



PUBLISHED BY THE SERRA MESA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

VOLUME 32, ISSUE 6 NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2018

SERRA MESA FOOD PANTRY

A local family involved in Scouting, hosted a Serra Mesa Food Drive
...more of the story on page 14



Thank You!

Thank You!



www.SerraMesa.org

You are invited to participate in the
Serra Mesa Community Council
Wednesday, November 28
6:30 p.m.

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

Serra Mesa Community Council
Wednesday, December 26
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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Utility Box Coordinator

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

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
 State Assembly Member Shirley N. Weber (619) 531-7913
 State Senator Toni G. Atkins (619) 645-3133
 Governor Jerry Brown (619) 525-4641
 U.S. Representative Susan Davis (619) 280-5353
 U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein (619) 231-9712

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

Nov 13	Friends of Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library 5:30 p.m., Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, Sudberry Room
Nov 15	Serra Mesa Village Connection 3:30 p.m., Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, Community Rm
Nov 15	Serra Mesa Planning Group 7 p.m., Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, Community Room
Nov 17	Hearing Loss Association of America (San Diego) 10:30 a.m., Mission Village Christian Fellowship
Nov 20	Serra Mesa Recreation Center Council Meeting 6:30 p.m., 9020 Village Glen Drive
Nov 28	Friends of Ruffin Canyon 5:30 p.m., Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, Community Rm
Nov 28	Serra Mesa Community Council 6:30 p.m., Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, Community Rm
Dec 1	Friends of Ruffin Canyon Cleanup 9:00 a.m., Shawn Avenue entrance to Ruffin Canyon
Dec 15	Hearing Loss Association of America (San Diego) 10:30 a.m., Mission Village Christian Fellowship
Dec 18	Serra Mesa Recreation Center Council Meeting 6:30 p.m., 9020 Village Glen Drive
Dec 20	Serra Mesa Village Connection 3:30 p.m., Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, Community Rm
Dec 20	Serra Mesa Planning Group 7 p.m., Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, Community Room
Dec 26	Friends of Ruffin Canyon 5:30 p.m., Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, Community Rm
Dec 26	Serra Mesa Community Council 6:30 p.m., Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, Community Rm
Jan 5	Friends of Ruffin Canyon Cleanup 9:00 a.m., Shawn Avenue entrance to Ruffin Canyon

*Serra Mesa Enhancement Committee meetings -
 write to P.O. Box 23315, San Diego, CA, 92193.*

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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 2019 Edition...December 26th

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

http://www.serramesa.org_communitycouncil@serramesa.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Long-Term Care (LTC) Insurance

One of the benefits of living in Serra Mesa is the Serra Mesa Village. The object of this organization is to assist seniors in staying in their homes longer. The emphasis of the "Village" is to give our seniors purpose and a reason to endure all the challenges that aging brings. We are currently attempting to establish a Senior Center where seniors can come and socialize, chat, work on crafts, etc. so they can find company and hope. While it is not my intent to sell or promote any programs, we have seen that Long Term Care Insurance (LTC) can be a useful tool. Of course, when you need it, you cannot get or afford it, so there is a solution providing you plan on remaining in your home.

LTC insurance provides coverage for nursing and personal assistance costs related to chronic illness or disability. Such services are notoriously expensive, potentially wiping out one's life savings. If you want to hedge your future care needs with insurance review the following factors:

Nursing home or in-home care: Some LTC plans pay only for nursing home expenses and others just for in-home care. A more expansive policy will cover both types of care, plus assisted living or adult day care expenses.

Benefit Limits: Most LTC policies provide a monthly or daily benefit limit.

Costs above this limit would be your responsibility. Policies also vary as to the timing of the coverage. A plan might require you to pay the first few months of care out of your pocket (called the elimination period). Further, some policies will pay benefits only for a specific length of time, while others pay for life.

Cost: LTC insurance is expensive, but there are two ways you can help ease the burden. First, establish a policy long before you begin having health issues. Old age and ill-health will lead to much higher premiums. In the case of my wife, who has Lupus, an autoimmune disease, no LTC is available from any insurance company. The best time to buy a policy is probably many years before you are likely to need it. Second, seek a qualified LTC policy that is eligible for a tax deduction. If you can write off the premiums, the tax savings will help offset the costs. The rules for deducting LTC insurance premiums are involved, so get details before you buy.

