

# About Town

The El Sobrante Chamber of Commerce Monthly Newsletter

*Serving the El Sobrante Business Community Since 1957*

## President's Message

by Nicole Donn, President



In March, we had a mixer and ribbon cutting on the 19th hosted by a brand-new sports bar and family restaurant, The Copper Mug. What a lovely place! A warm, welcoming atmosphere, craft cocktails served in copper mugs (both alcoholic and without alcohol), Indian food, and the famous Mississippi Catfish, formerly in Richmond, is also there. Such a great place that they got voted to be our Business of the Month!

April brings us our annual Earth Day celebration on the 19th. Come join us and have fun while helping our beautiful town get even more beautiful by cleaning our streets and creeks. Two great community groups, Green Team 94803 and

SPAWNERS have put this event on for many years. It's a great way to meet your neighbors, do a good deed, eat and be entertained. There are more details in this newsletter.

Save the date of September 21, the 30th Annual El Sobrante Stroll. We are also looking forward to the 2nd annual El Sobrante Pride Festival to be held on September 28th, the week following the Stroll.

We are looking to help organize and promote cultural events in cooperation with local groups who would like to share their culture with our community. If you belong to a group that is interested, please contact us.

Please join us and help your El Sobrante Chamber of Commerce build your business. There is power in numbers! We look forward to hearing your ideas and helping you implement them.

Folks, come meet your neighbors, and spend your money locally! El Sobrante is a great place to live, work, shop and have a business, and with your help, we can make it even better!

## Board Meeting Schedule

Board meetings are typically held on the first Monday of every month at 5:30 pm. In person at the Chamber office. The 2025 meetings are scheduled to be held on the dates below:

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

## April Events

Tuesday April 1	6:30pm	SPAWNERS – Otter Talk	El Sobrante Library
Saturday April 5	10:00am -2:00pm	FESL Book Sale	El Sobrante Library
Wednesday April 16	5:30pm- 7:00pm	Mixer @ TBD	Watch Website for location
Saturday April 19	9:30am – 2:00pm	EARTHDAY Event	El Sobrante Library
EACH SUNDAY	10:00am -2:00pm	Farmers Market	5116 Sobrante Ave
Thursday, May 1	11:00am – 2:00pm	Volunteer Day Workshop	Cloverfield Farm

## Green Team 2024 Organization of the Year

The Green Team 94803 cleans up! Green Team 94803 invites you to our next monthly Third Saturday Cleanup (April 19, 10 am) at El Sobrante Library. We have the gear; you just need to be there! We also need help with maintaining the downtown planters and removing graffiti and stickers. Always fun and free! More at [KeepElSobranteBeautiful.info](http://KeepElSobranteBeautiful.info), send an email to help out.



## Cloverfield Organic Farm



Cloverfield  
Organic Farm

The Cloverfield Organic Farm article is on the Cloverfield Organic Farm website at:

<https://www.cloverfieldfarm.us/post/2025-april-cloverfield-organic-farm-happenings>



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## SPAWNERS

### Supporting Conservation, Otter by Otter – TUESDAY APRIL 1 , 6:30 pm @ El Sobrante Library Community Room

Did you know that river otters eat everything from ladybugs to pelicans? Join Megan Isadore, Co-founder and Executive Director of River Otter Ecology Project, for an entertaining, educational and interactive presentation on river otters and their importance to waterway conservation. We'll include lots of natural history, video and photos from our research, and explain our Otter Spotter program and how building community and stewardship around such a charismatic animal can change management practices and support conservation.



Bio: Megan Isadore co-founded River Otter Ecology Project in 2012. She is Deputy Continental Coordinator for the IUCN SSC Otter Specialist Group (International Union for the Conservation of Nature). Megan's career path took her from medical risk management to watershed ecology and wildlife rehabilitation and conflict mediation before she delved into river otters as a conservation ambassador species 13 years ago.



