MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: Karen Pinkos, City Manager
DATE: March 9, 2023
SUBJECT: City Manager’s Update

One of the best things about El Cerrito is how many members of the community spend time volunteering to help others and for worthy causes. From our boards, commissions, and committees to our various community groups and service clubs, our small town finds a way to make a big impact on the world.

I am a member of the El Cerrito Rotary club which meets each week at the Berkeley Country Club on Thursdays at 12:15. It’s a great group of dedicated people who care deeply about making a difference. Rotary's enduring motto is "Service Above Self," which very much describes El Cerrito and all who live, work, play, and visit here. On March 25, you can be a part of helping Rotary do good for our community and our City.

The El Cerrito Rotary is hosting a Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser on Saturday, March 25, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. at the El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Moeser Lane, to benefit the El Cerrito Rotary Scholarship Fund and the El Cerrito Recreation Department’s David Hunter Memorial Scholarship Fund. Join us for an evening of good food, drinks, raffle, and live music. Tickets are $25 for adults presale, $30 at the door, and $15 for children 12 & under. Presale tickets can be purchased online ahead of time, and all are welcome! Click this link to buy tickets.

The El Cerrito Rotary Scholarship Fund will award secondary education graduates from El Cerrito Schools with as much as $8,000 for college education. Our El Cerrito Recreation Department's David Hunter Memorial Scholarship fund helps families in need afford recreational camps, classes, and programs. The El Cerrito Rotary Club is excited to work with our City and the greater community to support worthwhile civic causes. For more information you can email elcerritorotaryfundraiser@gmail.com, and to learn more about the El Cerrito Rotary club (come join us!) please visit www.elcerritorotary.org.

Thank you, Rotary, and to all our volunteers throughout the City who give of themselves for others. I’m always proud to be a part of this wonderful, caring community.

As always, please be safe, and take care of yourselves and each other.

Karen Pinkos
City Manager
City of El Cerrito
Contra Costa County to Hold Community Visioning Sessions for Arts and Culture Planning
During the week of March 14, five Arts & Culture Community Visioning Sessions will be held as part of the County’s efforts in developing an Arts and Culture Strategic Plan to identify an organization that will serve as a new countywide arts council. The County has contracted with Arts Orange County, the nonprofit arts council in that community, to lead the planning process as the project manager and to facilitate the visioning sessions. The goal is to guide an arts and cultural planning effort through an inclusive community engagement process that recognizes and respects the geographic and demographic diversity of the County. It will also inventory the County’s arts and cultural assets, including organizations, venues, and public art. The Sessions will be held in various locations around the county in Danville, Oakley, Pittsburg, Richmond, and Walnut Creek. Each session is approximately 90 minutes in duration, and light refreshments will be provided. Registration is recommended, but walk-ins are welcome. A Spanish-speaking interpreter will be available at each session to assist.

West County Visioning Session:
Saturday, March 18 at 10:00 a.m. Richmond Art Center – 2540 Barrett Ave, Richmond
Welcome remarks by District 1 County Supervisor John M. Gioia
Register here (https://www.eventbrite.com/e/527313618227)
Masks required at this venue

El Cerrito Historical Society Public Hours
The Shadi Room on the second floor of the City Hall, where El Cerrito Historical Society resides, will resume its public hours in March. It’s open to the public on the third Thursday of every month from 3:30 – 5:00 PM or by appointment. Please contact the Historical Society at echistorical@gmail.com for more information.

