

news and views from our town

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SAN GABRIEL • CA

San Gabriel

# Grapevine

WINTER 2003 VOLUME 7 • ISSUE 1

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## Come Join the Lunar New Year Celebration!



The 12th Annual Lunar New Year celebration is almost here! The month-long celebration of the "Year of the Goat" is the perfect setting to cultivate a better understanding between cultures. The event will include an art exhibit, a festive parade and the street festival on Valley Boulevard.

On February 1 at 11 a.m., the Lunar New Year festivities will continue with the parade and street festival. This community-wide event, hosted by the cities of San Gabriel and Alhambra, is sponsored by the Buick and Cadillac divisions of General Motors. The parade will showcase various corporate-sponsored floats,

entertainment by local bands and cultural units as well as energetic dragon and lion dances that embrace the spirit of the New Year.

The New Year street festival will be held on Valley Boulevard between Chapel and Garfield. It offers a glimpse of Asian culture and includes a variety of activities for all to enjoy — the worship ceremony, Chinese arts and crafts demonstrations, even blessings from the god of fortune.

On the Verizon and Pacific stages, there will be a variety of ethnic and modern performances as well as a fashion show presented by JC Penney. Children will have the opportunity to enter coloring

and drawing contests, participate in youth tournaments or have fun at the carnival.

To top it all off, 500 lucky children will receive a Red Envelope containing a two-dollar bill. Be sure to stop by the City of San Gabriel booth to see the various Departmental displays as we welcome in the "Year of the Goat."

The celebration kicks off in January with an art exhibit at Alhambra City Hall from January 8-31. Viewers will enjoy a display of fine paintings, exquisite crystal and antique sculptures of the coming zodiac.

For further information or if you are interested in sponsoring the event or reserving a booth, please call (626) 284-1234.

## City's New Fire Engine Arrives



The City of San Gabriel's new fire engine is now here! The new fire engine, a 2002 Quantum made by Appleton, WI-based Pierce Manufacturing, replaces a 1985 American LaFrance engine that will now go into reserve status. The San Gabriel Fire Department's 1975 American LaFrance engine, presently in reserve status, will be sent to auction.

The Quantum seats six firefighters and has been custom designed with larger, weather-tight storage compartments. Key features include push-button automatic transmission, air conditioning, adjustable seats for long-distance driving, a 2,000-GMP pump with a Class A foam system, pole-mounted halogen lamps for illuminating emergency incidents at night or in inclement weather, air-operated steps for entry into and exiting from the cab, and color-coded pump panel instruments for ease of operation.

Radios and a mobile data terminal are currently being installed; once this is done, a comprehensive training program for the Fire Department's engineers (the firefighters who are specifically assigned to drive and operate the engine) will be undertaken that qualifies them to operate the engine.



## Millennium Miles Updates

The City continues to make rapid progress with the Millennium Miles program, a comprehensive citywide program designed to improve the condition of more than 60 segments of streets requiring rehabilitation. The City Council has designated a budget of more than \$5 million over the next four years. The City will begin planning next year on a second five-year program beginning in 2005-06 to address streets that could not be addressed in the first five-year program.

Phase II is now complete. The design consultant, RKA & Associates, has completed the pavement evaluation, the design survey work and rehabilitation strategies. Plans, specifications and estimates have been submitted to the City. The project has been bid and will be awarded soon. Construction is expected to commence during First Quarter 2003.

The design of Phase III is underway and is approximately 95 percent complete. The design consultant, Norris Repke, has completed the pavement evaluation, the design survey work, design base sheets and typical sections. Rehabilitation strategies were discussed with City staff in October with final plans, specifications and estimates to be submitted to the City the first quarter of 2003. Construction is expected to commence the Second Quarter of 2003.

For more information, please call (626) 308-2800, ext. 715.

