

PUBLISHED BY THE SERRA MESA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

VOLUME 31, ISSUE 3

MAY / JUNE 2017



Serra Mesa Little League appreciates the support of our generous sponsors!

See page 10









www.SerraMesa.org

You are invited to participate in the

Serra Mesa Community Council Wednesday, May 24 6:30 p.m.

Serra Mesa - Kearny Mesa Library Community Room, 9005 Aero Drive

Serra Mesa Community Council Wednesday, June 28 6:30 p.m.

Serra Mesa - Kearny Mesa Library Community Room, 9005 Aero Drive

> Neighborly People and Friendly Businesses Living and Working Together

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Appointed Positions		

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Observer Editor	
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Observer Staff/Education	
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Message Coordinator	
(858)565-2473*	٠
Welcome to Serra Mesa	
Elizabeth Rice(858)565-2473	k

Myra Webb.....(858)565-2473*

Ronda Adams.....(858)565-2473*

Subscription Records

Utility Box Coordinator

Serra Mesa Observer is published bimonthly by the Serra Mesa Community Council with a circulation of approx 800 Annual fees: Household...\$15 Sponsor...\$25 Benefactor..\$50

> For subscriptions and ads, call (858) 565-2473 Council doesn't endorse ads.

Articles, Ideas, & Upcoming Events for the Observer

are welcome. Editor reserves right to edit articles.

For articles, e-mail Ronda Adams - rondakadams@msn.com **Deadline:** July / August Edition...June 19th

> P.O. Box 23315, San Diego, CA, 92193 http://www.serramesa.org communitycouncil@serramesa.org

SERRA MESA COMMUNITY GROUPS				
Serra Mesa Community Council	(858) 565-2473			
e-mail: communitycouncil@serramesa.org				
Serra Mesa Planning Group	(858) 565-2473			
e-mail: smpg@serramesa.org				
ELECTED OFFICIALS				
Board of Education Kevin Beiser	(619) 725-5550			
City Councilmember Scott Sherman	(619) 236-6677			
Mayor Kevin Faulconer	(619) 236-6330			
County Supervisor Ron Roberts	(619) 531-5544			
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State Senator Toni G. Atkins	(619) 645-3133			
Governor Jerry Brown	(619) 525-4641			
U.S. Representative Susan Davis	(619) 448-5201			
U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein	(619) 231-9712			

U.S. Senator	r Dianne Feinstein	(619) 231-9712	
CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS			
M 0	Friends of Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Libra	ary	
May 9	5:30 p.m., Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Libra	ary, Sudberry Room	
N. 16	Serra Mesa Recreation Center Council M	eeting	
May 16	6:30 p.m., 9020 Village Glen Drive		
M 10	Serra Mesa Planning Group		
May 18	7 p.m., Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library,	Community Room	
Mary 20	Hearing Loss Association of America (Sa.	n Diego)	
May 20	10:30 a.m., Mission Village Christian Fel	lowship	
Serra Mesa Community Council			
May 24	6:30 p.m., Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Libra	ary, Community Rm	
Friends of Ruffin Canyon			
May 24	ary, Community Rm		
Jun 3 Friends of Ruffin Canyon Cleanup			
Juli 3	9:00 a.m., Shawn Avenue entrance to Ruf	fin Canyon	
Jun 15 Serra Mesa Planning Group			
Juli 13	7 p.m., Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library,		
Jun 17	Hearing Loss Association of America (Sa		
Juli 1 /	10:30 a.m., Mission Village Christian Fel	lowship	
Jun 20	Serra Mesa Recreation Center Council M	eeting	
Juli 20	6:30 p.m., 9020 Village Glen Drive		
Jun 28	Friends of Ruffin Canyon		
3411 20	5:30 p.m., Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Libra	ary, Community Rm	
Jun 28	Serra Mesa Community Council		
5 dil 20	6:30 p.m., Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Libra	ary, Community Rm	
Jul 1	Friends of Ruffin Canyon Cleanup	m - c	
	9:00 a.m., Shawn Avenue entrance to Ruf		
	Serra Mesa Enhancement Committee mo	0	
	write to P.O. Box 23315, San Diego, CA	, <i>92193</i> .	

