



PUBLISHED BY THE SERRA MESA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

VOLUME 35, ISSUE 3    MAY / JUNE 2021



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

You are invited to participate in the

**Serra Mesa Community Council**

Wednesday, May 26

6:30 p.m.

*Serra Mesa - Kearny Mesa Library*

*Community Room, 9005 Aero Drive*

**Serra Mesa Community Council**

No Meeting in June

*Serra Mesa - Kearny Mesa Library*

*Community Room, 9005 Aero Drive*

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**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>	
Jackie Ander.....	(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/SMPG</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**

Bryce Niceswanger.....	(858)565-2473*
<i>SMPG 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	
<i>*Contact by calling (858) 565-2473 &amp; leaving a message.</i>	

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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**

May 11	Friends of Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library 5:30 p.m., Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, Sudberry Room
May 18	Serra Mesa Recreation Center Council Meeting 6:30 p.m., 9020 Village Glen Drive
May 20	Serra Mesa Village Connection 3:30 p.m., Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, Community Rm
May 20	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
May 26	Friends of Ruffin Canyon 5:30 p.m., Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, Community Rm
May 26	Serra Mesa Community Council 6:30 p.m., Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, Community Rm
Jun 5	Friends of Ruffin Canyon Cleanup 9:00 a.m., Shawn Avenue entrance to Ruffin Canyon
Jun 15	Serra Mesa Recreation Center Council Meeting 6:30 p.m., 9020 Village Glen Drive
Jun 17	Serra Mesa Village Connection 3:30 p.m., Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, Community Rm
Jun 17	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
Jun 23	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
Jul 3	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:** July / August 2021 Edition...June 21st.

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

[http://www.serramesa.org\\_communitycouncil@serramesa.org](http://www.serramesa.org_communitycouncil@serramesa.org)

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**



I am sure that we are all relieved as it looks that the pandemic is coming under control. The vaccines are doing their job and are now available to those who want them. It appears that where citizens have followed federal agencies recommendation hospital levels are again under reasonable accessibility levels. I conclude that Serra Mesa and California have done a great job of limiting the contact of infected persons to a minimum, and we are beginning to see things opening and people returning to work or, in some cases working permanently from home. We have our medical specialists to thank as they have tirelessly addressed this pandemic with professionalism and dedication worthy of heroes. Thank you for your countless hours of risk and for taking the care to ensure us a light at the end of the tunnel.

Despite this, I would also like to thank our first responders, who have continued to keep us safe despite the things going on relative to the unrest in our country. I feel that the racial unrest in our land is finally being tested and realized, and I hope that racial, spiritual, and political differences can be settled with tolerance, grace, and love. Liberty has always come at a price, and our form of government

is the most tolerant of all relative to overcoming differences. Many of us are now more aware of the impact that racism has had on our fellow citizens. Hopefully, we can look inward to resolve those differences within ourselves, then act to ensure that we are all doing what we can to treat our brothers and sisters with the respect they deserve.

I would like to applaud our Mayor Todd Gloria and Councilperson Raul Campillo for their tireless work of connecting with our community. We have had more contact with our city than we have had for a long time, and they are continuing to address the issues of our time. The greatest is homelessness, and we see some great attempts to address those who find themselves homeless because of reasons other than their actions. The pandemic has played havoc on all our budgets, and they are making strides to make the hard choices of how to best spend the resources that we have. It is easy to criticize but more difficult to make sure our citizens have the tools they need to survive and prepare for the future. Policing has come under scrutiny, and while there are always some questionable issues enforcing the law, the difficulty is to restrain yet protect the individual's physical wellbeing. We have seen this in the George Floyd trial, and it seems that while controversial, good policing may have led to an alternate result. Over the years, I have retained amazing respect for the San Diego Police Department, and I know so many good policemen and policewomen. What

I have found is that "no one hates a bad cop more than a good cop." We need to support the police and make sure they know that good policing leads to good neighborhoods. I feel that respect begets respect and that if you wish to receive it, you must also give it. Forgive me if I am showing my age.

