



PUBLISHED BY THE SERRA MESA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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### Cub Scout Pack 689

We are a Founding Pack that started back in June out of Jones Elementary. Since we are new, we are still trying to get things organized and the ball rolling on everything. And one of those things is getting the boys more involved in our Serra Mesa community.

Friends of Ruffin Canyon hosted an event called Coastal Cleanup Day back on September 17th in which we helped clean up trash along Library Canyon. It was hard work but very rewarding and met some awesome people.

Lesley Heinemann

Advancement and Outdoors Activity Chair for Cub Scout Pack 689.



[www.SerraMesa.org](http://www.SerraMesa.org)

You are invited to participate in the

**Serra Mesa Community Council**

Wednesday, November 23

6:30 p.m.

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

**Serra Mesa Community Council**

Wednesday, December 28

6:30 p.m.

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

Neighborhood People  
and Friendly Businesses  
Living and Working Together



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<i>Neighborhood Watch/Community Events</i>	
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<i>Pantry, Garden, Village Coordinator</i>	
Terry O'Regan.....	(858)565-2473*
<i>Local Business Coordinator</i>	

**Appointed Positions**

Myra Webb.....	(858)565-2473*
<i>Subscription Records</i>	
Ronda Adams.....	(858)565-2473*
<i>Observer Editor</i>	
Melissa Cima.....	(858)565-2473*
<i>Observer Staff/Education</i>	
Cindy McIntyre.....	(858)565-2473*
<i>Observer Staff</i>	
Marge Demas.....	(858)565-2473*
<i>Mailing Coordinator</i>	
Brad Beyenhof.....	(858)565-2473*
<i>Webmaster</i>	
Robin Rivera.....	(858)565-2473*
<i>Message Coordinator</i>	
Pat Brownyard.....	(858)565-2473*
<i>Welcome to Serra Mesa</i>	
Elizabeth Rice.....	(858)565-2473*
<i>Utility Box Coordinator</i>	

\*Contact by calling (858) 565-2473 & leaving a message.

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**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:** January / February Edition...December 19th

P.O. Box 23315, San Diego, CA, 92193

<http://www.serramesa.org>

[communitycouncil@serramesa.org](mailto:communitycouncil@serramesa.org)

**SERRA MESA COMMUNITY GROUPS**

Serra Mesa Community Council	(858) 565-2473
e-mail: <a href="mailto:communitycouncil@serramesa.org">communitycouncil@serramesa.org</a>	
Serra Mesa Planning Group	(858) 565-2473
e-mail: <a href="mailto:smpg@serramesa.org">smpg@serramesa.org</a>	

**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
State Assemblymember Toni Atkins	(619) 645-3090
State Senator Marty Block	(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

**CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS**

Nov 8	Friends of Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library 5:30 p.m., Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, Sudberry Room
Nov 15	Serra Mesa Recreation Center Council Meeting 6:30 p.m., 9020 Village Glen Drive
Nov 17	Serra Mesa Planning Group 7 p.m., Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, Community Room
Nov 19	Hearing Loss Association of America (San Diego) 10:30 a.m., Mission Village Christian Fellowship
Nov 23	Serra Mesa Community Council 6:30 p.m., Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, Community Rm
Nov 23	Friends of Ruffin Canyon 5:30 p.m., Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, Community Rm
Dec 3	Friends of Ruffin Canyon Cleanup 9:00 a.m., Shawn Avenue entrance to Ruffin Canyon
Dec 15	Serra Mesa Planning Group 7 p.m., Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, Community Room
Dec 17	Hearing Loss Association of America (San Diego) 10:30 a.m., Mission Village Christian Fellowship
Dec 20	Serra Mesa Recreation Center Council Meeting 6:30 p.m., 9020 Village Glen Drive
Dec 28	Friends of Ruffin Canyon 5:30 p.m., Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, Community Rm
Dec 28	Serra Mesa Community Council 6:30 p.m., Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, Community Rm
Jan 7	Friends of Ruffin Canyon Cleanup 9:00 a.m., Shawn Avenue entrance to Ruffin Canyon
<i>Serra Mesa Enhancement Committee meetings - write to P.O. Box 23315, San Diego, CA, 92193.</i>	

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



The Holidays are upon us.

