



PUBLISHED BY THE SERRA MESA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

VOLUME 35, ISSUE 2 MARCH / APRIL 2021

Serra Mesa True History of Our Street Names

by Tom Leech - See article on page 10



www.SerraMesa.org

You are invited to participate in the

Serra Mesa Community Council

Wednesday, March 24

6:30 p.m.

Serra Mesa - Kearny Mesa Library

Community Room, 9005 Aero Drive

Serra Mesa Community Council

No Meeting in April

Serra Mesa - Kearny Mesa Library

Community Room, 9005 Aero Drive

Neighborhood People
and Friendly Businesses
Living and Working Together

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Vice President
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 Kristine Webb(858)565-2473*
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SM Community Garden & Orchard

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: smppg@serramesa.org

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

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ELECTED OFFICIALS

Board of Education Mark Powell (619) 725-5550
 City Councilmember Raul Campillo (619) 236-6677
 Mayor Todd Gloria (619) 236-6330
 County Supervisor Nathan Fletcher (619) 531-5544
 State Assembly Member Shirley N. Weber (619) 531-7913
 State Senator Toni G. Atkins (619) 645-3133
 Governor Gavin Newsom (619) 525-4641
 U.S. Representative Sara Jacobs (619) 280-5353
 U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein (619) 231-9712

Meetings Postponed Until Further Notice - Stay Home Stay Safe**CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS**

| | |
|--------|---|
| Mar 9 | Friends of Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library 5:30 p.m., Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, Sudberry Room |
| Mar 16 | Serra Mesa Recreation Center Council Meeting 6:30 p.m., 9020 Village Glen Drive |
| Mar 18 | Serra Mesa Village Connection 3:30 p.m., Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, Community Rm |
| Mar 18 | Serra Mesa Planning Group 7 p.m., Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, Community Room |
| No Mtg | Hearing Loss Association of America (San Diego) Meeting 10:30 a.m., Mission Village Christian Fellowship |
| Mar 24 | Friends of Ruffin Canyon 5:30 p.m., Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, Community Rm |
| Mar 24 | Serra Mesa Community Council 6:30 p.m., Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, Community Rm |
| Apr 3 | Friends of Ruffin Canyon Cleanup 9:00 a.m., Shawn Avenue entrance to Ruffin Canyon |
| Apr 15 | Serra Mesa Village Connection 3:30 p.m., Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, Community Rm |
| Apr 15 | Serra Mesa Planning Group 7 p.m., Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, Community Room |
| No Mtg | Hearing Loss Association of America (San Diego) Meeting 10:30 a.m., Mission Village Christian Fellowship |
| Apr 20 | Serra Mesa Recreation Center Council Meeting 6:30 p.m., 9020 Village Glen Drive |
| Apr 28 | Friends of Ruffin Canyon 5:30 p.m., Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, Community Rm |
| No Mtg | Serra Mesa Community Council Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, Community Rm |
| May 2 | 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: May / June 2021 Edition...April 21st.

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

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Finally, there are signs that the pandemic is improving and that while shortages of vaccine exist, most eligible folks are able to get it. There are still problems but except for some variants, things are improving. And, finally, businesses are opening and we are slowly returning to “normal.” At last, the elections are over, new representatives are in place and impeachments are concluded and hopefully history.

While we have a lot of time to think, we have so much to be thankful for. Media for as good and bad as it is, provides contact for those of us who are confined. We can be as social or not as we wish. Learning opportunities are immense with so many opportunities for courses and experiences through travel sites. I watch the weather patterns across the US and am so happy that we live in Southern California. If we want snow or ocean views, we are just a short drive away. Our low temperatures are very bearable and warm weather frequent and welcomed. Our home values continue to rise, and I often comment that many of us could no longer afford to buy our homes in Serra Mesa. We have had our annual Serra Mesa Community meeting and heard from our new councilmember Raul Campillo about his plans for Serra Mesa and the City of San Diego. We are in good hands and I for one anticipate returning to our previous lifestyle.

