

THE KERSEY REPORT

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How to be Water Wise: Workshop March 20



Lake Hodges Reservoir (Photo Credit sdfish.com)

Because of the high interest in how the drought is affecting San Diego, we're hosting a workshop to discuss this important regional issue. I've enlisted some experts to help answer your questions at our free Signature Event. Joining us will be Dana Frieauf, water resources manager, San Diego County Water Authority and David Akin, customer service advocate, San Diego Public Utilities Department. Among the topics we'll address include: how the drought affects you, water conservation tips and how the city can help you reduce your water bill. I hope you'll join us!

Thursday, March 20 at 6 p.m.
Mt. Carmel High School, Room D3
9550 Carmel Mountain Rd. San Diego, CA 92129
RSVP to (619) 236-6655 or MarkKersey@sandiego.gov

New Transit Center Opens in Sabre Springs

North County residents have more access to public transit with the opening of a new transit center in Sabre Springs/Rancho Penasquitos. Last week, I attended the ribbon cutting for the center which officially opened Monday, March 3. The new transit center, located at 13538 Sabre Springs Parkway just south of Ted Williams Parkway, will serve the MTS Commuter Express Bus service. In summer 2014, Rapid bus services will connect customers along the I-15 corridor to Downtown San Diego and other employment centers. The routes also connect to those that go further north at Rancho Bernardo, Del Lago and Escondido.

The station has a total of 630 parking spaces with a "smart parking" structure, enhanced bus staging areas, new shelters, next bus arrival signs, electric vehicle charging stations, a photovoltaic system, fuel-efficient and clean-air vehicle spaces, security cameras, and a modular bicycle parking facility.

I highly encourage those of you who currently travel from District Five to downtown to take advantage of this new opportunity to save on fuel costs and enjoy a more leisurely and stress-free commute.



Photo courtesy San Diego Metropolitan Transit System

Lakeview Neighborhood Park Repaired

Lakeview Neighborhood Park in Scripps Ranch got a face-lift last month when the playground received much needed repairs and replacement parts. The park had been shut down for several months because many broken parts made it too hazardous for children to play. With the new repairs, children of Scripps Ranch will again have a safe and fun environment to play and build community spirit. The funding provided \$8,500 out of our Community Projects, Programs and Services budget.

I hope you'll visit Lakeview Park in the near future and check out the improved playground (located at 10794 Mira Lago Terrace). If you do, send me a photo via email or Twitter and I'll post it on my Facebook page. I love to see our residents enjoying our city parks.



Lakeview Neighborhood Park

Community Profile: Eugene “Gene” Gomes



Scripps Ranch lost one of its earliest residents, Gene Gomes, when he passed away on Christmas Day 2013 due to congestive heart failure. For more than 30 years he delivered the SRCA Newsletter to his Red Rock Court neighbors, until his health no longer permitted it. It was a privilege to have the opportunity to recognize him by adjourning the February 24 City Council meeting in his honor.

Born on Nov. 14, 1927, Gene lived in Scripps Ranch for 43 years. He and his wife, Jayne—with their children, Mark and Anita—moved to Red Rock Court in 1970 when he retired from the Air Force.

One of the first 100 families to move into the brand new development, Gene and his family recalled there were no schools, no supermarket and one small convenience store, “Little Bear.” Many close friendships formed, and Gene participated in many community groups including Boy Scouts, the Miramar Ranch Elementary PTA and as a chef for the renowned “Huli Huli chicken” barbecue cooking events. He loved living in Scripps Ranch and will be missed.

Camino Del Sur Bridge Now Quieter



Good news for Black Mountain Ranch residents and anyone who lives near or drives over the Camino Del Sur Bridge. After complaints were received in my office about excessive noise being created by the bridge, we reached out to the Streets Division to examine the issue and see what could be done. Their evaluation determined that changing the direction of the grooves on the bridge from horizontal to vertical would reduce noise. Those repairs have been completed and good news, it worked! Making for a quieter and overall more enjoyable driving experience.

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

Scripps Ranch Energy Efficiency Home Tour Saturday, March 8, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

9928 Tudor St. San Diego 92131

Learn how insulation, air sealing and new ducts lowered energy bills and eliminated drafts.

energycenter.org/events

Spring Community Clean-up at the Q Saturday, March 15, 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

Qualcomm Stadium

www.sandiego.gov/environmental-services/pdf/geninfo/CleanupQualcomm.pdf

San Diego Women's Week March 17-21

San Diego Women's Week is a week of events and a one day conference designed to inspire, empower, and connect women of all ages and professions. Hosted by the San Diego North Chamber of Commerce.

sdwomensweek.com

Out & About



Reading to fourth and fifth graders at Rolling Hills Elementary School in Rancho Peñasquitos with Words Alive San Diego.

Rides & Smiles Volunteers Recognized



The Jewish Family Service of San Diego "Rides & Smiles" program provides transportation for older adults to medical appointments, personal appointments, pharmacies, banks, and other life necessities in the North County Inland area. I recently recognized the many volunteer drivers from the organization who selflessly give of their time and spirit to bring joy to many in our communities. Nearly 30 volunteers received certificates of appreciation including those photographed here:

Marilyn Greenblatt, Rides & Smiles Supervisor and volunteers Barbara Manson, Jennifer Tang, Doreen Long and Estela Sheriff. If you are interested in volunteering

with the Jewish Family Service of San Diego, which serves people of all faiths, visit www.jfssd.org.

City Water Conservation Film Contest

Attention District Five high school and college students:

The City of San Diego needs your creativity to help educate the public about water conservation. The Public Utilities Department is looking for 30-second video submissions for their Waste No Water campaign.

Winners will have their video seen by thousands of San Diegans at theatres this summer. Submissions are being accepted now through April 11. Visit WasteNoWater.org for rules and submission information.





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Improving Exports in San Diego

I am proud to be part of a coalition of leaders working together to improve the exports and engage world markets. San Diego is poised for success because of our location on the Pacific Rim and U.S.-Mexico border but continues to under-perform when it comes to exporting. Improving exports would be transformative for our local economy. For every \$1 billion in new exports, 5,000 good paying jobs are created.

In partnership with the Port of San Diego, the San Diego Economic Development Corporation, CONNECT and several other partners, we recently released the “Global San Diego—Engaging World Markets” plan which addresses several ways we can increase our exports. Examples include improving market diversity among local companies already exporting, in addition to helping companies that are not currently exporting; addressing infrastructure deficiencies both at our border as well as cyber-infrastructure. Finally, educating small and medium businesses in San Diego on the opportunities and resources available to help them begin to export their products. If you are interested in finding out more about the Global San Diego—Engaging World Markets plan, visit www.sandiegobusiness.org.



Councilman Kersey (far left) with his Council colleagues at the Mayor's swearing-in ceremony on Monday, March 3.

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