In This Issue	
SMCC Community Forums	1
Community Phone Numbers, Calendar	2
President's Message	3
Seventy is the new 40, Mission Village Dr from Ronda to Qualcomm	4
Free Classes SDCE, SM Rec Center	5
Franklin Ridge Road Connection	6
Important Phone Numbers, Are You Interested in Playing Baseball?	7
Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Branch Library	8
Serra Mesa Little League appreciates the Support	10
Our Town Does Our Town	12
SMCC New and Renewed Members	13
New Book Released from Tom Leech, Civita Park Unveiled	14
SMCC Subscription App/Renewal & SMEC Request for Investigation	Inserts

^{*}Contact by calling (858) 565-2473 & leaving a message.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Our only constant is change

There has been a lot of attention on Soccer City, lately and it remains to be seen on how it will affect us. For those of us who have lived with Qualcomm Stadium for years, the change for the most part is positive as we no longer are required to deal with the traffic from games with the Padres or Chargers. On the other hand, our homes continue to increase in value because of location, location, location. A good real estate friend has indicated that Serra Mesa is now the new "in neighborhood" mostly because of our proximity to everything. We are no longer the best kept secret in San Diego and with all the developments around us our popularity is growing.

So why is Soccer City a concern or is it an opportunity for future developments close to home? Everyone has experienced the increased freeway traffic on San Diego freeways. There does not seem to be a time when there is light traffic or a period where we can anticipate arrival times. The proposed development of the Qualcomm Site is very ambitious as it includes not only the soccer stadium, but there is consideration for a stadium, dorms, and facilities for San Diego State. In addition, River Front improvements are planned which will give the public access to a wonderful facility close to Serra Mesa. Our Serra Mesa Planning Group is taking up this issue to determine whether we, as neighbors, will have a say in the planning which impacts our quiet residential neighborhood. As in the past, we as Serra Mesa residents are not opposed to future development, we are more focused

on how we can influence the planning to ensure that we keep the values that we have come to enjoy here. I would encourage you to make your voice known both at our Serra Mesa Community Council and the Serra Mesa Planning Group meetings. We represent you and as such want to make sure that we are operating with your approval.

We are awaiting the City of San Diego's updated EIR (Environmental Impact Report) on the Murray Ridge Connection to the Civita Development. The Serra Mesa Community Council has not taken a position on the connection. We have many residents who are in favor as well as opposed to the connection. Residents who the connection will affect are very involved and vocal. They have responded to the initial EIR and expressed concerns to the city. Our intent is to give you the medium to voice your concerns.

Have you noticed workers on Mission Village Drive sidewalks between Ronda and Friars Road? There is a 1 Million Dollar improvement project to the sidewalks to comply with building codes and provide a safe walkway for those who need to get to Mission Valley from Serra Mesa. It has been in the planning for many years and has been on our Planning Group's list as a needed improvement. Be careful as you drive down the hill as lanes will be closed to give the workers access.

The main objective of the Community Council is to inform you of changes as well as get your input. The best way to accomplish that is to attend the meetings. The Community Council meets on the 4thWednesday of every month at 6:30 PM at the Serra Mesa/Kearny Mesa Library. The Planning Group's meetings are on the 3rd Thursday at 7:00 PM at the Library. You can stay advised of all happenings on our website www.serramesa.org and view the calendar on our home page, sign up for notifications at our meetings, or catch up with the Serra Mesa Observer or Serra Mesa Connection. Let us know how you feel.

Carl Demas,

President of the Serra Mesa Community Council.

Seventy is the new 40

Serra Mesa Village-Where you can feel young again

Our "Senior Lunch" meets every Wednesday, at noon, at Mission Village Christian Fellowship Hall, 2650 Melbourne Drive, and anyone is welcome but none of us who are seniors are willing to admit to being seniors so it has become the "Friendship Lunch". When we formed the Serra Mesa Village, we proposed to help those who had a need to stay in their homes longer. We considered care scenarios, transportation venues, and things that seniors needed. We had a lot of hope but no persons were identified as needing these types of services. What we found is a group of great people who love to spend time together and do things that we never had time for when we were working. You will never find a more dedicated, tireless, energetic group with a need to fill our time with fun things. We have a lot of capacity and want to grow so we are appealing to you if you are willing to join us. We do not expect everyone to do everything so you do what you can or are willing to do. We are still willing to help those who need it but we are looking to have fun as well.

