

## Serra Mesa Village



If you are 55+ and looking for some excitement, come join us. We are a group of Serra Mesans who intend to age in the homes we love. It is our desire to provide purpose and social engagement with folks who have time and want a fulfilling experience.

To contact us, click on [www.serramesavillage.org](http://www.serramesavillage.org)

Go to page 8 for the article



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

You are invited to participate in the

**Serra Mesa Community Council**

Wednesday, November 24

6:30 p.m.

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

**Serra Mesa Community Council**

Wednesday, December 22

6:30 p.m.

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

Neighborhoodly People  
and Friendly Businesses  
Living and Working Together

### ELECTED OFFICIALS

Board of Education Kevin Beiser	(619) 725-5550	State Senator Toni G. Atkins	(619) 645-3133
City Councilmember Raul Campillo	(619) 236-6677	Governor Gavin Newsom	(619) 525-4641
Mayor Todd Gloria	(619) 236-6330	U.S. Representative Sara Jacobs	(619) 280-5353
County Supervisor Nathan Fletcher	(619) 531-5544	U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein	(619) 231-9712
State Assembly Member Akilah Weber, MD	(619) 531-7913	U.S. Senator Alex Padilla	(619) 239-3884

#### Serra Mesa Community Council Board - Officers

Carl Demas.....	(858) 565-2473*
<i>President</i>	
Cindy Moore.....	(858) 565-2473*
<i>Vice President</i>	
Andrea Eaton.....	(858) 565-2473*
<i>Treasurer/Community Events</i>	
Cindy McIntyre .....	(858) 565-2473*
<i>Secretary</i>	

#### Board Members

Tom Leech.....	(858)565-2473*
<i>Current Issues</i>	
Cindy McIntyre.....	(858)565-2473*
<i>Education Committee</i>	
Sam Yoeuth.....	(858) 565-2473*
<i>Friends of the Library</i>	
Rebecca Moreno .....	(858)565-2473*
<i>Local Business Coordinator</i>	
Jon Cima.....	(858)565-2473*
<i>SMRC/SMPPAG</i>	
Yusuf Nazar.....	(858)565-2473*
<i>Special Projects/SMPPG</i>	

#### Appointed Positions

Myra Webb.....	(858)565-2473*
<i>Serra Mesa Email Directory</i>	
Ronda Adams.....	(858)565-2473*
<i>Observer Editor</i>	
Geralyn White.....	(858)565-2473*
<i>Neighborhood Awareness</i>	
Colin Dowling .....	(858)565-2473*
<i>Webmaster</i>	

#### Key Serra Mesa Volunteers

Catherine Stempel .....	(858)565-2473*
<i>SMPPG President</i>	
Monica Fuentes .....	(858)565-2473*
<i>Friends of Ruffin Canyon</i>	
Kristine Webb .....	(858)565-2473*
<i>Serra Mesa Food Pantry</i>	
Karl Doering .....	(858)565-2473*
<i>SM Community Garden &amp; Orchard</i>	

#### 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	

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

### CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

Nov 3	Friends of Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library 5:30 p.m., Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, Sudberry Room
Nov 6	Friends of Ruffin Canyon Cleanup 9:00 a.m., Shawn Avenue entrance to Ruffin Canyon
Nov 16	Serra Mesa Recreation Center Council Meeting 6:30 p.m., 9020 Village Glen Drive
Nov 18	Serra Mesa Village Connection 3:30 p.m., Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, Community Rm
Nov 18	Serra Mesa Planning Group 7 p.m., Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, Community Room
Nov 20	Hearing Loss Association of America (San Diego) Meeting 10:30 a.m., Mission Village Christian Fellowship
Nov 24	Friends of Ruffin Canyon 5:30 p.m., Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, Community Rm
Nov 24	Serra Mesa Community Council 6:30 p.m., Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, Community Rm
Dec 4	Friends of Ruffin Canyon Cleanup 9:00 a.m., Shawn Avenue entrance to Ruffin Canyon
Dec 18	Hearing Loss Association of America (San Diego) Meeting 10:30 a.m., Mission Village Christian Fellowship
Dec 21	Serra Mesa Recreation Center Council Meeting 6:30 p.m., 9020 Village Glen Drive
Dec 16	Serra Mesa Village Connection 3:30 p.m., Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, Community Rm
Dec 16	Serra Mesa Planning Group 7 p.m., Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, Community Room
Dec 22	Friends of Ruffin Canyon 5:30 p.m., Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, Community Rm
Dec 22	Serra Mesa Community Council Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, Community Rm
Jan 1	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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**Serra Mesa Observer** is published bimonthly  
by the Serra Community Council

