

Mission Playhouse Launches New Website

new Mission Playhouse website debuts this fall that will dazzle viewers!

"The new site will be more interactive and user-friendly and will appeal equally to Playhouse supporters and organizations that may want to rent our historic facility," said Mission Playhouse Managing Director Anna Cross. "After the launch of our logo last year and our new brochure, we're really looking forward to having a website that will finally bring all the elements together."

Visitors will be able to find out about upcoming events, learn more about artists and producers and how to rent the space

The Playhouse has been working with SEDNA Solutions, a Glendale-based design company, to develop the new 50-page site. Visitors will be able to find out about upcoming events, learn more about artists and producers and how to rent the space. There will also be a section to download press releases and pictures of events and the building.

The web address will remain the same -- check out the new site at www.missionplayhouse.org!



MARKET

Projected Lucky Center Signage

Lucky Center Gets New Look, New Name

With Albertsons's closing at 933 E. Las Tunas Drive, the owner of Lucky Center is upgrading the shopping center to create a more attractive and inviting environment for pedestrians. The center will be renamed San Gabriel Promenade. In March, the Redevelopment Agency approved an agreement with the owner to provide assistance with the cost of the building façade and site improvements. In exchange, the owner will lease to a

market operator for a full service grocery store, equipped with new fixtures offering a mix of mainstream and ethnic products and services. "The new design demonstrates how to modernize older shopping facilities by highlighting their character defining features while introducing contemporary elements that make the center interesting and vibrant," says City Architect Dale Brown, AIA. The Design Review

The new design demonstrates how to modernize older shopping facilities by highlighting their character defining features while introducing contemporary elements that make the center interesting and vibrant

Commission approved the design for the center in April. Construction of improvements is expected to begin in late summer.

For more information, please contact Robin Scherr; Acting Economic Development Manager at rscherr@sgch.org or (626) 308-2806 ext. 5123 for information

中文 español

San Gabriel Names Outstanding Older American 2011

ach year, as part of the City's birthday celebration, we recognize a deserving individual for his or her volunteerism and service to the San Gabriel community. This year, we celebrate the City's 98th anniversary of incorporation and announce our 2011 Outstanding Older American, Sabino Cici.

Sabino is a dedicated volunteer who has contributed countless hours of service. He served the residents of San Gabriel in his 25 years as a member of the City Council; and he has been a dedicated member and Past President of the San Gabriel-Chamber of Commerce and Trustee of the San Gabriel-Alhambra Elks Lodge.

Sabino has shown tremendous leadership as the Director of the Sanitation District, San Gabriel Valley Animal Control Authority and San Gabriel County Water District. He has also served as a member of various community organizations, including San Gabriel Kiwanis, Peace Officers Association, Italian Catholic Federation and the United States Air Force Association, to name a few.

Sabino was recognized at a City Council meeting in April and at the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors' Older American Recognition Day in May. He also served as the Grand Marshal for our Kid's Day and 4th of July Parade. The City is grateful for his tremendous dedication and leadership in serving others in the San Gabriel community! 中文 español



Sabino Cici

Tips to Keep Pedestrians and Motorists Safe Near Schools

Being struck by a car is a leading cause of death and injury to children in their own neighborhoods and when entering or leaving school for the day. The greatest risk is to children 5 to 9 years of age, as they lack the necessary skills and experience that most adults have come to take for granted when encountering a vehicle on the roadway.

As the school year approaches and in an effort to prevent avoidable accidents, the following traffic safety information is provided to reduce accidents in and around our schools.

For driver

- Yield the right-of-way to pedestrians in marked or unmarked crosswalks.
- Do not overtake and pass a vehicle stopped ahead of them when it has stopped for a pedestrian.
- Yield the right-of-way to pedestrians on sidewalks.
- Obey the posted speed limit.
- Do not drive while distracted examples include using a cell phone, reading, eating, or putting on make-up.
- Stop and remain stopped for school buses with "flashing" red lights.

