

SPECIAL ISSUE: THE ELECTION

DEL MAR'S COMMUNITY MONTHLY
NEWS • FEATURES • OPINION
Volume 22 Number 8 October 2018

SANDPIPER

EDITORIAL: SANDPIPER ENDORSES WORDEN FOR CITY COUNCIL



Dwight Worden

Few have done as much as Dwight Worden to bring to fruition the small town vision laid out in our Community Plan. Recognized throughout the state as an expert in environmental and municipal law, Dwight has been using his know-how for Del Mar's benefit for more than four decades. During that time he has served our community in many capacities as our City Attorney, as a legal counsel defending our interests in

court, as legal counsel for several regional organizations, as a legal advisor for environmental and grassroots citizen groups, as the author of the Beach Protection Initiative (BPI) and Measure B, as a community advocate, as a contributing volunteer on numerous city advisory committees, as a Council Member and our current Mayor.

Dwight's leadership style involves respectful listening, resourceful problem solving, and facilitation of community consensus. His ideas and accomplishments are grounded in the values of our Community Plan. Even in the face of contentious issue discussions, Dwight treats everyone with respect and helps guide all toward civil discourse.

His many accomplishments through the decades are impressive. In the last four years on the Council he has guided the development of our new civic center on time and on budget, insisted on conservative financial planning, pushed plans for infrastructure improvements to our sewer, water, and streets. He was instrumental in shaping our strategic plan for sea level rise and fashioning a compromise plan for short term rentals that protects our residential core.

His priorities for the next few years are impressive including completion of Shores Park, utility under grounding, downtown streetscape using Measure Q sales tax funds. He will continue to support the improved design review guidelines to protect neighborhoods. He will work to gain influence in fairground activities that impact traffic, noise, and the fragile lagoon estuary. He plans to achieve

compliance with our state-mandated affordable housing goals in ways that fit with our community character. Other priorities to be addressed include beach access, bluff protection, rail safety, and citizen involvement in large development projects.

Del Mar always has a very full agenda in our efforts to protect our small town character. We feel confident that Dwight Worden has incredible qualifications and values to lead us through these challenges. We ask our readers to support his candidacy.

There are three other candidates for the second vacancy on the Council. In recent years Terry Gaasterland has served on the Finance Committee, Design Review Board, and chaired the Sea Level Rise Committee. Dan Quirk served a term on the Finance Committee and is credited as the author of Measure Q. The other candidate is Brian Fletcher. We urge voters to scrutinize these three, listen to their debates, and settle on a choice as the most promising for a new voice on our Council. We think a blend of Worden's leadership capabilities with a new voice from among the other candidates will produce a smart electoral outcome for Del Mar's future. □



Brian Fletcher



Terry Gaasterland



Dan Quirk

CANDIDATES Q&A

- *Sandpiper questionnaire pages 2-5*
- *In addition, you will find a full-length video of the Candidates Forum presented by the League of Women Voters at Town Hall on September 13 on our website.*

Dear Candidates for City Council. The Sandpiper wants to help readers be very clear about where you - Brian, Terry, Dan, and Dwight - stand on key issues. Our goal is specifics, not generalities. Voters need to know exactly where you stand and what they can expect you to do if you are in office. Please answer within a budget of no more than a total of 600 words for all questions. *The Sandpiper Editors*

Question 1

More than 3 million pounds of highly radioactive spent fuel rods are currently being loaded into steel canisters at San Onofre Nuclear Generating Stations (SONGS) only 32 miles upwind from Del Mar. These canisters are a few yards from the ocean, 18 inches above the mean high tide line, and in an area vulnerable to earthquakes and tsunamis.

How will you support actions to make sure that this "temporary" storage site does not become permanent?

• **FLETCHER:** Q1 I support the Citizens Oversight lawsuit settlement with Southern California Edison (SCE), which requires the hiring of an expert panel for transport and relocation of SONGS' nuclear waste. Del Mar should be on record as supporting a permanent and safe relocation of this material.

• **GAASTERLAND:** Q1 The current storage at SONGS is far from sufficient. The consequences of a leak would be devastating. The waste must be moved away from the coast. I will support working with communities up and down the coast to establish plans to move the waste inland. We are not in this alone.

Within Del Mar, we need to create an emergency preparedness plan in case of an unexpected leak.

• **QUIRK:** Q1 If not Yucca Mountain in Nevada, our nation needs to come up with a permanent national storage location in another state, including potentially a remote area of California. After all, waste was produced in California. As a market-driven solution, California could fund the \$10 billion cost to build (with federal expertise), and then charge other states to store their waste so that it's profitable for California.

• **WORDEN:** Q1 I authored the Council's Resolution calling for removal of SONGS waste to safe offsite storage. I've studied the issue, been briefed by citizen activists, and have spoken out. SONGS was never intended for storage. I'll work with federal and state authorities for removal, as a high priority.

Question 2

Current predictions are that global warming will contribute to more frequent and intense wildfires in California and sea level rise that could be as high as 12 feet by 2100.

Will you support priority funding for planning and adaptation strategies (including sand replenishment) to prepare for these impacts ?

• **FLETCHER:** Q2 The STAC committee worked hard for three years to develop several adaptation strategies to save our eroding beaches and bluffs. I support priority funding to implement these strategies which should not include "managed retreat" that removes the shoreline and beach protection contained in Del Mar's voter-approved Beach Protection Initiative.

Del Mar's adopted Adaptation Plan should remain part of Del Mar's Community Plan as recommended by the STAC committee, rather than be submitted to the Coastal



The Sandpiper is published by the Del Mar Community Alliance, a 501(C)(4) non-profit. Its purpose is to advocate the Del Mar Community Plan, to foster informed public and government decision-making regarding issues affecting the community of the City of Del Mar, and to encourage a social and political climate favorable to the protection of the community character of the City of Del Mar and its environs.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

- The Sandpiper welcomes readers' letters and articles.
- Material submitted must include the writer's name, street address, and phone number, and should not exceed 400 words.
- Material selected to be published may be edited or shortened.

