

Recent News

Supervisor Gioia publishes must-read guide to MLK Jr. and black history events in West County



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[No comments](#)

By Contra Costa County Supervisor John Gioia,

Monday, Jan. 18 is the federal holiday honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., with celebrations and service opportunities around West Contra Costa County. (See list below.)

Dr. King's courageous struggle for civil rights and economic justice were powerful forces for change and empowerment for millions of people across the country and the world.

But his work must be carried on toward reducing poverty and achieving true equality for all people, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, gender, or sexual orientation. I'm deeply committed to these goals.

I hope you'll join me in honoring the work and inspiration of Dr. King, as we continue to come together and advance his dream.

As Dr. King said: *"Human progress is neither automatic nor inevitable ... every step toward the goal of justice requires sacrifice."*

Here are some great events:

Monday, Jan. 18

- **Richmond, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. [9th Annual Martin Luther King Day of Service on the Richmond Greenway](#). Hosted by the Friends of the Richmond Greenway, a collaborative of local organizations. Numerous volunteer projects, lunch, entertainment. Register at 6th, 8th, Harbour Way or 16th Street. For more contact Marilyn Langlois at 510-710-4493.**

- The City of El Cerrito, St. Peter Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, the El Cerrito Branch NAACP, and the West Contra Costa County Unified School District are proud to sponsor the [27th annual El Cerrito Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration](#). The program theme this year is: “Keeping the Dream Alive: Black Lives Matter”

PARADE: At 9 am, everyone is invited to gather in front of City Hall (10890 San Pablo Ave). Participants may park in the El Cerrito D.M.V. Parking Lot (6400 Manila Avenue).

Tuesday, Jan. 19

- **Contra Costa Board of Supervisors meeting, 11 a.m, [38th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commencement and Humanitarian Awards](#)**, Lobby art display. 651 Pine Street, Martinez. For more contact [Joan Carpenter](#) in my office, or by phone at 510-231-8690.

Feb. 27

Richmond, 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., [Black History Celebration](#) at Richmond Memorial Auditorium, 3230 Macdonald Avenue/Richmond Civic Center. Speakers, meal, entertainment, prizes. Sponsored by the City of Richmond. \$15 Tickets for sale in advance includes dinner, or pay \$5 for non dinner ticket at the door. For more contact the Senior Center at 510-307-8087 or 510-620-6793.

This post first appeared on Supervisor Gioia’s email newsletter.