November and December are special times and causes us to think of and celebrate those things for which we are most thankful. Being born and raised in the mid-west it used to mean blizzards and frost. But not anymore. I give thanks for living in the best climate in the US, if not in the world. We have so much to be thankful for like cool nights and warm days and sometimes we even have to put on a light sweater or jacket. I also am thankful for living in Serra Mesa where we are "20 minutes from everywhere". When we moved here in 1990, Serra Mesa was the best-kept secret in town. Now we seem to be the place where everyone wants to live. Notice the building recently. It seems that the world has found us.

I have warm feelings for friends and neighbors in Serra Mesa. Have you ever noticed the diversity of our neighbors? We are from all from somewhere else. Another scenario is persons who grew up here are returning, buying homes, and raising their families here. Have you noticed the number of baby carriages in the neighborhood? What a delightful sight to see us rejuvenating and becoming new again.

Have you noticed the library and that the parking lot is always full? What a wonderful place to meet, participate in the many activities they have and even get a bargain on great books. Some hardcover best sellers are at \$1. If you look at their schedule, you will even find musical presentations and the cost is

free. How about the Rec Center where there are more and more activities and facilities for most interests? Just recently the Rec Center has donated space for a Senior Center and the City has donated \$5,000 to spruce it up to make it a place where seniors can meet, gather, and offer activities to give seniors purpose and opportunity. The Serra Mesa Recreation Center even has a free senior exercise class on Tues and Thursday from 8:30-10:00 a.m. which is low impact and a lot of fun. A special event is our Food Pantry on Wednesdays from 10-2:00 p.m. where we provide fresh vegetables and groceries to approximately 100 resident families of Serra Mesa who have a need. Also on Wednesdays from 12-1:00 p.m. is a Friendship Lunch open to anyone where we serve homemade soup, salad, bread, and dessert.

As we go into this time of year, why not consider ways you can improve your relationship with friends and neighbors? Invite them out to Maggie's or one of the other great restaurants we have. Have you been to the Farmer's Market on Wednesday from 3:00-7:00 p.m.? Make it a point to buy from local merchants and tell them how glad we are that they are here as we are the reason they are here. Take in a baseball game at one of our local parks where you can enjoy the fresh air and watch some of our youngsters learn sportsmanship. Attend one of the many meetings by one of the organizations whose only purpose is to make Serra Mesa a better place to live.

Happy Holidays to all

Carl Demas, President

## **Awestruck in Serra Mesa**

“Awe is the feeling of being in the presence of something vast or beyond human scale, that transcends our current understanding of things,” says psychologist Dacher Kelner, University of California Berkeley’s Social Interaction Lab. The article, AWE – Feeling AWE May Be The Secret To Health And Happiness in the October 9 Parade magazine, discusses the power of Awe. Discoveries include Awe binds us together, helps us see things in new ways, makes us nicer and happier, and alters our bodies. Nature is mentioned as an example of an awe experience.

Reading this article reminded me of how fortunate we are in Serra Mesa to have access to numerous parks (Murray Ridge; Cabrillo Heights; Bonnie Hough Nature Habitat Garden; Wegeforth, Juarez, Fletcher and soon to open Angier Joint Use), and trails (path from recreation center to library, Sandroock Canyon, Ruffin Canyon, Shawn Canyon, and Murray Canyon).

Walk along a busy, noisy Serra Mesa street and then take a walk in one of our canyons. What an awe experience to be surrounded by the beauty and sounds of nature! The Friends of Ruffin Canyon is knowledgeable about the canyon trails. This group provides restoration work on many of the trails and the habitat garden. If you’d like to assist or need more information about the trails, contact them at [communitycouncil@serramesa.org](mailto:communitycouncil@serramesa.org) or 858-565-2473.

Additionally, San Diego Canyonlands is sponsoring workshops to discuss the Ruffin Canyon Enhancement project (a trail from Serra Mesa to Mission Valley). For more information, go to <http://www.sdcanyonlands.org/canyon-enhancement-planning>. If you are interested in this item, the best way to keep informed is to sign up for Serra Mesa notices at <http://www.serramesa.org/>. The Serra Mesa Community Council will send out an email notice when the next workshop is scheduled.

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## **SERRA MESA ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE**

Send any code compliance complaints that you would like SMEC to pursue to P.O. Box 23315, San Diego, CA 92193 or [serramesaenhancementcommittee@hotmail.com](mailto:serramesaenhancementcommittee@hotmail.com). Our procedure is to send letters to the resident asking for voluntary compliance. We send letters for excessive litter, excessive weeds, graffiti, illegally parked vehicles, illegal signs, and other violations (e.g., noise, fences, home business) on an as needed basis.

