# Mira Mesa Town Council Newsletter

Volume 37, Issue 7 August 2012

**Mira Mesa Town Council Meeting**

- Monday, Aug. 6, 2012
  7 p.m. - 9 p.m.
  Mira Mesa Senior Center
  8460 Mira Mesa Blvd

**Agenda:**

- County Treasurer-Tax Collector Dan McAllister
- Hillary DAR presentation

**Business of the Month:**

- Chamber of Commerce

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## We May Have Your Money, Tax Collector Says

Dan McAllister, the San Diego County Treasurer-Tax Collector announced that property taxpayers and San Diegans who may have done business with any County department within the past three years to review the Unclaimed Monies List available at sdtreastax.com. Hard copies of the refund list are also available at all branch locations.

"We may have your money and you may not be aware of it," McAllister said. "We hope that the owners come forward before Sept. 14 and claim their refunds. The information on how to claim a refund is available on our website in both English and Spanish. We would ask the public not to wait until the last minute to claim their refund because of the escheatment deadline."

The County Treasurer-Tax Collector's office has more than

**San Diego County Treasurer-Tax Collector Dan McAllister**

797 unclaimed accounts, which amount to almost $200,000 in funds available to be claimed. Of that amount, $117,402 are unclaimed property tax refunds and another $94,000 are from various County Departments consumers have dealt with during the past three years.

The lowest refund available is $10.02 and the highest is $8,756. The highest amount available for an individual is $8,340.42 to the Estate of Deceased Luke Cassidy.

Taxpayers have until Sept. 14 to claim their monies. Current state law allows countywide monies that remain unclaimed for more than three years and property tax refunds that are unclaimed for more than four years to be turned over to the County's General Fund.

For information on how to claim, please visit: www.sdtreastax.com or call (877) 829-4732.

There is no charge for this service.

## *A Note From Collins Family Jeweler*

**By Cynthia Collins**

Bill and I just wanted to let you all know that his sister, Sharon, has retired and we are now the sole owners of Collins Family Jewelers, Inc. We are very excited about the new era we are about to embark upon!

Our two older daughters, Briana and Chelsea, will continue to lead our sales team. Briana will also continue to develop her position as sales manager and communications director.

I will not only be the office manager, but also the point of contact regarding advertising, marketing and philanthropy.

Bill will continue to lead our business as general operations manager.

We are also pleased to announce that Bill and I have signed a new lease. Our family is looking forward to many more years serving our loyal customers (especially from the Mira Mesa community) as well as future clientele.

As you know, our store has enjoyed operating in the Mira Mesa Mall since October 1978. This past Valentine's Day, Bill and I celebrated our 30th wedding anniversary!

We're proud to say that Collins Family Jewelers, Inc, along with our family of five daughters, grew up with and will continue to grow with the Mira Mesa community and its surrounding neighbors.

**2012 MIRA MESA TOWN COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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Brandy Ludwick,
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# *President's Message for August*

**By Ted Brengel**
***Mira Mesa Town Council President***

Well here we are in August already with another spectacular Fourth of July celebration behind us. There is not nearly enough space to mention the names of all the fine volunteers who made this year's celebration such a special event, but I must mention a few.

The overall coordinator and committee chairperson was Bari Vaz. Her hard work and attention to every last detail of the day were the driving force behind the stellar success. Thank you, Bari.

The day began with a great breakfast served up by masons of the Black Mountain Masonic Lodge. It was a great way to start the day. The parade that followed was coordinated by Maria Pankau. A special-thanks goes to Steven and Robin Stutsman for coordinating the VIP area.

Then came the Family Fun Day with the Kid's Zone, the entertainment, the booths, and the rides. This was Bari's creation with lots of help from Jerry Ollinger and Judy Sluyter and many others.

The fireworks were the grand finale to a very special day. This was a 2012 miracle.

