

news and views from our town

POSTAL CUSTOMER
SAN GABRIEL • CA

San Gabriel

Grapevine

SUMMER 2009 VOLUME 14 • ISSUE III

www.sangabrielcity.com



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

Throughout San Gabriel are being invited to join forces with thousands of communities nationwide for the "26th Annual National Night Out" (NNO) crime/drug prevention event.

This is the 15th 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 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 they 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.

Here's what a few neighborhood block captains have to say about National Night Out: "We get to know our neighbors and are more aware of people who do not live in our area. National Night Out helps to reinforce that unity," said Gene Williams, a Leslie Drive block captain.

"Meeting our neighbors in a fun, relaxed evening event gives us an opportunity to strengthen neighborhood pride, promote community spirit, and give voice to anti-crime and drug prevention by sending a strong message of unity," added Edward Lozano, a Bilton Way block captain.

"I now know every neighbor on our block. We enjoy getting together and the kids get exposure to the Fire and Police department in a fun, friendly way. In addition, the crime bulletins provided by the police department are valuable assets which help us identify problem areas," said Daroca Avenue Block Captain Camelia Vera.

"Many of us spend a lot of time away from home because of busy work schedules and other activities," said Crime Prevention Officer Alex Acosta. "When we are at home, we spend that time inside, in front of the television set or computer monitors searching the web, or in our back yards, hidden behind fences. We become more vulnerable to crime by not seeing or knowing or even noticing what is normal for our street and neighborhood. That is why Neighborhood Watch and National Night Out are so important."

So join Neighborhood Watch and on August 4, get out in your front yard as a Neighborhood Watch group, pull out a few chairs and welcome your neighbors.

"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.

Remember, a safer neighborhood starts with you! 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.

"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"

Grapevine Festival Highlights

Families and friends got together for a day packed with fun, food, classic cars, fine art, wine tasting and entertainment at this year's Grapevine Festival on April 25.

Co-sponsored by the City of San Gabriel and the San Gabriel Chamber of Commerce, festival highlights included presentation of the Outstanding Older American award and the 2nd Annual Classic Car Show. This year's Outstanding Older American winner is Dorothy Griffo. The award is presented annually to a person, age 65 or over; who provides outstanding volunteer service to the community.

Dorothy Griffo unselfishly volunteers her time and energy in making a positive contribution to San Gabriel citizens and the community. She has volunteered at San Gabriel Valley Medical Center since October 2002 where she assists nursing staff in the Pre-Admission Center. Dorothy always comes to the hospital with a smile on her face and a positive, uplifting attitude. She is very dedicated and often works past her shift to assist the staff with a project deadline.

For the last five years, Dorothy has also dedicated a significant amount of time to the San Gabriel Police Department as a senior volunteer, assisting the Patrol and Traffic Bureaus and the Crime Prevention Office. Dorothy helps prepare the Neighborhood Watch Newsletter and assists with various community events. She sends letters to victims of crime notifying them of services that the Department provides and helps prepare a monthly Crime Bulletin, notifying Neighborhood Watch members of crime activity in their area. Dorothy also personally developed and continually updates the Crime Prevention Office's file system.

A reliable, self-initiating person who handles any task that is assigned to her – Dorothy – at 87 years young – exemplifies what a volunteer and community-oriented person is all about. Her tireless contributions and positive interaction with the public and with police and hospital personnel has added significantly to the quality of life in San Gabriel. Everyone in the City-family appreciates and congratulates Dorothy on this well-deserved award!



