

THE KERSEY REPORT

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Holiday Wishes from Mark

I love this time of year. Of course, it is a time to celebrate with family and friends but it's also a time to reflect. As I look back at my first year in office, we have a lot to be proud of. But what's even more exciting is that there's so much to look forward to as well. In the new year, I will continue to work hard to rebuild San Diego after decades of neglect, to see that we're making public safety a priority by giving our police and fire departments the support they need and to look for ways to create and protect jobs throughout our City. With that in mind, I hope you will join me in shopping locally this holiday season at the small businesses that are so crucial to our economy and support the jobs that are the lifeblood of our community.

I'm thankful for the opportunity to represent San Diego's District Five communities. I wish you and your family the very best during this holiday season.



District Five Community Profile

RB company makes *Inc. 5000* list of fastest growing

A big congratulations is in order for Rancho Bernardo's **D&K Engineering**. The manufacturer was just named to the *Inc. 5000* list of the nation's fastest growing companies.

D&K Engineering experienced 90 percent growth in its manufacturing services in the past year and 134 percent over the past three years. One of the many cool products manufactured by the company is the EcoATM. The EcoATM is a recycling kiosk where you can turn in old electronics and instantly get cash back for them. There are several located in San Diego so now, when you see one, you'll know they were made right here at home!

I am so proud that one of the most successful local manufacturers is located in District Five. We need to continue to find ways to attract companies like D&K Engineering to San Diego. We also need to help them find ways to expand their business and take advantage of our location in a border-region

and on the Pacific Rim. That's why I'm working with the Brookings Institute to develop the Metropolitan Export Initiative which aims to boost the trade activity of San Diego companies already exporting – and help companies that don't trade, break into international markets. Through this initiative, we're bringing together business leaders, trade organizations, academics, and city leaders to come up with the strategies and an action plan that will be released in 2014.

The success of our local businesses is crucial to the economic prosperity of our region. D&K Engineering is just one example of a great company doing great things for San Diego. Congratulations!



All About the City's Only Dairy Farm

Did you know the City of San Diego's only dairy farm is located in District Five? I recently had the chance to tour the **Frank Konyn Dairy** in San Pasqual Valley. The owner, Frank Konyn is a second generation dairy farmer, whose father started the business in 1962. Each day, the dairy produces over 6,500 gallons of fresh milk produced by more than 850 Holstein dairy cows.

At one time, there were more than 200 dairies in the San Diego region. Over the years however, due to the rising cost of doing business in California and the high price of land, many dairy farmers have taken their operations out-of-state or closed.

Despite that, Konyn is beginning to diversify his operation in order to produce local organic milk because of the demand from local restaurants for more organic products. A local organic milk supply from Frank Konyn Dairy means more farm-to-table experiences for San Diegans. I think that is something we can all support!

If you're interested in learning more about the Frank Konyn Dairy, check out their Facebook page www.facebook.com/frankkonyndairy.



Some of the cows on the Koanyn Dairy farm.



A one-day old calf still learning to steady his legs.



Learning how to milk a cow.



Councilman Kersey making friends with a cow.

Warm Up to Winter *SDG&E tips for safe winter heating*

As temperatures drop and the holiday season starts, gas heaters, ovens and appliances get a workout! Keep your natural gas appliances in safe working condition by taking advantage of SDG&E's **free gas appliance safety check**. There are two easy ways to schedule an appointment.

- Sign up online and schedule your gas safety check appointment through My Account at www.sdge.com.
- Or call SDG&E at 1-800-411-7343 to schedule.

Taking care of your gas appliances helps to keep them running efficiently and prevents safety hazards such as exposure to dangerous carbon monoxide.

*Stay safe AND warm this holiday season.
Before you fire up your furnace, schedule an annual gas safety checkup.*

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

Winter Wonderland

Saturday, December 7, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

Hilltop Recreation Center

9711 Oviedo Way, Rancho Peñasquitos

Snow, train and pony rides, Santa & more!

\$3 wristbands or free with a new unwrapped toy for Toys for Tots

Free Concert-Pomerado Brass Quintet

Sunday, December 15, 3 p.m.

Mission Trails Regional Park

District 5 Holiday Events

Rancho Bernardo Tree and Menorah Lighting

Tuesday, Dec. 10 5:30 p.m.

*Grass area located next to U.S. Bank
16816 Bernardo Center Drive, 92128*

Scripps Ranch Christmas Tree Lighting

Sunday, Dec. 15, 4 p.m.

Jarabek Park

10124 Avenida Magnifica, 92131

San Diego Fire/Rescue Supports Toys for Tots

Until December 20, San Diego Fire stations and Life-guard stations will be accepting toys for the Marine Reserves' **Toys for Tots** program. The partnership between the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department and Toys for Tots goes back many years. Once again, there is a great need for toys to brighten the holidays for less privileged kids. Please consider dropping off a new, unwrapped toy at any of San Diego's 47 fire stations or the Lifeguard stations. Fire stations located in D5 include:



Station 33, Rancho Bernardo: 16966 Bernardo Center Drive, 92128

Station 37, Scripps Ranch, 11640 Spring Canyon Road, 92131

Station 40, Rancho Penasquitos: 13393 Salmon River Road, 92129

Station 42, Carmel Mountain Ranch: 12110 World Trade Drive, 92128

Station 46, Santa Luz: 14556 Lazanja Drive, 92127

Sign Up for Winter Sports Leagues

Don't miss out on enrolling your child in a youth winter sports league at one of our local recreation centers. Signups are happening now and they're a great way to meet other local families and participate in safe and structured competition. Check out these opportunities:

Carmel Mountain Ranch Little League www.CMRL.org

Rancho Bernardo Winter Basketball League www.mastersports.com

Scripps Ranch Winter Basketball League www.mastersports.com

Rancho Penasquitos Basketball www.eteamz.com/rpbasketball/

Rancho Bernardo Youth Soccer League sandiegosoccer-club.org/rbrec/index_E.html





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Holiday Mail for Heroes

Military deployments, distance and hospital stays mean many service members and veterans will be separated from their families this holiday season. The American Red Cross Holiday Mail for Heroes program empowers people to “Give Something That Means Something” by sending a card of thanks and support of the members of the Armed Forces, veterans or their families.

If you would like to help spread holiday cheer, send in holiday greetings to the P.O. Box below **by Friday, Dec. 6**. Make sure to follow the program guidelines on www.redcross.com/holidaymail to ensure your card makes it into the hands of a member of the U.S. Armed Forces.

Since 2006, the American Red Cross has received and distributed more than 6.5 million holiday cards for members of the U.S. Armed Forces. Cards must be mailed to: Holiday Mail for Heroes, P.O. Box 5456, Capitol Heights, MD 20791-5456



Local Students Compete in First Lego League



Fourth and fifth graders from **Deer Canyon Elementary** school will participate in the First Lego League regional competition at Lego Land on Saturday, Dec. 8. The student team, known as Robotics Force, will compete against middle and high school students to qualify for the final international competition. Their project is a robotic “Reminder Box” made of Lego blocks designed to assist families in emergencies. These smart students stopped by to show me their project and I was really impressed. Good luck in the competition!