Here is a list of the key volunteers who made this possible:

- Bari Vaz, chair
- Bill Byous and Christopher C. Gunn, Black Mountain Masonic Lodge #845, pancake breakfast
- Maria Pankau, parade chair
- Robin and Steve Stutsman, parade dignitaries' line-up area and reception
- Jerry Ollinger, Fun Day vendor coordinator
- Judy Sluyter, Praise Fellowship, Fun Day Kids Zone coordinator
- Alexander Nguyen, Fun Day Community Stage entertainment chair
- Steve Rivette, Mira Mesa Theatre Guild, Community Stage (also parade commentator)
- Romer Fajota, Good Shepherd Parish, Community Stage
- Darrel Larson, Newbreak Church, Community Stage
- John Malo, tech support for parade announcers, also fireworks logistics
- Sarah Young, parade commentator
- Mike Matcke, coordinator for Hip Hop stage, also contact for Willy Santos and Willy's Workshop, as well as "live art"

**SCRIPPS MESA FIREWORKS**

- Marvin Miles, president
- John Malo, treasurer
- Bari Vaz

Many thanks go to all of these people and to the companies and organizations who made this possible.

Looking forward, we have a great meeting planned for August. Don't miss it. Dan McAllister always has some very interesting information to impart to us.

The Mira Mesa Street Fair is next. Mark your calendars for Sept. 15. It will be a memorable event indeed.

# Equip Our Kids and Classrooms School Supply Drive

**By Nathan Fletcher**
**California Assemblyman**

It's back to school time! 'Tis the season for pencils, pens, notebooks, calculators, and other school supplies.

As essential as these items are to a student's academic achievement, we know they can be expensive for parents, students—and even teachers—to buy.

Join us by picking up extra supplies during your next shopping trip and dropping them off at my district office.

Your generous donation will help parents, families, and teachers prepare our students for tomorrow's workforce demands by giving them tools needed to succeed.

Please consider donating any of the following:

- Pens
- Pencils
- Markers
- Lined paper
- Copy paper (reams)
- Kleenex
- Dry erase markers
- Rulers
- Glue sticks
- Calculators (new and used)
- Crayons
- Erasers
- Binders
- Backpacks
- Two spiral notebooks
- Scissors
- 2-inch binders

Items can be dropped off the August Mira Mesa Town Council meeting or at my district office at 9909 Mira Mesa Boulevard, Suite 130, San Diego, 92131 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.: . Please call (858) 689-6290 for questions or more information. We appreciate your support!

If you are a school or classroom in need of supplies? Contact Staci Ignell at (858) 689-6290 or staci.ignell@asm.ca.gov by Aug. 15 to sign up to receive donated supplies.

**A child dancing at the 2011 Mira Mesa Street Fair. Approximately 5,000 residents each year attend the fair.**

# Crafters, Vendors Offer Treasures at Street Fair

**By Pam Stevens**

Crafters and other vendors, non-profit and business information booths, and food from around the world will be at the 14th Annual Mira Mesa Street Fair, hosted by the Mira Mesa Town Council, Saturday, Sept. 15, 2012, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Camino Ruiz from Mira Mesa Blvd. to New Salem St.

Enjoy entertainment on two stages, a carnival, children's crafts and games, free rock painting for children sponsored by Vulcan Materials, and a Scout Village.

There will be a new Street Fair attraction this year by Scripps Mesa District Boy Scouts on the dirt lot behind the Mira Mesa Library, showcasing camping skills and equipment, as well as other Scouting activities.

Street Fair booth space registration continues until Aug. 4 (or with a late fee until Aug. 18, space permitting.) Info: miramesatowncouncil.org

Find out about Mira Mesa past and present at the "big top" information booth with displays and volunteers from the Mira Mesa Town Council, Recreation Council, Community Planning Group, and Chamber of Commerce.

Copies of *Mira Mesa*, by Pam Stevens, a photo history of the community in the *Images of America* series published by Arcadia Press, will be available for sale at the Mira Mesa Town Council booth.

Discover treasures at bargain prices at the Friends of the Mira Mesa Library's largest used book sale of the year (until 2:30 p.m. in the library meeting room.) Enjoy military displays, learn about emergency preparedness with CERT, or climb to the top of a giant earth mover for a bird's eye view of the Street Fair below you!

Any Mira Mesa Town Council members who'd like to help as volunteers at the MMTC community information booth for an hour or two during the day on September 15 are encouraged to contact Brandy Ludwick, at brandy.lu@live.com , or Pam Stevens, stevens @san.rr.com.

All time slots from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. are currently available. Help with set-up or take-down is also needed. Sign up early for your choice of time!

At press time, MMTC is still actively seeking a Filipino food vendor and there is room for one other specialty food booth.

In addition to crafters and other vendors, many local non-profit groups, schools, and businesses will have informational displays. Visit the Friends of Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve and discover Mira Mesa's wild backyard.

Is there someone you'd like to send to "jail" at the Mira Mesa Theatre Guild booth?

