



# City Administrator's Report

April 2007

Dear Reader,

*Each month, this report from the City Administrator's Office provides a brief summary and update of major activities, events, projects, and programs that impact the Santa Barbara community. Feel free to send me your comments and suggestions.*

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**Beginning with the May edition, the City Administrator's Monthly Report will NOT BE PRINTED as part of our Sustainable Santa Barbara Program. This edition will be the last hard copy, but you can subscribe to an online version. The following link will take you to the log-in page on the City website, where you can subscribe.**

**[http://www.santabarbaraca.gov/Government/E-Subscription/Esub\\_Userlogin.htm](http://www.santabarbaraca.gov/Government/E-Subscription/Esub_Userlogin.htm)**

If you have any questions, please contact Linda Gunther at (805) 564-5305.

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Click on any item in the Table of Contents below:

<a href="#">Key Meetings</a>	<a href="#">2</a>
<a href="#">Community Events</a>	<a href="#">2</a>
<a href="#">Flags on State Street</a>	<a href="#">3</a>
<a href="#">City Administrator</a>	<a href="#">3</a>
<a href="#">Watch April Episode of Inside Santa Barbara on City TV Channel 18.</a>	<a href="#">3</a>
<a href="#">Administrative Services</a>	<a href="#">4</a>
<a href="#">New Help Desk Work Order Tracking System installed.</a>	<a href="#">4</a>
<a href="#">WorkStream Program (Phase I)</a>	<a href="#">4</a>
<a href="#">New "Green" Technology in Human Resources.</a>	<a href="#">4</a>
<a href="#">Airport</a>	<a href="#">5</a>
<a href="#">Hangar Ground Water Surfacing</a>	<a href="#">5</a>
<a href="#">15 Acre Mixed-Use Site Development.</a>	<a href="#">5</a>
<a href="#">Airport Director Testifies Before House Aviation Subcommittee.</a>	<a href="#">5</a>
<a href="#">Airline Terminal Project Public Outreach Program Update.</a>	<a href="#">5</a>
<a href="#">Community Development Department</a>	<a href="#">6</a>
<a href="#">New Location for Rental Housing Mediation Task Force</a>	<a href="#">6</a>
<a href="#">East Cabrillo Boulevard Sidewalk Replacement Receives Preliminary Approval</a>	<a href="#">6</a>
<a href="#">Finance Department</a>	<a href="#">7</a>
<a href="#">Sales Tax Revenue Grows 1.5%</a>	<a href="#">7</a>

February Transient Occupancy Tax Grows 2.7%.....7  
 Budget Work Sessions Scheduled .....8  
 Fire Department .....8  
     Evacuation Drill .....8  
     Fire Department 125th Anniversary Celebration .....8  
 Library Department.....8  
     Eastside Library “adopted” by Junior League of Santa Barbara. ....8  
     Santa Barbara Reads and Community Conversations .....9  
 Parks and Recreation Department .....10  
     Twelve35 Teen Center Now Open .....10  
     Volunteer Coaches and Officials Needed .....10  
     Free Nutrition Education Classes for Seniors .....10  
     Testing for Beach and Pool Lifeguards Scheduled this Month .....10  
     Annual Tennis Permits Available.....11  
 Police Department .....11  
     Gang Homicide, Nine in Custody.....11  
     Bank Error Not in Your Favor.....11  
     Second Verse, Same as the First.....11  
 Public Works Department .....12  
     Rebates for Businesses.....12  
     Green Gardener Certification Program .....12  
     Carrillo Recreation Center Renovation .....12  
     Sewer Main Improvement Project.....12  
     Coronel Street Improvements .....12  
     Earth Day Community Clean-Up & Tree Planting on the Westside .....13  
     It's time for spring cleaning.....13  
 Waterfront Department.....13  
     Santa Barbara Maritime Museum’s 6th Annual Sea Festival. ....13  
     Mother Stearns Candy Company Sweetens Interior.....13

**Key Meetings**

April 10, 17, & 24: **City Council Meetings**, City Hall Council Chambers, 735 Anacapa Street, 2 p.m.

**Community Events**

April 8: **Eggstravaganza**, Chase Palm Park, 10 a.m. For more information, call 564-5495.