We have scheduled travel trips, weekly soup and salad lunches, exercise classes, social game playing days, movie days, walking groups, and an openness to add other activities when desired. We feel lucky to be retired as we are so involved we do not have time to have real jobs.

So, if you are 55 or over, looking for an action group, and want to get involved with a folks that have fun together, consider joining. Cost is reasonable, \$35 for a year's membership and all the fun you can handle.

Our Senior Center is the Serra Mesa Recreational Center, 9020 Village Glen Dr., and our Council Member Scott Sherman has given us \$5,000 to spruce up the place so come on down and find out what the youngsters can really do.

Carl Demas, just one of the Villagers

Mission Village Drive from Ronda to Qualcomm Sidewalk

Notice from San Diego Public Works Department

Project – Sidewalks will be installed on both sides of Mission Village Drive from Ronda to Qualcomm. Construction Schedule – Anticipated construction will begin in fall 2017 and completed in approximately three months.

Constructions Days and Hours – Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Street Access – Traffic control will be implemented during construction.

For questions, call the CIP construction project information line at 619-533-4207 and leave a message or email engineering@sandiego.gov. Please reference Mission Village Drive – Ronda to Qualcomm Sidewalk.

Holy Angels Byzantine Catholic Church 2235 Galahad Road, San Diego, CA 92123

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Serra Mesa Recreation Center

9020 Village Glen Dr. (858) 573-1408

1:00 - 8:00 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 1:00 - 9:00 p.m. Wednesday 2:00-6:00 p.m. Friday 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Saturday Closed Sunday.

Community Sports Information: A.Y.S.O. Soccer: (858) 268-5880 N.Y.S. Soccer: (858) 973-6101 SD United Soccer: (858) 457-4625 Serra Mesa Senior Softball: (858) 279-4283

Serra Mesa Little League: (858) 279-8361

Serra Mesa Recreation Council meets on May 16 & June 20 at 6:30 p.m.









Karin Boye Interim Pastur

rev.karin@yahoo.com www.gethsemanesd.org

2696 Melbourne Drive San Diego, CA 92123 Worship 8:00, 9:30 am (858) 277-6572

Franklin Ridge Road Connection

The recirculated draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Serra Mesa Community Plan Amendment Roadway Project, dated March 29, 2017, is available for review at https://www.sandiego.gov/planning/programs/ceqa. The roadway project refers to the Franklin Ridge Road connection between Phyllis Place in Serra Mesa and Civita in Mission Valley. It's important to review the document; identify inaccuracies, omissions, and impacts; and send a response to the City.

Anyone can submit questions and comments and staff must respond to all of them. The Serra Mesa Planning Group requested a 14-day deadline extension, which was granted. Responses are now due by May 30.

- Send your comments to Susan Morrison, Environmental Planner, City of San Diego Planning Department, 1010 2nd Avenue, MS 413, San Diego, CA 92101.
- Or e-mail your comments to <u>PlanningCEQA@sandiego.gov</u> with the Project Name and Number in the subject line: Project Name: Serra Mesa Community Plan Amendment Roadway Connection; Project No. 265605.

The recirculated draft EIR has been revised. If you responded previously, you'll want to confirm that your comments are still applicable. The Serra Mesa Planning Group (SMPG) and the Serra Mesa Community Council's response letters and the SMPG's position statement for the previous PEIR are posted at http://www.serramesa.org/hot-topics/. The SMPG response letter and position statement for this recirculated draft EIR will be posted at the same website once they're completed and approved.

Franklin Ridge Road Connection Subcommittee – The main purpose of the Franklin Ridge Road Connection Subcommittee was to draft a letter in response to the recirculated draft EIR for SMPG's review. The subcommittee met during the month of April with at least ten participants at each meeting. In evaluating the draft EIR the focus was on identifying inconsistencies, specific impacts, any errors, omissions of data or analyses, and conclusions not based on evidence. The subcommittee passed a motion to approve the draft letter.

Thanks to all of the dedicated people who attended subcommittee meetings. Participants spent many hours reading, researching, and evaluating.

Draft Response Letter and Position Statement – SMPG will discuss and vote on the letter and a position statement at their May 18th meeting. The final letter will be sent to the City and posted online.

