrett, FAICP, (626) 308-2806, ext. 4624, cbarrett@sgch.org.



Summer Safety Tips

Summer can be a time for family fun and relaxation, but it also poses special hazards for burns, fires and swimming accidents. Here are a few tips to make your summer safe:

- **BARBECUE GRILLS:** Keep children away from grills and lighter fluid. Don't leave grills unattended while lit and keep a fire extinguisher nearby. If someone gets burned, run cool water over the burn for 10 to 15 minutes. Cover the burn loosely using dry, sterile dressings or a clean cloth. Do not use butter or a salve on burns. If you receive a serious burn, seek medical attention immediately.
- **FIREWORKS:** Fireworks are not legal in the City of San Gabriel. Check your local newspaper for a fireworks display in your area.
- **POOLS:** There is no substitute for adequate supervision. Children need to be watched. Never leave children unattended in or around pools or spas. Locking doors, windows and self-closing, self-latching gates on fences surrounding the pool will limit access to the pool or spa area. Latches should be above the reach of children. Keep rescue equipment near the pool area.
- **EXPOSURE TO THE SUN:** Protect your skin from excessive exposure to the sun (especially between 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.) and use a sunscreen with a Sun Protection Factor (SPF) of at least 15.
- **HEAT CRAMPS:** These are muscle pains and spasms caused by heavy exertion, which triggers loss of water through heavy perspiration. To relieve the cramps, press on the cramping muscles or use gentle massage. Take sips of water unless nausea occurs.
- **HEAT EXHAUSTION:** This is a mild form of shock marked by heavy sweating, weakness, cold and clammy skin, a weak pulse, fainting and vomiting. Immediately move to a cool place. Loosen clothing and apply cool, wet cloths; continue taking sips of water unless nausea occurs. If vomiting occurs, seek medical attention.
- **HEAT STROKE (SUNSTROKE):** Heat stroke is life threatening and requires immediate medical attention! This occurs when your body's ability to sweat has stopped and your body temperature rises so high that it may cause brain damage and/or death in less than 10 minutes, unless medical help is immediate. Symptoms include hot, red and dry skin; changes in consciousness; rapid, weak pulse; and rapid, shallow breathing. If you notice any of the above symptoms in yourself or another person, immediately call for emergency medical services.

If you have any questions regarding summer safety tips or any other information, please contact the San Gabriel Fire Prevention Bureau at (626) 308-2883.



Youth Programs Serve San Gabriel Students

San Gabriel takes great pride in the commitment to its youth and education. Two successful traditions help us demonstrate the City's commitment year after year:

YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT PROGRAM

The City, in cooperation with the San Gabriel Unified School District, offers Gabrielino High School senior and junior students a unique opportunity to learn about local government, first hand, through its national award winning Youth-In-Government Program (YIG). The program was developed for students to promote civic responsibility and create an awareness of local government.

In April, students spent a day shadowing their counterparts and prepared for their mock Council meeting, held on May 18th. YIG Day was spent touring City facilities that included demonstrations by the Police, Fire, and Public Works departments, as well as the Mission Playhouse.

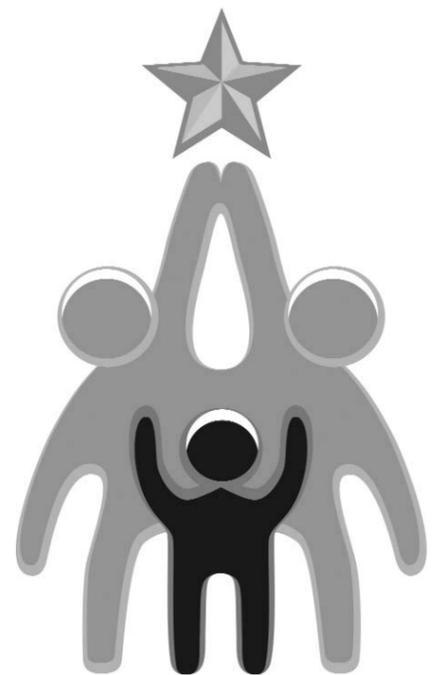
Following the tours, the students were treated to a luncheon hosted by the City. This year, Dr. Susan C. Parks, Superintendent of the San Gabriel Unified School District, was the inspirational keynote speaker. Students were also recognized by the San Gabriel City Council and given certificates of accomplishment. The afternoon concluded with the presentation of the students' mock City Council meeting.