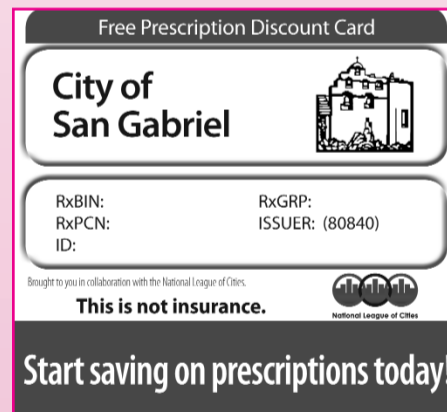
Dorothy Griffo – This year's Outstanding Older American

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Save on Prescription Drugs with Discount Card

The City of San Gabriel has a new program to offer savings on prescription drugs to residents who are without health insurance, a traditional benefits plan, or have prescriptions that are not covered by insurance.

The Prescription Discount Card, administered by CVS Caremark, is made available to residents by the City of San Gabriel in collaboration with the National League of Cities (NLC; www.nlc.org) and is made possible through San Gabriel's membership in NLC.



The City initiated the program to offer its residents a new tool that can provide some relief from the high cost of prescription drugs. Not only does the NLC prescription discount card help residents save money on their medications, it is easy to use. Residents only have to show their card when purchasing medication at one of the many participating pharmacies. There is no enrollment form required to get a card, no membership fee of any kind and City residents and their family members can use the card any time their prescriptions are not covered by insurance.

The card is free to all San Gabriel residents, regardless of age, income or existing health insurance. By using this card you may save an average of 20 percent off the regular retail price of prescription drugs at participating pharmacies.

The NLC card can be used when purchasing prescription drugs at approximately 100 pharmacies around the City, as well as at more than 59,000 participating retail pharmacies across the country.

This is not insurance. Discounts are only available at participating pharmacies. By using this card, participants agree to pay the entire prescription cost less any applicable discount. Savings may vary by drug and pharmacy.

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Upcoming Events at the Mission Playhouse

Music! Dance! Theater!

MON., JULY 27, 6:30 p.m.

San Gabriel Valley Music Theatre presents *The Monday Night Cabaret – Broadway at the Playhouse*
Dinner & show on stage, featuring the music of Broadway
For info/tickets call (626) 282-1440
www.sgvmusictheatre.org

SUN., AUG. 2, 2:30 p.m.

Organ and Silent Film
Robert Salisbury; Tribute to Gaylord Carter
For info/tickets call (888) 528-6722
www.latos.org

SAT., AUG. 8, 7:30 p.m.

“Happy Journeys to America”
Chinese Comedy and Talk Show
For info/tickets call (626) 831-2222

SAT., AUG. 22, 7 p.m.

Makoto Taiko
For info/tickets call (626) 584-8841
www.makototaiko.org

SUN., AUG. 23

Chinese Culture Development Center
Dance show
For info/tickets call (626) 281-8500

SAT., AUG. 29, 7 p.m.

Frank Alex Dance
For info/tickets call (626) 315-0644

SAT., SEPT. 5, 7 p.m.

New Eyes TV
For info/tickets call (213) 239-3533

SAT., SEPT. 12, 6 p.m.

San Gabriel Ballet Folklorico
For info/tickets call (213) 804-8683

FRI., SEPT. 18, 7 p.m.

Hakka Association
“Double Ten Celebration”
For info/tickets call (626) 524-9797

SAT., SEPT. 19, 8 p.m.

Hanyi Inc presents
The Z-Way Concert
For info/tickets call (562) 921-3020
www.hanyiinc.com

SUN., SEPT. 20

American Chinese Cultural Association
For info/tickets call (626) 354-8848

SAT., SEPT. 26, 8 p.m.

San Gabriel Valley Music Theatre
Broadway at the Playhouse
For info/tickets call (626) 282-1440
www.sgvmusictheatre.org

SAT., OCT. 3, 8 p.m.

Otero Dance Company
“Rhythm & Passion”
For info/tickets call (909) 482-0170
www.gloriatango.com

SUN., OCT. 4, 2 p.m.

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

SAT., OCT. 10, 7 p.m.

