December 2009

Mira Mesa Town Council Newsletter

John Sunde will also be with us with a presentation on RSVP - Retired Senior Volunteer Patrol. If you are retired with time on your hands and would like information on what you can give back to our community this is the man to listen and talk to. The RSVP program does so much more for us than most of us realize but, as with all volunteer groups they always welcome newcomers. They work with law enforcement to help provide a safe environment for all of us in the Mira Mesa community. Please join us for important message and get "just the facts".

Retired Senior Volunteer Patrol (RSVP)

The Retired Senior Volunteer Patrol assists area police stations in providing an increased level of crime prevention programs within specific geographic boundaries, such as the community of Mira Mesa, by providing additional resources to the Police Department. They perform vacation house checks, You Are Not Alone checks, and other services for community members. They also provide security at community events, and are extra eyes and ears for the police. The City's Police Department lists the following requirements to participate in R.S.V.P.: 50 years of age or older; interested in working with law enforcement officers; effective oral and written communication skills; reliable and trustworthy with confidential information; in good health; and a valid California Driver's License, and a Police background check. R.S.V.P. volunteers typically have three 8-hour shifts/month. The program in Mira Mesa was started as a project of the Mira Mesa Town Council over a decade ago. We will hear more about the program at the December meeting.

Live Holiday Music at your Doorstep.

Is there a home, in your Mira Mesa neighborhood, so decorated for the holidays that you can see the glow way before you get to your block? Well, the Mira Mesa High School Saxophones want to know about it.
The group wants to show their appreciation for the hard work and dedication to making the holidays a "little bit brighter" for all to see and they will be giving short concerts of holiday music in front of these homes on Wednesday, December 23rd from 5:00pm to 9:00pm.
So, here is your chance. Please go to mmhssaxes@gmail.com and nominate the best decorated homes in Mira Mesa. The group will try bring holiday cheer to as many homes and neighborhoods as possible.

Town Hall Meeting on City Finances

City Councilmember Carl DeMaio will hold a Town Hall on City Finances at the Mira Mesa Senior Center on **Thursday, December 3rd at 6:00 PM.** This meeting will be prior to the full Council meeting on December 14 where decisions are expected to be made.

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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 **December 7, 2009** meeting:

- **MMHS Madrigals**
- **Election to fill Board Vacancies**
- **Volunteer of the Year Selection**
- **John Sunde—RSVP**

The next MMTC meeting is **Monday, January 4, 2010**

Visit us online at www.miramesatowncouncil.org

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

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

Annual Membership Application

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

Primary Member Name			☐ New Member ☐ Renewal ☐ Address Change
Companion Member Name (s)			
Address			
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

In December we will select our Volunteer of the Year for 2009. This year I am happy to announce that we have three outstanding candidates for this award: Kathy Madsen, John Sunde and Sandy Smith. A summary of their volunteer work is presented in this newsletter.

This will be my last President's message as Ted Brengel will take over as MMTC president starting in January 2010. I thank Ted for taking on that responsibility and encourage everyone to help Ted make MMTC successful in the coming year. I will continue on the Board as MMTC Treasurer.

Looking back at my president's message from December 2009, I made the following comment: "As I write this, both the City and the State are reporting grim financial projections and major cutbacks either have been or will be proposed. In the City of San Diego, Mayor Sanders has proposed a set of budget cuts unlike anything we have seen in the City before." Unfortunately, we are in the same situation again. Last year the City Council worked diligently to make budget cuts and reductions in employee salaries and benefits to make up a $50 million deficit without major reductions in City services. This year the recession has caused both investment losses and reductions in property and sales tax income, and the City is faced with a deficit of $200 million even with last year's reductions still in effect. The Budget and Finance committee is holding hearings to gather input from constituents, and I attended one of the meetings in Tierrasanta this evening. Unfortunately, it is not easy to fill a gap that big. By the time this newsletter is published, Mayor Sanders will have released his recommendations. They will not be pretty. After seven consecutive years of budget and service cuts, there is little that is nonessential left to cut. The Mira Mesa Town Council will continue to work with Councilman DeMaio and the City to try to find approaches that keep service cuts to a minimum.