Annual fees: Household...\$15 Sponsor...\$25 Benefactor...\$50

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

**Articles, Ideas, & Upcoming Events for the Observer**  
are welcome. Editor reserves right to edit articles.

For articles, e-mail Ronda Adams - rondakadams@msn.com

**Deadline:** January / February 2022 Edition...December 24th.

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 vaccines exist, most eligible folks can get it. There are still problems, but except for some variants, things are improving. Finally, businesses are opening, and we are slowly returning to "normal." At last, the elections are over, new representatives are in place, impeachments are concluded, and hopefully history.

While we have a lot of time to think, we have so much to be thankful for. Media 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 options for courses and experiences through travel sites. I watch the weather patterns across the US and am glad 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 is 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 can 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 want to recommend that you support our local businesses as they 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](http://www.serramesa.org), clicking on the 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." The link gets you on our confidential contact list.

Stay well.

Carl Demas, Current Council President

Holy Angels Byzantine Catholic Church

2235 Galahad Road  
San Diego, CA 92123  
Phone: (858) 277-2511

Fr. James Bankston  
Administrator

pastorhasd@gmail.com  
[www.holyangelssandiego.com](http://www.holyangelssandiego.com)  
Facebook: Holy Angels Byzantine Catholic Church



All are Welcome!

## Holy Angels Ethnic Foods

858-268-3458

2235 Galahad Rd • San Diego, CA 92123-3931

Open 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM Friday - Tuesday  
(Closed Wed & Thurs)

Please always call before coming

Ethnic Foods Available

Kolbasi - Holubki - Kolachi - Pirohi - Rozky  
Other seasonal items



## Standing up for Those Who Can't Care for Themselves

By Mara W. Elliott

We rely on hospitals to care for us in our times of greatest need. We entrust them with our lives when we're at our most vulnerable, and we expect that they will put the health and safety of patients first. Hospitals break that trust when they illegally discharge gravely disabled patients in need of care.

Patient dumping is unethical and it is illegal. That's why my Office sued Scripps Health for releasing from their hospital a 68-year-old man whom a court had determined was so gravely disabled that he could not care for his own basic personal needs.

He was hospitalized after being found naked, disheveled, and delusional during a welfare check by the City Attorney's Office on residents of a substandard and unsafe College Area independent living facility where tenants are supposed to live independently.

Based on the victim's condition, a judge ordered that he be placed in a secured facility, and that no lesser level of care would suffice. Contrary to the court's order, Scripps Health discharged the victim to a group home to fend for himself. The victim, who suffers from mental illness and hallucinations, was expected to manage his own prescriptions, keep medical and psychiatric appointments, and arrange for his own transportation.

After his discharge, our investigators found him sick and isolated, with no way to get to his doctors' appointments or understand which medications to take.

Our investigator and victim services coordinator quickly stepped in to provide him clothing and hygiene items, help him dress, and arrange transportation to medical care. They worked with his case manager to secure his placement in a skilled nursing facility where his medical needs are being met in a safe and clean setting.

Scripps Health did not have an effective discharge plan for this victim and did not transfer or refer him to an appropriate facility for follow-up care. Our Office is seeking an injunction prohibiting Scripps Health from continuing these practices, and civil penalties of at least \$1 million, which will be used to prevent other such cases from occurring. Our ultimate goal is to get Scripps Health to follow the law.

In bringing this action, we want to ensure that all San Diego hospitals understand their duties under the law. That's why my Office wrote a letter to remind each hospital that patient dumping is illegal and will not be tolerated. My Office will investigate and hold accountable facilities that:

- fail to have an effective discharge planning process
- fail to transport patients to proper outpatient facilities
- fail to provide a written after-care plan for mental health patients prior to discharge
- fail to have a patient or representative make informed decisions regarding care
- fail to have social services staff participate in discharge and after-care planning
- fail to have a process for reevaluating the patient's condition to identify necessary changes to the discharge plan

I am determined to stop this disgraceful practice in San Diego. Our most vulnerable residents are the most deserving of our compassion and care.