Contact us via e-mail or post at:

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Candidates Q&A

(Fletcher continued) Commission as part of the LCP, which would result in the Commission trying to control local decisions which should be decided by Del Mar.

• **GAASTERLAND: Q2** Yes. As funds are available, I strongly support planning AND adapting to minimize risks from wildfires and flooding - this is a high priority for me. I chaired Del Mar's Sea Level Rise committee (STAC). Our Adaptation Plan identified sand replenishment as a highest priority. Sand protects neighborhoods against flooding and against bluff erosion. We need a plan for regular replenishment and retention. Let's evaluate how "living levees" along the San Dieguito River would work to protect beach level homes. Let's work with Oceanside to help trapped sand move around the jetties to our north. Let's study how to release sediment trapped behind Lake Hodges Dam and help replenish our beaches.

In a fire, downed wires can cut off a home from urgent rescue. Undergrounding must move forward with Measure Q funds. We need to give high priority to put wires underground, especially near trees. Also, clearing as much brush as allowed in and near Crest Canyon is imperative. We need a proactive fire safety plan for Del Mar.

• **QUIRK: Q2** I support priority funding. Del Mar should investigate joining the Solana Beach-Encinitas 50-year \$165 million sand replenishment agreement with the Army Corps of Engineers. Del Mar should install sensors offshore to measure sand flow trends. With such data, Del Mar may be able to devise solutions to divert sand to our beaches. Burying powerlines will reduce fire risks.

• **WORDEN: Q2** Yes. Sand replenishment, sand retention, river dredging, and a living levee on the south side of the river are the preferred strategies identified in our Sea Level Rise Adaptation Plan (AP). I support incorporating the AP into our Local Coastal Program (LCP). This gives us maximum local control over how we respond to sea level rise – the Coastal Commission must use our LCP as its standard of review. It will also make it more likely we can obtain grants and the required coastal permits for sand replenishment and other preferred strategies.

The AP, adopted by Council on 5/21/18, is science-based and tailored to Del Mar. The AP rejects managed retreat as a strategy for Del Mar; rather, it documents why it does not work in Del Mar. I wrote the AP language explaining why managed retreat is not feasible for Del Mar (and also wrote the Beach Preservation Initiative that has protected our beach and homeowners, including their right to build properly-designed seawalls, for the last 30 years). The AP was endorsed by key stakeholders, including STAC members, beachfront owners, their lawyers, and environmental groups. I do not and have never supported managed retreat for private property in Del Mar, though my position has been widely misrepresented.

(Worden continued) Our Countywide Hazard Management Plan addresses wildfire risks, and I support funding to protect us from those risks as high priority. I also support incorporating these two Plans by reference into our Community Plan.

Question 3

How will you support efforts to reduce the impact of fairground activities on our community including traffic, noise, and gun shows?

• **FLETCHER: Q3** I support working with the Fairground's staff and board as well as the adjoining cities of Solana Beach and San Diego to help reduce or mitigate the impact of increased traffic and noise from activities at the Fairgrounds. On the issue of gun shows, the Fair Board already responded to community concerns with their vote on 9/11 to not renew the gun show's contract.

• **GAASTERLAND: Q3** The train stop at the Fairgrounds will eliminate a large amount of traffic. It is on the SANDAG agenda. We need to expedite this plan. Further, the Fairgrounds lacks a "heavy traffic" plan and needs an "unexpected traffic" plan to transition traffic control when needed. Let's institute a joint traffic committee with Fairgrounds and local members and the sheriff to address this together. Concerts boost attendance for the races and the County Fair, but create noise issues. Let's continue to anticipate noise levels for events in advance and coordinate noise abatement with the Fairgrounds Board and Solana Beach. I support the Board's plan to establish a no-guns policy for this state property.

• **QUIRK: Q3** Regarding traffic and noise, Del Mar should embrace electronic data collection using inexpensive smart sensors. As general policy, Del Mar should aggressively utilize data analytics to improve operational and decision making capabilities. Regarding guns, I support the Del Mar City Council Resolution 2018-17 calling on the fairgrounds to discontinue gun shows. The recent shooting incident highlights the serious risks. There are over 100 federally licensed gun sellers in the county where individuals can purchase fire-arms. The Second Amendment applies primarily to gun owners, not sellers.

• **WORDEN: Q3** I co-authored the Council resolution against gun shows, recruited neighboring Mayors to join our efforts, and advocated the Fair Board's recent action. On Fairgrounds issues generally, an amendment applying Del Mar's LCP to the fairgrounds will give Del Mar more zoning control; I drafted one and it is on the City's list of priorities. I am working now with the fairgrounds, Solana Beach councilmembers, and others on traffic and noise problems, and these are high priority issues for me.

continued on page 4

Question 4

Developers of the proposed Del Mar Resort complex above North Beach recently held their second Citizen Participation Workshop at Town Hall.

Do their preliminary plans coincide with your expectations for the 16-acre piece of property currently zoned residential?

• FLETCHER: Q4 I attended the CPP workshop and heard the concerns of many citizens about the large size and scale of the Del Mar Resort, which had only become apparent after the story poles went up. In addition to the large buildings, this proposed development would bring a substantial increase in traffic.

According to our Community Plan, the entire North Bluff area is supposed to be very low density, single-family residential. The proposed resort requires the area be rezoned to very high-density mixed use. Given the significant impact on our community, it is essential that there be broad public support for any rezoning to occur.

