



40th Anniversary Celebrations Get Underway!

With a wealth of "whereas-es," current and former Solana Beach City Council members (and Mayors) gathered on July 1 to proclaim the launch of a year-long celebration of the anniversary of our City's incorporation on July 1, 1986.



L - R: Council member Kristi Becker, former Council member and Mayor Tom Golich, former Council member and Mayor Marcia Smerican, former Council member and (five time) Mayor Joe Kellejian, Deputy Mayor Jill MacDonald, founding Council member and (three-time) Mayor Marion Dodson, Mayor Lesa Heebner, Council member and former Mayor Dave Zito, Council member and former Mayor Jewel Edson, founding Council member and former Mayor Richard Hendlin. (Photo by Kayla Moshki, City of Solana Beach)

President's Message

Four decades of Solana Beach leaders gathered at the July 1 City Council meeting to celebrate of our City's incorporation 40 years ago. Richard Hendlin, a founding Council member, and Joe Kellejian, who was elected to City Council in 1992 and served five terms as Mayor under the Council's prior rotational mayoral tradition, took turns at the podium to comment on the many accomplishments our town has achieved. Among them: construction of our Solana Beach Library, completed in 2001, and the conversion of a former nightclub, Diego's, into our beautiful City Hall, which opened in 1994. Two other, huge projects greatly improved traffic flow and safety -- the lowering of the rail tracks and train station, completed in 1999, and creation of the cloverleaf ramp access to Interstate 5 in 2009.

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Celebrations continued with an '80s-themed concert on the sand!

On the evening of July 2, the 40th-Anniversary festivities included a first-ever concert on the beach at Fletcher Cove. Hundreds of residents and visitors gathered to sing and dance along with iconic '80s music performed by Atomic Groove and headliner Betamaxx.

BEACH BLANKET MOVIE NIGHT

on the BEACH

MOVIE FEATURE

AT FLETCHER COVE

LIVE MUSIC BY THE Silver String Submarine Band

NORTH SHORE

Saturday, August 8, 2026 6:00 - 10:00 PM

Grab a beach chair and a blanket and come watch a movie under the stars!!!

Free Admission! **Movie will take place on the sand!** **Bring cash for food!**

For more information, contact the Parks & Recreation Department at 858.720.4430

The party goes on this month with a movie at Fletcher Cove on Saturday, August 8 from 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM. In honor of the 40th Anniversary, this 21st Beach Blanket Movie Night (BBMN) will again be on the sand. Enjoy live music from Billy Watson and his International Silver String Submarine Band, then watch the movie *North Shore* after sunset!

BBMN offers refreshments: pizza, popcorn, cookies, and brownies. Refreshment tickets will be available for purchase. Proceeds will benefit future Solana Beach Parks and Recreation projects. Also, visit the City booth to pick up a raffle ticket and enter for a free giveaway. Aside from the cost of refreshments, this family-friendly event is free and open to the public. Parking will be tight; try to arrive car-free.

40th Anniversary Celebrations . . . continued

Joe and my mom, Marion Dodson, were instrumental in working with SANDAG and the North County Transit District to get those projects funded and completed.

All our current Council members continue the tradition of active and influential participation on County and State boards and with organizations whose policies affect our community. **On September 17, we will partner with Solana Beach Community Connections to host a panel presentation by Mayor Lesa Heebner and Council members about the regional boards they serve on and the purposes of those organizations. The meeting will be at 5:00 p.m. at Fletcher Cove Community Center.** Please join us for this informative gathering!



Katrina, Marion and Jojo Dodson

Although the reunion of past and present leaders of our wonderful City was the highlight of the evening, we are also grateful to report that City Council awarded \$2,000 in grant funding to the SBC&HS to sustain our efforts to archive historical materials that tell the story of Solana Beach. For close to a decade, with financial support from the City, our Society historians and archivists have gathered and scanned documents, photos, maps, and more into a formidable "digital vault." We have also developed an extensive library of video interviews with long-time and notable citizens, which is available via our website at sbchs.org. If you are interested in a particular aspect of Solana Beach history, email solanabeachhistory@gmail.com and we'll help with your research request.