Next Step in the Process –Staff is required to write a response to all comments. In the past staff indicated that responses wouldn't be available until two weeks prior to the Planning Commission hearing, which may not be scheduled until in the fall. The final decision maker will be the City Council.



IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Abandoned Vehicles &		Police Department - Eastern Division	(858) 495-7900
Police Non-Emergency	(619) 531-2000	Post Office	(800) 275-8777
Airport Noise - Montgomery Airfield	(858) 573-1436	Poison Control Center	(800) 876-4766
Animal Control	(619) 767-2675	Rape /Domestic Violence Hotline	(858) 272-1767
Bus & Trolley Schedules	(619) 233-3004	RSVP (Retired Seniors Volunteer Patrol)	(858) 495-7990
Canyon Cleanup	(619) 533-4411	SDG&E Emergencies	(800) 411-7343
Child Abuse Hotline	(858) 560-2191	Senior Citizen Services	(619) 236-6905
City Clerk - Docket Information	(619) 533-4000	Serra Mesa Library	(858) 573-1396
Crime - General Business	(619) 531-2000	Serra Mesa Recreation Center	(858) 573-1408
Crime Stoppers	(619) 235-8477	Sidewalk Repair	(619) 527-7500
Dead Animal Removal stay on the line	e) (858) 694-7000	Stadium Manager	(619) 641-3101
Emergency Information - Earthquake	(858) 565-3490	Stadium Security & Noise	(619) 641-3150
Fallen Trees	(858) 527-7500	Stolen Property/Bicycles - To Report	(619) 531-2000
Fire Department - Non-emergency	(619) 533-4300	Storm Drain Misuse	(619) 235-1000
Flies & Vermin	(858) 694-2888	Street Repair - Faded signs, pavement	(619) 527-7500
Graffiti	(619) 525-8522	Traffic Signal Maintenance	(619) 527-8650
Hazardous Chemicals & Waste	(858) 694-7000	Water Emergencies - City & Private	(619) 515-3525
Health Violations	(619) 338-2222	Weeds	(619) 533-4444
Kearny High Alumni Association	(619) 699-0886	Zoning/Permits - Questions & Violations	(619) 446-5000
Litter - City Owned/Private Property	(858) 492-5055		
Meals On Wheels	(619) 260-6110		
Neighborhood Code Compliance	(619) 236-5500		
Barking Dogs, Code Violations, Noise, Safety			



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 Sunday Mass
 7:30, 9:30 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.

 Saturday
 8:00 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.

 Mon-Fri.
 7:00 a.m.

Holy Days Please call the church for schedule

Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Branch Library

May/June, 2017 Events/Programs

All San Diego Public Library Locations will be Closed on Monday, May 31st in observance of Memorial Day.

The Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Branch Library will be closed June 5th through June 16th System Technology Upgrades. The Library will reopen at 9:30am on Saturday, June 17th. The library's book drop will be open for book returns during the closure.

Adult Programs

Art Exhibits – The Friends of the Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Branch Library present an exhibit of paintings by Linmou Eng in the Community Room and Lego by the Ege Family in the display cases.

eReader/Tech Clinic – Saturdays and Sundays, 2:00 p.m. (Except June 10th and 11th) Learn how to download library eBooks to your eReader or computer. Quick tips & helpful hints to get the most out of your downloads. Bring your own eReader, tablet, or laptop for hands on learning.

Knitting Circle – Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. (Except June 10th) Join the knitting circle. Improve your skills in this traditional art form.

Zumba® Dance Fitness – Thursdays, 1:00 p.m. (except June 8th and 15th) The Zumba Fitness program fuses Latin rhythms with easy-to-follow moves. Limit 30 participants.

Zumba® Gold Fitness – Wednesdays, 1:30 p.m. (except June 7th and 14th) The Zumba Gold Fitness program fuses Latin rhythms with easy-to-follow moves. This class is designed for beginners and active seniors. Limit 30 participants.

May 4, 2:30 p.m. Coloring Club for Adults. Find out why coloring for adults is the latest & greatest way to de-stress! Come and spend an hour of stress relieving, mindful, and calm creative expression. Supplies are provided!

May 9, 16 & 23, 11:30 a.m. Tech Teachings Join us for a class to learn or review basic computer skills like Google, Facebook, email and more. Limit 6 participants. Sign up at the front desk or call 858-573-1396.

