

The Emerald News

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DISTRICT SEVEN COMMUNITIES

Allied Gardens

Alvarado Estates

Chollas Creek

Colina del Sol

College Area

Del Cerro

El Cerrito

Fox Canyon

Grantville

Islenair

MCAS Miramar

Oak Park

Rancho Encantada

Redwood Village

Rolando Park

Rolando

San Carlos

SDSU

Tierrasanta

Knowledge is Power

The knowledge to help us address pressing concerns, solve problems and open doors to new opportunity is within reach by picking up the phone and dialing 2-1-1.

Recently I had the opportunity to tour the new and improved headquarters for the regional 2-1-1 call center. What began six years ago as a humble extension of the old "Info Line" has now become the hub for information that makes a difference for more than a quarter of a million people in our community each year.

Instead of plowing through outdated phone books, calling one agency after another, hitting walls or giving up in the face of challenges, we can reach the service we need quicker and easier. The 2-1-1 website (www.211sandiego.org) also helps us navigate services from the privacy of our home. 2-1-1 consists of a network of 4500 programs and agencies, with staff and volunteers assisting callers 24/7.

With school out for summer, parents can find childcare, youth programs and education to protect kids from internet predators, drugs or gangs. Senior citizens can find legal help, in-home services or companionship and other forms of assistance. Our military veterans who served us on the battlefield are being served with counseling, job training and help adjusting to civilian life.

2-1-1 is also our designated information system during disasters, here at home, across the nation or around the world. And 2-1-1 trains volunteers on how to react during a disaster, making sure San Diego is prepared for the next emergency.

I share this information because many of us and our loved ones are struggling. With a little knowledge, we can turn challenges into opportunities. The solution begins with three little numbers: 2-1-1.

Thanks, Marti

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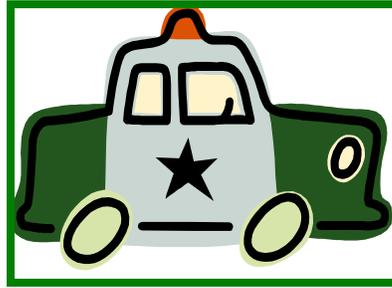
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Safety Speaks

Recent Federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) rules to reduce diesel emissions forced fire engines off the road, putting the public at risk. Because of the new diesel engine requirements, fire apparatus in San Diego and across the nation were breaking down. In the interest of public safety, City Councilmember Marti Emerald called on the federal government to exempt public safety vehicles.

Councilmember Emerald began working with the City's fire chief and immediately went to work lobbying our Congressional representatives to intervene. The hard work has now paid off. The EPA has agreed to waive the new emission standard for emergency equipment in San Diego and across the nation. The new diesel engine requirements were designed to burn off carbon deposits in filters as trucks travel long distances at freeway speeds.

Because fire crews travel short distances, and carbon builds up in the exhaust system, vehicles break down with little or no warning. This causes a delay in response to emergency calls. In a thank you to Councilmember Emerald, San Diego Fire Chief Javier Mainer knew fighting the EPA seemed like an uphill battle, "Fortunately, you do not take 'no' for an answer and doggedly went after the exemption."

The Public Safety & Neighborhood Services Committee will meet again on Wednesday, July 18, 2012 at 2 pm in City Hall. For any public safety related concerns, please free to contact my Committee Consultant, Drew Ector, by calling (619) 236-7038 or emailing Dector@sandiego.gov.

College Area Joint Use Park

With the passage of the FY13 City Budget, Councilmember Emerald and her fellow Councilmembers have approved establishing a Capital Improvement Project for a 1.2 acre Joint Use Park at Harriet Tubman Village Charter School (6880 Mohawk Street in the College Area). This is the beginning of the project, which next enters the design phase. Funds for construction have been identified.

Joint Use Parks are agreements between the City and the San Diego Unified School District to create and share park improvements on school grounds. Councilmember Emerald was quoted as saying: "The College Area is one of the most park-deficient areas of the City. This park will help to fill this critical need, and I applaud the Mayor, my Council colleagues, and City staff for their efforts to begin this project."



