November 2009

Mira Mesa Town Council Newsletter

Hot on the heels of our school principal and education meeting we have joining us, in November, Mr. Dan McAllister, San Diego County Treasurer and Tax Collector. Come loaded with questions for Mr. McAllister who has been our treasurer since 2002. Find out how the county is doing and where it's going as we look into the future. It should be a very informative night but you need to be here to get answers. Join us, please, at the Mira Mesa Library's Community Room on November 2 at 7PM.

Dan McAllister, *Treasurer*, County of San Diego

Dan McAllister was elected San Diego County Treasurer-Tax Collector by nearly 60% in November 2002. In June 2006, he was re-elected to a second term by 100% of the vote. As San Diego County Treasurer -Tax Collector, he has shaped his office into a strong regional fiscal resource and taken a number of steps to make his office a catalyst for innovation, transparency and best practices.

He is responsible for investing and managing more than $6.2 billion of public funds, which includes the San Diego County investment pool and other dedicated portfolios. His management of the County's investment pool has earned the highest credit quality rating (AAAf/S1) from Standard & Poor's.

McAllister also has a wide variety of public debt issuance experience. He serves as paying agent for 99 school district general obligation (GO) bond issues, as well as assists all 42 public school districts within San Diego County with their bond transactions. As an essential member of the County's Debt Advisory Committee, he participates in the oversight of all San Diego County related debt issuances including the County's GOs, pension obligation bonds, tobacco securitization bonds, and certificates of participation. The County's current outstanding debt portfolio size is approximately $1.6 billion.

Under his leadership, the number of San Diego County Pool participants has increased as a direct result of his outreach efforts. He has led numerous forums and workshops covering debt, investment and public finance. Additionally, his innovative Community Banking Initiative has provided strong yields to San Diego County Investment Pool participants while also providing capital for local economic expansion. For the past five and one half years, McAllister has served as a Board Trustee for the San Diego County Employees Retirement Association ("SDCERA"), an $8.7 billion public employee pension fund. Under his leadership as the Board Chair from May 2003 to June 2005, SDCERA recorded strong investment returns and was recognized as one of the best performing pension funds in its peer group nationwide.

McAllister is also responsible for collecting more than $4 billion dollars in San Diego County property taxes each year. His efforts to streamline the tax collection process, implement cost-effective technologies, and cross-train customer service staff have resulted in net cost savings, improved customer service, and greater financial controls over County funds.

Prior to his election, he was a successful and respected financial consultant and investment broker with a major national brokerage firm. He recently completed a six-year term on the Board of Directors of the San Diego Convention Center Corporation, the agency that operates the region's major convention facility. During his tenure on the Board, the Convention Center doubled in size and increased its annual revenues significantly. McAllister served as Board Chair and Treasurer. Continued on page 3

Inside this issue:

Monthly Meeting Notes	1
President's Message	2
What's New?	3
Last Month's Meeting Minutes	4-5
Calendar	6
Elected Officials/Local Numbers	8
Advertisements/Business Members	9
Business Members (continued)	10
Announcements/MM Happenings	11

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 **November 2, 2009** meeting:

- **Dan McAllister, City Treasurer - Tax Collector**
- **MMTC elections**

The next MMTC meeting is **Monday, December 7, 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.

Mira Mesa Town Council
PMB 230
10606-8 Camino Ruiz
San Diego, CA 92126

Mira Mesa Town Council

Annual Membership Application

Mail to:
Mira Mesa Town Council
PMB 230
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

Our guest speaker in November will be County of San Diego Treasurer and Tax Collector Dan McAllister. Many of you have received your property tax bills recently. Dan McAllister is the recipient of your payment. He is also responsible for investing and managing more than $6.2 billion of public funds in the San Diego county investment pool. He was guest speaker at a previous meeting some time ago and is an excellent speaker. For more background information on Dan McAllister see http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/ttc/docs/dvm_bio.pdf.

We had a very successful Mira Mesa Street Fair on September 26. Putting on this event is a lot of work and I really want to thank the Street Fair committee members for all of their time and effort. This year's Street Fair committee members are: Jeff Stevens, Mike Davis, John Daley, Rose Malihan, Ernie Schnepf, Robin Stutsman, Ted Brengel, Karen Burger, Donna Carter, Virgil Harris, Jon Labaw, Ray Pinnock, Chuck Sweet, Pam Stevens and Sandy Smith. In addition to being a great community event, the Street Fair also earned about $10,000 which will be used to support MMTC activities such as scholarships, graffiti paint, street banners and local community events such as the Halloween Carnival and Fourth of July celebration.

