April 2008

Mira Mesa Town Council Newsletter

President's Message

By MMTC President Jeff Stevens

MMTC to Hear from Planning Group on Future Development in Mira Mesa

At the April meeting, the Mira Mesa Town Council will hear from Mira Mesa Community Planning Group chair Ted Brengel and vice-chair Jeff Stevens about community planning, future development in the community, planning for public facilities, and how the Planning Group monitors development.

Articles in this newsletter give an overview of the Mira Mesa Community Plan, future development, and the Facilities Benefit Assessment, which pays for public facilities in the community.

Do you think Mira Mesa doesn't have any room to build more? Not quite! More than 2000 homes and apartments are planned for the next few years, and longer term there are plans for thousands more units in Carroll Canyon. How do we ensure that development does not overwhelm public facilities or create permanent gridlock on our streets? That is what the Planning Group tries to do. As developers bring their projects forward, they are required to bring them to the Planning Group for review and comment.

The Planning Group is only advisory, but its recommendations are taken seriously by the City Planning Commission and City Council, so developers have an incentive to make sure their projects comply with the community plan, and provide public facilities and traffic improvements.

Please also mark your calendars for our May 5th meeting, when we will have a candidates forum for our School Board candidates, and sign up for the May 3rd Volunteer of the Year Dinner honoring Mike Davis. You can now sign up for the dinner and pay online or send in your reservation.

Volunteer of the Year celebration update

Invitations have been mailed out for the 2008 Volunteer of the Year dinner/dance. The event will take place on May 3, 2008 at the Mira Mesa-Verne Goodwin Senior Center, located at 8460 Mira Mesa Boulevard, with social hour starting at 5:30pm and dinner/dance from 7:00pm to 11:00pm Come by and congratulate Mike Davis, Mira Mesa's Volunteer of the Year 2007, and spend a few hours getting to know your neighbors. For more information contact Courtland Young at (858) 695-3619 or visit the MMTC website.

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Mira Mesa Town Council Meetings

Town Council meetings provide a public forum for community issues relating to civic, cultural, social, educational and recreational development and improvement in the area. Regular meetings are usually held the first Monday of each month at the Mira Mesa Public Library from 7 to 9 p.m., with no meeting held in July.

Agenda for the **April 7, 2008** meeting:

- Community Planning Group Presentation

The next MMTC meeting is **Monday, May 5, 2008**

Visit us online at www.miramesatowncouncil.org

The MMTC would like to thank the Mira Mesa Shopping Center, LLC for their continuing support in providing postage for the MMTC newsletter.

Mira Mesa Town Council
PMB 230
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San Diego, CA 92126

Mira Mesa Town Council

Annual Membership Application

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☐ Regular Individual ($20) with _____ Companion Members ($10 each)

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There will be a $25 charge for all returned checks.

Check #_____ Amount: $_____.00

The Mira Mesa Town Council is a nonprofit volunteer organization. Membership dues are used to defray the costs of operation, such as printing and distributing the Newsletter, maintaining the website (www.MiraMesaTownCouncil.org) and other approved council activities.

Future Development in Mira Mesa

By Jeff Stevens

Where can development still occur in Mira Mesa, and how much development is planned? In the main part of Mira Mesa there are two areas: Lopez Ridge and the area east of Westview Parkway just north of Best Buy. Pardee has two projects on Lopez Ridge which have recently completed a long approval process required since they are in the coastal zone. The largest is in the area adjacent to Camino Santa Fe and Calle Cristobal. Named "Crescent Heights", it will consist of 113 single family houses and 129 multifamily units (apartments and/or condos). There are about 40 additional single family homes yet to be built farther out on Lopez Ridge. The largest remaining planned development is named "Casa Mira View", located just east of Westview Parkway. It will consist of approximately 1800 multifamily units. This project was approved many years ago and was part of Pardee's Westview development agreement, but Pardee never proceeded with development. Pardee recently sold the project to Garden Communities, and they are actively proceeding with development plans. There is also a smaller parcel owned by Abrams immediately east of Westview Parkway and south of Galvin which is expected to have about 200 units but is not yet actively being planned.

The largest area of future development is Carroll Canyon. As the gravel mining operations there are phased out over the next decade or two, the land will be redeveloped into mixed use multifamily housing, commercial and industrial uses. The first part of this redevelopment was completed by Fenton in the industrial area just west of Camino Santa Fe. Fenton completed Camino Santa Fe between Mira Mesa Blvd. and Carroll Road as part of that project. Fenton completed a master plan for all of its property, but the remaining property was sold to Hansen Aggregates, who has continued to operate the gravel mining operation and has not yet proceeded with redevelopment. The master plan calls for 1500 multifamily units as well as some industrial and commercial development. The larger Vulcan property that stretches from west of Camino Ruiz to Black Mountain Road has recently come forward with a much more ambitious redevelopment plan called "Stone Creek" and it is actively being planned now. The first version of the plan submitted had nearly 10,000 units, but that has been reduced to about 5,500 units in the latest plan. It also has a substantial commercial and industrial component. A subcommittee of the Planning Group is actively reviewing plans for this project.

