



**City of El Cerrito**  
**Centennial Time Capsule**  
**Dedicated on August 23, 2017**



**List of Contents by Shelf**

**Shelf One (Top)**

**Ceremonial gavel (Unit # 7)**

Wood with brass inscription plate, "El Cerrito City Council 1917-2017."

**El Cerrito Historical Society Items (Unit # 29)**

The El Cerrito Historical Society is a non-political, non-profit organization and has only one agenda: to locate and preserve local history, primarily focused on the history of El Cerrito. Included are a copy of "El Cerrito Historical Evolution" by Edward Staniford (published in 1976; 116 pages), and "Images of America: El Cerrito" by the El Cerrito Historical Society (published in 2005; 128 pages). Also included are a 2017 timeline of El Cerrito's history, and flyers about their centennial events and speakers bureau.

**Stege Sanitary District 100th Anniversary History Book (Unit # 43)**

Stege Sanitary District plans and operates a safe, efficient, and economical wastewater collection and transfer system for the present and future customers of El Cerrito, Kensington and the Richmond Annex. The book, "Stege Sanitary District 100th Anniversary History," relates the history of the District, which was incorporated in 1913, four years before El Cerrito. Also included is a cover letter from General Manager Rex Delizo.

**Street Map, currency and stamps (Unit # 51)**

El Cerrito Street Map (published 2008), and miscellaneous coins, bills and 4 "forever" postage stamps in circulation in 2017.

**Fidget spinner (Unit # 49)**

Fidget spinners became popular toys in mid-2017, although similar devices had been invented decades before. A fidget spinner consists of a ball-bearing in the center of a multi-lobed flat structure made from metal or plastic, designed to spin along its axis with little effort. A person holds the center pad while the toy spins. It can also be balanced on top of fingers, thrown and caught, spun on a flat surface, etc. The popularity of the toy among children and teenagers has led some schools to ban use of the spinners in class for being a distraction, while other schools have allowed the toy to be used discreetly. Some people believe it helps people who have trouble focusing or fidgeting by relieving nervous energy.

**Shelf Two**

**State and National Flags (Unit # 4)**

Cloth USA flag (with certificate) that was flown over the U.S. Capitol in Washington, DC, at the request of the Honorable Dianne Feinstein, US Senator; cloth California flag (with certificate) that was flown over the State Capitol in Sacramento at the request of the Honorable Nancy Skinner, California State Legislature, 9th District.

**City Garments (Unit # 2)**

Fire Battalion 71 staff baseball cap, Centennial baseball cap (grey, promotional item sold to the public), Swim Center staff visor, volunteer shirt (white), 2017 summer camp attendee shirt (green).

**Fire Department Uniform Patches and Trading Cards (Unit # 12)**

1 cloth Fire Department logo (centennial version worn in 2017), 1 shoulder patch and El Cerrito-Kensington Fire Department "trading cards" (12 individual cards, each features a photo and information about a firefighter along with a safety message).

**2017 “Bike to Work Day” canvas tote bag (Unit # 19)**

Popular give-away item from the annual regional “Bike to Work Day” event.

**Fashionable jeans (Unit # 50)**

Pair of torn jeans purchased at a local clothing store.

**El Cerrito Library Commemorative Plate (Unit # 34)**

Commemorative plate from the 2013 celebration of 100 years of the library service in Rust and El Cerrito. Plate donated by the Friends of the El Cerrito Library.

**Shelf Three**

**Centennial celebration publicity items (Unit # 1)**

2017 centennial events calendar, passport activity booklet, and Celebration Weekend poster.

**City keychains, pins and Centennial celebration promotional items (Unit # 3)**

1 black ceramic mug, 1 square silver centennial keychain, 1 round keychain from City Hall dedication in 2008, 1 standard City lapel pin, 1 centennial lapel pin, 1 “ECCRU” button (promoting the new El Cerrito Creative Re-Use Artist in Residence program).