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## Serra Mesa Village

...a neighborly network of seniors for seniors  
...sponsored by the Serra Mesa Community Council

### Monthly Regular Activities

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, 3-5pm Connect with others at the Meeting Room at the Serra Mesa Library; speakers and information for seniors and those who care about them.

1<sup>st</sup> Thursday, 10am-2/3pm Trips to interesting places in San Diego; meet at the Library to carpool.

2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday, 1-3pm Social time for games, conversation, crafts, and whatever; meets at Gethsemane Meeting Room, 2696 Melbourne Dr.

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays, 1-2:30pm Coordinating Board (open to all) at Gethsemane Meeting Room, 2696 Melbourne Dr.

### Contact us:

[www.serramesavillage.org](http://www.serramesavillage.org)  
(resources/information/etc.)

[serramesavillage10@gmail.com](mailto:serramesavillage10@gmail.com)

858-565-2473 (Leave a message)

P.O. Box 23315, San Diego, CA 92103

## 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  
September 20 & October 18 at 6:30 p.m.

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## Gethsemane Lutheran Church



Gloria Espeseth  
Pastor

[www.gethsemanesd.org](http://www.gethsemanesd.org)

2696 Melbourne Drive  
San Diego, CA 92123

Worship 9:30am  
(858) 277-6572

## **WHAT IS THE FUNCTION OF YOUR SERRA MESA PLANNING GROUP?**

*This is the first in a series of articles designed to help those that live, own property or own a business in the Serra Mesa community understand the workings and the purpose of the Serra Mesa Planning Group.*

As with life itself, the Serra Mesa Community changes with time. Some parts of the community are yet to be created while other parts are but a memory. How the community changes is generally regulated by the Community Plan.

Subject to the City of San Diego's General Plan, the Community Plan outlines and regulates what can and cannot be built in the community and includes features such as height, use (commercial, residential, industrial, agriculture, etc.) and setback (distance from the road) among others.

It is also important to understand that the City of San Diego is not always the ultimate authority when it comes to city planning. Like most other communities in the country, Serra Mesa is multi-jurisdictional and is required to consider "overlays" from other authorities such as the County of San Diego, the State of California, the Federal Government, the military, airports, canyons and waterways, endangered plant life, wildlife zones and others. In addition, although not much of a factor in Serra Mesa, City Planning is also required to deal with mountains, the Pacific Ocean and our border with Mexico.

So, what happens when someone wants to change something either by building something new or repurposing an existing structure? First of all, it is important to understand that there are two basic types of projects: "ministerial" and "discretionary".

A project that is ministerial is in full compliance with the community plan and is built "by right". Although it is was not required for this type of project to be reviewed by a community planning group, it is not unusual for project managers of ministerial projects to present their project to the planning group to let everyone know what is happening in the community.

A discretionary project does NOT comply with the community plan and IS required to appear before the community planning group. At the end of the presentation, the community planning group may request more information, vote to recommend approval of the project by city planning or vote to not recommend approval of the project by city planning. If the community planning group votes against recommending approval, the specific reasons for not recommending approval are given to the city planning department to help them determine their final decision.

Although not typically required, the Serra Mesa Planning Group is often presented with other information such as:

- Future discretionary projects. This helps the architect receive community input to assist in the design of a project in order to obtain approval later.
- Discretionary projects in neighboring communities. Planning groups often work together for the common good and, when a discretionary project may have some effect on a neighboring community, it is common that a planning group or city staff will request the opinion of a neighboring planning group.
- Future non-specific plans. Government agencies and elected officials or their representatives often request community support for future projects or proposals. Although not technically discretionary issues, these projects or proposals could result in issues that affect community plans.

## 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 <b>Animal</b> Removal stay on the line)	(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			

Continued from page 6

Finally, it is important to understand that, although the Serra Mesa Planning Group is subject to city and state law and is recognized by the City of San Diego, it is an advisory group. While its decisions do have influence, planning groups do not make final decisions.