Company Choice: The insurance company you choose can be as important as the of coverage

you buy. Research the financial soundness of potential insurance companies by reviewing their industry rating. And ask for references. You should shop and compare LTC policies like you would any significant purchase. Remember, you need this company to be around when you need their services.

It may be difficult to discuss the care you or your loved one will potentially need down the road, but it will be worth it.

In conclusion, if you or a loved one is planning on staying in your home, you might want to look at LTC.

Respectfully,

Carl Demas, President Serra Mesa
Community Council Board

SERRA MESA VILLAGE NOVEMBER 2018						
◀ October						December ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
SMRC - SERRA MESA REC CTR - 9020 VILLAGE GLEN DR	SM/KM - SERRA MESA/KEARNY MESA LIBRARY 9005 AERO DR	MVCF - MISSION VLG CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP 2650 MELBOURNE DR	HABC - HOLY ANGELS BYZANTINE CHURCH 2235 GALAHAD ROAD	1 10:00 AM - SMV DAY TRIP SM/KM MEN MAKE DINNER DAY	2	3 BOOK LOVERS DAY
4	5 9 AM - WALKING GROUP - SMRC 1:00 PM - SMV BOARD MTG - HABC	6 1:00 PM-3:30 PM - CERAMICS CLASS- SMRC	7 9 AM - WALKING GROUP - SMRC 10:30 - Exercise - MVCF 12:00 - Luncheon - MVCF	8	9 9 AM - WALKING GROUP - SMRC	10 FORGET ME NOT DAY
11 VETERANS DAY	12 9 AM - WALKING GROUP - SMRC	13 1:00 PM - MOVIE - HABC	14 9 AM - WALKING GROUP - SMRC 10:30 - Exercise - MVCF 12:00 - Luncheon - MVCF	15 3:30-5:30 PM - SMV CONNECTION - SM/KM CLEAN YOUR FRIDGE DAY	16 9 AM - WALKING GROUP - SMRC	17 11:00 AM - HLA A MVCF TAKE A HIKE DAY
18	19 9 AM - WALKING GROUP - SMRC	20 1:00 PM-3:30 PM - CERAMICS CLASS-SMRC ABSURDITY DAY	21 9 AM - WALKING GROUP - SMRC 10:30 - Exercise - MVCF 12:00 - Luncheon - MVCF	22 THANKSGIVING DAY	23 9 AM - WALKING GROUP - SMRC NAT'L CASHEW DAY	24
25 NAT'L PARFAIT DAY	26 9 AM - WALKING GROUP - SMRC 2:00 PM - OASIS - SM/KM	27 1:00 PM - MOVIE - HABC	28 9 AM - WALKING GROUP - SMRC 10:30 - Exercise - MVCF 12:00 - Luncheon - MVCF 6:30 PM - SMCC - SM/KM	29 SQUARE DANCE DAY	30 9 AM - WALKING GROUP - SMRC	

SERRA MESA VILLAGE DECEMBER 2018						
◀ November						January ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 EAT A RED APPLE DAY
2	3 9:00 AM - WALKING GROUP SMRC 1:00 PM - SMV BOARD MTG HABC	4 1:00 PM-3:30 PM - CERAMICS CLASS- SMRC SANTA'S LIST DAY	5 9 AM - WALKING GROUP - SMRC 10:30 AM - Exercise Class - MVCF 12:00 - Friendship Lunch - MVCF	6 10:00 AM - SMV DAY TRIP SM/KM	7 9 AM - WALKING GROUP - SMRC	8 NAT'L BROWNIE DAY
9 INT'L CHILDRENS DAY	10 9 AM - WALKING GROUP - SMRC	11 1:00 PM - MOVIE - HABC	12 9 AM - WALKING GROUP - SMRC 10:30 AM - Exercise Class - MVCF 12:00 - Friendship Lunch - MVCF	13 ICE CREAM DAY	14 9 AM - WALKING GROUP - SMRC	15 10:30 AM - HLA A - HOLIDAY CELEBRATION NAT'L LEMON CUPCAKE DAY
16	17 9 AM - WALKING GROUP - SMRC NAT'L MAPLE SYRUP DAY	18 1:00 PM-3:30 PM - CERAMICS CLASS- SMRC BAKE COOKIES DAY	19 9 AM - WALKING GROUP - SMRC 10:30 AM - Exercise Class - MVCF 12:00 - Friendship Lunch - MVCF	20 3:30-5:30 PM - SMV CONNECTION - SM/KM WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT EXCHANGE GO CAROLING DAY	21 9 AM - WALKING GROUP - SMRC CROSSWORD PUZZLE DAY	22
23	24 9 AM - WALKING GROUP - SMRC	25 CHRISTMAS DAY	26 9 AM - WALKING GROUP - SMRC 10:30 AM - Exercise Class - MVCF 12:00 - Friendship Lunch - MVCF	27 MAKE CUTOOT SNOWFLAKES DAY	28 9 AM - WALKING GROUP - SMRC CARD PLAYING DAY	29
30 BACON DAY	31 9 AM - WALKING GROUP - SMRC NEW YEARS EVE	SMRC - SERRA MESA REC CTR - 9020 NVILLAGE GLEN DR SM/KM - SERRA MESA/ KEARNY MESA LIBRARY - 9005 AERO DR MVCF - MISSION VILLAGE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP - 2650 MELBOURNE DR HABC - HOLY ANGELS BYZANTINE CHURCH - 2235 GALAHAD ROAD				