• GAASTERLAND: Q4 The Resort is the largest commercial project Del Mar has ever had to contend with. Because the rezoning requirement from low density residential to high density commercial is a change to our Community Plan, we should have a vote of the citizens of Del Mar before any rezoning can take place.

• QUIRK: Q4 The idea of a low impact, high-end, boutique-style, resort hotel with beautiful grounds and native greenery that opens up public access to the entirety of the bluffs is a good one. But this current version is much too big (requires a 705-spot underground parking structure), has serious traffic implications, and contradicts the spirit of the Scripps preserve and the Woodward estate restrictions. If built at all, it should probably be closer to half the current size, with significant setbacks, and mostly hidden behind greenery. We should get robust, quantifiable electronic survey data on the community's thoughts. This information would be a great complement to the vague/soft information gathered from community meetings and anecdotes. It's also important to understand that the very serious state-mandated affordable housing requirement is, in part, driving the large size, not just for this project but all residential projects, including Watermark. The hotel includes 15 affordable units, calculated as a 20% "set aside" requirement of the 76 residential villas. These 15 units make up the bulk of the 22 affordable units the City is trying to build by 2020. It would be better for the city to build 22 well-designed, self-funding, city-owned housing units on the large empty dirt lot on the Public Works Department, probably on stilts or open carport. The overall square footage impact would be much smaller, approximately 5% compared to the combined size of Watermark and the hotel. If successful, then all

(*Quirk continued*) development projects can be evaluated on their merits, which would generally result in smaller, more appropriately sized projects. See more at www.danquirkdelmar2018.com.

• WORDEN: Q4 No. I will only support changing the current single-family residential zoning if the project has strong community support and fully protects the Scripps Preserve. The developers must convince us their plan is better for Del Mar than current zoning. Undoubtedly, the plan will undergo significant changes as it goes through the process, as have other Del Mar projects. If it remains controversial in its final form, I will support a public vote.

Question 5

The City Council recently agreed to pursue affordable housing strategies outlined in the 5/22 report.

How will you support planning and funding efforts to achieve state-mandated housing goals?

• FLETCHER: Q5 Since most of Del Mar is already built out and the Fairgrounds comprises 20% of our City's area, I support meeting our affordable housing goals by working with the Fairgrounds which has over 50 units in their approved master plan to replace its current substandard housing. This would help eliminate the City's current plan to rezone the entire North Commercial District on Jimmy Durante to high-density mixed-use.

• GAASTERLAND: Q5 Del Mar needs an action plan that is feasible and will benefit Del Mar's residents. 1. Let's renovate housing on Fairgrounds property – add kitchens, bathrooms and closets. 2. Let's purchase apartment buildings already in Del Mar and once bought, rent out some units at affordable rates and most at market rate to make the payments and cover costs. 3. We already have potential affordable housing in Del Mar. Let's work with building owners to enter agreements to keep some apartments affordable on a long-term basis.

Del Mar's multi-unit housing has grown 2% a decade, according to the numbers in the 22-in-5 report. It will be difficult to agree on where to building new housing. We need a plan that renovates and works with what we have, and works with apartment building owners.

• QUIRK: Q5 We should build 22+ units on the dirt lot at the PWD (conditional on an EIR), and more on the fairgrounds if we can appeal to them with creative, win-win solutions which are out there. I'm a strong advocate of affordable housing, as well as providing permanent supportive housing solutions for the homeless. I volunteer at Father Joe's Villages in downtown San Diego, and solving homelessness has become one of my life missions. I'm working on a low-cost idea inspired by college dorms and small dorm-rooms, combined with intensive volunteer

Candidates Q&A

(*Quirk continued*) and support services on the ground floor. A successful prototype could be copied across the country. See more at my website.

• WORDEN: Q5 I support a robust community process to select the 22/5 Report's options that work best for Del Mar. I'm currently pursuing fairgrounds options, and working with the Housing Corporation, City staff and our consultant to make "22 in 5" a reality. Meeting our affordable housing goals will allow seniors to age in place, and make it possible for some of our teachers, firefighters, students, and young families to live here. Importantly, it will keep us from losing local zoning control to the State or courts. I will continue to provide leadership to create an affordable housing fund, seek grants, investigate public/private partnerships, and pursue all options compatible with our Community Plan

Question 6

On short-term rentals, do you support the zoning change adopted by the Council to allow STRs in residential zones for up to 28 days/year, in 7-day increments, with unlimited STRs in most commercial zones?

• FLETCHER: Q6 I am disappointed with how this issue has divided our community resulting in numerous lawsuits. I believe we should work with Del Mar citizens to formulate a compromise that also protects our housing stock and maintains the character of our neighborhoods.

• GAASTERLAND: Q6 I supported the City's 28/7 position in testimony before the Coastal Commission a few months ago. The CC rejected the City's plan and instead approved 100 days per year with a 3 day minimum stay. After that, the City decided to sue the CC in court to determine who has authority to determine the STR policy, the CC or Del Mar. Once the courts decide this issue, Del Mar can then determine what our next steps will be. We already have unlimited STRs in most commercial zones, and approved STRs can continue under the moratorium until that time.

• QUIRK: Q6 I support the change and the lawsuit against the Coastal Commission. STR policies should be locally determined.

• WORDEN: Q6 Yes. I support allowing full-time STRs in commercial and visitor zones intended for commercial uses. I support 28/7 in residential zones to protect our neighborhoods and housing stock. This allows residents to short-term rent on a limited basis without commercializing residential neighborhoods and intensifying negative impacts, as "mini-hotels" do. ■

BALLOT CHOICES

Mike Levin

The Sandpiper recommends a vote for Mike Levin in the 49th congressional district on this year's ballot. Our district can make an important contribution in the national effort to restore a system of checks and balances during a time when the excesses of one party rule are doing serious damage to our country, both domestically and internationally. Levin is an environmental attorney who can bring important bipartisan ideas for laws that can address very serious climate change challenges.