Also worth mentioning are some projects that have gone away. There were two large high density housing projects proposed for Western Mira Mesa over the last several years. They were proposed as a way of providing housing for employees closer to employment, reducing commute time and distance. However, the businesses in western Mira Mesa (Sorrento Mesa) objected because they thought the residential development was incompatible with industrial development and would inhibit future industrial development. There was one project built with a similar concept at Wateridge a decade ago, but no residential projects are currently proposed for this area. There was also a smaller high density project proposed for the corner of Camino Ruiz and Zapata on the site of the existing small shopping center. That project was controversial and has been withdrawn for now, but may resurface later.

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Want to help your community, but don't know how?

Mira Mesa is made up of people just like you who are looking for ways to get involved in the community. Whether you are interested in local planning, parks and recreation, community appearance, family events or something completely new, there's a place for you.

Ongoing community groups include:

- **Community Planning Group**
- **Community Pride Committee**
- **MMTC Street Fair Committee**
- **Maintenance Assessment District Committee**
- **Recreation Council**
- **HEROES**
- **Fourth of July Committee**
- **Retired Senior Volunteer Patrol (RSVP)**

Come to a Mira Mesa Town Council general meeting or contact one of our directors for more information. Also see page 6 for specific meeting times and locations.

2008 Philippine Festival and Faire June 7

by Pam Stevens

The 2008 Philippine Festival and Faire will take place on Saturday, June 7 in Mira Mesa Community Park. The event, jointly sponsored by the Aguinaldo Foundation and the Council of Philippine American Organizations of San Diego (COPAO), is scheduled to take place from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Mira Mesa Community Park. Food vendors and information booths for businesses and non-profit groups will be open all day, with live entertainment on stage from 12 noon to 5 p.m., and a 10 a.m. Philippine Independence Parade down Mira Mesa Boulevard and Camino Ruiz. The parade will follow the same route as the Mira Mesa 4th of July parade, from Greenford and Mira Mesa Boulevard to Camino Ruiz and New Salem.

This year's Philippine Festival and Faire is the result of the Aguinaldo Foundation and COPAO joining forces to sponsor a combined event that brings to Mira Mesa COPAO's Philippine Faire, held previously in National City, merging it with the Aguinaldo Foundation's Philippine Festival, held the past two years in Mira Mesa Community Park. Zeny Ravelo, president of the Aguinaldo Foundation, and Rita Andrews, president of COPAO, are working together to organize the event. For more information about the Philippine Festival and Faire or its sponsoring groups in general, see www.aguinaldofoundation.org or www.copao-sandiego.org; or contact Zeny Ravelo, (858) 484-2277 (h) or (858) 776-0977 (cell), or send email to Zeny Ravelo at auginaldofoundation@yahoo.com.

Banned Book Club To Discuss "The House of the Spirits" April 28:

The Mira Mesa Banned Book Club, a monthly book discussion group with a "freedom to read" theme, will discuss "The House of the Spirits," by Isabel Allende, on Monday, April 28, from 7p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Mira Mesa Library community meeting room, 8405 New Salem St. All interested readers are welcome! The group normally meets the fourth Monday of each month. However, there will be a combined May/June meeting on Monday, June 9, to discuss "The Grapes of Wrath" by John Steinbeck. Regular participants and "drop in" visitors who'd simply like to discuss a particular book are equally welcome!. For more information contact book group facilitator Pam Stevens, pstevens@san.rr.com.

"Taste of Mira Mesa" will be April 1!

Everyone is invited to enjoy the Mira Mesa High School Foundation's third annual "Taste of Mira Mesa," a fundraiser to support programs at MMHS, which will take place Tuesday evening, April 1, once again at Gen-Probe, Inc., in western Mira Mesa. According to MMHS Foundation president Kathy Madsen, this year's event will take place in the attractively landscaped outdoor patio between the buildings on Gen-Probe's park-like campus, and will again offer guests the opportunity to sample food from a variety of local restaurants while enjoying live entertainment and a silent auction. For further details, contact MMHS Foundation president Kathy Madsen, (858) 578-4110, or check the Mira Mesa High School Foundation website, www.miramesahighschoolfoundation.org.

"Casino-a-Go-go" Casino Night Fundraiser for 4th of July Fireworks Set for March 29

O Saturday, March 29 the Good Shepherd Parish social hall will be transformed into a swinging place for the kick-off fundraiser to raise money for this year's 4th of July fireworks display. The event is sponsored by the Mira Mesa Community 4th of July Committee and Scripps-Mesa Fireworks, Inc., and co-sponsored by the Knights of Columbus at Good Shepherd Parish. Plan on an entertaining evening for a good cause, with "just for fun" casino games, including blackjack, craps, and a roulette wheel, as well as a silent auction and door prize raffle. Light refreshments are included, and the Knights of Columbus will offer a cash bar with soft drinks as well as beer, wine, and mixed drinks. Admission donation is $15.00.