April 21 & 22: **6th Annual Sea Festival**, Santa Barbara Harbor, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call (805) 962-8404 or visit [www.sbmm.org](http://www.sbmm.org)

April 22: **Wheels & Waves Car Show**, Downtown. For more information, call 683-3869 or visit [www.wheelsandwaves.com](http://www.wheelsandwaves.com).

April 22: **Earth Day**, Santa Barbara County Courthouse Sunken Gardens, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. For more information, call (805) 963-0583 or visit [www.communityenvironmentalcouncil.org/Events/Earthday/](http://www.communityenvironmentalcouncil.org/Events/Earthday/)

April 25 – 29: **Santa Barbara Fair & Expo**, Earl Warren Showgrounds. For more information, call 687-0766 or visit [www.earlwarren.com](http://www.earlwarren.com)

April 28 **Riviera Neighborhood Evacuation Drill**. For more information, visit <http://www.santabarbaraca.gov/Government/Departments/Fire/City+of+Santa+Barbara+OES+Main.htm>

April 28 **Eastside Library Renovation Unveiling**, Eastside Branch Library, 9 a.m. to Noon. For more information, call (805) 963-3727.

**Flags on State Street:** [www.santabarbaradowntown.com](http://www.santabarbaradowntown.com)

- March 30 - April 9 Child Abuse Listening & Mediation (CALM)
- April 9 - April 18 Rape Crisis Center-Sexual Assault Awareness Month
- April 18 – April 23 Community Environmental Council (CEC) -Earth Day
- April 23 – May 4 Girls, Inc.

**City Administrator**

**Watch April Episode of Inside Santa Barbara on City TV Channel 18.** City TV has been working hard on another episode of *Inside Santa Barbara*, a monthly newsmagazine show that informs citizens about City issues, events, and projects. In the April episode, City TV covers the City's Emergency Preparedness Plans, the South Coast Energy Partnership, Green Building Policy/Architecture 2030, the City's newest Poet Laureate, Teen Center Grand Opening, and the Light Blue Line Exhibit. This edition of *Inside Santa Barbara* will premiere on Monday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at 8 p.m. on City TV Channel 18. It is replayed each week on Monday at 8:00 p.m., Tuesday at 5:00 p.m., Wednesday at 6:30 p.m., Saturday at 9:00 p.m. and Sunday at 10:30 p.m. A new episode airs the beginning of each month. You can also watch this episode and past episodes on [www.citytv18.com](http://www.citytv18.com).

## Administrative Services

***New Help Desk Work Order Tracking System installed.*** Information Systems is proud to announce a new Help Desk Work Order tracking system called “Track-It.” The system became operational on March 19<sup>th</sup>. This web-based internal support application allows for Help Desk staff to enter support call information, transfer work orders, annotate progress and status, and group calls by user or hardware serial number much easier than in the past. One feature of this is that the requestor is notified of the work order number for possible inquiry and follow-thru. IS is thrilled with this new infrastructure support tool. In the future, the plan is to migrate the Computer Inventory from Financial Management System (FMS) to it because of its automatic auditing tools and will open it up to user submission of requests via the web instead of having to call or email IS for support. Stay tuned for more announcements on this important new tool.

***WorkStream Program (Phase I).*** Last October, the City Clerk's Office, in concert with the Information Systems Division, began working on the implementation of the WorkStream Program. WorkStream is a module of the City's current agenda management system that allows staff to route, review and approve Council Agenda Reports within an electronic workflow project. The system offers great benefits as it provides immediate access to reports once submitted into the system. Users will have the ability to view the current status and location of a report at any given point during the routing process. The program will eliminate the need for staff to hand deliver reports to different City facilities. The program will also assist the City in its sustainability efforts by reducing the amount of paper being used. Implementation of Phase I of the Program is anticipated to be effective with the May 8, 2007, City Council Meeting, with participants consisting of the City Administrator's Office, City Attorney's Office, Finance Department, City Clerk's Division and each department's Primary Agenda Coordinator. Phase II of the WorkStream Program will consist of all City department staff participating in the Council Agenda Report process. Training for Phase II participants is slated to begin in late May.

***New “Green” Technology in Human Resources.*** Human Resources staff are excited about transitioning to an online employment / hiring center. This new online center will enhance the recruitment, selection and application tracking process, and aid sustainability by reducing paper. As of March 31<sup>st</sup>, applicants can create job interest cards, store and update employment information, apply online for job opportunities and check the status of applications, as well as access the City's job announcements and job descriptions, including salary information. Departments will submit online requisitions (Green Sheets) and receive electronic certification lists, applications, and resumes. Our goal is to provide detailed information and training for Department users in April. The OHC's (Online Hiring Center) will enhance customer service to both applicants and to all City departments.