Community members are encouraged to report instances of patient dumping to the City Attorney's Office by emailing [CityAttorney@sandiego.gov](mailto:CityAttorney@sandiego.gov).



## **IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS**

### **Abandoned Vehicles &**

Police Non-Emergency	(619) 531-2000
Airport Noise - Montgomery Airfield	(858) 573-1436
Animal Control-Incorporated S.D.	(619) 299-7012
Bus & Trolley Schedules	(619) 233-3004
Canyon Cleanup	(619) 533-4411
Child Abuse Hotline	(858) 560-2191
City Clerk - Docket Information	(619) 533-4000
Crime - General Business	(619) 531-2000
Crime Stoppers	(619) 235-8477
Dead <b>Animal Removal</b> stay online	(858) 694-7000
Emergency Information - Earthquake	(858) 565-3490
Fallen Trees	(858) 527-7500
Fire Department - Non-emergency	(619) 533-4300
Flies & Vermin	(858) 694-2888
Graffiti	(619) 525-8522
Hazardous Chemicals & Waste	(858) 694-7000
Health Violations	(619) 338-2222
Kearny High Alumni Association	(619) 699-0886
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

Police Department - Eastern Division	(858) 495-7900
Post Office	(800) 275-8777
Poison Control Center	(800) 876-4766
Rape /Domestic Violence Hotline	(858) 272-1767
RSVP (Retired Seniors Volunteer Patrol)	(858) 495-7990
SDG&E Emergencies	(800) 411-7343
Senior Citizen Services	(619) 236-6905
Serra Mesa Library	(858) 573-1396
Serra Mesa Recreation Center	(858) 573-1408
Sidewalk Repair	(619) 527-7500
Stolen Property/Bicycles - To Report	(619) 531-2000
Storm Drain Misuse	(619) 235-1000
Street Repair - Faded signs, pavement	(619) 527-7500
Traffic Signal Maintenance	(619) 527-8650
Water Emergencies - City & Private	(619) 515-3525
Weeds	(619) 533-4444
Zoning/Permits - Questions & Violations	(619) 446-5000

## **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

<http://www.ayso780.org>

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  
<http://www.serramesalittleleague.org>

Serra Mesa Recreation Council meets on  
November 16 & December 21 at 6:30 p.m.



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



### **St. Columba Parish**

3327 Glencolum Drive

San Diego, CA 92123

(858) 277-3863

[www.stcolumbasandiego.com](http://www.stcolumbasandiego.com)

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

## End of the Year Donation?

Are you trying to decide on a worthwhile organization for an end of the year donation? The Serra Mesa Community Council (SMCC), a 501(c)3 non-profit, uses donations to help pay for the annual fee for the website and the email account (Constant Contact) services. The SMCC website provides information on the Serra Mesa Planning Group, Serra Mesa Village, Friends of Ruffin Canyon, Friends of Serra Mesa/Kearny Mesa Library, and Serra Mesa Recreation Advisory Group. These community groups use the Constant Contact service to distribute community news. Consequently, a donation to SMCC helps multiple community organizations that are dedicated to providing local services. The online form for donations is at [www.serramesa.org/smcc-donation/](http://www.serramesa.org/smcc-donation/).

**Observer Ads:** The other source of revenue for SMCC is Observer advertisements. The Observer is published bi-monthly and displayed at [www.serramesa.org/smcc/observer-newsletter/](http://www.serramesa.org/smcc/observer-newsletter/). If you have a business or know of one that could use inexpensive and easy to place advertising, go to the above link for more information.



## Franklin Ridge Road Connection Update

**Appeal:** Filed on May 21, 2020. The appellant's brief was filed on December 18, 2020; City's brief, April 9, 2021; appellant's reply brief, July 12, 2021; Court of Appeal request for additional questions, September 3, 2021; appellant's response letter and City's response letter, September 17, 2021. The online court hearing is scheduled for November 9, 9 am. More information about the hearing as it becomes available will be posted at <http://www.serramesa.org/hot-topics/>.

**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 ruling) and <https://savecivita.com/>.

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## Immigrant-Based Support Program Helps Students Integrate into America's Workforce

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Written By: Allura Garis

Armando Carignan wanted to live in the United States (US) since he was five years old. He watched hundreds of hours of American comedy, admiring the nation's culture, language, and the possibility of a good career.

"I never thought I could because I'm Mexican," said Carignan, 46.

