March 2009

Mira Mesa Town Council Newsletter

School Board Representative John Lee Evans to Speak at March Meeting

March should be an exciting month with a presentation from our school board representative, Mr. John Lee Evans. As schools across the state face cut-backs and loss of funds, hear first hand how that will affect San Diego Unified and the future of our children. There is a crisis locally, and statewide and find out what solutions will be offered from someone in the know. Join us, please, for a meeting that hopefully will bring information on how we proceed into the future.

John Lee Evans, Ph.D., was elected to the Board in 2008. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology at Pitzer College and a Masters in Psychology and Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology at U.S. International University. While in college he helped found and direct a community preschool and elementary tutoring center. He gained international experience by studying for one year at the University of Madrid and serving as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Honduras for three years. Once in San Diego, Dr. Evans taught Spanish at a language institute where he later became director. He was an English as a Second Language (ESL) instructor in the San Diego Community College District Continuing Education Division for more than eight years and also taught psychology at Southwestern College. He has a lifetime credential to teach at the community college level in California. Dr. Evans is currently a clinical psychologist in private practice, working with children, adolescents and adults. He is a member of the San Diego, California, and American Psychological Associations.
As a parent, Dr. Evans has been a member of the Fletcher Elementary School Site Council, a classroom and PTA volunteer at Spreckels Elementary, a group leader for seminar parents At Standley Middle School and a member of the University City High School Governance Team. He and his wife live in University City. Their three grown children all attended San Diego Unified schools.

Attention all Mira Mesa Community Groups
The Mira Mesa Chamber of Commerce has created a community wide calendar email list. All Mira Mesa groups/schools/churches/etc. can send community events/happenings/fundraisers to be placed on the list to calendar@MiraMesaChamber.com. To get on the email distribution list contact Mark@MiraMesa.com
Here is your chance to let everyone know about your event and to check for dates available to prevent event conflict dates.

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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 **March 2, 2009** meeting:

- John Lee Evans
- Farmers Market

The next MMTC meeting is **Monday, April 6, 2009**

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.

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Mira Mesa Town Council

Annual Membership Application

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10606-8 Camino Ruiz
San Diego, CA 92126

Primary Member Name			☐ New Member
Companion Member Name (s)			☐ Renewal
Address			☐ Address Change
City	State	Zip	Date
Home Phone	Work Phone	Email Address/Website	

☐ Regular Individual ($20) with _____ Companion Members ($10 each)
☐ Senior (Age 60 and over — $10)
☐ Corporate/Business Member ($50)
☐ Associate Member (non-voting — $20)

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.

President's Message

By MMTC President Jeff Stevens

The City Council is doing outreach to citizens to identify ways to close a very large budget deficit that is projected to exceed $50 million in FY2010 and $100 million in FY 2011 and 2012. The deficit is due to expected cost increases and investment losses. The Independent Budget Analyst has done a thorough review of the budget and all of the options available to close the gap. On February 14th, the City Council Budget Committee held a budget hearing at the Mira Mesa Library. Following is a summary of comments I made at that meeting.

First, City Services have been cut back drastically since 2002, and should not be cut back further. The City is now at the point of stopping trash pickup near the beaches and letting trash accumulate and then asking residents to go and pick it up. Here in Mira Mesa the Recreation Center in our main Community Park is only open on Sundays because the Recreation Council is paying for it, in spite of the fact that the only restrooms in the park are in the Recreation Center. So City Services have declined to the extent that the City thinks it is OK to leave a Community Park that serves 75,000 people without restroom facilities on a Sunday afternoon when many families are using the park.

Closing the budget gap requires both reductions in labor costs, and additional revenue sources. To reduce labor costs while avoiding layoffs and more service cuts, I made the following suggestions: 1) Do not increase salaries for at least the next couple of years (Unfortunately, the budget projections already assume this). In addition to directly reducing costs, this also reduces the pension liability, which is based on peak salary. 2) The employee and City are each supposed to pay 10% of salary into the pension fund each year, but currently the City is paying 3% of the employee's part. This should be stopped; and 3) for the next couple of years, implement a two week furlough. The furlough could be scheduled for the last half of December since that is a light time for City business.