Measure MM: School Bond

The Sandpiper urges a yes vote on school bond Measure MM, which includes some big ticket items such as adding a 9th school in the Pacific Highlands Ranch, rebuilding the Del Mar Heights school, and modernizing the Del Mar Hills school.

Measure R: Lines in the Sand

The Sandpiper recommends a No vote on Measure R, the ballot initiative to change the way floor area ratio is calculated for beachfront and other properties in Del Mar. This is a poorly written measure that arose out of a dispute between two neighbors, is bad policy for Del Mar, and will likely cause extensive litigation if approved by the voters.

Measure T: Mixed-Use Residential-941

The Sandpiper recommends a yes vote on Measure T, a zoning change to allow a mixed use residential/commercial development at the old gas station site at 10th Street and Camino Del Mar. The vote is on the zoning change, not the project details that will be reviewed by the Design Review Board and the City Council. Residents approved the Garden Project at this site several years ago by almost 85% when Measure B was still in effect, but the former developers were unable to finance the project. The current development team has responded to community input by revising their plans, and the project will add to the vitality of the south end of the commercial district that it was hoped that the new Civic Center would stimulate. ■

VOTE!



Del Mar
FOUNDATION

A FEW OF MY FAVORITE THINGS

Bob Gans, President Del Mar Foundation

At the end of this month, my 2-year term ends as President of the Del Mar Foundation. I thought that I would use the occasion to share some of my favorite things about my favorite Del Mar non-profit:

Favorite Annual Activity for the Entire Community. The Annual Picnic. It's a throwback to the hokey small town picnics that many of us grew up attending. The participation of all the non-profits highlights how lucky we are to live in this special community.

Favorite Annual Activity for Young Families. The Easter Egg hunt? The "Spooktacular" Beach Bonfire? The Brunch With The Band Concerts? They're all spectacular, but my personal nod goes to the Annual 4th of July Bike Parade. Like the Annual Picnic, it's a great small town event, and it's amazing to see how it's grown from a dozen or so kids riding around Powerhouse Park when my own children participated 15 years ago.

Favorite One-Time Event. The free community party held at the Barn at the Beach during the Breeders' Cup. If only we could do that every year . . .

Favorite Summer Concert Series. The Summer Twilight Concerts. Beautiful evenings by the ocean spent with family and friends, enjoying great music. What's not to love?

Favorite Year-Round Concerts. First Thursdays and Bluegrass and Beyond, which, through our Cultural Arts Committee, brings world class talent to Del Mar every year in an intimate setting.

Favorite Speaker Series. DMF Talks, no question. Where else do world-renowned experts on a variety of subjects offer talks to the local community for free?

Favorite Foundation Activity. Setting aside \$100,000 per year for grants to support a variety of worthwhile projects and causes, including all of Del Mar's non-profits. Because, while I may have special affection for the Foundation, all of the non-profits are working together to make Del Mar a great place to live and play.

Yes, I love everything about the Del Mar Foundation, and am incredibly grateful to our Board members, donors and volunteers for all of their hard work and generosity in making the Foundation's myriad activities possible. If you are interested in getting more involved, please email us at info@delmarfoundation.org. And, of course, be sure to check out our website (delmarfoundation.org) and follow us on Facebook (@delmarfoundation), to stay up to date on the latest news and events. Happy Autumn!

ROVING TEEN REPORTER

Sitting the SATs

Eve Gross | Torrey Pines High School Senior

On Aug. 25, thousands of students worldwide let out a sigh of relief as they walked out of the testing center after four hours of the SAT (Scholastic Achievement Test). Some sophomores and juniors were hopeful that even though it was their first time, a good score would allow it to also be their last. Others were already on their third or fourth try.

But, soon after, those sighs of relief were cancelled out by the return of panic, this time because it became public that parts of the test had been leaked online prior to the date of administration. As it turned out, that test had actually already been administered in Asia a year before, and someone had gotten pictures of it and posted them for all to see.

People assumed that with such blatant evidence of a security breach, the College Board, the company that owns the SAT, would cancel the scores. Why? Because, other students' prior knowledge of the answers would mean that the test would gross more perfect scores, which they would submit to colleges and make them more competitive applicants. There was also much concern over how such a high amount of perfect scores would affect the curve.

The College Board, however, refused to cancel the scores, releasing a statement saying that they've "worked to strike a balance between thwarting those few students seeking an unfair advantage and providing testing opportunities for the vast majority of students who play by the rules," but that they would cancel scores for students who they determine gained unfair advantages. Students wonder how the College Board expects to isolate all of the kids who cheated, given that the answers were online. It remains unclear how the cheating affected the curve.

Bea, a junior at Torrey Pines High School, took the SAT for the first time in August, and said that better prevention measures are required. "It is a global test, and reusing tests is something that the college board should know will backfire," she said. "With over 750 million dollars in revenue, they should spend the money to make a test for every month and avoid the scandal that occurred in August."

Lily, a senior at Francis Parker who took the test for the second time, said that if the incident had already happened, she would've spent her weeks prepping for the ACT instead.

According to Reuters, the College Board has reused tests before, but there also have been numerous incidents of sophisticated cheating rings and people having others take the test for them.

"Improved security is a must, but you can't ignore the fact that the area we live in, and many other places, are such competitive atmospheres that some students feel like cheating is their only option," Lily said. "Something about that has to change." ■

IT'S A DAM PARTY!

Jeff Barnouw | Amphitheatre Drive



*Lake Hodges Dam under construction. July 1917.
Courtesy Del Mar Historical Society.*

Lake Hodges and the Dam that made it are having their 100th anniversary. They were born twins in 1918 but which “came first”? The dam had to be built first, but wouldn’t have been, if the idea of the lake had not been conceived. Let’s celebrate!