The Immigrant-based Support program (ISP) at San Diego College of Continuing Education (SDCCE) paired with free English as a Second Language (ESL), Citizenship, and High School Diploma/Equivalency courses is helping immigrants and refugees increase their earnings and apply for college.

For fifteen years, Carignan worked as a bank fraud investigator in Mexico. He holds a bachelor's degree in law from the Autonomous University of Baja California.

In 2019, he left his job to move to San Diego seeking a better future for his wife and son. Even with his college education and skills, he is not permitted to practice law in the US.

"I was looking for employment with a bank but could not find success for a few years," said Carignan.

As the first family member to arrive in the states, Carignan bought a used car to earn an income through Uber as a driver while taking High School Diploma/Equivalency classes at SDCCE to improve his English language fluency.

While a student at SDCCE Carignan joined the ISP, an on-campus program designed for adult students who are immigrants, refugees, and English learners. ISP offers referrals for free health and legal assistance, a bilingual WhatsApp group chat where students share resources with one another from job announcements to free food distribution locations, and a pipeline to apply for the San Diego Promise scholarship.

Carignan is currently enrolled in the Social Work Master Track Certificate program at the University of Michigan. He also helps lead SDCCE's ISP as a peer mentor with Counselor Sheyla Castillo.

"Now imagine someone who didn't finish high school, who is trying to come to the US and is not a part of a community or the organization," he asks. "The ISP is for them."

To learn more visit, [SDCCE.EDU](https://SDCCE.EDU).







## Serra Mesa Village Newsletter

The Serra Mesa Village has been meeting via zoom and we wish to thank Sue Gold and Barbara Horton for hosting for the last 1 ½ years. We will continue to meet on Zoom every Thursday at 1 PM. And should you like to join us, contact us to receive an invitation link. We are just starting to meet in person and current events include:

Travel Trips hosted by Bill Horton – We meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of every month. While no trip is planned for November, we will meet in December at the Serra Mesa Kearny Library at 10 AM to carpool to the Hotel Del Coronado to view the Christmas trees and do some Holiday shopping.

The Serra Mesa Ceramic Group meets every Wednesday at the Serra Mesa Recreation Center from 12:30 – 4:30 PM. The program is designed for seniors 55+ but if you have ceramic skills and are willing to share those skills, you are welcome to join us for some creative fun. Class size is limited so let us know if you will be attending.

The Serra Mesa Village Classic Movie Group meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday from 1-4 PM. We meet at Holy Angels Byzantine Church. Our host and film director is Al Smith and he has a list of movies to see this season including: Bambi, War And Peace, Harry Potter, Jungle Book, Bridge Over The River Kwai, Blue Hawaii, Fox and Hound, Glory, and Chicago.

As the Serra Mesa/Kearny Mesa Library is opening on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, we will be holding General Meetings on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday from 2-4PM at the Serra Mesa Library and invite you to join us for a program on memory, some fellowship, and a word of encouragement from fellow Villagers. Rosa Kwon will also be available to tell us what is happening at the Library as they launch new programs.

If you are 55+ and looking for some excitement, come join us. We are a group of Serra Mesans who intend to age in the homes we love. It is our desire to provide purpose and social engagement with folks who have time and want a fulfilling experience.

To contact us, click on [www.serramesavillage.org](http://www.serramesavillage.org)





### Serra Mesa Little League News: Spring Registration is coming!

The holiday season is here, which means Spring baseball is right around the corner. We are gearing up for another fun and exciting season of Little League Baseball in our community.

#### Spring Registration

Registration for the Spring 2022 season is coming soon, please visit our website/Facebook page for more information: [www.serramesalittleleague.org](http://www.serramesalittleleague.org).

Baseball activities will be commencing in February and continue through May.

The Spring Baseball Divisions include Tee Ball (ages 4-5), Rookies (ages 5-6), CAPS (ages 7-8), Minors (ages 9-10), Majors (ages 11-12) and Juniors (ages 13-14).

#### Calling all Volunteers

As an all-volunteer league, we are reliant on our community members for support throughout the season. Whether you are a grandparent, a parent fondly recalling your child playing Little League, or simply a proud member of our community, we would love to have you join the 2022 Little League family. We have several opportunities to help, from coaching to helping with field maintenance and more. Please contact [serramesalittleleague@outlook.com](mailto:serramesalittleleague@outlook.com) to find out more.