For pedestrians:

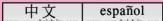
- Yield to drivers when crossing a road where there is no intersection or crosswalk or where the pedestrian does not have a green or "walk" signal.
- Do not suddenly move into the path of a closely approaching vehicle; even when the pedestrian has the right-of-way.
- Do not cross between intersections controlled by traffic signals, which constitutes "jaywalking."

For parents:

- Obey all parking signs and curb markings they are designed to protect our children and provide optimum traffic flow.
- Follow school drop-off procedures and always drop their child off on the curbside of the school.
- Teach their children to always cross the street at a crosswalk, and look both ways before doing so.

The most important safety tip to reduce pedestrian injuries and fatalities is to pay attention and obey all traffic rules as both drivers and pedestrians have certain safety responsibilities for themselves and others on our roadways.

For more information, please contact the San Gabriel Police Department's Traffic Bureau at (626) 308-2860.





Music! Dance! Theater!

SAT., **JULY** 30, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.

San Gabriel Valley Music Theatre presents: "Swingin & Croonin: A Night of Prima, Dino and Bing"

For info/tickets call (626) 282-1440 www.sgvmusictheatre.org

SAT., **AUG.** 6, 7 p.m.

Elite Ballet presents: Swan Lake

For info/tickets call (626) 456-3391 www.eliteballettheatre.org

SAT., AUG. 13, 3:30 p.m. Academy of Music and Dance

Academy of Music and Dance For info/tickets call (626) 768-2614 www.pasadenadanceclasses.com

SAT., AUG. 27, 6:30 p.m.

Miss Hispanidad International For info/tickets call (323) 899-7870 www.misshipanidadinternational.com

SAT., **SEPT.** 3, 2 p.m.

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

SAT., SEPT. 10, Time TBA

Asian Ámerican Talent Foundation For info/tickets call (626) 309-9274

SAT., SEPT. 17, Time TBA

Hanvi

For info/tickets call (562) 921-3020 www.hanyiinc.com

SUN., SEPT. 18, 2:30 p.m.

LA Theatre Organ Society presents: Wurlitzer Theatre Organ Concert For info/tickets call: (888) 528-6722 www.latos.org

SAT., OCT. I, 8 p.m., SUN., OCT. 2, 2 p.m.

San Gabriel Valley Music Theatre presents: "Flower Drum Song"
For info/tickets call (626) 282-1440

For info/tickets call (626) 282-1440 www.sgvmusictheatre.org

MORNING PERFORMANCES, WEEK OF OCT. 10

Theatre Experience of Southern California

Theatre for Young People
For info/tickets call (800) 514-2787
www.tesocal.org

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.



Trio of Projects May Signal Better Economic Times

The signs of an economic recovery are beginning to shine in San Gabriel as three new major real estate developments start construction. The long-awaited Hing Wa Lee Plaza at 1635 South Del Mar is securing its final building permits.

This commercial development will house one of the Southland's most famous fine jewelry stores, Hing Wa Lee Jewelers, whose fashion forward customers come from around the world. A three-story housing and commercial project known as Skycourts will break ground this fall at 402-404 South San Gabriel Boulevard on the site of the former San Andell Pool Company. This developer will be providing five affordable housing units.

Lastly, Crown Valley, an attractive office and retail building has started construction at 800 East Valley Boulevard on the site of a former service station. These major projects will result in significant private investment, new shopping and dining options, and housing opportunities. Contact City Planner Mark Gallatin at (626) 308-2806, ext. 4623 or mgallatin@sgch.org for more information.



