



# El Cerrito Community Newsletter

Volume Twelve: Number 1 January, 2018

## MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY JANUARY 15, 2018



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### THURSDAY JANUARY 18TH MEETING

#### CALIFORNIA SENATE REPRESENTATIVE FOR OUR DISTRICT 39

#### TONI ATKINS JOINS US

You have likely heard Toni Atkins' name before. Toni has a long history representing the City of San Diego. She was a San Diego City Council Member for District 3 from 2000 to 2008.

She was then elected to represent the District 76 in the California State Assembly from 2010 - 2016, where she served as Speaker from May 2014 until March 2016, when she took her current Senate seat.

State Senators create and pass legislation that will benefit the citizens of their districts, as well as the entire state. Toni has been working hard to improve affordable and homeless housing, education, life for veterans and working families, the environment, women's health, and LGBT rights.

Her legislative victories include authoring laws to help small businesses, preserve dignity for transgender individuals, protect wildlife, assist victims of domestic violence, protect our environment, ensure coastal access and address housing and homeless issues.

Hear from Toni what going on in the state government, what is important to her. Let her know what is important to you. Toni is the State Senate Representative for all of El Cerrito and much of the City of San Diego.

This event will be interesting and informative and you will be glad you came. Do not miss this one.

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#### COFFEE WITH COUNTY SUPERVISOR DIANNE JACOB AT SCRIMSHAW COFFEE

Mark your calendars for Friday, January 26, 2018 8:30am to meet and have coffee with County Supervisor Dianne Jacob. Come and share a cup of coffee with Dianne, ask questions, share your concerns, learn more about the how the County interacts with our neighborhoods. Scrimshaw Coffee at 5542 El Cajon Blvd. **RSVP REQUIRED** - at <https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07ef0fypibed1a6a38&oseq=&c=&ch> or by phone at **619-582-1093**.

County Supervisor Dianne Jacob was first elected to the Board of Supervisors in 1992 and is now serving a seventh consecutive term. She represents the more than 620,000 residents of District 2, which includes some of the El Cerrito neighborhood.

Dianne lives in Jamul and is a native San Diegan and a San Diego State University alumna. She is known as a fighter for taxpayers and works to combat human traffickers, sexual predators and scammers. She has spearheaded efforts to help the region's growing elderly population, helping to bring together the region's top researchers, health care professionals, universities, elected officials and others to address the devastating impact of Alzheimer's disease. She also considers youth recreation and improving County libraries are also among her top priorities.

Dianne is the County Supervisor for District 2, which includes the El Cerrito neighborhood east of 54th Street and north of El Cajon Blvd. The rest of us are District 4, represented by County Supervisor Ron Roberts.

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#### SAVE THE DATE FOR THE FOLLOWING ECCC EVENTS

**January 18th** - Meet **CALIFORNIA STATE SENATOR TONI ATKINS!**

**February 15th** - Learn about landscape design with ECCC resident, Jose Aguila, Professional Landscape Architect.

**March 15th** - Meet with people experienced in gardens and yards, products, equipment and systems.

**April 19th** - Home security, including new, interactive systems.

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**BLESSED SACRAMENT SCHOOL  
CELEBRATES ITS 70TH BIRTHDAY!  
1947 – 2017**



**PLEASE JOIN THE CELEBRATION**

BLESSED SACRAMENT CAMPUS AND PARISH HALL  
1:00 Time Capsule Ceremony  
1:30 Presentations and Cake  
3:00 Campus Tours  
RSVP by January 16<sup>th</sup> - 619-582-3862,  
or [alumni@BSPS-SD.org](mailto:alumni@BSPS-SD.org) or via Facebook Event

If you are unable to attend, please share photos & memories in our BSPS Alumni Facebook Group! Email [alumni@BSPS-SD.org](mailto:alumni@BSPS-SD.org) to register for alumni updates.

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**BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH SCHOOL  
IS INTEGRATING WITH OUR LADY OF  
THE SACRED HEART SCHOOL**

St. Katharine Drexel Academy (SKDA), Grades TK-8, is a diverse, Catholic school that individualizes instruction by blending mobile technology with student learning needs. We develop servant leaders who put others before themselves by empowering great hearts and minds to reach their full potential. Our small class sizes and caring, creative, qualified staff make learning mobile, fun, and personal.