May 9, 5:00 p.m. Friends of the Library Meeting. Join members of your community to discuss ways to support the library.

May 9, 6:45 p.m. Serra Mesa Library Book Club. Join members of your community to discuss *The Reluctant Fundamentalist* by Mohsin Hamid.

May 17, 11:30 a.m. Kearny Mesa Planning Group. A community meeting for an organization that advises the city on land use issues.

May 18, 3:00 p.m. Serra Mesa Village Meeting. Join members of your community for presentations on healthy lifestyles for older adults.

May 18, 7:00 p.m. Serra Mesa Planning Group. A community meeting for an organization that advises the city on land use issues.

May 22, 1:30 p.m. OASIS Monday at the Library: Aromatherapy & Pain Management. Experience how essential oils can help relieve old and new discomfort issues using essential oil aromatherapy and topical applications. Enjoy a real hands-on experience!

- May 24, 6:30 p.m. Serra Mesa Community Council. A meeting to provide information and act as a forum for identifying and solving community problems.
- May 25, 2:30 p.m. Employment Workshop: Winning Interview Techniques. Make your dream job a reality! Gain information and resources to develop expert interviewing skills. Open to all, especially military families. Offered by the Fleet and Family Support Center.
- May 26, 1:00 p.m. Metro Career Workshop: Your Personal Commercial. This workshop, offered by the San Diego Metro Career Center, shows you how to communicate your value to employers effectively and professionally.
- May 28, 1:30 p.m. San Diego Folk Song Society. Join the folk song circle and enjoy free, live music.
- June 1, 2:30 p.m. Coloring Club for Adults. Find out why coloring for adults is the latest & greatest way to de-stress! Come and spend an hour of stress relieving, mindful, and calm creative expression. Supplies are provided!
- June 13, 6:45 p.m. Serra Mesa Library Book Club. Join members of your community to discuss Rosemary, The Hidden Kennedy Daughter by Kate Larson.
- June 15, 3:00 p.m. Serra Mesa Village Meeting. Join members of your community for presentations on healthy lifestyles for older adults.
- June 21, 11:30 a.m. Kearny Mesa Planning Group. A community meeting for an organization that advises the city on land use issues.
- June 23, 1:00 p.m. Metro Career Workshop: What to Say in a Job Interview. A community meeting for an organization that advises the city on land use issues.
- June 23, 1:00 p.m. Metro Career Workshop: What to Say in a Job Interview. This workshop by the San Diego Metro Career Center teaches you how to conduct yourself during job interviews.
- June 25, 1:30 p.m. San Diego Folk Song Society. Join the folk song circle and enjoy free, live music.
- June 26, 1:30 p.m. OASIS Monday at the Library: The Story of the Star Spangle Banner Join us for a FREE interesting talk by Bill Plachy about the history of the American flag. This talk tells the story about how our flag became the treasures icon it is today and how a British drinking song became our national anthem.
- June 28, 6:30 p.m. Serra Mesa Community Council. A meeting to provide information and act as a forum for identifying and solving community problems.
- June 29, 2:30 p.m. Employment Workshop: Resume Writing Workshop. Make sure your Resume stands out! Get the latest tips and techniques to wow employers with an organized, effective and winning resume. Open to all, especially military families. Offered by the Fleet and Family Support Center.

Children Programs

Kids Night with Hopscotch Tiny Tots – Tuesdays, 4:30 p.m. (except June 6th and 13th) Join Miss Kim for music, stories, arts and crafts in a program which is ideal for toddlers and preschoolers.

Friday Morning Storytime – Fridays, 10:00 a.m. (Except June 9th and 16th) Join Ms. Carrie and Ms. Sandy every Friday morning for stories, songs, and fun!

May 1 & 15, 10:30 a.m. Yoga Storytime for Kids. Toddlers will hear stories and songs while learning yoga poses.

Serra Mesa Little League appreciates the support of our generous sponsors

Serra Mesa Little League has been off to a very successful season! Opening Day was Saturday, March 4, 2017. Fifteen teams participated in a parade around the bases and local news coverage was provided by KUSI news. The San Diego Police Department supported our event with a SWAT BearCat vehicle and officers with radar guns to measure pitching speed of our pitchers! Chopper the biker dog also made a visit! The national anthem was performed by members of the School of Rock and the presentation of the flag was performed by the CAN TTU North Island Color Guard.