HEROES (Hometown Efforts to Rescue Our Endangered Society) Update

This "Good Samaritan" group has a few upcoming items on their agenda and they would appreciate your help. Mark your calendar for at least one of these: See MMTC website for further information.

Saturday, **April 12**, 8:00am to 11:00am—Cleanup at the Epicentre Teen Center

Sunday, **April 26**, 8:00am to 11:30am—Mason Elementary Beautification. School buildings to be painted and courtyards cleaned-up. Your artistic talent is needed to paint the school mascot (Lion) and names and numbers on buildings and doors.

Saturday, **May 3**, 5:30pm to 11:00pm—Volunteer of the Year Dinner/Dance. Help congratulate HEROES own Mike Davis.

Saturday, **May 17**, 5:00am to 7:00pm—Travel to south of Ensenada, Mexico to help erect a "loft home" for the Hands of Mercy charity.

Ongoing—Planning and installation of a Senior Resource Center at the Mira Mesa Senior Center. Individuals with knowledge of IT/PC stuff/skills are needed.

It's Spring Auction Time!

Mark April 12th on your calendar for the Mira Mesa Presbyterian Church's Building Fund Auction from 1 to 3 (time approximate). Many, many items and services have been donated by local merchants. There will be silent auction items, door prizes, refreshments and entertainment. Location is at 8081 Mira Mesa Blvd.

Call the church office at 858-578-2150 for more information.

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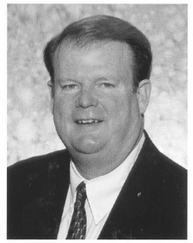

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Past Community Pride Chair
President—MM/SR RSVP "Foundation"

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What is the FBA?

By Jeff Stevens

The FBA stands for "Facilities Benefit Assessment" and is the fund that developers pay into to build public facilities in the community that are not directly tied to their projects. These facilities include parks, libraries, roads and fire stations (Schools are not included). Roads are handled somewhat differently from the other facilities – if the road is adjacent to the project, the developer is generally required to build it. Pardee, for example, built Westview Parkway and widened Black Mountain Road when it built the Westview Project. Other road projects such as the western extension of Carroll Canyon Road, traffic lights, intersection improvements and a variety of other road projects are paid for out of the FBA. The FBA built the Mira Mesa Library, Hourglass Community Park and Pool, and Breen, Lopez Ridge, Hage and Camino Ruiz neighborhood parks, and Fire Station 44.

How is the FBA financed and how is the assessment calculated? In some respects it is straightforward. A list is made of all public facilities to be built in the community, and the cost of each project is estimated. The amount of development is estimated based on what is allowed in the community plan, and actual development plans. The cost is divided by the development to determine the FBA fee. The timing of these projects is estimated and a schedule is created for development of facilities consistent with income to the FBA from development projects. The plan includes adjustments for inflation and interest earned on collected fees. The current fees are $26,297 for a single family home, $17,204 for a multifamily unit, $152,000/acre for commercial development and $45,000-$70,000/acre for industrial development.

What can go wrong? First, there is a fundamental problem with the FBA, which is that since development has to occur to generate money before facilities can be built, the facilities always lag behind the development. Nevertheless, we are much better off than older parts of town that do not have an FBA to pay for improvements. The other problems are that the cost of projects and particularly the timing of development projects are always uncertain. Timing of public facilities is dependent on project timing. Several years ago, for example, a plan was developed for major improvements to Mira Mesa Community Park, which will also include the area across the street used by Little Leagues. The plan will include a pool and a new fieldhouse. However, the project has not proceeded yet because development in the community has been slower than expected. A subcommittee of the Planning Group works with the Planning Department each year to update the FBA and adjust cost and timing.

Community Planning in Mira Mesa

By Ted Brengel

The notion that ordinary people should share in shaping communities has persisted for many centuries in American culture. In a letter to William Charles Jarvis written in 1820, Thomas Jefferson wrote, "I know of no safe depository of the ultimate powers of society, but the people themselves; and if we think them not enlightened enough to exercise their control with a wholesome discretion, the remedy is not to take it from them, but to inform their discretion." Many other of our founding fathers expressed similar sentiments in their letters and speeches. Clearly, the participation of members of the community in its key decisions is an important part of the fabric of our country. This concept is at the core of community planning in San Diego.

The City of San Diego has thirty-five recognized community planning groups of which the Mira Mesa Community Planning Group is one. Operating under the guidance of City Council Policy 600-24, our group meets each month on the third Monday in the Library conference room. It is in those meetings where the members of the executive committee with the help of general members, other community members, city staff members, and developers formulate recommendations on how projects in the community, both large and small, should proceed. These recommendations are passed along to the staff of the Development Services Department, the Planning Department, the Fifth District City Council Office, and sometimes Caltrans.

The executive committee is comprised of 19 members elected to four-year terms at elections held every two years where members for half of the seats on the committee are chosen. Biannual elections are held in March with the newly constituted board sitting for the first time the following month. At that first meeting the executive committee elects a chairman, a vice-chairman, and a secretary from among its membership. The executive committee also includes a non-voting member from MCAS Miramar.

