



# Mira Mesa Town Council Newsletter

## Mira Mesa Town Council Meeting

- Monday, Dec. 3, 2012  
7 p.m. - 9 p.m.  
Mira Mesa Senior Center  
8460 Mira Mesa Blvd

### Agenda:

- Volunteer of the Year
- Mira Mesa Maintenance Assessment District

### Business of the Month:

- The Joint

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Volume 37, Issue 11

December 2012

## Volunteer of Year Nominees

By Jeff Stevens

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:

**Tom Derr** — Tom Derr has been an active volunteer with the Mira Mesa Town Council and other community organizations for many years. He served on the MMTC Board of Directors for two years, and has been chair of the Mira Mesa Maintenance Assessment District Committee for the last seven years. That committee controls an annual budget of \$800,000 that is used to im-



*Volunteers of the Year nominees (left to right): Tom Derr, Julius Hitchens and Bari Vaz*

prove and maintain landscaping on major streets such as Mira Mesa Boulevard.

Tom moved to Mira Mesa in 1974. He was the owner/operator of Tom's Master Mechanics from 1984 until his retirement in June 2011. Tom joined the Automotive Service Council (ASC) in 1985 and served as treasurer.

In 1996, he joined the San Diego Herpetological Society, and has served as treasurer of that organization from then until

now. Tom is well known for bringing his snakes to the Mira Mesa Street Fair and other community events. SDHS also brings reptiles to schools, especially those with at-risk kids, to spark their interest in learning. Tom is now in the process of starting a new nonprofit business called EcoVivarium, which will be a Zoo for all reptiles, amphibians, and some insects.

Tom is an active member and past president of the Ex-

*(See Volunteers on page 3)*

## Inaugural Celebrations Planned Citywide, Mira Mesa

An inauguration ceremony will be held for mayor-elect Bob Filner on Dec. 3

The 10 a.m. swearing-in ceremony will take place at the San Diego Balboa Park Club, 2144 Pan American Road West. The ceremony is open to the public. It will be followed by a reception.

In addition, Filner will be celebrating with communities all across San Diego.

- 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.  
UCSD/La Jolla Playhouse  
2910 La Jolla Village Drive  
La Jolla, CA 92037
- 5:00 p.m. - 7 p.m.  
**Mira Mesa High School Media Center**  
10510 Reagan Road  
San Diego, CA 92126
- 6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.  
The Center  
3909 Centre Street  
San Diego, CA 92103
- 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.  
Jacobs Center  
404 Euclid Avenue  
San Diego, CA 92114
- 8 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.  
San Ysidro Multi-Cultural Center  
4345 Otay Mesa Road  
San Ysidro, CA 92173  
Food, beverage and entertainment will be provided.

**2012  
MIRA MESA  
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BOARD OF  
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## President's Message for December

Wow! Another year almost gone — the Holiday Season is upon us. This month, as in years past, our MMTC meeting will be a celebration of the past year and the one to come. We are hoping to be entertained by the Mira Mesa High School Orchestra and the MMHS Madrigals. If this doesn't put you in the Christmas Spirit, nothing will!

We do have a little business to conduct. The most important item is selection of the 2012 Mira Mesa Volunteer of the Year. Please be at the meeting help us make this all-important selection.

Just a few days after the meeting Mira Mesa (all of Mira Mesa) will officially join Council District 6 and leave Council District Five. Incidentally, just in case you aren't keeping

tally in local politics, the fact that we were voting for representatives for the new City Council Districts city-wide, Mira Mesa, along with the rest of District Six didn't vote for city council representative this time. Two years from now, in the 2014 mid-term election, the even-numbered districts, district six included, will have elections for city council representatives.

Our District Six City Council Representative is Lorie Zapf. Her very capable area representative for Mira Mesa is Kenny Nakayama. Kenny will attend meetings of MMTC representing Lorie.

We have a couple of new businesses in the Target Shopping Center area. The Joint, a chiropractic business ([www.thejoint.com](http://www.thejoint.com)) opened to

much fanfare recently and offers a new approach to chiropractic adjustments. Also we have a new sandwich shop. The Sandwich Emporium opened recently at 8155 Mira Mesa Blvd #3. I recommend that everyone try these fine establishments. They provide quality service and they are just outside your door.

Jonas Salk Elementary School is moving forward, we finally have solid progress and a probable construction start date. Please keep your eye on this newsletter for updates as this vital project gains momentum.

Finally, I speak for the entire Mira Mesa Town Council Board of Directors when I say I hope everyone had a fabulous family Thanksgiving and I wish you a very Merry Christmas Season and a Happy New Year.

## Give Your Education Views in National Speak Up Survey

San Diego Unified School District is encouraging parents and students along with teachers and staff to participate in a survey on educational issues. Findings are summarized and shared with national and state policy makers.

This year marks the 10th time the national Speak Up survey has asked students about how they use — and how they would like to use — technology for learning. This year, students will be asked about their use of mobile tools, social networks and gaming as part of their learning in and out of the classroom.

Teachers and administrators will be asked what tools they use and what they want to use and how prepared they are for technology use, and parents will be asked how they feel about the role of technology in their children's lives and

learning.

The national online Speak Up 2012 survey is open now until Dec. 21.

The survey is a series of multiple choice questions, plus students will also be given the chance this year, through two open-ended questions, to "brief the President" on their ideas for improving education and to describe how they would make one of their classes more interesting and valuable if technology was better used in that class.