Another issue pertaining to Serra Mesa is the resistance of Montgomery Gibb Airport to provide a lead-free aviation fuel. Your community is working hard to make an unleaded fuel option available as no lead level is acceptable in our communities. As our community and travel experience expands, an increased level of touch and go landings for the flight schools will continue to increase exhaust levels. Is profit an excuse to harm our children?

Your Serra Mesa Community Council is here for you as you are the only reason for its existence. You can best participate by staying in touch through Facebook, Next Door, placing items in the Observer, and writing to the editor about your thoughts and suggestions. I feel that our community is one of the best in San Diego, and it is only getting better as we transition to younger families and finally return to our schools.

We are looking forward to the Recreation Center and neighborhood pools opening, and word is out that it will happen sometime in May. Take care of yourself and each other.

Carl Demas, Community Council President



## Keeping Our Libraries Safe and Accessible

By Mara W. Elliott

Whether we were chasing *Curious George*, discovering *Where the Wild Things Are*, or devouring *Green Eggs and Ham*, trips to the library with my two boys were always an adventure. Like most parents, I cherish those moments, especially now that they're teenagers. I can hardly wait until our libraries are wide open again, buzzing with patrons.

Families throughout San Diego have their own treasured library routines. With more than 5.3 million books available at no charge, and limitless educational programming, our 36 City libraries are the true gems of our neighborhoods.

Throughout the pandemic, our library employees have devised creative solutions to ensure our libraries remain hubs for enrichment and education. From setting up outdoor computer labs to making free internet hot spots and laptops available for check-out to developing dynamic digital programming for kids, our libraries have played a critical role in keeping communities connected during COVID.

I'm proud of the behind-the-scenes work the City Attorney's Office does to support our libraries and make them accessible and safe. Attorneys in our office provide legal advice for day-to-day operations. We advise on issues ranging from the First Amendment to accessibility under the Americans with Disabilities Act to intellectual property. We assist in negotiating and implementing contracts associated with technology, publications, security, parking, maintenance, and much more.

And the work performed by our library personnel often involves keen observation skills, knowledge of the criminal justice system, and the ability to tap into a network of resources who can readily assist depending on the issue at hand. For instance, library employees, who are trusted by the patrons they serve, are on the front lines in identifying and helping children who may be experiencing abuse or exploitation. They endure assaults, racial slurs, profanities, aggressive behavior, and intoxicated patrons. Our Office has intervened in unsafe situations to obtain restraining orders to keep dangerous patrons off premises and protect library employees. Since 2009, the City Attorney's Office has obtained restraining orders against 19 individuals who posed a threat of harm to library employees and patrons.

Prior to pandemic closures, a courageous library employee stepped up in a big way to protect her branch. She noticed a man lingering in the children's section, which she found odd because he didn't have children with him and didn't appear to be selecting any books. She quietly observed him for a while and knew something wasn't right.

When the employee lost sight of him, her intuition told her to go look for him. She found him using his cell phone to secretly film up the skirt of an unsuspecting pregnant woman who was there with her three-year-old child. The employee quickly confronted the man, and used her phone to record him, while directing a colleague to call 911.

The man ran off, but due to her quick actions and the evidence she captured, police quickly caught up with him.

As it turned out, this was not the man's first time committing crimes like this. He'd been caught before taking pictures up the skirts of other women at a supermarket and a department store. His criminal history suggested he posed an even greater threat.

Because of this employee's quick thinking and dedication to protecting the public, our Office was able to successfully prosecute this case, which ultimately led to a conviction and sex offender registration. While these incidents are troubling, the vast majority of library patrons are there to read, learn, and connect with their neighbors.

As we return to the activities we enjoy, including visits to our local libraries, we want to thank our librarians for continuing to provide free, safe, and accessible services in all of our communities despite pandemic challenges. My Office is grateful for their partnership and their commitment to keeping their patrons safe and engaged.