The composition of the membership is as follows:

Residential Members – 11 Business Members – 4
Developer Members – 2 Land Owner Members – 2

In determining the appropriateness of an intended use for a proposed location the members of the Planning Group are guided by two documents: The San Diego City General Plan and the Mira Mesa Community Plan. These are both available at the Mira Mesa Library. The City Zoning regulations also play a part in determining if a given use is appropriate for the proposed location.

Typically the chairman places projects on the agenda for each month's meeting in response to requests from owners and developers. At the meeting representatives of the owners and developers present the salient aspects of the projects and respond to questions from the executive committee and regular members attending the meeting. After the presentation and questions, for smaller projects the Executive Committee votes and either recommend the project go forward or that it not go forward based upon a simple majority vote.

For larger projects, a subcommittee generally works with the developer and when an aspect of the project is at a stage where a decision is required both the developer and the subcommittee address the group on that specific item. When all the pieces are coming together near the end of the planning process a final vote is taken on the project as a whole.

The major issues and projects we are currently working on are:

Stone Creek – The Vulcan Materials portion of Carroll Canyon
Casa Mira View – 1800-unit multifamily project at Mira Mesa Boulevard and I-15
Facilities Benefit Assessment and public facilities financing in general

Each of these projects is a topic unto itself and is sufficiently complex to occupy an article like this of its own.

Highlights of the March 3, 2008 MMTC Meeting

POLICE AND FIRE REPORTS

Police Department (Lieutenant Rick O'Hanlon) – Rick .is the new Lieutenant for Scripps Ranch/Mira Mesa. He has 30 years of experience in the department. He is meeting with the Council Representatives and has given his cell phone number to Jeff Stevens. Communication will help. He will be available for questions during the meeting.

ELECTED REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

City Councilman Brian Maienschein (Khoa Nguyen)

- Camino Ruiz Trail is going to a hearing officer this Wednesday the 5th. Question – is there a diagram of where the trail will lead? The trail starts at the entrance of the park and goes west. A picture of trail is on the Town Council's website (http://www.miramesatowncouncil.org/doc/Park/CaminoRuizConnectorTrail.jpg).
- Brian's ad hoc committee on fire presentation update: they received Mayor's report today; it can be accessed on SanDiego.gov.
- April 21, the committee will be discussing Brush Management issues at 9:30am.
- Council voted unanimously to purchase another fire fighting truck.
- Council unanimously passed a bill preventing sex offenders to be within 300 feet of areas frequented by children. County Superviso

City Mayor Jerry Sanders (Steven Lew)

- The mayor will be presenting the budget to the city council on April 15. There will be a town hall in Scripps Ranch on 4/24 Thursday from 6 to 7 to go over the budget.
- The mayor is pushing for water conservation. There was a class in Rancho Bernardo for residents on how to save water. There will be a series of classes all over the city.
  Question: Didn't the mayor already present in Scripps Ranch; why not Mira Mesa? Answer: The Scripps Ranch Library has a very large community room and can handle many more people.
  Question: What avenues does the mayor use to communicate with his constituents since he won't answer emails or letters or phone? Answer: A staff of only four people handle everything; see Steven Lew with any comments or questions.
  Questions: Should letters be addressed to the Mayor or Steven Lew? Answer: Steven Lew. Slew@SanDiego.gov.
  Questions: will the meeting's information be available to those who can't make it? Answer: yes, it will be on the website.

Pam Slater-Price– Erica Holloway

- Jim Gonzalez retired last Thursday.
- Regional Fire Committee has been formed and includes the Mayor and the County of San Diego to make recommendations to the county as to what to do about our regional fire fighting.
- State of the County – Chairman Cox. San Diego's financial problems: Effect on county services is still unknown.
- Community Grants are still available; see Erica for more information.
- The Supervisor is focusing on a Healthy SD April 17 in Escondido. More meetings will focus on different segments of the population.
- Pam's appointments for the year are in the newsletter.
  Question: Youth Minister at the Good Shepherd Catholic Church wants to know how gang violence will be stop. Answer: The committee is looking at more comprehensive approaches to curb gang problems.

State Assemblyman George Plescia (Liz Saidkhanian)

- All new bills are on the flyer in the back; email her office for more information.
- I-15 project between the 163 and 56 will be completed by 2012. The Ground Breaking is this month.
- 2.3 billion dollars in budget savings have been approved.

State Senator Christine Kehoe (Andrew Kennerly) –

- Package of wild life prevention bills passed.
- A Bill will be introduced to reimburse local government for wild fire costs.
- San Diego Water Board has not been responsive enough to the public and she wants to restructure it the way the airport was restructured

OPEN FORUM

- Steve Francis - Candidate for Mayor of San Diego – will hold budget meetings in Mira Mesa. Many problems are not being addressed: not fully funding police departments, potholes, budget crisis, city government is not leveling with the people. He is not taking any campaign contribution to keep special interests and developers at bay. His salary will be $1 per year. He will tell the truth about the financial condition of the city. SteveForMayor.com has more information.
- Judy Lutticken - Mira Mesa Women's Club - Chalk-the-walk 5/10 Park at the Rec Center to create art on the sidewalks. There is a fund raising by selling squares to sponsors – family of children – and to businesses around town. The more money raised the more funds to the Visual Arts will be raised. 60% of what is raised will go to the Visual Arts. She has posters; see her for one. Non-profit squares are available and come with a free table. Emily Rose is a young girl who needs cancer treatment; the fundraiser last week was at Fuddruckers and raised $730; and another $800 was donated.