## Airport

**Hangar Ground Water Surfacing.** Penfield & Smith is designing a hybrid French/trench drain with dewatering scheme to alleviate the surface water on the ramp and adjacent hangar just south of the Airline Terminal. Padre & Associates has tested the surface water to determine that it is not tidal generated, does not contain constituents of potable, reclaimed, or waste water. Groundwater monitoring wells have been installed to determine flow gradient and direction in the vicinity in order to design a dewatering plan for the area. A Summary of Field Activities Report as well as a draft Technical Alternatives for Mitigation of Groundwater Seepage Report have been issued and are under review by Airport staff. One dewatering well at the site continues to pump full time. A purchase order for approximately \$250,000 will be issued to a successful bidder later this month.

**15 Acre Mixed-Use Site Development.** Following City Council's direction to staff to proceed with lease negotiations with Sares-Regis Group based on their proposal to construct up to twenty buildings for sale as Condominiums or Planned Unit Development consistent with the Airport Specific Plan and the Airport Zoning for the parcel, staff has held to negotiation sessions. Last month staff met with Sares-Regis' development team members, discussed the City's development plan process, and began review of the escrow terms for the agreement and basic ground lease economic terms for the project. Negotiations will continue with scheduled bi-monthly meetings.

**Airport Director Testifies Before House Aviation Subcommittee.** Karen Ramsdell was invited by the U.S. House of Representatives' Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure to testify on March 28th before the Aviation Subcommittee regarding the Federal Aviation Administration's proposal for the Airport Improvement Program. She provided oral testimony and a written statement at the hearing regarding the specific challenges at Santa Barbara and how added resources from Passenger Facility Charge fees and Airport Improvement Program grants are critical for small-hub airports to fund capital projects. Other airport directors from medium and large hub airports, State Aviation Associations and the National Association of Counties, in addition to the presidents of the American Association of Airport Executives and Airports Council International also presented testimony.

**Airline Terminal Project Public Outreach Program Update.** A Public Workshop was held on March 28<sup>th</sup> at the Airport Visitors Center that provided an opportunity for community members to informally view displays of the Project's schematic design and overall site plans. Assistant Airport Director Hazel Johns gave a brief presentation on the Project's background and progress to date. While design team Project Manager Joe Grogan from the airport architecture and engineering firm HNTB and local architect team member Fred Sweeney, from Phillips Metsch Sweeney Moore presented the schematic design of the Airline Terminal Project.

Later this month enhanced online information about the Project will be available on the Airport's website [flysba.com](http://flysba.com). And an informational Project Guide will be distributed in May as a newspaper insert as well as a downloadable document from the website.

## Community Development Department

***New Location for Rental Housing Mediation Task Force.*** We are very pleased to announce that as of March 1, 2007, the Rental Housing Mediation Task Force (RHMTF) Program was moved from the Westside Community Center to the Community Development Department, located on the second floor at 630 Garden Street. The program is part of the City's Housing and Redevelopment Division of the Community Development Department. The RHMTF assists residential tenants and landlords in the City of Santa Barbara, City of Goleta and the Unincorporated Areas of Santa Barbara County with the resolution of rental housing disputes. The RHMTF provides information regarding rights and responsibilities, and offers mediation services as a method of resolving disputes out of court. The benefits of using mediation instead of going to court are: 1. Offers a triple win to the tenant, landlord and the community; 2. Parties devise their own terms of agreement; 3. Free service to program participants; 4. Confidential process; 5. Agreements can be binding and enforceable in a court of law; and 6. Professional and friendly setting.

This move will enhance services to tenants and landlords by providing a great location, clerical support and an improved telephone system. If you know someone who has a tenant/landlord dispute, please refer them to Andrea Bifano, Senior Rental Housing Mediation Specialist at 730-1523.

***East Cabrillo Boulevard Sidewalk Replacement Receives Preliminary Approval.*** Constructed in 1928, the East Cabrillo Boulevard sidewalk (beach side) has weathered eight decades of service and is in need of repair. Initially envisioned to be replaced in-kind with some landscaping enhancement, it soon became apparent that some alterations would be more appropriate than simply rejuvenating the original design.