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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.

From the Desk of Assemblyman Nathan Fletcher

On November 3rd, I was supposed to be spending my evening with the residents of Mira Mesa at a Community Coffee. Unfortunately, the event had to be cancelled. The State Assembly was entrenched in the 7th Extraordinary Legislative Session of my short term of office trying to put together a statewide solution to California's water crisis.

On the morning of November 4th, after days of continuous deliberation, something good actually happened in Sacramento. The Legislature approved a comprehensive agreement to address our water crisis and put to rest over forty years of debate on the subject.

When implemented, this historic compromise will provide a reliable, quality water supply throughout California. If approved by the voters, billions of dollars will fund increased water storage, conveyance systems, and the restoration of the Bay Delta. The legislative package also includes actions to help promote water conservation and governance. In short, it comprehensively addresses the root of our water problems.

California's water problems are not the result of a water shortage. They are the result of inadequate water storage and transportation infrastructure. California's population – 38 million residents and counting – depends on an incomplete water delivery system built for 16 million. The problems have been compounded by federal court orders and several years of drought.

The new water agreement addresses these challenges and will provide upgrades to California's water storage capacity and transportation infrastructure, both of which are essential to bringing water to the regions of our state that need it most.

This package is not perfect. But it does recognize that in California, our economy depends on a ready, reliable source of water.

That is certainly the case with our large and vibrant agricultural community. San Diego County is the nation's leading producer of avocados, mushrooms and nursery crops. Our farming industry contributes $5.1 billion annually to the local economy. The recent action taken by the legislature will help protect these and other industries and reaffirms our commitment to strengthening the economy. It also takes responsible steps to protect our environment. The residents of San Diego County will benefit directly.

An unreliable water supply will hurt our efforts to attract and retain new economy jobs from companies like San Diego's Synthetic Genomics Inc. (SGI). SGI just signed a $300 million deal with ExxonMobile to study and develop new generation biofuels derived from algae. We want that research and development centered in San Diego. A reliable source of water will help us make the case for our region.

My pledge to you has always been to fight for a solution that ensures all Californians access to a clean, affordable and reliable water supply. Since being sworn in less than a year ago, I've worked to do just that.

As a member of the Water, Parks, & Wildlife Committee and Legislative Water Working Group I spent hours with colleagues from across the state trudging through very difficult, regionally sensitive issues all in order to find a solution. I've heard the line, "success has many fathers, but failure is an orphan". If that's the case, San Diegans have every reason to be proud of their delegation. San Diego's representatives worked together to ensure that our regional needs were addressed and our long term problems tackled.

This legislation is a step in the right direction—toward making a reliable, affordable water supply a reality. At a time when very little good comes from Sacramento, on water, the Legislature found a way to work together for the betterment of California.

Mira Mesa Farmers Market Now Open Winter Hours from 3 to 6 PM

by Pam Stevens

The Mira Mesa Farmers Market has shifted to winter hours, 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Tuesdays, now that days are shorter and nights are getting colder, but it's still a great place to shop for fresh fruits and vegetables and a variety of crafters' wares, as well as enjoy a quick meal or snack from one of several hot food vendors.

Through Dec. 15 the Farmers Market location will be the east end of the front Mira Mesa High School parking lot, next to the Christmas tree lot on the corner of Mira Mesa Boulevard and Reagan Road. The Farmers Market will take a break after December 15 and not be open the last week of December or all of January. The Farmers Market will re-open on Tuesday, Feb. 9, in its original location on the dirt lot on the northeast corner of Mira Mesa High School at Reagan Road and Mira Mesa Blvd. Farmers Market hours in February will still be winter hours, 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. The Farmers Market will likely return to its summer hours (3 to 7 p.m.) on or before its 1-year anniversary in April.

The Farmers Market is sponsored by the Mira Mesa High School Foundation, with the assistance of the Mira Mesa Chamber of Commerce. A percentage of proceeds go to the MMHS Foundation to help support academic and extracurricular programs.