The first event for the centennial is that of the Solana Beach Civic and Historical Society on October 6. A Rancho Santa Fe event is in planning stages for early December.

Finally, the Del Mar Historical Society is organizing an evening forum on Wednesday, November 7, from 7 to 9 pm (with no-host cash bar open at 6:30) in the Emerald Ballroom of l’Auberge. The Ballroom is being made available as a function of an agreement of l’Auberge with the City regarding non-profit organizations of Del Mar. The Solana Beach Civic and Historical Society, the Rancho Santa Fe Historical Society, the Santa Fe Irrigation District and the Fletcher Family Foundation are collaborating in the planning.

The Speakers will be Andy Strathman, Ph. D., California State University San Marcos, and co-editor of *The Journal of San Diego History*, and Trish Boaz, Executive Director of the San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy.

The event is free, but seating is limited to 90 persons. Please rsvp to info@delmarhistoricalsociety.org.

The Dam was designed by John Samuel Eastwood and built for the Volcan Water Company, but later purchased by the City of San Diego. Eastwood had designed the world’s first reinforced concrete multiple-arch dam on bedrock foundation at Hume Lake, California, in the Sierra Nevada ten years earlier. It demonstrated the feasibility of the multiple-arch design. If this is not “more than you wanted to know,” read the story of his often frustrated but resilient (impressive) pioneer engineering career in his Wikipedia biography or even Donald C. Jackson, *Building the Ultimate Dam: John S. Eastwood and the Control of Water in the West*, 1995. ■



Del Mar Community Connections
Supporting and Serving Seniors

OCTOBER 2018

Ashley Simpkins, Assistant Program Director

Fight the Flu: It Starts With You!

It is estimated that approximately 80% of influenza deaths in the United States occur among those age 65 and older. According to the CDC, getting vaccinated annually is the best way to prevent acquiring the flu, and even if it’s not prevented entirely, the vaccine greatly reduces the likelihood of hospitalization and severity of symptoms.

DMCC offers an annual flu vaccination clinic, and this year it will take place on Wednesday, October 17 between 10am and 3pm in the Del Mar Community Building on 225 9th Street. The vaccine is specialized for the senior population and is free for Medicare patients. We’ll provide juice and cookies to enjoy while you wait. Just walk into our office on 10/17, or call or email the DMCC office so you can reserve a time slot to get the shot!

Open Community Hours at the Digital Den

Thanks to a Neighborhood Reinvestment Grant awarded by San Diego County, DMCC has built an all-new technology lab inside the Del Mar Community Building for local seniors. Featuring both Apple and Windows platforms, the Digital Den will be a site for instruction, cognitive training, open community use, and more.

Come on in to the Digital Den during the following non-instruction hours to surf the Internet, work on your memoir, catch up on social media, and/or stay connected.

Mondays, 2pm - 4pm

Tuesdays, 2pm - 4pm

Thursdays, 9am - 11am

We’re recruiting volunteers to lead classes and workshops in the Digital Den, so please contact our office if you can help!

For more information...

Please contact the DMCC office at (858) 792-7565 or dmcc@dmcc.cc for more information on these programs, or to join our mailing list.

SAFETY SCANS

Preventive Lifeguarding

Jon Edelbrock | Community Services Director and Chief Lifeguard

Managing almost three million visitors per year over a two-mile stretch of beach has its challenges. In the middle of much of the action and energetic visitors our small lifeguard team works daily, year-round, to manage beach access and maintain a safe environment. To be effective, our team strategy is to hire and train excellent staff, to commit to teamwork, and to educate the public.

Not surprisingly, we look for and comprise our team of individuals with similar skills – effective watermen and women, who are courteous, and have a willingness to serve. From day one, the focus for each employee is to become an excellent and valued team resource who recognizes each other member’s unique value and contributions. Our operational plan and procedures are shared by the entire team. The focus is always on being proactive and preventive to minimize risk. As a group, we have to know that we have the same level of knowledge, trust, and common interests.

Our core service is water surveillance, daily, from open to close. This includes dedicated observation of visitors and the environment from open lifeguard towers, vehicles, and boats. Lifeguards use multiple tactics and strategies to identify potential issues and challenges. Visitor observation starts with understanding a level of comfort in the ocean by viewing age, size, complexion, swim stroke, and other mannerisms that may indicate discomfort. We continually survey the ever-changing ocean conditions and trends, day-to-day, as they change with waves, tides, wind, and always try predict hotspots that may pose a challenge. Effective and efficient scanning techniques are required for any lifeguard. Following patterns like left to right, front to back, or working at watching particular groupings and counting patrons in those areas, are common tactics. To increase effectiveness, staff continually overlaps viewing of coverage areas and cross-check with other staff when in doubt of a situation or conditions pose a viewing challenge.

In addition, public outreach and communication have historically been a cornerstone of our department. The goal is to most effectively present the information each beachgoer needs to enjoy their beach experience. Our version of marketing our beach rules, safety information, and best practices for the beach area, consists of public appearances, media outreach, up to date signage and our flag system, providing daily surf and weather reports, and face-to-face education. With each season and day, we are continuously working to be ready for the current and future challenges and most effectively provide information →



\$treetscape: Do It All!

City Council vote was an unanimous 5-0 to revive the proposed Streetscape plan to renovate Camino Del Mar (CDM), 15th Street to 9th Street, derailed earlier this year due to significantly higher than anticipated construction bids.

The Council approved a resolution directing staff to solicit renewed bids to get Streetscape “off and running” with the recalculated plan that includes some cost cuts and changes in funding structure. The current estimate is \$7.1 million. Mayor Worden noted “it is never going to cost less.” The city has \$\$1,324,150 available and will use an additional \$3,245,850 from funds generated to date and projected for 2018-2019 from Measure Q to pave and improve CDM. To round up the numbers, the City will take out a \$2,530,000 short term loan.