Mariachi Vargas de Tecalitlan
For info/tickets call (909) 920-9000
www.akaproductions.com

SUN., OCT. 11

KMRB 1430 AM
Chinese Talk Show
For info/tickets call (626) 780-8899
www.am1430.net

WEEK OF OCT. 12

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

SAT., OCT. 24

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

SUN., OCT. 25, 2:30 P.M.

Organ and Silent Film
“Phantom of the Opera”
For info/tickets call (888) 528-6722
www.latos.org

SAT., OCT. 31

Ballet Folklorico de Carolina
For info/tickets call (626) 848-2962

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.



Summer Safety Tips

The San Gabriel Fire Department encourages residents to use care when enjoying the summer months and outdoor activities. 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.

Pools: There is no substitute for adequate supervision. Children need to be watched. Never leave children unattended in or around pools or spas – not even for a second! 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. Don't allow anyone of any age to swim alone.

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.

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



Festival Highlights

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Plaza Park once again the canvas for the Classic Car Show, and the variety of unique cars, shiny paint and polished chrome, had spectators reminiscing and dreaming of an era gone by. It was especially difficult to pick a favorite, but awards were given out in various categories, including the one pictured – a 1948 Chevy Fleetline owned by A.J. Carmody.

Congratulations to everyone who made the Festival a great success!



A. J. Carmody 2nd Place winner “Original Category” with 1948 Chevy Fleetline

2009 San Gabriel Bell Awards Program Is Coming

The City of San Gabriel's Bell Awards once again will recognize and honor completed projects enhancing the architectural and economic vitality of the residential and business communities. Awards will be presented this fall (date to be announced) to architects, designers, and/or property owners who have designed structures that enhance and promote the unique character of existing neighborhoods.

Nominations for the Bell Awards will be accepted in the following five categories:

- New Commercial
 - Commercial Remodel
 - New Single-Family residential
 - Single-Family additions/remodel
 - New Multi-Family residential
- Evaluation criteria will be based on the City's adopted Commercial, Single-Family, and Multi-Family Residential Design Guidelines, which focuses on eight design principles: shelter, balance, rhythm, integrity, detail, substance, transition, and character.
- This year, the City will also introduce the Martin Eli Weil Award to the program, honoring historic preservations. Nominations that may be accepted for this award include:
- Projects that implement the Cultural Resources chapter of the 2004 Comprehensive General Plan, *Ingredients for Success*.
 - Projects that implement the historic preservation and cultural resource provisions of the Mission District Specific Plan.
 - Projects that implement, or further the City's implementation of, the Mills Act as a cultural resource preservation tool.
 - Projects that advance the City's efforts to survey and document historic resources.
 - Projects that advance neighborhood conservation, particularly with regard to cultural resources.
 - Projects that incorporate adaptive reuse to ensure the successful preservation of buildings, structures, landscapes, engineering features, and other cultural resources.
 - Planning efforts that seek to protect the distinctive historic character of a building, cultural resource, cultural landscape, or neighborhood.
 - Projects that advance the City's efforts to educate the community about San Gabriel's history and the value of historic preservation as a tool to strengthen neighborhoods and communities.

Nomination forms are now available. Applications will be due by August 14. Anyone with a background in design who is interested in participating as a judge in this half-day event is welcome to contact the Planning Division at (626) 308-2806, ext. 4625.

Please stop by the Community Development Department at City Hall for more information about this program or to obtain a nomination form. Nomination forms are also available on the City's website at www.sangabrielcity.com.



Metro Reduced Fare Passes Now Available

Metro's reduced fare passes are now on TAP! TAP – Transit Access Pass – is a durable plastic card you can use again and again. It replaces paper passes and stamps. San Gabriel seniors, 62 and over, and disabled riders can now reload their TAP cards for a reduced fare of \$9 at the Parks and Recreation Department.

To reload your TAP card at the reduced rate, you must present a current photo identification with a City of San Gabriel address from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday, or Tuesdays from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. from the 25th to the 10th of each month at the Parks and Recreation Office, 250 S. Mission Drive, San Gabriel. For additional information, please call the Parks and Recreation Office at (626) 308-2875.