On March 21, 2007, the East Cabrillo Boulevard Sidewalk Replacement Project received Preliminary Approval from the Historic Landmarks Commission (HLC). This is a tremendous step forward in what has been a two year design process. Concerns for aesthetics, landscape maintenance, function within the contemporary community and historic preservation have all contributed to the balance achieved in the preliminary design.

Preliminary plans, accompanied by a Historic Property Clearance Report will be forwarded to the State Office of Historic Preservation for their review of this state-level historic district. If deemed acceptable, the project would return to the HLC for Final Approval in late spring, with construction beginning in late September, or possibly postponed until January 2008.

Funding for the project comes from the Redevelopment Agency with \$3,000,000 allocated for design and construction.

**Finance Department**

**Sales Tax Revenue Grows 1.5%:** Revenue for the quarter ended December 31, 2006 grew 1.5% over the same quarter of the prior year. Year-to-date growth through the first two quarters stands at 1.4%. This is considerably below the 4.5% growth projected for the fiscal year. The slow growth of sales tax revenue is definitely a concern as staff prepares the Two-Year Financial Plan for fiscal years 2008 and 2009. Unless we see higher growth over the final two quarters, we will likely end this fiscal year as much as \$500,000 below initial year-end projections.

City of Santa Barbara SALES TAX								
Quarter Ended	FY 2004	Change from Prior Year	FY 2005	Change from Prior Year	FY 2006	Change from Prior Year	FY 2007	Change from Prior Year
Sept 30	4,536,571	-0.4%	4,512,083	-0.5%	5,164,138	14.5%	5,234,636	1.4%
Dec 31	4,765,855	4.8%	4,946,706	3.8%	5,034,371	1.8%	5,109,598	1.5%
Mar 31	4,289,056	6.8%	4,367,907	1.8%	4,367,052	0.0%		
June 30	4,621,598	5.7%	4,793,216	3.7%	5,027,168	4.9%		
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 18,213,080</b>	<b>4.1%</b>	<b>\$ 18,619,912</b>	<b>2.2%</b>	<b>\$ 19,592,729</b>	<b>5.2%</b>	<b>\$ 10,344,234</b>	<b>1.4%</b>

**February Transient Occupancy Tax Grows 2.7%:** This is the third consecutive month of "slow or no" growth in TOT. Fiscal year-to-date growth is now 5.9% through 8 months of the fiscal year.

City of Santa Barbara TRANSIENT OCCUPANCY TAXES								
Month	FY 2004	Change from Prior Year	FY 2005	Change from Prior Year	FY 2006	Change from Prior Year	FY 2007	Change from Prior Year
July	\$ 1,198,952	1.3%	\$ 1,301,652	8.6%	\$ 1,477,789	13.5%	\$ 1,571,320	6.3%
Aug	1,349,990	1.6%	1,357,717	0.6%	1,504,589	10.8%	1,591,998	5.8%
Sept	887,095	4.5%	931,244	5.0%	1,109,428	19.1%	1,196,533	7.9%
Oct	863,919	4.1%	914,718	5.9%	963,261	5.3%	1,051,043	9.1%
Nov	696,742	1.7%	721,982	3.6%	809,684	12.1%	887,047	9.6%
Dec	553,094	4.4%	575,075	4.0%	671,965	16.8%	669,540	-0.4%
Jan	584,653	0.2%	606,484	3.7%	661,507	9.1%	677,428	2.4%
Feb	703,493	14.1%	699,349	-0.6%	738,532	5.6%	758,731	2.7%
Mar	782,652	11.0%	872,554	11.5%	855,597	-1.9%		
April	875,760	10.4%	941,281	7.5%	1,000,696	6.3%		
May	895,378	9.6%	1,001,450	11.8%	1,015,349	1.4%		
June	973,955	3.3%	1,157,985	18.9%	1,223,974	5.7%		<b>YTD</b>
<b>FY Total</b>	<b>\$ 10,365,683</b>	<b>5.1%</b>	<b>\$ 11,081,490</b>	<b>6.9%</b>	<b>\$ 12,032,372</b>	<b>8.6%</b>	<b>\$ 8,403,640</b>	<b>5.9%</b>
<b>Budget</b>	<b>\$ 10,273,900</b>		<b>\$ 10,684,900</b>		<b>\$ 11,504,200</b>		<b>\$ 12,630,600</b>	

Includes only the 10% unrestricted TOT revenues. Beginning in January 2001, an additional 2% is credited to Creeks/Clean Water (Measure B).