I would be remiss if I did not mention Jackie Ander who has been on the SMCC Board for as long as I remember. Jackie has retired from our board but acted as our library liaison person and has assisted the Friends of the Library to do all the wonderful things they do. Thank you, Jackie, for all your years of service and we wish you the best. We wish you many years of happiness and look forward to seeing you in the library when it opens doing the things you always do.

I would like to recommend that you support our local businesses as all of them have had a rough year. They depend on us to keep them successful. Take care of yourself and those around you by wearing a mask when outside, practicing social distancing, washing your hands frequently and telling your friends and neighbors about our neighborhood newsletter, “The Observer”. You can obtain the newsletter by going to www.serramesa.org, clicking on community council then clicking on the Observer. If you are a business and wish to include your business card in the Observer, please contact me and we will make it happen. If you are not receiving notices of our community council events, go to the website and enter your email address in the “Sign up for Serra Mesa Notices Box. That link that gets you on our confidential contact list.

Stay well.

Carl Demas, Current Council President

Free Career Training at San Diego College of Continuing Education

Allura Garis



Choose from more than 70 free career training options at San Diego College of Continuing Education

Free classes are underway at San Diego College of Continuing Education (SDCCE). As industries face hardship, this spring SDCCE will help residents from across the county to attain livable wages in a COVID-19 economy through free career training in several pandemic resilient workforce sectors from information technology, healthcare, to automotive, and plumbing. Other free classes include English as a Second Language (ESL), Citizenship, and High School Diploma/Equivalency.

To help prevent the spread of COVID-19, all classes for the spring 2021 semester will be taught through remote online instruction.

Jessica Rodriguez, 41, dropped out of high school to help her single mom pay the bills. She returned to academia twenty-four years later at SDCCE in 2019 to finish her diploma with a goal of enrolling into the school's Auto Technician certificate program. "I would walk around campus and visualize being a part of the automotive program then Covid hit," she said.

Like many students who were hoping to pursue a hands-on middle skills education at an SDCCE campus she adapted to the abrupt change. SDCCE campuses temporarily closed in March due to the pandemic, only a few weeks after Rodriguez earned a diploma.

"I am a visual learner, so for me virtual learning is a challenge, it is a lot of information at a fast pace," she said. "However, the automotive instructors are very passionate about teaching, they set me up for success with how organized they are." To substitute in person learning, Rodriguez donates her time fixing her neighbors cars in Imperial Beach who otherwise could not afford the opportunity. Following SDCCE, Rodriguez will transition to San Diego Miramar College.

San Diegans interested in pursuing a career in information technology can enroll in SDCCE's ICOM Academy (Interactive Competency-based Online Micro-credentialing Academy). Among the career education options are Cybersecurity Analyst, Linux Server Administration, and Mobile Application Development.

SDCCE is enrolling now for the spring semester. For more information please visit, SDCE.EDU



IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

| | | | |
|--|----------------|---|----------------|
| Abandoned Vehicles & | | | |
| Police Non-Emergency | (619) 531-2000 | Police Department - Eastern Division | (858) 495-7900 |
| Airport Noise - Montgomery Airfield | (858) 573-1436 | Post Office | (800) 275-8777 |
| Animal Control-Incorporated S.D. | (619) 299-7012 | Poison Control Center | (800) 876-4766 |
| Bus & Trolley Schedules | (619) 233-3004 | Rape /Domestic Violence Hotline | (858) 272-1767 |
| Canyon Cleanup | (619) 533-4411 | RSVP (Retired Seniors Volunteer Patrol) | (858) 495-7990 |
| Child Abuse Hotline | (858) 560-2191 | SDG&E Emergencies | (800) 411-7343 |
| City Clerk - Docket Information | (619) 533-4000 | Senior Citizen Services | (619) 236-6905 |
| Crime - General Business | (619) 531-2000 | Serra Mesa Library | (858) 573-1396 |
| Crime Stoppers | (619) 235-8477 | Serra Mesa Recreation Center | (858) 573-1408 |
| Dead Animal Removal stay on the line | (858) 694-7000 | Sidewalk Repair | (619) 527-7500 |
| Emergency Information - Earthquake | (858) 565-3490 | Stadium Manager | (619) 641-3101 |
| Fallen Trees | (858) 527-7500 | Stadium Security & Noise | (619) 641-3150 |
| Fire Department - Non-emergency | (619) 533-4300 | Stolen Property/Bicycles - To Report | (619) 531-2000 |
| Flies & Vermin | (858) 694-2888 | Storm Drain Misuse | (619) 235-1000 |
| Graffiti | (619) 525-8522 | Street Repair - Faded signs, pavement | (619) 527-7500 |
| Hazardous Chemicals & Waste | (858) 694-7000 | Traffic Signal Maintenance | (619) 527-8650 |
| Health Violations | (619) 338-2222 | Water Emergencies - City & Private | (619) 515-3525 |
| Kearny High Alumni Association | (619) 699-0886 | Weeds | (619) 533-4444 |
| Litter - City Owned/Private Property | (858) 492-5055 | Zoning/Permits - Questions & Violations | (619) 446-5000 |
| Meals On Wheels | (619) 260-6110 | | |
| Neighborhood Code Compliance | (619) 236-5500 | | |
| Barking Dogs, Code Violations, Noise, Safety | | | |