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

2696 Melbourne Drive
San Diego, CA 92123

Worship 8:00, 9:30 am
(858) 277-6572

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
November 20 & December 18 at 6:30 p.m.



You're not alone dealing with hearing loss –
yours or a loved one's. Twenty percent of
Americans have it. Join us for friendship,
support and lots of "how to" information.
Plus, we provide captions so you
won't miss a word!

What: Hearing Loss Meeting
When: 10:30 a.m., Saturday, Sept 15 and Oct 20
Where: Mission Village Christian Fellowship
2650 Melbourne Drive
San Diego, CA 92123
Cost: FREE

<http://www.hearinglosssandiego.org/>

COMMUNITY PLAN UPDATES

Both of Serra Mesa's neighbors, Kearny Mesa and Mission Valley, are in the process of updating their community plans. These plans will help determine the future development in each community for the next 20 years.

Kearny Mesa Community Plan Update

For detailed information about the process and to review the documents, go to <http://kearnymesaconnected.com/about-us/>.

There are proposals that will affect Serra Mesa. For example, zoning for Aero Drive between Aero Court to the Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library is being proposed for residential – varying from high density residential (75-109 du/acre) to high urban employment village (mixed use projects: 0-109 du/acre; 4.0 Total FAR). Also, linear parks are being considered along the strip of land located between the access road and Aero Drive from Aero Court to Afton Road.

Note: Existing projects are not affected by an update. When the City Council approves an updated community plan, a property owner if so desired would be able to redevelop a property under the new zoning.

Staff is working on a draft community plan. An environmental impact report will be prepared for the community plan. The Notice of Preparation Scoping Meeting is tentatively scheduled for November 28, 4:30-6:30 pm, at the Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library. The purpose of the NOP is to obtain input on the scope and content of the environmental study for the community plan.

Mission Valley Community Plan Update

The working draft at <https://www.sandiego.gov/planning/community/cpu/missionvalley> was released on August 10, 2018. The Mission Valley Community Plan Update Subcommittee has been meeting to discuss and review the draft document. Comments to the draft are due by November 13. The Notice of Preparation Scoping Meet hasn't been announced, yet.

FRANKLIN RIDGE ROAD UPDATE

An environmental lawsuit regarding the approval of the road connection from Phyllis Place in Serra Mesa to Civita in Mission Valley was filed on November 27, 2017. The "Save Civita Because Sudberry Won't" group is suing to protect public safety and the quality of life in Civita and Serra Mesa. There are Serra Mesa residents on this group's board, who will represent Serra Mesa's interests.

As of October 2018, work is centering on preparing the Administrative Record. This record includes all the evidence that was presented to the City Council. The judge, who makes the final legal decision, uses this record to determine if there's enough evidence to support the findings and decision of the City Council. After the first of the year briefs will be written by the attorneys for the group and the City and submitted to the judge. Any citations in the briefs are limited to the Administrative Record.

For more information about the Serra Mesa perspective, go to <http://www.serramesa.org/hot-topics/>; Civita perspective, <http://www.savecivita.com/>.

Additional funds are needed for the lawsuit. Donations are tax deductible. If you haven't already contributed, please do so by going to <http://savecivita.com/take-action/>.

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)	(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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www.stcolumbasandiego.com

Sunday Mass	7:30, 9:30 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.
Saturday	8:00a.m.&5:30p.m.
Mon-Thurs.	7:00 a.m.
Fri.	8:15 a.m.
Holy Days	Please call the church for schedule

LITTLE FREE LIBRARY

What is this? This is a free library that began as a project to build with our visiting grandson. The basis is a cabinet found at ReStore, the Habitat for Humanity store located on Mercury.

