



GALT CONNECTIONS

A City Working For You

Volume 08, Issue 1

January, 2008

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THE CITY OF GALT PROUDLY PRESENTS THE 1ST ANNUAL WINTER BIRD FESTIVAL

Saturday, January 12, 2008

Chabolla Center- 600 Chabolla Ave - Galt

8:00 AM—5:00 PM / 209-366-7220

A CELEBRATION OF BIRDS!

Free Admission

Free Children's Activities All Day

Local Food Vendors & Art and Craft Vendors

Tours to the Cosumnes River Preserve & Guest Speakers

Live Birds of Prey & Crane Culture

Theatre Performance

Tour info—www.ci.galt.ca.us or 209/366-7220



SPECIAL DATES

- **Jan 9th—Rec. Comm. Meeting**
- **Jan 10th—Planning Commission Meeting**
- **Jan 12th—WINTER BIRD FESTIVAL**
- **Jan 15th—City Council Meeting**
- **Feb 5th—City Council Meeting**
- **Feb 13th—Rec. Comm. Meeting**
- **Feb 14th—Planning Commission Meeting**
- **Feb 18th—HOLIDAY, President's Day**
- **Feb 19th—City Council Meeting**

CITY OF GALT BEGINS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIC PLANNING EFFORT. YOUR INPUT IS NEEDED!

The City has hired Chabin Concepts, an economic development consulting firm to create a road map and action plan for Galt to strengthen and diversify our local economy. As part of this process, we need to hear from our community—individuals and businesses—about what you want to see and what you would support.

Do you ever wish you didn't have to leave Galt to meet some of your every day shopping and business needs? As part of the Galt Economic Action Plan, the Chabin team is preparing a retail market study and general business development plan. One of the first steps to improve shopping and business is to hear your *opinions* and *ideas*.

Local residents and business owners are urged to complete the Shopper or the Business Survey to give your input on the future business mix in the community and other issues and opportunities related to growing a healthy economic base. In addition to sharing ideas about opportunities and niches, businesses will also be asked about what would help them to grow and succeed and about their interest in business assistance. Everyone will be asked to share their vision for ways that Galt can create its own unique identity within the region.

Please take a moment to complete the short *on-line* survey. Your responses and e-mail address are 100% confidential. Visit the City of Galt's website *today*: <http://www.ci.galt.ca.us>.

*Click on the Shopper Survey Link or the Business Survey Link and complete the SHORT SURVEY! **Deadline: January 25, 2008.*** If you would prefer a hard copy of the survey, stop by City Hall or call 366-7100.

Financial Smarts After the Holidays

After the holiday season, many financial crimes occur in the retail business related to purchase returns and gift card expenses. These are often generated by dishonest store employees who have access to your financial information. The use of seasonal employees during this time of year creates a more transient work force with access to your credit and personal information. Also, with the explosion of the Internet sales, if you have shopped on-line, your credit information is out there.

After the season is over, and the bills start rolling in, pay close attention to your credit card statements. Look for any questionable transactions. Keep a list of what you spent and compare it to what is on your bank statements. When using gift cards, always verify the card amount with the purchase amount and always make sure you do not see any activity from that gift card on your credit card statement. Employees who load gift cards will sometimes secure another gift card with your credit card number and give you a blank one or use your credit card to re-load dollar amounts.

Hopefully you have kept good post holiday records and will take the time to check your statements. Make your bank aware of any charges that seem suspicious, even ones for small amounts.

PARKS & RECREATION HAPPENINGS

Youth T-Ball, Instructional, and Girls Softball—Registration will be held from January 2–February 8, 2008. Late registration week is February 11– 15, 2008 (\$20.00 late fee).

Adult Men's and Co-ed Spring Softball—Registration will be held from February 1, 2008 – March 21, 2008.

Galt Jr. Warrior Football and Cheer Registration—Registration for “VETERAN” participants from the 2007 Jr. Warrior Football season will be able to sign up on Saturday, January 12, 2008 from 9:00am-1:00pm. All others interested in signing up for the program will be able to do so on Saturday, February 12, 2008.