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



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San Diego, CA 92123 E-Mail:
858-277-6572 karla.seyb.stockton@me.com
www.gethsemanesd.org Worship: 8:00, 9:30 a.m.



Serra Mesa Food Pantry has
a drive-thru distribution every
Wednesday from 10am-1pm
at 2650 Melbourne Drive.

Serra Mesa Recreation Center

9020 Village Glen Dr.
(858) 573-1408

Temporarily Closed

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
March 16 & April 20 at 6:30 p.m.



HLAA
Hearing Loss Association of America
San Diego Chapter

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. 3rd Sat of month, Jan to May and Sept
to Dec. Check website for details.
Where: Mission Village Christian Fellowship
2650 Melbourne Drive
San Diego, CA 92123
Cost: FREE <http://www.hearinglosssandiego.org/>



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Native Plants Help Protect Flora and Fauna

Cindy McIntyre, Friends of Ruffin Canyon

With California's rainy season upon us, we may start to see more greening of plants in the neighborhood. Are all plants good for the environment? That is a debatable question, but here are some reasons why native plants are better than non-natives. For some time now, the bee population has been in peril. There are many species of native bees that will pollinate native plant species which in turn provide food for native birds and mammals that live in the canyons of Serra Mesa. If you find bees nesting in the ground, these most likely are native species. Honey bees which pollinate produce tend to be hive bees. Honey bees will also be attracted to native plants.

Plants that have adapted and are native drought tolerant will survive even in the low rain years. Being one of the most biodiverse counties in the world we need these native, drought tolerant species again for those insects, birds, bats and mammals to thrive. If non-natives are allowed to push out the natives, the habitats that the local animals need for survival change and make it harder for them to maintain their existence.



Native Grass species

This native species of grass looks similar to a non-native grass, but has small pink tufts at the end of its blades. It grows about 18 to 24 inches tall and has feathery wisps.

Non-native species



By contrast this non-native species is very invasive and can be seen sprouting up on many street corners and in the canyons of Serra Mesa. If you have this species in your parking strips or yards, we recommend removing it. Again, birds, bees and other native fauna survive on the native species and when crowded out by the non-natives, we endanger their habit and lives.

Franklin Ridge Road Connection Update

Appeal: Filed on May 21, 2020. The appellant brief was filed on December 18, 2020. Next step is for the City to file their brief by March 11th.

Background: 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. A 501(c)3 nonprofit Board, composed of representatives from Civita and Serra Mesa, sued to protect public safety and the quality of life in Civita and Serra Mesa. On January 28, 2020, more than two years later, the San Diego County Superior Court ruled against the environmental lawsuit. The decision supported the City's process.

More information: <http://www.serramesa.org/hot-topics/> (includes appeal, briefs, and judge's ruling) and <https://savecivita.com/>.