The IBA report identifies a number of taxes and fees that could provide additional income. Two of these cover City costs that are currently being paid out of the general fund. First is a storm drain fee – current fees do not cover the City's costs. Second is a residential trash collection fee. This is controversial, but it is very rare for a city to pay for trash pickup out of the general fund, and businesses and apartments already pay for it. Both of these fees require a vote of the people.

Longer term, the pension system needs to be restructured. The problem is not primarily the size of the pensions, but that the pensions have become disconnected from the income and earnings of the pension fund. This happened for two reasons: 1) When the pension fund was doing well in the '80s and '90s the City diverted money from the fund to other uses; and 2) since the fund has been doing poorly in recent years, the output has not been able to adjust to the lower earnings.

The bottom line is that we need to work with the City to identify cost savings and new income sources to avoid further reductions in City services.

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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)**
- **Banner District Committee**

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.

Taste of Mira Mesa 2009

By Kathy Madsen

Taste of Mira Mesa IV will be on Tuesday, March 31st 6:30 – 8:30 PM once again at Gen-Probe's beautiful courtyard. As of this date, Chili's Grill and Bar, Callahan's Pub and Brewery, Island's, Red Lobster, Jamba Juice, Macaroni Grill, and Applebee's have signed on to bring samples of their best food for our patrons, with several other local restaurants pending. (If you own a restaurant ,and would like to participate, but haven't been contacted call Kathy Madsen 858 578-4110).

If you would like to donate items for our silent auction, you may contact Kathy Madsen at 858 578-4110. To date we have received thousands of dollars in donated items. Jennifer Kvalvik and Christine Hight of MMHS are busy putting the baskets together.

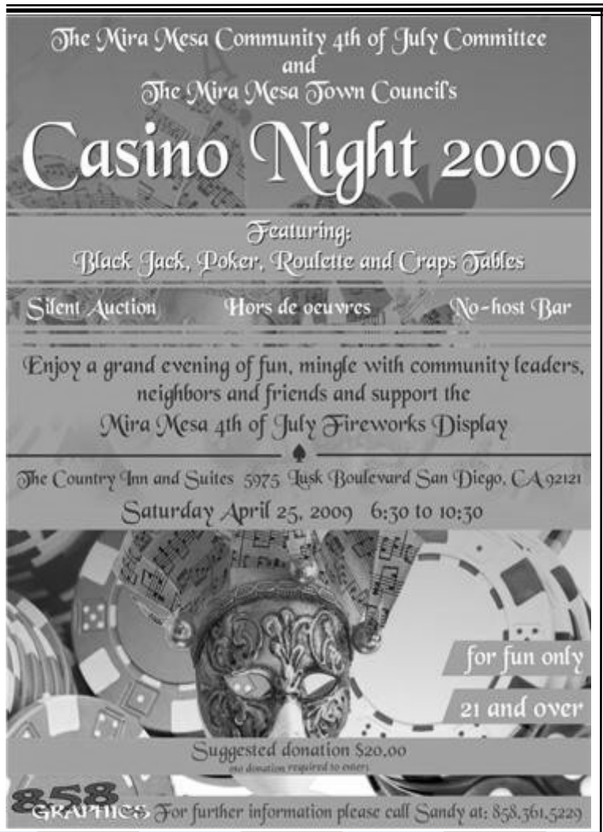
Advanced ticket sales for this event will begin on February 20 and run through March 20. The cost this year is $30 per person if you are registering early, and $40 per person at the door. After February 20, you will be able to register from our website: Miramesahighschoolfoundation.org, or by calling Kathy Madsen at 858-578-4110.

We are also lining up community dignitaries who to attend a VIP Circle, one half hour before the event, for those who would like to come early and visit with our local dignitaries. Watch for more information to come regarding our VIP Circle.

Mark your calendar. This is an event you won't want to miss. The students, faculty and staff of Mira Mesa High School will benefit from your attendance.

Pack 1203 Needs More Cub Scouts:

Do you have a son in grades 1-5 who'd enjoy a variety of activities this winter, spring, and summer, including hiking, camping, crafts and competitions such as building and racing small boats and cars, and the fellowship and fun of being with other boys his age? Pack 1203 of Mira Mesa is looking for new Cub Scouts. Each year offers new and exciting activities. The Cub Scout Pack activities include several camping trips each year, participation in the Mira Mesa 4th of July Parade, easy hiking, trips and other outdoor events. The Pack conducts annual events where the scouts build small boats (Raingutter Regatta) and cars (Pinewood Derby) to race. Please contact the Pack Leaders for more information: Cubmasters Ricardo Salcedo at (858) 271-8367 or Laura Mecalis at (858) 693-8566.