This month, we will elect the 2010 Mira Mesa Town Council Board of Directors. If you are interested in being on the Board next year, or would like to recommend someone for a Board position, please contact MMTC parliamentarian and nominating committee chair Debbie Vincent at debbie.pta@gmail.com. Note that all MMTC members are eligible (and encouraged) to run for any Board position, vacant or not, except that candidates for President must have served on the Board previously. You can find a list of Board positions and their duties in the bylaws on the MMTC website under Membership.

Finally, it is time to nominate volunteers for the 2009 Volunteer of the Year award. There is a form included in this newsletter and on the MMTC website. The volunteer of the year need not be a MMTC member, but should be someone who has made a significant contribution to Mira Mesa through volunteer work over years s/he has been involved with the community. The deadline for nominations is November 10th, and we will select the volunteer of the year at the December MMTC meeting.

Mira Mesa Halloween Carnival

Mark your calendars for the evening of October 30, 2009. The Mira Mesa Halloween Carnival will take place at the Mira Mesa Recreation Center. Come in costume and participate in the contests. The evening promises fun and games for everyone!!

MIRA MESA TOWN COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS, 2009

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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.

Heavenly Hands Craft Bazaar

The Mira Mesa Presbyterian Church is holding its annual Heavenly Hands Crafts Bazaar on Saturday, November 14th from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at 8081 Mira Mesa Blvd in Mira Mesa (SW corner of Reagan Rd and Mira Mesa Blvd). A wide selection of handmade arts, crafts and baked goods will be available along with a drawing for a beautiful handmade quilt with a Christmas theme and a framed cross-stitch of the Praying Hands. Food, drinks and entertainment will be provided.
For more information call Patrick or Mary Jane Hubbard at 858-271-0194.

Banned Book Club Meets Nov. 30, Jan. 25

By Pam Stevens

The Mira Mesa Banned Book Club, a monthly book discussion group with a "freedom to read" theme, will meet on Monday, Nov. 30, 7 p.m. at the Mira Mesa Library, to discuss *Jitterbug Perfume* by Tom Robbins. Everyone interested in talking about this thought-provoking book is welcome!

Jitterbug Perfume is an epic with four distinct storylines, one set in 8th century Bohemia and three others in modern day New Orleans, Seattle, and Paris. The book's themes include the striving for immortality, the meaning behind the sense of smell, individual expression, self-reliance, sex, love, and religion. Beets and the god Pan figure prominently.

The Banned Book Club focuses on reading and discussing books from the American Library Association's list of books that have been banned or challenged (i.e. someone filed a protest to have them removed from a public or school library) somewhere in the past or present, as well as other titles that tie into the theme. Regular meetings are the last Monday of the month in the Mira Mesa Library community meeting room from 7 to 8 p.m. There will be no meeting in December.

On Jan. 25 the group will discuss Ralph Ellison's "The Invisible Man," and on Feb. 22 the title will be "Fanny Hill" by John Cleland. Drop-in visitors who'd like to discuss a particular title are welcome each month, and new regular participants are encouraged to join the group at any time. Questions? Call the Mira Mesa Branch Library, (858) 538-8165, or email book group facilitator Pam Stevens, pstevens@san.rr.com.

Mira Mesa Schools Advisory Board Now Forming - Next Meeting Nov. 9

by Pam Stevens

Mira Mesa parents, teachers, school principals, and community leaders came together Oct. 12 at a meeting facilitated by San Diego Unified School District Board Member John Lee Evans to discuss the formation of a Mira Mesa Schools Advisory Board. The new community-based group would serve both as an information-sharing body and as a common voice to speak more effectively in dealing with the School Board and District staff on issues and projects affecting Mira Mesa schools.

The next meeting for those interested in creating the new Mira Mesa Schools Advisory Board will take place on Monday, Nov. 9, 6 p.m. in the Mira Mesa High School Media Center. Erik Basil, a Hage Elementary School parent, will lead the discussion that evening.

At the Oct. 12 meeting, Evans led the group in a brief discussion of three key areas that will likely be ongoing topics for the new group: What are we doing that is working very well and needs to be continued? What are we doing that is ineffective and needs to be stopped? What are we not doing that we need to be doing to improve our schools?