**Police Department Badges, Patches and Coins (Unit # 5)**

Letter from Police Chief Paul Keith to the future Police Chief; Number 100 police badge and hat badge (in green box); 1 cloth badge (star shape), 1 shoulder patch; 1 Chief of Police Challenge Coin (recognition award given to employees or community members); Bike Patrol Unit Challenge Coin (the Bike Patrol Unit has been in existence since 1998 and is still active today); SWAT Unit cloth patches (grey and black with Velcro backing); Mutual Aid Mobile Field Force (MAMFF) cloth patches (grey and black) and a poker chip commemorating the 2003 MAMFF (the Police Department is part of the Contra Costa County MAMFF, a multi-jurisdictional coalition that may be deployed in the event of a natural disaster, civil unrest, or other major incidents).

**Portraits of the Current City Council (Unit # 6)**

Printed individual portraits of the 2017 City Council, plus a candid group photo taken at the August 15, 2017 Council meeting with Wall of Fame Inductees. The 2017 City Council members are Mayor Janet Abelson, Mayor Pro Tem Gabriel Quinto, Paul Fadelli, Greg Lyman, and Rochelle Pardue-Okimoto.

**Handbook for Appointed Boards, Commissions, and Committees (2007) and 2017 rosters (Unit # 9)**

More than 80 citizens are appointed by the City Council to these advisory bodies and make a tremendously valuable contribution to the effective provision of responsive services to the community.

**Arts and Culture Commission Items (Unit # 17)**

2017 Commission brochure, handout about the City Hall Gallery Space, flyer about new El Cerrito Creative ReUse (ECCRU) Artist Residency (a program funded by the City’s Art in Public Places), flyer for Centennial-themed Arts Day event to be held in October 2017, and photo and statement of Nga Trinh’s “In the Dinosaur’s Forest” (the origami piece was donated by the artist to the City in 2017 as a centennial gift).

**City Planning Documents (Unit # 11)**

Digital files on compact disc for the following documents: City of El Cerrito Urban Greening Plan, adopted December 15, 2015; City of El Cerrito San Pablo Avenue Specific Plan, adopted December 2014; and City of El Cerrito General Plan, adopted August 30, 1999; printouts of cover and table of contents of each document.

**Biennial Budget for Fiscal Years 2016-2017 & 2017-2018 & Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2016 (Unit # 8)**

The operating budget is the City’s service and financial plan for the next fiscal year; it is a legally required planning tool that matches the services desired by the community, as interpreted by the City Council, to the estimated resources available to provide those services. At the end of the fiscal year, the City prepares a Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR), which includes information on the expenses and revenue for all aspects of the City and its component units.

### **Recreation Activity Guides (Unit # 14)**

2017 seasonal Recreation Activity Guides, or “rECguides” (3 issues), and a copy of the August 2017 “50+ Bulletin,” the newsletter of the Senior Services Division.

### **Community Journals (Unit # 55)**

These 3 books feature notes that were specifically written to be included in the time capsule by community members. See names of people who wrote in the journals on the last page of this document.

### **City Employees (Unit # 15)**

Photos of some city employees: 2 group photos of some of the employees who work at City Hall (taken August 2017 in front of City Hall), group photo of (mostly) Public Works Department employees (taken in May 2017 in front of the Recycling & Environmental Resource Center Administrative Office), and biographies of City Manager Scott Hanin and Assistant City Manager Karen Pinkos.

### **Economic Development Committee Items (Unit # 16)**

Information on the City’s Economic Development Committee, and “A Day In the Life” commentary by committee member Rosa Esquivel, reflecting on living in El Cerrito in 2017.

### **“Snapshot of El Cerrito” by Maw Shien Win (Unit # 37)**

As the first poet laureate of El Cerrito, Maw Shien Win wrote this poem in 2017 as a tribute to our city and its citizens. Also included is Win’s biography.

### **USB Flash Drives (Unit # 54)**

Bag with 4 USB flash drives (one each from Shadi Display Committee, El Cerrito High School Archiving Project, Soroptimist International of El Cerrito and worldOne Radio) and a USB to USB-C adapter.

## **Shelf Four**

### **“News & Views” Newsletters (Unit # 10)**

Collection of issues of the City’s “News & Views” newsletters from 2006 through 2017.

### **2015 Police Department Annual Report (Unit # 13)**

Police Department Annual Report from 2015, copy of centennial presentation about the Police Department, and group photo of City employees, elected officials and Crime Prevention Committee members taken on National Night Out, August 1, 2017 in front of Fire Station 71.