For more information, see http://www.miramesafarmersmarket.com; www.miramesahighschoolfoundation.org; or www.miramesachamber.com

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30

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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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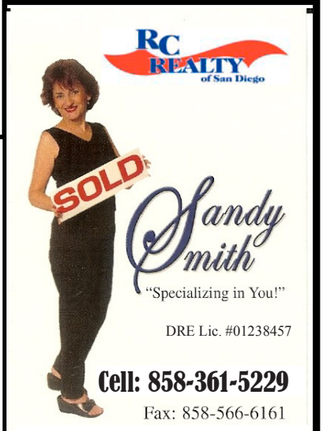

Don't Forget
the
Mira Mesa
Farmer's Market
Every Tuesday
at MMHS
3:00 pm to 7:00 pm

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Volunteer of the Year Nominees for 2009

Each year since 1984 the Mira Mesa Town Council has held an annual dinner to recognize special volunteers who make this community a better place. The Volunteer of the Year is someone who has made a significant contribution to Mira Mesa through volunteer work, not just during the past year but over the years s/he has been involved with the community. This year the following volunteers have been nominated for this award:

Kathy Madsen – Kathy Madsen has been active in the Mira Mesa Community for many years in a wide variety of volunteer activities. She was a founding member of the Mira Mesa High School Foundation and served as its president for four years. She spent four years on the MMHS Foundation's Taste of Mira Mesa committee, and helped to organize the Mira Mesa Farmer's Market, where she has been in residence many Tuesday afternoons. Kathy served on the Mira Mesa Town Council Board of Directors as Vice President in 2007, and produced the Mira Mesa Street Fair program in 2007 and 2008. She has been an amateur radio operator for 12 years, and has used her expertise to provide amateur radio support for the Fourth of July parade for 6 years, and to help with emergency services during the Witch Creek fire. Kathy worked with Mira Mesa schools on governance teams at all grade levels for 17 years, and was booster club president for several sports during this period. She has been a member of the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) for 3 years. For 5 years she was Boy Scout Troop/Team/Crew 1233 Committee Chairman. She is a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and has spent 6 years on the county-wide coordinating committee for the Commemoration of the Arrival of the Mormon Battalion at the end of January each year at Old Town State Park.

John Sunde – John Sunde joined the Retired Senior Volunteer Patrol (RSVP) over nine (9) years ago. For the past two years, John has been the administrator, and has worked tirelessly to improve the Mira Mesa/Scripps Ranch RSVP unit. Under his leadership and effort, this unit has overcome many challenges, and its membership has increased markedly. John enjoys fingerprinting children at the Mira Mesa Street Fair and dressing up as McGruff, the crime dog to teach children about safety. He also participated in and provided security patrol for the Haunted House and the Fourth of July Parade. John and his wife Joyce have a heart for our young people and have made generous donations to the teen Epicentre. Their donations were used to purchase materials and equipment to fix the fence and to purchase a lengthy hose to water plants and flowers. John routinely helps to maintain the landscape around the center and the police storefront. Furthermore, John joined a group of dedicated volunteers who go around our community on the weekends painting walls and fences that have been tagged with graffiti. In addition to RSVP, John has volunteered for the VA hospital in La Jolla as a driver, transporting patients to and from their homes and the hospital. When John is off from RSVP duties, he volunteers at the USS Midway Museum as a docent and has already donated over two thousand (2,000) hours. On Thanksgiving and Christmas, he is downtown helping the Salvation Army at Golden Hall feed the homeless, lonely and those that can't afford the holiday meals.

Sandy Smith – Sandy Smith has a long history of volunteering in Mira Mesa community groups. She is a long time member and current chair of the Fourth of July Committee. She has been a member of the Mira Mesa Town Council Board of Directors for four of the past six years, and an active general member for over a decade. She was the chair and organizer of the Volunteer of the Year dinner for several years. She has helped to procure food for Street Fair volunteers. She is also a long time member of the Mira Mesa Theatre Guild, having been on the Theatre Guild Board, and a participant in Theatre Guild productions, including Monster Manor and Breakfast with Mrs. Claus. Sandy is currently a business member on the executive committee of the Mira Mesa Community Planning Group and on the Hillery DAR subcommittee. She has been part of HEROES and the Mira Mesa Chamber of Commerce since their inception. She is secretary of HEROES and community liaison with the Chamber and Theatre Guild. She has also been a participant in the Stakeholders committee, Kiwanis, NEC and the Mira Mesa High School business partnership council. Sandy likes to connect our community groups and volunteers to each other, and likes to work behind the scenes to make Mira Mesa a better place to live, work and play. In addition to volunteering herself, Sandy is exceptionally good at bringing new volunteers into our community groups.

