

# El Cerrito Community Newsletter

Volume Seven:

Number 4

April, 2012



**Spaghetti Dinner Anyone?** 

## The ECCC Meeting Is Going To Be in the Parish Hall on Friday, April 20, 2012

As our meeting had to be changed to Friday night, due to the Parish being unavailable, the Board of Directors agreed that with it being Friday night, when the hassles of the work week are over (until at least Monday), B.J. Nystrom and his wife Terri, together with Maurize Rios and Jan Riley will make their favorite Spaghetti (or pasta) dishes. We don't guarantee it will be traditional, but we'd love to see a large group of you there to sample their fare! All we ask is that you bring either a salad, garlic bread or a dessert. The ECCC will provide soft drinks, tea, coffee, etc.

Please bring the whole family. Children are very welcome. Invite a neighbor (young or old) to go with you. Some older neighbors don't like to drive at night and would appreciate a social outing.

We'd love to see you there to meet old neighbors and make new friends. So come join us for an evening of guaranteed good food and good company.

## **Results of ECCC's March Election**

Jan Riley – Chair Carl Luster Vice Chair B.J. Nystrom – Treasurer/Bylaws Consultant Jim Westheimer – Membership Maurize Rios – Neighborhood Crime & Newsletter Distribution Zachary Zimmer – Membership E-mail & Facebook Page Contact for the ECCC is: Jan Riley – 619.287.2460 E-mail: <u>ECCC@cox.net</u> Mailing address: P.O. Box 151268, San Diego, CA 92175-1268

## New Eastern Division CRO & Facebook Page

El Cerrito, north of El Cajon Boulevard, has a new Community Relations Officer, John Graham. You can reach him at: jagraham@pd.sandiego.gov or (858) 495-7900. Officer Graham was the community relations officer of Central Division downtown for 20 years.

Thanks to Officer John Graham, Eastern Division now has another venue for community interaction via Facebook. Please join him at https://www.facebook.com/sdpde to keep abreast of goings on and to participate in your community.

## **Neighborhood Prosecutor for Mid-City.**

Just a reminder that we also have a new Neighborhood Prosecutor for Mid-City. In January, **Lara Easton**, took over for Kristin Beattie, who served our community for over six years. **Lara can be reach at leaston@sandiego.gov or 619-533-5629.** 

## Oversight Board Successor Agency to the San Diego Redevelopment Agency

The Oversight Board was formed in spring 2012 pursuant to California Assembly Bill 126, which dissolved all redevelopment agencies in the State of California. The seven member Oversight Board consists of the following members:

- Two members appointed by the City of San Diego (one from the Union)
- Two members appointed by the County Board of Supervisors
- One member from the Board of Education
- One member appointed by the Community College(s)
- One member appointed by the largest special district, by property tax share, with territory in the jurisdiction of the former redevelopment agency – Water Board. Their representative has been identified as Maureen Stapleton

The Oversight Board has fiduciary responsibility to the holders of enforceable obligations and the taxing entities that benefit from the distributions of property tax and other revenue. The Oversight Board will oversee the "winding down" process. Their recommendations are then sent to the County for Audit and the State of CA Finance Dept. for approval for payments.

The ECCC and surrounding communities will need to attend the oversight committee meetings to fight for the enforceable obligations that have been recorded for the Crossroads Project Area.

## **Traffic Lights Installation to Begin**

The installation of the traffic signals at College Avenue/Arosa and Adams Avenue is scheduled to begin on April 2, 2012 by pot-holing (marking utilities). The time allotted for the installation is 120 days, but the contractor believes that it can be completed sooner. It appears most of the work will be at the Adams Avenue intersection

## SDSU to Conduct Tests of the Mass Notification System

A campus warning system was installed at SDSU in 2009, using tones and public address messages to alert the campus community in the event of certain emergencies, as determined by San Diego State University Police. On the third Saturday of the month at approximately 2:30 p.m., the Mass Notification System will be tested to ensure tone and announcement clarity. The tests will rotate monthly between outside arrays and building indoor speakers to identify any potential issues. The public and campus community, in the affected area, will be notified prior to these tests. If you have questions about the Mass Notification System, please contact the University Police Department at 619-594-1991

#### El Cerrito Neighborhood Updates By Patti Saraniero

There has been a rash of thefts in the neighborhood, particularly around **Collier and 54th Street.** Lawn chairs and benches have been taken from front porches and yards. If you see any suspicious activity, please call the non-emergency number at **531-2000.** If you see a crime in progress, please call 911.