### **2017 Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour Book (Unit # 20)**

Guidebook from the thirteenth annual Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour. The City supports this annual event, which highlights local gardens in Alameda and Contra Costa counties that are pesticide-free, water-conserving, provide habitat for wildlife, and contain 60% or more native plants.

### **Three Popular Books (Unit # 32)**

Paperback copies of the most popular books borrowed from the El Cerrito Library in 2016: “I Will Surprise My Friend,” by Mo Willems (kids); “Miss Peregrine’s Home for Peculiar Children,” by Ransom Riggs (teens); “The Girl on the Train,” by Paula Hawkins (adults).

### **Friends of El Cerrito Library Items (Unit # 33)**

The Friends of the El Cerrito Library (FECL) was formed in 1913 and serves the literacy and cultural needs of El Cerrito. FECL provides the library with books, magazines and compact discs as well as matching grants for special collections, and helps support the library’s cultural and educational programs for the city’s children and adults. FECL held its first board meeting in July of 1968. In addition to minutes from the first board meeting and a meeting in 2017, included are items related to the library’s 100th birthday, which was celebrated four years ago.

### **Contra Costa Civic Theatre Items (Unit # 21)**

El Cerrito's Louis and Bettianne Flynn founded Contra Costa Civic Theatre in 1959, initially by repurposing the Vista Movie Theatre at the corner of Blake Street and San Pablo Avenue to provide affordable, high quality entertainment to residents throughout the East Bay and to provide training in live performing arts for children and adults. In partnership with the City, Contra Costa Civic Theatre moved to its current location at 951 Pomona Avenue in 1971. Included are a cover letter from Managing Director Georgina Edwards along with promotional materials about the Theatre's current season, a summer drama camp program and a St. Ignatius Medal, which the theatre periodically awards to exceptional volunteers and other long-time contributors.

### **Boy/Cub Scouts Pack 104 Items (Unit # 22)**

Boy/Cub Scouts Pack 104 has been serving the El Cerrito Community for over 55 years. Included are a cover letter from Cub Master RJ Lane, a list of 2017 leadership, a list of Pack 104 members, some event flyers and "shrinky dink" craft project highlighting each boy's favorite part of scouting.

### **El Cerrito Branch of the NAACP Items (Unit # 23)**

The El Cerrito branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) was founded in 1967 and is part of the national organization established in 1909. The mission of the NAACP is to ensure the political, educational, social and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate race-based discrimination. Items include organizational brochures, membership form, brief history, Branch Elections Manual, recent meeting minutes, flyers from past Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebrations, and the Fall 2014 issue of "Crisis" magazine.

### **El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce Byline newsletters, membership directory and 50th Anniversary coin (Unit # 24)**

The El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce has been supporting local businesses since 1936. Their newsletter, The Byline, (6 issues included) shows a slice of life in the El Cerrito business community. Also included is the current list of members and a coin from El Cerrito's 50th Anniversary celebration in 1967.

### **El Cerrito Democratic Club newsletter and materials related to the November 2016 election (Unit # 25)**

These El Cerrito Democratic Club documents represent the vibrant political life within El Cerrito for one of the oldest political clubs in the Bay Area. The items highlight the club's diversity, inclusion, respect and caring about the needs of every resident, and its continuous striving to create a better environment for all. Also included are two documents (blue endorsements page and door hanger) that were walked and dropped to nearly every house in El Cerrito by local volunteers prior to the November 2016 election. The club submitted these items to be included in the time capsule to illustrate our community's vital and tangible participation in its democracy, at the grassroots level.

### **El Cerrito Garden Club Items (Unit # 26)**

The El Cerrito Garden Club's mission is to preserve and protect nature. Included are a brief history of the club, a 4-page list of East Bay native plant species, The Thymes newsletter (which gives a history of the club and demonstrates its contributions to El Cerrito and to the education of El Cerrito High School students), as well as information on recent garden contest winners.