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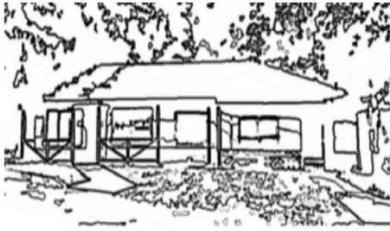
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Friends of the El Sobrante Library  
(FESL)

## BOOK SALE

Saturday, April 5, 2025

### Feature of the Month

**Jams, Jellies, & Marmalades**

and

**Everything Mark Twain**

Members: 10 am - 2 pm

General: Noon - 2 pm

Proceeds from book sales fund El Sobrante Library  
programs

Time to renew your 2025 membership

## Celebrating El Sobrante Organization of the Year - 2024 The Green Team 94803

El Sobrante Valley Green Team was started by Maurice Abraham in October 2015 with a focus on the Downtown area, to improve the businesses curb appeal. Teams set out to cleanup on the first and third Saturdays of each month, picked up litter, pulled weeds or sowed poppy seeds.

In 2017 Holly Anne Trejo stepped up to take over. Ken Chainey, with Citizens for Greener El Sobrante, offered to manage equipment and lead kayak cleanups in the San Pablo Reservoir.

When Mikki Norris joined the El Sobrante MAC and started its Cleanup and Beautification subcommittee, she and husband, Chris Conrad, began recruiting volunteers. Group-cleanups were consolidated to the Third Saturday of each month and its meeting place moved to the library, 10 AM to Noon.

Renamed Green Team 94803, it has a dedicated core-group of volunteers who regularly report dumps, clean up the town, and welcome the whole community to participate. Aside from Third Saturdays, the group co-sponsors two major cleanup events a year – **Earth Day** and **Coastal Cleanup Day** — along with SPAWNERS, SOS Richmond, the Library, Sup. Gioia's office and the Chamber. It is a fun and passionate group.

More information about the group and activities can be found at [keepElSobranteBeautiful.info](http://keepElSobranteBeautiful.info)



The El Sobrante Stroll  
is celebrating a  
milestone  
anniversary this year

SUNDAY, SEPT. 21st from 10:00am  
to 4:00pm

Committee meetings planning the  
event are held on the last  
Thursday of the month at 5:30 pm.  
Contact to help plan the parade,  
car show, entertainment and  
visitor services

[elsobchamber793@gmail.com](mailto:elsobchamber793@gmail.com)



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## Chamber Service Committees

The Chamber works in many ways to improve the community. Beyond being a Chamber member, you may join one of our committees to organize and implement one of the many projects we have. Committees include Beautification, Marketing and Promotions, Scholarship, Special Events, and our Annual STROLL. You may check the box on your membership application or renewal form or contact the Chamber to find out about a committee you might be interested in – [elsobrantechamber793@gmail.com](mailto:elsobrantechamber793@gmail.com).



Medicare | Health | Life | Supplemental | Dental | Vision



**Approaching 65...or new to Medicare and confused by your options? You are not alone.**

Choosing the right Medicare coverage can be confusing with its alphabet soup of options. There is Original Medicare (Parts A and B), Medicare Supplement (Plans A-N), Prescription Drug Plan (Part D), Medicare Advantage Plan (Part C), and more.

How do you know what is the right choice for you?

Let's have a no cost to you, no obligation conversation, and I'll provide answers to your questions, and you'll learn about:

- ✓ The A, B, C's of Medicare
- ✓ How and when you can enroll
- ✓ What are supplements and how they help
- ✓ Extra Help with prescription drugs
- ✓ What is not covered by Medicare
- ✓ What are the options beyond Medicare

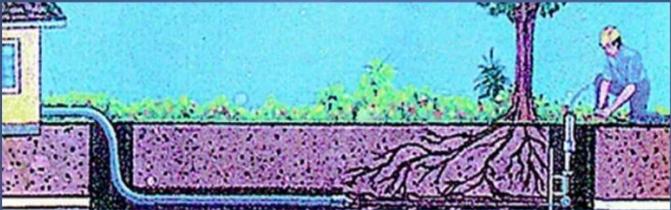
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## Membership

Join your Chamber and have a voice in shaping the future of your El Sobrante Valley Community. The 2025 Membership application online is on our website at: <https://www.elsobrantechamber.com/mail-applications-for-membership/> simply complete the application and return to the Chamber office with payment to the El Sobrante Chamber of Commerce 3769-B San Pablo Dam Rd. El Sobrante, CA 94803 .