Current Metro Bus Pass holders must obtain a TAP card to continue purchasing any kind of reduced fare bus pass.

LACTOA/Disabled cardholders will automatically receive a new TAP card in the mail. If you ride with another form of disabled ID, you need to obtain and submit a new LACTOA/Disabled TAP application. Seniors, 62 years or older, qualify for a Senior TAP ID Card. There is no charge for the card itself, but you must supply a full-face photo (1" X 1-1/4" or 2" X 2") along with valid ID showing proof of age.

You can apply for your Senior TAP ID Card at any Metro Customer Center. Seniors may also mail in copies of the required documentation and a full-face photo to the TAP Service Center; PO Box 811310, Los Angeles, CA, 90081. To obtain an application or for more information on the TAP cards, visit www.metro.net/reducedfares or call 1-866-TAPTOGO (827-8646).

“You can apply for your Senior TAP ID Card at any Metro Customer Center”

Welcome to eServices

At San Gabriel, We Are Always Open For Business

At the City of San Gabriel, we pride ourselves on being open for business from any place and at any time. Through the City's website, www.sangabrielcity.com, residents, businesses and visitors can get the latest information about City services and current projects, meetings, register for classes on-line or access articles translated in to Chinese and/or Spanish.

Learn more about some of the programs and events outlined in this issue of the *Grapevine* like the new Prescription Discount Card program or National Night Out; or familiarize yourself with other available programs and activities like the No-Cost Weatherization Program for low income residents funded by the State of California, Southern California Gas Company and Southern California Edison, or accept the City's invitation to participate in a discussion of its Draft Housing Element. And starting next month on the Community Development home page, you'll be able to get brief updates on key development activities in the City.

Visit www.sangabrielcity.com and click on "Current News and Events" to access the above information, or take the time to browse through the City's website to learn about the services provided by individual departments and available to residents, businesses and visitors.

Wake Up and Walk

Lace up your walking shoes and become part of San Gabriel and Los Angeles' shared, living history on September 5 by joining the Walk to Los Angeles.

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.

Beginning at 6 a.m. at San Gabriel Mission, walkers head west for nine miles along Mission Road to be welcomed with birthday festivities in Los Angeles at El Pueblo Historical Monument at Olvera Street. The Walk takes about three hours to complete, and public transportation is available to bring walkers back to San Gabriel. Los Angeles' founding came 10 years after San Gabriel Mission was founded in 1771 as the fourth mission established in the Franciscan chain of 21 California missions.

The Walk recognizes and celebrates the contributions of the people and events that shaped our City. San Gabriel, Birthplace of the Los Angeles Region, really has something to be proud of!

"The Walk takes about three hours to complete, and public transportation is available to bring walkers back to San Gabriel!"

The Walk to LA is held during the Mission's three-day "238th La Fiesta de San Gabriel" from Friday, September 4 through Sunday, September 6. Everyone is invited to join the thousands of people over the Labor Day weekend who enjoy the Mission's Fiesta, and view the beautiful mission grounds, museum and gift shop.

For information about the Walk to Los Angeles, call (213) 485-8376. For information about the Mission's 238th Fiesta celebration, contact Algis Marcuska at (626) 457-3034.



Walkers arrive at El Pueblo Plaza – Olvera Street

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Save on Prescription Drugs with Discount Card

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To discover the savings and learn more about the program, visit www.caremark.com/nlc to access the program online and print a card, check drug prices and locate participating pharmacies, or call Customer Care at 1-888-620-1749 to locate the nearest participating pharmacy.