One item that some parents at the meeting said was a frustration is dealing with District rules for how things are done throughout the City, which sometimes are applied in a way that can hinder the ability of a local school's Foundation, PTA, or other volunteer body to help their school. An example cited involved helping a school with physical equipment needs, such as purchasing and arranging for the installation of window air conditioners where there's a need.

Two kindergarten teachers at the meeting, one from Hickman and one from Ericson, expressed a concern about growing class sizes in kindergarten classes.

In general, parents, teachers, and community members were happy with the academic and extracurricular programs Mira Mesa students have available. School Board Member John Lee Evans mentioned that with current budget shortfalls, difficult decisions will continue to need to be made. He said that the School Board will need to weigh priorities as they make their budget decisions for next year. What makes the most sense for all schools? Does it makes sense for some schools or community clusters of schools (i.e. all the schools K-12 that feed into a given high school) to be able to set their own priorities on certain things?

John Lee Evans mentioned a possible model for the new Mira Mesa Schools Advisory Board as being officially composed of three representatives – a parent, a teacher, and an administrator – from each Mira Mesa school at the elementary, middle, and high school level, as well as some general community representatives. However, meetings of the group would be open and participation encouraged by all community members.

Mira Mesa resident Mike Davis, who is leading the effort to create the Mira Mesa Non-profit Executive Council, composed of representative from volunteer groups throughout Mira Mesa, said he saw the mission of the Schools Advisory Board as being similar but focused specifically on Mira Mesa schools.

Everyone interested is encouraged to attend the Nov. 9 meeting. For more information, see updates at http://www.miramesatowncouncil.org/news.htm

The Mira Mesa Monster Manor a "hauntingly good" attraction!

Monster Manor had a late start and just opened this weekend, with the roof open to the sky due to Fire Marshall rules that were imposed on them a week ago. A lot of people seem to be under the impression they aren't even opening this year, because they don't have all their signage up yet. By this coming weekend that should be better, and by Halloween it may be totally obvious that they are in operation once again.

Coming very soon - Monster Manor as a community event on Oct. 30 - 31

Monster Manor and Lite Frite tickets are available at the door or in advance online. For more information, see www.monstermanor.org or call 858-222-4815.

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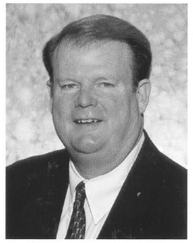

1997 Volunteer of the Year
Past MMTC Board Member
Past LMD Chair
Past Community Pride Chair
President—MM/SR RSVP "Foundation"
"Chief Graffiti Buster Since 1993"

"Ask for MMTC Discount"

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Don't Forget
the
Mira Mesa
Farmer's Market
Every Tuesday
at MMHS
3:00 pm to 7:00 pm

BUSINESS MEMBERS Continued

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Continued from page 1

McAllister contributes considerable time and resources to community service, such as serving as Chair of the San Diego Unified School District's Special Audit and Finance Committee. He participates as a member of the Boards of Directors of the Jackie Robinson YMCA, Big Brothers Big Sisters of San Diego County, Mental Health America and Multiple Sclerosis Society of San Diego and Orange Counties. He also serves as a member of the President's Council on Diversity and Equity at San Diego State University.

McAllister holds a BA from California State University Fresno, a MBA from United States International University, and has completed executive educational programs in portfolio concepts and management at Stanford University and at the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School.

Annual Election will be held at Town Council November Meeting:

At the November Mira Mesa Town Council General Meeting, the election will be held for the 2010 Board of Directors. The following is the nominated slate being presented. Additional nominations may be taken from the floor at the November meeting prior to the election. All voting members must have been members for a minimum of 30 days prior to the election.

President: Ted Brengel
First Vice President (Programs): Pam O' Donohoe
Second Vice President (Membership): Maria Pankau
Treasurer: Jeff Stevens
Recording Secretary: Hang Chau
Newsletter Editor: Bari Vaz

Parliamentarian: Jon Labaw
Board Members at Large:
Marlon Austria
John Daley
Sandy Smith
Karen Burger

City to Make Presentation at DAR (Direct Access Ramps) Subcommittee Nov. 10
by Pam Stevens

Are you interested in finding out more about and discussing ways to mitigate traffic impacts on Hillery Drive from the planned Direct Access Ramps to the high-occupancy vehicle lanes on I-15?

The Direct Access Ramps (DAR) Subcommittee of the Mira Mesa Community Planning Group will meet on Tuesday, Nov. 10, at 6 p.m. in the Qualcomm auditorium, 6455 Lusk Blvd., San Diego, California 92121. The public is encouraged to attend!