Hing Wa Lee Plaza, located at 1635 S. Del Mar, consists of 26,000 square feet of luxury designer retail stores, upscale restaurants, and office space



San Gabriel Skycourts will consist of 9,533 square feet of retail and restaurant space and 31 owner-occupied residential units at 402-404 S. San Gabriel Boulevard



Crown Valley commercial building is located at 800 E. Valley Boulevard

City Hosts Public Works Open House

n May 19th, in celebration of National Public Works Week, the San Gabriel Public Works Department opened its doors at its 9th annual Open House. The open house was well-attended by the general public as well as La Casa Pre-school and San Gabriel Mission School's third grade class. The San Gabriel Chamber of Commerce Women's Division and the San Gabriel Kiwanis also joined in

ROAD WORK AHEAD

the celebration by having their regular meetings at the open house.

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

The Public Works Department would like to thank all who attended and its sponsors and supporters: Athens Services, Formula 1, Pacific Sanitary, RKA, Sakaida Nursery, Southern California Edison, and Zumar Industries. If you have any questions, please contact Gerry Lopez, Street Supervisor, at (626) 308-2825 or glopez@sgch.org.



Scenic Grapevine Arbor Has a History All Its Own

any people don't know that San Gabriel was once part of a rich winegrowing region that prospered in this community and its surroundings between 1850 and 1920; they may not even know that proof of that heritage lives on today in San Gabriel's Mission District.

While many San Gabriel residents believe that the historic 'Grapevine Arbor' is a remnant of the Mission's original Grapevine, the real story is a bit more complex – and far more interesting.

The "Trinity Grapevine," from which many of California's finest vineyards began, is still among the historical monuments with which beautiful San Gabriel abounds.

Planted in 1861 by David Franklin Hall, it raised wine grapes for the City's first inn, which later became famous as the 'Home of Ramona,' or sometimes 'Ramona's Birthplace.' The inn's name capitalized on the legendary Ramona, heroine of an 1884 novel by Helen Hunt Jackson that was written to bring attention to the plight of Native Americans, but instead developed a following because of its story of tragic romance. Of course, Ramona was a fictional character, yet communities all over Southern California made claims as to having influenced — or been visited by — Ramona. Early picture post-cards show visitors to San Gabriel enjoying an authentic Spanish lunch under the wide grapevine arbor, which covered a substantially larger area than today's grapevine.

Clippings from the vine were taken to other missions along El Camino Real and from there, were used to begin some of the finest vineyards in the state. It is a segment of this original vine that lives today in the Grapevine Arbor Park at Mission Drive and Santa Anita Street. But this beautiful, historic vine would not be here today, were it not for the efforts of residents to preserve it.

The "Trinity Grapevine," from which many of California's finest vineyards began, is still among the historical monuments with which beautiful San Gabriel abounds

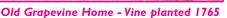
Known among horticulturalists the world over, the Trinity Grapevine collapsed in November 1946. The near-death of the famed vine spurred San Gabriel citizens into action and the vine was nursed back to health. In October, 1957, representatives of 18 countries, wine growers, and city officials placed a plaque at the site to mark 100 years of wine making in California. Consuls from Germany, France, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Israel, Chile, Austria, Greece, Switzerland, Canada, Mexico, Peru, Belgium, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Australia and Argentina were given clippings from the vine. Cuttings from the mother vine were shipped to the 18 countries and planted as a goodwill token from San Gabriel.

Today, the famed vine is being cared for by city workers and although only a small part of the original vine remains – it once spread over 10,000 square feet – and is once again, a very popular tourist attraction and a destination for celebrations.

- Adapted from an article in the Alhambra Post Advocate, May 17, 1972

This is the second in a series of feature stories about San Gabriel's history being prepared for the City's Centennial Celebration starting in January 2013. If you would like to participate in the ongoing planning of this once-in-a-lifetime celebration, please call San Gabriel City Hall at (626) 308-2805, or contact Diana Aguilar, daguilar@sgch.org.







