



Earth Day – April 22, 2010

### All about Gardening & Water Conservation

Our Guest Speaker this month is James Everly of Cal Koa Landscape, Inc. (formally J. Everly Landscaping.) The topics James will be covering are: drought tolerant plants, how to grow vegetables in the ground and in containers, drip irrigation, water conservation and any other gardening topic you may have. He will answer your questions – so bring along any troublesome plants you may have in a plastic bag.

At the start of the meeting either Ronell or June, owners of Com Tam 75, will bring some food samples & discount coupons.

### March's Community Meeting

#### Big Turnout by Government Representatives

Thanks to all the government representatives who came to the March community meeting!

Seventh District Council Member, Marti Emerald, was there, along with a substantial group of police officers from the Mid-City Division. They came in response to complaints about weekend noise and other disturbances around El Cajon Boulevard and Dayton Street. Along with Council Member Emerald, Division Captain Lawrence McKinney, Lieutenant Charles Kaye, Community Relations Officer Dean Thomas, and Sergeant Ben McCurry answered residents' questions and presented a response to the problems. Since this meeting, residents on Dayton Street and Gilbert Drive have reported a reduction in disturbances. This turnout demonstrated the willingness of the police and our City Council representative to respond to community concerns.

### Neighborhood Meeting – at – Blessed Sacrament Church

Thursday, April 15, 2010

7:00 p.m. Parish Hall

El Cajon Boulevard at El Cerrito Drive

Note: Enter the Parish Hall on the West  
(56<sup>th</sup> St) side of the church

Gina LaMantia came from the San Diego Fire Department and answered questions about reductions in staff at our local fire station, Number 10. We look forward to seeing her and other representatives from the Fire Department at future meetings.

Thomas Ledford introduced himself as the new representative from County Supervisor Ron Robert's office, and we look forward to seeing him on a regular basis in the future.

When elected Officials, their staff, and government workers attend community meetings, it gives residents a chance to get to know the people behind their government.

**ECCC Board of Directors Elections** - March is the month for the El Cerrito Community Council's annual Board of Directors elections. Seven candidates were elected by acclamation, in accordance with the ECCC Bylaws, for an election with nine candidates or fewer. Six sitting Board members were reelected: Carl Luster, Jan Riley, Scott Lewis, John Stende, Teri Nystrom, and B.J. Nystrom. Maurize Rios was elected for his first term.

### Changing of the Guard

Mrs. Peacock and her late husband moved into a house on Berting Street more than 40 years ago. During much of that time, Mr. Peacock served as Block Captain for their neighborhood, and since his death, she has taken over that responsibility. At the March 18 ECCC community meeting, Mrs. Peacock gave up her position as Block Captain, pinning her late husband's Block Captain name tag on Maurize Rios.

In addition to delivering the ECCC newsletter to Berting Street, Dayton Street, and Gilbert Drive, Maurize will now serve as a central contact point for residents in his neighborhood. Thanks to Mrs. Peacock and her late

husband for their years of community service, and thanks to Maurize Rios for volunteering his time and effort.

### **Greetings and Farewell for the ECCC Board of Directors**

The El Cerrito Community Council elected 7 members to the Board of Directors at the March 18 community meeting. With that election, the Board greets one new member, Maurize Rios. Maurize has been very active among residents on Dayton, Berting, and Gilbert Streets, and he is taking on the role of block captain for this neighborhood. Already taking an active role on the ECCC Board, Maurize will be looking into setting up a *MySpace* or *FaceBook* page for the ECCC.

Since the March election, Treasurer, Teri Nystrom, has resigned in response to the demands of a new job. Many thanks to Teri for keeping the accounts during the past year. She has also managed the advertising insert that's delivered with this newsletter, giving local businesses a connection to residents and adding to the income that comes from donations. Veteran Board Member, B.J. Nystrom, will be taking over as Treasurer.

Thanks and farewell also goes out to Justin Hawks, who resigned from the Board in March after purchasing a home in Del Cerro. Continuing Board Member, John Stende, took over much of the work to prepare for last month's chili cook-off.