There's a non-profit organization, Little Free Library, whose goal is to foster "neighborhood book exchanges around the world". For a fee, a plaque is sent engraved with a charter number, and the recipient can add their library location to the world map at <https://littlefreelibrary.org/ourmap/>. More information about the program is at <https://littlefreelibrary.org/about/>.

There are eight official locations listed for 92123: 3196 Admiral Avenue, 2731 Amulet Street, 2303 Finch Lane, 8826 Glenhaven Street, 8856 Gowdy Avenue, 2556 Greyling Drive, 2052 Redbird, and 3225 Skipper Street. Additionally, there are other libraries throughout Serra Mesa (e.g., Phyllis Place and Mission Village Drive) that people with an interest in book exchanging have erected. Architectural styles and finishes vary greatly adding interest to the community.

There was an article in the Health Section of the September 11, 2018 edition of the San Diego Union Tribune that stated that the "Body of research shows book readers live longer, better lives." If you need something to read or have a book you want to share, stop by a Little Free Library. We enjoy knowing that as evidenced by the turnover in books that our library is being well-used by all ages.



KUDOS: Serra Mesa WW II Vet on Recent Honor Flight



On Friday, September 28 a plane full of about 80 military veterans from World War II and Korean battles left San Diego's Lindbergh Field airport and headed for Washington DC. They were participating in a program conducted by the Honor Flight Network, a non-profit organization that has flown over 160,000 vets from many cities on such flights since its start in 2005.

Long time Serra Mesan Everett Kaukonen was one of those onboard the September Honor Flight. He was a WW II veteran who served with the Army in 1944-45, and with the 1st Cavalry Division when the U.S. occupied Japan after the war ended. The Honor vets, including women, gathered at a secluded location at Lindbergh Field, many accompanied by "guardians" – a family member or friend to join them on the flights and be of service during their DC events (interestingly, spouses could not be guardians). Also, many local volunteers

were actively involved in all aspects of the event. All costs for the journey, including airfare and 2 hotel nights, were paid for by the non-profit organization and donations.

Everett and Anne Marie Kaukonen have lived in Serra Mesa since 1961. Everett was met in DC by his son, Phillip, who was his guardian during the events which filled the busy Saturday. Per Everett: "We saw the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in the Arlington National Cemetery. We had visits to the DC memorials for WW II, Korea and Vietnam wars. In each place and at our special evening dinner we heard from military speakers."

Sunday was the return trip back to San Diego, where at the airport terminal, as they came off the plane, they were greeted by about 2,000 people from a variety of organizations, friends and family members. Everett: "It was a big surprise to us. We were greeted with applause, handshakes, patriotic songs, and many were waving American flags. A special way to end our memorable weekend."

Veterans received individual Certificates of Recognition from the California Legislature, "In Honor of Your Service and Sacrifice Thank You for Fighting to Defend Our Freedom." Thank you, Everett and the many others who were part of that Honor Flight from San Diego.

For info about this non-profit organization, visit <http://www.honorflightsandiego.org/>

Tom Leech, author-speaker, amigo, member SD Press Club

Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Branch Library

November/December, 2018 Events/Programs

All San Diego Public Library Locations will be **Closed** Sunday, November 11th and Monday, November 12th in observance of Veterans' Day, Thursday, November 22nd in observance of Thanksgiving, and Tuesday, December 25th in observance of Christmas. The library will close early, at 6:00pm, on Wednesday, November 21st for Thanksgiving.

Art Exhibits – The Friends of the Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Branch Library present artwork by the Associated Fine Artists during November, and oil paintings by Shin Art Studio during December in the Community Room.

Adult Programs

Japanese Brush Painting – Mondays, 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. (3:45-5:45 p.m. on 11/26)

(except 11/12, 11/19, 12/17, 12/24 and 12/31)

Thursdays, 12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. (except 11/22, 12/20 and 12/27))

Learn how to create beautiful tones of Japanese sumi-ink and paint with unique Japanese brush style. Geared towards 55+, but everyone 18+ is welcomed. Enroll anytime in the class.

Piano Class: Tuesdays 11:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. (except 11/20, 12/18 and 12/25)

- **Beginner Level** 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
- **Beginner/Intermediate Level** 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
- **Intermediate Level** 2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Explore your musical talent through learning the fundamentals of piano techniques. Geared towards 55+, but everyone 18+ is welcomed. Enroll anytime in the class.