#### Support Little League Baseball in Serra Mesa

Are you looking to promote your company or service? Sponsorship of Serra Mesa Little League is a great way to let the community know about what you offer and that you support youth sports. Start your sponsorship before the season starts to take advantage of all the promotional opportunities, including field banner, logo on our website and more. To learn more visit our website at [www.serramesalittleleague.org](http://www.serramesalittleleague.org) and click on Sponsorships.



**OFFICE**  
2650 Melbourne Drive  
San Diego, CA 92123  
858.278.2633  
[missionvillage1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:missionvillage1@sbcglobal.net)  
[www.missionvillage.church](http://www.missionvillage.church)

**STEVE DEVOS, PASTOR**  
Cell: 858.829.2097  
[stevedevos79@gmail.com](mailto:stevedevos79@gmail.com)

#### SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE 9:30 AM

Adult Sunday School	8:30 a.m.
Children's Sunday School	10:00 a.m.
Zoom Prayer Meeting—Tuesday	7:00 p.m.
Youth Group—Wednesday	6:30 p.m.
Small Group Study & Home Fellowship	
Groups at Various times through the week	

*We pray for peace and well-being of the Serra Mesa community*



#### Pastor Karla Seyb-Stockton

2696 Melbourne Drive  
San Diego, CA 92123  
858-277-6572  
[www.gethsemanesd.org](http://www.gethsemanesd.org)

Cell: 858-883-8038  
E-Mail:  
[karla.seyb.stockton@me.com](mailto:karla.seyb.stockton@me.com)  
Worship: 8:00, 9:30 a.m.

## Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Branch Library

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

Email Questions to [SMstaff@san-diego.gov](mailto:SMstaff@san-diego.gov)

### Holiday Closures

All San Diego Public Library Locations will be closed

Thursday, November 11 in observance of Veterans' Day

Thursday, November 25 in observance of Thanksgiving Day

Friday, December 24 and Saturday, December 25 in observance of Christmas Day

### Limited Hours In-Person/Contactless Pickup Service

The Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Branch Library is open for in-person service on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. On Monday and Thursday-Saturday we provide access to physical materials through our limited Contactless Pickup Service. Place holds at <https://sandiego.gov/public-library> and find more information and for updates about Contactless Pickup Service and In-Person Service at <https://www.sandiego.gov/public-library/in-person-library-services>

#### In Person Services

Tuesday  
11:30-8:00  
Wednesday  
9:30-6:00

#### Contactless Pickup

Monday  
11:30-8:00  
Thursday-Saturday  
9:30-6:00

### In-Person Service

29 locations are now open 6 days a week for In-Person Services. Available Services include Item Checkout, Computer Usage, Printing, Holds Pickup, Reference, Browsing, Study Rooms, and Library Account Assistance.

Hours: Monday and Tuesday 11:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Wednesday through Saturday 9:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

### In-Person Service Locations:

- Allied Gardens/Benjamin
- Balboa
- Carmel Mountain Ranch
- Carmel Valley
- Central
- City Heights
- College-Rolando
- Kensington
- La Jolla/Riford
- Linda Vista
- Logan Heights
- Mira Mesa
- Mission Hills-Hillcrest/Knox
- Mission Valley
- North Park
- North University Community
- Otay Mesa-Nestor
- Pacific Beach
- Paradise Hills
- Point Loma/Hervey
- Rancho Bernardo
- Rancho Penasquitos
- San Carlos
- San Ysidro
- Scripps Miramar Ranch
- Tierrasanta
- University Heights
- Valencia Park/Malcolm X

### Online library services available 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://sandiego.gov/eLibrary>
- Kanopy: Free access to movies with your library card <https://sandiegopl.kanopy.com/>
- Online Book Clubs <https://sandiego.gov/bookclubs>
- Videos: <https://sandiego.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://sandiego.gov/sdpl/virtual>

### **Virtual Wednesday Morning Storytime with Ms. Carrie**

Join Ms. Carrie, on Zoom, Wednesday mornings at 10:00am for virtual stories, songs, and fun that foster early literacy skills. Register at <https://sandiego.librarymarket.com/events/virtual-wednesday-morning-storytime-ms-carrie-18> When you register for one storytime, you will receive an email with the Meeting Room and Passcode good for storytimes until December 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](mailto:smstaff@sandiego.gov). November 9th will discuss The Giver of Stars by Jojo Moyes followed by selecting the 2022 book titles and December 14th will discuss Empire Builder by Sandra Bonura.