*(Continued on page 10)*

***The Street Fair food court will feature:***

***Egyptian Delights***

*Gyros*

*hummus wraps*

*funnel cakes*

*smoothies*

*Nachos*

***Las Carretas***

***Taco Shop***

*Tacos*

*carne asada*

*pollo asado*

***Quality Coast, Inc.***

*gourmet tacos*

*hot dogs*

*Sliders*

*grilled cheese*

***Muscle Beach Café***

*Sausages*

*hot dogs*

*Lemonade*

***Bangin' Burgers***

*burgers*

*hot dogs*

*drinks & chips*

***Yogurtland***

*frozen yogurt*

***Coastal Kona Ice***

*shaved ice*

*ice cream*

***Woody Wagon***

***Icy Treats***

*Hawaiian shaved ice*

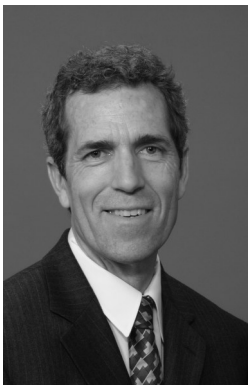
*root beer floats*

*shakes*

***Finest City***

***Kettlecorn***

*popcorn*



San Diego School Board President John Lee Evans

# A Great Summer Surprise for Mira Mesa Schools

**By John Lee Evans**
**San Diego School Board President**

In June I was proud to announce a historic agreement between the district and the teachers' union to prevent layoffs of 1,500 teachers and to keep them in our kids' classrooms in September. Many of these 1,500 teachers work right here at our fine schools in Mira Mesa.

All I wanted all year was to get the district staff and the teachers' union to sit down and work together to solve this problem caused by the state's budget crisis. We knew that we couldn't increase class size any further and still offer a quality educational program. I am very pleased that we accomplished this in time for the adoption of next year's budget.

The teachers agreed to forego their pay raises and continue the five furlough days of the past two years. We need to thank all of our teachers for making this sacrifice to save our schools. They also agreed to further contingency cuts if the state ballot measures fail in November.

This is a new day in San Diego Unified in which our teachers, parents and administrators will continue to work together for our schools. We will continue to advocate for our fair share of tax dollars from Sacramento. In San Diego have made major cuts to administration and we have reduced transportation and other costs.

Now our teachers, counselors and nurses have made their sacrifice, too. The Superintendent and the Board of Education have made the same concessions. We are all in this together. We have set an example for other school districts in the state.

Now we will be able to celebrate another great year in Mira Mesa schools. Please do your part and become involved in the Mira Mesa Cluster Council. Mira Mesa is leading the way in San Diego's initiative for "a quality school in every neighborhood."

And be sure to thank our teachers for their service and their sacrifice.

Mira Mesa Theatre Guild Board Member Teri Ang.

# Theatre Guild Working on Partnership with School

**By Pam Stevens**

The Mira Mesa Theatre Guild, Mira Mesa's non-profit community theatre group since 1991, announced that it is in the process of finalizing a producing partnership with a local Mira Mesa school for the 2012-2013 season.

Under the leadership of Board Member-at-Large Teri Ang, the group is currently exploring a partnership to use Mira Mesa's Wangenheim Middle School theater as a venue for its fall play.

Title and audition dates are still in the process of being finalized will be announced on the MMTG website, miramesa theatreguild.org.

Mira Mesa Theatre Guild will present the 2012 Mira Mesa's Got Talent winners, 12-year-old singer/keyboardist Willa Madrid, 13-year-old belly dancer Sarah Rose Gomez, and 8-year-old singer Madelyn Salazar (now performing as Madelyn Joy), and other performers on stage at the Mira Mesa Street Fair on Saturday, Sept. 15.

In addition, MMTG talent will be part of the entertainment Oct. 21 at the San Diego Kids Expo (Oct. 20-21 at the Del Mar Fairgrounds), with performances by the Mira Mesa's Got Talent winners as well as a children's puppet show by MMTG member and puppeteer Valerie Broesch.

In 2011-12 the Mira Mesa Theatre Guild returned to staged theatrical productions after a 10-year hiatus. During the 1990s MMTG had an active annual season, but suffered the loss of a permanent home theater when the Mira Mesa Mall remodeled and the storefront where MMTG had performed was no longer available.