**Budget Work Sessions Scheduled.** The City Administrator's Recommended Two-Year Financial Plan for fiscal years 2008 and 2009 will be filed with the City Council on April 24<sup>th</sup>. Five City Council budget work sessions and public hearings have been scheduled. The dates and times of the work sessions (and public hearings) are as follows:

Date	Time
Monday, April 30th	6:00 PM
Monday, May 7th	1:00 PM
Thursday, May 31st	1:00 PM
Monday, June 4th	6:00 PM
Thursday, June 7th	9:00 AM

All of the work sessions will be held in the Council Chambers in City Hall.

## Fire Department

**Evacuation Drill.** The City of Santa Barbara Fire Department and the Office of Emergency Services in conjunction with The Riviera Association and the Fire Safe Council will be conducting an evacuation drill in the Riviera area on the morning of Saturday, April 28, 2007.

The purpose of the drill is to educate residents in the Riviera area on wildland fire preparedness and evacuation. The drill scenario is based on a wind-driven wildfire sweeping down from the area above the Riviera.

Riviera area residents have been mailed detailed information about the drill, including maps of evacuation routes and traffic control points. On the day of the drill, law enforcement agencies will be patrolling the area as a security precaution, and will also assist in directing vehicles.

This evacuation drill will give residents and emergency service providers a realistic view of the potential impacts an evacuation could have in the neighborhood.

**Fire Department 125th Anniversary Celebration.** This year represents 125 years of continuous fire service in the City of Santa Barbara! In honor of that, we are having a party! Join us in De La Guerra Plaza on Saturday, May 12th between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. We will have hot dogs, popcorn and cake as well as a bounce house and old fashioned fun and games for the children. Look for more information in the weeks to come!

## Library Department

**Eastside Library "adopted" by Junior League of Santa Barbara.** The Junior League of Santa Barbara is partnering with the Santa Barbara Public Library to create "A Happy Place for Kids" at the Eastside Library. In an effort to promote literacy among youth, the Junior League

volunteered to renovate the children's areas of the Eastside library and create a comfortable and kid-friendly learning environment. To support those efforts they are raising funds through donations and fundraising events. The members themselves spent time at the library tearing out old carpeting, taking down cork board, repairing chairs, and preparing for new paint and carpet installation.

The Eastside Library hosts class visits, art classes and educational programs. The library offers Spanish and English reading sessions and regularly sees 40 or more children at these events. A portion of the funds raised by the Junior League of Santa Barbara will be used to buy new books and other materials for the children's collection.

The Junior League of Santa Barbara is dedicated to working with organizations to promote literacy among youth and improve the community through effective leadership. Revitalizing the children's area of the Eastside library will result in a positive change in our community. The public is invited to the unveiling of the renovation on April 28<sup>th</sup>, from 9 am until noon, and to join in celebrating A Happy Place for Kids.

***Santa Barbara Reads and Community Conversations.*** The Library System is currently in the middle of two Santa Barbara Reads programs, both involving partnerships with other community organizations. *Island of the Blue Dolphins* is family-and youth-oriented, and is part of a larger community-wide array of exhibits, performances, lectures and educational activities based on the book by Scott O'Dell, and the history of the Channel Islands. All branches of the Santa Barbara Library System are holding events including craft-making sessions, art projects, book discussions, photography artifact displays, and guest speakers.

In March there were family book discussions at the Eastside, Carpinteria, Solvang and Montecito libraries. A presentation of "New Discoveries Regarding the Lone Woman of San Nicolas Island" by Dr. John R. Johnson of the Museum of Natural History was enjoyed by 35 people at the Goleta Library. A book discussion with an art project at the Central library had 36 participants--during the lively discussion, several of the students voiced their approval of the Indian girl's environmental concern about the destruction of the sea otters by the hunters who came from the Aleutians. Washington and Adams elementary schools have made class visits to the Central Library, and the classes at Cesar Chavez School have created artwork based on *Island of the Blue Dolphins*. Visual presentations, crafts, and book discussions at the libraries will continue through April 18.