### **Library NExT 2021**

In partnership with Sally Ride Science, check out this series of workshops for elementary, middle and high school students on topics including robotics, circuits, coding, and 64 + other STEAM subjects. <https://www.sandiego.gov/librarynext> for more information and to view the current workshop schedule.

### **Friends of the Library Donations**

The Friends of the Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library are currently accepting book donations on Mondays from 4:00-8:00pm. Stay tune for news about upcoming used book sales by visiting <https://www.facebook.com/SerraMesaLibrary>

### **Friends of the Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library Meeting. November 3, 2021, 6:00 p.m.**

Community members are welcome to join, become a member, and discuss ways to support the library. This meeting will be held in the library's Community Room. Masks will be required for unvaccinated individuals ages 2+.

### **In-N-Out Cover to Cover Program October 2 to November 13, 2021**

Children ages 4-12 can join the In-N-Out Cover to Cover program and receive a free hamburger for reading 5 books and can earn up to 3 certificates. For more information and to sign up, visit [www.SanDiegoLibrary.org](http://www.SanDiegoLibrary.org).

### **Kamishibai Storytime. November 5, 4:00 p.m.**

Join Write Out Loud for a telling of International Folktales using the traditional Japanese kamishibai, or paper theater. With a wooden box, illustrations & a great narrator to tell the story, kiddos will be in for a treat! This program will be held in the library's Community Room. Masks will be required for unvaccinated individuals ages 2+. Restroom facilities will be available, but library services will be limited to contactless pickup only. For more information check out <https://sandiego.librarymarket.com/events/rebellious-miss-breed-kamishibai>





## Serra Mesa Planning Group News

The Serra Mesa Planning Group (SMPG) is officially recognized by the City and makes recommendations on land use issues to the City. SMPG meets the third Thursday of the month, 7 pm, at the Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, 9005 Aero Drive. If possible, a virtual option for meetings will be provided and announced on the agenda and in the email distribution. Next meetings: November 18 and December 16. When there isn't an agenda item a meeting cancellation notice is sent to anyone who has signed up at [www.serramesa.org/](http://www.serramesa.org/). To contact us, email [smpg@serramesa.org](mailto:smpg@serramesa.org).

**Board Openings** – There are three openings on the Board. Anyone who is at least 18 years old, affiliated with the community as a property owner, resident of Serra Mesa, or a local Serra Mesa business person and who has attended two SMPG meetings in the last six months is eligible to be elected. The City provides training. See [www.sandiego.gov/planning/community/resources](http://www.sandiego.gov/planning/community/resources).

**Vice Chair Position** – Chris Rosemond was elected to fill the position vacated by David Simms, resigned due to scheduling conflict with work obligations.

**SMPG Position Statement on Redistricting** – Motion passed that SMPG support the position regarding redistricting that all of Serra Mesa (including the Birdland area) and Kearny Mesa be incorporated into one City Council district as described in the September 2021 Serra Mesa Community Council letter sent to the Redistricting Commission. For more information refer to the SMCC letter and the Redistricting article in this edition.

**Capital Improvement Project** – Motion passed that SMPG submit a Capital Improvements (CIP) budget project in the amount of \$105,000 to fund the purchase of an unleaded fuel tank at Montgomery-Gibbs Executive Airport for the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

### Synopsis of Background Information from Presentation

#### Current Situation

- Montgomery airport operations create more than a ton of toxic lead pollution annually because only leaded gas is offered.
- Unleaded fuel (UL94) is available from Swift Fuels, which can be used by majority of general aviation (GA) piston driven planes. A minority of general aviation planes have high compression engines and require leaded aviation fuel so two fuel storage tanks (leaded and unleaded) needed.

#### Impact of Leaded Gas

- World Health Organization and other health professionals have found that no amount of exposure to lead is safe. Lead (Pb), a neurotoxin, is especially damaging to children because it replaces calcium in their growing bodies. That causes damage to their brain and nervous system, slowed growth and development, learning and behavior problems, and hearing and speech problems. There are at least 16 facilities that serve children (10 are schools) within a mile or so radius of Montgomery-Gibbs Executive Airport.