'PATH' BRINGS SAN GABRIEL HISTORY TO LIFE

The Progress and Accomplishments Through History (PATH) Program incorporates the study of the California missions for third graders. Students learn about the Gabrielino-Tongva natives, local government and the history of San Gabriel. The program consists of a one-time class visit where a slide show is presented by a volunteer City employee. Slides of paintings, maps and photographs showing the growth of the City as well as architecture and prized possessions that the City of San Gabriel holds today are shared with the students.

At the end of the presentation, the City employee provides a job description and department function. The program concludes with a question and answer session.

The following schools participated in the 2010 PATH Program: Coolidge, St. Anthony's, San Gabriel Mission, Washington, and Wilson Elementary School.



City & School Board Meetings

SAN GABRIEL CITY COUNCIL

1ST & 3RD TUESDAYS
7:30 P.M., COUNCIL CHAMBERS

SAN GABRIEL BOARD OF EDUCATION

2ND & 4TH TUESDAYS
7 P.M., DISTRICT OFFICE

PLANNING COMMISSION

2ND MONDAY
6:30 P.M., COUNCIL CHAMBERS

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

1ST MONDAY
7:30 P.M., COUNCIL CHAMBERS

DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION

4TH MONDAY
7 P.M., CONFERENCE ROOM A,
2ND FLOOR, CITY HALL

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, JULY 21

Chamber Mixer, 6-8 p.m.
San Gabriel Mission
428 S. Mission Drive

AUGUST:

No networking mixer

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 15

Chamber Mixer, 6-8 p.m.
Raya Insurance
401 South Mission Drive
(corner of Santa Anita Street and
S. Mission Dr.)
Come celebrate the 50th Anniversary
of Raya Insurance

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 20

Chamber Mixer, 6-8 p.m.
Location to be determined

The San Gabriel Chamber of Commerce is currently accepting applications from businesses/services that would like to host a Mixer during 2010. 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

Albert Y.M. Huang, Mayor
David R. Gutierrez, Vice Mayor
Juli Costanzo, Councilmember
Mario De La Torre, Councilmember
Kevin B. Sawkins, 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
www.sangabrielcity.com

Classic Neon Signs Go Back Into Service



Four of the six famous entry signs that once announced visitors' arrival in San Gabriel are now back in service after an eight-week restoration effort, with two remaining signs scheduled to launch as soon as final electrical connections are made.

The Public Works Department announced that the signs, which are being retrofitted under its initiative to buff up San Gabriel infrastructure, are nearing completion. Four locations – Valley and Del Mar, Las Tunas at Muscatel, Las Tunas at Alhambra Wash, and San Gabriel at Longden – are now operational.

Two other locations – Valley near Delta and the 'San Gabriel Village' sign at Del Mar and Fairview – are nearing completion. When completed, the signs will once again include acknowledgement of former Mayor and Councilmember Helen Kennedy, who spearheaded the first renovation effort two decades ago. The final installation of the Village sign will also include landscape enhancements in the median by the Parks and Recreation staff.

This project is one of the six-month priorities set by the City's management team starting in January, with other initiatives underway, including the complete retrofit of aerial signs; new street tree plantings; landscape enhancements at City Hall and in the Mission District; and new street identification signs citywide.

For more information, contact Public Works Director Bob Bustos at (626) 308-2825, bbustos@sgch.org.

McGruff's



PAW PRINTS

S.G.P.D.

your room upside down looking for cash, jewelry, cameras or other valuables. Next, the burglar will quickly run through the house to look for "gifts" – that's burglar-speak for small appliances like TVs, laptop computers, VCRs or stereo systems.

3. Last stop is the garage. Here the burglar will proceed to load all your possessions into his car for a quick get-away.

LIGHTS ON

One of the best ways to prevent a burglary is to create the illusion of activity in the house. Purchase at least two plug-in timers for lamps and set them to run on different cycles. For example, have one light on in the living room from dark to about 11 p.m.; and another in the bedrooms from about 9 p.m. until 1 a.m. You can also get programmable timers for your televisions, audio systems and household appliances.

Don't forget your outdoor lighting. Set timers to come on at dusk and go off at dawn. And to scare away intruders before they get too close, use motion detector spotlights. They protect the perimeter of your house at night by coming on when triggered by motion in front of the sensor beam. Make sure all exterior lighting is deflected away from your neighbor's homes.

LOCK UP

While this might seem obvious, many people forget to lock up the house completely. This means making sure the windows are latched shut, the doors bolted and all the curtains drawn. Remember, a thief is just as comfortable using your window for access as you are using the front door. If you have a sliding glass door, cut a large piece of wood and fit it inside the track to prevent the door from being forced open.