Recent City Council Meeting Highlights
Saturday, February 4, 2023 (Special Meeting)
• Conducted a facilitated City Council retreat on good governance, roles and practices of effective councils including constraints, transparency, and accountability

Tuesday, February 7, 2023 (Regular Meeting)
• Captain Brian Cheshareck was named Fire Officer of the Year
• Received presentations on Soft Story Inventory and AB2449
• Approved Pre-Development Loan for BART TOD
• Adopted proclamations recognizing Day of Remembrance of Japanese American Incarceration During World War II, Black History Month, and Lunar New Year
- Adopted an ordinance amending City Council regular meeting start time
- Approved Emergency Vehicle Access Easements at 1711 and 1755 Eastshore Boulevard
- Approved Caltrans Maintenance Agreements for BART TOD

**Tuesday, February 14, 2023 (Special Meeting – Advisory Body Interviews)**
The City Council held interviews and appointed the following El Cerrito residents to serve on city commissions:

- Audrey Faine (Arts and Culture Commission)
- Erin Gillett (Planning Commission)
- Jim Dolgonas (Contra Costa County Mosquito and Vector Control District Board of Trustees)

**Tuesday, February 16, 2023 (Special Meeting – Advisory Body Interviews)**
The City Council held interviews and appointed the following El Cerrito residents to serve on city commissions:

- Patrick Taylor and Andrew Ting (Arts and Culture Commission)
- Rebecca Curry and Bruce Yow (Civil Service Commission)
- Hugh Vanho and Chi Yu (Design Review Board)
- Rebecca Curry (Human Relations Commission)
- Carinne Brody (Park and Recreation Commission)
- Nathan Tinclair, and Abhijeet Singh (Planning Commission)

**Tuesday, February 21, 2023 (Regular Meeting)**
- Adopted proclamation recognizing Day of Ukrainian Solidarity
- Committee on Aging Re-appointment (Dr. Pansy Kwong)
- Urban Forest Committee Re-appointment (Yan Linhart)
- Environmental Quality Committee Re-appointment (Howdy Goudey and Mark Miner)
- Received Monthly Disbursement and Check Register Report
- Adopted Resolution Opposing "Taxpayer Protection and Government Accountability Act"
- Approved AC Transit Cooperative Agreement
- Held a Library Study Session

**Tuesday, March 7, 2023 (Regular Meeting)**
- Wall of Fame Induction of Norman La Force
- Proclamations Recognizing Women’s History Month, American Red Cross Month, Arbor Week and 64th Anniversary of Tibetan Uprising
- Prohousing Incentive Pilot Program Application
- Quarterly General Fund Budget Update and Mid-Year Budget Update

**Upcoming City Council Meeting(s)**
**Tuesday, March 21, 2023 (Regular Meeting)**
- Annual Progress Report for General Plan and Housing Update
- Presentation on Contra Costa Transportation Authority Workplan
- Police Officer, Professional Staff, and Volunteer of the Year Awards
• Award Contract for Lease/Installation of License Plate Readers

Agenda materials and public comment instructions are available online at www.el-cerrito.org/CouncilMeetingMaterials as well as video archives. For more information, please contact the City Clerk at cityclerk@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us or (510) 215-4305.

2023 Wall of Fame Inductee – Norman La Force
The El Cerrito Wall of Fame, located in the El Cerrito City Hall, recognizes residents who have made significant contributions to the community over an extended period of time. The first honoree was Sundar Shadi in 1990. The most recent were Theresa Parella and Mae Ritz in 2017. Ms. Parella was inducted recognizing her lifelong commitment to educating youth of El Cerrito, and Ms. Ritz was inducted for her volunteer work and service in civic affairs to the El Cerrito Community.

In 2022, Mr. Norman La Force was nominated to the El Cerrito Wall of Fame in recognition for his significant contributions to the community. Mr. La Force was formally inducted into the Wall of Fame on March 7, 2023.

2023 Inductee: Norman La Force

Norman La Force, a resident of the City of El Cerrito since 1983, has dedicated his life to creating parks in the East Bay. Mr. La Force served as Chair of Sierra Club’s East Bay Shoreline Park Task Force, co-founded Citizens for East Shore Parks, wrote Creating the Eastshore State Park – An Activist History, and provided pro bono work on park litigation. In El Cerrito, Mr. La Force served on the City Council from 1991 to 1999, including one term as Mayor in 1995. His continuing involvement including restoring El Cerrito’s creeks, promoting low income and high-density housing projects, and leading Measure A to provide funding and reconstruction of El Cerrito Swim Center. He is currently a member of City’s Park & Recreation Commission.