*Mara W. Elliott is the San Diego City Attorney and the President of the Law Library Board of Trustees.*



## **IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS**

<b>Abandoned Vehicles &amp;</b>			
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 <b>Animal Removal</b> 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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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



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## 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  
May 18 & June 15 at 6:30 p.m.

Endodontics      Crowns      Cosmetics  
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**Pastor Karla Seyb-Stockton**

2696 Melbourne Drive      Cell: 858-883-8038  
San Diego, CA 92123      E-Mail:  
858-277-6572      karla.seyb.stockton@me.com  
www.gethsemanesd.org      Worship: 8:00, 9:30 a.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. 3<sup>rd</sup> 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/>



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



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## New Graduates Ready for Healthcare Careers Amid COVID-19 Impact

Allura Garis



*Class of 2019 Nursing Assistant Graduates at SDCCE (Eric Burke Top Left).*

COVID-19 abruptly the American healthcare system, nationalizing the long-standing need for skilled healthcare workers. San Diego College of Continuing Education (SDCCE), a hub for free workforce training, is pivoting new graduates hit hard by a plunging economy toward a career track in public health.

The educational experience and clinical learning at SDCCE qualified graduate Eric Burke to work for the U.S. Government.

Prior to working in healthcare, Burke, 28 was a grocery store employee with little opportunity for financial growth and promotion.

Burke's mom, a Registered Nurse at Kaiser Permanente, encouraged her son to make the career change. "She would ask me if I considered the healthcare field and promised that I had nothing to lose," he said.

The absence of tuition fees at SDCCE also helped Burke's decision to go back to school after earning an associate degree from Grossmont College.

SDCCE offers six no cost Healthcare Career certificates; Nursing Assistant, Rehabilitative Nursing Assistant, Acute Care Nursing Assistant, Personal Care Assistant/Caregiver, Home Health Aide and Behavioral Home Health Aide. SDCCE has temporarily transitioned to alternative/remote modes of instruction in response to the pandemic.

Burke completed SDCCE's Nursing Assistant certificate program. The 16-week course prepares students for the state CNA examination and provides opportunity for clinical rotations at local hospitals and healthcare facilities. Graduates become certified as a Nurse Assistant by the State of California.

Burke completed his clinical hours at Kindred Hospital and at St. Paul's Senior Services Nursing and Rehabilitation.

"All hospitals require experience, at least 1-5 years and more often than not you are competing for only 3 open CNA positions," he explained. "I put that six months of experience from SDCCE on my resume and Sharp accepted that."

Following SDCCE, Burke was hired as a CNA at Sharp HealthCare and now works in public health administration for the County of San Diego where he supports front line workers responding to the Coronavirus.

To learn more visit, [SDCE.EDU](https://sdce.edu).

## City Attorney's Investigators Going Out Every Day to Keep Us Safe

By Mara W. Elliott

"Hazmat Mondays" will never be as popular as "casual Fridays," but the smart work attire for some employees in the City Attorney's Office now includes head-to-toe biohazard suits.

It's all part of our crackdown on substandard housing and nuisance properties that harm the quality of life in our neighborhoods.

When my Office sends investigators to inspect unhealthy and nuisance properties, they never know what sort of waste, filth, or disease they may encounter. Their work takes them to dilapidated buildings, party and drug houses, and group living facilities where vulnerable seniors and dependent adults live in deplorable and unsanitary conditions

Though not a large team – two supervisors and ten investigators – the evidence they gather is crucial to our ability to prosecute property owners who violate health and safety laws.

So when the COVID-19 pandemic hit, these unsung heroes suited up.

Recently their work has led to the court-ordered closure of a substandard independent living facility, and criminal charges of theft and abuse of a dependent adult against the operator of another group home.

The pandemic has left no one more vulnerable than seniors, who have a greater risk of serious health problems and are more impacted by isolation from stay-at-home orders. Our work ensures they have a safe place to live, with running water, working heaters, and living spaces free of filth and vermin.

They also investigate so-called COVID-19 "pandemic party houses," like the La Jolla mansion where hundreds of party-goers would gather at events that resulted in gunfire, assaults, excessive noise, traffic, and ongoing neighborhood disruption. Our City's police force spent more than 170 hours responding to calls at this residence, and my office has spent countless additional hours addressing this property through the courts.

Our Office invested in protective clothing and equipment so that our investigators could continue

their important work despite obstacles created by the pandemic. Sometimes they have even performed inspections via their cell phone cameras to support the investigation of code violations in the City, serving as the eyes and ears for investigators.

Our Office made the decision to put public safety as our top priority. We took the steps to equip our team with all the necessary personal protective equipment to keep them and those they work with safe from infection. I am proud of our investigators and their contributions to the welfare of our city's residents despite the great challenges they face.

Their dedication to their jobs has improved the lives of countless San Diegans, and protected the integrity of our neighborhoods. For more information about our neighborhood programs, please go to [www.sandiego.gov/cityattorney](http://www.sandiego.gov/cityattorney).

*Mara W. Elliott is the San Diego City Attorney*





## 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. Because of COVID-19 online meetings are being conducted. Next meetings: May 20<sup>th</sup> and June 17<sup>th</sup>. To contact us, email [smpg@serramesa.org](mailto:smpg@serramesa.org).

**Board Election Results:** SMPG's bylaws allow fifteen Board members. At the March annual election the following members were elected to the Board for two year terms: Denise Davidson, Kira Finkenberg, Rochelle Freeman-Zuniga, and Adam Gardner. Other board members are Jim Antoshak, Chris Castillo, Ian Clampett, Tony Guerra, Cindy Moore, Chris Rosemand, David Sims, Sandra Stahl, and Catharine Stempel. Officers are Catharine Stempel, Chair; David Sims, Vice-Chair; Kira Finkenberg, Secretary.

**Board Opening:** There are 2 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 <https://www.sandiego.gov/planning/community/resources>.

**Cell Tower:** At the March 18<sup>th</sup> meeting SMPG discussed the T-Mobile application for a cell tower at Mission Village Church, 2650 Melbourne Drive. The cell tower will be located in the back of the property adjacent to the community garden. SMPG passed a motion to send a letter requesting that "the community be able to beautify the base part of the cell tower so it is decorated nicely like the top of the tower."

**Development Proposal for Former Library:** A pending future item is the proposal by Community Housing Works' to build 26 housing units (13 for veterans and 13 for mentally ill) on the .336 acre site at 3440 Sandrock Road. 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 negotiations are 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."



## Franklin Ridge Road Connection Update

**Appeal:** Filed on May 21, 2020. The appellant brief was filed on December 18, 2020. The city filed their brief on April 9, 2021. Next step is the appellant's response.

**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/>.

### **Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Branch Library**

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

Email Questions to [SMstaff@sanidiego.gov](mailto:SMstaff@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](https://www.facebook.com/SerraMesaKearnyMesaLibrary) 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 |

### **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://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>

## Virtual Monday Morning Storytime with Ms. Carrie

Join Ms. Carrie, on Zoom, Monday mornings at 10:00am for virtual stories, songs, and fun that foster early literacy skills. Register at <https://sandiego.librarymarket.com/events/virtual-monday-morning-storytime-ms-carrie-34>. When you register for one storytime, you will receive an email with the Meeting Room and Passcode good for storytimes until June 28th, 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). May 11<sup>th</sup> will discuss *Dark Matter* by Blake Crouch and June 8<sup>th</sup> will discuss *American Fire: Love, Arson, and Life in a Vanishing Land* by Monica Hesse.

## 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. Visit <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 3:00-5:30pm and on Saturdays from 10:00-12:00pm. Stay tune for news about upcoming used book sales by visiting <https://www.facebook.com/SerraMesaLibrary>.

## Library Shop Curbside Caravan

The Library Shop is back at the Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library with their famous Curbside Caravan. Convenient, safe, and socially distanced; shop curbside and support the San Diego Public Library system. Wednesday, May 19, 12:00–5:00pm. For other Curbside Caravan locations or to shop the Library Shop online, visit <https://www.libraryshopsd.org/>

## How To Festival

The San Diego Public Library proudly presents its 6th How-To Festival on Saturday, May 22! Learn fun skills, discover a new hobby, or check out the passions of some of your library friends. This year's event is presented virtually with a curated collection of how-to videos created by library staff. Round up your family and learn something new together. See this years videos, and also check out 2020's Festival at <https://www.sandiego.gov/public-library/h2f>

## Summer Reading Program! June 1 to August 31, 2021

Join the Summer Reading Program and see that *Reading Colors Your World!* It's free to sign up for ALL AGES at <https://www.sandiego.gov/summerreading> beginning on June 1st. Keep track of the books you read this summer with your online reading log and earn prizes for reading! Tune into the [Virtual Hub](#) on Thursdays at 3:30pm starting June 17 for special performances featuring clowns, magicians, animals, and more!





An Introduction and Overview of Budget Season  
Raul Campillo For Serra Mesa Observer Newsletter

Dear Serra Mesa Residents,

My name is Raul A. Campillo, and I am proud to serve as your new District 7 Councilmember. We have been in office for a little over 100 days now, and we are very excited about all the work we have been able to accomplish. [For an overview of what we've](#) been able to accomplish during [our first 100 days, please click here](#). I look forward to continuing serving the residents of Serra Mesa, and I encourage you to introduce yourself to my Senior District Representative, Vic Vettiyl, who has frequently been in the community to address pot-holes, non-operational street-lights, and more. Vic can be reached at 619-236-6749 or [vvettiyl@sandiego.gov](mailto:vvettiyl@sandiego.gov).

As we continue to serve the community, one of the most important aspects of City governance is the approval of the annual budget. [To best understand the Budget process, I recommend reading the presentation put together by the Office of the Independent Budget Analyst here](#). The City's Annual Operating Budget and the Annual Capital Improvements Program Budget are two of the most important documents the City develops each year. It is vital that the Mayor, as well as myself and my Council colleagues, hear from the public about your priorities during this process. The above link will provide the best concise explanation of this complex but crucial process.

On April 15, Mayor Todd Gloria revealed his proposed budget for the upcoming Fiscal Year. [The proposed budget can be viewed here](#). If you have concerns about the budget, I recommend reaching out to Vic to voice your concerns. I will be listening to all feedback from the community, and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,



Raul A. Campillo  
RAC: vv

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## Rady Children's Charts Plans for Growth

The expansive pediatric health system known today as Rady Children's began as a small polio clinic in the 1950s. Over its decades of caring for children and families in San Diego, southern Riverside and Imperial Counties, as well as those living across the country and around the world, Rady Children's has grown exponentially in size and scope to best serve each community it connects to.

As the health system continues to evolve and innovate, a need to expand the capacity of the Emergency Department and several intensive care units on the main San Diego campus has been identified. Essential infrastructure maintenance and construction to comply with the State of California's seismic safety upgrade program guidelines are also a priority.

Rady Children's benefactors Ernest and Evelyn Rady and family have responded to these needs by pledging an incredible \$200 million matching gift. In addition to the aforementioned upgrades, the Radys' gift will the construction of a 486,000-square-foot hospital and inpatient building, a 36,000-square-foot central utility building, and a 33,500-square-foot enclosed pedestrian connector to link the new hospital building to existing clinical locations on the main Rady Children's campus. The project will also include several demolition and alteration projects, with limited interior renovations, to prepare the site for construction.

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## Serra Mesa Village Message – Purpose

Psychologists define purpose as “purpose reflects a commitment to broader life goals that helps organize your day-to-day activities.” Without purpose, life becomes boring, meaningless, uninteresting, monotonous, and without direction.

Dr. Patricia Boyle, a neuropsychologist at the Rush Alzheimer’s Disease Center in Chicago, studied independent people living in Chicago for physical, psychological, and cognitive measures. These persons have been willing, after death, to donate their brains for research.