Do you have comments, questions or recommendations for future articles? Please forward them to:

Bob Crider  
Serra Mesa Planning Group Chair  
PO Box 23315  
Serra Mesa, CA 92193  
smpg@serramesa.org



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## **Serra Mesa Village, so what is a Village?**

Home and community-based services can support individuals to age in place, yet it can be a challenge to find safe, quality services to meet one's full range of evolving needs. This innovative community-based program provides a one-stop, trusted resource that enables people to live safely and well at home for as long as possible.

For more than a decade, the "Village" model has demonstrated that older adults are willing to invest in a membership program that offers access to an array of vetted service providers, focused social and educational programs, organized community volunteers, and the convenience of a knowledgeable resource to assist them in finding and coordinating services.

The "village" model has caught on nationally and even internationally. Numerous articles and publications (Forbes Magazine, AARP Magazine, New York Times to name a few have promoted it as an aging strategy for the future. The first west coast village was launched in the Palo Alto area in 2008. Since then, villages have developed in several California communities including Serra Mesa.

Today, a national Village-to -Village Network enables developing and operational villages to share knowledge and resources. To learn more about village's national and globally, visit [www.vtnetwork.org](http://www.vtnetwork.org).

Serra Mesa is unique among communities in that they have a "Village" which is composed of residents in Serra Mesa who are interested in interacting with other persons who are seniors. The major purpose of the Village is to give purpose and meaning to those unwilling to just sit around and age. This is a nationwide movement to respond to those who want to find fulfilling things to do with time which is available after retiring. The interest of most of our members is travel, crafts, local ventures to investigate local sites of interest, and just socializing. One can pretty much get as involved as he/she wishes as we have a connection event every month at the Serra Mesa Library where we have programs of interest to the members. Our meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of every month. Qualifications are you must be 55+ and interested in having fun. For information contact me:

Carl Demas, Answering Service (858) 565-2473 or email: [cjdemas@gmail.com](mailto:cjdemas@gmail.com)

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## **Franklin Ridge Road Connection Update**

A Draft Program Environmental Impact Report (DPEIR) was prepared for a Serra Mesa Community Plan amendment to allow a four-lane Franklin Ridge Road extension from Civita in Mission Valley to Phyllis Place (across from City View Church) in Serra Mesa. The City received 182 letters of response to the DPEIR.

The City's project manager in late September 2016 indicated that the City has decided to revise the environmental document and recirculate it. Once it's recirculated, the public has 60 days to respond. The recirculation date is unknown.

The San Diego Reader published in their October 12th edition, A road through your urban village, which discussed the road extension. The article can be read at <http://www.sandiegoreader.com/news/2016/oct/12/cover-road-through-your-urban-village/>.

If you are interested in this issue, the best way to keep informed is to sign up for Serra Mesa notices at <http://www.serramesa.org/>. SMPG will send out an email notice when they receive pertinent information (e.g., release of the environmental document).



## **Farewell Serra Mesa!**

I had lived in San Diego (San Carlos) for 11 years in 1995 when my Bishop said he was giving my name as a possible pastor to Gethsemane in Serra Mesa. Since I had never been in the neighborhood, I came and explored (including an ice cream at Thrifty's!). I found the Library on Sandrock (similar to the one in Allied Gardens) and a copy of the Observer with its "Home of the Month" on the cover. I accepted Gethsemane's call and started on January 1, 1996. Now, I am retiring after 21 years and want to wish Serra Mesa well and share a few memories and tributes.

In my time here, there have been dedicated leaders for the Serra Mesa Community Council...Peggy, Les, and Carl along with all the Board members. I was invited to serve on the Board about 15 years ago and met great people and learned so much in this experience. I adopted "Education" and worked with the Kearny Cluster to improve the networking of and respect for the schools in Serra Mesa. Taft Middle does not deserve to be hindered by old stories... go and visit now and see how the students are being prepared for the possibilities of Kearny High/Mesa College. (If you did not know it, Serra Mesa has Pre-K through 14 system because of the Kearny/Mesa partnership.) The Community Fairs were great, becoming so successful that volunteers could not sustain it. The movies, concerts and Farmers Market are wonderful ways now to gather as a community.

The Planning Group has a tough task since Serra Mesa is bounded on the north and south by the most commercial areas of Kearny Mesa and Mission Valley. It too has had amazing leaders, especially Cindy Moore. The effort she led to keep development on Aero Drive "right sized" was outstanding. Friends of Ruffin Canyon stands out as a small but hearty group, led for years by the late Bonnie Hough and Monica Fuentes. The monthly work parties in partnership with the Canyonlands division of San Diego Park and Recreation has made a real difference in Shawn Canyon, Gethsemane's back yard. It was our joy to sponsor the 4th of July "Come for Breakfast and Take a Hike" to introduce the canyons to more residents.