“NEW” Special Interest Classes— The Parks & Recreation Department is excited to introduce new community programs slated to begin January 2008:



Dog Obedience – Beginning Saturday, January 5, 2008 from 9:00am – 9:50am. This six week program will focus on control and social skills in the pet dog.

Kids “R” It Ballet, Dance, and Tap Dance lessons – Classes will be begin on Friday, January 4, 2008 from 2:30pm–5:30pm. There will be three (3) one hour courses beginning for children at 2 years of age.

Belly Dance Classes—Exercise your body, invigorate your soul and experience the intrigue of far away cultures. Classes will be held on Thursdays beginning January 3, 2008.

Ballroom Dance—Learn the Cha Cha, Merengue, Salsa, Swing, Foxtrot to name a few at the Ballroom Dance Instruction classes to be held monthly beginning January 2008 on Wednesday nights. Private lessons will also be available.



Guitar Instruction is back!!! Classes will begin monthly January 2008 on Wednesdays.

Become an American Citizen with the help of former Stockton City Council Member, Mr. Ted Gonzales. This class is an 11 week course held on Tuesday evenings beginning January 8, 2008

City of Galt's “CERTIFIED FARMERS MARKET” - The City of Galt will have its “own” Certified Farmers Market beginning Sunday, May 11, 2008. The Market will be located at Parking Lot “C” which is north and adjacent to the Galt Burger King. Hours of daily operation will be 8:00am-1:00pm The first six weeks of operation will be on a trial basis to determine if the Market can be self sustaining and will continue past the trial period if deemed successful.

SMUD GRAFFITI HOTLINE—The SMUD graffiti hotline number is (916) 732-6043. Callers must leave the following information:

- ▶ Their name (first and last)
- ▶ Their telephone number (if we have additional questions)
- ▶ Street address, cross streets, and nearest location of transformers, or boxes and they must be the **dark green ones** (all others are directed to the City Code Enforcement group)
- ▶ Some of the calls we retrieve are alignments, paint, graffiti removal, etc.
- ▶ Hotline telephone number again is (916) 732-6043; we retrieve the calls daily three times (morning, mid-day and afternoon)

For more information on all of the programs listed above, please call (209) 366-7180 or check out our website at www.ci.galt.ca.us.

GALT GENERAL PLAN UPDATE 2030 PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT

By the time you receive this newsletter, the Draft Galt General Plan 2030 and associated Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) should be available for public review! The Galt Planning Commission held ten public workshops on the “Workshop Draft” (Rough Draft) General Plan 2030 from August 23, 2007 to November 8, 2007. The purpose of these workshops was to give the public and local public agencies a chance to review a rough draft version of the policy document so that the City could identify problems and fine tune the document before it was officially released for the required public review period. As a result of this workshop series, the Planning Commission made some policy revisions, additions and deletions. The Planning Commission also recommended a few revisions to the Land Use and Circulation Diagrams that form the basis of the policy document. On December 4, 2007, City Council reviewed these Planning Commission recommendations and advised city staff about which revisions should be included in the official Draft General Plan 2030 that is released for public review.

The materials from each of the Planning Commission Workshops and the City Council meeting on the “Workshop Draft” General Plan 2030 are available on the City’s General Plan Update website for review (see website link below). If you did not have an opportunity to attend any of the public workshops or to submit written comments on the “Workshop Draft”, it’s not too late. The “Official Draft” General Plan 2030 and Draft EIR are the documents that are released for formal public review. These are also the documents that will be considered at public meetings (for the Draft and Final EIR) or public hearings (for the Draft and Final General Plan 2030) before the Planning Commission and City Council.

Please check the City’s General Plan Update website at www.ci.galt.ca.us (click on the General Plan 2030 icon on the home page) to find out when the public review period ends and when the public meetings or hearings are scheduled. You can also contact Sandra Kiriu, Principal Planner at 209-366-7230 or e-mail skiriu@ci.galt.ca.us. If you would like to be personally notified of upcoming meetings and events related to the adoption of the Galt General Plan 2030 and Environmental Impact Report, please contact us with your mailing/e-mail address and we’d be happy to add you to our notification list.