WIRED FOR SOUND

Alarms are another smart option for preventing intrusions. They come either hard-wired or wireless, and monitored or non-monitored. Wireless alarm systems work well and can include window and door sensors, motion detectors and even smoke alarms. Instead of signaling a break-in through wiring to a standard alarm control center, the signal is sent via a wireless transmitter to a centrally located receiver, which notifies a monitoring service or the authorities directly. Some wireless alarms can be programmed to call or page you if the alarm has been activated.

PICK UP YOUR MAIL

Piles of newspapers and mail at the front door are sure signs no one is home. Have these services stopped, or better yet, ask a neighbor to collect them. The fewer people that know you are gone, the better and having a trusted neighbor stop by is another set of eyes to assure that all is well.

CALL THE POLICE

Call the San Gabriel Police Department at (626) 308-2828 and fill out a "vacation watch" card. As time permits, officers may periodically check your house and look for suspicious activities. You'll need to tell them when you'll be away and give them important information like how many cars should be on your property, if anyone will be stopping by to water plants, etc. and when you will return.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

One of the most effective and inexpensive ways to secure your home at the property line is to turn on the eyes and ears of your neighborhood. Community policing programs like Neighborhood Watch have shown great success in reducing property crime around the world. Burglars know when they're being watched and they don't like it. Contact the San Gabriel Police Department Crime Prevention Office at (626) 308-2846 for information on how to start a Neighborhood Watch group on your block.

Theft Proof Your Home

According to the FBI, a burglary occurs once every 11 seconds in the United States. Two out of three burglaries are residential, and 60 percent of them occur in broad daylight.

Are you a prime target for a break-in? If your house has not been "burglar-proofed," you just might be. To a thief, breaking into your house is as easy as 1-2-3. Here's how the average burglary occurs:

1. Burglars look for an easy access point into your home, like a window hidden behind tall bushes or trees. If the area is concealed or dark, their job is that much easier. Many burglaries occur because the resident left a door or window unlocked.
2. After gaining entry, the first stop is usually the master bedroom. Here the thief will waste no time turning

Two out of three burglaries are residential, and 60 percent of them occur in broad daylight

Handyworker Program Lends a Hand to Those in Need

The City's Handyworker Program, operated by Alta Pasa, is making a difference in the lives of some of San Gabriel's most vulnerable residents. Those participating have received free minor home repairs, installation of home secure devices and modifications that prevent falls and accidents.

According to Community Development Director Jennifer Davis, "the goals of the program are to assist residents who cannot afford the cost of and are not physically able to perform do-it-yourself improvements. The program supports independent living choices for aging and disabled people."

The maximum grant amount is \$5,000 per home. Under certain circumstances where the repair, device, or modification will make a significant improvement in the quality of daily life for the resident, a grant of up to \$15,000 can be awarded. All repair work is performed by Alta Pasa representatives with the exception of certain specialized items.

Prospective grantees are low- and moderate-income older adults and disabled people of all ages who reside in the City of San Gabriel in a single detached home. Both homeowners and renters are eligible. Services are also available to low-income homeowners who do not qualify by age or disability, but have senior relatives or disabled dependents living with them. Income limits are based on household size and determined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Documentation required includes family income verification, driver's license or ID card, and utility bill to verify address.

Prospective grantees are low-and moderate-income older adults and disabled people of all ages who reside in the City of San Gabriel in a single detached home

There are three steps to the process. An interview is first conducted to determine program eligibility. Alta Pasa representatives then visit the home to establish the scope of work. Lastly, an Alta Pasa representative makes an appointment with the grantee to begin work on the home.

Home repairs and installation of home secure and security devices and modifications can take from one to three days, depending on the type of work. The entire process may take up to six weeks. The scheduling of jobs is based on City priorities - urgent requests are scheduled first.

To obtain an application or make an appointment, please contact Jean Zhao at Alta Pasa, (626) 457-1607, jeanapic@hotmail.com. Interested residents may bring their paperwork to the San Gabriel office located at 415 S. Mission Drive, adjacent to City Hall or arrange for a home visit. The Alta Pasa office has limited hours and an appointment is highly recommended. Ms. Zhao is also available to make presentations to community groups.

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shortTAKES

Mission Playhouse 2010-11 Season Brochure

At the Mission Playhouse over the coming months, there's a whole host of exciting arts events celebrating the rich mix of our community's cultural traditions. Look for our brochure featuring some of these events, arriving in your mailbox in August.

For more information, you can always check the website, www.missionplayhouse.org, where you can also sign up for a twice-monthly newsletter to make sure you're always kept up to date.

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