

# THE KERSEY REPORT

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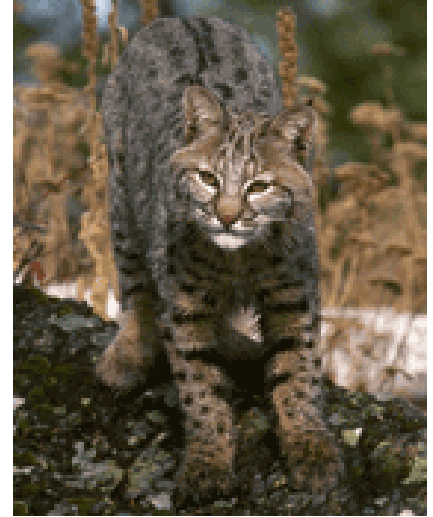
FEBRUARY 2014

## Protecting Your Home from Bobcats

Over the past month, there have been several reports in District Five of bobcats coming close to residences in the Scripps Ranch, Black Mountain Ranch and Torrey Highlands areas. I know this can be alarming for people—especially those with small children and pets. Because many of our communities back up to open space land, our neighborhoods are more likely to experience this kind of wildlife sighting, especially when they are seeking out food and water because of drought. It is also just as likely you could see a coyote, particularly in the coming spring months when coyotes are more active feeding and protecting their young.

While there is not much that can be done to prevent animals from ever coming close to residences, there are few ways to help deter them from setting sights on your home: put garbage in tightly closed containers, bring pets in at night, don't leave pet food outside and install motion-sensitive lighting around the house. For more information, visit [www.keeptomewild.org](http://www.keeptomewild.org).

If you'd like to report a bobcat or coyote in your neighborhood, you can call California Fish & Wildlife at 858-467-4201. If there's an attack on a person, immediately call 911.



*Photo courtesy of California Fish & Wildlife Department*

## Pursuing Restrictions on Electronic Cigarettes

Recently, you've probably seen people using electronic cigarettes that allow users to inhale vaporized nicotine or have seen them for sale at gas stations and convenience stores. Instead of smoke, when exhaled, this new type of tobacco product emits water vapor but there's very little research into the effects of second-hand inhalation of the vapor.

I issued a memo to the City's Public Safety and Livable Neighborhoods Committee to docket an item to begin considering regulations for these relatively new products, more commonly known as e-cigarettes. I've proposed that the City Council consider amending our municipal code to regulate e-cigarettes in a manner similar to traditional cigarettes and restrict the use of e-cigarettes in all public facilities, including Qualcomm Stadium and Petco Park.

There is currently no regulation or oversight in the production of "smoke juice" (the flavored liquid tobacco that is used in e-cigarettes). And because there are hundreds of smoke juice flavors ranging from Cola to Peppermint Patty, e-cigarettes appear designed to appeal to youth. In fact, according to the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, e-cigarette usage among middle and high school students increased over 100 percent from 2011 to 2012.

While proponents of e-cigarettes claim they can help people quit smoking, "vaping" can still lead to nicotine addiction and could ease the transition toward other dangerous tobacco products.

The committee is expected to take up my proposal later this month but in the meantime, let me know what you think about new regulations for e-cigarettes.

## Drought Declared in California

On January 17, Governor Jerry Brown declared a drought state of emergency for California calling for increased voluntary water conservation. Over the past several years, San Diegans have done a great job conserving water. In fact, City of San Diego customers' water consumption today is more than 15 percent lower than it was in 2007. And consumption levels are lower today than in 1990 despite a population increase of approximately 250,000.

While we don't anticipate any new water-use restrictions for San Diego in 2014, increasing water conservation practices will help water supply reliability now and in 2015. If you are looking for new ways to reduce your water usage, here are a few ideas:

- Enlist your kids to help conserve by asking them to take shorter showers and turn off the water while brushing their teeth. You can download a water conservation activity book at [www.sandiego.gov/water/pdf/activitybook.pdf](http://www.sandiego.gov/water/pdf/activitybook.pdf)
- Take advantage of the free City-wide Residential Water Survey program. A water conservation representative will tour your property to identify leaks and water-saving opportunities. To schedule a survey call the City of San Diego Water Conservation Hotline at (619) 570-1999 or email them at [watersurvey@sandiego.gov](mailto:watersurvey@sandiego.gov) and provide your name and day time phone number.
- Benefit from incentives by upgrading to more efficient clothes washers and toilets which account for approximately 45 percent of the water used inside your home. Learn more about the incentives available at [www.socalwatersmart.com](http://www.socalwatersmart.com)

The good news is the Public Utilities Department says San Diego's water supply for 2014 is stable because of strong regional conservation and investments agencies have made in diversifying the region's water supply. If you have any questions or want more information about how you can conserve visit [www.sandiego.gov/water](http://www.sandiego.gov/water).