MMTG's return to staged theatre began in spring 2011 with the first annual *Mira Mesa's Got Talent* competition, held at the Epicentre (San Diego Regional Teen Center.)

MMTG productions of the comedies, *Greetings* (December 2011) and *Greater Tuna* (April 2012), both directed by Tim Arends, also took place at Epicentre, as did the second annual *Mira Mesa's Got Talent*, directed by Steve Rivette, in May 2012.

Mira Mesa Theatre Guild presented entertainment on the community stage at Mira Mesa's 4th of July Fun Day in Mira Mesa Community Park on July 4, emceed by Steve Rivette.

Mira Mesa Theatre Guild is an all-volunteer, 501c(3) non-

*(Continued on page 10)*

# Monster Manor to Stay in the Crypt this Season

**By Alexander Nguyen**

The Mira Mesa Theatre Guild Board of Directors announced that Monster Manor, the annual Halloween attraction in the Target parking lot will not be happening this year.

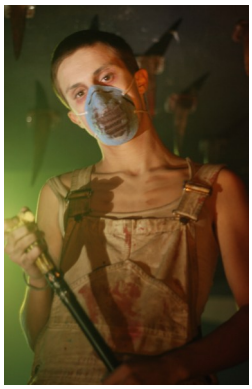
At its last monthly meeting in July, the board voted to keep Monster Manor in the crypt for this year, to conserve funds and focus its efforts on the Fall play, tentatively scheduled for October. The group cites lack of funding and volunteer support as the reasons for the planned hiatus.

"It is our hope to bring Monster Manor back next year," said Trey Barkley, Theatre Guild president and Monster Manor director. "We have been doing this Mira Mesa fundraiser for 10-plus years. We can only put it on with the support of the community."

Monster Manor started in 2001 when community leader Tim Allen, along with a friend, John Hart, wanted to bring their love of Halloween together and start a charity haunted attraction. It was originally a fundraiser for the Mira Mesa Fourth of July fireworks. Between 2001 and 2006, Monster Manor was the sole fundraiser of the fireworks, raising nearly $100,000 total for the show.

After 2006, Monster Manor and the Fourth of July Committee parted ways because of artistic differences between the boards of the two groups.

*(Continued on page 11)*



**A volunteer actor at Monster Manor, an all-volunteer haunted attraction in Mira Mesa.**

# Chamber of Commerce Hosts Beer Festival

San Diego CityBeat and the Mira Mesa Chamber of Commerce present the Mira Mesa Festival of Beers, on Saturday, Aug. 25 from 1p.m.-5:30 p.m. at Walker Park, located directly across Black Mountain Road from Miramar College.

There will be 18 brewers at the festival featuring more than 36 craft beers.

"There are nine craft breweries in the Mira Mesa-Scripps Ranch area, so we thought it would be great to promote the great craft beer that is being brewed right here at home," said Kevin Hellman, the event organizer.

Tickets are $20 for general admission and $30 for VIP entrance. VIP attendees will get 12 four-ounce tasters, additional beers to sample and live music.

General admission attendees will get 10 four-ounce tasters and live music.

Confirmed brewers include: Hess Brewing, Green Flash Brewing, Alesmith, Callahan's, Stone Brewing, Ballast Point, Manzanita Brewing, Rough Draft Brewing, Trumer Pils, Tailgate Brewing, Lagunitas Brewing, New English, Karl Strauss, Societe Brewing, Wet 'n Reckless Brewing, Butchers Brewing, Rough Draft and Cerveza Tijuana.

Food trucks include: Miho Gastrotruck and more.

VIP entrance starts at 1p.m. General Admission opens at 2 p.m. This is a 21-and-up event. Proceeds to benefit the Mira Mesa Chamber of Commerce. For info or tickets, visit www.miramesabeerfest.com.

***"There are nine craft breweries in the Mira Mesa-Scripps Ranch area, so we thought it would be great to promote the great craft beer that is being brewed right here at home."***

# Joseph Ludwick Memorial Trust Established

Joseph Robert Ludwick ("Joey") passed away suddenly on July 19, 2012 in a car accident. He leaves behind three young children, Tyler, Mason, and Leanna.

"Joey was an amazing father, son, brother, coach, and friend, who left us before we were ready to let him go," said his brother, James Richie Ludwick, of Mira Mesa Youth Baseball.

Richie Ludwick and his wife, MMTC Board Member-at-Large Brandy Ludwick, are spreading the word about a charitable trust Richie has established to help Joey's family and in particular provide for his children.