### Phase II Resurfacing/Rehabilitation Projects

Anderson Way - Fairview to Orange  
California Street - Broadway to Live Oak  
Montecito Drive - Chestnut to Fairview  
St. Francis Street - Broadway to Las Tunas  
Central Avenue - Ramona to Montecito  
California Street - Live Oak to Las Tunas  
Fairview Avenue - Ramona to Montecito  
Del Mar Avenue - Broadway to Las Tunas  
Cameron Way - Live Oak to End  
Wedgewood Street - San Marino to Junipero Serra

### Phase III Resurfacing/Rehabilitation Projects

Grand Avenue - Anderson to City Limits  
Delta Street - Valley to Scott  
Anderson Way - Chestnut to Fairview  
Scott Street - Charlotte to End  
Prospect Avenue - Chestnut to Fairview  
Pine Street - Wells to Chestnut  
Chestnut Avenue - San Gabriel to Charlotte  
California Street - Wells to Chestnut  
Wells Street - San Gabriel to City Limits  
Lafayette Street - Wells to Chestnut

### Phase III continued

Scott Street - San Gabriel to Charlotte  
Walnut Street - Wells to Chestnut  
Gladys Avenue - Scott to Valley  
Gladys Avenue - Scott to Wells  
Charlotte Avenue - Wells to Chestnut  
Charlotte Avenue - Valley to Wells  
Abilene Street - Charlotte to End



## Upcoming San Gabriel Civic Auditorium Events

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22

San Marino Celebrity Series, 10:30 a.m.  
The Music of Andrew Lloyd Weber  
For information/tickets call (626) 287-5705

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9

Catalina Russek Ballet Folklorico, 3 p.m.  
For information/tickets call (213) 254-0600

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Shang Lander Club, 7:30 p.m.  
Evening of Chinese Folk Songs  
For information/tickets call (626) 574-0212

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

San Marino Celebrity Series: Joan Benny  
10:30 a.m.  
For information/tickets call (626) 287-5705

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Rio Hondo Police Academy Graduation  
11 a.m.  
For information/tickets call (562) 692-0921

### THURSDAY, MARCH 7

THROUGH SUNDAY, MARCH 9  
Temple City High School: The Music Man  
Fri., 7:30 p.m., Sat., 7:30 p.m., Sun., 2 p.m.  
For information/tickets call (626) 548-5160

### TUESDAY, MARCH 11

Theatreworks USA, 10:30 a.m.  
Island of the Blue Dolphins  
For information/tickets call (800) 497-5007

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12

American Theatre Arts for Youth, 10 a.m.  
Tom Sawyer  
For information/tickets call (800) 523-4540

### THURSDAY, MARCH 13

San Marino Celebrity Series: Michael Medved  
10:30 a.m.  
For information/tickets call (626) 287-5705

### FRIDAY, MARCH 14

Arcadia High School Music Department  
Show Choir Festival, 6 p.m.  
For information/tickets call (626) 821-1785

### SATURDAY, MARCH 15

Mariachi Heritage, 7 p.m.  
Mariachi Sol de Mexico  
For information/tickets call (626) 279-1700

### FRIDAY, MARCH 21 THROUGH SUNDAY, MARCH 23

The Shakespeare League of Pasadena  
Guys and Dolls  
Friday, 8 p.m., Saturday, 8 p.m., Sunday, 2 p.m.  
For information/tickets call (626) 281-6053

### TUESDAY, MARCH 25

Temple City High School, 7:30 p.m.  
Annual Band Concert  
For information/tickets call (626) 548-5160

### THURSDAY, MARCH 27

Arcadia High School Music Department  
Band and Orchestra Concert, 7 p.m.  
For information/tickets call (626) 821-1785

### FRIDAY, MARCH 28

Theatreworks USA, 10:30 a.m.  
Hungry Caterpillar, Quiet Cricket  
For information/tickets call (800) 497-5007

### SATURDAY/SUNDAY MARCH 29-30

All-Day event  
Sharp International Dance Competition  
For registration, tickets and information call (626) 285-9585

*All events and artists are subject to change or cancellation without notice. Always call the box office prior to arriving at the theater.*



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

# Economic Development Updates

San Gabriel's economic development efforts are growing! There are many new projects that will soon get underway:

The San Gabriel Valley Medical Center will be building a new 65,000 square-foot medical office building at Santa Anita and Padilla that is already 80 percent pre-leased. The grand opening of the medical office building is slated for April 2004. Key building features include a pedestrian bridge linking the building to the hospital across the street and a 95-space parking lot.