Visit the Wall of Fame inside City Hall or view our Wall of Fame webpage, https://el-cerrito.org/WalloffFame, to learn more about our honorees.

To nominate an El Cerrito resident to the Wall of Fame, submit an application by July 1, 2023. The application and guidelines for nomination and selection are available from Holly M. Charléty, City Clerk, at 510.215.4305 or cityclerk@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us.
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Building Permits

For the month of February, 87 building permits were issued; the status of 85 permits were resulted as a permit final (e.g., closed out); and 113 permit applications were received. There were 618 building inspections performed. Currently, the application processing for building permits requiring plan check is up to 60 days from the date a complete permit application is submitted, and staff are working tirelessly to reduce that turnaround time to less than 30 days with the assistance of a third-party remote permit technician and pending one additional in-person permit technician for a short period of time.

Over the Counter permits are available online through the eTrakIt system. Please visit www.elcerrito.org/permitcounter for more information.

Planning Applications/Updates

On February 15, the Planning Commission recommended that the City Council receive and file the 2022 General Plan Annual Progress Report. The Commission also received a presentation on policies and practices related to the erection of story poles and provided feedback to City staff.

On February 23, the Design Review Board reviewed the design for Parcel A South of the El Cerrito Plaza Station TOD project in an advisory capacity. The Board received public comments and provided comments to the applicant.

On February 28, the Zoning Administrator approved:

- An Administrative Use Permit for a Day Care Center land use proposed in an existing building on an approximate 3,400 square foot site at 11154 San Pablo Avenue (a portion of St. John the Baptist Church). The use is anticipated to accommodate 20 students and five on-site staff.
- An Administrative Use Permit to allow two goats on a 65,000 square foot school site at 320 San Carlos Avenue (Golestan School).

Contact the Planning Division at planning@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us or 510-215-4330 for more information.

Affordable Housing Resources

Visit March 2023 Affordable Housing Opportunities to view current openings throughout the Bay Area – (Courtesy of Openhouse)

Home Match, Contra Costa County: Available Rooms Catalog (February 2023)

If you see something of interest, contact Home Match at 925-956-7385 or homematchcontracosta@frontporch.net. If you are looking for housing, Home Match provides affordable opportunities to those who currently live, work or study in Contra Costa County.
Are you or someone you know a Veteran experiencing homelessness? If so, Supportive Services for Veteran Families, Contra Costa County, can assist. Please call 925-957-6042 or visit www.bfhp.org.

EBMUD offers a Customer Assistance Program (CAP) to help pay a portion of the water bill for qualified low-income residential customers and eligible homeless shelters. Please visit https://www.ebmud.com/customers/customer-assistance-program for more information.

Housing Workshops

First Time Homebuyer Workshop: March 18, 2023, 9AM
This virtual workshop will help you determine if you are ready for homeownership, how to select a lender and shop for a home, all about closing costs, and how to be a successful homeowner. Visit https://www.echofairhousing.org/homebuyer-class-registration.html to reserve your space.

Fair Housing Training: March 10, 2023, 10AM
ECHO is hosting a Fair Housing Training for renters, housing and service providers. Visit https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_eucQN1s_RB2SS5_5HZZNNg to register.

El Cerrito Temporary Eviction Moratorium
On March 25, 2020, the City Council adopted a local Urgency Ordinance enacting a temporary eviction moratorium for residential and commercial tenants financially impacted by COVID-19. The City’s temporary eviction moratorium expired on February 28, 2023, which is the date that the Governor’s COVID-19 State of Emergency ended. Under the City’s moratorium, tenants financially impacted by COVID-19 will have six months to repay unpaid rent beginning on March 1, 2023.

