



GENERAL MANAGER PERSPECTIVES

SAN DIEGO COUNTRY ESTATES ASSOCIATION

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Welcome to the final June edition of the Valley News! As summer takes hold, we have exciting updates and important information to share. In this issue, you'll find highlights of recent activities, upcoming events, and key initiatives. Whether you're enjoying the warm weather outdoors or staying cool inside, we hope you find this newsletter informative and engaging. Thank you for being a part of our community, and we look forward to connecting with you through the summer months!

On June 29, the San Vicente Resort will host its first-ever pickleball tournament. With more than 90 registered players, this event promises to be a crowd-pleaser. Stop by if you have the time and while you're there take a stroll on the new pathways that are a part of the new San Vicente Park right next door.

When was the last time you visited the Par Lounge or The Oaks Grille? The clubhouse team offers excellent service, and the food and drinks are top-notch, all conveniently located right down the street. Yes, it can get busy on peak days, but we always find a way to accommodate everyone. On Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, we serve over 500 guests a day. There's a reason for that—it's a fantastic place with outstanding quality. If you haven't stopped by in a while, make it a point to visit. You won't be disappointed. Remember, it's your place.

At the June 25 board meeting, several residents expressed concerns about motorized vehicles using the horse trails and easements. It's important to note that this issue is addressed in the SDCEA Handbook (a governing document) in section 1.15, Vehicles and Parking.

It provides that *All off-road vehicles for recreational use are prohibited on easements, horse trails, and green space. Motorized vehicles may be used on horse trails and green space for maintenance, fire, medical, law enforcement and equestrian (feed delivery, manure removal, farrier, and veterinarian) purposes.* There are also municipal restrictions prohibiting this activity. There are obvious reasons for this. Please consider the following:

- 1. Safety Concerns:** Horses can be easily spooked by the noise and movement of motorized vehicles, which can lead to accidents and injuries for riders and horses.
- 2. Trail Damage:** Motorized vehicles can cause significant damage to trails designed for horses. They can create ruts, erosion, and other forms of degradation that make the trails less safe and enjoyable for horse riders.
- 3. Environmental Impact:** Motorized vehicles can have a greater environmental impact, including soil compaction, damage to plant life, and disturbance to wildlife habitats. Horse trails are often designed to minimize these impacts, but motorized vehicles can undermine these efforts.
- 4. User Experience:** The presence of motorized vehicles can detract from the peaceful and natural experience that horse riders seek. The noise, exhaust, and speed of motorized vehicles are incompatible with the quiet, slow-paced enjoyment of nature that horse riding typically involves.
- 5. Regulatory Compliance:** Many horse trails are designated specifically for non-motorized use by regulatory agencies. Using motorized vehicles on these trails can violate local, state, or federal regulations, leading to fines and other penalties.
- 6. Conflict Prevention:** Mixing different types of trail users can lead to conflicts and accidents. By keeping motorized vehicles off horse trails, these conflicts are minimized, ensuring a safer and more enjoyable experience for all users.

On behalf of the Association Board, I urge all members and their families to remember their civic responsibility and to abide by the rules regarding motorized vehicle use.

Next week, the annual Fourth of July Parade and Celebration will take place at Ramona Oaks Park. This is a fantastic community event for a great cause, and it would be wonderful to see you there. Bring your family and enjoy the festivities—they're designed for you!