The Hilton Hotel and Retail project at 209 West Valley Boulevard is moving forward with plans to build 207 hotel rooms and 49,000 square-foot retail and office space. The retail portion is scheduled to open this spring and the hotel will be open for business in the fall.



New Century Ford 1212 East Las Tunas Drive will be building a 13,000 square-foot showroom to be completed by January 2004; a 26,000 square-foot repair facility will open in July 2004.

Other new developments in San Gabriel include:

- 15,675 square-foot retail and office building at 801 East Valley Boulevard
- 15,764 square-foot retail building with nine condominiums at 425 South San Gabriel Boulevard
- 28,227 square-foot office building with 15 condominiums at 923 East Valley Boulevard
- 5,400 square-foot retail building at 800 West Las Tunas Drive
- 3,500 square-foot retail and office building at 526 East Valley Boulevard

## City to Launch Enhanced Graffiti-Removal Program

The Neighborhood Improvement Services (NIS) division is proposing a citywide comprehensive graffiti-removal program to enhance the existing graffiti-removal service. The new program is anticipated to eliminate blight and maintain the integrity of neighborhoods by providing a quicker response and shorter turnaround time. The program will also provide better color matching and remove graffiti from all sections of a structure.

Although the current graffiti-removal program has been in existence for many years and has satisfactorily served the community in the past, the continued increase in graffiti tagging has prompted investigating ways to improve the current program.

At the November 19 City Council meeting, staff presented several options to members of the Council, with a recommendation that the City hire an independent contractor — either a private company or a non-profit agency.

A Request for Proposal has been sent to several graffiti-removal contractors, and staff hopes that the new program will be in effect the beginning of 2003. For more information, please contact Rita Estrada, NIS Manager, at (626) 308-2800, ext. 807 or [restrada@sgch.org](mailto:restrada@sgch.org).

## Mission District Strategy Moves Forward

The San Gabriel City Council is committed to the economic vitality of the City's business districts, and the Mission District program is one of several ongoing efforts to develop the economic development of this historic neighborhood.

Through a summer 'walking charette' and three community forums, as many as 50 residents have attended every meeting, which are always focused on how to help strengthen the economic profile of this historic district. The partnership is a venture between the City and neighborhood stakeholders, including the Mission District Partnership, Chamber of Commerce, individual merchants, historic organizations and sites, businesses and business and residential property owners interested in ensuring a prosperous, lively Mission District.

The business strategy is being developed using leading specialists in economics, historic preservation, land use and traffic, and because it is grant-funded, the work to date has been accomplished at no additional expense to local taxpayers.

Some of the economic recommendations include:

- Revise land-use regulations to expand and refine permitted uses
- Allowing for the development of mixed-use residential/commercial uses



with residential densities of up to 40 units per acre

- Maximizing key properties, such as the site formerly occupied by the Brave Bull
- Explore development opportunities for the Civic Auditorium parking lot
- Showcase the district with additional special events, and pursue recurring events at the Civic Auditorium that happen more than once per year.

The specific plan will also cover topics such as design, preservation, parking and circulation. The next steps include drafting the specific plan, implementing the CEQA requirements, Planning Commission hearing and City Council approval. A \$56,000 Downtown Planning Grant from the State Department of Housing and Community Development funds the specific plan.

For additional information, contact Erlinda Romo, economic development specialist, at (626) 308-2800, ext. 733.

## General Plan Background Report Available

The future of San Gabriel is taking shape! The Community Development Department has put the finishing touches on the City's new General Plan Background Report, entitled 'Ingredients for Success.' Unlike many cities that rely heavily on outside consultants for this type of planning effort, San Gabriel's Background Report is authored largely by those who know the City best, with input from its residents, business owners and staff.

Readers will find the report to be a virtual almanac on the state of the City, with chapters covering important topics like land use, mobility, housing, demographics, noise, safety, community facilities, open space, economic development and community design. Each chapter identifies and discusses those issues the people of San Gabriel have indicated are most important to them, such as preserving neighborhoods, improving traffic flow and increasing park space. These issues will guide the development of policies, programs and actions to be contained in the new General Plan next year.