The City does not provide legal advice. Tenants/property owners are encouraged to consider contacting a lawyer or agency that provides rental housing counseling. The Contra Costa Housing Services Collaborative provides comprehensive housing services, including tenant/landlord counseling as well as fair housing to County residents at no cost. For legal consultation or representation, please contact Centro Legal at CCTR@centrolegal.org or 510-437-1554.

If you need rental assistance, please contact one of the agencies below to see if you may be eligible.
• **SHELTER, Inc.:** (925) 349-0571 [https://shelterinc.org/get-help/rental-deposit-assistance/](https://shelterinc.org/get-help/rental-deposit-assistance/)

• **Catholic Charities:** (925) 825-3099 [https://www.cceb.org/housing-services-in-contra-costa-county/](https://www.cceb.org/housing-services-in-contra-costa-county/)

If you have additional questions, please contact Aissia Ashoori at 510-215-4361 or aashoori@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us.

**Economic Development**

Welcome to El Cerrito!

CapeQueen Cosmetics and Salon celebrated their grand opening on February 11, 2023. The owner, Julie Person, uses all natural products and focuses on protective hairstyling, skin nourishment/rejuvenation and mental wellness. Check our CapeQueen inside the Sola Salon at 460 El Cerrito Plaza, Unit 38 or visit [www.capequeencosmeticsandsalon.com](http://www.capequeencosmeticsandsalon.com).

**El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce: March Events**

Join the El Cerrito Chamber at one of their events in March. The Chamber provides many resources and opportunities to local businesses. Come out to network and meet fellow locals!

**El Cerrito Public Safety and Code Enforcement Q & A**

March 22, 2023, 12PM - 1PM

Zoom Registration [Here](#)
FIRE Operations

On January 31, The Fire department contained a structure fire at 208 Stanford Avenue, Kensington. The structure fire threatened four neighboring homes. The steep hills, narrow roads, downslope nature of the construction, and high density of homes made the firefight difficult. The fire took three ECKFD fire engines, two Richmond fire engines, one Berkley fire engine, two ECKFD Chiefs, one Richmond Battalion Chief, and one Contra Costa County Fire Battalion Chief to suppress. The number of fire units above is the minimum response to a working fire in a Very High Fire Severity Zone such as El Cerrito and Kensington. There were no injuries or fatalities resulting from the fire. The four exposed homes saved by The Fire are worth an estimated $4.5 million.

The availability of ambulances to the El Cerrito community continues to be a challenge. The Albany ambulance could not respond to our district when requested twice in January. The Albany ambulance is a backup to El Cerrito/when Contra Costa County Fire Department ambulances are unavailable. The result was a roughly 45-minute wait for an ambulance into the district. The administration continues to search for options to staff a fire station with a transporting unit to ensure the community's safety.

Administration

Contra Costa County residents are approved for Individual Assistance from FEMA. Residents can apply for a series of programs to seek assistance for storm-related damages. Residents must apply through FEMA directly.

Residents who have sustained property and business damage from the series of Winter storms can seek assistance directly from FEMA. Residents should apply online at www.disasterassistance.org or call 1-800- 621-3362. Applying does not guarantee that assistance will be awarded. If you have additional questions, this link will take you to a FEMA flyer that explains all the available programs: https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/2020-08/fema_help-after-disaster_english_trifold.pdf
Training
The El Cerrito Fire Department assisted local Police Departments in receiving Narcan training. Narcan is a medication used in the treatment of opioid overdose. Synthetic opioids such as fentanyl have the potential to kill from brief exposure to skin or mucus membranes. The rates of overdose deaths from opioids have increased by 1800% since 2013. Synthetic opioids account for 82% of all opioid-involved deaths. Synthetic opioids found in suspects' possession are a growing life and safety threat to law enforcement officers in the field and storage facilities. The Department of Homeland Security is considering Synthetic opioids as having the potential for domestic terrorism.

POLICE
Calls for Service
The El Cerrito Police Department (ECPD) handled 1377 calls for service in January. To read more about the types of calls the ECPD handles, check out our Nixle Feed at www.nixle.com.