Our partnership with Mission Village Christian Fellowship to start the Serra Mesa Food Pantry and the Serra Mesa Community Garden & Orchard has been very rewarding. When the San Diego Food Bank approached Brenda Casey of MVCF with seed money to begin a community garden, we "discovered" unused land at the back of our lots. The garden and orchard produce fresh fruits and vegetables for the pantry and for individuals through the work of amazing leaders including Karl Doering, Coni Fiss, Bev Latham, Carl Demas, and more. These "urban farmers" put this North Dakota farm girl to shame!

The latest venture, the Serra Mesa Village, a neighborly network of seniors for seniors, is on its way to strengthen Serra Mesa after two years. Most communities become "unplanned" retirement communities and the residents who desire to stay put and age in place need to connect with others. Look for this group to continue to make an impact to making Serra Mesa even better!

I am very proud that we have been able to renew our front sign area on Melbourne and highlight the three olive trees that were planted when Gethsemane was begun in the early 1960's. ("Gethsemane" was an opening or garden on the Mount of Olives outside Jerusalem where Jesus went to pray.) Finally, we could be on the cover of the Observer as "the home of the month". Finally, if you want to use our labyrinth and or Prayer Walk, it is at the front of our lot, easily accessible to all.

Thank you and blessings as you continue to care deeply for your community and your neighbors.

Pastor Gloria Espeseth  
Gethsemane Lutheran Church





“Come Home to Cubberley: The Neighborhood School Where PeaceBuilders are Designing Solutions for our World!”

We would love to give you a tour of our beautiful campus and to share with you, in detail, the programs that we offer at Cubberley; the benefits of returning to your neighborhood school; and, the research that supports small schools. We would also like to introduce you to our highly dedicated and talented staff. Please call or e-mail to schedule a tour.

In the meantime, here are some highlights of the programs we offer at Cubberley:

### Special Programs

- Focus on Innovation, Creativity, and Design
- Brand new Makerspace (iCAN studio)
- Project Lead the Way, Project/Problem-Based Curriculum (Engineering, Bio-Medical, and Computer Science)
- Design Thinking Challenge Projects
- Robotics – First Lego League
- Art Corps
- Physical Education Program
- Running Club
- PrimeTime Before and After School Program (including homework help and academic program)

### Family-Like Atmosphere

- Nurturing TK/K program
- School staff knows all students in our school community by name; this fosters a culture of belonging, accountability, and support
- Small school means students are exposed to more opportunities to develop leadership skills
- School climate is orderly, safe, student-centered, inviting, and attractive

### Academics

- Cubberley out-performs the district, as well as the state, in language arts, math, and science test scores
- School-wide focus on 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills
- Strong emphasis on individual and small group instruction
- Strong Special Education Dept. serving students with disabilities, and providing appropriate support and related services to those students with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP)
- G.A.T.E. Certified teachers who challenge and push students towards personal success (including Seminar program)

### Comprehensive Student Services

- Counseling Services 2 Days Week
- Nursing/Health Tech Services 4 Days Week
- Second Step Social Skills
- PeaceBuilder Program
- Positive Behavior Intervention & Support (PBIS)
- PTA focused on engaging the community through student-centered events, programs, and fundraising.

Although we understand there are many reasons why families choose schools other than their neighborhood school, for some families it may simply be that they are not familiar with the programs being offered at their neighborhood school. We would appreciate the opportunity to share with you what, we believe, makes Cubberley the best choice for your child!

3201 Marathon Drive • San Diego, CA 92123 • (858) 496-8075 • [mruvalcaba@sandi.net](mailto:mruvalcaba@sandi.net)

## Serra Mesa News

**Gateway Sign** – As a permit condition Alliance Residential Company, the developer of Broadstone Corsair at the corner of Aero and Sandrock, will provide and maintain a Serra Mesa community sign to be installed in the median on Sandrock Road. At a joint Serra Mesa Community Council and Serra Mesa Planning Group meeting in November 2015, the community provided input for the sign design. The approximate size will be 4 feet tall x 5 feet wide. Alliance's signage consultant is working on the final design.