The purpose of this trust is to provide financial assistance to Joey's family, and particularly to pay for the cost of Joey's funeral expenses and provide for the general welfare and security of his children.

No one is prepared when things like this happen. Your support is greatly appreciated.

If you wish to donate in person, an account has been set up at Chase Bank under the name of the trust: Joseph Ludwick Memorial Trust, account number 3016713470.

If you wish to donate online, a website has been created to accept credit card donations. www.indiegogo.com/josephludwickmemorialtrust

For more information contact Richie Ludwick at 858-201-1413.

**Joey Ludwick and his three young children, Tyler, Mason and Leanna.**

# August 2012

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | 1 Kiwanis, Scripps-Mira Branch – 6:30 am, Mimi's Restaurant<br>Line Dance – 4:30 pm, Mira Mesa Library<br>Exchange Club of | 2 | 3 Khanh's Drawing Class – 4 pm, Mira Mesa Library | 4 Story Time & Craft – 11 am, Mira Mesa Library<br>Zumba w/ Azi – 1 pm, Mira Mesa Library |
| 5 | 6 Mira Mesa Town Council – 7pm, Mira Mesa Senior Center | 7 Golden Friends – 10 am, Mira Mesa Senior Center | 8 Kiwanis, Scripps-Mira Branch – 6:30 am, Mimi's Restaurant<br>Exchange Club of San Diego – 6:30 pm, Mandarin Garden Restaurant<br>Mira Mesa Banner District – 6:30 pm, location TBD | 9 | 10 Khanh's Drawing Class – 4 pm, Mira Mesa Library | 11 Story Time & Craft – 11 am, Mira Mesa Library<br>Zumba w/ Azi – 1 pm, Mira Mesa Library |
| 12 | 13 Mira Mesa Town Council Board of Directors – 6:45 pm, Mira Mesa Senior Center | 15 Golden Friends – 10 am, Mira Mesa Senior Center<br>Mira Mesa Women's Club – 7 pm, Mira Mesa Senior Center<br>Friends of the Library – 7 pm, Mira Mesa Library<br>Recreation Council – 7 pm, Lopez Ridge Rec Center<br>Black Mountain Masonic Lodge #845 F.& A.M. – 7:30 pm, Scottish Rites Center | 15 Kiwanis, Scripps-Mira Branch – 7:15 am, Mimi's Restaurant<br>Exchange Club of San Diego – 6:30 pm, Mandarin Garden Restaurant<br>Line Dance – 4:30 pm, Mira Mesa Library | 16 Sr Center Board of Governors – 2 pm, Mira Mesa Senior Center<br>Mira Mesa Theatre Guild – 6 pm, location varies<br>Community Pride – 6:30 pm, call for location<br>Black Mountain Democratic Club – 7 pm, Mesa Village Rec Hall 1 | 17 Khanh's Drawing Class – 4 pm, Mira Mesa Library | 18 Story Time & Craft – 11 am, Mira Mesa Library<br>Zumba w/ Azi – 1 pm, Mira Mesa Library |
| 19 | 20 Mira Mesa Community Planning Group – 7 pm, Vulcan Materials Office, 7220 Trade St, Suite 205 | 21 Golden Friends – 10 am, Mira Mesa Senior Center<br>Mira Mesa Chamber of Commerce – 7 am, Hera Hub, 9710 Scranton Rd, #160, San Diego | 22 Kiwanis, Scripps-Mira Branch – 7:15 am, Mimi's Restaurant<br>Line Dance – 4:30 pm, Mira Mesa Library | 23 Mira Mesa Street Fair Committee – 6:45 pm, Mira Mesa Senior Center | 24 Khanh's Drawing Class – 4 pm, Mira Mesa Library | 25 Zumba w/ Azi – 1 pm, Mira Mesa Library<br>Mira Mesa Beer Festival. |
| 26 | 27 Mira Mesa Cluster Schools Council - 6 pm, Mira Mesa High School Media Room | 28 Golden Friends – 10 am, Mira Mesa Senior Center<br>Banned Book Club – 6:45 pm, Mira Mesa Library | 29 Line Dance – 4:30 pm, Mira Mesa Library | 30 Mira Mesa Street Fair Committee – 6:45 pm, Mira Mesa Senior Center | 31 Khanh's Drawing Class – 4 pm, Mira Mesa Library | |