#### Studies

- A 2011 Duke University study found that children living within 500 meters of an airport where leaded Avgas is used had elevated blood lead levels.
- Study commissioned by the County of Santa Clara conducted at Reid-Hillview Airport in San Jose, where planes fill up with leaded fuel, found children in the surrounding area are experiencing high blood lead levels similar to those of children in Flint, Michigan, during the peak of its water crisis. The Reid-Hillview Airport study concluded those raised blood lead levels are directly attributable to leaded aviation fuel. Reid-Hillview Airport ranks 34th in the Top Lead Producing Airports in the nation, but Montgomery-Gibbs Executive Airport ranks 11th.

- A study by MIT researchers found that annual IQ losses directly attributed to leaded aviation fuel result in about \$1 billion in damages from lifetime earnings reductions, with an additional \$0.5 billion in economy-wide losses due to decreases in productivity.

#### Conclusion

- Lead pollution from leaded aviation fuel is also finding its way into the vulnerable bodies of children who live in Serra Mesa and other nearby communities.
- Lead can also cause long-term harm in adults, including increased risk of high blood pressure and kidney damage. Exposure of pregnant women to high levels of lead can cause miscarriage, stillbirth, premature birth and low birth weight.

## Redistricting And Serra Mesa

The City of San Diego's charter requires the establishment of a Redistricting Commission to specify district boundaries following the completion of the U.S. Census. To receive Redistricting Commission updates sign up at <https://www.sandiego.gov/redistricting-commission>. Also, the website provides links for supporting documents (e.g., population tables and maps).

Currently District 7 includes the communities of Allied Gardens, Del Cerro, Grantville, Linda Vista, Mission Valley, San Carlos, Serra Mesa, and Tierrasanta.

**Criteria for redrawing the lines** (adapted/copied from website):

- Equal population— each council district contain 1/9 of the city's population
- Continuity – council districts should be composed of continuous territory
- Geographically compact – nearby areas of population aren't bypassed for more distant populations
- Communities of interest – preserve communities who have similar concerns
- Reasonable access between population centers
- Natural boundaries – bounded by natural boundaries, street lines, and/or City boundary lines.

**History:** The Serra Mesa Planning Group (SMPG) during the 2011 redistricting process advocated for the following: "Serra Mesa and Kearny Mesa should be considered as one due to natural boundaries, compact geography, shared and unique resource of Montgomery Field Airport, shared library, shared retail areas, and shared history; originally made up one Community Plan."

**Position Statement:** The Serra Mesa Community Council sent a letter to the Redistricting Commission in September 2021 requesting that all of Serra Mesa (including the Birdland area) and Kearny Mesa be incorporated into one City Council district. The letter and map are included in this Observer edition.

**Representation:** A Serra Mesa Community Council board representative has attended online Redistricting Commission meetings and provided verbal and written feedback regarding SMCC's position. The representative has asked the commission to correct preliminary maps that incorrectly incorporated many Birdland streets into Mission Valley instead of Serra Mesa.

**Preliminary Map:** The preliminary map is at <https://www.sandiego.gov/redistricting-commission/meetings>.

#### Timeline:

- November 4 – Commission votes on Preliminary Map, provided by consultant, HaystaqDNA, and submits to City Clerk
- Commission holds 5 public hearings on Preliminary Map
- Around December 15 – Commission votes on Final Map; submits map to Registrar of Voters



## New Facilities Coming to Taft Middle School - **Pardon Our Dust!**

Serra Mesa neighbors, **new facilities are on the way to Taft Middle School!**

The San Diego Unified School District is starting construction on a new **student makerspace, a student and community joint-use park, and campuswide improvements to graphics and signage.**

As part of the Play All Day partnership with the City of San Diego, the joint-use park at the Gramercy Drive campus will be accessible to the community as a local park after school hours and during school breaks.

These projects are part of San Diego Unified's capital improvement program, with contributions from the City of San Diego for the joint-use park.



The City of  
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## Construction Begins!

- The joint-use park will include a grass playfield, a walking/running track, hardcourts for pickleball, tennis and basketball, newly planted trees, exercise equipment, a drinking fountain, a new parking lot with an access road west of the gymnasium, secure perimeter fencing and security lighting.
- The new student makerspace will include a roll up door that leads to the outdoor courtyard space south of the makerspace classroom. The existing restroom in the student services building will also be upgraded for student use.
- Our contractors will follow social distancing and safety guidance created by public health authorities and will do their best to limit noise, dust, odors and disruptions associated with this project. We appreciate your patience and understanding while these new facilities are being constructed.
- These projects are all poised to complete by Fall 2022.