By Stopping Teen Dating Violence Now, We Can Prevent Abuse in Adulthood

By Mara W. Elliott

Most of us remember the innocence of dating as teens, and many of us have watched as our own children venture out on their first dates. Despite our own fond memories, there can be a dark side to teen dating that is often not discussed but potentially dangerous: behavior that is aggressive, controlling, or emotionally abusive, and which thrives in secrecy. Victims may be too embarrassed or afraid to tell family or friends, even as the behavior progresses to physical or sexual violence.



Studies have found that unhealthy teen relationships can have a lifelong impact. Often it is a predictor of domestic violence in adult relationships, for aggressor and victim alike. Additionally, many of the behaviors in teen dating violence overlap with sex trafficking, such as the use of power and control, which raises another danger.

As City Attorney, I lead an Office that provides services to victims of domestic and sexual violence and also prosecutes their abusers. We know this phenomenon all too well. That's why we are working to break the cycle of violence by educating teachers, teens, parents, and guardians about this hidden aspect of teen dating.

Our goal is to reach these students – both those being harmed and those causing the harm – and their families before aggression or controlling behaviors occur or escalate into violence, identify the problematic behavior, and help correct it, leading to happier, safer lives. We recently conducted trainings on the importance of healthy relationships, and how to recognize and prevent dangerous ones, in conjunction with the San Diego Domestic Violence Council (SDDVC), the San Diego County Office of Education, the Center for Community Solutions, the Community Resource Center, San Diego Youth Services, San Ysidro Health, and South Bay Community Services.

Our Office, along with the San Diego County Office of Education and community domestic violence partners, is also doing targeted outreach to all middle and high schools with the goal of hosting future trainings. If you'd like to see this training in your school, contact the Teen Dating Violence Subcommittee of the SDDVC at teendv.sddvc@gmail.com.

Locally, one in five San Diego students has experienced emotional violence, one in 10 has experienced sexual violence, and one in 16 has been subjected to physical violence. These rates are more than double for teens who identify as lesbian, gay, or bisexual, according to a 2019 Youth Risk Behavior Survey by the San Diego Unified School District.

In a study by the Centers for Disease Control of adults who were victims of violence or stalking by an intimate partner, 26 percent of the women and 15 percent of the men had first experienced sexual or physical violence before age 18.

At our San Diego Family Justice Center, which provides comprehensive services to those who have experienced domestic violence, sexual assault, and sex trafficking, we see devastating cases every day. Some involve pregnant mothers, disabled children, child abduction, and other circumstances that would break your heart. No one should be forced to endure this kind of pain.

While our Family Justice Center provides victim support services, our Domestic Violence and Sex Crimes Unit continues to aggressively prosecute violent offenders, with recent convictions resulting in significant jail time and requisite counseling.

Many of the victims we serve have a history of abuse, coercion, and exploitation that has led them into a pattern of unhealthy relationships. That's why we're working hard to educate teens about how to foster healthy

relationships as they embark on adulthood.

Anyone who is already experiencing violence in a relationship can find the assistance they need in a safe and supportive setting at the City Attorney's San Diego Family Justice Center. The center provides confidential services, free of charge. Call 619-533-6000 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday - Friday, the 24-hour hotline at 888-385-4657, or visit www.sandiego.gov/fjc.

Here are some additional resources for those who need help or would like to learn more:

- Center for Community Solutions: www.ccssd.org / 888-385-4657
- Community Resource Center: www.crcncc.org / 877-633-1112
- San Diego Youth Services: www.sdyouthservices.org / 619-241-0608
- San Ysidro Health: www.syhteenclinic.org / 619-800-8336
- South Bay Community Services: www.southbaycommunityservices.org / 800-640-2933
- WRC: www.wrcsd.org / 760-757-3500
- National Domestic Violence Hotline: www.thehotline.org / 1-800-799-7233 or 1-800-787-3224 for TTY, or if you're unable to speak safely, text LOVEIS to 22522

Mara W. Elliott is the San Diego City Attorney

79th Assembly District Candidate Forum

The San Diego League of Women Voters has scheduled the forum for March 10, 6:00-7:30 pm. To register for the online forum go to lwvsdforums.org/Mar10. After registering for the forum an email is sent with the link for joining the event and a link for asking questions. The Serra Mesa Community Council is one of the co-sponsors of the forum.