### **El Cerrito High School Archiving Project Items (Unit # 27)**

El Cerrito High School Archiving Project contributed items to illustrate the daily life at the school from 1946 to the present day. Included are: DVD "Green & White: the Gaucho Story" about the school's history; 6 color photos of new buildings; USB flash drive with 3 video files (Green & White, the Gaucho Story in mp4; Green & White: the Gaucho Story special features in mp4; older version of same video in Adobe Premiere Elements format) and multiple photographs as image files; photograph of the school (rolled); compact disc with powerpoint about athletics; black plastic car license plate decorative frame: "ECHS Gauchos"; "ECHS archiving project" pencil; "ECHS 1941-2005" lapel pin.

### **El Cerrito Royale marketing folder (Unit # 30)**

Information on the senior residential facility located at 6510 Gladys Avenue, El Cerrito.

### **Friends of Five Creeks Volunteers (Unit # 35)**

Friends of Five Creeks, an all-volunteer organization, has worked in El Cerrito for 21 years, chiefly on Cerrito Creek and in the Hillside Natural Area. They hold frequent volunteer events. These photos represent both the organization's work and El Cerrito citizens' long history of volunteering.

### **Friends of the Cerrito Theater Items (Unit # 36)**

The Cerrito Theater, known in 2017 as Rialto Cinemas Cerrito, is an Art Deco theater that opened in 1937 at 10700 San Pablo Avenue. In the beautiful building with its glorious murals, the theater successfully creates a community space and encourages residents to attend showings of movie classics, blockbuster films, and family-oriented movies. Included are a brief history of the organization, a copy of Cerrito Theater Open House invitation (2002) and flyers from recent Cerrito Theater Classics Series events. These items from the Friends of the Cerrito Theater give the history of the theater, the story of the efforts of the Friends of the Cerrito Theater to renovate and re-open the theater, and information about recent events that are part of their classic movies series.

### **Shadi Display Committee Items (Unit # 39)**

El Cerrito is known as a multi-cultural city, with residents from a variety of races, religions and cultural backgrounds. One who was part of that was Sundar Shadi, a Sikh who immigrated from India in 1921, graduated from the University of California, Berkeley, worked hard at menial jobs, invested wisely and fulfilled "the American Dream." Mr. Shadi is remembered for the extensive flower displays he created each summer, as well as a scene of Bethlehem he erected each December with buildings, people and animal figures that he handmade from common household items and recycled and salvaged materials. When he died at age 101 in 2002, a group of community members was determined that the display would continue. It has been purchased by Soroptimist International of El Cerrito, and a group of volunteers re-creates the scene each December on some open space along Moeser Lane (at Sea View). Included are a USB flash drive with digital photograph files and a video of the display (drone footage), flyer and postcard about the Shadi Display Committee and their annual re-creation of Sundar Shadi's holiday display.

### **St. John the Baptist Church Book (Unit # 41)**

The book is a historical account of how the location and site of the St. John the Baptist Church was selected, as well as the lifestyle of El Cerritans at that time. Also included are two recent church bulletins that show the parish's schedule of events and worship schedule. The book was generously donated by parishioners Ruth and Peter Vietti.

### **St. Peter Christian Methodist Episcopal Church Items (Unit # 42)**

St. Peter Christian Methodist Episcopal Church submitted various items to reflect the activities and history of the Church. The materials reflect their values that whatever is of interest and concern to the people (social, economic, and political) is the concern of the Church in its present time. Included are a brief history of the church, some photos, and a postcard about a centennial event celebrating the legacy of African-Americans in El Cerrito.

### **Soroptimist International of El Cerrito Items (Unit # 40)**

Cover letter from SIEC President Barbara Lanier along with a USB flash drive containing digital photo files, and a lapel pin.

### **Tehiyah Day School Yearbook (Unit # 44)**

Yearbook from Tehiyah Day School 2016-2017. Tehiyah Day School is a Jewish community day school located at 2603 Tassajara Avenue, El Cerrito, that provides kindergarten through 8th grade education.

### **TEPCO Cigarette ashtray and smokefree postcard (Unit # 45)**

The Technical Porcelain and Chinaware Company (TEPCO) operated in El Cerrito from 1931 to 1968. This ashtray represents a bygone era as TEPCO no longer exists, and in 2015, El Cerrito banned smoking in public places, commercial areas and multi-family housing. The ashtray is an ovoid-shaped, vitrified china, advertising bowl-type cigarette ashtray with a raised section positioned across the bowl with four slots on top for resting

cigarettes. White base color with magenta speckles all over. The company name "TEPCO" appears on both sides of the raised center section and also on the bottom of the piece along with the addresses of the company's three business locations. Also included is an information postcard from the City regarding the smoke-free regulations. The ashtray was donated by Lynn Maack and Sandi Genser-Maack.