Employment Opportunities with the ECPD
The ECPD is currently looking for candidates for Police Recruit and Police Officer. These jobs offer an unmatched ability to make positive change in our community and offer great benefits to boot! If you or someone you know is interested in joining the ECPD team, please have them check out our available positions at: https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/elcerrito.

License Plate Reading Camera Meeting
The El Cerrito Police Department (ECPD) is proposing to install license plate reader camera’s (LPR) as an additional tool for solving crimes. Many nearby communities have installed license plate reading cameras to help officers identify vehicles involved in criminal activities.

We will present this project at the March 21, 2023, City Council meeting.

Employees of the Year

Officer Michael Olivieri has been selected as the department’s Officer of the Year. Officer Olivieri’s consistent hard work, dedication, work ethic, thoroughness, and positive attitude have earned him this award. Congratulations to Officer Olivieri!
Senior Records Specialist Veronica Ceja has been named the department’s Professional Staff Employee of the Year. Senior Records Specialist Ceja has taken on extra responsibilities, gotten new programs off the ground, and served the department and community with professionalism. Congratulations Senior Records Specialist Ceja!

PUBLIC WORKS

Earth Day is April 15, 2023
Help spread the word, El Cerrito’s Earth Day Celebration will be Saturday, April 15, 2023! The festivities will include volunteer work parties from 9am to 12pm, followed by an appreciation lunch at the Community Center from 12pm to 1:30pm. Find the latest information at El-cerrito.org/Earthday. To organize a work party, sign up for a work party, or to get involved in planning the event, please reach out to earthday@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us.

Arbor Week Tree Walk on March 11
In recognition of El Cerrito Arbor Week, community members can join City Arborist, Stephen Prée, for a leisurely tree talk and walk at Canyon Trail Park. This is a moderate to easy hike that will focus on native and exotic trees in Canyon Trail Park. Attendees will learn how to differentiate certain native species from invasive ones, discover how they provide habitat in our city, and hear about management strategies. This 60-90 minute tree talk is co-sponsored by the El Cerrito Urban Forest Committee. Meet at 3pm at the Conlon Ave. entrance to Canyon Trail Park. For more information, e-mail Stephen Prée at spree@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us.

Climate Action & Adaptation Plan Under Way, Engagement Plan Being Finalized
City Staff have been hard at work with Cascadia Consulting Group getting the Climate Action & Adaptation Plan (CAAP) under way. Data is currently being collected to analyze the City’s greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to establish a baseline GHG inventory for calendar year 2021, and a consumption based GHG emissions inventory is also in development. This month, the City is working to finalize the Engagement Plan, which includes various methods of outreach and engagement with stakeholders throughout the community.
A CAAP Stakeholder Advisory Group, consisting of members of City Advisory Bodies such as the Environmental Quality Committee, the Urban Forest Committee, the Planning Commission, and the Park & Recreation Commission, as well as members of community groups, including El Cerrito Trail Trekkers, El Cerrito Strollers and Rollers, and Make El Cerrito Fire Safe, is being formed to meet on an as-needed basis to provide input on components of the CAAP as they are being developed. The Engagement Plan will also include broader public engagement activities such as hybrid online and in-person interactive workshops, targeted stakeholder meetings, a central webpage and online comment portal, printed factsheets, outreach in the community at City events including Earth Day and 4th of July, and social media posts, in addition to more than 7 public presentations at City meetings. For more information on the CAAP, please contact Christina Leard at Cleard@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us.

**Foodware Resource Guide Mailed to All Food Vendors**

Over the last two years, the City Council has adopted amendments to the City’s Foodware Ordinance requiring foodware to be compostable or reusable, and additionally requiring foodware accessories to only be provided upon request. The Expanded Foodware Ordinance requires that:

1) All Food Providers in the city must use compostable or reusable foodware (e.g., straws, eating utensils, and food containers) with limited exceptions.

2) Aligning with State law (Assembly Bill 1276), all Food Facilities must also only distribute single-use foodware accessories (e.g., utensils, straws, stirrers, etc.) and condiment cups or packets upon request by the consumer.