## Street Repairs in District Five

Last month, I mentioned some of the streets in District Five currently on the list for repaving in 2014. I've worked hard over the past year to make sure more attention is paid to our streets which have been neglected for far too long. Stretches of the following streets are expected to receive repairs this year:

### Rancho Bernardo

- Bernardo Trails Drive
- Greens East Road
- Hillero Court

### Rancho Peñasquitos

- Barrymore Street
- Bassmore Drive
- Black Mountain Road
- Carmel Mountain Road
- Freeport Court

- Freeport Road
- Meadowrun Place
- Muffin Court
- Paseo Cardiel
- Paseo Cevera
- Paseo Montalban
- Paseo Zaldivar
- Quinton Road
- Riverhead Drive
- Via Boltana

- Via Caceres
- Via Cuenca
- Via Daroca
- Via Lactea
- Westvale Road

### Scripps Ranch

- Pomerado Road
- Semillon Blvd.
- Scripps Ranch Blvd.

Also, we're continuing our schedule of filling potholes in the district every two weeks. The new "neighborhood pothole plan" assigns crews to spend an entire day in one district filling reported potholes and others in the vicinity. It's more efficient and will result in more potholes being filled. You can report a pothole at <http://apps.sandiego.gov/streetdiv/> or by calling (619) 527-7500.

# UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

## Mayoral Runoff Election

Tuesday, February 11

Visit [sdvote.com](http://sdvote.com) for polling locations

## Sustainable Scripps Ranch:

### Soils as a Living Organism

Wednesday, February 12, 6:30 p.m.

SRCA Community Center

11885 Cypress Canyon Rd. San Diego, 92131

Learn how to build soils holistically and healthfully

## 8th Annual Taste of the Ranch

Friday, February 21

Carmel Mountain Country Club

14050 Carmel Ridge Rd, San Diego, 92128

This community event raises funds for the Scripps Ranch High School Foundation. Taste signature dishes from fine local restaurants.

## Out & About



Councilman Kersey with a representative of the YMCA.

Last month, Councilman Kersey honored the California YMCA Youth and Government program with a city-wide proclamation. He also spoke to the youth participating in the program's annual Bill Hearing Night, which gives high school students an opportunity to present, lobby and vote on their mock bills.

## Volunteer in your Community



If you are looking for a way to get more involved in your community and give back, I encourage you to check out the City of San Diego Volunteer Program. They have opportunities ranging from literacy tutors at local libraries to parks and beach beautification projects. For more information about volunteering, visit [www.sandiego.gov/volunteer-program](http://www.sandiego.gov/volunteer-program) or call 619-236-5968. You can also follow them on Twitter [@SDVolunteers](https://twitter.com/SDVolunteers) where they promote new volunteer opportunities, advertise department events and recognize outstanding volunteers.

## The Great Neighborhood Challenge

How would you improve your neighborhood with \$5,000? The Great Neighborhood Challenge is a region-wide initiative that will grant 10 to 20 community awards between \$1,000 and \$5,000 each to encourage the creation and implementation of projects that improve neighborhoods in San Diego County. I'd love to see a District Five community get this award! By supporting resident-led efforts and building upon existing community assets, the Great Neighborhood Challenge seeks to:

- Bring people together to work for a common cause
- Offer new opportunities for leadership
- Showcase neighborhood-level solutions to improve quality of life

Workshops will be offered to answer questions about the application process, help brainstorm neighborhood projects and assist with applications. The application period closes on Monday, March 10. Awardees will be announced in July 2014.

The Great Neighborhood Challenge is a program of the San Diego Foundation's Malin Burnham San Diego Foundation for Civic Engagement. Learn more at:

[www.sdfoundation.org/SanDiegoCenterforCivicEngagement/TheGreatNeighborhoodChallenge.aspx](http://www.sdfoundation.org/SanDiegoCenterforCivicEngagement/TheGreatNeighborhoodChallenge.aspx)



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## **Community Profile: Marc Sorenson**



Congratulations to Scripps Ranch resident Marc Sorenson who was recently named to the City of San Diego's Municipal Golf Committee. Marc, an avid golfer and member of the Torrey Pines Men's Golf Club, will serve on the 11-member committee and advise the Park and Recreation Board, Mayor and City Council on policy issues relating to the City's three municipal golf courses at Balboa Park, Mission Bay and Torrey Pines.

Marc is an active member of the Scripps Ranch community, having served on the Scripps Miramar Ranch Planning Board for the past 10 years. He's also served as President of Scripps Ranch Civic Association.

It is always great to have District Five representation on our city committees and I could think of no one better to fulfill this role than Marc.

## **Police Cars to Get Life-Saving Technology**

In honor of American Heart Month and in partnership with San Diego Project Heartbeat, I am happy to announce that my office is funding the placement of Automated External Defibrillators (AED) at San Diego Police Northeastern Division, which serves all of District Five. Currently, there is only one AED in the field for the Division. This year, through my District Five Community Projects, Programs and Services Fund, we will fund five AEDs and intend to fund another five each year until every police car servicing District Five is equipped with this life-saving device. When all are deployed, Northeastern would be the first division to be fully equipped with AEDs.

The need for wider access to AEDs is illuminated by Scripps Ranch resident Ken Anderson. Ken is here today because his quick-thinking friends had access to an AED when he went into cardiac arrest while playing tennis. He now advocates for Project Heartbeat by telling his story.

Because heart disease is the leading cause of death in the United States, it only makes sense that our police officers—who are often the first to arrive in an emergency—are equipped with a tool that is proven to save lives.