Banned Book Club to Discuss Ralph Ellison's "The Invisible Man" Jan. 25

by Pam Stevens

There will be no meeting of the Mira Mesa Library's Banned Book Club in December. The group will meet on Monday, Jan. 25, from 7 to 8 p.m. in the MM Library community room to discuss Ralph Ellison's "The Invisible Man," a novel about the African American experience in the twentieth century. Please join us!
The Mira Mesa Banned Book Club is a monthly book discussion group with a "freedom to read" theme, which usually meets the last Monday of each month. The group 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. For more information call the Mira Mesa Library, 858-538-8165, or email book group facilitator Pam Stevens, pstevens@san.rr.com.

Highlights of the November 2, 2009 MMTC Meeting

POLICE AND FIRE REPORTS

Police Department (Officer Susan Steffen)

- Problems with car thefts – people leaving valuables in car getting stolen
- Don't leave anything of value visible in car
- There has been a problem in Sabre Springs with fatalities in 3 separate incidents, including one case where a 63 year old was run over on the sidewalk by someone under the influence of meth.
- A problem house in Mira Mesa has been reported by neighbors and is being monitored.
- Call (619) 531-2000 to report problems.
- Question - One resident reported 70 kids in an abandoned house and could not get police response.
  Answer – response depends on priority list. May have been something else more urgent at the time.

SD Fire Department (Capt. Myers)

- No report

ELECTED REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

City Councilman Carl DeMaio (John Ly)

- Public safety forum next week, Thursday, Nov. 12 at the Senior Center.
- Fiscal town hall December 3 at the Senior Center. The Mayor's proposed budget will be out by then.
  He has asked all departments to achieve 27% budget cuts. There will probably be a proposal to close at least one library in the 5th district.
- Salk Elementary School is in litigation – the City Attorney is checking on getting the site removed from litigation

State Assemblyman Nathan Fletcher (Oscar Urteaga)

- Assemblyman Fletcher will be at the library tomorrow (later cancelled as he had to stay in Sacramento – will be rescheduled)
- Water Policy Crisis.:
  * The legislature could cast votes on water policy and bond bills as early as tomorrow. The plan to address the state's water storage and supply needs and make fixes to the environmentally damaged Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta has been split into two parts:
    1. A policy bill that requires a majority vote.
    2. A $9.4 billion water bond that must be approved by a 2/3 vote.
- State's tax withholding bump-up starts today
  * California is giving itself a "cash advance" by increasing withholding so that it gets money now to be reimbursed to taxpayers when they pay taxes next year. Tax withholding will increase 10% for the rest of the year. Assemblyman Fletcher opposed the bill. Individuals can reverse this by submitting a new W-4 to decrease withholding, but few will.

County Supervisor Ron Roberts (Lauren Prescott)

- No report

County Supervisor Pam Slater-Price (Erica Holloway)

- No report

State Senator Hollingsworth (Ellen Malin)

- No report

US Representative Brian Bilbray (Andrew Lund)

- No report

COMMUNITY GROUP REPORTS

Halloween Carnival (Chuck Sweet)

- The Halloween Carnival was very successful a that there were over 250 kids in attendance.

Newsletter (Maria Pankau)

- Newsletter deadline is 11/19

(Continued on page 5)

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Continued on page 10

Ad Rates

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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

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

(Continued from page 4)

Orlando Vernacchia (Chuck Sweet)
- Would like to get a monument of some sort to recognize Orlando Vernacchia's contributions to the community. The concept was approved on unanimous vote.

Monster Manor (Joe Frichtel)
- Would like to find out why the Fire Department took the roof off of Monster Manor

Planning Group
- Hillery DAR meeting on 11/10 at Qualcomm.