The other Reads selection, *Field Notes from a Catastrophe: Man, Nature and Climate Change*, by Elizabeth Kolbert, is collaboration between the Public Library System and the UCSB Davidson Library. The library system has over 150 copies available for checkout (including copies on audio CD); the UCSB Library distributed 3,000 copies of the book to students, and is arranging for professors to hold panel discussions in the public libraries. These "Community Conversations" are planned as informal discussions of the science behind global warming and climate change and their effects, and of the book. They allow skeptics and curious readers to ask questions of scientists and others who are involved in the study of global warming, and to clarify and debate the issues.

The first "Community Conversation" was held at the Montecito Library on March 14, and drew 39 people. Eleven of them were students from Santa Barbara High School's Green Academy, whose teacher has assigned the book as required reading and gives extra credit to students who attend the Library discussions. In addition to three UCSB professors, the president of the

board of the Community Environmental Council, Ivor John, was on the panel. Four more “Community Conversations” are planned in April. Mayor Marty Blum will be the community representative at the April 17 event at the Faulkner Gallery.

## Parks and Recreation Department

***Parks and Recreation Partners to Hold 2007 Youth Summit.*** The City’s Parks and Recreation Department along with 35 other agencies serving youth including the newly-formed Assets for Santa Barbara Youth Coalition and the lead agency, the Channel Islands YMCA, will sponsor the 2007 Youth Summit at the Santa Barbara Courthouse on Saturday, April 28 from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Santa Barbara Police Chief Cam Sanchez, Mayor Marty Blum and Superintendent of Schools Brian Sarvis are all part of panel addressing the topic “Empowering Youth to Create Change: Anti-Bullying.” Teens aged 13-18 are encouraged to attend and share their opinions. The fee is \$10 and includes lunch. For more information and to reserve a space, call 569-1103, ext. 11, email [Lisa.ThomasMacrum@ciymca.org](mailto:Lisa.ThomasMacrum@ciymca.org) or go to [www.youthoutreachciymca.org](http://www.youthoutreachciymca.org)

***Twelve35 Teen Center Now Open.*** Following two successful Grand Opening celebrations on March 16 and 17, the new Teen Center officially opened to the public on March 20. Average attendance has been 27 teens per day and over 100 teen members have signed up to date. The Center received approximately \$5,000 in donations on Friday’s “Hollywood Dreams” event and has since received an additional \$3,000 towards the Angel Fund established to honor Luis Linares, the 15-year old tragically killed in the gang fight on March 15. Those interested in contributing to either the Angel Fund or the Twelve35 Teen Center should make checks out to the PARC Foundation and send to Teen Programs, 100 E. Carrillo Street, Santa Barbara, CA, 93101. The Center’s hours are Monday through Thursday from 2:30 to 8:30 p.m., Friday 2:30 to 10 p.m. and Saturday 12 noon to 10 p.m. The Center is also available to rent on Sundays and for the hours they are not open. Call 882-1235 for information.

***Volunteer Coaches and Officials Needed.*** Make a difference in the life of a child by becoming a sports coach! The Youth Sports section of Parks and Recreation is recruiting volunteers to serve as coaches and officials for the youth sports program during the school year and summer months. Training is provided. If interested, please call 564-5422.

***Free Nutrition Education Classes for Seniors.*** The Parks and Recreation Department has teamed up with the University of California Cooperative Extension and the Food Stamp Nutrition Education Program to offer free nutrition education classes to seniors at both the Franklin and Westside Community Centers. Classes are taught in bilingual format. Roberta Alderete, Community Representative, teaches at the Westside Center, 423 W. Victoria Street, every third Monday of the month from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. The same classes are taught at the Franklin Neighborhood Center, 1136 E. Montecito Street, every third Tuesday of the month from 2 to 3 p.m. Topics scheduled are: Food Safety--April 17 (Franklin) and April 23 (Westside); Calcium Counts--May 15 (Franklin) and May 21 (Westside); How to Eat Right & Light-- July 16 (Westside) and July 17 (Franklin) For more information, please call Ricardo Venegas at 963-7605.

***Testing for Beach and Pool Lifeguards Scheduled this Month.*** Beach Lifeguard and Jr. Lifeguard instructor testing is scheduled for Saturday, April 14 or 21 at 9:30am at the Cabrillo

Bathhouse, 1118 E. Cabrillo Boulevard. Those interested in being pool guards, swim instructors or Aquacamp counselors can test on Sundays, April 15 and 29 or May 13 and 20 at 8 p.m. at Los Banos Pool, 401 Shoreline Drive. Priority for job places is given to candidates who test at earlier dates. For more information, please call 966-6110.