MMCS Upcoming Events:

Mira Mesa Christian School invites you to their upcoming events 2009.

March 3	Science Fair & Open House
March 6,	Kindergarten Roundup
April 6-10	Easter Vacation
April 24	Jog-A-Thon
May 8	Mother's Tea
May 27-29	Bible Olympics
June 3	Awards Ceremony
June 4	Kindergarten & Sixth Grade Graduation
June 5	Last Day of School BBQ & Swim
June 15	Summer Fun Program begins

For more information please contact MMCSAdmin@sbcglobal.net

SAVE THE DATE!

Ted Brengel, Mira Mesa's 2008 Volunteer of the Year, will be honored at the Volunteer of the Year dinner to take place on June 6, 2009. The event will take place at the Miramar Officer's Club on the Miramar Marine Base. Watch this publication for further details.

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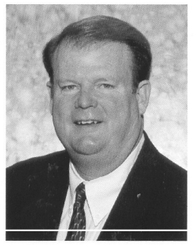

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1997 Volunteer of the Year
Past MMTC Board Member
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Past Community Pride Chair
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Your Mira Mesa Farmer's Market - Coming Spring 2009!

By Brian o. Wissinger

Our target is for an April 2009 opening of your new Mira Mesa Farmer's Market, sponsored by the Mira Mesa High School Foundation with the support of the Mira Mesa Chamber of Commerce. The respective agencies are processing the applications, and you will see your Mira Mesa Farmer's Market opening this spring at the corner of Mira Mesa Blvd. and Reagan Road (expected location at present time.)

50% of the net proceeds will go towards supporting our students and our Mira Mesa High School's budget during these difficult economic times.

With emphasis to 'buy local' becoming more appropriate for our environment and energy conservation, farmer's markets are the fastest growing area of the United States food system.

Your Mira Mesa Chamber of Commerce's (MMCC) Board members have been working since the 3rd quarter of 2008 to bring together the people needed to make our community's farmer's market become a reality this spring. Those people included our Mira Mesa High School Principal, Mr. Scott Guisti, Mrs. Jennifer Kvalvik- MMHS Business Coordinator, Mrs. Kathy Madsen - of our Mira Mesa High School Foundation, and Mr. Ron LaChance - present manager of several farmers' markets in our county. We would like to extend our appreciation to all of them and the people we are all working with to make this market a reality for our community.

VENDOR APPLICATION:
http://www.miramesachamber.com/documents/Mira-Mesa-Farmers-Market-Vendor-Application.pdf

DID YOU KNOW ...

More than 6,000 farmer's work to make agriculture a billion dollar industry in San Diego County

You can become a Certified Farmer/Producer* and sell your products at our Farmer's Market(s). The San Diego County Department of Agriculture, Weights and Measures will certify local gardeners/farmers to sell their produce at farmer's markets:

In most cases, only three (3) plants or tree of same produce are required to participate;

What is a Certified Farmer?

Inspectors from the Department of Agriculture, Weights and Measures inspect farms and other properties to verify what is raised or grown there. After satisfactorily meeting the requirements of the inspection, the farmer is certified for specific products. This certification allows the farmer to sell his produce at Certified Farmers' Markets.

Go here for information and Certified Producer application package - http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/awm/farmers_markets.html

This site http://ciwmb.ca.gov/Schools/Curriculum/Worms/ has K-12 grade curriculum;

Excellent home garden composting sites, etc:

http://whatcom.wsu.edu/ag/compost/mrcpubs.htm#rain
http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/Organics/HomeCompost/

Angel Prado wins Student Speakers' Contest

By George Folwarski

On February 03, 2009 the San Diego Executive Lions Club (SDELC) conducted a Student Speakers Contest at the Mira Mesa High School. This contest is part of the Lions Clubs International program covering Youth Services, which has been held annually for the past 72 years as a community service program throughout the country. The purpose of the contest is to provide an opportunity for competitive public speaking among students and to stimulate self-expression and independent thinking for students in grades 9-12. Speaker's theme was "Water will California be left High & Dry?"

l. to r. Lion Helen Quintanilla, Scott Guisti (Principal MMHS), Paula Earnest (MMHS Debate Team Coach), Angel Prado (student – winner),

The Mira Mesa Community Planning Group will hold elections March 16th. . For more information, see http://www.miramesatowncouncil.org/planning_group.