  Kathy Madsen has brought invitations to Taste of Mira Mesa, put on by the Mira Mesa Foundation. Please donate. Go to MiraMesa-Foundation.org to donate or buy tickets. There is an Open Meeting to discuss what programs should not be cut due to the $400K budget cuts for Mira Mesa HS; the feedback must be received by Friday. The meeting is Tuesday 3/4 at 6pm at the HS in the library with Jeff Olivero.

(Continued on page 5)

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San Diego, CA 92121-2514
858-450-9494
www.tomsmm.com

Barry Click
Whitman Ranch
8861 Shaula Way
San Diego, CA 92126-0000
760-613-5389

Bob Coates
Business Exchange Club of San Diego
PO Box 262266
San Diego, CA. 92126
858-258-8674

Fe Haynes
Creative Memories Scrapbooks, Digital & Framing
9023 Mesa Woods Ave.
San Diego, CA. 92126
858-271-0766

Carmie Holguin
USA Federal Credit Union
10865 Black Mountain Rd.
San Diego, CA 92126
800-220-1872 x7402

Virginia King
Dr. Flowers Vision Institute
10145PacificHeights Blvd. #700
San Diego, CA. 92126
858-554-0799

Karren Strows
Partylite Gifts
10833 New Salem Way
San Diego, CA 92126-0000
619-708-2674
http://www.partylite.biz/sites/karrenscandles

Melody Mitchell
Apostolic Tabernacle of Mira Mesa
9028 Westmore Rd.
San Diego, CA. 92126
858-354-4387

Jeff Olivero
Mira Mesa High School
10510 Reagan Rd.
San Diego, CA. 92126

Keith Rosemond
Childtime
8111 New Salem St.
San Diego, CA. 92126

Mike Thompson
Math Monkey
12030 Scripps Summit Dr. #E
San Diego, CA. 92131
858-271-6284

Came Tong
COSTCO
12155 Tech Center Dr.
Poway, CA 92131
858-848-2450
www.costco.com

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7686 Miramar Road
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Please contact Jeff Stevens, jeffstev@san.rr.com, for more information.

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San Diego Unified School District Board, District A: Mitz Lee
Ph: (619) 725-5550, Fax (619) 297-5624
E-mail: board@sandi.net
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County Supervisor District 3: Pam Slater-Price
Ph: (619) 531-5533
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Representative to Mira Mesa: Jim Gonsalves

Mayor, City of San Diego: Jerry Sanders
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E-mail: JerrySanders@sandiego.gov
Website: http://www.sandiego.gov/mayor/
Representative to Mira Mesa: Stephen Lew

San Diego Community College District Board, District B: Bill Schwandt
bschwand@sdccd.edu
Website: http://www.sdccd.cc.ca.us/public/district/trustees/schwandt.html

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Ph: (619) 645-3133 Fax: (619) 645-3144
Representative to Mira Mesa: Andrew Kennerly

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San Diego County Office:462 Stevens Ave. Suite 107, Solana Beach, CA 92075
Ph: (858) 350-1150 Fax (858) 350-0750

E-mail via website: http://www.house.gov/bilbray
Field Representative: Andrew Lund

Governor: Arnold Schwarzenegger
State Capitol Building Sacramento, 95814,
Ph: (916) 445-2841, Fax: (916) 445-4633
Local office: 1350 Front St., Suite 6054, Sixth Floor San Diego 92101
Ph: (619) 525-4641
Website: www.governor.ca.gov.

LOCAL NUMBERS

General County Services Information
2-1-1 San Diego 2-1-1

Criminal Activity
Police Community Relations Office 858-538-8120
Suspected Arson 1-800-472-7766 (47ARSON)
Gangs 619-531-2847
Graffiti 619-525-8522
Non-emergency crime or suspicious activity e.g. belligerent person, car/building alarm, nuisance bar, underage drinking 858-484-3154

Nuisances
Animal, dangerous 619-236-2341
Animal, dead 858-492-5060
.....5pm-7am or weekends & holidays: 619-573-1276
Animal manure (dog) 619-338-2283
Animal, rodents/rats 858-694-2888
Building abandoned or dangerous 619-236-5500
Car abandoned or inoperative 858-495-7856
Noise (loud) ..... 619-236-5564 or 619-236-5500
Trash: uncollected, overflowing dumpster, trash-strewn lot, or recyclables 858-492-5055

