



# The Emerald News

Office of  
Council President Pro Tem  
Marti Emerald



Volume 7, Issue 3

March 2015

## District 9 Communities

- Alvarado Estates
- Azalea Park
- Castle
- Catoctin
- Cherokee Point
- Chollas Creek
- Colina Park
- College Area
- College View Estates
- Corridor
- Denstedt Point
- East Falls View
- El Cerrito
- Fairmount Park
- Fairmount Village
- Fox Canyon
- Hollywood Park
- Islenair
- Kensington
- Mesa Colony
- Mountain View
- Mt Hope
- Ridgeview
- Rolando
- Southcrest
- Talmadge
- Teralta-East & West
- Willie Henderson

### Dear Friends:

Thank you for taking the time to read this month's issue of the Emerald News.

Public Safety continues to be my top priority. I made it my goal to provide safe neighborhoods when I was first elected to the City Council back in 2008.

At the last Public Safety and Livable Neighborhoods Committee meeting, we received a crime briefing for 2014 from the San Diego Police Department. This annual report summarizes January through December 2014 crime statistics and response times in the City of San Diego. In addition, information highlighting projects and effective ways to combat crime are included from different units and divisions within the San Diego Police Department.

### Overall crime dropped in the City of San Diego during 2014, by 13.5%.

The number of crimes in each of the categories in 2014 continues to be similar to the number of reported crimes from decades ago. Violent crimes decreased by 1.7% and property crimes decreased by 15.5%. The violent crime rate per thousand residents in 2014 is similar to rates in the early 1970, and the property crime rate is comparable to rates in the late 1950s.

Crimes committed by gang members, hate crimes and juvenile victims of violent crime all decreased in 2014. Domestic violence increased slightly, by 2.1%. Response times for each of the priorities also increased. Special projects and effective ways to combat crime within our City are presented as highlights from throughout the Department.

However, in spite of the (mostly) good news above, we can always improve public safety in our city, and I am continued to working with my colleagues and committee members to continue to address our city's public safety needs but I would like to take this time to commend our officers for keeping us all safe.

*- Marti*

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### INTERNSHIPS

San Diego City Council President Pro Tem Emerald's office is currently accepting applications from motivated high school and college students looking to gain experience interning for an elected official. Interested applicants should e-mail Julio Rivera a cover letter, résumé and at least one letter of recommendation to [jcrivera@sandiego.gov](mailto:jcrivera@sandiego.gov). Please feel free to call (619) 236-6725 with any questions.

## Community Representatives

### Rudy Vargas

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## Hoover Students Tour City Hall

I had the pleasure of hosting a group of Hoover High School Students as they toured City Hall. For many students, this was the first time ever being in City Hall. They had the opportunity to meet our Mayor, Kevin Faulconer, and they toured "The Big House" Fire Station 1. The Cardinals Interact Class of 2016 learned how the City impacts their daily lives and how they could continue making a difference in their community. Keep up the great work Cardinals!



## Rolando Street Fair

The Rolando Street Fair is organized and run by a team of selfless volunteers, this major attraction draws crowds of many thousands. The Fair boasts a great musical line-up every year and offers tons of food, arts and crafts, and service booths for the entire family. Located on pretty Rolando Blvd. between towering Silk Oaks (planted over 70 years ago) you can spend the day enjoying our neighborhood, meeting old friends, and making new ones! The 19th Annual Rolando Street Fair is on Sunday, March 29, 2015 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Rolando Blvd. between El Cajon Blvd. and Solita Ave.



## Promoting Trust in Government

During the previous Public Safety and Livable Neighborhoods Committee Meeting, the San Diego Police Department provided information collected via vehicle stop data cards throughout 2014. The vehicle stop data cards allowed police officers to collect data on individuals they pulled over including race, type of violation, and whether the vehicle was searched.

As Chair of the Public Safety and Livable Neighborhoods Committee and council representative of the most diverse council district of the city, Council President Pro Tem Emerald recognizes the need to improve trust and relations between our communities and our police department. That is why she has reached out to San Diego State University's School of Public Affairs and asked them to conduct an independent academic research study of the police department's vehicle stop data cards.

Emerald looks forward to the study's findings and hopes that the independent academic research will assist in furthering trust between the public and our police department. A copy of the report can be accessed by visiting: [http://docs.sandiego.gov/councilcomm\\_agendas\\_attach/2015/psln\\_150225\\_3.pdf](http://docs.sandiego.gov/councilcomm_agendas_attach/2015/psln_150225_3.pdf) or by contacting our office directly.

## College-Rolando Library Anniversary Celebration

The College-Rolando Branch Library celebrates its 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at 6600 Montezuma Road in the College Area. Join us on Friday, March 27, 10:30 AM-3:30 PM for guest speakers, children's music program, face painting, a catered reception and other activities. Mark your calendars and watch for updates.

Check out our programs serving the community at the College-Rolando Branch Library. See our calendar for Arts & Crafts, Kid's Yoga, Family Story Time, Family Movie Matinee and Lego Play Lab. Other activities include Zumba Fitness, Family Yoga, Oasis Classes and AARP Tax Assistance. **Visit <http://collegerolandolibrary.org> or call 619-533-3902 for more information on programs and volunteer opportunities.**

Support your local library by joining the Friends of the Library. Your membership and donations enable us to fund children's crafts and activities, Oasis programs for older adults, and contribute to the Children's Summer Reading Program. Your support also helps us purchase books, for which we receive matching funds. Our next meeting of the Friends of the College-Rolando Library is Tuesday, March 24 at 4:30 PM.



## Taxicab Permit Applications Finally Available



For the first time in almost 30 years, taxicab drivers will now have the opportunity to apply for a taxicab permit, own their cabs, and start their own businesses. Earlier this month, Councilmember Emerald with the United Taxicab Workers of SD, celebrated a 12-3 vote taken by the MTS Board in favor of lifting the cap on Taxi Permits in San Diego. This was the final vote needed, ensuring that this policy will be administered by MTS who will be working with interested applicants immediately and will begin processing applications by April .

## Ocean Discovery Institute

Councilmember Emerald recently joined with the Ocean Discovery Institute (ODI), community members, and supporters in celebrating ODI's gift of \$1 million from the Walter J. & Betty C. Zable Foundation. The funds will go towards supporting the vision of the Living Lab- a 12,000 square foot cutting-edge facility with 35,000 square feet of outdoor, natural features used to educate urban and diverse youth through ocean science.