MM Library Chess Club Now Meets Twice a Week

The Mira Mesa Library Chess Club now offers all levels of players (youth and adult, beginning, intermediate and advance) the opportunity to place chess twice a week, Mondays from 6 to 8 p.m. and Saturdays from Noon to 2 p.m. A Spring Tournament will take place in May 2009. For more information, contact the Mira Mesa Branch Library, (858) 538-8165.

Highlights of the February 2, 2009 MMTC Meeting

POLICE AND FIRE REPORTS

Police Department (Officer Paul Lennon, Lt. Rick O'Hanlon)

♦The gang detail is present as well as Captain Mark Jones and Lieutenant Andy Mills. The Captain stated that the gang issues in Mira Mesa have decreased significantly.

♦Lieutenant Mills said that Mira Mesa has minimal gang activity.

1. In 2005, there were 47 gang motivated shooting attributed to the Asian gangs, which were mostly based in Mira Mesa.
2. In 2006, there were 19 gang-motivated shootings.
3. In 2007, there were 19 gang-motivated shootings as well.
4. Last year, there were 3 shootings city-wide; 2 of them were in Mira Mesa.

- ♦ The people in Mira Mesa are much safer as a result. On the prevention side of things, the gang commission is working on finding jobs and counseling for people who are likely to become gang members.
- ♦ There are about 4,000 recognized gang members. Los Angeles has about 100,000 recognized gang members in San Diego.
- ♦ Captain Johns has five officers and a sergeant for Mira Mesa and Rancho Penasquitos.
- ♦ Operation E-Ticket has shown the problem stems from the community to the world; it's a global problem. The schools, the churches, and the community must work together to eradicate the problem all together.
- ♦ Question: Is there a connection between gangs and graffiti of "13"?
  Answer: Yes, a known gang in Mira Mesa tags "13"; if you see graffiti take a digital picture before it's painted over so felony charges can be filed.
- ♦ Question: Where do the guns come from?
  Answer: They come from a variety of places – one of which is from gun shows in Arizona. Gun members also trade guns with other gang groups. A tattoo shop on University Avenue was selling illegal guns; a sting operation shut them down. Homicides due to gangs are down 25%.
- ♦ Question: How do we feed information to the schools?
  Answer: It is done through the Gang Commission. An officer works with kids full time as well. If you want to get involved, join a social group or a faith based organization.
- ♦ Question: Is it true that the Asian gang members are very different from usual gangs?
  Answer: It's somewhat true. The demographics are different. The main thing is that parents need to pay attention to their kids. They should check the children's bedroom and test them if they suspect any drug use.
- ♦ Please email Andrew Mills at amills@pd.sandiego.gov with any gang intelligence.

SD Fire Department (Capt. Myers)

- ♦ Captain John Tanaka is new to fire station 38. His crew consists of Andy, Patrick, and John.
- ♦ There are around 150 incidents per month; things have been relatively quiet.
- ♦ Question: Is there a renovation scheduled for Fire Station 38?
  Answer: Not that he knows of.

ELECTED REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

City Councilman Carl DeMaio (John Ly)

- ♦ The Mayor stated there might be a level 2 water crisis. There is a panel on Feb 10th at 6pm and the Rancho Penasquitos Library.
- ♦ The E-Waste drive is on 2/7 at 9 AM at Casa de la Campanas at 18655 West Bernardo Drive in Rancho Bernardo.
- ♦ The Tet Festival was a wonderful event.
- ♦ The shade structure will be up soon at Westview Park.
- ♦ There will be $40 million in cuts – salaries and furloughs (saving of $7.2 million)
- ♦ Mira Mesa Library had the highest attendance in the city of San Diego.
- ♦ Pot holes – email John all pot holes so they can be fixed; his email is JwLy@sandiego.gov.