## Events of Interests

- **Aug. 25 — 1st Annual Mira Mesa Beer Festival, Walker Community Park. $17-$30**
- **Aug. 25 — Mira Mesa HEROES volunteer event: Painting the inside of the Turning Point Crisis Pregnancy Center**

## Minutes From Last Month's General Membership Meeting

**CALL TO ORDER**

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Approval of Minutes from the April meeting, by acclamation

**TREASURER'S REPORT** — Jeff Stevens

**BUSINESS OF THE MONTH** — Pam Stevens accepted the recognition on behalf of the MIRA MESA LIBRARY.

**MIRA MESA TOWN COUNCIL VERNE GOODWIN SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS:**

- Ashly Hight
- Jihui Jin
- Marilyn Nguyen
- Tiffany Porter
- Amanda Sani
- Karl Yabes

**POLICE REPORT** — Officers Chuck De La Cruze and Dan Stetkevich

- There are 12 to 13 units on 2nd shift
- Car burglaries are about the same
- Home burglaries are about the same
- Mira Mesa is a safe neighborhood
- Report about today's domestic violence police call that ended in a police shooting of the suspect.
- There was a curfew sweep over the Memorial Day weekend. Some juveniles were arrested.
- Curfew law was discussed

**CONGRESSMAN BRIAN BILBRAY**

- Gave an update on several issues that affect Mira Mesa.
- He addressed the status of the Jonas Salk Elementary School moving forward to being built.
- He answered many questions about many different issues and concerns from the audience.

**COUNCILMEMBER CARL DeMAIO** (John Ly) asked if there were any questions. There were none.

**COUNTY SUPERVISOR PAM SLATER-PRICE** (Steven Hadley) announced an upcoming health fair.

**RONALD McDONALD RED SHOE DAY** to raise money for the Ronald McDonald House. June 28, collecting from 6:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m..

**EVERYONE'S TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP EXPIRES AT THE END OF JUNE — DUES ARE DUE.**

**MEETING ADJOURNED**

**Congressman Brian Bilbray was at the last Town Council Meeting.**

# Your Annual Membership Card

**Here is your 2012-2013 Membership card.**

**(if card not attached — membership has expired)**

**New Ad Rates—Business Card Size**

**One Issue** - $25.00, **Three Issues** (Buy 2, Get 1 Free) - $50.00, **Full Year** - $150.00 (Buy 6, Get 5 Free) - To place an ad contact: Newsletter@MiraMesaTownCouncil.org

# Business Members Directory

Brandon Stapper
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* Maria Elena Davo
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info@eLiveLife.com.

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brahna@tomsmm.com

Tom Yanagihara
**Finest City Kettlecorn**
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# Banned Books Group Meets Aug. 26 at Library

Do you like to read and talk about what you've recently read? The Mira Mesa Library's Banned Book Club is a monthly book group, open to all interested readers, which focuses on reading and discussing titles from the American Library Association's list of books that have been banned or challenged someone, as well as other thought-provoking titles.

Book discussions are currently held the last Tuesday of each month, 6:30 p.m. at the Mira Mesa Library. All are welcome, "regulars" as well as "drops ins" who'd simply like to discuss a particular title.

An annual title selection meeting is held in the fall during Banned Books Week, the American Library Association's late September, early October annual celebration of the freedom to read.

The group's next book discussion will take place Tuesday, Aug. 28 at 6:30 p.m. at the Mira Mesa Library. The title for the August book group meeting will be selected at the July 31 meeting.

For the title or more information, call the Mira Mesa Branch Library, 858-538-8164, or email book group facilitator Pam Stevens, pstevens@san.rr.com.

## **Fair:** Limited Booth Spaces Still Available but Going Fast

*(Continued from page 3)*

Learn how the Mira Mesa/ Scripps Ranch RSVP helps keep our community safe. Meet elected officials and candidates for office at their booths.

Additional crafters selling handmade items, other vendors, community service groups, schools, churches, and other non-profits are encouraged to sign up. MMTC members receive a discount on booth space.

For a booth space application, see www.miramesatowncouncil.org and click on "Mira Mesa Street Fair." Applications should be printed and mailed to the Mira Mesa Town Council.

Booth fees may be paid online or via check with the application. To avoid a late fee, applications must be postmarked no later than Aug. 4. The last day to register is Aug. 18, 2012.