Famous Oldest/Largest Grapevine

Summer Safety Tips



he San Gabriel Fire Department has a number of safety tips that will allow you to safely enjoy the summer season:

Barbeque Grills: Keep children away from grills and lighter fluid. Don't leave grills unattended while lit and have an appropriate fire extinguisher ready nearby. If someone is burned, run clean cool water over the affected area for 5 to 10 minutes and loosely apply a sterile dry dressing or a clean cloth to the burn. Do not use butter, vegetable oil or salves on a burn as they will cause an infection. Immediately seek medical attention if someone receives a serious burn.

Fireworks: Fireworks are not legal in the City of San Gabriel. You can check the local newspaper or use the Internet to find firework displays near you.

Pools: Pools are a great way to cool off and have fun in the sun but there is no substitute for proper supervision. Children need to be watched at all times; never leave them unattended in or around pools or spa areas. Locking doors, windows and selfclosing gates on fences surrounding the pool will limit access to the pool or spa area. Latches should be above the reach of children and rescue equipment should be kept near the pool area.

Sun Exposure: Protect your skin and eyes from excessive sun exposure (especially between 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.) by using proper eyewear and the use of a sunscreen with a minimum SPF rating of 15.

Heat Cramps: Heat cramps are evidenced by pain and muscle cramps caused by excessive loss of fluids due to heavy exertion and higher temperatures. To help relieve the cramps, remove yourself from the sun, lightly massage the affected muscle, and take sips of water unless nausea occurs.

Children need to be watched at all times; never leave them unattended in or around pools or spa areas

Heat Exhaustion: Heat exhaustion is brought on by excessive sweating and the loss of valuable electrolytes. People standing in the hot sun and particularly those wearing several layers of clothing, such as baseball fans or parade watchers, may become victims of this. Heavy sweating, weakness, clammy skin and a weak pulse are signs that need to be addressed. Remove excessive clothing and get out of the sun. Apply wet towels, sip water and seek medical attention immediately.

Heat Stroke: Heat stroke is the most serious illness caused by heat exposure and is life threatening. It occurs when the body is subjected to more heat than it can handle and brain damage or death can occur unless medically treated. It requires immediate medical attention and 911 should be called! This situation can take place during periods of high heat and humidity and especially affects small children and the elderly. Signs and symptoms include: hot, dry, red skin, rapid pulse and changes in consciousness. Immediately remove the person from the sun and into air conditioning, if possible. Remove clothes and start cooling measures while calling 911.

Follow these simple tips and the entire family will be able to safely enjoy summer! For more information, please call the San Gabriel Fire Department at (626) 308-2883. Know your Responsibilities as **Owner-Builder**

Cummer is often a time when homeowners want to improve their homes and many owners would like to reduce costs by acting as their own contractor. The Building Division of San Gabriel is happy to help all owners with their projects but have seen some owners face difficulties when trying to do their home improvement projects without the aid of a licensed contractor.

When an owner acts as his or her own contractor, they become an "owner-builder:" When you sign a building permit application as an ownerbuilder, please be aware that as the owner, you assume full responsibility for all phases of the project and its integrity. The owner-builder can also be considered an employer if he or she hires unlicensed contractors to do the work. This could make you responsible for:

- Registering with the state and federal government as an employer;
- Withholding state and federal income taxes, Social Security taxes, paying disability insurance, and making employment compensation
- Providing worker's compensation insurance;
- · Supervising the job, including scheduling workers and obtaining building permits and requesting inspections;
- · Correcting the work and getting it re-inspected if any of the construction doesn't pass building inspections; and
- Making sure all workers and material suppliers are paid, or face the possibility of mechanic's liens against their home or property.

When an owner acts as his or her own contractor, they become an "owner-builder"

The City encourages residents to improve their properties but want to help prevent some of the pitfalls that owner-builders can face. The San Gabriel Building Division recommends you research potential contractors thoroughly by visiting the State Contractors Board's website www.cslb.ca.gov and the Better Business Bureau's website at

www.la.bbb.org. For more information, contact Building Division Manager Evan Zeisel at (626) 308-2806, ext. 4627, or ezeisel@sgch.org.