A calendar of free events that the League sponsors is at <https://my.lwv.org/california/san-diego/calendar>. Click on "Event Videos" on the left hand side of the webpage to view taped events.

As of February 23rd the candidates are Marco Contreras, Aeiramique Glass Blake, Leticia Munguia, Shane Suzanne Parmely, and Akilah Weber.

The assemblymember position is vacant because Dr. Shirley Weber, our former representative, is now serving as California's Secretary of State. A special election to fill this position will be held: Primary, April 6; General, June 8. The 79th District includes Serra Mesa, adjacent communities (Mission Valley, Linda Vista, Allied Gardens, Del Cerro), southeastern areas of the city, and parts of La Mesa, Lemon Grove, Bonita, National City, and Chula Vista.

SDSU Mission Valley

Information including construction camera: <https://missionvalley.sdsu.edu/community-updates>. A February 2020 Union Tribune article at <https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/business/growth-development/story/2021-02-19/sdsu-considering-layout-change-for-mission-valley-campus>, indicates that SDSU is requesting bids from firms to reconfigure the office buildings and the parking layout in the Innovation District of the project. An engineering assessment determined that a raised parking deck for 13 buildings for floodplain elevation isn't needed. According to the article this allows the area to be built in phases and developers can contribute to a standalone parking structure or build their own parking. There aren't any proposed changes to the density and parking ratios.

Will this reconfiguration have any parking impact on the Serra Mesa community? As more information becomes available we'll share it. SDSU plans to select the final bidder for the reconfiguration in April. Bid information is at <https://pbsystem.planetbids.com/portal/25796/bo/bo-detail/79767#bidDocs>.

Serra Mesa True History of Our Street Names

by your neighbor Tom Leech

You've resided here a few years (or decades) and live on one of our Serra Mesa streets. And you're at ease when someone asks you what street you live on, and you give them the name. "Hmm," comes the reply, "Why is it called that?" Maybe you give an answer or maybe not. Or it's just an obvious name, and who cares where it originated?

Well, here's your chance to update your smarts about how our street names came about. So when people in the future ask that question, you can give them the true historic real story. Here are just a few, with more out there, check the International Registration of Guaranteed Historic Street Names.com.org

Let's start with our community name, which we know as Serra Mesa. Bet you didn't know it was originally called, e.g. a century ago, "Sarahs May, Suh" (slang for Sir). At that time several women named Sarah had requested the right to vote and got the OK from the then-Mayor (that was a key happening that got women the right to vote, but you likely knew that).



Here are a few more to add to your knowledge base. Let's start with the heart of the community:

- Ruffin Road – Rough Finn, a well-known local politician, was an import from Finland, kind of mean.
- Murray Ridge – Merry Rich, lots of jolly wealthy people lived here, then, that is.
- Fermi – Fear Me? A no-nonsense woman had her home here.
- Pasternack – Past-her-knack, named after the lady who once had a special skill.
- Sandrock – SanderAchh! Neighbors got tired of the wood-finishing business on that street, and expressed their dislike strongly.
- Haveteur Way – Have a Sure Weigh where people went to check the scales to see if they needed to eat less or more.
- Galahad – Locals had a really good time on that street, with many saying the proper grammar should be more like Had a Gala.
- Hurlbut – (Do I need to say?)

Let's next look over at that part of the town across Interstate 805:

- Phyllis Place – Fill This Place (which they then did).
- Abbotshill Rd. – Frequent visitor and Hollywood comedian, Bud Abbott, liked to hike down the hill with his partner Lou somebody.
- Kingsland – The King's Land, named when several immigrants from the British Empire moved in here. A resident whose Great-Great-Great Grandpa had fought in the Revolutionary War made sure that street ID got changed fast.
- Polizzi Place – Pole Easy, after very early stand-up board surfers.
- Salisbury Dr. – Salads Bury, what some restaurateurs did when the salads they prepared were less than delicious.