The City mailed a resource packet that includes a factsheet, a Compliant Disposable Foodware guide, and sample signage to all impacted businesses in February 2023. Enforcement of the compostable foodware requirements will begin January 1, 2024. To view PDFs of the resources that have been created or to find out more information, please visit el-cerrito.org/foodware.

The City will additionally assist businesses by providing training and building public awareness to support a smooth transition.

**Registration Deadline for the Citywide Garage Sale is April 14**

The City will be hosting the 2023 Spring Citywide Garage Sale on **Saturday, May 13 from 9am to 3pm**. As in years past, the City will coordinate the host locations to create a map and advertise the event. Hosts pay a $25 registration fee that covers the cost of creating the citywide map and publishing newspaper ads. The map of garage sale locations will be available on May 1 at el-cerrito.org/garagesale.
If a resident, business, or community group is interested in being a host, they can complete the registration form between now and **Friday, April 14**, so that their location will be included on the map. Alternatively, online registration is now also available on the City's website. For more information, please contact the City’s Waste Prevention Specialist, Laureteen Brazil, via e-mail at lbrazil@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us or call (510) 215-4350.

**Updates from MCE Clean Energy**

The City’s Public Works Department is working to share a number of recent highlights and accomplishments from MCE Clean Energy, as well as information on their new program offerings. These include:

- The MCE Sync EV Smart Charging app which helps automate EV charging at home to use the least expensive and cleanest energy on the grid. Customers can earn a $30 sign-up bonus for enrolling and charging an EV and earn up to $10 per month in additional cash back by charging during low-carbon events. Customers can click here to see if their EV or charger is compatible and other benefits of the app.
- MCE has now distributed over **$1 million dollars in EV rebates** to more than 300 low-income Bay Area drivers.
- MCE received **$3.25 million in federal funding** to support the Healthy Homes, EV charging, and energy storage programs. Combined with $900,000 from MCE, bay area residents and businesses can access an additional $4.15 million in customer programs.
- MCE’s newest resource adequacy project is now online, converting a natural gas-fired peaker plant into a **state-of-the art energy storage hybrid**. The addition of 16 megawatts of battery storage to the 48-megawatt facility enables the plant to burn significantly less fuel than a standard gas site, reducing facility particulate emissions by up to 78% and greenhouse gas emissions by up to 60%.

For more information on MCE programs, visit [www.mcecleanenergy.org](http://www.mcecleanenergy.org).

### RECREATION

**Summer Camp Registration Now Open**

Summer Camp registration opened on Wednesday, 2/15 with the virtual **Discount Day** special event. The Recreation Department saw record-breaking participation, and over 3,300 online enrollments were processed that day. Thank you to everyone who participated! Over 90% of our camps have met their minimum enrollment requirements, and many are even completely full.

There is still space in many of our 2023 summer camps, and registration remains open online at [www.el-cerrito.org/onlinereg](http://www.el-cerrito.org/onlinereg). Early registration is encouraged, and if your desired camp is full, you are encouraged to join the waitlist (if space becomes available, our office will contact you). To learn more about our summer camp program, see all that we are offering, review our handbook, and more, visit [www.el-cerrito.org/summercamp](http://www.el-cerrito.org/summercamp).
February Enrollments and Reservations
In addition to 3,366 summer camp enrollments processed on Discount Day, another 1,011 activity enrollments occurred in the month of February for youth, adult, and senior activities. 279 students were enrolled in Childcare. There were 2,785 visits to the pool using an aquatics pass, and another 614 drop-ins. There were 525 facility reservations, including tennis courts, play fields, picnic sites, clubhouses and the Community Center.

Employment Opportunities with the Recreation Department
The El Cerrito Recreation Department is currently hiring multiple part-time positions including Childcare Teacher, Childcare Aide, Gymnastics Coach, Lifeguard, and Water Aerobics Instructor. If you or someone you know is interested in joining the Recreation team, please have them check out our open positions at: https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/elcerrito.