CalTrans plans to build the Direct Access Ramps at the east end of Hillery Drive, near Miramar College, as part of its ongoing improvements to I-15. The DAR subcommittee has heard presentations from CalTrans officials about possible ways to mitigate for additional traffic on Hilary as a result of the project. At the Nov. 10 meeting the City of San Diego will make a presentation to the group about traffic mitigation, according to DAR Subcommittee Chair Bari Vaz. The meeting is scheduled to last about 2 hours, Vaz said.

The DAR Subcommittee is gathering information and ideas in order to make its recommendation to the Mira Mesa Community Planning Group, the volunteer civic group that the City of San Diego asks to review and make recommendations to the City Planning Commission and City Council on development issues in Mira Mesa. The Mira Mesa Community Planning Group also makes recommendations on land use and transportation issues in Mira Mesa directly to the County of San Diego, State of California, or Federal Government, when appropriate. MMCPG meets the third Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Mira Mesa Library. For more information about MMCPG in general, contact chair Linda Geldner, planning@geldner.com, or see www.miramesatowncouncil.org/planning_group.htm.

For more information about the Direct Access Ramps issue, contact Bari Vaz, barivaz@sbcglobal.net.

Los Penasquitos Canyon Preserve Citizens Advisory Committee Meets Nov. 19

The Los Penasquitos Canyon Preserve Citizens Advisory Committee will meet on Thursday, Nov. 19, 7 p.m. at the historic adobe Ranch House in Penasquitos Canyon. From Black Mountain Road, turn left at Canyonside Park driveway and follow signs to close-in parking by barn. Public welcome! Do you want to take a hike in the canyon? See www.penasquitos.org for information about guided hikes and other programs. For more information, contact Pam Stevens, LPCP CAC Mira Mesa Community Planning Group repreentative, pstevens@san.rr.com .

Its Tournament time Once Again

The Mira Mesa High School Band and Boosters announce the 17th Annual Mira Mesa Invitational Band Review and Field Tournament which will take place on November 7, 2009. The Band Review (parade) will step off at 12:30pm from Mira Mesa Blvd and Westonhill Drive. The Field Tournament will take place at the high school football field with the first session (small bands) starting at 8:30am and the larger units taking the field staring at 2:30pm. This is the band's major fundraiser so please come out and support this excellent and very successful group.

Volunteers are greatly needed and in short supply for this event so please contact the band room at 858-578-5143 to volunteer a few hours on tournament day. For more information visit the band website at www.miramesaband.org.

Highlights of the October 5, 2009 MMTC Meeting

POLICE AND FIRE REPORTS

Police Department (Officer Susan Steffen)

- Nothing major to report
- Street Fair was successful for SDPD as well; the two booths were very popular.
- There have been a lot of false alarms as well as many businesses set off alarms when they open.
- Question: Why was the incident on Hillery where an officer was run down not mentioned on EWatch?
  Answer: EWatch can only cover 5 locations and can't cover citywide and only covers one square mile. It covers citations through major crimes. The website is located on the City's website at http://apps.sandiego.gov/ewatch/.
- Question: Is the young arsonist off the streets yet?
  Answer: She is off the streets. She might either be released to a "board and care" or back to her mother. She will be kept under supervision. She is considered to be a menace to society and hence is in a permanent lockdown facility.

SD Fire Department (Capt. Myers)

- No report

ELECTED REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

City Councilman Carl DeMaio (John Ly)

- Salk Elementary MOU went to council.
  The vote was 6/0/0 with no discussion.
  We're one step closer to having the Salk Elementary School.
- Question: Will there be any more hurdles?
  Answer: There are still litigations, but we are actively working on resolving all this.
- $180 - $200 million deficit.
- Carl will meet up with the community to discuss the budget cuts and get the community's feedback.
- The Mayor has mentioned potential cuts to Police and Fire.