- Thames Ct. – Spelling never changed, but the original British pronunciation – “tames” – had trouble catching on so they kept the spelling and re-pronounced it as it looks.

Finally, over in the Birdland burg of SM:

- Bobolink Way – Bah Bough-link, originally planned for a golf course, but opposed by local activists who shouted “BAH!”
- Mockingbird – Ma King-bird, home to the hyper-active female bird whose eggs hatched many winged flyers who sang their coos as ma...ma...
- Canary – Can Air-Hee, a small factory here pumped fresh air into a can that made grumps laugh when they sniffed the can, a true cure-all that sold well.
- Pheasant – A place for the annual fun “Fez Hunt,” where kids searched for a tasseled hat hidden among the shrubbery.
- Gateshead – when people entered this road, they often said it reminded them of the young projected Microsoft founder’s top body part.
- Peacock – Can’t find any information.

One final tidbit you likely didn’t know either. After the early Sarah moved elsewhere, the locals gave our burg a new moniker, specifically “Stare Amaze, Huh?,” pronounced as though it was a question. That didn’t last long, though, and after a number of irate locals marched on the San Diego City Council meeting, they got it switched to its current name (remember what that is?)

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

outdoorssd@aol.com, 858-650-0810

Author of *Outdoors San Diego: Hiking, Biking & Camping* and Newest book: *Titillating Tales from the Outhouse* (yes, really!)
books info www.presentationpress.com and amazon.com

Project Proposed for Former Serra Mesa Library

The City Council will be considering a proposal by Community Housing Works’ to build 26 units for chronically homeless youth and young adults on this .336-acre site at 3440 Sandrock Road with on-site case management provided by YMCA Youth and Family Services. The proposal was the result of a competitive Request for Proposal issued in February 2020 by the City’s Real Estate Asset Department (READ) for building supportive housing on sites available to lease.

Contract negotiation is ongoing. After the contract language is finalized (no scheduled date) City Councilmember Raul Campillo’s representative has indicated he will “...request a presentation be done at the Community Council and/or Planning Group from Real Estate Assets.”

Also, the representative is compiling comments on the project to share with the councilmember. Comments can be sent to Vic Vettiyl, vvettiyl@sanidiego.gov. Since the councilmember is voting on the project he can’t take a prior position on the project.

Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Branch Library

(858) 573-1396 [facebook.com/SerraMesaLibrary/](https://www.facebook.com/SerraMesaLibrary/)

Email Questions to weblibrary@sanidiego.gov

Under the guidance of the CA Department of Public Health and San Diego County's Public Health Officer, 12 San Diego Public Library locations are open for limited in-person services Monday – Saturday, 9:30 am to 5:30 pm and will be closed from 1-2 pm for cleaning. Online library services, Contactless Holds Pickup, and all book drops are available to the public. For the most up to date information please visit the Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library Facebook and the San Diego Public Library homepage <https://sanidiego.gov/public-library>

Contactless Pickup Service

While the Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Branch Library is closed for in-person service, we provide access to physical materials through our limited Contactless Pickup Service, as well as at an additional 12 Pickup Service Locations. Place holds at <https://sanidiego.gov/public-library> and find more information and for updates about Contactless Pickup Service at <https://sanidiego.gov/public-library/pickup-service>

Hours: Monday through Saturday 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

All library services will be unavailable between 1-2 p.m. for sanitation break.

Limited In-Person Service

12 locations are now open for limited In-Person Services. For everyone's safety, browsing is not allowed at this time. Limited Services include Computer Usage (up to one hour), Printing, Holds Pickup, Light Reference and Reader's Advisory, Getting/Renewing a Library Card.

Hours: Monday through Saturday 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

All library services will be unavailable between 1-2 p.m. for sanitation break.