Writing Class – Tuesdays, 5:30 p.m. - 7:45 p.m. (except 11/20, 12/18 and 12/25) Join a community of writers (beginning-advanced level) and learn techniques for writing autobiographies, fiction, and non-fiction reports. Designed to meet the interests of older adults in writing short stories, poetry, and articles for publication or self-improvement. Course covers writing newspaper articles, outlining and writing autobiographies, fiction techniques for writing short stories and novels, and an introduction to poetry writing. Geared towards 55+, but everyone 18+ is welcomed. Enroll anytime in the class.

Communicating with Technology – Fridays, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. (except 11/23, 12/21 and 12/28) Focused on the technologies that we use to communicate. Includes hands on learning with smartphones and tablets, as well as lecture/discussion. Topics include: The Cloud, Productivity, Operating systems, Web browsers, Google, Apple and Microsoft tools, Social networks, Photography, Online safety and more. Bring your own device for more hands-on learning. Geared towards 55+, but everyone 18+ is welcomed. Enroll anytime in the class.

Knitting Circle – Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. Join the knitting circle. Improve your skills in this traditional art form.

Tech Clinic – Saturdays and Sundays, 2:00 p.m. (except 11/11 and 12/8) Need help understanding how to use your tablet or mobile phone? Bring in your device for hands-on, one-on-one help to answer general questions about your device. Learn how to access SDPL's digital content and other eResources.

November 13, 5:00 p.m. Friends of the Library Meeting. Join members of your community to discuss ways to support the library.

November 13, 6:45 p.m. Serra Mesa Library Book Club. Join members of your community to discuss *Lab Girl* by Hope Jahren.

November 15, 3:30 p.m. Community Wellness Workshop: Heart Healthy Eating. Eating a heart-healthy diet can not only reduce your risk for developing heart disease but can also improve your overall health. This free class will give you the essential skills to recognize and eliminate risk factors that you can control through

Continued to page 10

Continued from page 9

diet and exercise. This workshop is presented by Sharp HealthCare, the official health and wellness partner of the City of San Diego.

November 15, 4:45 p.m. Serra Mesa Village Meeting. Join members of your community for presentations on healthy lifestyles for older adults.

November 15, 7:00 p.m. Serra Mesa Planning Group. A community meeting for an organization that advises the city on land use issues.

November 26, 2:00 p.m. OASIS Monday at the Library: The Uniqueness of San Diego. Learn about the uniqueness of our town. San Diego County was the first Pacific coast site visited by Europeans. In 1850 it was larger than Indiana. It contains more ecological zones, has recorded more bird species, and has more Indian reservations than any other county in the country. This informative slide show illustrates why San Diego is America's most unique county. Presented by Dr. Philip Pryde, the author of *San Diego: An Introduction To The Region*.

November 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.

December 11, 6:45 p.m. Serra Mesa Library Book Club. Join members of your community to discuss *The Little Paris Bookshop* by Nina George.

December 15, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Holiday Book Event with the San Diego Writers Guild. Our talented San Diego authors have written memoirs, children's books, westerns, romances, inspirational books, fables and much more. This is your chance to get signed copies for yourself, friends, and family.

December 19, 11:30 a.m. Kearny Mesa Planning Group. A community meeting for an organization that advises the city on land use issues.

December 20, 3:30 p.m. Serra Mesa Village Meeting. Join members of your community for presentations on healthy lifestyles for older adults.

December 20, 7:00 p.m. Serra Mesa Planning Group. A community meeting for an organization that advises the city on land use issues.

Children Programs

Do Your Homework @ the Library Homework Help -Mondays and Thursdays 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m., Tuesdays and Wednesdays 3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. (except 11/12, 11/19-11/22 and 12/17-1/3) Students in Kindergarten through 8th grade can come in for free homework assistance! Bring in your homework to get assistance from one of our Homework Coaches!

Monday Morning Storytime – Mondays, 10:00 a.m. (except 11/12) Join Ms. Carrie every Monday morning for stories, songs, and fun that foster early literacy skills!

Paws to Read with Love on a Leash – 2nd and 4th Mondays, 3:00 p.m. (except 11/12) Children can read aloud to trained and certified therapy dogs. "Paws to Read" is designed to help children improve their reading skills and confidence in reading out loud.