**Taft Joint Use Project** – A joint use park on the south side of Taft Middle School, 9191 Gramercy Drive, will be constructed with fees from Broadstone Corsair, the development at the corner of Aero and Sandrock. When school isn't in session the park is open to the general public. Possible amenities for the 4.7-acre project include natural turf sports fields, accessibility upgrades, fitness stations, tennis courts, a track, and a parking lot. There was community interest in adding a small cement stage to the site (e.g., could be used for concerts). In July 2016 the Serra Mesa Park & Recreation Council voted to approve the joint use project concept to include a stage. The next major step in the process is for review and approval by the City of San Diego Park and Recreation Board. The views of Ruffin Canyon and the surrounding area from this park should be awesome!

**Serra Mesa Website at [serramesa.org](http://serramesa.org)** – Watch for the redesign of the Serra Mesa website before the end of 2016. This website is used by most of the major Serra Mesa community organizations to provide information about their organization and community events. The website will be expanded to include additional community organizations and to improve functionality.

### **Holy Angels Byzantine Catholic Church**

2235 Galahad Road, San Diego, CA 92123

**Divine Liturgy on Sunday at 9 a.m.**

**Eastern European Ethnic Foods**

**Available in the Church Hall**

Open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.—Friday-Tuesday

Closed on Wednesday and Thursday

Please call before coming to buy the food.

858-268-3458

### *Marvin Sloben*

Photographer

**619.239.2828**

[Msloben@san.rr.com](mailto:Msloben@san.rr.com)

3026 North Park Way • San Diego, CA 92104



#### **\*From Concept to Completion\***

18 years strong Serra Mesa

Video Production Company

Venue Filming\*Music Video Production\*Video Montages

Media/Marketing Relations

Ask for Liz: [emlmedia@yahoo.com](mailto:emlmedia@yahoo.com)



### **St. Columba Parish**

3327 Glencolum Drive

San Diego, CA 92123

(858) 277-3863

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

## **San Diego Police Department Retired Seniors Volunteer Patrol (RSVP)**

### **Volunteers are Needed**

The Eastern Division of SDPD Eastern Division is reaching out to the Kearny Mesa, Serra Mesa community for volunteers for the Retired Senior Volunteer Patrol, an agency which provides assistance to the police department. Volunteers will participate in the following activities:

- Patrol the streets of our neighborhoods in a patrol car
- Perform business community checks
- Check the homes of vacationing neighbors
- Report city deficiencies, i.e. nonfunctioning traffic signals, potholes, street flooding
- Issue citations to those who violate disabled parking rules
- Visit homebound seniors
- Traffic control
- Public speaking
- Many more exciting and rewarding tasks

We do not participate directly in crime prevention, we do perform non-confrontational and non-criminal duties, we serve as the extra eyes and ears of the police department.

If you are interested in this type of community service and meet the following requirements, please contact us.

- 50+ Years Old
- Semi or Fully Retired
- Good Physical or Mental Health
- Ability to Volunteer in Community Service  
an Minimum of 3 days per month
- Valid California Driver's License



Please contact us at 858-495-7990, 9225 Aero Drive, San Diego, CA 92123

***Serra Mesa Community Council Welcomes  
September / October New and Renewed Subscribers***

Michael Armstrong *	Nina Kenney	Stanley & Beverly Skoff
Arlan & Elizabeth Barber	Derling Killion	Earl & Liz Sopher
Dieter & Mary Ann Beck	Richard Lattizzori	Albert Tacadena & John Penke
Gene & Joann Bertsch *	Thomas & Leslie Leech *	Patricia Taylor
Irene Broyles	Marsha Lindbeck *	Marilyn Thiele
Bill Burmeister	Cynthia May	Gerald & Ruth Tremper
Robert Carlson	Walter Meins *	Steve & Laura Trudgen
Lorraine Cederberg	Judi & Robert Mitchell **	Steve & Linda Vassier *
Martha Chin	Homer & Linda Moyer *	Barbara Wills
Efrain Conrique **	Richard & Judy Nagy *	Carol Jean Wolcott *
Michael & Janice Conroy	Lois Nelson	
La Vella Dodd	Trinidad Pastor	
Faith Community Church	Michael & Cheryl Patzer	
Wayne & Sally Findlay	Robert Pipkin	
B. L. Gandolfo	Steve & Lisa Poston *	
Bob Garner	Marilyn Randall	
Kevin & Carolyn Gerhart	Don Riggs *	
George & Dorothy Green	Wayne & Vickie Riggs *	
Sandra Gunning	Joe & Kelly Robitaille	
A. Haines	Karen Rohrbaugh & Janis	
Brenda Hamilton	Legzdins	
Diane & Michael Harding	Robert Rucker	
William & Grace Heim	Marco Sessa **	
Karen Indiviglia *	Lois Shenk	
Mark & Bernadine Johnson	Duane Shockey	