The following sponsors are recognized for supporting youth baseball in our community and supporting our Opening Day event.

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PackMasters
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Rawknykz Barber Shop
Round Table Pizza
SCS Engineers
San Diego Concrete Pumping
Smart & Final
Stadium Golf
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The Vattuone Family
Wawanesa Insurance

Continued from page 9

May 3 & 17, 4:00 p.m. Lego Builder Club. Join us to build Lego creations that will be displayed in the library.

May 5, 4:00 p.m. STEAM2 Academy: Dinosaurs. Become a paleontologist to learn all about dinosaurs through easy to follow, hands-on experiments! This program is geared toward kids ages 4-8.

May 8 & 22, 10:30 a.m. Preschool Craft. Join us for a fun, easy-to-make children's craft.

May 10 & 24, 12:00 p.m. Baby/Toddler Explore Time. Come let your baby or toddler learn about the world by exploring. Little ones are able to make noise, play, and meet new friends. This is a loosely structured, babyled program of play, music, art, stories, songs and more. For babies and toddlers 0-2 years.

May 11, 18 & 25, 10:00 a.m. Music Time for Kids with Cowboy Bob. Come dance with Cowboy Bob as he introduces music and instruments in a show appropriate for all ages.

June 2, 4:00 p.m. STEAM2 Academy: Science of Fairy Tales: The 3 Little Pigs and Their Engineering Dilemma! Experiment to see which really best building material; straw, sticks or bricks. Build a miniature house to see how it withstands the wind.

June 19, 10:30 a.m. Yoga Storytime for Kids. Toddlers will hear stories and songs while learning yoga poses.

June 21, 4:00 p.m. Summer Reading Program: Mad Science. Design a Solution to Pollution with Mad Science. Learn how science is helping to make the world a better, cleaner place.

June 22 & 29, 10:00 a.m. Music Time for Kids with Cowboy Bob. Come dance with Cowboy Bob as he introduces music and instruments in a show appropriate for all ages.

June 26, 10:30 a.m. Preschool Craft. Join us for a fun, easy-to-make children's craft.

June 28, 12:00 p.m. Baby/Toddler Explore Time. Come let your baby or toddler learn about the world by exploring. Little ones are able to make noise, play, and meet new friends. This is a loosely structured, baby-led program of play, music, art, stories, songs and more. For babies and toddlers 0-2 years.

June 28, 4:00 p.m. Summer Reading Program: Sparkles the Clown. Sparkles the Clown come to give us a hilarious and whimsical magic and bubble show!

Apply for a Free Computer!! Computers 2 SD Kids at the Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library – Classes on May 20 and June 24

The San Diego Public Library and Computers 2 SD Kids are teaming up to provide computers for families with children. Volunteers will guide you through an introductory computer class at the library. Attendance at this class is required before you can receive a computer. Computers 2 SD Kids will give you a Technology Assistance Program application. They will review it and notify you whether you qualify based on your verified income. Sign-up at the Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Branch Library or call 858-573-1396 starting on the 1st of each month.

Summer Reading Program 2017!! June 15 to August 15

Read by Design and join the Summer Reading Program! It's free to sign up for all ages at <u>www.</u> <u>sandiegolibrary.org</u> beginning on June 15th. Keep track of the books you read this summer with your online reading log and earn prizes for reading! Every Wednesday from June 21st through August 9th at 4:00 p.m., join us for a special Summer Reading Shows featuring clowns, magicians, animals, and more!

Our Town Does Our Town

"There's something way down deep that's eternal about every human being."

— Thornton Wilder, Our Town

As morning breaks upon the small and quaint neighborhoods of Clairemont,

its residents begin the routines of their day. Coffee is poured, the

mail carrier slides envelopes into their boxes, and computers are powered on

to illuminate the dark. Over thousands of years, humanity has begun the day in its own but similar and routine manner. Playwright and novelist Thornton Wilder envisioned a town on one particular morning in the fictional town of Grover's Corners, New Hampshire, early 20th century. This spring, our worlds collide...