Kids Night with Hopscotch Tiny Tots – Tuesdays, 4:30 p.m. (except 12/25) Join Miss Kim for music, stories, arts and crafts in a program which is ideal for toddlers and preschoolers.

Baby/Toddler Explore Time – Fridays, 10:00 a.m. 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.

Continued from page 10

November 2, 4:00 p.m. STEAM2 Academy: Animal Classifications We'll discuss the various types of animals and then play a classification game regarding mammals, birds, fish, reptiles, amphibians, and arthropods. This program is geared toward kids ages 4-8.

November 3, 1:00 p.m. Gorging on Geology Desserts meet geology in this delicious scientific mash-up class! Learn about rocks and minerals while making yummy treats inspired by Earth's inner layers (for instance, sugar crystals!). If you love to cook and learn about Earth science, then Gorging on Geology is the class for you. Program is for students 6th-8th grade. Space is limited. **Registration required.** SanDiego.gov/LibraryNext

November 7 & 21, 4:00 p.m. LEGO Builder Club. Join us to build Lego creations that will be displayed in the library.

November 9, 4:00 p.m. One Book, One San Diego Veterans' Day Storytime and Crafts. Join us for a storytime featuring this year's juvenile One Book One San Diego selection *Blue Sky White Stars* by Sarvinder Naberhaus followed by a patriotic craft.

November 14, 4:00 p.m. After School Crafternoon Thanksgiving Craft. Join us for a fun and free Thanksgivings Craft geared towards ages 4-10.

November 17, 1:00 p.m. Mysteries of the Human Genome In this class, we learn about the basics of DNA, the instruction manual for all cells, and how DNA impacts the way traits are passed from one generation to the next. We will create mixed-media art pieces to showcase important cell cycles, and we will use fun Interactive models to learn about inheritance and variance. Program is for students 6th-8th grade. Space is limited. **Registration required.** SanDiego.gov/LibraryNext

December 1, 1:00 p.m. Being Sherlock: Rocket Science: Engineering Paper Airplanes. Get ready to explore current rocket science and rocket design. The class will culminate in the creation and launch of a testable paper rocket model. Earth-bound space exploration has never been so fun. Program is for students 6th-8th grade. Space is limited. **Registration required.** SanDiego.gov/LibraryNext

December 5 & 19, 4:00 p.m. LEGO Builder Club. Join us to build Lego creations that will be displayed in the library.

December 7, 4:00 p.m. STEAM2 Academy: Snow! We will have a brief lesson on how snow forms and why we don't get any here in San Diego. Then, we will use our chemistry skills and make our own "snow"! This program is geared toward kids ages 4-8.

December 21, 4:00 p.m. After School Crafternoon Winter Holiday Craft. Join us for a fun and free Winter Holiday Craft geared towards ages 4-10.

December 31, 11:30 a.m. Noon Year's Eve Party. Want to ring in the New Year, but your bed time is way before midnight? Come to our Noon Year's Eve Celebration and celebrate at noon! Join us crafts and a countdown to the Noon Years.

Apply for a Free Computer!! Computers 2 SD Kids at the Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library – Classes on November 17 and December 8

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.



**HOLIDAY BOOK SALES EVENT
FEATURING
SAN DIEGO WRITERS GUILD
MEET YOUR LOCAL AUTHORS**

**Saturday, December 15, 2018
10am – 2pm**

**Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library
9005 Aero Drive, San Diego, CA 92123**

Books make great gifts

Our talented San Diego authors have written memoirs, children's books, westerns, romances, inspirational books, fables, and much more. This is your chance to get signed copies for yourself, friends, and family.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

For more information contact: Serra Mesa Library: 858-573-1396



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

Michael Armstrong	Max Hash	Michael & Cheryl Patzer
Arlan & Elizabeth Barber	William & Grace Heim	Marilyn Randall
Dieter & Mary Ann Beck	Karen Indiviglia	Vickie Riggs
Gene & Joann Bertsch	Nina Kenney	Karen Rohrbaugh & Janis
Trudy Boelman	Madonna Kentro	Legzdins
Lorraine Cederberg	Louis Kleis	Lois Shenk
Martha Chin	Richard Lattizzori	Earl & Liz Sopher
Efrain Conrique	Walter Meins	Pam Stevens
Carl & Marge Demas	Hilda Mendiola	Ted & Terri Strait
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Wayne & Sally Findlay	Richard & Judy Nagy	Patricia Taylor
B. L. Gandolfo	Lois Nelson	Steve & Laura Trudgen
George & Dorothy Green	Steven Oschmann	Linda Vassier
Sandra Gunning	Else Sjostrand Ottesen	Dar Lynn Wallake
Luther Handshy	Wanda Pabian	Alice Wilker
Diane & Michael Harding	Trinidad Pastor	Carol Jean Wolcott