Copies of 'Ingredients for Success' are available for review from the Community Development Department at City Hall, 425 South Mission Drive. Read the report and then participate in developing the General Plan when the Planning Commission and City Council hold public hearings in 2003. For more information, please call (626) 308-2806 or log on to [www.sangabrielcity.com](http://www.sangabrielcity.com).

## City Awarded Planning Grant

The City of San Gabriel was recently awarded a \$328,000 planning grant from the California Pollution Control Financing Authority. The funds will allow the City to pay for a specific plan, environmental impact report and environmental mitigation strategies for the Valley Boulevard corridor.

Valley Boulevard is a significant public concern because of traffic, sign control and other issues, yet the recent growth of new businesses along the street is a huge economic engine for the City, providing citizens with a unique opportunity to help shape this important regional thoroughfare as it develops, while protecting the quality of life on adjoining residential streets.

The grant program encourages the City to employ environmentally sustainable approaches to planning and development that improve air quality, utilize new technologies, link transportation and land use and make other improvements.

The planning grant is the largest ever received by the City. San Gabriel was one of only nine cities to be funded, beating out more than 100 other communities statewide. It will allow the City to address traffic density, quality of design and economic development.

If you're interested in participating in the planning effort, please contact Deputy City Manager Steve Preston at (626) 308-2806.

## Old Flags Wanted

The Coolidge School Cub Scout Troop 258 is requesting old flags from San Gabriel residents. Your donated flag will be properly retired in efforts to educate the scouts on the etiquette of the American flag. Flags may be dropped off at San Gabriel fire stations during the last week of February. Please feel free to include the history of your flag — it will be mentioned in the ceremony.

The troop is also celebrating its 50th-year anniversary. For further information on the Blue and Gold luncheon, please contact Cub Master Michael Pulciano, at (626) 458-9928.



## San Gabriel Celebrates 90 Years

San Gabriel is turning 90! Don't miss the annual street festival and carnival as San Gabriel celebrates 90 years of incorporation. This family event, co-sponsored by the San Gabriel Chamber of Commerce and the City of San Gabriel, takes place Friday through Sunday, April 25, 26 and 27.

The Civic Auditorium parking lot will again be transformed into a giant carnival complete with rides and games, and Mission Drive will abound with displays from local businesses, food booths, crafts and artwork by local artisans.

Throughout the weekend, San Gabriel will feature a variety of events to satisfy every music, art and culture-lover. Join us center stage for a wide range of entertainment. From Ballet Folklorico to baton twirling, local performing groups will 'wow' you with their outstanding talent during the afternoon. In the evening, professional bands will have you dancing in the aisles as they perform a wide variety of music — from Latin groove to the ever-popular rock 'n' roll.

Visit Grapevine Park for the San Gabriel Fine Arts Association's Annual Art Show on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Historical Association Museum will also be open to visitors between 12 p.m. and 6 p.m. on both Saturday and Sunday.

The festivities continue on Sunday afternoon with the presentation of the 2003 Outstanding Older American Award and free birthday cake for everyone to celebrate the City's 90th birthday. Bring the whole family for this three-day, fun-filled festival that offers a hometown community experience.

San Gabriel's rich historical background is reflected in the Mission District, creating an ideal setting where people can join with family, friends and neighbors to meet and enjoy community life. Be sure to stop by the City of San Gabriel booth to say hello and learn about upcoming community programs and events.

Interested in booth space or need additional information? Please call the Chamber of Commerce at 576-2525.



## City Searching for Super Senior

The City of San Gabriel, in conjunction with the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, is sponsoring an Older American Recognition Day. The Parks and Recreation Department is asking for public input in the search for San Gabriel's Outstanding Older American.

The program is designed to seek out and honor older people who, after retirement, are still actively involved in serving others in the community. The purpose of the award is to encourage retired persons to remain active in mainstream community life. The criteria for the Outstanding Older American are:

★ **Man or woman, age 60 or older**

Nominee may not have previously received the award. Former award winners are: Ray Meyers (1980), Mary Dean (1981), William Loggins (1982), Modesta Dominguez (1983), Ralph Fulmer (1984), Rhoda Heeb (1985), Mary Ruth Hayes (1986), Vincent Lugo (1987), Fred Morales (1988), Mike Falabrino (1989), Edward Lara (1990), Bill Bauld (1991), Daniel Dominguez (1992), Carmelita Mata (1993), Helen Kennedy (1994), Marian Brittingham (1995), Lynn Backus (1996), Marie Lopez (1997), Sarah Duncan (1998), Geri Reece (1999), Al Baker (2000), Carl Bonenberger (2001) and Ellie Andrews (2002).