San Gabriel residents may also pick up a card at the following locations:

- City Hall, 425 S. Mission Drive
- Community Recreation Center at 250 S. Mission Drive, or the Adult Recreation Center at 324 S. Mission Drive
- Fire Department Headquarters Station at 1303 S. Del Mar Avenue or Fire Station #2 at 115 N. Del Mar Avenue

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Great Streets 2008 & Beyond

Capping the largest ongoing street rehabilitation effort in San Gabriel's history, the Great Streets 2008 program has shown marked progress. Since its kick-off in February 2008, the "Great Streets" campaign has already rehabilitated 12 different streets in the City.

These include:

- San Gabriel Boulevard. at 1-10 Gateway Landscape Improvement Project: Landscape and median improvements at the City's entrance
- Fairview Avenue: From Montecito to Abbot, and Circle to Del Mar Avenue
- Gladys Street and Central Avenue Rehabilitation
- Allegro Square: Valley Boulevard south to its terminus
- Charlotte Avenue: From Chestnut Street to Central Avenue
- Saxon Street: From Del Mar Avenue to Denton Avenue
- Brighton Street: From the Caltrans right-of-way north to Alhambra Wash
- Live Oak Avenue: From Junipero Serra Drive to California Street
- Roses Road: From Mission Drive east to Del Mar Avenue
- Anderson Way Rehabilitation: Rehabilitation of the street surface from Mission Road to Orange Avenue is expected to begin next month.

The City has made street rehabilitation a top priority, and periodically communicates important news and project updates essential to keeping the community informed.

Now Underway: 2008-09 Slurry Seal, San Gabriel Blvd Phase II and Various Citywide Studies

- Slurry seal of previous Millennium Miles Phase I, II & III streets: Many people may ask why we would slurry seal streets when so many other streets still need reconstruction. The reason is that streets that require reconstruction are many times more costly than a slurry seal coating; and by keeping those streets in good shape, the City buys additional time to continue its repairs of the balance of the City's street system. Many segments of slurry seal can be applied for the cost of a single reconstruction job, and the City wants to ensure that once its streets are repaired, they will be kept in good condition.
- San Gabriel Boulevard Rehabilitation, Mission to Broadway: A second phase of this important project has been designed and is awaiting authorization to advertise approval from Caltrans and the federal government.
- Sewer Master Plan: San Gabriel is developing its first-ever Sewer Master Plan. Study will identify existing sewer deficiencies and develop priorities for sewers that need to be up-sized and areas where sewers are being impacted by fats, oils and grease. The study is in response to state water resource control board requirements to keep spills and overflows from getting into the storm drain system.
- Intersection Improvement Designs: In 2007, the City received MTA and Federal grants to help fund design and improvement of several intersections. The intersections being designed are:
 - San Gabriel Boulevard & Las Tunas
 - San Gabriel Boulevard & Broadway
 - San Gabriel Boulevard & Mission
 - Broadway & Walnut Grove

But That's Not All

A host of additional projects will also soon be underway, with more to be added as the City continues to expand on its first comprehensive Capital Improvement Program in more than a decade. Some of these include:

- Fairview Avenue: A third segment in the San Gabriel Village is planned, along with streetscape and physical improvements that will be selected using input from Village area residents
- Del Mar Avenue: From Broadway to Mission. Project is under design and has been submitted for federal grant money consideration
- Del Mar Avenue Bridge at Alhambra Wash: This project has received Hazardous Bridge Repair & Replacement (HBRR) funding from the federal government. LA County's Department of Public Works is designing the bridge and will administer the project for the City.

Future priorities will be set in accordance with San Gabriel's Pavement Management Program, which tracks the status of streets needing improvement. It also provides useful data that allows the City to program funds in the most efficient way possible.

Even if your street is not scheduled immediately for re-paving, you can always get potholes filled or routine spot repairs made by calling the City's Public Works Division at (626) 308-2825, weekdays from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., and touching "1" to speak with the street supervisor.