Meet Your Police Department

Spotlight on Dispatch

he Communication Center (also known as Dispatch) is the heartbeat of the San Gabriel Police Department. This is where citizens call when they need service, and from where dispatch personnel send officers on calls. The Communication Center operates 24 hours per day, 365 days per year. The normal staffing is one dispatcher and one sworn desk officer, who also doubles as the station jailer. At times, more personnel may be brought in to work in the Communications Center for special operations.

All calls for service come into the Police Department through the Communications Center via the business lines beginning with 308-2828, or through the emergency lines of 911. Once a call is received, it is entered into the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system, and then immediately sent to field officers by radio and the computer terminals in their patrol cars. The CAD system generates police report numbers and keeps track of all calls for service and officer-initiated activities.

The Communication Center is a small room containing multiple computers that are able to access Department records, as well as those from the DMV and numerous other state and federal agencies/databases. Even telephone lines are managed through computer terminals, allowing personnel to keep track of everything they're doing at a glance. Because of all the sensitive hardware. the room is usually kept much colder than the rest of the station. Personnel can see people that walk into the station lobby through windows along the front of the room but can only communicate with them via an intercom system,



Paula Quintero, Police Dispatcher-Clerk

or by physically walking to the lobby's front counter. Communications Center personnel must be able to remain calm, no matter what they hear on the other end of a phone call or on the police radio. They must be able to multi-task more than most other jobs, as they are expected to handle multiple incidents at one time, each one possibly requiring them to talk on the radio, talk on the phone, type information into a computer terminal, query and

retrieve information from a computer terminal, keep track of field officers, and even speak with citizens who come into the station lobby when no one else is available to do so.

Communications Center personnel are very good at the work they do but are seldom recognized for their efforts. They are unsung heroes, working behind the scenes. So, the next time you call the Police Department, if you notice they are doing a good job, please tell them. We're sure it'll make their day!

Communications Center personnel must be able to remain calm, no matter what they hear on the other end of a phone call or on the police radio

'Great Streets' Program Updates

he City of San Gabriel's Great Streets Program is making great progress! Here's the latest:

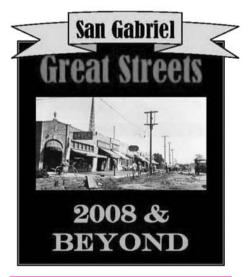
New Avenue Rehabilitation - San Gabriel has teamed up with the City of Alhambra to rehabilitate the pavement on New Avenue between Interstate 10 and the Ramona/New Avenue intersection. The work, performed by Sully-Miller Contracting Company includes reconstructing failed pavement, building accessible curb ramps and installing new pavement markings. The work will be completed by the end of this month.

Restoring and Preserving Your Local Streets - Two local street improvement projects will get underway this summer. The Local Street Maintenance Project will apply surface treatments, such as slurry seal, to several miles of streets that are still in satisfactory structural condition. The Local Street Rehabilitation Project will resurface or reconstruct sections of roadway in need of more significant repairs. To stretch the funding available for street rehabilitation, the City will use an innovative repair method on some street segments that combines rubberized asphalt slurry seal and aggregate layers to provide a new roadway surface at a substantially lower cost than traditional rehabili-

> Two local street improvement projects will get underway this summer

Las Tunas Drive Street Light Retrofit Project - This \$1.4 million project replaced 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. Existing light fixtures were replaced with energy-saving LED lamps and several new street lights were added. The project was funded by a grant from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act as well as San Gabriel Redevelopment Agency funds.

For more information on the Great Streets program and other infrastructure projects, contact the Engineering Division at (626) 308-2806, ext. 4631 or dgrilley@sgch.org. To report potholes or other urgent street repairs, call the Public Works Department at (626) 308-2825, ext. 221 or 223.





New Avenue, photo taken May 19, 2011. Roadwork underway!