Recycling
- There will be electronics recycling for free at Scripps Ranch High School on 11/7.

NEW BUSINESS

Dan McAllister, County Tax Assessor
- Guest speaker Dan McAllister introduced himself. He is the person who collects your property taxes.
- Last week started to send money back to people who were due money back due to changes in ownership or construction.
- Worked to improve format of tax bill – much friendlier now. 12 million tax bills were issued.
- Would like to go green and switch to electronic payment. Costs money, however, due to credit card and other collection fees. At least everything mailed out is recyclable.
- Property tax timing is awkward – scheduled at the worst time for many people: 1) just before Christmas, and 2) at the same time as income taxes are due. Contact Dan McAllister's assistant at (619) 531-5231.

MMTC Board Election
Since the Parliamentarian resigned prior to the meeting, Pam Stevens gave the nominating committee report and nominated slate. The nominees are:

President: *Ted Brengel*
First Vice President (Programs): *Pam O'Donohoe*
Second Vice President (Membership): *Maria Pankau*
Treasurer: *Jeff Stevens*
P**arliamentarian**: *Jon Labaw*
Recording Secretary: *Hang Chau*
Newsletter Editor: *Bari Vaz*
Board Members at Large:
Marlon Austria
John Daley
Sandy Smith
Karen Burger

- The nominating committee recommended this slate with the exception that Hang Chau has been a member for less than 30 days and so is not yet eligible to be a Board member. Election of that position was deferred until December.
- Maria Pankau nominated Debbie Vincent for President.
- The nominating committee slate excluding President and Recording Secretary were elected by unanimous (25-0) vote.
- Members were instructed to use their voting cards as ballots for President. Ballots were collected and counted by John Daley, Arlette Ballew and Bari Vaz. Ted Brengel was elected President.
- President Jeff Stevens asked Jon Labaw to take over Parliamentarian duties for the remainder of 2009.

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 7—MMTC Meeting 7:00 pm
December 10—Property Taxes due
December 12—Chanukah
December 21—First day of Winter
December 25—Christmas Day
January 1—Happy New Year 2010!

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

1ST TUESDAY / December 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 / December 2	**Kiwanis, Scripps-Mira Branch** — Every Wednesday —Mimi's Restaurant — 7:00 a.m.
1ST MONDAY / December 7	**Town Council Meeting (MMTC)** — 1st Monday (no meeting in July & **2nd Monday in September**) — Mira Mesa Library — 7:00 p.m.
2ND TUESDAY / December 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 **Exchange Club of San Diego**—2nd and 4th Tuesday — Courtyard by Marriott in Kearny Mesa — 6:30 pm
2ND WEDNESDAY / December 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 SATURDAY / December 12	**Fil-Am Sr. Citizens Assn** — 2nd Saturday — Mira Mesa Senior Center — 10:00 a.m.
2ND SUNDAY/ December 13	**FAASDNC Meeting**—12:00pm—Mira Mesa Recreation Center
2ND MONDAY No meeting	**Mira Mesa Town Council Board of Directors**—Mira Mesa Senior Center—6:45 pm **(No meeting for December)**
3RD TUESDAY / December 15	**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 / December 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/ December 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 **Black Mountain Democratic Club**-3rd Thursday-7-9 p.m., 10550 Caminito Flores (Mesa Village Rec. Hall 1)
3RD MONDAY / No meeting	**Community Planning Group** — 3rd Monday — Mira Mesa Library — 7:00 p.m.
4TH TUESDAY / December 22	**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 / December 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 THURSDAY No meeting	**Street Fair committee (senior center)**-4th. Thursday—6:30 PM April through October
4TH MONDAY/ No meeting	**Banned book club** —Last Monday of each month except December at the Mira Mesa Library. 7 PM.

Transportation Help for Seniors Update

By: Chuck Overbey, Executive Director

Only 11 months ago ITNSanDiego™ started providing rides to people over 60 and adults with visual impairments. We have given over 1,300 rides since then.