American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (Federal Stimulus Funding)

- Las Tunas Street Light Retrofit Project: The City received \$1.257 million in ARRA (American Recovery & Reinvestment Act) Economic Stimulus Funds. The existing lighting system on Las Tunas Drive is over 40 years old and consists of antiquated wiring and fixtures (6.6kv in lead wrapped conduit). A good portion of the corridor does not have pedestrian lighting but is heavily developed with retail and commercial business. A portion of Las Tunas is in the City's designated redevelopment area. The goal is to rewire the lighting system, change out the lamps to provide a more energy efficient system ("green" technology) and improve vehicular and pedestrian safety by installing additional street and pedestrian light poles and fixtures.

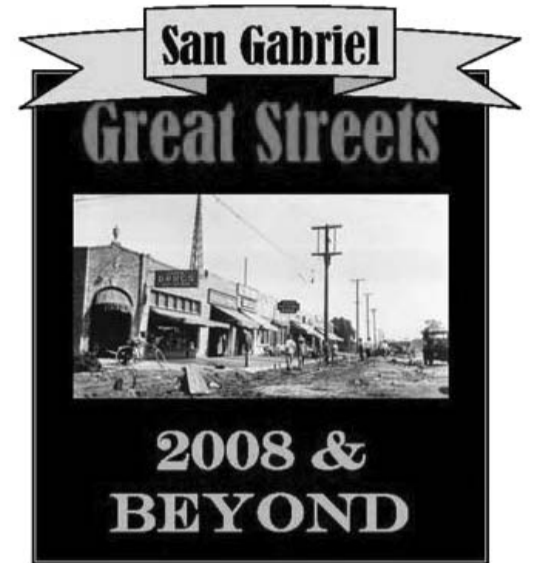
MTA 2009 Call for Projects

- San Gabriel Boulevard Street Light Retrofit Project: The City has requested \$700,000 to augment \$400,000 in local funds to design and construct the project. The existing lighting system is also over 40 years old and faces issues similar to the Las Tunas Street Light Retrofit Project.

Federal Transportation Funds – SAFETEA-LU

- Del Mar Avenue-Broadway to Mission Road: The City has submitted an application for \$700,000 in SAFETEA-LU funding. The proposed improvements will consist of reconstructing and rehabilitating the pavement, removing and replacing damaged curb and gutter and drainage facilities, rehabilitating existing bus pads and sidewalk and parkway improvements, upgrading and constructing ADA ramps per today's standards.
- Del Mar Avenue-Mission to Wells: The City has submitted an application for \$1 million in federal funding.

For the latest updates on the status of various infrastructure projects, contact the Engineering Division at (626) 308-2806, ext. 4631, or check online at <http://www.sangabrielcity.com/calendar/currentnews.shtml>.



"The City has made street rehabilitation a top priority, and periodically communicates important news and project updates essential to keeping the community informed"

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

AUGUST

No Networking Mixer

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 16

Networking Mixer, 6-8 p.m.
San Gabriel Mission High School
254 South Santa Anita Street

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 21

Harvest Networking Mixer, 6-8 p.m.
Autunno
409 S. Mission Drive

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

The San Gabriel Grapevine

SAN GABRIEL CITY COUNCIL

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

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



City of
San Gabriel

www.sangabrielcity.com

Applications Sought for City Commissions

Citizens interested in serving the community are invited to apply for a position on one of the City's four Commissions. The services rendered by City Commissions are important and critical for the general welfare of the community and it is a privilege to participate in local government activities.

The City utilizes citizen volunteers to staff Commissions to assist in the delivery of community programs. Commissioners are appointed by the City Council when vacancies occur; they hold office for a period of two years, and may be appointed for additional two-year terms.

Nominees for the Commissions are obtained from the applications on file at City Hall. A description of the four City Commissions follows:

Civil Service Commission: The Civil Service Commission consists of five members whose responsibility is to hear employee appeals regarding disciplinary action. Civil Service Commissioners must reside in San Gabriel. Civil Service meetings are held on an as-needed basis, usually in the evening.