WINTER WATERING

Lawns need less and less water as winter approaches. Please turn off lawn sprinklers during the rainy season! If the lawn appears dry, manually water once, and then turn the system off. It is important to utilize water efficiently to assure a continued water supply. Additionally, customers with water meters will save not only on their water bills but also on their sewer bills when they reduce landscape irrigation!

PROPER DISPOSAL OF LEAVES

We’re well into autumn and the leaves keep falling! Please help keep the City of Galt and the environment clean by removing the leaves, dirt, and trash from the streets and gutters in front of your home or business and properly disposing of this debris. Proper disposal of debris keeps our streets looking good and helps protect wildlife and water quality downstream of our storm drain system. Additionally, proper cleaning and disposal helps to keep our streets from flooding when the rainy season starts. All leaves, yard clippings, and other yard debris should be kept in the yard and then placed in garden waste (gray) containers provided by Cal Waste for recycling.

Do not sweep or blow leaves and other yard debris in the streets! This practice is prohibited in sections 8.32 and 16.10 of the Galt Municipal Code (GMC). Title 8 of the GMC requires keeping the street and gutter clear of debris in front of your home or business, and Title 16 pertains to storm water protection. For specific verbiage on the above noted codes, please check the website (click on the left menu on the home page, “Galt Municipal Code”). We thank you for your cooperation!

FORM W-9

The City of Galt is required by the Internal Revenue Service to obtain a correct taxpayer identification number (TIN) from various vendors to whom the City has made payment to for items such as services rendered and/or real estate transactions. Failure to furnish your correct TIN to the City of Galt subjects you to a 29% backup withholding, in addition to a \$50 penalty. These penalties can be deducted from subsequent payments if an accurate W-9 Form is not provided to the City in a reasonable time period. If you have received a W-9 form from the City of Galt requesting this information, please ensure it’s immediate return to the City. Thank you in advance for your timely response.

2008 BUSINESS LICENSE RENEWAL PROCESS UNDERWAY

If you have not renewed your business license, your renewal must be received by 1/31/2008 to avoid penalties. Please contact the Finance Department at (209) 366-7158 or procha@ci.galt.ca.us for information. Be sure to include your business name and license number in your email.

**2007 City of Galt Business Licenses expired
12/31/2007**

CONSTRUCTION ALERT WINTER 2007



The following ongoing and/or anticipated City and private development construction projects within the City of Galt may inconvenience the public due to lane closures and/or interruptions in traffic:

Private Development

- SE corner of the intersection of Pringle Ave and Industrial Dr.
- N. Lincoln Way, just south of Pringle Ave. Chabolla Ave.



City Projects

Sidewalk-ADA Improvements 2008

- Palin Ave.
- Myrtle Ave.
- Elm Ave. from Oak Ave. to Lincoln Way
- E St. from Lincoln Way to Fourth St.
- A St.

Crosswalk Safety Improvements

- Various locations

City Hall New Gas Service Installation (HVAC-Energy Retrofit)

- Civic Drive and main driveway entrance off Civic Drive
- Monterey Park/ Monterey Bay Well & Pipeline
- Monterey Bay Court
- Lakepark Ave. from Monterey Bay Ct. to Carillion Blvd.
- Carillion Blvd. from Lakepark Ave. to Lake Canyon Park
- Roundstone Park
- Roundstone Dr. and Stoneygate Dr.

Pavement Rehabilitation 2008

- West Stockton Blvd. from Live Oak Avenue to Hwy 99 @ Twin Cities Entrance
- Crystal Way (if funding is available)

ALLOWABLE CONSTRUCTION HOURS

Construction in the City of Galt is permitted between the hours of 6:00am-8:00pm weekdays and 7am-8pm on weekends based on current noise regulations included in the Galt Municipal Code. Permittees may request, in writing, a variance to work at other times in the City's right-of-way, based on the city's approval.

CITY HALL INFORMATION

City Hall Information
366-7130

City Website
www.ci.galt.ca.us

City E-Mail Address
clerk@ci.galt.ca.us

City Office Hours
9:00 am—5:00 pm

City Council Meetings:
1st & 3rd Tuesdays
Council Chambers
7:00 pm



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