The MMTC Street Fair Committee meets at 6:45 p.m. at the Verne Goodwin Mira Mesa Senior Center on the fourth Thursday of each month from April through August, and all Thursdays (prior to Street Fair) in September.

The Street Fair Committee is chaired by Jeff Stevens; vendor chair is Jerry Ollinger; and entertainment chair is Alex Nguyen. Ernie Schnepf is layout master, and Jon Labaw is day of event chair.

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to come to meetings and help put on this great community event. For more information, email streetfair@miramesatowncouncil.org.

**Mira Mesa's Got Talent Winner Willa Madrid performs at 4th of July Fun Day**

## **Theatre:** New Board Members Announced; Membership Avail.

*(Continued from page 4)*

profit group. Current MMTG Board members are: Trey Barkley, president; Steve Rivette, vice-president; Alex Nguyen, secretary; Jeff Barkley, treasurer; Tim Arends, parliamentarian; Pam Stevens, community liaison; and Teri Ang, Board member-at-large.

MMTG Board meetings take place monthly on the third Thursday, 6 p.m., location varies. Board meetings are open to interested guests. If you would like to attend a meeting, email info@miramesa theatre guild.org for the location.

To join MMTG as a general member ($10/year), patron ($30/year), or business member ($50/year), download the membership application from the MMTG website, miramesatheatre guild.org, and mail with dues to: Mira Mesa Theatre Guild, PO Box 261482, San Diego, CA 92196-1482.

Individuals and businesses may also help support live theatre in Mira Mesa by joining the MMTG patron program (levels $25 and up) and receive benefits including the MMTG e-newsletter, complimentary tickets, and more. For details, see: www.miramesatheatre guild.org/sponsors.html.

Audition and performance dates for the fall play and upcoming productions will be posted on the MMTG website. For more information, email casting@miramesatheatre guild.org

## **Monster:** Attraction not Unique in its Financial Woes

*(Continued from page 5)*

"The divorce between Monster Manor and Fourth of July Committee was one of the most painful things for the community," said Ted Brengel, Mira Mesa Town Council president, at a meeting in 2009.

The haunted attraction, however, remained a fundraiser for the community, having raised funds for Mira Mesa HEROES, Boy Scout Troop 648, Friends of Ericson Elementary School, Mira Mesa Scripps Youth Football, Mira Mesa Youth Baseball, Poway High Ag Partners, Sandburg Elementary School and more.

For the past 11 years, Monster Manor has garnered several impressive accolades from the community. In 2009, the readers of the San Diego Union-Tribune/SignonSan Diego.com nominated Monster Manor for Best of San Diego: Family Attraction.

It was the only haunted attraction in the region to receive recognition. And in 2010, Monster Manor was, again, the only haunted attraction to be nominated for 10News A-List's Best Family Attraction.

This was all the more impressive considering Monster Manor's operating budget of around $20,000.

While it was getting recognition, financial problems began for Monster Manor when Pardee Homes withdrew its corporate sponsorship in 2009, citing the housing bubble collapse.

The Guild was able to make up for some of the financial shortage through grants and smaller donations from local businesses. But the prolonged recession coupled with new fire regulations that forced the Guild to lose the tent top that had been a landmark for the haunted attraction. The loss of an electrical source caused more financial strains for Monster Manor.

"Losing our tent top was a major blow to us," Barkley said. "Many people thought that we were closed because it looked incomplete."

Funding woes and manpower shortages, however, aren't unique to Monster Manor. Several high-profile community events have been canceled or scaled back in the past few years because of funding issues.

The most well-known being the Imperial Beach Sandcastle Competition, which was canceled last year. Debbie Longley, the chair of the Sandcastle Competition committee, told the Imperial Beach Patch that the group has tapped every funding source and the economic challenges coupled with a lack of volunteers made it impractical to continue.

"I think the public take these community events for granted," said Bari Vaz, chair of the Fourth of July Committee, whose fireworks event almost didn't happen this year because of lack of funding. "People forget that it takes the community to put on a community event."

Said Barkley, "If the community would like to see Monster Manor happen again, we need donations."

And it needn't exclusively be financial donations, he said. The community can donate its time and resources.

"We need help with construction, acting and marketing," he said.