Limited In-Person Service Locations:

- | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| • Central | • Logan Heights | • Point Loma/Hervey |
| • Carmel Valley | • Mira Mesa | • Rancho Bernardo |
| • College-Rolando | • Mission Hills-Hillcrest/Knox | • San Ysidro |
| • La Jolla/Riford | • Mission Valley | • Valencia Park/Malcolm X |

List of online library services available for you 24/7:

eBooks, eAudiobooks and Digital Magazines: take a look at our eLibrary resource, we've got some new resources for the kids and adults <https://sanidiego.gov/eLibrary>

Online Book Clubs <https://sanidiego.gov/bookclubs>

Videos: <https://sanidiego.gov/public-library/program-videos>

Learn Bicycle Repair & Maintenance

Library Opera Insights Series: a series of free lectures for the community by San Diego Opera and UC San Diego

Virtual Hub: virtual library media collection <https://sanidiego.gov/sdplvirtual>

Tax Preparation Assistance

There will be no tax preparation at any San Diego Public Library locations by any organizations. For tax preparation assistance call 2-1-1 or go to 211sandiego.org/taxes to see if you qualify and make an appointment at a local Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) site. For AARP call 888-687-2277 or go to aarpfoundation.org/taxaide. Or visit myfreetaxes.org to file your taxes on your own.

The Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Branch Library carries the California State Tax Forms 540, 540EZ, and 540 NR. The Federal 1040 and 1040SR forms are available at the Central Library (619-236-5800) and the North University Community Library (858-581-9637). We recommend calling ahead to check on availability.

Virtual Monday Morning Storytime with Ms. Carrie

Join Ms. Carrie, on Zoom, Monday mornings at 10am for virtual stories, songs, and fun that foster early literacy skills.

Register at <https://sandiego.librarymarket.com/events/virtual-monday-morning-storytime-ms-carrie-22>. When you register for one storytime, you will receive an email with the Meeting Room and Passcode good for storytimes until March 29th, so you do not need to register for each session.

Serra Mesa Book Club

Join the Serra Mesa Book Club virtually on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm. For registration, contact library staff at smstaff@sandiego.gov

March 9th will discuss *How It All Began* by Penelope Lively and April 13th will discuss *The Spy and the Traitor: The Greatest Espionage Story of the Cold War* by Ben Macintyre.

Library NExT 2021

In partnership with Sally Ride Science, Middle Schoolers can sign up for the VIRTUAL BEGINNER'S SKETCHUP: DESIGNING 3-D GRAPHICS program, which will take place on Saturday, March 2 from 11:00-12:30pm. In this class, with SketchUp Make 3D Modeling, students will use the familiar pencil-and-paper paradigm in a software context to create 3-dimensional graphic models. For more information and to register, visit <https://sandiego.librarymarket.com/events/virtual-beginners-sketchup-designing-3-d-graphics-4>

Serra Mesa Natural Gas Pipeline Replacement Project

The construction of new pipeline along Sandrock Road, Murray Ridge Road, Raejean Avenue, Greyling Drive and Sandmark Avenue has been successfully completed. For more information go to sdge.com/psep or call 1-866-382-0886.

Sidewalk near Sandrock & Glenhaven Street: When asked about the asphalt on this sidewalk Kevin O'Beirne, SDG&E representative for the pipeline replacement project, replied "...the location in the City sidewalk at Sandrock & Glenhaven contains a regulator station below surface. There is a part that is due to be delivered sometime over the next month (I believe) and it will then be installed on the reg station. In the meantime, for safety, the crews patched the sidewalk with asphalt as a temporary situation. Once the final piece is in place, the sidewalk will be repaved with concrete."



THE SAN DIEGO WATERCOLOR SOCIETY

Contact: Susan Wormsley, Communications Director

Phone: 858-750-6477

Email: communications@sdws.org

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Serra Mesa Artist Wins Third Place

Melodie Tune, an artist and resident of Serra Mesa, San Diego, California, won the Best of Theme award in the extraordinarily competitive January 2021 Member's exhibition "Values Matter" held virtually in January 2021, on *The San Diego Watercolor Society* website, www.sdws.org. Tune's painting entitled "Parcel 2" was selected by internationally known juror Laurin McCracken for this honor, out of nearly 300 entries. McCracken said of the painting, "This is an image that has been painted a million times over, but not just like this. Here the rolling landscape is laid out in myriad Layers of the Value of the land – Layers of Color, Texture and Distance. It is a small painting with a big story to tell."