★ **Must have performed outstanding volunteer service for the San Gabriel community**

Nominations will be accepted through February 28. Please include name, age, address, telephone number and a typed or printed narrative description of the volunteer activities.

Send all information to: Older American Award, 250 South Mission Drive, San Gabriel, CA 91776. For additional information, call the Parks and Recreation Office at (626) 308-2875. The deadline for applications is Friday, February 28.

## Official City Flags to Wave

New City flags are now flying alongside the American flag! The City of San Gabriel adopted a city flag design many years ago; however, the flag has never flown over City buildings. That has finally changed. City flags featuring San Gabriel's colors (red, green and gold) and the City seal have been purchased for City flagpoles and are displayed in the City Hall Council Chamber.

Also, as a tribute to our public-safety personnel and in recognition of September 11th, Police Chief David Lawton and Fire Chief Joseph Nestor were presented with a City flag at an October Council Meeting.



## City Tests Emergency Readiness

On November 14, the City of San Gabriel joined Los Angeles County and several other area cities in a disaster exercise called 'Operation Critical Response.' The scenario in San

Gabriel revolved around an explosion in the Radiology Department of the San Gabriel Medical Center. When it was reported that other explosions had occurred throughout the county and that a suspicious person was seen running from the area, responders suspected terrorism.

A group of City employees called the 'Scenario Group' created 'problems' for the various groups in the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), which included Fire and Police Operations, Planning, Logistics, Public Information, Finance and Policy.

The San Gabriel Medical Center also had a representative at the exercise who provided valuable insight into the Medical Center's operations and needs. The problems created by the scenario group were designed to overwhelm the system.

As part of the drill, the City's Emergency Plan was implemented. The plan is based on the State of California's 'Standardized Emergency Management Plan,' which sets up an Incident Command structure and requires an Incident Action Plan. Implementing the Emergency Plan not only helps manage the emergency, it also works as a communication tool in the EOC. City staff work together as an emergency management team to solve problems, acquire additional resources, put forth a plan of action and keep track of emergency events and resources.

There were many positive comments during the critique, which took place immediately after the exercise. There was also some very constructive input on how to improve operations.

## Kid's Korner Gets Books From Rotary Club



**Don Decker, president, San Gabriel Rotary Club; Alice Wong, Reading Projects chair, San Gabriel Rotary Club; Maria Yap, manager, San Gabriel Public Library; and Sharon Goldberg, librarian, San Gabriel Public Library, participate in the book-donation ceremony.**

Each time the San Gabriel Rotary Club has a speaker at their weekly meeting, the San Gabriel Public Library receives a hardcover book for their 'Kid's Korner' reading program.

"This is a wonderful way for our Rotary Club to contribute to our community," said Alice Wong, reading projects chair for the club. "It's a fun way to make a lasting impact for educating our kids."

Library Manager Maria Yap said that the idea of donating a book to the

Library is a terrific way to build the library's collection of children's books. Yap said in addition to the gift of a book

each week, the library receives a 'bonus' of about 30 books from the Rotary Club. The books are given in honor of each week's speaker at the San Gabriel Rotary Club.

"It would be great if other organizations would use the book-giving idea as well," Yap said. "Our children are eager to learn. The more books that are available, the stronger readers and better students our kids become."

## City, School District Share Unique Connection

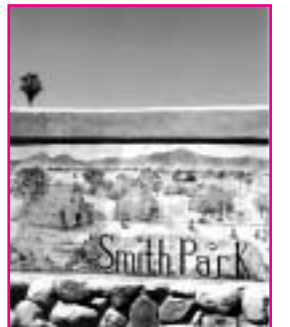
The City of San Gabriel and the San Gabriel Unified School District have a unique connection. While each has a distinct focus, they are both committed to providing service to the community, which is manifested in a variety of ways — from the School District's exceptional curricular standards and their newly established Family Resource Center to the City's extensive recreational programs and unparalleled public safety. However, neither entity would be capable of providing such a high level of service to the community without the support of the other.