Streets & Environment
Bus shelter damaged 619-231-1466
Manhole cover missing or damaged 619-515-3525
Street, flooded 619-527-7500
Street, light out (see below for traffic lights) 619-527-7500
Street, pothole 619-527-7500
Street, sink hole or collapse 619-515-3525
Street, traffic light non-functioning 619-525-8650
Swimming Pools..... 858-689-6296
Weeds overgrown, fallen trees, or clogged storm drain 619-527-7500

Utilities
Fire hydrant open 619-515-3525
Gas leak 800-411-7343
Power/phone line downed 619-811-8081
Tree limbs in power lines 800-411-7343

Mira Mesa Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
8081 Mira Mesa Boulevard
San Diego, California 92126
(858) 578-2150
Rev. Willard James, Pastor

EcoQuest INTERNATIONAL
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PO Box 928132
San Diego, CA 92192-8132
Tom (619) 933-1213
Brahna (858) 945-8667
Fax: (858) 430-2511
solution2pollution@pacbell.net

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NEW BUSINESS

- Bruce Brown has a request for graffiti paint to paint the walls along Mira Mesa Boulevard. The walls have different shades of brown from years of graffiti paintouts and need to be repainted. He is requesting $1000 for paint. They will start on Mira Mesa Blvd and Parkdale this Sunday from 8am – 10am and will continue every weekend. 100 feet a week will be completed. He will try to get the paint donated and needs volunteers. A motion to support was made, seconded, and passed with 1 opposed. Call Bruce at 858-578-2186 to find out where the next section will be.

CANDIDATES FORUM

- ***Opening Statements:***

Carl DeMaio (Carl) http://www.votecarldemaio.com/ – Mitz decided to stay with the school board; he appreciates it. He is fed up and frustrated by the ethical breaches and the problems that have not been addressed by the City Council. He is a businessman who started two companies. We need to have a watchdog on City Council. He was the first to shed a light on the city's finances. He exposed many financial issues that were denied by other politicians. He pledges to clean up city hall, but he needs our support. He will concentrate on three things: Finances, Services, and Politics. He will balance the budget by having the city live within its means and by reforming the pension system. Public safety and neighborhood services are not what they should be. Benchmarking, measuring, and setting goals and using best practices through fundamental campaign finance reform and ethics reform. The Ethics Commission has not addressed any issues. He plans on cleaning up City Hall through four years of recovery.

Bob Ilko (Bob) http://www.bobilkoforcitycouncil.com/ – He is running because he has worked with the city council for 16 years through his volunteerism. He understands all different facets including shopping cart issues, transportation, parks, police, fire, engineering, etc. He has been involved with permits, zoning, and traffic through the zoning board as well as fire prevention and neighborhood watches. He has the experience of a general engineering contractor and is an attorney in the state of California and in the Federal District Court. He organized the Cedar Fire Recovery. Quality of Life is important and check and balances are necessary. Benchmarks are not necessary as each constituent knows how long it takes the police to come out or how bad a pothole was. He has lived in Scripps since 1991.

- ***Questions:***

Q. *What are your top three issues to resolve; what will you promise to do for Mira Mesa?*
A. Bob – The top three things are checks and balances. The city council must work with the mayor and the city attorney to resolve how the city treats its employees and the condition of the roads and sewers. As far as Mira Mesa, he was a police officer and understands both sides of the badge.
A. Carl – The top three things are a balanced budget, infrastructure issues, and campaign finance reform. Nothing can be resolved until the budget is balanced. Fees need to go to the right purposes. Ethics and campaign finance rules must be fixed.
Q. *Will more fire stations by added in District 5 and what will you do to get CalFire to get its act together?*
A. Carl – The city needs more fire stations, but a comprehensive plan is needed to figure out where the money will come from to get more equipment. We need more agreements with the military to get help during natural disasters and work with CERT better. More staffing is needed in the fire department.
A. Bob – The city needs 22 more fire stations. A Community Plan was started; the budget will come out of the FBA Funds. Rancho Bernardo needs the fire station to be refurbished. The fire department must respond when called. The CERT program has special needs. He has been involved in Brush Management; in 2004, he helped with the Brush Code upgrades.
Q. *Would you be in favor of an ordinance dealing with shopping carts?*
A. Bob – He would be in favor of an ordinance, but there are other ways to pressure the property owners and the companies. Stack the carts or recycle them and use the money to help the community. The ordinance needs to be effective.
A. Carl – He would be in favor, but it must be enforced through the community. He will confront the store owners as they are not being good neighbors; he will speak to the store managers. We also need to look at other quality of life issues. Costs are high due to fees. He will clear the bureaucracy to get these projects going. He worked with Station 33.
Q. *What are your plans to reduce traffic in Mira Mesa and Hillary Drive?*
A. Carl – There is no easy solution. CalTrans wants to have a connection there, but it's not sustainable. He will be challenging the street division to come up with a comprehensive plan. He will work on targeting the limited dollars and will work with the developers. Development should pay its fair share of its impact.
A. Bob – Traffic issues are not unusual. Acceleration lanes were added to streets. He has worked with CalTrans in the past. Knowing the history of the community is important for the council members.
Q. *Describe the amount of time you lived in District 5 and your understanding of the district.*
A. Carl – If longevity is a measure of success, then our current council members should be successful. If experience is a measure of success, this is what he has. He was orphaned at 13 and came back to San Diego to build his companies and his home. He visited his 11,000 houses since June 5th. He is walking the community and every neighborhood. He is asking what his top priorities should be – people are fed up with City Hall.
A. Bob – He grew up in San Diego. He went to SD State and moved to Scripps in 1991. Every community is unique. The 5th district is his home. He has worked with Mira Mesa, Carmel Mountain, and Rancho Bernardo in addition to Scripps Ranch for years. He believes doing what is needed because it's the right thing to do and not to get awards and recognition. He went to Rancho Bernardo's commu-