Our members ride, not only to medical appointments, but also to the hair salon, bridge games, shopping, to dance lessons and even out on dates! Our vibrant and independent members continue to enjoy a quality of life that many thought would not be possible once they gave up their car keys.

It is now time for our Annual Appeal Fundraising Campaign. Unlike publicly funded transportation services, ITNSanDiego's five-year goal is to rely entirely upon the affordable fares paid by the people who use our service and voluntary support from families and the community. Fares alone cover approximately half the cost of our rides. It's up to people like you to help cover the rest.

Your donation will improve the lives of countless people.

Adult children can stay at work, assured that a parent has a ride to the doctor.
Roads are safer when a dignified alternative to driving is available.
Members and volunteers alike make new friends and share stories.
Older adults and people with visual impairments stay connected to friends and family.
Local businesses retain valuable customers.

No gift is too small. Your donation demonstrates that the San Diego community has made a commitment to dignity and independence for our parents and grandparents who built this community and who now need our support.

You can also support ITNSanDiego's work by becoming a volunteer driver. What better way to give seniors transportation than by donating your time! Call us for more information.

Please send your donation to ITN*SanDiego*, 4305 University Avenue, Suite 630, San Diego, CA 92105 ITN*SanDiego* is a non-profit, 501c(3) organization. Tax ID #:26-2482917

Mira Mesa High School Play, Choir/Orchestra and Band Concerts in December

by Pam Stevens

Mira Mesa residents are invited to enjoy a variety of performances during December by Mira Mesa High School's drama, choral and instrumental music groups. Under the direction of drama teacher Daniel Kriley, choral and orchestra instructor Julie Szweda, and band director John Dally, Jr., the MMHS Performing Arts Department will present the following:

Fall Play: "A Delightful Quarantine," Thursday, Dec. 3 at 3:30 p.m. and Friday, Dec. 4 at 6 p.m., MMHS auditorium, $7 ($6 with ASB card.)

Choir and Orchestra Concert, featuring the Concert Choir, Madrigals and Orchestra, Tuesday, Dec. 8, 3 p.m. and Wednesday, Dec. 9, 7 p.m., MMHS auditorium.

Winter Band Concert, Thursday, Dec. 10, 7 p.m., MMHS gym.

"A Night on Broadway," fundraiser for students' Spring 2010 New York City trip, Saturday, Dec. 12, 6 p.m., $10 donation. This year MMHS is pleased to announce that several of its Performing Arts classes are getting together to embark on a trip to New York over spring break. Orchestra Students, Madrigals, Drama Students and students from MMHS' new Musical Theatre class have been given the opportunity to go on this once in a lifetime trip. Chaperones for the trip are: Mr. Kriley; Mrs. Szweda; Ms. Miura; Ms. Gates; and Mrs. Lizar.

For more information about MMHS theatre, contact Daniel Kriley, 858-566-2262, x4401; for choir or orchestra, contact Julie Szweda, 858-566-2262; for band, contact John Dally, Jr., 858-578-5143, or see www.miramesaband.org.

The **Mira Mesa Cluster Schools Council,** composed of representatives from Mira Mesa schools and the community, now meets the second Monday of each month, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the library media center at Mira Mesa High School. The group is seeking input and making recommendations about proposed School District budget cuts. For more information, contact chairperson Erik Basil (a Hage Elementary School parent), EBasil@Basillaw.com.

Excerpt from the Union-Tribune Article on City Finances/Cuts

"...In all, Sanders plans to slash $62.5 million directly from city departments, including $26 million combined from police and fire. The total proposed cuts amount to nearly 5.5 percent of the city's general fund.

The City Council will review the proposals in the coming weeks and can add or subtract programs and jobs before deciding whether to approve the package. **A special council meeting is scheduled Dec. 14 and a decision is expected then.**

The most visible cuts would be in the library system. None of the 35 branches would close but nearly every one would be open fewer days and fewer hours. Sanders wants to combine the staff at nearby libraries, such as the Mission Hills and Ocean Beach locations, and then open them on alternating days. He plans to identify eight pairs of libraries for such a system....."

Full article available at: http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/2009/nov/24/mayor-takes-aim-179-million-deficit/