Donation: \*\*Benefactor    \*Sponsor

**Observer Renewal**

When it is time to renew your Observer, the renewal date is highlighted and stamped, "to be renewed." Also, a postcard will be mailed and, if possible, a phone call is made to remind you. It is greatly appreciated if you pay as soon as you notice it's time to renew.

Maybe you have a special neighbor that you'd like to say "thank you" to, or maybe you have a new neighbor that you'd like to say "welcome." We highly recommend giving a subscription to the Observer (six editions/year). A post card will be sent to the recipient.

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

## Serra Mesa Enhancement Committee

The role of the Serra Mesa Enhancement Committee (SMEC) is to provide information, education, cooperation, and assistance in the area of City Code Compliance. After confirming a code violation SMEC sends a friendly, educational letter asking for compliance. In 90% of the cases people come into compliance and cases are not reported to the City. If you have a problem in your area, report the problem with this confidential form.

### Request for Investigation

**Return form to:** Serra Mesa Enhancement Committee,  
Post Office Box 23315, San Diego, California 92193

Please investigate this address: \_\_\_\_\_

This is the problem: (give complete details; time of day, license plate of vehicles, type of vehicles, condition of property, owner's or renter's name if known etc.)

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(Please use back if necessary.)

Your name (will not be disclosed): \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

===== for office use =====

ID# \_\_\_\_\_ Area \_\_\_\_\_ Contacted complainant \_\_\_\_\_

Complaint Referred to (specify date)	Action Steps (specify date)
_____ Code Compliance	Second Checker: No Violation, Close _____ Violation _____
_____ Police	_____
_____ Signs	1st Letter: _____
_____ Tree Division	Second Checker: No Violation, Close _____ Violation _____
_____ Vector Control	_____
_____ Vehicle Abatement	2nd Letter: _____
_____ Weeds	Second Checker: No Violation, Close _____ Violation _____
_____ Other	_____
Thank You: _____ Reopen Previous Case: _____	

## SMCC Subscription Application or Renewal Form & Interest/Volunteer Survey

If you are interested in being contacted about any of the organizations listed below and/or you wish to receive a bi-monthly newsletter **or renew** your subscription, please fill out the following information. Return this form to the Serra Mesa Community Council, PO Box 23315, San Diego, CA 92193.

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

**Subscription Form** - Enclosed is my check payable to the Serra Mesa Community Council to subscribe at the following level:

Household (\$15) \_\_\_\_ Sponsor (\$25) \_\_\_\_ Benefactor (\$50) \_\_\_\_

**How did you hear about us?** \_\_\_\_\_

Need More Information	Want to Volunteer	Brief Description of Serra Mesa Organizations
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Community Council.</b> Sponsors clean-ups, publishes newsletter, liaison between elected officials & the community, meets 10 times/yr. Volunteers needed: Board & special projects. Commitment: varies.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Planning Group.</b> Advises the City on the Serra Mesa Community Plan and land use issues. Volunteers needed. Trained & indemnified by the City. Commitment: 3.5 hours/month.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Recreation Council.</b> Plans, promote, publicizes & helps provide recreation opportunities for citizens in Serra Mesa. Volunteers needed: Council. No training needed. Commitment: 1.5 hour/month
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Enhancement Committee.</b> Sends educational letters to residents requesting code compliance. Promotes community improvement. Trained & indemnified by the City. Commitment: 3 hours/month.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Friends of the Library.</b> Provides summer reading program, extra books & tapes, & sponsors special library events for the Serra Mesa Library. Volunteers needed: Board. Commitment: 5 hours/month.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Friends of Ruffin Canyon.</b> Friends of Ruffin Canyon removes invasive non native plants from the canyon and replaces them with natives.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Serra Mesa Food Pantry.</b> Staff the Food Pantry, pick up donated food, coordinate food drives, organize community sponsors. Commitment: varies.

To volunteer for one of the groups listed below call 858-565-2473.