Continued on page 7)

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 29—Casino Night
April1 — Taste of Mira Mesa
April 7 — Mira Mesa Town Council Meeting
April15 — Tax Day
April 18 — Mira Mesa High's Powder Puff game
April 26 — Mason Elementary Beautification
May 3 — Volunteer of the Year Dinner

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

1ST TUESDAY / April 1	**Golden Friends (Senior Center)** — Every Tuesday (business meeting on 1st Tuesday) - Mira Mesa Senior Center—10:00 a.m. **Maintenance Assessment District** — 1st Tuesday, — Mira Mesa Senior Center— 7:00 p.m. (subject to change
1ST WEDNESDAY / April 2	**Kiwanis, Scripps-Mira Branch** — Every Wednesday —Mimi's Restaurant — 7:00 a.m.
1ST MONDAY / April 7	**Town Council Meeting (MMTC)** — 1st Monday (no meeting in July & 2nd Monday in September) — Mira Mesa Library — 7:00 p.m.
2ND TUESDAY / April 8	**Golden Friends (Senior Center)** — Every Tuesday (business meeting on 1st Tuesday) - Mira Mesa Senior Center—10:00 am **Recreation Council (Parks)** — 2nd Tuesday —Lopez Ridge Rec. Center — 7:00 p.m. **Black Mountain Masonic Lodge #845 F.&A.M** — 2nd Tuesday — Mission Valley Scottish Rites Center — 7:30 pm **Business Exchange Club of San Diego**—2nd and 4th Tuesday — Courtyard by Marriott in Kearny Mesa — 6:30 pm
2ND WEDNESDAY / April 9	**Kiwanis, Scripps-Mira Branch** — Every Wednesday —Mimi's Restaurant — 7:00 a.m. **4th of July Committee** — Mira Mesa Senior Center — 6:30 p.m.
2ND THURSDAY/ April 10	**Mira Mesa Town Council Board of Directors**—Mira Mesa Senior Center—6:45 pm **Mira Mesa Street Fair Committee**—Watch calendar for next meeting date.
2ND SATURDAY / April 12	**Fil-Am Sr. Citizens Assn** — 2nd Saturday — Mira Mesa Senior Center — 10:00 a.m.
2ND SUNDAY/ April 13	**FAASDNC Meeting**—12:00pm—Mira Mesa Recreation Center
3RD TUESDAY / April 15	**Golden Friends (Senior Center)** — Every Tuesday (business meeting on 1st Tuesday) - Mira Mesa Senior Center—10:00 a.m. **Junior Women's Club (MM Branch)** —3rd Tuesday - Mira Mesa Presbyterian Church — 7:00 p.m. **Teen Center (The Epicentre) Oversight Committee** — Call Epicenter for next meeting date and time.
3RD WEDNESDAY / April 16	**Kiwanis, Scripps-Mira Branch** — Every Wednesday —Mimi's Restaurant — 7:00 a.m. **Friends of the Library** —3rd Wednesday — Mira Mesa Library — 7:00 p.m. **Halloween Committee** — 3rd Wednesday — Mira Mesa Senior Center — 7:00 p.m.
3RD THURSDAY/ April 17	**Community Pride** — 3rd Thursday — 8605 Pagoda Way — 6:30 p.m. **Los Penasquitos Canyon Preserve Citizens Advisory Committee** —3rd Thursday, odd months — Penasquitos Adobe Ranch House, — 7 p.m. **SR Center Board of Governors**— 3rd Thursday— Mira Mesa Senior Center **Mira Mesa Theatre Guild** — 3rd Thursday — Lopez Ridge Rec. Center — 6:30 p.m. (Board), 7:00 p.m. (General) **Black Mountain Democratic Club**-3rd Thursday-7-9 p.m., 10550 Caminito Flores (Mesa Village Rec. Hall 1)
3RD MONDAY / April 21	**Community Planning Group** — 3rd Monday — Mira Mesa Library — 7:00 p.m.
4TH TUESDAY / April 22	**Golden Friends (Senior Center)** — Every Tuesday (business meeting on 1st Tuesday) - Mira Mesa Senior Center—10:00 a.m. **Business Exchange Club of San Diego**—2nd and 4th Tuesday — Courtyard by Marriott in Kearny Mesa — 6:30 pm
4TH WEDNESDAY / April 23	**Kiwanis, Scripps-Mira Branch** — Every Wednesday —Mimi's Restaurant — 7:00 a.m. **Stake Holders** — 4th Wednesday, every other month —Mira Mesa Library, small conference room — 6:00 p.m. **Business Exchange Club of San Diego**—2nd and 4th Wednesday—Holiday Inn (Murphy Canyon Road) — 6:30 pm
4TH MONDAY/ April 28	**Banned Book Club**—Last Monday of each month except December at the Mira Mesa Library. 7 PM.