**"Song for El Cerrito" by Tess Taylor (Unit # 46)**

Poem, "Song for El Cerrito," by El Cerrito resident Tess Taylor, from her 2013 book "The Forage House."

**School photographs (Unit # 48)**

Photos provided by West Contra Costa Unified School District of: El Cerrito High School, Fairmont School, Harding Elementary School, Kensington Hilltop School, Korematsu Middle School, Madera School, and Mira Vista School.

**El Cerrito Trail Trekkers Items (Unit # 31)**

El Cerrito Trail Trekkers is a nonprofit group dedicated to preserving, improving and extending the city's network of public pathways, stairs, trails and greenways for pedestrian and bicycle use. The Trekkers advocate for increased public open space, and sponsor activities that involve trails and open space, including hikes, festivals, and other educational events. Included are a postcard and map from the 2017 Hillside Festival, photos from recent hikes, information about the signs being developed for the Hillside Natural Area, a compact disc with four photos from Trekker hikes, list of 2017 Accomplishments and Goals for Trekkers, flyer from August 2017 dedication of the steps at Motorcycle Hill and a portion of the yellow ribbon used in the dedication ceremony.

**worldOneradio + festival Items (Unit # 47)**

worldOneradio + festival presents a broad cultural palette of eclectic and earthnic musics, dance, ideation, and dialogue in various venues: KeCg (its radio station FCC-licensed to El Cerrito High School), classrooms, and community festivals. The compact disc and USB flash drive have examples of KeCg broadcasts and music performances. The disc also includes image files. The poster and postcard are publicity from the 2017 July 4 Festival, which is produced by the City of El Cerrito and worldOneradio.

**El Cerrito Rotary Club Items (Unit # 38)**

El Cerrito Rotary Club rosters from 2016-2017 and 2017-2018, literature on the organization, Rotary token (metal), and a cloth pennant.

**Christ Lutheran Senior Center (Unit # 52)**

Statement about Christ Lutheran Senior Center and example of programs and classes offered.

**California, the Golden State (Unit # 53)**

Book about the State of California (published in 2010).

**Back Wall (behind shelves)**

**"Not In Our Town" window sign & Human Relations Commission brochure (Unit # 18)**

In response to a hate crime in 2016, the City's Human Relations Commission developed a campaign against hate, including distribution of the included sign for residents and businesses to display, which says "Stop Hate. Together. Not In Our Town." Included is one paper window sign and a handout about the commission.

**ECHS athletics Hall of Fame inductees (Unit # 28)**

Hall of Fame Athletes 1944-1979; Hall of Fame Inaugural Year 2009, Athletes 1947-1969.

**List of People Who Wrote in Community Journals (Unit # 55)**

Claire Donovan-Suguitan, Grace Birnam, Kaliah Taylor, Leila Jadoon, Robin Miranda Mitchell, Sydney Duckor, Kayla Grien, Marin Stuart, Lanaiyah Taviani, Hope Rodas, Alice Johnson, Abraham Kobina Tiekou, Casey, Samman Iqbal, Abia Syed, Emma Rusin, Cassandra McHugh, Lucy Lorraine Tabor, Lina Wong, Kiara, Vonne, Mia Syren, Marlene Keller, Mollie Hazen, Miles Hacker, Blanca Montano, Lina Huang, Shannon Collins, Andrea Arriaga, Yoko Nunokawa, Mychael Alexander Jamison, Michelle Fadelli, Robin Hansen, Mary Lyman, Marty Takimoto, Kathy & Jose Umali, Chris & Ursula Samu, Michael Balmaude, Hilary Crosby, Margaret Kavanaugh-Lynch, Sean Moss, Jennifer Peat, Mark Soltes, Laureteen Brazil, Noa Kornbluh, Precilla Mandujano, Yvetteh Ortiz, Ruth Cazden, Patricia Shaw, Karen Pinkos, Lance Maples, Scott Hanin, Cheryl Mosby, Cheryl Morse, Mark Rasiah, Eli Hanin