ALL ARE WELCOME to our Next Generation Catholic School where we work with parents to make enrollment affordable. Located in the College Area of San Diego. Come learn and grow with us! SKDA provides financial aid to qualified enrolled families based on documented need. Parents, please apply for Bishop Flores Tuition Assistance between January 2 – February 28 to be eligible for additional SKDA financial award distributions.

EMPOWERING GREAT HEARTS & GREAT MINDS

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**ECCC NEWSLETTER DELIVERY OPTIONS**

The ECCC Board wants to know if you would like to get your newsletter online only and opt out of a hard copy delivered to your door. We hear from many people that they enjoy the newsletter, but we also know we are in a technology age with delivery options. We will monitor responses over the next several months. We are accepting Opt-out messages at our website – please provide your contact information and street address. We will also have Opt-out forms the meetings.

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**SPRING IS RIGHT AROUND THE  
CORNER AND YOU WILL WANT TO**



**GARDEN**



At our February ECCC meeting, neighbor Jose Aguila, Professional Landscape Architect, will help us learn what makes a successful landscape design. He will be discussing basic planning to get us started on the path to achieving our landscape goals. Topics will include design, planning, hardscape, planting, irrigation, and drainage. He will also be discussing selecting the best plants for your garden plans. Please bring your questions and join us!

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**HELP CRAWFORD WITH DONATIONS**



**OF SPORTS EQUIPMENT**

If you have unused sports equipment sitting around your home and garage, neighbor, Lorna Zukas, would like to help you donate it to Crawford High School. It has been a while since her kids used their sports equipment in high school, so she recently made arrangement to donate to it to Crawford and is very happy she did. The Athletic Director, Kelcie Butcher, was very appreciative. Donations like this will really help the kids at Crawford be able to engage more fully in the athletic programs at the school.

The donations to Crawford are tax deductible. Crawford will need your name, address, email and phone number for a tax receipt when you donate. Kelcie will email it to you or Lorna is offering to have the tax receipts sent to her for delivery to you. Lorna is also offering to help with pickup and delivery of sports equipment, if you would like to donate and would like her help. Please feel free to call Lorna at 619-286-3890 with questions and to make arrangements.

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**JANUARY-THE BEST MONTH TO BUY...**

**1. Holiday Decor & Gift Wrap; 2. Linens & Bedding (White Sales); 3. Toys; 4. Exercise Equipment & Scales; 5. Vacations & Cruises; 6. Winter Clothing & Sports Gear; 7. Flooring & Carpeting; 8. Video Games; 9. TVs; 10. Suits & Professional Attire; and 11. Cars.**



## **ROLANDO STREET FAIR IS SUNDAY, MARCH 18TH, 2018**

The Rolando Street Fair is one of our community's favorite annual events and the best intimate street fair in San Diego County. 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 75 years ago) you can spend the day enjoying our neighborhood, meeting old friends, and making new ones!

On-street parking is available throughout the neighborhood but can be very limited. Please note the following streets will be closed to through-traffic and parking during the fair: Rolando Blvd. between Solita Ave. and El Cajon Blvd, Solita Ave between Filipino Dr and Rolando Blvd, and Alamo Dr between El Cajon Blvd and Solita Dr and Shannon Ave.

To reach the fair using public transportation, take bus route "1" between Hillcrest and Grossmont which runs down El Cajon Blvd. Get off at the El Cajon Blvd/Rolando Blvd stop, and the fair will be in sight. The nearest Trolley stop is SDSU. From the SDSU Trolley stop, take the 856 or 936 bus to the College Ave/El Cajon Blvd stop and transfer to the "1" bus per the instructions above. If you want to ride your bike to the Fair, bike racks will be provided at the fair on Shannon Ave.

The Rolando Street Fair has a wide assortment of carnival rides and games, face-painting and balloon artists, and plenty of youth-friendly booths too. Something for everyone in the family!