City & School **Board Meetings**

SAN GABRIEL CITY COUNCIL IST & 3RD TUESDAYS 7:30 P.M., COUNCIL CHAMBERS

SGUSD GOVERNING BOARD

2ND & 4TH WEDNESDAYS 7 P.M., DISTRICT OFFICE VISIT SGUSD.CSBAAGENDAONLINE.NET FOR FUTURE BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE UPDATES

PLANNING COMMISSION

2nd Monday 6:30 P.M., COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Parks & Recreation

COMMISSION IST MONDAY

7 P.M., COUNCIL CHAMBERS

DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION

4TH MONDAY

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

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FRIDAY, JULY 29
Free power networking breakfast 7-9 a.m. Elks Lodge, 1373 E. Las Tunas Drive Reservations required, call (626) 576-2525

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 17

Networking mixer 6-8 p.m. San Gabriel Academy, 8827 East Broadway Reservations required, call (626) 576-2525

FRIDAY, AUG. 26

Free power networking breakfast 7-9 a.m. Elks Lodge, 1373 E. Las Tunas Drive Reservations required, call (626) 576-2525

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 21

Networking mixer 6-8 p.m. Herald Community Center, 715 E. Mission Rd. Reservations required, call (626) 576-2525

FRIDAY, SEPT. 30

Free power networking breakfast 7-9 a.m. Elks Lodge, 1373 E. Las Tunas Drive Reservations required, call (626) 576-2525

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 19 Networking mixer

Reservations required, call (626) 576-2525

FRIDAY, OCT. 28

Free power networking breakfast 7-9 a.m.
Elks Lodge, 1373 E. Las Tunas Drive
Reservations required, call (626) 576-2525

The San Gabriel rapevine

SAN GABRIEL CITY COUNCIL

David R. Gutierrez, Mayor Kevin B. Sawkins, Vice Mayor Juli Costanzo, Councilmember Mario De La Torre, Councilmember John R. Harrington, Councilmember

Steven A. Preston, City Manager Eleanor K. Andrews, City Clerk John Janosik, City Treasurer

Neal Leavitt, Editor Workhorse Creative, Graphic Design

The San Gabriel Grapevine is published quarterly by the City of San Gabriel. For more information, call the City Manager's Office at (626) 308-2805.

El San Gabriel Grapevine está publica-do trimestral por la Ciudad de San Gabriel. Para mas información, llame a la Oficina del Administrador de la Ciudad a (626) 308-2805.

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) 308-2805.

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español

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



www.sangabrielcity.com

McGruff's



PRINTS

S.G.P.D.

Beware of Elder Fraud and Scams

And Watch Out for Phony Utility Workers!

s people grow older, their chances of being victims of crime decrease. But a lifetime of experience coupled with the physical problems associated with aging often makes older Americans fearful. Though they're on the lookout constantly for physical attack and burglary, they're not as alert to frauds and con games in reality the greatest crime threat to seniors' well being and trust.

The San Gabriel Police Department Crime Prevention Office offers some common-sense

- ullet Don't fall for anything that sounds too good to be true a free vacation, sweepstakes prizes, cures for cancer and arthritis, a low-risk, high-yield investment scheme.
- Never give your credit card, phone card, Social Security, or bank account number to anyone over the phone. It's illegal for telemarketers to ask for these numbers to verify a prize or gift.
- Don't let anyone pressure you into signing anything - an insurance policy, a sales agreement, or a contract. Read it carefully and have someone you trust check it over.
- · Beware of individuals claiming to represent companies, consumer organizations, or government agencies that offer to recover lost money from fraudulent telemarketers for a fee.

A lifetime of experience coupled with the physical problems associated with aging often makes older Americans fearful

The key is to be cautious

and ask questions. If you

don't, you could unknowingly

invite a thief into your home

- If you're suspicious, check it out with the police, the Better Business Bureau, or your local consumer protection office. Call the National Consumers League Fraud Information Center at (800) 876-7060.
- · Report any crime or suspicious activities to law enforcement.
- Join a Neighborhood Watch to look out for each other and help the police. Contact the Crime Prevention Office at (626) 308-2846 to start a Neighborhood Watch group on your street.