One of the most obvious examples of partnership between the City and the School District is facilities sharing. The Parks and Recreation Department holds after-school sports and summer programs on almost all of the District's campuses — a program that helps provide a safe and positive environment for San Gabriel youth.

Parks and Recreation also utilizes the school tennis courts and fields for the Department's recreation classes and various community-wide special events. In return, the City maintains many of the District's outdoor facilities and works to keep them in good condition for both school and public use.

The School District utilizes Smith Park Pool each afternoon for the Gabrielino High School swim program. The District also uses the Civic Auditorium for the Gabrielino graduation each June and at various times throughout the year for performing arts productions.

As the City and the School District aim to provide enhanced and improved services to the community, the collaboration between the two entities becomes even more essential. It is this unique partnership that has made San Gabriel the community that it is today.



# City & School Board Meetings

## SAN GABRIEL CITY COUNCIL

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

## SAN GABRIEL BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

## PLANNING COMMISSION

2ND MONDAY  
7:30 P.M., COUNCIL CHAMBERS

## PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

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

## DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION

4TH MONDAY  
7:30 P.M., COUNCIL CHAMBERS

# Employee Achievement Awards

The City of San Gabriel's employees are all dedicated to serving the community, so selecting the winners of the 2002 Employee Achievement Awards Program is a challenging task. Nonetheless, a number of employees were honored in December for their outstanding efforts. Congratulations to the following winners:

### Overall Work Performance

*John Tuosto*  
San Gabriel Police Department

### Customer Service

*Nina Nevarez*  
Administration/City Clerk

### Leadership

*Derrick Doehler*  
San Gabriel Fire Department

### Innovation

*Community Development Department*  
Steve Preston, Mark Gallatin, Rita Estrada  
John Velasquez, Erlinda Romo, Lucita Tong  
Scott Reimers, Brenda Mulhern

### Teamwork

*San Gabriel Civic Auditorium*  
Bill Shaw, Josh Fairman, Richard Godinez  
Paul Jacobs, Joseph Leach  
Steve Wilkinson



## Calling All Senior Volunteers!

The San Gabriel Police Department is actively recruiting qualified residents for positions as a 'Retired Senior Volunteer.' Men and women volunteers hold non-compensated positions that provide valuable support to the Police Department staff.

The department's senior volunteer program assists in building community confidence and awareness in law enforcement. Typical duties include patrolling in a marked City vehicle, writing parking citations and directing traffic, assisting with crime-scene investigations, assisting in crime resistance and reduction programs, typing and data entry and answering telephones.

Once accepted in the program, applicants are asked to volunteer a minimum of 16 hours per month, and are required to attend an orientation class and complete in-house and field training conducted by department personnel.

Interested applicants must be at least 55 (no maximum age limit), and in good health to apply. Each applicant will be asked to fill out an application, be fingerprinted and sign a release form so a background investigation can be completed. Applicants will participate in an interview/oral board process that will be conducted by members of the police department.

Interested persons should contact Lieutenant Ed Hachè at (626) 308-2840 or e-mail him at eh019@sfgpd.com. Applications are also accepted at the Police Department, 625 South Del Mar Avenue.

## Understanding Wireless 911

Most cell-phone callers probably don't realize that when they call 9-1-1, the California Highway Patrol (CHP) answers their call. Once received by the CHP, the dispatcher communicates with the caller to determine the caller's location. The system is becoming increasingly overloaded — by 2005, more than 100 million wireless 9-1-1 calls will be placed.

The City of San Gabriel is now working with the State Department of General Services to improve wireless 9-1-1 services, which includes recent participation in a pilot project. The San Gabriel Police Department will soon be able to answer wireless 9-1-1 calls from cell sites located in the City, allowing public-safety personnel to better and faster serve the community.

For more information on wireless 9-1-1 developments, please call (626) 308-2830.