County Supervisor Pam Slater-Price (Erica Holloway)

- ♦ Supervisor Diane Jacobs is the Chair of the Board now.
- ♦ Edgemoor Hospital is now open.
- ♦ We no longer have a County Assessor; the position is open. Applications will be accepted through 2/18.
- ♦ The San Elijo Nature Center is completely green and there are live animals on the site. It's now open.
- ♦ David Kreitzer , the county planning commissioner, just retired and was replaced by Peter Norby

City Mayor Jerry Sanders (Steven Lew)

- ♦ Not present; Pam will call his office.

(Continued on page 5)

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Rainbow Kids Integral School
11345 Zapata Avenue
San Diego, CA 92126-0000
858-271-6985

Robert Pike
RCP Inspections
10517 Westonhill Drive
San Diego, CA. 92126
858-693-0051
rcpinspections1@msn.com

Brooke Chambless
Red Carpet Realty
8250-B Mira Mesa Blvd.
San Diego, CA 92126
858-722-9322
BrookeSDCA@aol.com

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(11 issues)

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

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ELECTED OFFICIALS

City Council District 5: Carl DeMaio,
Ph. (619) 236-6655, Fax (619) 238-0915
E-mail: carldemaio@sandiego.gov
Website: http://www.sandiego.gov/citycouncil/cd5/index.shtml
*Representative to Mira Mesa*John Ly, JwLy@sandiego.gov.

San Diego Unified School District Board, District A: John Lee Evans
Ph: (619) 725-5550, Fax (619) 297-5624
E-mail: board@sandi.net
District Website: http://www.sdcs.k12.ca.us/
Website: http://www.sandi.net/board/evans.pdf.

County Supervisor District 3: Pam Slater-Price
Ph: (619) 531-5533
E-mail: pam-slater@co.san-diego.ca.us
Website: http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/cnty/bos/sup3/
Representative to Mira Mesa: Erica Holloway

Mayor, City of San Diego: Jerry Sanders
Ph: (619) 236-6330 Fax: (619) 236-7228
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

State Assembly, 75th District: Nathan Fletcher
9909 Mira Mesa blvd., Ste. 130,
San Diego, CA 92131
Ph: (858) 689-6290, Fax: (858) 689-6296
Website: : http://republican.assembly.ca.gov/members/a75/index.aspx
Capitol office: State Capitol Room 3141 ,
Sacramento, CA 95814
Ph: (916) 319-2075.
Field Representative:

State Senate, 39th District: Christine Kehoe
2445 Fifth Avenue, Suite 200
San Diego, CA 92101
Ph: (619) 645-3133 Fax: (619) 645-3144
Representative to Mira Mesa: Andrew Kennerly

Congressman, 50th District: Brian Bilbray
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

County Supervisor District 4—Ron Roberts
S.D. County Administration Center: 1600 Pacific Highway, Room 335,
San Diego, CA. 92101
Ph: (619)531-5544
E-mail: ron-roberts@sdcounty.ca.gov
Web site: http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/cnty/bos/sup4/
Field Representative:

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

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Tom (619) 933-1213
Brahna (858) 945-8667
Fax: (858) 430-2511
solution2pollution@pacbell.net

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State Assemblyman Nathan Fletcher (Oscar Urteaga)
- The budget has not yet been passed. The state will be running out of money in the next few days.
- Nathan has been working to pass the budget to not only address our short term needs, but to also support our long term goals.
- Nathan's community assignments include being the Vice-Chair of Health. He is on the committee of accountability and oversight and of housing and community development.
- There will be an open house at Nathan's office; date is to be announced soon.
- Nathan would like to go speak to the senior government classes of all the high schools in the area. Please email Oscar at *oscar*.urteaga@asm.ca.gov if there is an interest.
- Fletcher's Capital Update – he gives a quick update of what's going on in the Capital. A teacher from Southern Escondido is mentioned.
- Budget reform – we must end the boom and bust cycles of spending in California. If CA were a country, it would be the 8th largest.
- Job creation: we have the third highest unemployment in the nation at 9.3%.
- Question: Is Nathan and the Governor going to receive IOUs like all of us?
  Answer: Our office is not looking into it as it's not certain it will happen; we are expecting the budget to pass in time to avoid this drastic measure.
- Question: If the people are hurting, why aren't the legislature's members not having their pay cut like the people of California?
  Answer: All members of the legislature are working diligently to come up with a solution.