To Our Neighbors in Serra Mesa,

My staff and I are working hard in the community on your behalf to identify opportunities for my Office to assist Serra Mesa residents. I am acutely aware that the Serra Mesa Planning Group's Number One priority project is upgrades to the Recreation Center. In turn, I would like to let you know that I have recently submitted a memo to Director of Engineering and Capital Projects and City Engineer, of what I believe to be the top 10 capital infrastructure projects across District 7. I formally requested that preliminary engineering be funded in the upcoming fiscal year, and the design and construction of a new 20,000 sq. ft. recreation building be funded long term, to serve the residents of Serra Mesa.

I am also glad to let you know that the City is doing lots of crucial road repair work in Serra Mesa. Recently, the City completed slurry seal repairs on portions of Admiral Ave, Fermi Avenue, and Amulet Street in the Mission Village area. Repairing the City's aging infrastructure, including roads, remains one of my top priorities. Next on the schedule for Serra Mesa are Ruffin Road from Aero Drive to its terminus next to Taft Middle School, and Mission Village Drive from Gramercy Drive to Ronda Ave. These repairs are expected to be completed this coming Spring.



Councilmember Campillo speaking with the Slurry Seal Crews in Serra Mesa on Admiral Drive.

Finally, I am proud to report with this update that Serra Mesa residents are a little bit safer in their neighborhoods as a result of an action our City took this past month.

I worked closely with the San Diego Police Department (SDPD), San Diegans for Gun Violence Prevention, and several other agencies to put on the first anonymous SDPD "Guns for Gift Cards Exchange" (GGCE) North of the 8 freeway. A GGCE is an opportunity for residents to voluntarily bring unwanted firearms to a given place on a given day to turn them in to be destroyed. Residents were given a \$100-200 gift card per firearm surrendered, depending on the type of gun. Through this event, we were able to recover 418 guns. Statistics show that we are safer as a community with these guns off of our streets and out of our homes, especially as we know many guns are lost and end up in dangerous hands every year as a result of home burglaries.

It is important for readers to note that this type of anonymous firearm surrender is always an option to residents, but it is only occasionally that a gift card exchange takes place. Residents can always bring unwanted firearms to any SDPD sub-station to surrender it with no questions asked, but there is no compensation for a sub-station surrender.



Councilmember Campillo looking at some of the firearms that were surrendered at the September 25 "Guns for Gift Cards Exchange."

If you are a Serra Mesa resident and have an issue you would like to report, please reach out to Vic directly at 619-236-6749 or ([vvettiyil@sandiego.gov](mailto:vvettiyil@sandiego.gov)).

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**For more project details**, you can scan the QR Code (left) with your phone, or visit <http://fpcprojects.sandi.net>.

For any additional questions, please contact Project Manager Julie Katsapis at [jkatsapis@sandi.net](mailto:jkatsapis@sandi.net).



A recognized part of the Serra Mesa community since 1962, Taft Middle puts students on College-to-Career pathways with Spanish, theater, art, common core mathematics and engineering classes. Taft also offers the Primetime option for before-and-after school programs in extra-curricular activities and tutoring.

**Go Eagles!**

## Taft & Other Joint Use Parks

Joint use park agreements between the City of San Diego and the San Diego Unified School District (SDUSD) allow for a park to be used by school children when school is in session and by the general public when school is not in session. Typically, the school district owns the land and the City improves and maintains the park.

With the Taft Joint Use Project it was decided that SDUSD would construct the park since their desire for an additional field increased the cost of the project. The City's funding for the park comes primarily from the development impact fees collected from the Olympus Corsair housing project on Aero Drive.

Other joint use projects in Serra Mesa include:

- Angier and Wegeforth— primarily funded from development impact fees collected from the development of Mirabella on Kearny Villa Road and Olympus Corsair on Aero Drive (negotiated during former City Councilmember Donna Frye's term); the City was responsible for development
- Cubberly – funded and developed by San Diego Unified School District
- Fletcher
- Juarez

These numerous parks provide lots of opportunities for exercising and enjoying nature. We can thank community groups, both the Serra Mesa Planning Group (SMPG) and the Serra Mesa Recreation Advisory Group (SMRAG), for their role in the development of these parks. SMPG supported the recommendation from SMRAG that development impact fees be spent on the joint use projects. Additionally, SMRAG contributed input into park design and monitored the process, which required many meetings.



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# Dated Material