Spotting Phony Utility Workers

Someone appears at your door claiming to be a utility worker saying they need to inspect your water pipes, check your meter, investigate a gas leak or examine the wiring in your house. The person at your door may be carrying a walkie-talkie and wearing a hard hat and vest to appear legitimate.

So how can you tell a real utility worker from a scam artist? The key is to be cautious and ask questions. If you don't, you could unknowingly invite a thief into your home.

Posing as a phony utility worker is a classic scam that often targets seniors living alone. If you remain alert, you'll spot the

warning signs that will help you avoid becoming a victim.

This type of scam is also known as a distraction theft because the victim's attention is diverted just long enough for the thief or his accomplice to rifle through the victim's house helping himself to money, jewelry and other valuables. In order to distract the victim, the imposter may ask you to step outside. Or he may ask you to go to another part of the house to turn the water off or bang on the pipes. These are all ruses to distract the victim's attention and give the thief time to ransack your house looking for loot to steal.

In order to avoid becoming a crime victim, here are some things to keep in mind when you get that knock on the door from someone claiming to be a utility worker who needs to get into your house:

- Stop and think: Are you expecting anyone to come to your home?
- Remember that most utility companies won't send a worker to your home unannounced. They usually will make an appointment before showing up.
- Before opening the door, use your peephole or intercom to identify visitors.
- If your door has a chain, put it on before answering your door. It will create a barrier between you and the caller.
- Always ask to see the employee's identification.
- Look for a company logo on the person's uniform and vehicle.
- Call the utility company to verify the person's identification. Make sure you have the person wait outside behind a locked door while you do this. A legitimate worker won't mind waiting while you verify their employment information. The utility company will be able to tell you whether the person is an employee and whether they've

dispatched a service call to your home or neighborhood.

• If the person is an imposter, call 911.



shortTAKES

LED Traffic Signals Saving Energy for City

he City of San Gabriel Public Works Department has now installed yellow LED traffic signals throughout the City, as part of an "Energy Efficiency Community Block Grant" (EECBG) energy savings

The yellow LED traffic signals are located on signal heads, which are mounted on mast arms. The new traffic signals reduce the amount of energy used throughout the City and make traveling safer for motorists by making the yellow light more visible.

The new traffic signals reduce the amount of energy used throughout the City and make traveling safer for motorists by making the yellow light more visible

The LED lights replaced the 60-watt incandescent light bulbs and discontinued GE bulbs with lower wattage technology. The LED lights also have a longer life span, which reduces maintenance costs.

For more information, please contact Street Supervisor Gerry Lopez at (626) 308-2825 or glopez@sgch.org.

> San Gabriel Library 500 S. Del Mar Ave. (626) 287-0761

ALL EVENTS ARE FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

KIDS

Tuesdays 6:30pm

Family Story Time All ages welcome for stories, music, and art activities.

Wednesdays 10:30am

Toddler Story Time For emergent readers ages 1-5. Stories, music, and art.

2nd Thursday of the month 4:30pm

1st-2nd Grade Reading Group Lets read a book together.

3rd Thursday of the month 4:30pm

3rd-5th Grade **Reading Group** Share books and snacks.

TEENS

3rd Friday of the month

Board Game Extravaganza Come and play classic board games and learn to play some new ones too.

ADULTS

of the month 4pm

3rd Wednesday Book Club & **Discussion Group** Light refreshments & good company.

Thursdays

Adult Gentle Exercise Strength, flexibility and balance.

NEW HOURS

Sunday
MondayCLOSED
Tuesday 10AM-8PM
Wednesday 10AM-8PM
Thursday
Friday 8AM-6PM
Saturday 8AM-6PM