Once bids are finished and contractors selected, the optimistically anticipated starting date will be November 2018 (with time out for the holidays) and the job completed by June 30, 2019.

Del Mar Turns Left

The streetscape project between Del Mar Heights Road and Carmel Valley Road has been completed with new signal lights and lane markings on Camino Del Mar (CDM). There are now two left turn lanes from southbound CDM onto eastbound Del Mar Heights, and southbound traffic now gets green light priority over northbound traffic. There are also improved pedestrian and bike lanes along the west side of CDM making access to the bluffs at the southern entrance to Del Mar much more accessible.

Civic Center Solar

Installation of the 80 kW solar system and 50 kW battery storage underway at City Hall is expected to be completed following testing in early October. The performance of the solar system will be closely monitored for the first year of operation using funds from the California Energy Commission in collaboration with the Center for Sustainable Energy, and lessons learned will be shared with the local community and other municipal governments. ■

to the public.

Our goal and mission are to effectively manage safe public space for all. Our well-trained staff works daily to maintain this focus through a team-oriented and educational approach with the goal of providing the best possible service to the community. ■

DM RESORT IN REVIEW

Ann Gardner | Via Latina

The Sandpiper is closely following the community conversation about the Del Mar Resort, currently in the early planning stages. We will update readers when more information becomes available, and we have posted pro and con letters online on our website.

The City is putting together information to help residents better understand the Specific Plan process currently underway for the Del Mar Resort project that would rezone 16 acres of residential property to visitor commercial. Located at the corner of Camino del Mar and Border Ave. the property sits on the North Beach bluff between the cities of Del Mar and Solana Beach on the Del Mar side. The Specific Plan process, which allows a Community Plan amendment in exchange for requiring Exceptional Public Benefits, was authorized by City Council on June 19, 2017.

The authorization required the applicant's commitment to conduct extensive public outreach, which began in the fall of 2017 and has continued through informational sessions ending on September 13, 2018. The gathering of public feedback is expected to wind up at a joint Planning Commission/Design Review Board workshop when the applicant will present a summary of the feedback they have collected the two boards and the public. The meeting will also be opened to the public for comment. The formal review process, including Design Review Board and Planning Commission hearings and final City Council consideration of the Environmental Impact Report, Community Plan Amendment and Coastal Development Permit is not expected until Spring 2019. The Community Plan Amendment requires a 4/5 Council vote or public vote of approval.

Despite the multi-year process of public feedback and legislative review, the public's attention peaked when story poles for the project, a resort complex which includes a 250-room hotel, 76 private villas, restaurants, swimming pools and underground parking, were erected on August 10, 2018. The four-story elements, the density and buildings sitting on the property line with the North Beach preserve above Dog Beach, alarmed a number of residents. Many attended the Citizen Participation Workshop on August 27 expecting to provide feedback to City Council, not realizing it was the second of the required public presentations by the developers with an opportunity for written comments only.

In the meantime, the Draft Environmental Impact Report, being prepared by an environmental consultant selected by the City, will be released for public review and comment soon. The 45-day public review period will begin on the release date after which the Final EIR including responses to all comments, and including any revisions and mitigation measures will be considered by the Planning Commission and certified by City Council. According to the City the EIR will "address traffic, geotechnical and bluff stability, greenhouse gas emission, community character and other impact areas required by the California Environmental Quality Act." In addition to public comment, significant issues raised in the Draft EIR will be responded to in writing by the City. The Final EIR with responses to comments is estimated for release in Spring/Summer 2019. ■

JAVA JITTERS

50-Cup Coffee Challenge

Julie Maxey-Allison | 10th Street

Honore de Balzac, the French author of *The Human Comedy* among many other works he wrote during his lifetime, 1799-1850, is also notable because of his capacity for or addiction to coffee in order to push on to the next opus. He explains in "*The Pleasure and Pains of Coffee*." While he didn't reveal a specific number in his writing, it is said he drank 50 cups a day, maybe more, maybe less. However, he most likely drank demitasse portions, about one-fourth of a cup of a small cup of coffee as we know it, or the equivalent of 12-13 cups. While others of us may like our share, this is a hard act to follow. But, one can. These days in Del Mar there's help.

Starting early, sticking to small (12 oz) cups, moving north to south crisscrossing Camino Del Mar, **Pacific Breeze** in the Plaza. The coffee: Joe's Gourmet Coffee produced in Oceanside (dark and medium roasts), \$2.25. With free refills this can count for 2+ cups. 8:00 am to 4:00 pm daily. Probably Balzac took his strong and straight, but most stops will have milks or milk alternatives.

Moving on, **Starbucks** (yes, the name comes from a character in Melville's *Moby Dick*, and no, he did not drink coffee) has their own coffee (three brews) and language. A small cup is "tall," \$2.15, 10 cents off if you carry your own cup. Those more fabulous offerings with more fabulous names and prices may not count as a cup of coffee, 5:00 am-8:30 pm Monday-Thursday, till 9:00 pm Friday-Sunday. **Americana Restaurant** pours Columbian coffee from West Bean Roasters, San Diego, \$3.50 with free refills. 7:00 am-10:00 pm, Tuesday-Saturday, till 3:00 pm Sunday-Monday. **Crepes & Corks'** coffee comes from Enne



Zumbar Coffee & Tea Kiosk. Photo Dolores Davies.

Caffe, an Italian owned company roasting in North County, San Diego, \$2.50, 9:00 am to 9:00 pm Tuesday-Thursday, till 11:00 pm, Friday, 8:00 am-11:00 pm Saturday-Sunday, closed Monday. Time for a crepe if you are starting to get jumpy.