**Annual Tennis Permits Available.** Annual tennis permits for the year beginning May 1 are available at the Parks and Recreation office, 620 Laguna Street. Annual permit for adults is \$125 or \$100 with Resident Discount and for seniors (60 and over) \$115 or \$92 with Resident Discount. Youth under 18 play for free and students 18 and over with current ID receive a discount. A daily permit for play is \$5 or \$4 with a Resident Discount. The City has 28 tennis courts for public use and offers a wide variety of tennis classes for all ages and abilities in addition to private and custom group lessons. For more tennis information, call 564-5573 or go to [www.sbparksandrecreation.com](http://www.sbparksandrecreation.com)

## Police Department

**Gang Homicide, Nine in Custody.** On March 14<sup>th</sup>, at 1:30 p.m. a large gang fight broke out at State and Carrillo Streets. A 15 year-old gang associate received multiple stab wounds and was pronounced dead at Cottage Hospital. Police quickly detained 25 possible suspects within a few blocks. The process of questioning and verifying statements from these and another twenty witnesses was laborious. However, by evening's end the primary suspect was charged with homicide, four others were arrested for their involvement in the fight, and the suspected murder weapon was recovered. Two days later another three suspects were arrested for their involvement in the fight, and, a week later, yet another was arrested. The ages of the suspects range from 13 to 17 years, with the primary suspect being a mere 14 years-of-age. The total arrest count stands at nine, all members or associates of the same street gang. Details of the circumstances leading up to the fight have not been fully released; however, the motive is described as "planned and premeditated." This case has focused community and public opinion toward addressing the root causes of youth crime, especially gang membership.

**Bank Error Not in Your Favor.** On March 1<sup>st</sup>, detectives arrested a local 45-year-old transient after a bank error mistakenly deposited \$142,000 into his account. The mistake occurred when a Santa Barbara Bank and Trust teller accidentally transposed one digit from another customer's account number. Overjoyed at his good fortune, the suspect withdrew \$17,000 within 30 days to finance a life of luxury, relatively speaking. His stream of good luck ran dry when detectives arrested him at a modestly priced hotel on upper State Street. Upon questioning, the suspect's excuses ranged from the improbable to the unlikely before laying the blame squarely on the bank. He was arrested for grand theft and drug charges.

**Second Verse, Same as the First.** On March 6<sup>th</sup>, at 1:00 a.m., an athletic and highly motivated suspect led police on a 50-minute romp before being taken in custody. The saga began when a 23 year-old transient broke into Cantwell's market at 1533 State Street through the rooftop. The alarm activated as the suspect dropped down to the interior floor. Usually, from the time it takes an alarm company to call police to the time police arrive is several minutes at best. However, this time the odds were stacked on the side of the good guys. Within two minutes the shop owner and two police officers were on-scene. As the owner unlocked the back door for a premise check, the fleet-footed suspect sprinted past the officers, westbound on

Arrellaga Street. The officers gave pursuit but could not catch their quarry before he rounded the corner at Chapala Street, seemingly gone for good. Just then a neighbor poked his head out the door to report rustling noises in his back yard. A police canine followed the suspect's scent through the yard and over a fence. As police closed in, the suspect leapt up from his bushy hiding place and over more fences. Again, all seemed lost except for the able nose of the trusty canine, 'Ignaz.' The suspect was sniffed out of hiding from beneath a low-lying deck. The low-down suspect low-crawled out through a fence opening, back-tracked, and took off running again. This time, three sturdy police officers were in hot pursuit. They quickly cornered the suspect and made an arrest. No one was injured. The suspect was arrested for burglary, resisting arrest, and parole violation. Ironically, the reason the suspect was on parole was for committing a rooftop burglary at Cantwell's a few years ago!

## Public Works Department

**Rebates for Businesses.** The "Save Water, Save a Buck" Rebate Program is available for local business with newly increased rebate amounts for the installation of water-efficient toilets, urinals, and clothes washers. Significantly increased rebates are available to business for a limited time only! For more information go to, [sbwater.org](http://sbwater.org) or call 1-800-215-7559.

**Green Gardener Certification Program.** If resource conservation and pollution prevention are important to you, send your gardener to the Green Gardener training beginning April 11, 2007. A list of certified Green Gardeners and class information is available at [www.greengardener.org](http://www.greengardener.org) or call 564-5460.