Also, two homes on Esther Street during February and March had a kayak and motorcycle stolen. Both items were either in front of or on the side of the house.

#### **Results of Large Item Pick-Up**

The large item cleanup on March 29, 2012, was very successful. A total of 3.88 tons of waste were removed from the neighborhood, consisting of 3.4 tons of non-recyclables and 0.48 tons of recyclables, which were various types of metals and appliances. We would like to thank Christopher Penman, Solid Waste Code Enforcement Officer for his organization of this event for ECCC. The ECCC is endeavoring to hold another large item cleanup on the south side of the Boulevard to include those homes that were not included in this one. (Those homes on the West/South West side of El Cerrito).

#### **ECCC Newsletter Donations**

All donations, large and small are always welcome and appreciated. Donations received: Anonymous on Trojan Avenue. Other anonymous donations of \$20 were received from Redland and Austin Drives. As always, truly appreciated. You can make your donation to the P.O. Box # or use our Pay Pal link on the ECCC Blog at: http://elcerritocommunitycouncil.blogspot.com/

#### **Reminder–College Area Taste**

Please joins us and try over 20 College Area restaurants at this year's....

April 15

Start your tour off at the College Area Business District office at 4704 College Avenue. Pick up your maps, booklets, or purchase your tickets. The trolley stops right out front! Go to: http://g.co/maps/r8mws & use this Google Map to view the locations of all our restaurants and to find out where the Old Town Trolley will be stopping. The old Town Trolley is free with purchase of your College Area Taste ticket. Feel free to drive your own vehicle or walk if you prefer!

Haven't bought your ticket yet? Tickets cost \$25 in advance and \$30 day of the event. You can do so in person at the College Area Business District office Monday-Friday from 8am-2pm, or online at www.collegeareabid.com. Phone: (619) 582-1093: Cell: (619) 867-7526.

#### **Illegal Parking in SDSU Neighborhood** By: Jean Hoeger, Board Member, CACC

These are the two things to do (and you can do both):

1. Call SDPD - SDPD can ticket cars parked on lawns (they are a little less clear about those on hardscape, the brickwork, gravel, etc.). They can do it as they "see" it, but the best bet is to call 531-2000 with the address, lic-ense plate and car make. Call it in every time you see it (have a list at home and work, so when you get there you can just look up the info, as it is the same most of the time!). When you call be sure to tell the dispatcher that this is not for Parking Enforcement (which is what pops up on their screen), but for an officer to handle as time allows. Ask **for the incident number** and keep a log for each address. You can call back later in the

evening with the incident number and ask about it, adding that information to your log.

2. E-mail Tim Taylor (<u>TaylorT@sandiego.gov</u>) – phone: 619.533.4774. Parking Enforcement has said they will enforce this, but not as they see it (don't ask me why). They want us to go through Tim Taylor. Send him the same info you would for SDPD (and include a picture if possible). He will send it on to Parking Enforcement. Errol sent in 5505 Lindo Paseo Monday afternoon and a ticket was issued Tuesday. The car is now in the driveway! Again, add this information to your log.

When school is gone and the problems are muted, we can take any logs, put them together and make a case for this issue/offending addresses to be hit hard when school starts in the fall, since they will be the same, just new cars.

One last thing that I would like to suggest to keep poor Tim from going insane - please limit e-mails to him to requests for Parking Enforcement action and don't include him in "reply to all." We are all frustrated by this and need to chip away at the problem, but don't want to frustrate him too (I include myself in this reminder of over e-mailing.)

#### This Year's College Neighborhoods Foundations Home Tour Features Rolando

The 2012 Rolando Spring Home Tour sponsored by, the College Neighborhoods Foundation, will feature seven beautiful homes with eclectic architecture of the 1930s, 40s, and 50s. This year's tour takes place on Saturday, **April 14, 2012** with tours starting at 10:00 am and running every half hour up to 1:30 pm. Ticket prices are \$15 per person in advance and \$20 per person day-of. Come see the beautiful neighborhood offerings of Rolando. To purchase tickets on-line or to download a mail-in form, go to:

http://www.collegeneighborhoods.com/hometou r or call 619-800-2631.