Starting end of April, local community theatre **Clairemont Act One** will perform *Our Town*, the classic drama that surrounds two ordinary families that learn the significance of life, death and love in a small corner of the world. Supported by a diverse cast, this performance will enchant those who already love the play as well as those who are experiencing it for the first time.

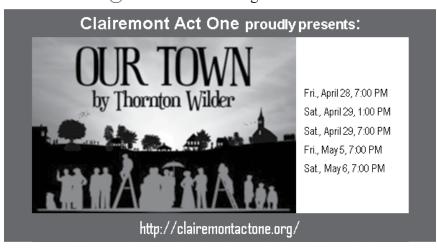
Wilder's principal message in *Our Town*—that people should appreciate the details and interactions of everyday life while they live them—became critical at a time when political troubles were escalating in Europe. World War II was on the horizon when the play hit theaters in 1938. Our Town eventually won Wilder his second Pulitzer Prize, and went on to become one of the most performed American plays of the twentieth century.

The fictional town of Grover's Corners, New Hampshire, stands in for Everytown in this American classic, described by playwright Edward Albee as "probably the finest play ever written by an American."

Founded in 2011, Clairemont Act One was formed by a group of theatre enthusiasts who wished to bring their passion and love of the stage to life. Now in its sixth season with the debut of *Our Town*, Clairemont Act One invites audiences to take a look into the day-to-day happenings of a town that, despite existing in the 20th century, reflect the same themes that present-day Americans identify with in their own life journeys. Join Clairemont Act One as our town does *Our Town*.

Performances will take place at Northminster Presbyterian Church Hall, 4324 Clairemont Mesa Blvd. Show dates are Friday, April 28th at 7:00 PM; Saturday, April 29th at 1:00 PM and 7 PM; Friday, May 5th at 7:00 PM; Saturday, May 6th at 7:00 PM. Tickets are \$15 adults and \$12 students, vets, and seniors.

Group discounts available. Email info@clairemontactone.org



Serra Mesa Community Council Welcomes January / February New and Renewed Subscribers

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Please fill out the enclosed form and send it with your check to P.O. Box 23315, San Diego, CA. 92193.



NEW BOOK RELEASED FROM TOM LEECH

Fun on the Job: Amusing and true tales from Rosie-the-Riveters to Rocket Scientists at a major aerospace company

Content: a collection of amusing anecdotes from many employees over 8 decades of a major San Diego-based aviation-aerospace operation – from Consolidated-Vultee to Convair to General Dynamics to Space Systems (and on to Raytheon and Lockheed-Martin)

At various times over 40,000 employees worked for this firm (and many more for the parent corporation). The many amusing stories here come from operations, assignments,

and locations in San Diego plus throughout the United States and internationally. These tales will stir readers' humor buttons from their own work experiences, whether retired or currently employed. And needless to say, those with aviation, aerospace and defense ties will find many fun stories they'll readily relate to.

These employees were a major part of the U.S. aviation/aerospace/defense world over many decades. To note just a few of their operations: thousands of B-24 bombers, a key weapon in World War 2; fighter jets flown by US Air Force pilots in many military actions; hundreds of commercial airliners from '40s-'60s; the first U.S. Intercontinental Ballistic Missile, the Atlas, a major factor in the '50-60's Cold War plus launching the first U.S. astronauts (starting with John Glenn), then, with Centaur, supporting many U.S. space missions; the Tomahawk and Advanced Cruise Missiles, key weapons in U.S. military actions.

Author: Tom Leech. Publisher: Presentations Press. Book specifics: ISBN-13: 978-0981769332, 180 pages, available online at amazon.com (paperback \$16.00 and Kindle e-book \$6.99) and presentationspress. com. Tom is readily available for interviews and we will provide you with a book copy per your request. Contact him at 858-650-0810, outdoorssd@aol.com or tomaseb@aol.com.

Author info: Tom Leech is a long-time San Diego resident who worked for GD for two decades, with assignments in marketing, internal communication, engineering and training. He's the author of books on a variety of topics, including *Outdoors San Diego: Hiking, Biking and Camping*. His other books cover a variety of topics, among them business presentations, Shakespeare's communication tips, world travel, and, with wife Leslie Johnson-Leech, an illustrated children's Christmas poetry book. Information about all Tom's books at presentationspress.com.