Zumbar Coffee & Tea Kiosk, nestled to the left of Zel's

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NIGHT RAIDERS

Julie Maxey-Allison | 10th Street

Raccoons, nocturnal “masked” bandits, arise at night from their dwellings in nearby canyons or, possibly, from under or around your house. With the change of seasons and the end of daylight savings, they have more time to freely roam the territory scavenging for food. They are smart. They have learned that tree fruit, garbage, pet food add up to pretty easy meals. So do pet chickens and rabbits. And they know how to get them.

A raccoon can easily stand on its hind legs to examine objects with its front paws. What paws! They have the same ratio of sensory receptors as human hands. Raccoons further heighten this sense through “dousing” or wetting their paws in water to stimulate the nerve endings that give them information through touch. That black fur circling a raccoon’s eyes looking like a mask meant to conceal its true identity is there to absorb light. It reduces glare and peripheral light allowing the animal to see in the dark, good for night shift foraging. With their cunning and nimble digits, they can open even tricky lids on jars, uncork bottles and open door latches. Some can even open door knobs. This skill was noted by the Powhatan, the Virginia Indians at the time of Jamestown, and their word, “Aroughcun,” meaning “animal that scratches with its hands,” is the source of our English word raccoon.



T-shirt art.

Photo courtesy R. Bruce Allison.

Dinner in the 1920s somehow charmed her way off the menu into fame as a featured pet living at the White House.

Cute as some think they are, raccoons can carry rabies and they may bite people or pets when defending themselves or their “kits.” As with other mischievous wild animals, don’t invite them in. Take care to seal up your space, including pet cages and doors, from would-be invaders. Close under-house openings, check your yard for and eliminate convenient raccoon housing. Keep an eye on your pets and bring your pet and bird food indoors at night. If raccoons do become squatters, call a professional service. ■

MARKET MOVES TO CIVIC CENTER



*After two years in the Shores Park, the Del Mar Farmers Market now sets up shop in the new Civic Center.
Photo Julie Maxey-Allison.*

JAVA JITTERS

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entry, serves their brand of espresso, roasted in Sorrento Valley, \$3.00, 7:30 am-2:00 pm Monday-Friday, till 3:00 pm Saturday-Sunday. Segue west on 13 Street to **Stratford Court Cafe** for a cup of Gravina, three varieties, \$3.21. Self serve refills, 7:00 am-3:00 pm Monday-Friday, till 4:00 pm Saturday-Sunday. Back on track, **Cafe Secret** serves Peruvian organic dark roast coffee, \$2.73. Tuesday-Saturday, 8:00 am-9:00 pm, (closed 3:00-5:30 pm), Sunday till 3:00 pm, closed Monday. **Del Mar Patisserie** has an organic Columbian blend from Intelligencia Coffee for \$1.95, 8:00 am-4:00 pm daily.

By now you may have consumed only 9 or 10 cups, so off track to **Bird Rock Coffee Roasters**, 2212 Carmel Valley Road, for one of three of their blend brews, \$2.50, 6:00 am-6:00 pm Monday-Thursday, till 7:00 pm Friday, 7:00 am-7:00 pm Saturday-Sunday. One can linger and contemplate the lagoon or just how much more coffee can be consumed. All will depend on your count to date. While 50 cups might seem unobtainable, you may be up to 12 small cups! If not, take a break with decaf. That may not have been what Balzac did, but this is now. If you are behind, simply retrace your steps to the rest of the restaurants now open to bring up your number. Don’t stop now. There is always a nightcap cup. ■

DEL MAR COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Highlights for SEPTEMBER 2018

DEL MAR FARMERS MARKET

Every Saturday

from 1-4 pm in the Del Mar Civic Center

City Council Meeting. October 1, 2018, 4:30 PM-9:00 PM @ Del Mar Town Hall.

DM Community Connections – Tuesday Lunch Connections. Tuesday, October 2, noon to 1:30pm, Del Mar Community Building, 225 9th St.

DM Library - Adults: Adult Yoga. With certified instructor Lynne Truong. Please bring a mat & towel. Tuesdays in October, 12pm.

DM Library - Kids: Pre-School Story Time. Ages 3 – 5 yrs. old. Stories, songs and finger plays including simple concepts in stories and characters. Wednesdays in October, 10 am. Wear your Halloween costume on October 31st!

DM Library - Adults: Chair Yoga. Chairs provided. Please bring a towel & water bottle. Wednesdays in October, 10:30am & 11:30am.

DM Library - Adults: Conversational Spanish Instruction. With native speaker Lucy. Wednesdays in October, 6pm.

DM Foundation - First Thursdays: Judy Huang. Thu, Oct 4, 7–8:15pm, Powerhouse. Doors open at 6:30 for wine and cheese. Open to subscription holders only!

DM Community Connections – Transitions in Aging support group. Friday, October 5, 2pm – 3:30pm, Del Mar Community Building, 225 9th St.

DM Community Connections – Annual Benefit Gala. Saturday, October 6, 5pm – 9pm, Del Mar Town Hall.

DM Library - Kids: Matter Minds. Fun science experiments for elementary aged children, grades, K–6, to explore science. Saturday, October 6 & 20, 11am. (1st & 3rd Saturday of the month.)

DM Community Connections – Dr. Kalina's Healthy Aging Forum: Making a Difference. Tuesday, October 9, 9:30am to 11:30am, Del Mar Community Building, 225 9th St.

DM Foundation - Cultural Arts Committee Meeting. Wed, Oct 10, 8:30–10:00am, Powerhouse.

Del Mar Historical Society will meeting on Wednesday, October 10, at 5:00 pm in the conference room at 225 9th Street. The public is encouraged to attend.

DM Library - Adults: Art Instruction. With local artist, Sandra Dodd. All supplies provided. Wednesday, October 10 & 24, 3:30pm. (2nd & 4th Wednesday of the month.)