State Assemblyman Nathan Fletcher (Oscar Urteaga)

- Tax Commission
  Current tax code is volatile and drives jobs out of California.
  He will take a close look at the Commission's recommendation.
- Waiting period prior to passing any bills
  He will take a close look at the Commission's recommendation.
- Community Coffee
  October 7 at Carmel Community Coffee.
- Water Policy Crisis
  This has been an issue for 40 years and needs to be resolved.
- H1N1 (Swine Flu)
  Wash your hands, stay home if you're sick, get the vaccine and make sure children get vaccinated as well as soon as the vaccine is available

County Supervisor Ron Roberts (Lauren Prescott)

- Get the flu shot and the swine flu shot.
- Community Enhancement Funding
  Neighborhood Reinvestment Program.
  The county website will have more information and the application.
- Ron was at the Adams Avenue Street Fair and at the Aids Walk.
- http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/cnty/bos/sup4
- ACORN Investigation
  Will partner with the state instead of doing independent investigation

County Supervisor Pam Slater-Price (Erica Holloway)

- Follow Pam on twitter - http://twitter.com/PamSlaterPrice

(Continued on page 5)

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Shelli Stinson
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http://www.partylite.biz/sites/thecandlewahine

Marvin Miles
Property Gallery
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Randall Smith
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Continued on page 10

Ad Rates

(business card size)

One Time Placement $40.00

Three Times per Year $75.00

Full Year Subscription $150.00
(11 issues)

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

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://www.assembly.ca.gov/fletcher
Capitol office: State Capitol Room 3141 ,
Sacramento, CA 95814
Ph: (916) 319-2075.
Field Representative: Oscar Urteaga

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: Lauren Prescott

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

(Continued from page 4)

- Fire preparedness packets are available.

State Senator Hollingsworth (Ellen Malin)
- Special Sessions in Sacramento
  Tax Commission Report – he supports tax reform.
  Water – there might be a closed session regarding the state water park system and above ground storage.
  Education – Race the Top education money is available, but we can't apply for it. The special session is to review the language to become eligible to these funds.
- Question: Was the high speed rail passed?
  Answer: Yes, it has. The project is moving forward.

US Representative Brian Bilbray (Andrew Lund)
- No report

COMMUNITY GROUP REPORTS

NEC (Jennifer Kvalvik)
- Thank You Reception for volunteers - Mira Mesa High School Auditorium 10/29 at 6PM.
- Councilmember Carl DeMaio will be the featured speaker.
- Please RSVP by 10/8 with your name and organization to Jennifer Kvalvik, Mira Mesa High School/Employer Outreach Specialist. 858-566-2262 x2161 or email jkvalvik@sandi.net

Mira Mesa Community Planning Group (Bari Vaz)
- Onramp to the 15 on Hillery – gathering feedback from the people of Mira Mesa to support in-depth traffic studies that were deemed too expensive as this ramp will create more traffic.
- October 13th at 6pm in the meeting room at The Woods Mobile Park on the west side of Black Mountain Road.

NEW BUSINESS

Introduction of School Principals
- **Scott Guisti,** Mira Mesa High School – 2nd year. Test score rose, advanced placement and daily average attendance rose. Expulsions decreased. Enrollment is down by 60 students this year. Budget cuts will hit soon. Farmer's Market has been really successful. Come to MMHS on Monday at 4:30 to speak with John Evans.
- **Deidre Hardson**, Mason – Test score rose as well, attendance is doing well, kids want to come to school. The school was painted.
- **Jennifer Wroeleski,** Hickman – API is up. The campus is fantastic. Students are wonderful and the teaching staff is great. 10/29 – Halloween Bash.
- **Sheelagh Moran-Robleski**, Challenger Middle School – Test scores and attendance are up, enrollment is down by about 60 kids as well.
- Lar**k Mayeski,** Christ the Cornerstone Academy – 3 and 4 years old. Outstanding faith-based pre-school. K-6 is also available. Wonderful music, computer, and PE programs. Longer instructional days than public schools. Summer programs are also available – academics and musical. The numbers are always outstanding.

John Lee Evans – School Board Representative
- Overall in the SD District, test scores have gone up.
- The people who are working the trenches, the teachers and principals, are the ones that are bringing in these results.
- Superintendent left for Houston. Before finding a new superintendent, we should have a clear vision, goals, and a plan for what we want for San Diego. Then we can find a new superintendent who will support this vision.
- San Diego pays $269,000 for the position compared to Houston that pays more than $400,000.
- Technology – Prop S passed. We are installing smart board and laptops in all 3rd and 6th grade classes as well as some high school classes. This will drastically change how students are taught.
- We were able to keep our teaching staff in place despite the budget cuts through early retirement. $30 million was cut from the central budget. We did have to give up class sizes of 20 to 24.
- They are reviewing numbers representing what percentage of students in a specific neighborhood actually attends the local school.