Highlights of the March 3, 2008 MMTC Meeting

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nity meetings for 7-8 months. If longevity is not a measure of success, then anyone who has lived in this community should be offended.

Q. Do you agree not to pollute the community with illegal political signs?

A. Bob – He would not do that.

A. Carl – He has been endorsed by 1000 in the community; signs are only placed in yard of people agreeing to it. More people should be involved in the institution. He wants to create a youth council. He wants people to participate in their local government.

Q. What do you believe is the worst threat to Mira Mesa and how can it be avoided?

A. Carl – Financial problems are the worst threat. He is running because he is fed up with the lack of progress. Four more years of no action on budget, infrastructure, or pension fund is not acceptable.

A. Bob – Traffic, parks, quality of housing, and impact of new developments in areas not capable of handling them are the worst threats. It is important to balance what the community can sustain and support and what the community wants. Open Spaces, fire brush management are causes of worry for anyone living near a canyon. He belongs to both Fire Safety Councils and CERT. These threats don't necessarily require money from the City, but to resolve them will take knowledge and experience.

Q. How will you handle the oversize vehicles, trailers, and parking control issues?

A. Bob – This issue is all over district 5. There is not enough traffic enforcement to go out every 72 hours. Ordinances already exist. A possible solution will be to work with vehicle owners and have them park in a central location; this will pay for the cost of the security by offsetting the cost of towing and parking violations.

A. Carl – This is the common issue that plagues District 5 – RVs and For Sale vehicles are parked everywhere. Another ordinance will not resolve this issue; it is necessary to provide a credible alternative. An ordinance must be comprehensive – for example, establishing a 24 hour limit for parking on the street per week. Vehicle should be in a garage or in an alternative parking area that can be monitored.

Q. How will you help restore confidence in our City Council?

A. Carl – By practicing what he preaches. He is focus on service first. He will finish walking District 5 no matter how many people run for the position. He is speaking with the people and with the politicians and current council members. The new city council can continue fighting and denying the problems, or they can get to work on the first day. Lead by example. If he can't get the support of the City Council, he will do ballot initiatives to let the public decide what should happen at City Hall.

A. Bob – By establishing Checks and Balances. The budget should be accurate and ready in a timely manner. Credibility is very important. The City Council must work with the Mayor and the City Attorney and address what is wrong instead of constantly arguing. They must develop working relationships. They could learn something by listening to the opposing side. It will be necessary to pay down the pension debt and to work with the county to get more tax dollars back to the city.

Q. Name three traits that you would like to change about yourself.

A. Bob – he wishes he were taller and more articulate. He was very sick as a child and despite this, managed to accomplish a lot in his life, but is not a very good public speaker. He might not be doing a great job getting to City Council, but he will do a great job once there. He also tends to volunteer a lot, perhaps too much.

A. Carl – He agrees that he also might be volunteering too much and taking on too much. He might be naïve because he has no concern for political consequences, but the result of this will be seen in 4 years.

Q. Would you be willing to attend each of the community meetings at least once? If so, how often?

A. Carl – Yes. He wants to be present and wishes he could be at all meetings. He is committing to attend as many things as possible. He wants the people to give him their top three priorities at the beginning of each year and they will hear from him with updates as much as necessary. Khoa did a great job; he is a member of the community council. He will partner with everyone on pro jects; he might not be at the meeting, but he will be involved.

A. Bob – He would love to be at all the meetings because this is about the voters, not the politics. He will make sure he is available to all his representatives. He would like to have his representatives more involved and to expand their knowledge and experience. He would make it out once a quarter and would focus more on where the work is needed.

Concluding statements

Bob – He is running for city council because it's personal for him. He was chairing a committee. He started doing the small things, and then moved on to bigger things. He wants to be a city council member because he wants to be an elected representative, not a politician. He and his wife have a family and are teaching them the same principles. He firmly believes in action; talking about it is one thing, doing it is different. Details must be communicated to people. Each community is unique and different and understanding how they operate is very important. He will get things done.

Carl – He is also running because it's personal. He is fed up. It's about honesty. He has been exposing what the politicians are doing to the city. He will be the watch dog on the city council stopping every single problem. He will clean up City Hall by balancing the budget and paying down our debt. He will clean up services with measurable report cards. He will clean up politics by getting the money and ethics back on track. This is what he will do over 4 years. Solid relationships will help us overcome issues in the community.

Attention Mira Mesa Town Council Members

Do you look forward to your monthly MMTC newsletter? Is your membership ready to expire?
Please look at your newsletter label and check your membership expiration date. Remember to renew your membership. Don't be left out!!! Not a member yet? You can sign-up at any MMTC meeting or visit the website for more information