Interested in being a Sponsor of our Fair? [Download Sponsorship Packet at https://www.rolandocc.org/wp-content/uploads/Sponsorship\\_Packet2017.pdf](https://www.rolandocc.org/wp-content/uploads/Sponsorship_Packet2017.pdf).

Volunteers are needed on the day of the Street Fair and to distribute advance flyers and posters in the neighborhood. If you can volunteer for either activity, please contact [rolandostreetfair@gmail.com](mailto:rolandostreetfair@gmail.com).

You can also contact our Fair Volunteer Coordinator Doug Lister at [douglasclister@cox.net](mailto:douglasclister@cox.net).

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## **MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN 2018 BECOME AN RSVP OFFICER WITH THE SAN DIEGO POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Retired Senior Volunteer Patrol (RSVP) is a special program of the San Diego Police Department (SDPD) where persons over the age of 50 patrol neighborhoods and help with police duties, providing additional resources to the Department. Approximately 300 volunteers are currently working at the SDPD's 13 divisions citywide. If you are retired, would like to stay

active while doing something very worthwhile, RSVP might be right for you and there is always a need for more volunteers. In SDPD's Central Division, there are currently 29 RSVP officers, down from 40 just a few years ago.

Some say becoming an RSVP officer is easy, but the standards are not low. Applicants must be 50 years or older; retired or semi-retired; interested in working with law enforcement officers, possess effective oral and written communication skills; be reliable and trustworthy with confidential information, be in good health, able to put in a minimum of three patrol shifts per month; able to pass a background check; be physically able to get in and out of a car and be on their feet a couple hours a day; and be comfortable engaging with the public.

Once accepted, applicants attend an RSVP academy where they learn to be "a trained observer" being the SDPD's "eyes and ears" and how to use a radio to contact the police when action is needed. Communication is one of their strengths.

After the academy, RSVP volunteers do field training for a four or five week period to get familiar with the lessons learned at the academy. Once field training is complete, volunteers are required to work a minimum of three patrols a month, on shifts lasting between four to eight hours. Volunteers always work in pairs and have a variety of duties, including helping police officers with deliveries, traffic control, answering questions from the public, visibility support at large events, checking license plates for stolen vehicles, and even issuing citations for non-moving violations.

RSVP's helping with non-violent situations, such as directing traffic at an intersection while an SDPD Officer is handling an accident, frees up two other officers who can respond to criminal activity.

RSVP officers also have duties within their own programs. In the You Are Not Alone (YANA) program, RSVP officers check on elderly citizens who live alone. Volunteers are trained to look for signs of medical needs, elder abuse and to help with other issues, like potential frauds and scams that target the elderly.

RSVP officers do home checks for people on vacation and help fingerprint children for a database that helps police in case a child goes missing.

The RSVP participants feel that their work not only supports the police department, but is important to communities because they are the eyes and ears for all types of activity on a regular basis.

If being an RSVP volunteer sounds like it might be right for you, you can get more information from Police Officer Mariam Sadri at [msadri@pd.sandiego.gov](mailto:msadri@pd.sandiego.gov), or call 619-744-9549.



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WWW.JOEFOTYGROUP.COM  
 JFOTY@ASCENTREALESTATE.NET  
 (619) 847-3894  
 BRE# 01338639



**NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING**  
**Thursday, January 18, 2018**  
 7:00pm to 8:30pm

**WE ARE HONORED TO HOST  
 CALIFORNIA STATE SENATE  
 REPRESENTATIVE**

**TONI ATKINS**

**The ECCC Monthly Meeting  
 Is Every 3rd Thursday**  
**Blessed Sacrament Parish Church**  
 4540 El Cerrito Drive  
 El Cajon Boulevard at El Cerrito Drive

**The El Cerrito Website is getting  
 better all of the time— give it a try  
 At [elcerritocommunitycouncil.org](http://elcerritocommunitycouncil.org)**

We regularly get monthly updates from our elected officials' representatives, the Police Department, the Fire Department, City Attorney's Office, College Area Business District, learn all kinds of information, meet interesting people, and have fun.

**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): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ 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**  
**OR**  
 Go to [elcerritocommunitycouncil.org](http://elcerritocommunitycouncil.org) and use our PayPal account