Continued on page 7

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 29—Volunteer Recognition Night at MMHS
October 30—Halloween Carnival at MM Recreation Center
October 31 —Halloween
November 1—Daylight Savings Time ends
November 2—MMTC Meeting 7:00 pm
November 7—MMHS Band Review and Field Tournament
November 11—Veterans Day
November 26—Thanksgiving Day

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

1ST MONDAY / November 2	**Town Council Meeting (MMTC)** — 1st Monday (no meeting in July & **2nd Monday in September**) — Mira Mesa Library — 7:00 p.m.
1ST TUESDAY / November 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 / November 4	**Kiwanis, Scripps-Mira Branch** — Every Wednesday —Mimi's Restaurant — 7:00 a.m.
2ND MONDAY November 9	**Mira Mesa Town Council Board of Directors**—Mira Mesa Senior Center—6:45 pm (6:00 pm at Library for September meeting)
2ND TUESDAY / November 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 / November 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 / November 14	**Fil-Am Sr. Citizens Assn** — 2nd Saturday — Mira Mesa Senior Center — 10:00 a.m.
2ND SUNDAY/ November 15	**FAASDNC Meeting**—12:00pm—Mira Mesa Recreation Center
3RD MONDAY / November 16	**Community Planning Group** — 3rd Monday — Mira Mesa Library — 7:00 p.m.
3RD TUESDAY / November 17	**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 / November 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/ November 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/ November 23	**Banned book club** —Last Monday of each month except December at the Mira Mesa Library. 7 PM.
4TH TUESDAY / November 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 / November 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
4TH THURSDAY November 26	**Street Fair committee (senior center)**-4th. Thursday—6:30 PM April through October

- School Improvement Officers – there should not be several per community. One should cover all elementary schools, another the high schools, etc.
- The high school new football field is ready.
- Year of the School Volunteer – a lot more people can volunteer in the schools. Volunteering does not require lots of training. There is a volunteer screening process that includes TB tests.
- Salk Elementary School: 9/8 Memorandum of Understanding was approved by the city council. This has to do with the transfer of the property. There is one other big step – the US Fish and Wildlife Service. This process can take up to 18 months. A district person will be dedicated to work with them to hopefully reduce this period to 10-12 months. Then the project will be put up for bid and construction will begin. Construction should take about 18 months.
- Community Advisory Group – Created to improve the schools in the community and to advocate before the school board. Meeting will be 10/12 at 4:30 PM at the Media Center in the high school.
- Question: What is your take on splitting the districts?
  Answer: Philosophically, I agree there should be more local control, but the SD District is huge. We could take one very very large district and make it into two very large districts, which won't help. I prefer a federation where the schools have more decision-making power.
- Question: We are creating a UCSD Students Tutoring Program at the Epicenter and the Library and would like to input on how to let everyone know about it.
  Answer: Give me the information.
- Question: Does Mira Mesa have any school that could be Blue Ribbon?
  Answer: Erickson is a Blue Ribbon school, one of three in the district.
- Question: Why can't Boy Scouts recruit, but youth groups can?
  Answer: I'm not sure.
- Question: Have you considered promoting someone within the district to Superintendent?
  Answer: Yes, we want to make the process more open. It's highly likely the person will be from San Diego as we will not do the 'secret process' which out of district individuals would prefer as to keep their current position safe.
- http://old.sandi.net/board/boemembers.htm

Tom Derr – Chair of the Mira Mesa Maintenance Assessment District

- Vote of Approval for the MMMAD low water landscaping plan
- We would like to change the medians to a drought tolerant landscaping as one third of their expense is water.
- One median is next to Black Mountain Road on Mira Mesa Blvd.
- The theme will be desert with new plants and new sprinkler system.
- It will be more expensive to set up, but will save money in the long term.
- Question: Will you consider native plants? Succulents will use a lot more water than native plants.
  Answer: Yes. Michael Cook, our representative from the city, is deciding on the plants.
- Comment: I am more concerned about the aesthetic reputation of Mira Mesa; these plants might not attractive.
  Answer: It will look very appealing.
- Jeff Stevens recommend that we approve this pilot project.
- Pam Stevens makes the motion "We recommend the pilot program of low water use vegetation on Mira Mesa BLVD." Motion seconded by Pam O'Donohoe. Motion Unanimously passed.

Hang (Lisa) Chau - Neighborhood Project Plan –

- Block Party San Diego is a platform for neighbors to get to know each other.
- Needs help to get the City on board to not charge fees for the block parties.
- The website will be up in a month.

OPEN FORUM

- **Newsletter** (Maria Pankau)
  Articles are due by 10/17
- **High School Band Competition** (Maria Pankau)
  Adult Volunteers are greatly needed