

# About Town

## The El Sobrante Chamber of Commerce Monthly Newsletter

*Serving the El Sobrante Business Community Since 1957*

### President's Message

#### Nicole Donn, President



In March, your El Sobrante Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting/ mixer for our Business of the Month, CS Beauty Salon and Spa. They have done a beautiful job with the space making it light, bright, clean, and cheerful and we wish them many successful years here in El Sobrante.

On April 6<sup>th</sup>, there will be a "Coffee with a Cop" event with Supervisor John Gioia and Contra Costa Sheriff Deputies, from 9-10:30 am at the El Sobrante Library. Get to know our public officials and ask whatever questions you may have about our community.

On April 8<sup>th</sup>, we are co-hosting a Mega-Mixer for all members of the business community. Free to members, \$10 for non-members in Hercules. Our

next Mixer will be April 17<sup>th</sup>, hosted by the El Sobrante Historical Society.

The annual Earth Day Cleanup and Community Celebration will be April 20<sup>th</sup>, from 9:30 am until 2:00 pm at the library. The Green Team 94803, SPAWNERS and community volunteers will work until about noon, cleaning up the town and the creeks. Then at noon, we will have food, music, and info booths in the library plaza.

We are very excited to announce the First Annual El Sobrante Valley Pride Celebration, to be held the afternoon of June 9<sup>th</sup> at La Moine Park (Cheese Park) It will be a family friendly event with entertainment, food trucks and vendors. Please let us know if you are interested in participating. More details to follow in next month's newsletter.

We are working hard to create events that embrace all members of our diverse community, so if you have an idea for a cultural event you would like to help plan, please reach out to us and we will work with you to make it happen!

## 2024 Chamber Board Meetings

Hybrid board meetings are usually held on the first Monday of every month at 5:30 pm in person at the chamber office. Contact Scott Tuffnell, [stuffnell09@yahoo.com](mailto:stuffnell09@yahoo.com) if you need the Zoom link. The 2024 meetings are scheduled to be held on the dates below:

January 8	February 5	March 4	April 1
May 6	June 3	July 1	August 5
September 9	October 7	November 4	December 2

## Events Table

April 1, Monday, 5:30 – 6:30 pm	Chamber Board Meeting, 3769 San Pablo Dam Rd.
April 6, Saturday, 9:00 – 10:30 am	"Coffee with a Cop" Event at El Sobrante Library, 4191 Appian Way
10:00 am – 2:00 pm	Friends of the El Sobrante Library BOOK SALE
April 8, Monday, 5:30 – 7:30 pm	Mega-Mixer in Hercules, at The Grand at BayFront, 2200 John Muir Pkwy
April 17, Wednesday, 5:30 – 7:00 pm	Mixer at El Sobrante Historical Society in Fahden House, back of Library Parking Lot
April 20, Saturday, 9:30 – 2:00 pm	Earth Day Community Cleanup

## Mortgage Minute by Nicole Donn

The Mortgage Minute is on the El Sobrante Chamber of Commerce website at <https://www.elsobrantechamber.com/category/blog/newsletter-articles/>

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## Green Team

The Green Team 94803 article in on the Chamber website at: [www.elsobrantechamber.com/category/blog/newsletter-articles/](http://www.elsobrantechamber.com/category/blog/newsletter-articles/)



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Onsite Manager

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[sanpablo@securitypublicstorage.com](mailto:sanpablo@securitypublicstorage.com)

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4726 Appian Way  
El Sobrante, CA 94803  
(510) 222-6206  
E-mail: [dr\\_dan@pacbell.net](mailto:dr_dan@pacbell.net)

## Cloverfield Organic Farm

The Cloverfield Organic Farm article is on the Chamber website at: <https://www.cloverfieldfarm.us/post/what-s-up-ready-for-u-picking-in-april>



Cloverfield  
Organic Farm

# MEMBERSHIP NEWS!

Thank you to those who have renewed their 2024 Membership. Join your Chamber and have a voice in shaping the future of your El Sobrante Valley Community. The 2024 Membership application online is on our website at:  
<https://www.elsobrantechamber.com/mail-applications-for-membership/>



**Protect your local creek!**

- Volunteer Work Parties
- Nature Walks & Talks
- Educational Programs

**Contact:**  
Mitch Olinger, Program Coordinator  
Mitch@thewatershedproject.org  
[www.spawners.org](http://www.spawners.org)



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**Veronica Vela**  
Branch Manager  
El Sobrante Branch  
NMLS #2500014

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3884 San Pablo Dam Road, El Sobrante, CA 94803  
510.262.7400 OFFICE  
veronica\_vela@mechanicsbank.com  
www.mechanicsbank.com

**SUNDAY  
SEPTEMBER 15  
2024  
11am-4pm**



**TAKE A STROLL ON THE WILD SIDE**

**San Pablo Dam Rd between  
El Portal Dr & Appian Way**

**FOR INFORMATION, CONTACT THE FOLLOWING:**

Sponsorship Program - Scott -stuffnell09@yahoo.com  
T-Shirt Sponsors - Marie- mariecofces@yahoo.com  
Parade & CAR SHOW - Gene - tapiais@comcast.net  
VENDOR BOOTHS -Marie-mariecofces@yahoo.com

**GENERAL INFORMATION - GO TO OUR WEBSITE -**

**[elsobrantechamber.com/stroll/](http://elsobrantechamber.com/stroll/)**



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## BUSINESS OF THE MONTH FOR APRIL 2024

### Prowheels

4036 San Pablo Dam Road

El Sobrante, CA 94803

(510) 222-5662

Mon – Sat 10am-6pm, Sun -- Noon – 4 pm

Owner Matthew Gheisari opened his doors in 2010 after purchasing the property. It's a family business that he operates along with his wife, Megan. His son and daughter occasionally help out. He loves the location because it's central to the entire Bay Area and close to the freeway for easy access. His customers come from as far as Sacramento and San Rafael.