## Future Chamber Events

- April -16 Mixer – TBD – go to website for updates
- April -19 Earth Day Clean up with SPAWNERS, Green Team
- May -21 Mixer – Friends of the El Sobrante Library
- June -18 Mixer – U.S. Financial
- July -16 Mixer - Jim Cowen Insurance
- September -21 - our 30<sup>th</sup> Annual El Sobrante Stroll
- 28 – El Sobrante PRIDE



### 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.

**Jim Cowen**  
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**DEADLINE for Submissions for the May Newsletter is Sunday, April 20, 2025.**

94803 Streets & Creeks Community Cleanup

# EARTH DAY

El Sobrante  
Public Library  
4191 Appian Way

Sat. April 19



### Check in / Cleanup: 9:30am – 12:00

Sign in for equipment, choose a location and join Green Team 94803 to clean streets or SPAWNERS to clean creeks and for gardening at the library.



### Community Celebration:

11:45 AM – 2 PM

Join us for music, information tables, children's activities including face painting, food, speakers and more!

### Our Earth Day Partners

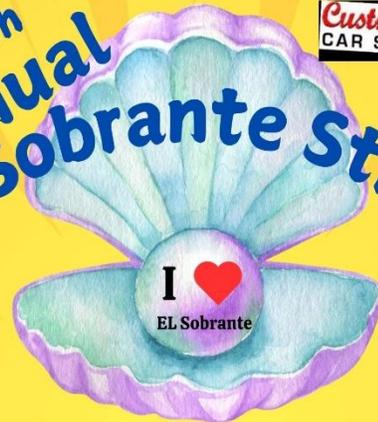


**Always Fun, Free & Family Friendly!**

El Sobrante Chamber of Commerce presents

# 30<sup>th</sup> Annual El Sobrante Stroll

Custom & Classic  
CAR SHOW



The Pearl of the East Bay  
Sunday, Sept. 21, 2025  
10:00am to 4:00 pm

For information about the event, vendor applications and opportunities to volunteer go to <https://www.elsobrantechamber.com/stroll>  
Car Show info email: [tapias@comcast.net](mailto:tapias@comcast.net)



510-275-9254

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## SPRING Organic Farming Workshop 2025

Thursday, May 1, 2025

11AM-2PM

At Cloverfield Organic Farm

Volunteer Day

For all ages and abilities!  
Tools, water & light snacks provided

Sign up at:  
[cloverfield@gmail.com](mailto:cloverfield@gmail.com)



## El Sobrante Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors-2025

**President** – Nicole Donn – U.S. Financial Mortgage

**Vice President** – Judy Ward – S.P.A.W.N.E.R.S.

**Treasurer** – Joe Sterlino – U.S. Financial Mortgage

**Secretary** – Bev Wallace – Senior Advocate – Contra Costa County

**Director** – Ashok Attri – Owner, Appian Express Mart & Gas

**Director** – Donnie Beeler – Sports Manager , Special Olympics of Northern California

**Director** – Marie Carayanis – Resident, retired local business owner

**Director** – Jim Cowen – Insurance Broker

**Director** – Ronnie Mills – District Coordinator, Office of County Supervisor John Gioia

**Director** – Ayoka Nurse – Owner of Urban Soyal

**Director** - Lorna Padia-Marcus – owner, New PJ's Restaurant

**Director** – Max Perez – Owner, Little Big Construction Equipment Rental

**Director** – Harpreet Sandhu – Staff member at Congressman John Garamendi's Office

**Director** – Bob Sharp – Commercial Property Owner

**Director** – Harry Weiner – Director at West County Wastewater District

HAPPY EARTH DAY!

### EL SOBRANTE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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

3769 – B San Pablo Dam Road

El Sobrante, CA 94803

Office: 510-275-9254



*El Sobrante*  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE