

# SERRA MESA OBSERVER

PUBLISHED BY THE SERRA MESA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

VOLUME 38 ISSUE 6 NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2024

## Serra Mesan Carl Demas Receives Special Awards

*Article on page 7-8*



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

You are invited to  
participate in the next:

**Serra Mesa  
Community  
Council**

**General Meeting**

*Tuesday,  
January 28, 2025  
at 6:30 p.m.*

*Serra Mesa - Kearny  
Mesa Library  
Community Room*



Neighborhoodly People  
and Friendly Businesses  
Living and Working Together

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**Serra Mesa Observer**  
 is published bimonthly  
 by the Serra Community Council

**Articles, Ideas, & Upcoming Events**  
 are welcome.

Editor reserves right to edit articles.

For articles, e-mail Editor -  
[observer@serramesa.org](mailto:observer@serramesa.org)

**Deadline:** January/February Edition,  
**December 27**

For ads: [www.serramesa.org/sbcc/observer-newsletter/](http://www.serramesa.org/sbcc/observer-newsletter/)  
 Council doesn’t endorse ads.

P.O. Box 23315  
 San Diego, CA, 92193  
<http://www.serramesa.org>  
[communitycouncil@serramesa.org](mailto:communitycouncil@serramesa.org)

**CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS**

**Location Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library**

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| Nov 6<br>5pm     | Friends of Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library<br>Email <a href="mailto:serramesalibraryfriends@gmail.com">serramesalibraryfriends@gmail.com</a><br>for the log in information for online meeting |
| Nov 21<br>3:30pm | Serra Mesa Village Connection<br>Community Room  |
| Nov 21<br>7pm    | Serra Mesa Planning Group<br>Community Room  |
| Dec 19<br>3:30pm | Serra Mesa Village Connection<br>Community Room  |
| Dec 19<br>7pm    | Serra Mesa Planning Group<br>Community Room  |



**MISSION VILLAGE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP**

**OFFICE**  
 2630 Mulbourne Drive  
 San Diego, CA 92123  
 858.278.2633  
[missionvillage1@earthlink.net](mailto:missionvillage1@earthlink.net)  
[www.missionvillagechurch.com](http://www.missionvillagechurch.com)

**STEVE DE VOS, PASTOR**  
 Cell 858.829.2097  
[stevdevos79@gmail.com](mailto:stevdevos79@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*



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.

**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 Animal Removal  | (858) 694-7000 |
| Emergency Information - Earthquake   | (858) 565-3490 |
| Fallen Trees-Urgent  | (619) 527-7500 |
| Fire Department - Non-emergency  | (619) 533-4300 |
| Flies & Vermin   | (858) 694-2888 |
| Graffiti   | (619) 527-7500 |
| Hazardous Chemicals & Waste  | (858) 694-7000 |
| Health Violations  | (619) 338-2222 |
| Litter - City Owned/Private Property   | (858) 694-7000 |
| Meals On Wheels  | (619) 260-6110 |
| Neighborhood Code Compliance<br>(Barking Dogs, Code Violations, Noise, Safety) | (619) 236-5500 |
| Police Department - Eastern Division   | (858) 495-7900 |
| Post Office  | (800) 275-8777 |
| Poison Control Center  | (800) 222-1222 |
| 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 Community Council  
Phone Number—858.565.2473**

**Officers**

Joseph Konieczka, *President*  
 Jon Cima, *Vice President*  
 Andrea Eaton, *Treasurer/Community Events*  
 Cindy McIntyre, *Secretary*

**Board Members**

Carl Demas, *Advisor*  
 Alexia Longley, *Audio-Visual*  
 Carmen Ojeda, *Community Involvement*  
 Judi Mitchell, *SDSU Mission Valley*  
 Sandra Stahl, *Chief Environmental Officer*  
 Sam Yoeuth, *Friends of the Library*  
 Jon Cima, *SMRC/SMPPAG*  
 Cindy Moore, *Observer Editor & SMPG*

**Appointed Positions**

Geralyn White, *Neighborhood Awareness*  
 Colin Dowling, *Webmaster*

**Key Serra Mesa Volunteers**

Catherine Stempel, *SMPG President*  
 Monica Fuentes, *Friends of Ruffin Canyon*  
 Kristine Webb, *Serra Mesa Food Pantry*  
 Karl Doering, *SM Community Garden & Orchard*  
 Preston Chipps, *Serra Mesa Village*

**Serra Mesa Community Groups**

Serra Mesa Community Council,  
[communitycouncil@serramesa.org](mailto:communitycouncil@serramesa.org)  
 Serra Mesa Planning Group, [smpg@serramesa.org](mailto:smpg@serramesa.org)

**ELECTED OFFICIALS**

|   |                |
|---|----------------|
| Board of Education Shana Hazan  | (619) 725-8000 |
| City Councilmember Raul Campillo  | (619) 236-6677 |
| Mayor Todd Gloria   | (619) 236-6330 |
| County Supervisor Joel Anderson   | (619) 531-5522 |
| County Supervisor Monica Montgomery Steppe<br><i>Birdland &amp; Phyllis Pl Area</i> | (619) 531-5544 |
| State Assembly Member Chris Ward  | (619) 239-7801 |
| 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 Laphonza Butler  | (202) 224-3841 |
| U.S. Senator Alex Padilla   | (619) 239-3884 |



*Pictured: City Councilmember Raul Campillo, Carl Demas, Joe Konieczka*

## President's Column

As the election season approaches, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the importance of participating in our democracy. I believe it's essential to acknowledge the power of our collective voice and the impact it can have on our communities and country.

By exercising your right to vote, you're not only shaping the future of our nation both

locally and nationally, but also demonstrating your commitment to the democratic process. It's a privilege that many have fought for and sacrificed to preserve. Please encourage your friends and family to make educated decisions and do your own research to make good informed choices before you vote. We are fortunate to live in a place where we can vote individually on items, but we need to understand the ramifications on these votes and what they may do to our taxes (raising them in some cases).

Please check out the City of San Diego Trash Survey to share your opinions and look out for the mailer coming from the city about it in the future. We included that item in one of our email campaigns and in the Observer. Also, please pay attention to future emails and newsletters from us concerning the Sandrock project and other community developments.

We have a ton going on in Serra Mesa and our staff does a great job summarizing it in the Observer. It's important that we all get involved to help shape our city and Serra Mesa. We will continue to do our best to highlight important events upcoming.

Speaking of important events... Sunday, October 6th was Carl Demas Day as proclaimed by our mayor. Carl, as some of you may know by now, has recently moved from Serra Mesa after serving the Community Council since 2009. Thanks again Carl and I'll be sure to reach out to you for advice in the future.

Recently, I had the chance to check out the Fall Festival at the St. Columbia Parish back in October- What a great event! It was nice seeing so many in the community at the festival and looking forward to seeing it return next year. I encourage everyone in the community to attend events like these and continue supporting our local businesses and our advertisers. I'm thankful for living in such a nice community!

As we move into the holiday season, I wish you and your loved ones a time of joy, reflection, peace and celebration! See you in January (28th) at the next public meeting! Please feel free to reach out to me in the meantime by calling (858) 565-2473 or emailing me at [CommunityCouncil@SerraMesa.org](mailto:CommunityCouncil@SerraMesa.org).

Happy Holidays!

Joe Konieczka

**President**

**Serra Mesa Community Council**

**[Website](#) | [Observer Newsletter](#) | [Serra Mesa on X](#) | [Serra Mesa on Youtube](#)**

## Serra Mesa Planning Group News

**Meetings:** 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, and via online meetings. To receive notices about meetings, which would include a link for the online meeting, sign up at <http://www.serramesa.org/>. Next meetings (tentative): November 21 and December 19. To contact us, email [smpg@serramesa.org](mailto:smpg@serramesa.org).

### Information from September 19 Meeting

#### Overlay Paving Project (AC Overlay Group 2502, Engineering & Capital Projects Department)

- Work includes
  - Applying new layer of asphalt and improving underlying subgrade
  - Replacing existing striping
  - Upgrading curb ramps to meet ADA regulations (outreach letters for all new curb ramps will be sent to adjacent property owners)
  - Upgrading necessary cross gutters and curb/gutters
- Serra Mesa intersections: Celestine Ave & Murray Ridge, Meadowlark & Hummingbird Way, Harton Pl & Harton Rd, Harton Rd & Kaplan Dr, Neva Ave – intersection of Murray Ridge Rd to Afton Rd, Pinecrest – intersection of Cabrillo Mesa to Greyling Dr, Fireside Ave – intersection of Murray Ridge to Chalar.
- Construction Notices – contractor deliver door hanger notices to property owners prior to work
- Street parking restrictions may be implemented
- Normal construction Mon-Fri, 7am-5pm
- Fact sheet mailed to residents within 300 ft of scheduled work and after project awarded to contractor, 30 day construction notices sent
- Schedule: Winter 2024, project awarded to contractor; Winter 2024/Spring 2025, construction begins; Summer 2025, construction completed
- Contact: Pedro Melo Rodriguez, Project Manager, [pmelorodrigu@sandiego.gov](mailto:pmelorodrigu@sandiego.gov), 619-346-0225

**3440 Sandrock Road** – SMPG formed subcommittee to review and comment on the agenda item scheduled for Land Use Housing Committee and City Council meetings in Fall 2024. SMPG will send an email when the item is scheduled. More information at <https://www.serramesa.org/smpg/smpg-documents/>, scroll to bottom.

**ABLE PLUMBING AND DRAIN  
SERVICE**

**SCOTT FIORI**  
PLUMBER92123@GMAIL.COM

8431 FIRESIDE AVE, SAN DIEGO CA 92123  
CALL OR TEXT 619 985 8204  
CA LICENSE 681475

  
**Gethsemane  
Lutheran Church**

**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.

## Sandrock/Aero Corner (southeast corner) Drainage Issue Update

News from City Councilmember Raul Campillo's Office in September 24, 2024: (reformatted)

City staff from Stormwater and DSD met with the property engineer [for VA building owner] on Tuesday to discuss this issue. The engineer proposed a solution of implementing a low flow pump system to discharge the groundwater to the biofiltration planter onsite rather than out to the intersection.

City staff agreed to allow this on a temporary basis, to be considered for permanent approval if certain additional steps are taken. These additional steps include

- Conducting additional stormwater modeling
- Replacing the existing Storm Water Maintenance Agreement
- Conducting water quality testing to ensure there are no significant pollutants of concern in the groundwater
- Installing additional flow meters, etc.

This additional information is needed to ensure that this BMP can accommodate the additional groundwater input from dry weather, as it was only originally designed and permitted to treat stormwater during a rain event and must still function as originally intended.

This low flow pump system would still need to be designed and then installed, so the current timeframe given by the property engineer is targeting completion by the end of the calendar year.

In the meantime, the temporary diversion that was installed in the gutter to direct water flow away from the intersection will be left in place.

## Trash Collection Services Study

The presentation on the Cost of Service Study (Trash Collection Services) at the Serra Mesa Community Council meeting on September 24 is at <https://www.serramesa.org/news-events/>.

### Summary

- Single family residences can be charged for trash service.
- Study is determining the services that should be provided and the cost for those services.
- Who is potentially impacted? Single family homeowners, renters of those homes, and properties with 4 or less-units.
- Enhanced services could include trash bin provision and replacement at no cost, increased recycling collection, pickup of bulky items, etc.
- Findings presented to the City Council during the Fall/Winter 2024.
- City can not charge residents more than the cost of services.
- Councilmembers make decision whether to adopt a fee or a portion of the fee.
- Spring 2025 (anticipate March) – 45-day public comment period. Postage-paid mailers sent to impacted property owners. Recipients have 45 days to respond. If opposition exceeds 50%, fee will not be imposed.
- Online questionnaire (deadline not listed): <https://cleangreensd.org/questionnaire/>
- Website: [cleangreensd.org](https://cleangreensd.org)
- Contact: [trash@sanidiego.gov](mailto:trash@sanidiego.gov).

## Carl & Marge Demas

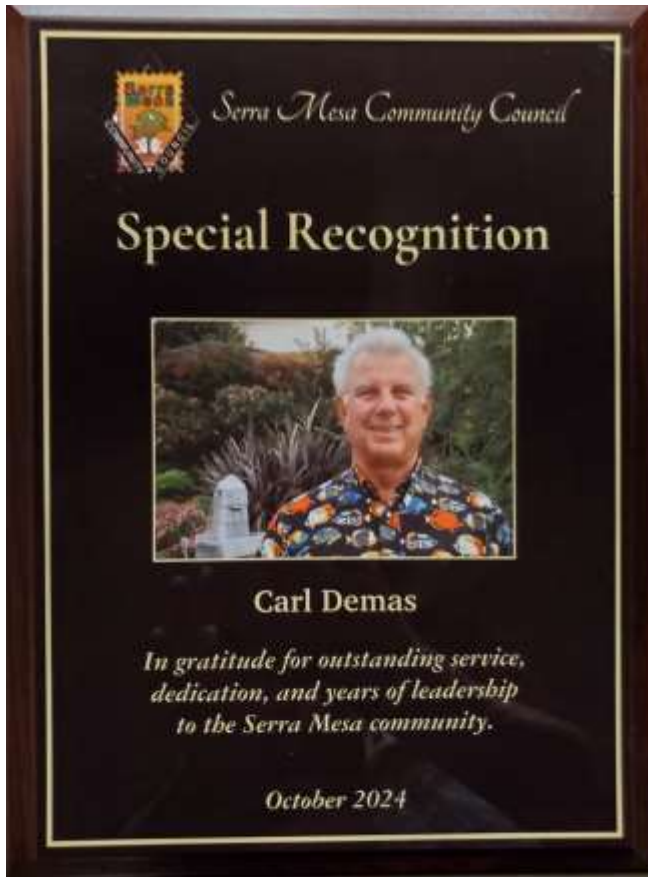


Carl and Marge Demas, long-time Serra Mesa residents and volunteers, have moved to a retirement community in National City.

On October 6 a party was held to celebrate their service to the community. City Councilmember Raul Campillo presented Carl with a Proclamation for Carl Demas Day. Also, Carl received a plaque of appreciation that is hanging on the north-east wall near the library entrance. The proclamation included in this edition describes Carl’s contributions to the community.

For over 15 years Marge and her group of volunteers collated, labeled, stamped, and bundled the Observer for mailing. A huge undertaking that was accomplished efficiently and promptly. Marge deserves a round of applause for her many years of volunteering – the Observer and at community events. Thank you, Marge!

Serra Mesa has been well-served by this dedicated couple. We wish them the best of luck! No doubt if there’s a need in their new community, Carl and Marge will be there to provide assistance or leadership or...



*This plaque was presented to Carl Demas by the Serra Mesa Community Council. In cooperation with Zeina Guoin, Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library Branch Manager, the plaque is hanging inside the library on the eastside of the entry door.*

**Holy Angels Byzantine Catholic Church**

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

**Fr. James Bankston**  
Administrator

pastorhiascd@gmail.com  
www.holyangelsandiego.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 - Halubki - Kolachi - Pirohi - Rozky  
Other seasonal items



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



# Proclamation of the City Council City of San Diego

## Carl Demas Day

Presented by Councilmember Raul A. Campillo  
October 6, 2024

**WHEREAS**, Carl Demas, a longtime resident and advocate of Serra Mesa community of San Diego, has served as a pillar of the community and an exemplary ambassador, dedicating his time, energy, and leadership to the betterment of the area; **and**

**WHEREAS**, Carl Demas served as the President of the Serra Mesa Community Council from 2009 to 2023, during which he provided outstanding leadership, fostering community spirit and guiding numerous initiatives that have had a lasting positive impact on Serra Mesa; **and**

**WHEREAS**, Carl Demas was a founding member of the Serra Mesa Village, a non-profit organization that provides activities and support for seniors, contributing to the well-being and enrichment of senior citizens in the community; **and**

**WHEREAS**, Carl Demas has been a sponsor of the Serra Mesa Food Pantry and a supporter of the Serra Mesa Garden & Orchard, demonstrating his commitment to addressing food security and promoting community health and sustainability; **and**

**WHEREAS**, Carl Demas, through his remarkable dedication and tireless efforts, has become an iconic figure in the Serra Mesa community, leaving an indelible mark on the hearts and minds of its residents; **and**

**WHEREAS**, Carl Demas, after years of outstanding service and leadership in Serra Mesa, is moving to a retirement community in National City in September 2024, leaving behind a legacy of community building, generosity, and unwavering dedication that will be cherished and remembered for years to come; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

**BE IT PROCLAIMED**, by the Council of the City of San Diego, that this Council, for and on behalf of the people of San Diego, does hereby proclaim October 6, 2024 to be "Carl Demas Day" in the City of San Diego.



COUNCIL PRESIDENT SEAN ELO-RIVERA

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEM JOE LACRVA

COUNCILMEMBER JENNIFER CAMPBELL

COUNCILMEMBER STEPHEN WHITEBURN

COUNCILMEMBER HENRY L. FOSTER III

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COUNCILMEMBER KENT LEE

COUNCILMEMBER RAUL A. CAMPILLO

COUNCILMEMBER TONY MORENO

MAYOR TODD GLORIA

Adopted by Council on the \_\_\_\_\_ 1<sup>st</sup> Day of October \_\_\_\_\_ 2024



# Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Branch Library

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

Email Questions to [SMstaff@sandiego.gov](mailto:SMstaff@sandiego.gov)

## Library Hours

Monday and Tuesday: 11:30 am - 8:00 pm

Wednesday through Saturday: 9:30 am - 6:00 pm

Sunday: 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm

**Holiday Closures**—All San Diego Public Library Locations will be closed in observance of:

Veteran's Day, Monday, November 11

Thanksgiving, Thursday, November 28 and Friday, November 29

Christmas, Tuesday, December 24 and Wednesday, December 25

New Year's, Tuesday, December 31 and Wednesday, January 1

## 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>
- **Movies:** Free access to movies with your library card <https://sandiegopl.kanopy.com/>
- **Online Book Clubs:** <https://sandiego.gov/bookclubs>
- **Program Videos:** <https://sandiego.gov/public-library/program-videos>

## Do Your Homework @ the Library Homework Help - Mondays - Thursdays 3:00pm - 6:00pm (except November 11 and 25-29, and December 23 - January 2)

Students in Kindergarten through 8th grade can come in for free homework assistance! Bring in your homework to get assistance from one of our Homework Coaches!

## Pajama Storytime with Ms. Carrie - Mondays at 6:30pm (except November 11)

Put on your favorite PJs and join Ms. Carrie in the Community Room Monday evenings at 6:30pm for a pajama storytime. Pajamas are encouraged, but not required. No sign up required.

## Virtual Tuesday Morning Storytime with Ms. Carrie - Tuesdays at 10:00am (except December 24 and December 31)

Join Ms. Carrie, on Zoom, Tuesday mornings at 10:00am for virtual stories, songs, and fun that foster early literacy skills. Register at the SDPL Virtual Branch at [www.SanDiego.LibraryMarket.com](http://www.SanDiego.LibraryMarket.com) When you register for one storytime, you will receive an email with the Meeting Room and Passcode good for storytimes for future Virtual Tuesday Morning Storytimes, so you do not need to register for each session.

## Chair Yoga - Tuesdays at 11:45am (except December 24 and December 31)

Work on your flexibility, strength building, and quiet your mind with functional movement practice Thursdays at 11:45am. Participate at your own ability. Suitable for adults of all ages. Wear flexible clothing and bring any preferred yoga equipment. Chairs provided.

## Lego Club - 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 4:30pm (except December 24)

Come build with us and become a Master Builder! Join us each month to enjoy an hour of free building and then see your Lego creations displayed in the library.

**Tech Help – Wednesdays at 3:00pm and alternating Saturdays at 10:00am (except December 25 and January 1)**

Bring your tablet, phone, or laptop for general questions and hands on learning with your device.

**Morning Book Club - 2nd Thursday at 10:00am**

Love to read and talk about books? Join the Morning Book Club! November 14 will discuss *The Great Alone* by Kristin Hannah, and December 12 will discuss club member's favorite books of the year.

**Baby Toddler Time – Thursdays at 10:00am (except November 28)**

This loosely structured, baby-led time for play, bubbles, stories, and more. Designed for little ones 0-2 yrs.

**Knitting and Crochet Circle – Saturdays at 10:00am**

Join the knitting and crochet circle. Improve your skills in these traditional art forms. Bring your project for social crafting!

**Piano Concerts with Dave Chamberlin – 4th Sunday of the month at 3:00pm**

Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library is excited to host a piano concert series in collaboration with pianist, David Chamberlin.

**November 6, 6:00pm Friends of the Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library Meeting.**

Community members are welcome to join, become a member, and discuss ways to support the library. This meeting will be held in virtually on Zoom. Please email [serramesalibraryfriends@gmail.com](mailto:serramesalibraryfriends@gmail.com) for the log in information.

**November 18, 6:30pm Thanksgiving Storytime with Trinity Theatre Company.**

Join us for a special storytime with Trinity Theatre Company. Just in time for Thanksgiving, join us for a reading and performance of Turkey Trouble by Wendi J Silvano.

**December 7, 2:00pm A Book and a Ballerina Storytime.**

Join City Ballet of San Diego for "A Book and a Ballerina!" Enjoy listening to a read-aloud, hearing from a professional ballerina, and learning some basic dance steps. This hour-long program is an introduction to the world of classical ballet for kids in grades Pre-K through 5th.

**December 30, 11:30am Noon Years' Eve Celebration.**

Want to ring in the New Year, but your bedtime is way before midnight? Come to our Noon Year's Eve Celebration and celebrate at noon! Join us for an early countdown to 2025.

**Friends of the Library Donations**

The Friends of the Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library are currently accepting book donations during the library's open hours.

**Mobile Hotspots & Chromebooks**

Mobile Hotspots and Chromebooks are now available for check out at the Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library. The mobile hotspots are easy to use and allow users to connect their laptop, tablet and other Wi-Fi enabled devices to the internet. Find out more information at <https://www.sandiego.gov/public-library/san-diego-access-4-all>



## Serra Mesa Recreation Center

9020 Village Glen Dr. (858) 573-1408

### Schedule

11am - 7pm Monday, Wednesday, Friday

11:30am - 7pm Tuesday

12pm - 7:30pm Thursday

9am - 3pm Saturday

Closed Sunday

### Holiday Closure

December 24, 25, 31

January 1, 20

**Registration** for winter program begins November 16. Online at [www.sdreconnect.com](http://www.sdreconnect.com). If help is needed, click the FAQs button for information.

**Basketball League:** December 2024-March 2025; Designed to develop and enhance player's fundamental skills on passing, dribbling and shooting in a friendly and team-oriented environment. Teams divided into age divisions. All players will play a minimum of 16 minutes per game. Qualified teams get a chance to participate in City-Wide tournament hosted by S.P.O.R.T.S. Committee. League is for all skill levels. Games at Kearny Mesa Recreation Center. Schedule TBD.

Pee Wee, Age 5-8, Practice Monday & Wednesday, 4-6pm, Code 118956

10U, Age 8-10, Practice Tuesday & Thursday, 4-6pm, Code 118950

12U, Age 10-12, Practice Tuesday & Thursday, 4-6pm, Code 118951

14U, Age 12-14, Practice Monday & Wednesday, 6-7pm, Code 118952

**Arts & Crafts:** Ages 7-13, New and seasonal arts and craft projects. Develop skills working with paints, color markers, art pencils, glue, beads, construction paper, scissors, craft materials, and much more. All supplies included.

December, Thursdays, 3:30-5pm, Code 118960

January, Thursdays, 3:30-5pm, Code 118961

### Community Sports Information:

AYSO Soccer:, Region 780 : Registrar, <https://www.ayso780.org>, [AYS0780Registrar@gmail.com](mailto:AYS0780Registrar@gmail.com)

Serra Mesa Seniors Softball: [sandiegosoftball.com](http://sandiegosoftball.com)

Serra Mesa Little League: [www.serramesalittleleague.org](http://www.serramesalittleleague.org), [info@serramesalittleleague.org](mailto:info@serramesalittleleague.org)



Volunteers at Shawn Canyon  
Clean-Up  
September 21



For the Annual Coastal Clean-up Day on September 21 the Friends of Ruffin Canyon sponsored a clean-up at Shawn Canyon (west cul-de-sac). The focus was the removal of non-natives, mainly ice plant, and picking up trash.





**City Councilmember Raul Campillo 's Coffee** on September 14 at the Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library. Approximately 60 attendees from Serra Mesa, Allied Gardens and Tierrasanta. Topics/ comments included crime, lack of trolley parking at Snapdragon Stadium, impacts (e.g., traffic and lack of infrastructure) from huge density projects on Aero Dr, homeless, bike lanes with minimal use, proposed Sandrock development project, and neighbor nuisance.

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# US vs. Rahimi: A recognition that common sense gun violence prevention measures save lives

*by San Diego City Attorney Mara Elliott*

The Supreme Court is right by domestic violence victims. The court's 8-1 ruling overturned the appellate court decision in the United States vs. Rahimi case which erroneously determined a felon's right to possess a gun outweighed a victim's right to safety and even life.

This landmark ruling protects Gun Violence Restraining Orders (GVROs) in the states that have them and paves the way for additional states to adopt them. We passed red flag and other related laws here in California ten years ago. And in the decade since thousands of lives have been saved.

GVROs, allow law enforcement, family members, and sometimes even coworkers or educators to petition a court to temporarily remove firearms from individuals deemed to be a threat to themselves or others. This proactive approach targets those in crisis or with a history of violence, preventing potential tragedies before they occur.

Gun violence is not inevitable. Under our State's laws we can respond to situations we know are likely to lead to violence: from the just-fired employee to the person struggling to cope with PTSD, to the middle schooler who vows to teach his bullying classmates a lesson. If someone is going through a really hard time, GVROs allow law enforcement to get the guns out of their home so they can then get the help they need to get better. GVROs have no impact on responsible gun owners.

California's approach to gun violence, particularly through GVROs, can serve as a compelling model for the rest of the nation. Over the past decade, our state's gun violence death rate has consistently been about 43 percent lower than the national average. If

the entire country had matched California's gun violence rate, an estimated 140,000 lives could have been spared over the last ten years. Numbers don't lie – GVROs reduce gun violence and save lives.

The Supreme Court's latest decision could be an important turning point in the national conversation about gun violence. It marks one of the most consequential reversals of gun proliferation policies in recent history, signaling a shift towards prioritizing public safety over unrestricted gun access. By upholding the rights of states to enact protective measures for domestic violence victims, it can open the door to other common-sense gun laws aimed at keeping guns out of the hands of dangerous people while protecting the rights of law-abiding, responsible gun owners.

Disarming domestic violence abusers is a critical step in this direction. Statistics show that the presence of a firearm in a domestic violence situation increases the risk of homicide by 500 percent. By removing guns from individuals with a history of domestic violence, elected leaders and law enforcement can continue to do their jobs to significantly reduce the incidence of fatal encounters and protect vulnerable individuals from harm.

State-based solutions to gun violence offer a pragmatic and effective approach to addressing this pervasive issue. While federal legislation has been mired in gridlock and intense partisan debate, several states have acted swiftly and decisively to implement policies that reflect the needs and values of their communities. The success of California's GVROs serves as a testament to the potential of state-level interventions to make a real difference in reducing gun violence and saving lives.

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The Supreme Court's decision is a rare but vital beacon of hope in a landscape often marred by tragic headlines and senseless loss. This is not just good news for states like California that already have these laws in

place, but for every American who stands to benefit from a safer, more sensible approach to gun regulation. We have an urgent need to protect domestic violence victims from gun violence. Now, it is up to the states to seize this opportunity and implement GVROs to safeguard their citizens.

While it is too late to bring back the lives lost due to the lack of effective gun control measures over the past decade, this decision represents a hopeful opportunity to prevent future tragedies. By embracing the lessons learned from California and advocating for the widespread adoption of GVROs, we can honor the memory of those lost by ensuring that their deaths were not in vain.



## SPECIAL EVENT

San Diego's Finest "**GEM DIEGO SHOW**"

Liberty Station Conference Center

2600 Laning Rd San Diego, 92106

(1 mile south of Liberty Station Market Place)


**Nov. 2 & 3, 2024 10-6 Sat 10-4 Sun**

Free Admission & Ample Free Parking

**For All Ages; Trained Service Animals Only!**

Holiday Shopping • Door Prizes • Free Gem-Mineral ID

And so much more!



## Projects & Other Information

*(Current Late October 2024)*

### Serra Mesa Projects

**Franklin Ridge Road Connection** – Schedule for implementation of mitigations and road connection pending. The developer submitted a design plan for 5 travel lanes and 2 bike lanes for the Murray Ridge bridge (the configuration that's described in the approved October 2017 plan). This differs from Caltrans' draft plan which describes the redesign of the Murray Ridge bridge as 4 travel lanes (11' wide) and 2 Class IV Bikeways (9' separated for each bikeway). Also, other city-approved mitigations include 5 travel lanes and 2 bike lanes for Phyllis Pl from the Franklin Ridge connection to the bridge, and 4 travel lanes and 2 bike lanes for the connection.

**AT&T Wireless Communication Facility, 2696 Melbourne Dr** – 40' high tall faux eucalyptus tree; 12 antennas, 9 remote radio units; 300-foot ground level equipment enclosure, faux rock; located near labyrinth.

**Mission Village Drive Properties** owned by CityMark Development (purchased from Gleich Trust); zoned as a commercial zone that allows residential; qualifies for affordable density bonus; amenities minimal; rental rates not determined; Process 1 (staff approves project).

**2696 Mission Village Drive** (former gas station near corner of Shawn Avenue): Build 3 story, 18-unit apartment building with 1-2 bedrooms; rental units; 2 affordable housing units built off-site; 24 parking spaces. Construction started. Plans at <https://citymark.com/portfolio/dezi/>.

**3222 Mission Village Drive** (former Tom Russell Chevron Station): Build 3 story, 21-unit apartment building with 1-2 bedrooms on .96 acre; rental units; 2 affordable housing units built off-site; 21 parking spaces. Exit on Mission Village Drive. Construction started.