State Senator Christine Kehoe (Andrew Kennerly, Laura Hein)
- Not present

Congressman Brian Bilbray (Andrew Lund)
- Not present

County Supervisor Ron Roberts ()
- Not present

State Senator Hollingsworth (Ellen Malin)
- Not present

MCAS Miramar (Juan Lias)
- Not present

School Board Member John Lee Evans
- Not present

COMMUNITY GROUP REPORTS
- **Mira Mesa Chamber of Commerce (Mike Davis)** – Give John Ly (Carl DeMaio's assistant) all volunteer group information for a project that will share processes, resources, and contacts associated with volunteer groups.
- **Planning Group (Ted Brengel)** – The meeting will be on Tuesday, February 17th at 7 PM at the Mira Mesa Senior center.
- **4th of July Committee (Sandy Smith)** –
  1. Received a grant of $6,000 from Pam Slater-Price.
  2. Casino Night is 4/25 starting at 6:30. Admission is $20 per person. Sponsors receive four tickets. People who donate for the auctions will receive two tickets. Please contact Sandy Smith for sponsorship information.
- **HEROES (Mike Davis)** – "Cosmetic make-over day" on Saturday, 14 Feb, for Mark Twain Alternative Senior High School. HEROES continues to need full community support / visibility in looking for needy or disadvantaged seniors / disabled folks to assist, or worthy community projects too, please help locate them.

NEW BUSINESS
Corey Beckwith – San Diego Fire Dept.
- Corey is the Captain with the SD City Department at Station 35 and VP of Local 135.
- He is presenting at many community meetings to explain what the firemen do when they are not on a call.
- Station 38 needs renovation; closing fire engines is a high risk solution to the budget crisis. Educating the public is very important to make sure the community understands the role of the firefighters.
- The mailing list will keep individuals informed as to potential cuts, what the fire department does, and other information that are relevant and information.
- There are 47 fire stations in the city of San Diego.
- The fire department:
  1. Deals with fire suppression
  2. Answers medical emergencies through the EMS system
  3. Does FCIC programs
  4. Is responsible to make sure libraries and public buildings are up to code

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UPCOMING EVENTS

March 2—Mira Mesa Town Council Meeting at MM Library 7:00 pm
March 5—Hello Dolly at MMHS 3:00 pm
March 6—Hello Dolly at MMHS 7:00 pm
March 7—Hello Dolly at MMHS 2:00 pm
March 8—Daylight Savings Time begins
March 13 & 14—Hello Dolly at MMHS 7:00 pm
March 17—St Patrick's Day
March 31—Taste of Mira Mesa at GenProbe 6:30 to 8:30 pm

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

1ST MONDAY / March 2	**Town Council Meeting (MMTC)** — 1st Monday (no meeting in July & 2nd Monday in September) — Mira Mesa Library — 7:00 p.m.
1ST TUESDAY / March 3	**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 / March 4	**Kiwanis, Scripps-Mira Branch** — Every Wednesday —Mimi's Restaurant — 7:00 a.m.
2ND Monday March 9	**Mira Mesa Town Council Board of Directors**—Mira Mesa Senior Center—6:45 pm
2ND TUESDAY / March 10	**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 **Exchange Club of San Diego**—2nd and 4th Tuesday — Courtyard by Marriott in Kearny Mesa — 6:30 pm
2ND WEDNESDAY / March 11	**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 SATURDAY / March 14	**Fil-Am Sr. Citizens Assn** — 2nd Saturday — Mira Mesa Senior Center — 10:00 a.m.
2ND SUNDAY/ March 15	**FAASDNC Meeting**—12:00pm—Mira Mesa Recreation Center
3RD MONDAY / March 16	**Community Planning Group** — 3rd Monday — Mira Mesa Library — 7:00 p.m.
3RD TUESDAY / March17	**Golden Friends (Senior Center)** — Every Tuesday (business meeting on 1st Tuesday) - Mira Mesa Senior Center—10:00 a.m. **Mira Mesa Women's Club** —3rd Tuesday - Mira Mesa Presbyterian Church — 7:00 p.m. **Teen Center (The Epicentre) Oversight Committee** — Call Epicenter for next meeting date and time. Mira Mesa Chamber of Commerce—Location Varies—6:00pm
3RD WEDNESDAY / March 18	**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/ March 19	**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 **Black Mountain Democratic Club**-3rd Thursday-7-9 p.m., 10550 Caminito Flores (Mesa Village Rec. Hall 1)
4TH MONDAY/ March 23	**Banned Book Club**—Last Monday of each month except December at the Mira Mesa Library. 7 PM.
4TH TUESDAY / March 24	**Golden Friends (Senior Center)** — Every Tuesday (business meeting on 1st Tuesday) - Mira Mesa Senior Center—10:00 a.m. **Exchange Club of San Diego**—2nd and 4th Tuesday — Courtyard by Marriott in Kearny Mesa — 6:30 pm **Mira Mesa Theatre Guild** — 4th Tuesday — Mira Mesa Rec. Center — 6:30 p.m. (Board), 7:00 p.m. (General)
4TH WEDNESDAY / March 25	**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