In addition to B.J. Nystrom and John Stende, three more members will continue on the Board from last year. Carl Luster will continue as Chair, and Jan Riley will continue as Vice-Chair and Editor of the Newsletter. Scott Lewis will continue coordinating newsletter distribution.

The Board of Directors still needs a secretary, and there are many other ways to take an active role in El Cerrito Community Council.

### **A Word of Gratitude to a Resident of El Cerrito**

The following was sent to Bryan Manse on behalf of the residents on Berting, Dayton & Gilbert Streets: "Your influence and hard work will be missed immensely; you helped us so much and such actions cannot be forgotten."

### **Update El Cerrito Neighborhood Patrol By Patti Saraniero**

The El Cerrito Neighborhood Patrol continues to be active. The patrol volunteers have put in over 150 hours of patrol since we started last summer! New volunteers are always welcome.

**We are encouraging neighbors to report street lights that are out to Street Services:**

<http://www.sandiego.gov/street-div/> as well as

**Any graffiti:**

<http://www.sandiego.gov/graffiti/sighting.shtm>

The patrol currently has submitted requests to fix two street lights (one at 55th & El Cajon Blvd and one at 54th & El Cajon Blvd). In addition, three graffiti incidents were removed in March. These simple prevention efforts will make a difference!

The patrols from around the Mid-City Division continue to receive updates from Lt Chuck Kaye. Things have been relatively quiet, which is great news. Some items of note:

Late night car prowls continue to be an issue in the Mid-City area (this is not necessarily specific to El Cerrito). Laptops are at the top of the list of things stolen from cars.

Officers Dulani Jackson and Jerimiah Lutz, in the 6700 block of El Cajon Blvd, found a suspicious person who was later identified as a bank robber. He was arrested and taken to the Robbery Unit for questioning. The suspect had committed several bank robberies since November 2009.

The "motorcycle club" in the 5400 block of El Cajon Blvd has become a significant nuisance. SDPD has responded to El Cerrito neighbors' concerns. They are patrolling that area heavily.

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### **Sewer & Water Upgrades Water Main Replacement Group 773 Eastern and College Areas**

The City of San Diego has established an ongoing program that mandates replacement of all aging and deteriorating existing cast iron water mains on the following streets:

**Adams Avenue** – from College Avenue to just east of Soria Drive.

**Estelle Street, Adelaide Avenue, Meade Avenue & Vale Way** from 60<sup>th</sup> Street to 58<sup>th</sup>

These replacements will help to eliminate future water main breaks, improve services to the community and reduce maintenance costs.

### **Project Overview**

Water Group 773 consists of installing approximately 4,720 linear feet of new 8-inch and 12-inch water main. The project also includes the installation of 32 new pedestrian curb ramps and the resurfacing of the streets that are impacted by the project.

### **Water Main Replacement**

The City will require traffic control plans during construction to ensure accessibility, minimize disruption and protect the safety of the residents within the project area. The contractor will be directed at all times to keep the area as clean as possible from dirt and dust.

## Construction Schedule

Construction is estimated to begin in the summer of 2010 and estimated to complete in the early summer of 2011.

## Cost

The total cost for this project is approximately \$2,204,000.

## Additional Information

Additional information about this and other important infrastructure projects can be found online at [www.sandiego.gov/engineering-cip](http://www.sandiego.gov/engineering-cip), or by calling the public information line at (619) 533-4207.

## Newsletter Donations

The ECCC received donations totaling \$140 from March 4 to March 18, 2010. **We would ask you to state, either on the enclosed donation slip or your check, whether or not you would like your name and street published in the newsletter.** Again, we can't thank you enough for your generosity. We truly appreciate all you do to print the newsletter.

## You Can Help Support the ECCC!

The El Cerrito Community Council has always been supported by the generosity of the community. Our largest cost is printing. Each month we print the newsletter, the agenda for monthly meetings, and other documents. We also buy some of the supplies for pot luck dinners and other events. Recently, the ECCC has printed 250 more newsletters each month to make sure there are enough copies for everyone who wants one, and this means the bill for printing has also increased.