## School Resource Officer Helps Serve Our Students



**SRO Richard Flores**

Last year, the San Gabriel Police Department, in conjunction with the San Gabriel Unified School District, instituted the School Resource Officer (SRO) position. The SRO is a veteran sworn police officer and an active associate of the school district.

Currently, the SRO is assigned full-time to Gabrielino High School and Jefferson Middle School, serving the needs of the students, faculty and acting as a liaison between the school district and the Police Department. A four-person panel consisting of school district officials and officials from the Police Department select the SRO. The funding for the position is shared jointly between the Police Department and the school district.

The SRO's duties include serving as an instructor, counselor and role model, as well as an advocate for students, families, faculty and staff. The SRO handles all criminal incidents, which occur or are related to the school campus environment. The SRO participates in parent and faculty meetings and serves on the district's School Attendance Review Board and other school related projects.

The SRO presence demonstrates the Police Department and the school district's commitment to students.

In the classroom the SRO serves as a guest speaker and discusses topics like the history of law enforcement, employment as a law enforcement official, search and seizure, constitutional rights, criminal law and drug awareness.

The ultimate goal of the SRO program is to maintain and improve the safety of the learning environment in our schools through reduction and prevention of school violence and drug abuse. The SRO is required to be in full police uniform and armed while in the performance of his duties.

Although under the direct supervision of the San Gabriel Police Department, he is considered a member of the school faculty and works closely with the principal and other school officials.

# shortTAKES

## Del Mar Bridge Improvements

The City has received funding through the HBRR Program. The Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (LACDPW) is administering the project on behalf of the City, and the LACDPW-Bridge Division is preparing design plans. The original concept was to repair and widen the structure and approximately \$3.25 million was made available that includes the City's matching portion. It appears the structure may have to be replaced, which could raise the total construction costs to over \$5 million. This would require City matching funds of more than \$1 million.

Del Mar is a major link to the I-10 Freeway. It is a major transit route, truck route and serves a heavily used Park-and-Ride Facility. Widening the bridge structure will provide for increased vehicle carrying capacity and will improve pedestrian safety as well.

## New Codes Adopted

On September 15, 2002, the San Gabriel City Council adopted an ordinance approving the new Uniform Building Codes for the City of San Gabriel. Last year, the State of California readopted the 1997 Uniform Building Code and added state title amendments.

The City had six months to amend the codes to their specifications, and to have the City Council approve and adopt the new codes. The new amendments approved by the City Council were created from a regional coalition of cities in the greater Los Angeles metropolitan area. The Los Angeles Regional Uniform Code Program consolidates amendments from 89 participating jurisdictions.

The compilation of amendments were then rewritten and approved by a regional board. The approved amendments were then presented to each governing body (city council) for review and adoption. Three years ago, the San Gabriel City Council also established a security ordinance to combat crime in commercial and residential areas. No changes have been made, and the City Council readopted it so the Police Department can continue its ongoing efforts to keep the community safe.

## Driving Safely in Rainy Weather

The rainy season is now here so it's important to pay even more attention when you're behind the wheel. Most accidents are preventable if motorists pay extra attention to road and weather conditions.

The San Gabriel Police Department recommends slowing down, allowing extra following distance, avoiding curbside lanes where water collects, keeping informed of reports of flooding and accidents, and checking your vehicle's vital functions more frequently.

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Chamber Mixer  
Asian Pacific National Bank  
333 West Valley Boulevard  
5:30-7:30 p.m.

## WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19

Chamber Mixer  
Mission Lodge Alzheimer/Dementia Center  
824 South Gladys Avenue  
5:30-7:30 p.m.

## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16

Chamber Mixer  
Family Counseling Center  
314 East Mission Road  
5:30-7:30 p.m.



*Civilian volunteer Jack Vrtar assists with fingerprinting at the recent Community Safety Expo.*

## The San Gabriel Grapevine

### SAN GABRIEL CITY COUNCIL

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David Gutierrez, Vice Mayor  
Harry Baldwin, Councilmember  
Mary Cammarano, Councilmember  
Sabino Cici, Councilmember

P. Michael Paules, City Manager  
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Cindy York, Photographer

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



City of  
**San Gabriel**  
www.sangabrielcity.com