Prowheels sells off-road ATV (All Terrain Vehicles) and dirt bikes for kids and youth. These include gas and electric vehicles and are very popular. But lately they've been selling a lot of scooters. And these aren't toys. Some gas-powered scooters are freeway legal. The environmentally friendly, electric scooters are street legal but do not require registration, license plate or insurance... just charge and go.

Prowheels has a fantastic service department. I met Scott Riggs, master mechanic, who showed me their full service, well-equipped shop. They have a tire machine and two lifts where he pointed out a Yamaha dirt bike that was waiting for a carburetor to be delivered. They repair and maintain everything they sell, as well as providing small engine and electrical repairs.

Matthew was happy to be recognized by the Chamber and made an exclusive offer to residents of the El Sobrante Valley for the month of April. With the purchase of any vehicle from his store, Prowheels will add a free helmet (up to \$200 value) and delivery.

Congratulations to Prowheels, our Business of the Month for April, 2024.

Welcome to the El Sobrante Historical Society

# History Center

We are open Saturday, 10 am to 4 pm and by appointment. Contact us at: [eshistory@gmail.com](mailto:eshistory@gmail.com). Admission is free. Visit our website at: [elsobrantehistoricalsociety.com](http://elsobrantehistoricalsociety.com). Visit us on Facebook.

Join us at the Chamber of Commerce Mixer  
**Wednesday, April 17, 5:30-7pm**  
 Hosted by the El Sobrante Historical Society

We are located in the Fahden House, home of the Friends of the Library and the History Center, behind the El Sobrante Library

*Antojitos y Bebidas (snacks and drinks)*

## EARTH DAY CELEBRATION

94803 Streets & Creeks Community Cleanup

### EARTH DAY

El Sobrante Public Library  
 4191 Appian Way

Sat. April 20



**Check in / Cleanup: 9:30 AM – Noon**

Sign in for equipment and choose a location.

Join Green Team 94803 to clean up streets, and

SPAWNERS to clean local creeks and landscape gardening.

**Community Celebration:**

**11:45 AM – 2 PM**

Information tables, library displays, speakers, food and special musical program featuring **Asheba**, and more!



**Our Earth Day Partners**



**Always Fun, Free & Family Friendly!**

## 2024 Wage & Hour Update

VIRTUAL TRAINING

Workforce Development Board  
 Contra Costa County

A NO-COST, VIRTUAL training open to all Employers in Contra Costa County!

California has some of the most nuanced and confusing wage-and-hour laws of any state and it only seems to get more complicated each year. Remaining compliant is a difficult task, even for the most seasoned HR or payroll practitioner, and the possibility of misclassification penalties can be overwhelming. We are here to provide you peace of mind.

Here are just a few of the changes for 2024:

- Recent developments with time rounding and premium pay
- Meal and rest breaks
- Overtime, minimum wages, and exempt salaries
- Business expense reimbursements
- Remote work considerations
- Industry-specific developments (fast food, healthcare, etc.)
- Local ordinance requirements

**Tuesday, May 14, 2024**  
**12:00 - 1:00 PM**  
 NO-COST Virtual Training for Contra Costa County Employers!

Register Now!  
 Or register by using your phone to scan the QR Code →

Webinar & hotline powered by:  
 California Employers Association

Remember the no-cost  
 Contra Costa County HR Hotline:  
**888-599-7645**

Friends of the El Sobrante Library (FESL)

## BOOK SALE

Saturday, April 6, 2024  
 Feature of the Month

**Baseball**  
 The Boys of Summer  
 &  
**Wine,**  
 From Grapes to Table

Members: 10 am - 12 pm  
 General: Noon - 2 pm  
 Membership available

Proceeds from book sales fund El Sobrante Library programs

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 • Community minded, results focused

**2024 SPRING MEGA MIXER!**  
 Chambers & Communities Working Together!

**MONDAY APR 8**  
 5:30 to 7:30PM

All members of the business community welcome. Bring plenty of business cards & a raffle prize to promote your business!

HOSTED BY

FREE TO CHAMBER MEMBERS  
 NON-MEMBERS \$10  
 The Grand at Bayfront  
 2200 John Muir Pkwy, Hercules  
 Appetizers by El Sol Restaurant.  
 No Host Bar  
 TICKETS & RSVP @ eventbrite.com  
 Info: admin@BayFrontChamber.com

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 CROCKETT CUC  
 RICHMOND CUC  
 EL CERRITO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
 EL SOBRANTE CUC  
 OAKLAND LATINO CUC



## Do You Have A Business Insurance Professional?

**You know your business.** It relies heavily on your dedication and knowledge. And, your family relies on your business for income.

To protect your family, you need to protect your business.

When a difficult tax issue arises, you consult a tax professional. For a legal issue, you turn to a trusted law professional. It's the same when it comes to insurance.

**Having the proper insurance program is critical.** Why trust those crucial decisions to chance? You need a Business Insurance Professional. That's where Jim Cowen can help. He is one of West County's leading commercial and business agents. Helping small business owners like you isn't his job; it's his commitment.

Before you renew you owe it to yourself to call Jim. You'll be glad you did.

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**TIME TO JOIN or RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP -go to**  
**[elsobrantechamber.com/membership](http://elsobrantechamber.com/membership)**

## **El Sobrante Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors**

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### **EL SOBRANTE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

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[www.EISobranteChamber.com](http://www.EISobranteChamber.com)