During the past year, an advertising insert has been included with the newsletter, and this has brought in additional funds, but we still need donations from the community. All past donations are greatly appreciated, and additional donations are welcome from previous donors. If you haven't donated before, please consider supporting the newsletter and other activities that help inform the community about local events and give community members a chance to meet, socialize, and discuss local issues.

As always, you can send donations to the Post Office Box listed at the bottom of this page. Now, you can also make donations online from the ECCC blog page. Type <http://elcerritocommunitycouncil.blogspot.com/> into the address bar of your browser, and look for the "Donate" button at the bottom of the right-hand column.

Donations of any amount are welcome. Small donations from many people add up to a big contribution to the community.

## College Neighborhoods Home Tour

### Featuring El Cerrito

**Sunday, April 18 - Noon - 5 pm**

Take a peek into some of the loveliest homes in the College Neighborhoods. Don't miss a visit to beautiful locations from romantic eras without leaving the city!

The 2010 Home Tour profiles the graceful and understated community of El Cerrito and some of San Diego's least known architectural treasures. The tour features unique homes built between 1926 and 1955, traditional and eclectic architecture, and diverse styles; including Craftsman, Ranch, Contemporary, and Mediterranean. The homeowner participants graciously open their homes and gardens to provide a view into architectural designs, outstanding décor, and colorful landscaping. The homes have been chosen because of their unique style, faithful preservation, or elegant remodel. The tour will provide an opportunity to not only visit some of the most historic and unique homes of the area but also see how these homes have passed the test of time.

The Home Tour is self-guided. Included with admission, is a program containing historical, architectural, and design highlights. Ticket holders may walk or drive from home to home. The tour includes stairs and uneven surfaces. No one will be admitted to any home without a ticket.

## Pre-Tour Gala Fund Raiser

Please join the College Neighborhoods Foundation (CNF) for the premier Pre-Tour Gala Fund Raiser. This special event **begins at 6 PM on Saturday April 17th** and gives participants a private preview of all the homes on the tour, guided by local historian, Jim Newland. This exclusive behind the scenes Fund Raiser will conclude with an elegant reception with home owners and CNF Board members. Tickets are \$50/ person and include a ticket to return the following day to enjoy the home tour again at your leisure. See the CNF website for details. Proceeds from this year's Gala Fund Raiser and Home Tour will go toward community projects including the "College Neighborhoods History Book."

## Ticket Information

Visit the CNF website ([CollegeNeighborhoods.com](http://CollegeNeighborhoods.com)) or call **619-757-1303**. This voicemail box is available 24/7. Purchase tickets 1 of 3 ways: 1) On-line via the website through April 15th. Price - \$16\* per ticket. 2) By Mail before April 2nd Price - \$16\* per ticket attached form. Shortly prior to April 18th, by return mail, you will receive ticket confirmation and tour check-in details. 3) On the day of the Tour. Price - \$20\* per ticket If tickets are still available, they will be sold on a first-come, first-serve basis, beginning at 12 noon on April 18th, at the Home Tour check-in booth located at The Blessed Sacrament Church parking lot at 4540 El Cerrito Drive, directly off El Cajon Boulevard. \*The ticket cost is fully tax deductible; CNF is a 501(c) (3) and no goods or services are exchanged for this purchase.

The latest information is available on the CNF website:  
[CollegeNeighborhoods.com](http://CollegeNeighborhoods.com)

## **Boo Parade Update**

**By Jennifer Finnegan**

The 2010 Boulevard BOO! Parade & Carnival is already underway. The committee met on Friday, March 5, to review the budget and meet the players involved this year. The major issue discussed from last year was a lack in volunteers to help out the day of the parade. This caused a delay in the start of the parade. There were also several barricades & detour signs that went missing, causing the parade over \$3,000 in additional expense. **El Cerrito residents can help!** The parade takes about 175 volunteers to efficiently run. Last year two El Cerrito residents came to the aid of the parade. Let's band together this year to support this great community event. The parade needs people to guard barricades during and after the parade to make sure they are not compromised or go missing. If you'd like a more in-depth experience with the parade, contact Jennifer Finnegan at the BID to find out how else you can help (619) 582-1093. **Don't forget, everyone who volunteers for the parade gets a free T-Shirt!**