Some of the homes featured include:

• Prante/Shea House, an upgraded minimal traditional Cape Cod style home built by La Mesa contractor George Riha in 1942.

• Luby House, a stylistically customized and upgraded 1950 minimal Modern style home with custom woodwork details inside and out.

• Ortel/Schnell House, a masterfully upgraded and expanded 1941 Lloyd Williams constructed minimal traditional Modern home with outdoor entertainment deck.

## **Rooming House Ordinance Challenged**

Article copied from the "Emerald News", March, 2012 Time to revisit San Diego's Rooming House Ordinance. District 7 residents, especially those in the College Area, tell me they are disappointed by a lack of enforcement. You might remember the City approved the Rooming House Ordinance in 2008 in response to complaints about "mini-dorms" packed with college students, which affect the quality of life in neighborhoods surrounding SDSU.

Enforcement was delayed until last summer. Since then, it has become apparent that there is little will on the part of the Mayor to clarify enforcement standards needed to come down on offenders. The City Attorney is also balking, saying this ordinance may not even stand-up in court. But, fear not! I will be meeting with Land Use & Housing Committee Chair, Lorie Zapf to docket a public discussion about the ordinance and its effectiveness. I will ask the committee to revise the ordinance as needed, and request that the Mayor codify the needed administrative regulations and that our City Attorney take the legal actions necessary to strengthen and enforce this important ordinance. Councilmember Marti Emerald, 7<sup>th</sup> District, City of San Diego

## **Need Some Free Street Trees?**

The Urban Corps is seeking public right-of ways in need of street trees, and ideally those that can accommodate a minimum of 25 trees along one or two adjoining streets. Urban Corps plans to give priority to areas most in need of trees and in which children play - surrounding schools, libraries, parks, or multi-family residential areas. Urban Corps will expedite the site analysis and permit process, provide guidance in tree selection, and plant the trees before the start of the summer.

Urban Corps members are currently canvassing within a 1-mile radius of a handful of San Diego elementary schools to find planting locations. In addition, the organization has partnered with the Cesar Chavez Service Clubs – an organization of student clubs that offer service and leadership opportunities which embody the values of Cesar Chavez – to scout for locations near schools.

If you would like to nominate a planting location, please complete the No- Fee Street Tree City Permit Request and Watering Agreement found here: http://www.urbancorpssd.org/FreeTree.pdf and return to Ty Sterns at tsterns@urbancorps.org. For more information, or to get involved promoting this effort in your community, please contact Ty Sterns directly at (619) 235-6884 ext 3312.

**Local Church Helps Clean El Cajon Boulevard By: Maurize Rios:** The local Church: Fe Esperanza y Amor, for several months has contributed in the cleaning of our streets including ECB and Iftin School's parking lot. They also contributed to the clean up of the back property of 5480 ECB on 02-25-12, which for a long time it looked like this:

The Church Members removed graffiti, large weeds, trash, and about 200 gallons of paint that were exposed to the elements. The property owner was present during the clean up, and he later removed all the collected trash; he was very thankful and mentioned that the renter may purchase the property and develop it. Please take the time to see the positive energy that this kind, hardworking congregation does for their community. I truly enjoy moments like this. See the video at:

El Cerrito Community Council, P.O. Box 151268, San Diego, CA 92175-1268. (ECCC@ cox.net) 619-287-2460

## http://www.youtube.com/my\_videos\_edit?ns=1 &video\_id=l1yz2vMj\_pU

Thank you so very much Pastor Taurino and his fine young Warriors for such wonderful selfless work.





## **NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING**

Friday, April 20, 2012 7:00pm to 8:30pm Blessed Sacrament Parish Hall (El Cajon Boulevard at El Cerrito Drive)

## Come Join us for a Spaghetti Dinner

#### PLEASE HELP US KEEP PRINTING THE NEWSLETTER THROUGH YOUR DONATIONS

I/we donate \$\_\_\_\_\_\_ to the printing of the El Cerrito Community Council Newsletter.

Name(s) or Company Name (if corporate sponsor):

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Phone #(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Do\_\_\_\_ Do Not\_\_\_\_ print our name(s) in the newsletter. Send donation to ECCC, P.O. Box 151268 San Diego, CA 92175-1268

Jan Riley, Editor - 619-287-2460

## Local Area Meetings & Committee Groups

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

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

**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

## SAN DIEGO POLICE DEPT – 619.531.2000 Remember to get an Incident Number

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