After studying over 1000 persons (average age of 80), almost 2.5 times, persons with high purpose scores are more likely to remain free of Alzheimer’s. The purpose was also shown as the reason for delayed cognitive decline by as much as 30%. Another interesting conclusion was drawn that even those with purpose, whose autopsies showed Alzheimer’s, can cope and still maintain cognition.

Our conclusion here is that persons with purpose are less likely to develop aging disabilities. The question is, how can we assist aging persons in finding purpose in their lives? In the past, we have looked to nursing homes and assisted living facilities. While these facilities make it easier on the family, the result is often that even with many activities and proper and frequent medical inspection, they often lose a sense of purpose and feel that what they do doesn’t matter. Dr. Boyle concludes, “They want to contribute and want to feel part of something that extends beyond themselves. People of purpose have a sense of their role in the community and the broader world.” Like many of our war veterans, it seems that there is purpose in passing on experiences and memories to the younger generations. Each of these seniors has years of experience in the business world, parenting, cooking, teaching, drawing, flower arranging, gardening, or even passionate causes such as restoring funding for senior centers.

The Serra Mesa Village is a group formed after the Village Concept model to provide tools for seniors to stay in their home for as long as possible. Serra Mesa Village is an organization patterned after the Tierrasanta Village to meet the needs and wants of a maturing community; this includes socialization, an opportunity for sharing tasks, sharing time with others, and finding and fulfilling purposes. If you have an interest, we would love to talk to you. We have been in existence since 2014 and are constantly looking to add to our family. If you have an interest, please call or email us.

Carl Demas, President, Serra Mesa Village

Purpose: <https://srcarecenter.com/article/finding-meaning-and-purpose-in-old-age>

Email: [serramesavillage10@gmail.com](mailto:serramesavillage10@gmail.com) URL: <https://Serramesavillage.org> VillageMovementCalifornia.com  
Leave a message: 858-565-2473



Continued from page 12

The new spaces address the most pressing and immediate needs of our community and patient families by expanding the Emergency Department, pediatric intensive care unit, neonatal intensive care unit and cardiothoracic intensive care unit. Rady Children’s will prioritize the location of the most intensive services on the campus while moving less intensive services off campus and demolishing some of the older areas of the existing hospital building. Phases for planning, community input, and environmental impact and parking evaluations will take place between 2021 and 2023, with construction slated for 2023 to 2027.



## PIPELINE SAFETY

February 16, 2021

Dear Neighbor,

San Diego Gas & Company (SDG&E®) was recently in your neighborhood replacing a section of one of our older natural gas pipelines with new, modern pipe. This work was part of our system-wide Pipeline Safety Enhancement Plan (PSEP), which identifies various pipeline sections throughout our natural gas system to be upgraded and its integrity validated through either pipeline replacement or strength testing.

We greatly appreciate the patience and understanding you've shown during construction of the Serra Mesa Replacement Project. Throughout construction, our crews made every effort to limit disruption to residents, businesses and motorists in the area. We also worked closely with the City of San Diego to ensure all permit conditions were followed and regularly communicated our progress with various entities such as the local school districts and private schools, hospitals, fire officials, transportation, and other agencies to ensure our project's impact on local activities and schedules was minimized.

We are pleased to report that the 4.2-mile section of pipeline was successfully replaced, and state-of-the-art safety features installed to enhance the safety of the local natural gas system. The construction work was completed along Ruffin Road from Ridgeway Court to Aero Drive, west to Sandrock Road, south to Murray Ridge Road, south to Raejean Avenue and Greyling Drive and ending on Sandmark Avenue, just north of SDG&E's Mission Station. At SDG&E, safety is our top priority. We will continue to assess the integrity of our pipelines periodically through our Transmission Integrity Management Program.

Our commitment to our customers is to improve lives and communities by building the cleanest, safest most reliable energy infrastructure company in America. This project is one step toward achieving these goals.

This letter does not require any action on your part. To learn more about pipeline safety and this project, please visit [sdge.com/psep](http://sdge.com/psep) or call 1-866-382-0886.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Kevin O'Beirne'.

Kevin O'Beirne  
SDG&E Major Projects Development Manager



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

# Dated Material