## **Spring Business Mixer NETWORK WITH BUSINESS OWNERS & COMMUNITY MEMBERS**

**By Jennifer Finnegan**

You're invited to the College Area Business District's Spring Business Mixer. Join us for an evening of exotic delights! Get to know other business and property owners in the College Area, and find out what is happening in your neighborhood.

L&L Hawaiian Bar-B-Q will be serving dinner, followed by a private performance by the Pride of Polynesia Dance Review on the Moxie stage.

**Date: Friday, April 16, 2010**

**Time: 6:00 pm - 8:00pm**

**Where: Moxie Theatre**

**6663 El Cajon Blvd.**

**RSVP by April 9, 2010**

**(619) 582-1093**

## **"Edible Gardens of Rolando and How You Can Have One Too".**

**By Jan Hintzman - Rolando Community Council Board**

This month the Rolando Community Council is looking forward to hearing from a Rolando neighbor on "Edible Gardens of Rolando and How You Can Have One Too". Amy Zink will share her knowledge of how to have an edible garden right in your own backyard at our upcoming RCC meeting on April 20th. This is a great opportunity to be inspired.....as well as learn some practical gardening tips. We meet at the Rolando Methodist Church Community Hall, 4855 Seminole Drive. 6:30 pm social time. 7:00 pm meeting. All Rolando neighbors and friends from El Cerrito are welcome.

## **What is Scavenging and How Can I report it?**

Scavenging is the act of unauthorized persons going through recycling or refuse containers, whether the containers are located on City or private property. Like illegal dumping, scavenging is a crime in San Diego, and it is taken very seriously by the City.

Every year, scavengers steal thousands of dollars in recyclables from the City's curbside program, which makes the program less cost efficient and ultimately costs taxpayers. To help keep scavengers from taking your recyclables, place your container out at 7 a.m., just before collection, rather than the night before.

To help stop this crime, the City encourages anyone who encounters a scavenging incident that has already taken place to report it. If you observe someone scavenging, please take down the following information:

- Date, time and location of incident
- Description of vehicle and license plate number
- Description of person(s) scavenging
- What items/materials were being scavenged
- Your name and phone number (optional)

### **Report the information to the following agencies:**

To report scavenging, please submit a **Trash/Litter/Recycling Service Request** or contact the **Environmental Services Department at 858-694-7000 Monday through Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. or to:**

<https://apps.sandiego.gov/econtainer/control/requestaddressinfo>.

**After Business Hours, During Weekends, or Holidays: San Diego Police Department, 619-531-2000.**

**The ECCC Trash Can Stickers will be available at the April meeting. These are supposed to be self-adhesive, but we would recommend you add glue to the backs of them before putting them on top of your trash cans.**

## **Local Area Meetings & Committee Groups**

**ECCC Meeting** - Third Thursday at 7:00 pm, Parish Hall, Blessed Sacrament Church, El Cajon Boulevard & El Cerrito

**ECCC Board Meeting** - First Thursday at 7:00 pm, Library, Blessed Sacrament Church, El Cajon Boulevard & El Cerrito

**Eastern Area Communities Planning Committee** - Second Tuesday 7:00 pm, Holy Spirit Catholic Church, 2725 55th St.

**College Area Community Council** - Second Wednesday at 7:00 pm, College/Rolando Library corner of Montezuma & Reservoir

**College Area Project Review Committee** - First Wednesday at 7:00 pm, College/Rolando Library - Corner of Montezuma & Reservoir

**Crossroads Project Area Committee (PAC)** - Fourth Thursday at 6:30 p.m. College Avenue Baptist Church, 3rd floor, Administration Bldg, College Ave.