Melodie is originally from Chicago. She landed in San Diego 18 years ago by way of Lincoln, NE and Seattle, WA. She received both her Bachelor of Fine Arts and Master of Fine Arts from the University of Nebraska, Lincoln. Her MFA emphasized printmaking (mostly monoprints), papermaking, and watercolor. In graduate school she worked part time for the National Park Service in their Archeology division doing cartography and artifact illustration. This experience developed into a 40-year career as a graphic designer and illustrator, much of it with a scientific emphasis. In addition to the Park Service, Melodie worked for NOAA in Seattle, the University of Washington, and finally San Diego State University. Since retirement in 2016, she has been working to sharpen up her skills in fine arts, taking workshops and classes at SDWS and Art on 30th. In addition to having work accepted into the last three SDWS shows, two of her mixed media pieces were selected for shows at Art on 30th.

The Virtual Exhibit will run through Saturday January 30, 2021 on The San Diego Watercolor Society's website at www.sdws.org where the paintings can be both viewed and purchased from the Online Store.

ABOUT SAN DIEGO WATERCOLOR SOCIETY

The San Diego Watercolor Society, a 501(C)(3) non-profit organization founded in 1965, is dedicated to expanding the appreciation of and involvement in watermedia painting through education, exhibition and promotion. More information can be found at <http://www.sdws.org>



"Parcel 2 " by Melodie Tune
Mixed media, 5.875" x 6.75 in

Image courtesy of San Diego Watercolor Society

CONTACT INFORMATION –Carla Scheidlinger communications@sdws.org

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Notice of SMPG Board Election

via Google Survey

Serra Mesa Planning Group meets monthly on the third Thursday of each month, 7 pm,
at Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, 9005 Aero Drive or via Microsoft Teams.

Candidacy deadline: March 6th, 2021

Vote between: March 7th and March 14th, 2021

Next Regular SMPG Meeting: March 18th, 2021 7p-9p

via Microsoft Teams

[Link will be emailed 72 hours prior to meeting](#)

[Join on your computer or mobile app](#)

Voting Eligibility

Over 18. Property Owner, Resident, or Business Owner in Serra Mesa

If you do not receive SMPG emails please sign up at

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

A ballot will be emailed to you.

Board Member Eligibility

Over 18. Property Owner, Resident, or Business Owner in Serra Mesa

*and have attended 2 meetings in the last 6 months

Anyone interested in joining the board email

smpg@serramesa.org by the March 6th deadline

Become a board member. Get involved!

***Volunteers for SMPG board membership, must take COW training covering the Brown Act on the San Diego City website, link below:**

Electronic Community Orientation Workshop (E-COW)

Take the  [Electronic Community Orientation Workshop online](#)

***Please review the SMPG Bylaws at**

<https://www.sandiego.gov/planning/community/cpg/bylaws>

-  [Serra Mesa](#)

Requirements for SMPG Positions:

Board Member- Attend Monthly Meetings, 2 year commitment.

Chair- Attend Meetings, plan and produce Monthly Agenda for distribution, Distribute Minute and Agendas through Constant Contact email program, Monitor and reply to SMPG emails, Attend CPC meetings on the 4th Tuesday of the Month with other San Diego Community Group Chairs.

File Annual Roster, Annual Report and Annual Expenses (including receipts from the Serra Mesa Community Council) with the City of San Diego Planning Department.

Vice Chair- Attend Meetings, Step in a lead meetings or take notes in absence of Chair or Secretary, keep attendance records and set up and run elections, Alternate for attending CPC meetings

Secretary- Attend Meetings, Note taking and meetings, produce Monthly Minutes for distribution

If you are interested please reply with your:

- 1. Name**
- 2. Address**
- 3. Phone number**
- 4. Elementary school you are assigned to**

Next scheduled meetings March 18th, 2021 and April 15th, 2021

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

Dated Material



SERRA MESA FOOD PANTRY

Has a Drive-Thru distribution every
Wednesdays 10:00-1:00 p.m.

Located at Mission Village Christian Fellowship
2650 Melbourne Drive 92123
858-278-2647