Swim Center Activity Pool Construction
On Monday, February 27, 2023, the Activity Pool will be under construction for re-plastering. This project will last through at least Friday 4/7/23 with no access to the Activity Pool portion of the facility. A few days throughout this period we will be shutting down the entire facility, including the week of Monday February 27 through Friday March 3, 2023. More information and an up-to-date schedule will be posted online at www.el-cerrito.org/swimcenter.

We Want Your Feedback!
Did you know that you can provide feedback, suggest new programs, compliment instructors, or let us know where there is room for improvement using our feedback survey? Now available is an online survey that allows the public to share their thoughts on all recreation experiences. To provide your feedback on the Recreation Department, click here. Your comments help shape our future programs and planning!
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The City is pleased to offer the following employment opportunities:

- Budget/Financial Services Manager
- Police Officer – Lateral and Academy Graduate
- Police Officer – Recruit
- Police Corporal
- Senior Planner
- Assistant Gymnastic Coach (Recreation Program Leader) – Part-Time
- Childcare Teacher – Part-Time
- Recreation Supervisor (Childcare)
- Water Aerobics Instructor (Aquatics Specialist I) – Part-Time
- Water Aerobics Instructor (Aquatics Specialist II) – Part-Time

For more information about the positions and how to apply, please visit: www.el-cerrito.org/jobs.

ATTACHMENTS/FLYERS

- El Cerrito Rotary Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser, Saturday, March 25, 5:30 PM
- Hillside Festival, May 6-7, 2023, Haiku Contest flyer
EL CERRITO ROTARY
SPAGHETTI DINNER Fundraiser
SATURDAY, MARCH 25TH, 5:30PM

ADULTS $25
KIDS $15
PER PERSON
PER PERSON

Evening lineup:
GREAT FOOD, DRINKS,
RAFFLE, LIVE MUSIC

El Cerrito Community Center
Proceeds will go to the Rotary Scholarship Fund and the El Cerrito Recreation Department’s David Hunter Memorial Scholarship

TO PURCHASE TICKETS SCAN THIS QR CODE
OR EMAIL: ELCERRITOROTARYFUNDRAISER@GMAIL.COM
ELCERRITOROTARY.ORG
Focus your poems on your experiences in the Hillside Natural Area. Celebrate the annual El Cerrito Trail Trekkers Hillside Festival. Classical Japanese Haiku includes: the season; the place, the transitory nature of life, the suffering, the surprise moment. 17 syllables in 5-7-5 format is not strictly followed. See the examples in upper right corner. Inspiration should come from the Hillside. YOU DON’T HAVE TO BE AN EL CERRITO RESIDENT TO ENTER.

It is purple not water, by the plank bridge; wild irises. Upasaka Shiki

Where a hill slope, a temple, where a temple a plum garden. Upasaka Shiki

Don’t kill that fly! Look—it’s wringing its hands, wringing its feet. Issa

Age categories: 1)18 and over; 2)13-17; 3)12 and under. First prize in each age category: $50 gift certificate Second and third prize in each age category: $20 Gift Certificate. A panel of three esteemed local poets will select winners. Winners will be awarded gift certificates to El Cerrito Natural Grocery and/or Jenny K Gifts. Include your name, email, phone number, and age if 12 or under, or 13-17. Children 12 and under, please ask your parent or guardian about entering the contest beforehand. Submit up to three poems to email: ECTTHaiku@gmail.com between 3-1-23 and 3-31-23 (+New submissions only. Contestant names posted every few days Children listed by first name & first initial of last name. Please go to website for more details. (www.ectrailtrekkers.org).

Winners announced April 11,2023. Winners featured on the website and in the ECTT Newsletter. Awards will be given out and poets read their haiku on the Haiku Hike through the Hillside Area during the Hillside Festival on May 7, 2023. Check the website for the time.

Trail Trekker website: www.ectrailtrekkers.org