Sincere thanks to the City for its longstanding support of the Community Grant program, which benefits so many organizations that contribute to the quality of life in Solana Beach. I also, personally, want to thank the City for grant funding for my non-profit Solana Beach Community Theater Company. In addition to staging musical and dramatic shows featuring student actors from Solana Beach and across the North County, we offer Friday morning art classes for students of all ages. [Learn more here.](#)

Jolene Dodson Bogard



Avoid Respiratory Viruses

On Tuesday, August 11 at 6 p.m. at La Colonia Community Center, Solana Beach Community Connections will host a discussion about protecting yourself from seasonal viruses.

Dr. Steve Kuriyama will discuss the most common viruses and the illnesses they cause, preventive measures to decrease the risk of infection, and new treatments that can decrease the duration and severity of infection. Dr. Kuriyama is an Infectious Disease specialist and Internist with over four decades of medical experience. The talk is free and open to the public.

Raymond Rincon, Sr., 1938-2026

The 1957 marriage of Raymond Rincon to Teresa Gonzales, Tony and Catalina Gonzales' daughter, brought together two of the founding La Colonia families and their restaurant dynasties. Teresa's parents opened Tony's Jacal in 1946. Ray's father, Guillermo Rincon, had opened the Bluebird Cafe in 1936. Guillermo and his wife, Ramona, ran the Bluebird first as a pool hall that served beer and wine; a dining room was added later.

Ray started working at Tony's as a bartender when he was 21 and helped with whatever other jobs needed doing -- from janitor to procurement. Teresa and her sister Catalina (Liza Salgado) had taken over management of Tony's after their father died. Ray eventually took on co-management responsibilities with the sisters and continued with the help of his son, Raymond Jr., who manages the historical restaurant to this day.

Both Ray and Teresa were born and raised in La Colonia, where most of their family still resides. The couple raised five children together, who in turn have raised 13 grand-children (some of them also work at Tony's) and 8 great-grandchildren.

When he wasn't greeting restaurant guests or pouring margaritas, Ray loved going to the Del Mar race track and area casinos, his family recalls. He also enjoyed quiet moments birdwatching from the porch of his home of 65 years on Juanita Street, which features a hummingbird fountain and several feeders.



Ray Sr. and Teresa celebrated 69 years of marriage this year. Ray passed away on July 18 at age 87.

SBC&HS 2026 Calendar of Events

Thursday, August 27, 1 to 3 p.m. at La Colonia Community Center: Join our **Crafts Group** to create wonderful wares for the Holiday Boutique. All are welcomed.

Tuesday, September 8, 10:30 a.m. SeaWeeders meeting at the Center for a Healthy Lifestyle cottage at the Boys and Girls Club, Lomas Santa Fe Drive: We'll discuss fall happenings and volunteer opportunities! All are welcomed.

Thursday, September 17, 5 p.m. at Fletcher Cove Community Center: Panel presentation by the **Mayor and Council members** about the regional boards they serve on and the purpose of those organizations.

Tuesday, October 13, 6 p.m. at La Colonia Community Center: The **League of Women Voters** will provide information about **State Propositions** on the November election ballot. This event is co-sponsored with Solana Beach Community Connections.

Solana Beach Civic & Historical Society a 501(c)(3) organization

2026-27 Executive Board

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Crafts.....Kathryn Schmiedeberg, Stephanie Wilde
Hospitality.....Karen Dorney
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Museum Curator.....Vacant
Newsletter, Website.....Kathleen Drummond
Nominations.....Vacant
Parliamentarian, Programs.....Carol Childs
SeaWeeders.....Kathleen Drummond

Correction: The photo caption on page 1 of our July newsletter incorrectly listed Susan Golding as San Diego Mayor. Golding was serving as a San Diego County Supervisor on July 1, 1986.