Design Review Commission: The Design Review Commission is responsible for reviewing building plans for commercial and residential projects with regard to architecture, colors, materials and landscaping. The Design Review Commission is comprised of three members to include representation from design professions, such as architecture and engineering. Meetings are held in the evening on the fourth Monday of each month.

Parks and Recreation

Commission: The Parks and Recreation Commission is an advisory board, consisting of five members, that provides a communication link between the City Council, Parks and Recreation staff, and the community on matters related to community services and leisure-time programs and activities. Parks and Recreation Commissioners must reside in the City of San Gabriel. Regular meetings are held in the evening on the first Monday of each month, October through June.

Planning Commission: The Planning Commission consists of five members who consider applications for zone changes, subdivisions, variances, development plans and conditional use permits, in addition to other special applications. The Planning Commission also makes recommendations to the City Council concerning amendments to the General Plan, land use, and zoning standards. Planning Commissioners must reside in the City of San Gabriel. Regular meetings are held in the evening on the second Monday of each month.

Through our collective efforts, we work together to deliver the best and most cost-efficient municipal services to the citizens of San Gabriel, and create a community that future generations will be proud of and enjoy.

If you are interested in volunteering for any of the above commissions, please contact the City Hall Personnel Department at (626) 308-2803 and request a Commission application. Applications will be accepted, kept on file, and reviewed as future vacancies occur.

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“The services rendered by City Commissions are important and critical for the general welfare of the community and it is a privilege to participate in local government activities”

shortTAKES

Golf Tournament to Benefit Local Business Development

The San Gabriel Chamber of Commerce will hold a golf tournament on September 22 to raise funds to help with new business development.

“When times get tough, the tough get going! We want to be proactive in bringing our business community new marketing and networking programs that will help them flourish – even in these challenging times,” said Chamber Past President Dondi Adkins. “With funds raised through this golf tournament, we hope to increase our advertising programs, reach out to more businesses and stimulate member to member business cooperation.”

The tournament will be held at Almansor Court. Cost is \$110 per person, \$440 for a foursome. This includes cart, green fees, free range balls, and an awards banquet. Businesses can advertise through Tee Sign sponsorships at \$50 each or by donating raffle prizes for the banquet. Non-golfers are encouraged to attend the awards banquet where they can enjoy networking, great food and raffle prizes, for just \$40 per person.

For additional information, please contact the San Gabriel Chamber at (626) 576-2525 or email rosco_sandy@yahoo.com.



“Businesses can advertise through Tee Sign sponsorships at \$50 each or by donating raffle prizes for the banquet”

McGruff's



PAW PRINTS

S.G.P.D.

Coping with Identity Theft

The San Gabriel Police Department reminds you to protect your identity. Safeguard all your account numbers. Identity theft happens when someone pretends to be you and uses your personal financial information when applying for loans, credit cards, or leases. The thief takes advantage of your good credit record, leaving behind bad credit in your name.

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

The identity thief gets your personal information by:

- Stealing your purse or wallet
- Pilfering information from your mail box, such as bank statements and pre-approved credit card applications
- Posing as your employer, loan officer or landlord to get your credit report
- Watching your transactions at automated teller machines and phone booths to capture your personal identification number (PIN)
- Going through trash for credit card receipts or loan applications

Protect yourself by carefully guarding information:

- Properly dispose of papers with personal information. Tear up charge receipts, bank statements, expired credit cards, and credit offers.
- Give out your Social Security number only when required. Don't have it printed on your checks.
- Reduce the number of cards you carry. Don't carry your Social Security number, birth certificate or passport with you.
- Get a copy of your credit report at least once a year to check for errors and/or fraud.
- Be aware of others nearby when entering your PIN.
- Don't give your credit card or bank account number over the phone unless you have placed the call and know the business.
- If you would like a detailed brochure on additional ways to protect your identity, contact the San Gabriel Police Department Crime Prevention Office at (626) 308-2846.



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