Celebrating Community



Clockwise from the top left to right:

Marti celebrates the San Carlos Farmers Market grand opening at Pershing Middle School; Marti proclaims May 15, 2012, to be "Sarah Hafer Day" and congratulates Hafer upon the celebration of her one hundredth birthday, Marti with Sarah's son, Bruce, and "adopted" son, Jerry Smithson; Marti at the Mission Trails Regional Park ribbon cutting for the comfort station/service building; Marti with Jan Hintzman and Lerissa Patrick at Rolando's "Restore Our Lamp Posts" Project; Marti with volunteers at the City Heights' 2012 FaceLift community clean-up event (center).

June Community Events

Monday, June 18th - Friday, August 31 - Summer Camp for Kids

The Allied Gardens Recreation Center offers a Summer Camp for kids between 9 and 13 years old. Activities include: sports, swimming, arts & crafts, indoor and outdoor games, brain teasers, team building and more! For more information, please call: (619) 235-1129 or e-mail info@sdyouthcamp.org. Parents/guardians may register either at the recreation center office or online at www.sdyouthcamp.org.

Friday, June 22nd - SD Asian Youth Org. Fundraising Dinner

Enjoy a relaxing night of family entertainment, Chinese cuisine, a cultural fashion show and performances by talented youth at Ly's Garden Chinese Restaurant, 4350 54th St., from 6:30 pm to 10 pm. For more information on sponsorship opportunities, please contact Phet Guiney at (619) 515-2729 or by email: pguiney@pd.sandiego.gov.

Saturday, June 23rd - Somali Family Service 2012 Health Fair in Honor of World Refugee Day

This free event will be held from 1 pm to 6 pm at the City Heights Community Park, 3795 Fairmount Avenue. For more info please contact Hana Mandikova at (619) 265-5821 or hmandikova@sfssd.org or visit www.somalifamilyservice.org.

Saturday, June 23rd - Taste of Little Saigon

This event showcases the many businesses in the Little Saigon district, specifically the wide array of restaurants offering authentic Vietnamese cuisine. The event will showcase performances from local artists. Purchase tickets (\$15 pre-sale, \$18 day-of) at Hoai Hue, 4660 El Cajon Blvd. For more information, please visit: www.littlesaigonsandiego.org.

Wednesday, June 27th - Mid-City SR-15 BRT Station Area Planning Study will hold a working group meeting from 6 pm to 8 pm at the El Cajon Business Improvement Association, 3727 El Cajon Blvd.

Friday, June 29th - Free Movie Night at Teralta Neighborhood Park

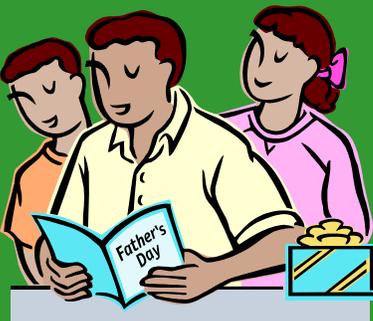
"LION KING" shows at 8 pm. Bring a blanket, your family and snacks! Free popcorn will be provided. Hosted by the City Heights Community Development Corporation's Metro Villas Learning Center and City Heights Recreation Council.

Saturday, June 30th - STAR/PAL's 22nd Annual Fishing Derby

Volunteers are needed for STAR/PAL's 22nd Annual Fishing Derby. This event brings out police officers, firefighters and fishing enthusiasts to assist 350 boys and girls while they learn the fundamentals of fishing. Youth will be treated to a BBQ lunch prepared by our local firefighters and will receive free fishing fishing giveaways to take home with them. The event will take place from 6:30 am to 2 pm at Chollas Lake, 6350 College Grove Drive. To volunteer, please contact STAR/PAL Officer Thomas Miller at (619) 531-2721 or at tmiller@pd.sandiego.gov. Learn more online at www.starpal.org/.



June 14th commemorates the adoption of the U.S. flag back in 1777!



Don't forget to plan something special for Father's Day, Sunday June 17th!