Highlights of the February 2, 2009 MMTC Meeting

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5. Is trained in Weapons of Mass Destruction awareness
6. Handles helicopter operation and HAZMAT
7. Is the bomb squad
8. Has a search and rescue team
9. Handles the fire fighting

- The difference between an engine and a truck:
  1. There are 47 fire engines, but only 4 truck companies in San Diego.
  2. The trucks are much bigger and are usually involved in the search and rescue or ventilations. They don't carry water.
  3. Engines usually carry water and are first on the scene.
  4. Engine and trucks are staffed with 4 people and have at least one paramedic.
- The national standard is a five minutes response time; in this community, we only meet this 40% of the time due to lack of staffing.
- We are 300 to 400 firemen short.
- Please help support the Fire Department when cuts are mentioned. They are already very short-staffed. Calls are increasing drastically from three years ago and yet, staffing does not increase.
- Rolling brown-outs (closing two engine companies per day for 24 hours on a rolling basis in all double houses) can't happen.
- Response time would increase drastically. The City Council members listened to this and agreed, but it would have happened if the Fire Chief had stood up and educated the City Council.
- The Fire Department wants to continue attending the meeting to educate everyone about how the fire department works.

Kathy Blair – ITN San Diego

- Chuck Overbey is here for Kathy Blair.
- Independent Transportation Network for people 60 and over.
- http://www.itnsandiego.org/
- Mission: To provide a community-based, community-supported, economically viable and consumer-oriented, quality transport tation service for seniors.
- Vision: ITN imagines a day when all seniors will have transportation when they want it.
- $50 annual membership fee and $11 on average contribution for each trip, which cover about half the cost.
- They are available 24 hours a day and seven days a week.

OPEN FORUM

Dyanna Smith – Chalk the Walk

5/9 at the Mira Mesa Recreation Center.
Pam Slater-Price has made a donation.
http://www.mmwomensclub.com/ChalkAnnualFestival.html

Orlando Vernachia – In opposition of the Hillery onramp for I-15

CalTrans is planning on adding a ramp to 15 on Hillery.
There is already too much traffic in Mira Mesa.
More traffic could be a risk to the community should a fire break-out; people would not be able to leave the area.

Ted Brengel:

Managed lanes will be much longer than regular lanes.
There is a need for a direct access ramp in Mira Mesa – one by Galvin or one by Hillery. Galvin would be 30 feet from the school.
Traffic on Hillery is already very much impacted and this will make things worse; Hillery Drive could become impassable.
The Planning Group is asking CalTrans what they plan to do about it.
The bus depot by the college is pending and is one reason why CalTrans prefers the Hillery option.
Mira Mesa Planning Group website: http://www.miramesatowncouncil.org/planning_group.htm

- Debbie Vincent would like a community forum about this.
- Orlando's neighbor, Ben, agrees. It can take up to half an hour to get out of their drive-way and people drive at very high speeds down Hillery.
- A young gentleman mentioned that:
  The school buses were very uncomfortable and took too long.
  He would appreciate some help with this matter.

OLD BUSINESS

- '09 Budget Approval
  1. The budget is based on actual figures from last year.
  2. The budget is posted on http://www.miramesatowncouncil.org/.
  3. Motion to approve the '09 Budget is made. Motion is seconded. Motion is approved.