**3241 Mission Village Drive** (former medical building complex): Two sections – 4 story building, 35-unit apartment building facing Mission Village Dr and 3 story, 25-unit townhouses with 3 bedrooms and 2 car garages; exit on Ruffin Rd; 92 parking spaces; still determining if townhouses will be rental units. Construction is anticipated to begin late summer 2024. Plans at <https://citymarkdevelopment.box.com/s/1p564mqdb76pbwtusuq2o2p15kmpe4fr>.

**Former Guild Mortgage Building, 9160 Gramercy Dr** – Vacant. For sale.

**Former Mission Village Shopping Center, across from Taft Middle School, 9280 Gramercy Dr.** Approval in 2004 for 160 rental units and 15,000 s.f. retail (8,000 s.f. along Ruffin Rd and 7,000 s.f. at Ruffin/Gramercy corner). In 2005 approval for condominiums, required to make the community room available to community at no cost, and condominium owners have an assigned parking space deeded to them. In 2007 never expiring Site Development Permit, Approval #57551, created for 9178 Gramercy Drive. Grading permit issued in 2006. San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board issued a notification of no further action on 1/20/2022. July 2022 - Clean-up equipment removed from site. Site for sale.



Work details for the site of a One Hour Dry Cleaners located in the former shopping center are posted on the gate at 9280 Gramercy Dr. Information:

*The applicable permit is PRJ-1108858 which was issued on 05/14/2024. The permit allows for excavation and offsite disposal of approximately 1,200 cubic yards of chlorinated solvent impacted soils from the site subsurface.*

**Old Serra Mesa Library at 3440 Sandrock Rd** – Community HousingWorks (CHW) negotiating lease to build 60 units (56 one bedroom and 4 two-bedrooms) on the .34 acre site, 22 parking spaces, 5 stories high, 100% units will have rents affordable for low- to middle-income families, 30 units reserved for veterans. Amenities include laundry room, multipurpose room with kitchen, computer lab, community garden, tot-lot, and management leasing office. The item is expected to be heard by City Council in November.

### **Kearny Mesa Projects/Issues**

**Aero Project, 8225 Aero Drive** – Former Kelco building, Sares Regis Group Residential is building 434 apartments (1, 2, & 3 bedroom units), 7 stories high, to be completed in 2024. Amenities include pool, spa, dog run, game courtyard, golf putting green, outdoor culinary kitchen, co-work space, conference room, clubhouse, fitness center, and bike repair room. More information can be found at the City's website, <https://opendsd.sandiego.gov/web/approvals/>, Project 692190 - DIGITAL-The Aero G &PI.

**Drainage Issue at Corner of Aero/ Sandrock** – From City staff via City Councilmember Raul Campillo's office: "The VA point of contact is currently working with the Water Board to obtain a de-watering permit. Additionally, they have contracted with an engineer to identify solutions to address the water flow coming from their property. Our Inspector also requested that they maintain their gutter daily to ensure that the temporary diversion that was installed to direct water flow away from the intersection continues to function."

**Airport Plaza Building, 8555 Aero Dr** – Construction of 7-story above grade and 1-story below grade for 302 multifamily dwelling units and associated accessory uses. Project will include affordable units and requests an affordable housing bonus. (PMT-3158932).

### **City-Wide**

**ADU/JADU (Accessory Dwelling Units)** – ADUs provide living area either detached or attached. Regulations – Encroachment into side and rear yards, no parking required; maximum size 1,200 s.f., rental term minimum 31 days, major fees waived, owner doesn't have to live in premises. Number of ADUs permitted on single family property based on TPA (area within ½ mile of existing or planned major transit stop). Could affect 748 acres in Serra Mesa.

# Name These Serra Mesa Businesses

Business #1



Business #2



Business #3



Business #4



### Business #5



### Brain Teaser

This brain teaser contains a clue which is one-word, 1 single, and 3 double words (no space between words). The one-word describes a commonality for all the photos. The words can be joined vertically, horizontally, diagonally, forwards, or backwards.

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| C | B | J | V | A | N | S |
| A | F | R | A | G | D | E |
| E | C | E | A | R | A | M |
| A | L | I | A | G | G | E |
| B | E | G | O | K | I | S |
| A | R | N | D | O | F | A |
| B | U | S | Y | S | T | S |

Answers to the Name This Serra Mesa LBusiness and the Brain Teaser are at <https://www.serramesa.org/smcc/observer-newsletter>.

***Serra Mesa Observer***

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# 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**