**Carrillo Recreation Center Renovation.** Kruger Bensen Ziemer Architects, Inc. has been hired to perform design services for the \$3.5 million renovation of the Carrillo Recreation Center, a busy facility that poses unique challenges. The renovation will include seismic upgrades, handicapped accessibility, and electrical, plumbing, and mechanical systems renovations, with construction scheduled to begin during the second quarter of fiscal year 2008.

**Sewer Main Improvement Project.** The replacement segment of the Sewer Main Improvement Project will be finishing up this month, but the rehabilitation work will continue through June of this year. The rehabilitation process involves a circular sleeve saturated with a liquid thermosetting resin that is hardened within the existing sewer pipe to create a new pipe-within-a-pipe. The \$1.9 million project will rehabilitate or replace 26,000 linear feet of sewer main pipeline, approximately 2% of the total City sewer mains.

**Coronel Street Improvements.** The Coronel Street right-of-way, located between Coronel and Ladera Streets, has been closed to vehicular traffic for many years. Students and their families, who reside in the Lower Westside Neighborhood, extensively use the right-of-way to walk or bike to and from McKinley Elementary School. Utilizing Community Development Block Grant funds, the improvements will include landscaping, lighting, and a pedestrian sidewalk, as well as adding a bicycle path. Construction began March 19, 2007 with a scheduled completion date of April 30, 2007. Access to and from McKinley Elementary School will be maintained throughout the project.

**Earth Day Community Clean-Up & Tree Planting on the Westside.** Looking Good Santa Barbara, Parks and Recreation Department and Marymount School are joining together to celebrate Earth Day through a Westside community clean-up and tree planting project on Saturday, April 21st from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. Twenty-five trees will be provided by the Parks and Recreation Department as part of a Tree Diversity Project. The Tree Diversity Project is a collaboration between the Parks and Recreation Department and the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden to recapture and enhance the diversity of tree species that make up Santa Barbara's urban forest. Trees will be planted on the 1600 & 1700 blocks of Robbins Street and 2000 block of Chino Street. Westside neighbors are encouraged to participate and meet at the intersection of Valerio and Robbins (near Harding School) where they will be provided with equipment for a variety of tasks including tree planting, litter pick-up and graffiti removal in the surrounding Westside neighborhood. For more information, contact Lorraine Cruz Carpenter, Executive Coordinator, at (805) 386-2361; For more information on the Tree Diversity Project, contact Randy Fritz, Parks and Recreation Department at (805) 564-5435; e-mail [rfritz@santabarbaraca.gov](mailto:rfritz@santabarbaraca.gov).

**It's time for spring cleaning.** City Streets Section takes care of removing abandoned furniture, mattresses, appliances, trash and other items from the parkways and sidewalks of City streets. If you notice these in your neighborhoods or anywhere in town, please make a note of the nearest address, and call Streets and we will take care of it. Call Laurie Slight in Streets Dispatch at 564-5413 by 3:30 Monday through Friday.

## Waterfront Department

**Santa Barbara Maritime Museum's 6th Annual Sea Festival.** The era of tall ships comes to life at the 6th Annual Sea Festival with the return of the Spirit of Dana Point, an 18th century 118-foot privateer on Saturday and Sunday, April 21st and 22nd from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dockside and onboard activities feature performers in period costume, an underwater remotely operated vehicle, guided museum tours, crafts, a touch tank, storytelling and more. Tall ship tours are from 10 to 11 a.m. for Maritime Museum members and 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. for visitors. All activities, including tall ship tours, are free with museum admission: \$7 for Adults; \$4 for seniors, students, and youth; \$2 for children ages 1 through 5. Members are admitted free. For more information, visit [www.sbmm.org](http://www.sbmm.org), or call 962-8404 extension 115.

**Mother Stearns Candy Company Sweetens Interior.** After twenty-two years on Stearns Wharf, Mother Stearns Candy has recently updated its old-miner-themed candy store with a sparkling interior renovation. Fresh wall paint, interior signage and self-serve treat bins present mouthwatering fudge selections and updated candy assortments. According to Mother Stearns' owner, customer traffic has increased 55% since the renovation. Additionally, a joint breezeway opening between Mother Stearns and the Devil & Deep Blue Sea provides better customer flow for both stores and into the rear courtyard.