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 Library hosts authors for upcoming Holiday Book Event

Here's an opportunity to meet a dozen San Diego authors as they'll be at our Serra Mesa/Kearny Mesa Library for this new Holiday Book Event. The date is Saturday December 15, 2018 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The authors are all members of the San Diego Writers & Editors Guild, and they'll have many of their published books to review and perhaps buy (books make good gifts). This is an opportunity to check out many new or recent books and have dialogue with the authors whose books include memoirs, children's books (Christmas will be just ahead), fiction (mysteries, adventures, romances, humor), nature, business, inspirational, fables and more. Several books have strong ties to our San Diego world. One of these authors is your regular Observer contributor and SM resident Tom Leech.

The San Diego Writers & Editors Guild publishes an annual Guild anthology, with articles, essays and poems from members (the next anthology will be available for purchase at this Serra Mesa/Kearny Mesa library event).

The Serra Mesa/Kearny Mesa Library is located on Aero Drive just east of Ruffin Rd.

Did you know 1 in 5 children do not know how they will get their next meal. A simple food donation can help the families of these children right here within our own community.

A local family involved in Scouting, hosted a Serra Mesa Food Drive benefiting our own Serra Mesa Food Pantry. The drive ran for two weeks from September 4th through the 18th with drop off locations all over Serra Mesa. It was a complete success! 453 nonperishable food items and 40 reusable bags were collected and donated to the Serra Mesa Food Pantry. A big thank you to the following people and their teams for making this happen:

Ms. Luisa at Serra Mesa Food Pantry

Ms. Rosa at Serra Mesa Library

Principal Buell at Jones Elementary

Principal Sandoval at Wegeforth Elementary

Mr. Nick at Rawknykz Barber Shop

Ms. Michi and Ms. Ashli at Bear Buns Bakery

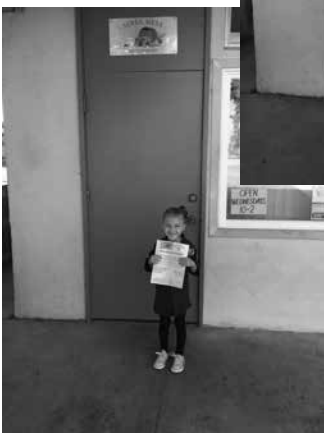
Mr. David and Mrs. Argelia at Maggie's Cafe

Mr. Ken at Kearny Mesa Moose Lodge

And also a huge THANK YOU to the Community of Serra Mesa and to Mission Village Christian Fellowship for providing the space and support to the Pantry! This wouldn't have been possible without you.

Thank you!

Lesley Heinemann



Mechanic Leaves Auto Shop to go Back to School

Written by: Allura Garis



Humberto Perez, Auto Technician Student at San Diego Continuing Education

San Diego Continuing Education (SDCE) offers 70 free career training programs including four Automotive certificates; Quick Service Inspection Technician, Service Advisor, Auto Body and Paint Technician and Auto Technician.

“As soon as I graduated, I went to work for an auto shop in Lemon Grove and did some of my own work in Otay Mesa with another student,” said Humberto Perez. Perez completed SDCE’s Auto Body and Paint Technician program in 2010.

While many technicians specialize in an area, such as transmission, or brakes, Perez wanted to become more competitive by understanding the entire anatomy of a vehicle. “I would think to myself I should work on engines because it could benefit me.”

Last year, the 29-year-old returned to SDCE to study Automotive Upholstery and earn two more certificates. “In the real world, a job advertisement is only looking for a Mechanic or a Body Painter, so as a certified Technician I am experienced in many areas and I can ask for better pay.”

“After high school I went to do general education and tried Aviation courses, but I didn’t go far. It was getting complicated and I wanted to work.” With higher education costs on the rise Perez advises would-be students to choose a field they are passionate about. “When you like something, you’ll do your best to learn and get it right.”

Free Automotive classes take place at SDCE’s Educational Cultural Complex. In addition to hands-on work in the shop, students learn theory, safety practices and soft-skills.