**Churches.** Volunteer needs, training, & commitment varies with each church.

**Education & PTAs.** Volunteers needed: school based parent groups, readers/listeners in the schools, & various projects at schools. Training & commitment varies with activity.

**Sports** (Soccer, Baseball, Basketball). Volunteers needed: referees, managers, coaches, scorekeepers, etc. Training & commitment varies with activity.

**Youth Activities** (Girls Scouts, Boy Scouts, etc.). Volunteers needed: leaders, sponsors, & volunteers for special activities. Training provided. Commitment varies.

**Views concerning the present and future Serra Mesa.** Please attach a sheet with issues, suggested goals, and suggestions.

**Skills/Experience/Interests.** Sometimes an organization needs specialized help. If you wish to volunteer, then please attach a sheet with a list of your skills/experiences.



*Serra Mesa Observer*  
Editor: *Ronda Adams*  
Post Office Box 23315  
San Diego, CA 92193

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## Dated Material

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### 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

◀ Oct 2016

## Serra Mesa Village Events for November 2016

Dec 2016 ▶

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> 8:30-10:00 AM Fit Club at SM Rec Center	<b>2</b> 12 PM - 1PM Friendsip Lunch @ MVCF	<b>3</b> 8:30-10:00 AM Fit Club at SM Rec Center	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
				10AM - 2PM Travel Event Meet at SM/KM Library for Liberty Station		
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 1PM SMVillage Board Mtg @ SMRC	<b>8</b> 8:30-10:00 AM Fit Club at SM Rec Center	<b>9</b> 12 PM - 1PM Friendsip Lunch @ MVCF 1PM-3PM Social/Game @ Gethsemane	<b>10</b> 8:30-10:00 AM Fit Club at SM Rec Center	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Gloria Espeseth Retirement Party & Octoberfest at Gethsemane Lutheran Church
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 8:30-10:00 AM Fit Club at SM Rec Center	<b>16</b> 12 PM - 1PM Friendsip Lunch @ MVCF	<b>17</b> 8:30-10:00 AM Fit Club at SM Rec Center 3PM-5PM Village Connection @ SM Library Program Aging, Vitality & Vulnerability	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 1PM SMVillage Board Mtg @ SMRC	<b>22</b> 8:30-10:00 AM Fit Club at SM Rec Center	<b>23</b> 12 PM - 1PM Friendsip Lunch @ MVCF 1PM-3PM Social/Game @ Gethsemane	<b>24</b> 8:30-10:00 AM Fit Club at SM Rec Center	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 8:30-10:00 AM Fit Club at SM Rec Center	<b>30</b> 12 PM - 1PM Friendsip Lunch @ MVCF	<b>Notes: SMRC (Rec Council) 9020 Village Glen Drive MVCF (Mission Village Christian Fellowship) 2650 Melbourne Drive. Gethsemane Lutheran SunRoom 2696 Melbourne Dr. SM/KM Library 9005 Aero Drive</b>		

Serra Mesa Village Events for December 2016							Jan 2017 ▶
◀ Nov 2016	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 8:30-10:00 AM Fit Club at SM Rec Center 10AM - 2PM Travel Event Meet at SM/KM Library for Old Town tour & Lunch	2	3
4		5 1PM SMVillage Board Mtg @ SMRC	6 8:30-10:00 AM Fit Club at SM Rec Center	7 12 PM - 1PMFriendsip Lunch @ MVCF	8 8:30-10:00 AM Fit Club at SM Rec Center	9	10
11		12	13 8:30-10:00 AM Fit Club at SM Rec Center	14 12 PM - 1PMFriendsip Lunch @ MVCF 1PM-3PM Social/Game @ Gethsemane	15 8:30-10:00 AM Fit Club at SM Rec Center 3PM-5PM Village Connection @ SM Library Seasonal Celebration	16	17
18		19 1PM SMVillage Board Mtg @ SMRC	20 8:30-10:00 AM Fit Club at SM Rec Center	21 12 PM - 1PMFriendsip Lunch @ MVCF	22 8:30-10:00 AM Fit Club at SM Rec Center	23	24
25		26	27 8:30-10:00 AM Fit Club at SM Rec Center	28 12 PM - 1PMFriendsip Lunch @ MVCF 1PM-3PM Social/Game @ Gethsemane	29 8:30-10:00 AM Fit Club at SM Rec Center	30	31