DM Community Connections – Board of Directors meeting. Saturday, October 13, 9am – 10am, Del Mar Community Building, 225 9th St.

City Council Meeting. October 15, 2018, 4:30 PM-9:00 PM @ Del Mar Town.

DM Community Connections – Tuesday Lunch Connections. Tuesday, October 16, noon to 1:30pm, Del Mar Community Building, 225 9th St.

DM Community Connections – Senior Walk-In Flu Shot Clinic. Wednesday, October 17, 10am – 3pm, Del Mar

Community Building, 225 9th St.

DM Library - Kids: Rady's Toddler Time Class. Literacy, music and movement for toddlers. Thursday, October 18, 10am.

DM Library - Kids: Rady's Baby Story Time. Literacy, music and movement for infants. Thursday, October 18, 11am.

DM Community Connections – Transitions in Aging support group. Friday, October 19, 2pm – 3:30pm, Del Mar Community Building, 225 9th St.

DM Library - Adults: Book Talks and Treats. Staff & readers share reviews and recommendations of recently read books. Copies are available for check out. Coffee and snacks. Friday October 19, 2pm. (3rd Friday of the month.)

Torrey Pines Association – 3rd Annual Wine in the Pines at Torrey Pines State Natural Reserve on the grounds of the lodge. Saturday, October 20, 4:00pm to 6:30pm. \$95. Artisan pizzas, fine wines and beer, local artists, music, and silent auction. Tickets on sale at torreypines.org and 858-437-7371. All proceeds benefit conservation and restoration projects in the Reserve.

DM Foundation - DMF Talks. Mon, Oct 22, 6–8pm, Powerhouse. Kathleen Stoughton, Executive Director LUX Art Institute.

Business Support Advisory Committee. October 23, 2018, 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM @ City of Del Mar Town Hall.

DM Community Connections – ROMEO (Retired Old Men Eating Out) Luncheon. Tuesday, October 23, noon to 1:30pm, Sbicca Restaurant, 215 15th St.

Arts Advisory Committee. October 24, 2018, 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM @ City of Del Mar Town Hall.

Friends of the San Dieguito River Valley. The next monthly meeting of the Friends will be on Monday, October 22, 4 to 6 p.m. in the Breezeway North Conference Room, Town Hall.

DM Library - Adults: Meditation. Practice the ancient art of meditation. All experience levels welcome. Wednesday, October 24, 6pm. (4th Wednesday of the month.)

DM Foundation - Del Mar Foundation Board Meeting. Thu, Oct 25, 8–9:30am 225 9th St, Del Mar.

DM Foundation - Young Del Mar: Spooktacular Beach Bonfire. Fri, Oct 26, 5:30–8:00pm Beach in front of Powerhouse Park. Registration required. Check in from 5:30- 6pm. Event starts at 6:15.

DM Library - Adults: Day in the Life of a Naval Aviator. An insider's view by a former aviator now serving as a docent aboard the USS Midway Museum. Thursday, October 25, 6pm.

DM Community Connections – Book Babes book club: Grendel by John Gardner. Friday, October 26, 2pm to 3pm, Del Mar Community Building, 225 9th St.

DM Library - Kids: Stranger Awareness & Avoidance. For children 4–6yrs. Teach parents and children how to verbally defend themselves, set boundaries, trust their instincts and use their voices when someone of something doesn't feel right. Saturday, October 27, 10am.

DM Community Connections – Sunday Salon: Collecting Coins with Nate McCay. Sunday, October 28, 4-6pm, address provided upon reservation.

DM Library - Kids: Face Painting Get your face painted to celebrate Halloween. Wednesday, October 31, 10:30am-12pm. Wear your Halloween costume!

VISIT THE SANDPIPER ONLINE!



www.delmarsandpiper.org

SANDPIPER

DEL MAR'S COMMUNITY JOURNAL

Box 2177, Del Mar, CA 92014

DATED MATERIAL

GUN SHOWS ON HOLD

Don Mosier | Rimini Road

The Board of Directors of the 22nd District Agricultural Association (22nd DAA) voted 8-1 (Penniman no) on September 11 to review gun show policies and prohibit new gun show contracts in 2019. Two previously contracted shows in late September and early December of this year will proceed as scheduled.

The staff of the 22nd DAA was directed to present new policies for gun shows no later than the December 2019 meeting of the Board. The direction to staff, which was reinforced by a strong letter of support from Assemblymember Todd Gloria, was to:

- Conduct gun shows only for educational and safety training purposes
- Consider banning possession of guns and ammunition on state property
- Align gun show contract language with recent changes in federal and state law
- Enhance security plans for future shows with added safety plans
- Consider raising the age for show entrants
- Grant rights to the 22nd DAA to perform an audit to confirm that gun show sponsors (currently Crossroads of the West) are in full compliance with California penal codes

Over 70 public speakers submitted comments during the meeting, including Rose Ann and Ira Sharp of NeverAgainCA. Board President Steve Shewmaker voiced his concerns after discovering that self-assembled weapons, armor-piercing bullets, and hollow-point bullets were being



When confronted with the “sea” of orange T-shirts, a nearby attendee was heard to say: “Well, we are really outnumbered this time.”

Photo Ann Gardner

sold at the gun shows. The owners of the Crossroads of the West franchise have been convicted of violating federal gun laws, and they have circumvented this issue (which would have prohibited them operating in California) by transferring operational authority to the daughter of the founder.

Todd Gloria's letter of September 10th stated that he was “prepared to act by way of legislation should the 22nd DAA Board be unable to take meaningful action. I have prepared language for introduction in the next legislative session should that become necessary.”

The supporters of gun shows and Crossroads of the West vowed to fight the action taken by the 22nd DAA Board. Let's hope that the resolve shown by the Board this September will be reflected by their decisions in December 2019. ■