After certification completion, SDCE students are ready for entry-level employment or can transition to San Diego Miramar College with college credits earned toward an Associate Degree in Automotive Technology. Miramar provides opportunities for students to advance to higher-level positions while studying in school with T-TEN (Toyota, Lexus, Scion) and PACT (Honda) work experience programs.

Following SDCE, Perez will transition to Miramar College.

SDCE is still enrolling for the current fall semester. Visit sdce.edu to sign up for a free orientation.

Serra Mesa Observer
Editor: *Ronda Adams*
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San Diego, CA 92193

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Wednesdays 12:00-1:00 p.m.
Located at Mission Village Christian Fellowship
2650 Melbourne Drive 92123
More information at 858-277-6572 or 858-278-2633

Please Pass the Gravy

**Feast on these
short plays to lean
into the season!**

**An amusing,
sometimes
irreverent look
at humans being
human.**



Fri, Sat, Nov 16, 17, 23, 24
<http://clairemontactone.org/>



In the spirit of the season, Clairemont Act One presents a very special production of eight short plays chosen from over 140 submissions from playwrights across the country:

Mom's Ham by Rachel Bublitz

If we try to live up to memories of Holidays past, perhaps we need a second look.

Free Hugs by L.H. Grant

A young man offering free hugs meets an opposing force.

Old Aquatics by Steven Korbar

Meaningful human connections can happen anywhere, even on a street corner.

When RomComs Go Bad by Ken Levine

Nostalgic romantic comedies take a surprising turn in this sparkling parody.

Object of Affection by Thomas Misuraca

If relationships get too complicated, well, there are alternatives.

Intermission for Love by Steven Oberman

When men are from Mars and women from Venus, young love can get funny.

Two People by Mark Saunders

How many chances do we get to make a relationship work?

Slide Rules by Janet Tiger

Even when set in our ways, can we experience a change of heart?

\$15 general admission, \$12 for seniors, students and military
Tickets at door or online at
<http://clairemontactone.org/>

7:30 p.m. Fri / Sat Nov 16, 17, 23, 24
Approx. two hours run time.

Location:
Northminster Church Community Hall
4324 Clairemont Mesa Blvd,
San Diego, CA 92117
Next to Clairemont Square
Shopping Center

• Appropriate for ages 12 and up



Serra Mesa Little League

2019 Spring Registration

We are looking for players of all skills and abilities!

(Ages 4-14 on or before August 31, 2019)

We are also looking for volunteers, coaches, managers, and umpires. No experience? No problem! Training will be provided.

Division	Age	Cost
T-Ball*	4-6	\$185
Caps*	7-8	\$205
Minors*	9-10	\$205
Majors*	11-12	\$205
Juniors**	13-14	\$205

*Included in registration fee is a \$75 snack bar deposit which is refunded when 10 hours of volunteer time is completed.

** Deposit is \$50 to be refunded after 5 hours.

Volunteer hours can be obtained by serving on the Board, committees, snack bar, field maintenance, scorekeeping or umpiring.

Early Bird Discount!!

Sign up in November and save \$20!!

Sign up in December and save \$10!!

Important Dates

Player Assessments	2/12/19
	2/19/19
Cap Day	2/02/19
Opening Day Ceremonies	3/02/19
Picture Day	3/02/19

Registration includes:

team hat, shirt, socks, belt, team picture and trophy.

Online registration available at www.serramesalittleleague.org

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"/>	Community Council. <i>Sponsors clean-ups, publishes newsletter, liaison between elected officials & the community, meets 10 times/yr. Volunteers needed: Board & special projects. Commitment: varies.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Planning Group. <i>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.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Recreation Council. <i>Plans, promote, publicizes & helps provide recreation opportunities for citizens in Serra Mesa. Volunteers needed: Council. No training needed. Commitment: 1.5 hour/month</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Enhancement Committee. <i>Sends educational letters to residents requesting code compliance. Promotes community improvement. Trained & indemnified by the City. Commitment: 3 hours/month.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Friends of the Library. <i>Provides summer reading program, extra books & tapes, & sponsors special library events for the Serra Mesa Library. Volunteers needed: Board. Commitment: 5 hours/month.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Friends of Ruffin Canyon. <i>Friends of Ruffin Canyon removes invasive non native plants from the canyon and replaces them with natives.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Serra Mesa Food Pantry. <i>Staff the Food Pantry, pick up donated food, coordinate food drives, organize community sponsors. Commitment: varies.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Serra Mesa Village. <i>An active non-profit organization for residents 55+ who promote connections to help our members thrive.</i>

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.