Civita Park Was Unveiled During Arbor Day Celebration April 29

Festivities included Ribbon-Cutting, Concert, Entertainers, Speakers, Food Trucks and Demos

SAN DIEGO – Civita Park, the recreational centerpiece of Civita and the largest city park in Mission Valley, was unveiled at 11 a.m., Saturday, April 29, with a civic ceremony and ribbon-cutting. The park is located on Civita Boulevard at Russell Parkway, just north of Friars Road. The public is invited to attend.

The festivities, which ran until 3 p.m., featured concerts by local bands The Whisper Mill and Part Time Model, interactive Fern Street Circus performers, gardening presentations, photo opportunities with exotic birds, tai chi demonstrations, yoga classes and a bounce house and obstacle course for kids. Food was available for purchase from a variety of food trucks. Check the CivitaLife.com website for the complete schedule.

The Arbor Day weekend festivities mark the grand opening of the first two phases of Civita Park, a 14.3-acre park that cascades down the former quarry site.

"Civita Park is the centerpiece of Civita's network of parks, open space and trails that encompasses nearly one-third of the community," said Marco Sessa, senior vice president of Sudberry Properties, master developer of Civita. "We're delighted to unveil this park, which has been in the planning and construction stages for over a decade. The development of Civita Park has been a huge cooperative effort with major contributions by the City of San Diego Parks & Recreation Department, the Public Works Department, Engineering Section, Schmidt Design Group, Hazard Construction

Company, Rick Engineering and a host of talented subcontractors," he said. "We're grateful for the creativity, dedication, and hard work of the entire team," he added.

"The City is very excited for the opening of Civita Park, which adds more than 14 acres of additional park space for the public to enjoy," said Herman Parker, director of the City of San Diego Park and Recreation Department. "With the more and more families living in Mission Valley, creating additional park space is vitally important to this growing community. Civita Park's open spaces, dog parks and unique amenities that will make it a beloved and indispensable asset to the area for years to come."

The first two phases of Civita Park encompass more than 10 acres and feature a number of highlights, including:

- An outdoor amphitheater with a stage shaded by a dramatic roof structure;
- A lighted, recirculating, interactive water feature with 48 jets for aquatic play;
- A large plaza, dubbed Celebration Plaza, designed and engineered for farmers' markets, car shows and large special events;
- Picnic tables and "outdoor living rooms" shaded by dramatic wisteria-covered trellises and a game area;
- A community garden with 38 plots, including some ADA-compliant raised plots. The entrance to the garden features a mosaic by La Jolla artist Jane Wheeler and a restored 1956 red Porsche tractor;
- A dog park with separate enclosures for large and small dogs and exercise stations. The dog park is located at the north end of the park, accessible from Via Alta;
- Multi-purpose fields for open play, two half basketball courts, five exercise stations and extensive trails and walkways;
- A military tribute to the five branches of the military and San Diego's military history;
- A site-specific sculpture project by Encinitas sculptors T.J. Dixon and James Nelson that includes numerous rabbits and other animals lounging around the park; and
- Civita Falls, a waterfall that will be fed by runoff from Civita and parts of Serra Mesa during rainstorms. Civita Falls was designed by the late Hugh Hughes of Outside the Lines (OTL).

"The next phases of the park, which will open next year, will include two playgrounds, more fields, a bocce court, the "Mining Relic Terrace" with historic mining equipment and a Caterpillar D8 bulldozer, and three gardens," said Mark Radelow, vice president for Sudberry Properties. "We've done our best to create a park that serves the community with sports and recreation opportunities, and places for quiet relaxation, entertainment, community events, gardening, socializing, and meeting friends. We believe that it will be a major contribution to community life in Civita and throughout Mission Valley," he said.

Civita Park, is owned by the City of San Diego, and maintained by the Civita Maintenance Assessment District.







Serra Mesa Observer

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Dated Material

FRIENDSHIP LUNCH OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY

Join us for the Friendship Lunch
Volunteers from our neighborhood offer
the Serra Mesa community
a soup, bread, and dessert every Wednesday noon to 1:00 p.m.

The "Friendship Lunch" has no age limitation

There is no cost but all are invited to bring non-perishable cans or packages of food for the Serra Mesa Food Pantry

Located at Mission Village Christian Fellowship 2650 Melbourne Drive 92123 More information at 858-277-6572 or 858-278-2633