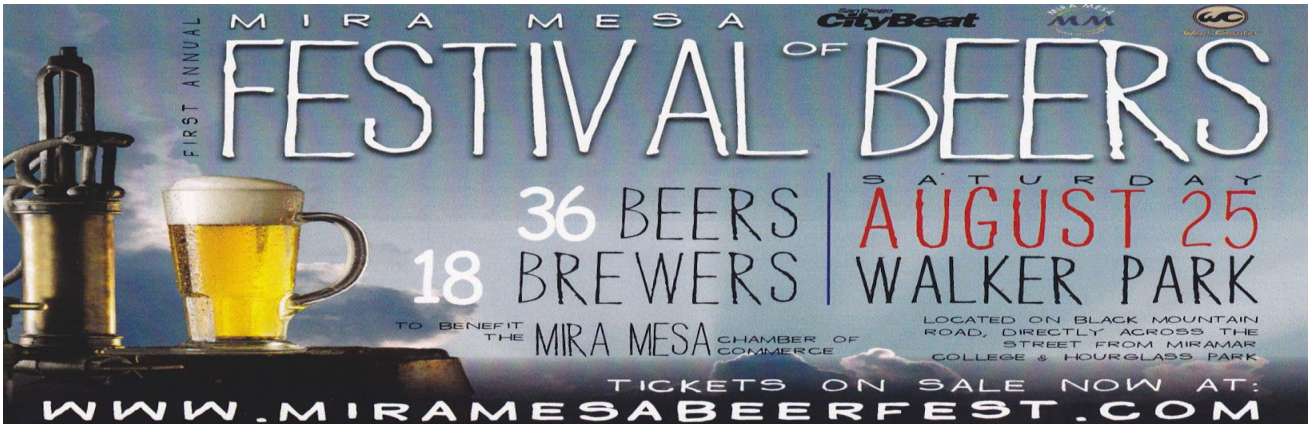
Monster Manor, however, isn't planning on hanging up its haunted hat for good. The Theatre Guild is looking to plan a fundraiser for Monster Manor sometime this year and a monthly Monster Manor meeting will begin in January 2013.

Also this October, the Guild will be partnering with the Mira Mesa Halloween Carnival to offer slightly spooky dramatic fun for children.

To keep up-to-date on Monster Manor news and development, follow Monster Manor on Facebook (www.facebook.com/MonsterManor), sign up for the newsletter at the Theatre Guild website (www.miramesatheatreguild.org) or email info@monstermanor.org.

**A volunteer actor at Monster Manor, an all-volunteer haunted attraction in Mira Mesa.**

***"I think the public take these community events for granted. People forget that it takes the community to put on a community event."***



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www.MiraMesaTownCouncil.org

Please send items for publication to:
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## *Mira Mesa Town Council — Annual Membership Application*

Primary Member/Contact Name _____

Business/Corporation Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Business/Cell Number _____

Companion Member Name(s) _____

E-mail Address _____

Phone Number _____

State/Zip Code _____

Date _____

**Membership Type (check one):**

❑ Individual ❑ Companion ❑ Senior/Military/Student ❑ Corporate/Business
❑ Combined MMTC/MMCC (Corporate/Non-Profit Only)

If you choose a joint membership with the Mira Mesa Chamber of Commerce, you will be contacted to provide additional information required for your Chamber application. Joint memberships are restricted to Corporation/Business or Non-Profit organizations.

**Rates (annual membership begins July 1 and ends June 30):**
(Pro-rated membership applies to first time members only; all renewals are for the full amount)

| Join Between: | Individual | Companion/Senior Military/Student | Corp/Bus | Corp/Bus Joint MMCC | Non-Profit Joint MMCC |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| May 15 - Aug 14 | $20.00 | $10.00 | $50.00 | $150.00 | $90.00 |
| Aug 15 - Nov 14 | $15.00 | $7.50 | $37.50 | $112.50 | $67.50 |
| Nov 15 - Feb 14 | $10.00 | $5.00 | $25.00 | $75.00 | $45.00 |
| Feb 15 - May 14 | $5.00 | $2.50 | $12.50 | $56.25 | $22.50 |

Any resident, business, or non-profit may joint the Mira Mesa Town Council; members with addresses outside the Mira Mesa Community will be non-voting associate members. The Mira Mesa Town Council is a non-profit volunteer organization. Membership dues are used to defray the cost of operations such as printing and distributing the newsletter, maintaining the website (www.MiraMesaTownCouncil.org) and other approved council expenses.
Amount $_____ Cash / Check #_____ There will be a $25 fee for all returned checks.

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Mira Mesa Town Council
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**IMPORTANT MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION ENCLOSED**

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