The Speak Up online survey will be completed by more than 400,000 K-12 students, educators and parents around the country. The results provide important insights about education, technology and student aspirations that are used every year by individual schools, districts, state departments of education and national leaders.

"We are excited to look at how students' responses have changed over the last decade, and to look at how the responses have changed from those who were 7-years-old the first time they took the Speak Up survey and who are now seniors in high school," said Julie Evans, president and CEO of Project Tomorrow, the organization that conducts the Speak Up survey. "Ten years ago, we were asking about email accounts. Last year, we were talking about students designing and using gaming to learn. That's a huge shift."

To take the survey, go to [www.speakup4schools.org/speakup2012/](http://www.speakup4schools.org/speakup2012/), select your school and use the secret word **SURF**.

Since 2003, more than 2.6 million K-12 students, educators and parents from more than 30,000 schools in all 50 states have participated in Speak Up.

## Voters Show Support for San Diego Public Schools

By John Lee Evans

San Diego School Board President

Voters in San Diego and across the state have spoken loudly and clearly in support of our public schools. Prop 30 and Prop Z won because our district has proved through hard work that we have schools worth investing in.

In 2012 the tide has turned. We have stopped the hemorrhaging of the past four years. The first good news is that we will not have to cut 14 days off this school year and we can continue to see gains in student achievement. But while

we are not suffering immediate further cuts, we must still contend with a budget that has already been decimated by four years of cuts. We will continue to face shortfalls compared to just a few years ago and must continue to make adjustments. We can only do this by continuing to work together: parents, teachers, staff and community members. We are San Diego UNIFIED.

Mira Mesa is leading the way in the high performance of our local schools. During the next four years I would like for Mira Mesa set the standard for

quality schools in every neighborhood. We have exceptional staff and committed community members.

We all have a stake in our public schools. Good schools strengthen all of our community. The Mira Mesa Cluster Council, which represents all Mira Mesa schools from K-12, meets on the fourth Monday of every month at 5:30 p.m. at the Media Center of Mira Mesa High School. Besides parents, teachers and staff, all community groups are encouraged to send a representative to these meetings.



San Diego School Board President

## Volunteers: Selection will be at Town Council Meeting

*(Continued from page 1)*  
change Club of San Diego, a chapter of the oldest national service club in the United States which has prevention of child abuse as a national project. He is chair of the Law Enforcement Volunteer of the Year event.

**Julius Hitchens** — Julius Hitchens has been involved with the American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO) Region 285 of Mira Mesa for more than 15 years. He has held several positions within the organization, such as Coach Administrator and Division Coordinator, and currently sits on the Board of Directors as Assistant Regional Commissioner.

He has also been a referee for AYSO soccer games. Mira Mesa AYSO plays host to one of the largest soccer tournaments in the region, the Top Gun Tournament, held annually on Memorial Day weekend, where Julius can be seen as Top Gun Tournament Director and Coach.

Both his boys (BU19) and

girls (GU19) teams brought home championship medals in the 21st Annual Top Gun Tournament. Julius has spent the past 8 years coaching the Mira Mesa High School Boys Varsity and JV Soccer teams and 7 years coaching the Mira Mesa High School Boys and Girls Golf teams. Julius has volunteered as a member of the Board of the Tiburon Homeowners Association for the last nine years. Julius and his family have resided in Mira Mesa for 18 years and run a family business at Top Gun Realty.

**Bari Vaz** — Bari Vaz moved to Mira Mesa from New Orleans in 2008 and rapidly became a leader in most of our community groups. She serves as Chairman of the Mira Mesa Community Planning Group, and previously chaired a Planning Group subcommittee that reviewed the future high occupancy vehicle onramp to Interstate 15, working for months to develop mitigation plans. Bari serves as First

Vice-President of the Mira Mesa Town Council. She chaired the Town Council Redistricting Subcommittee, attending almost all of the City Redistricting Committee meetings, with her efforts leading to a result beneficial to our community. She has chaired the Mira Mesa Fourth of July committee for the past two years, and represented Mira Mesa as an Ambassador for the San Diego Foundation's "Our Greater San Diego Vision."

Bari is a leader in creating the new MMTC Foundation, a tax-deductible non-profit now under formation as a sister group to Mira Mesa Town Council. Bari also serves on the board of the Mira Mesa/Scripps Ranch Retired Senior Volunteer Program, Inc. and as Chairman of the Mira Mesa Chamber of Commerce. Bari lived in New Orleans prior to coming to Mira Mesa and was just as active in that community, among other efforts helping residents with the recovery from Hurricane Katrina.



**Boy Scouts Troop 1212 presents Breakfast with Mrs. Claus on Saturday, Dec. 16 at 9 a.m. at Souplantation**

# December 2012

## Events of Interest

- **Dec. 3 — Bob Filner Mayoral Inaugural Celebration, Mira Mesa High School Media Center, 5 pm**
- **Dec. 4 — Free 30-min Legal Consultation, Mira Mesa High School (check with library for time; first comes, first serves.)**
- **Dec. 7 — Clean Energy Community Workshop, SDG&E Energy Innovation Center (4760 Clairemont Mesa Blvd.), 8 am**
- **Dec. 11 — Winter Craft with Marta, Mira Mesa Library, 6:30 pm**
- **Dec. 16 — Breakfast with Mrs. Claus, Souplantation, 9 am**
- **Dec. 18 — Christmas Carols, Mira Mesa Library, 6:30 pm**

| Sun   | Mon  | Tue   | Wed  | Thu   | Fri  | Sat   |
|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|
|   |  |   |  |   |  | <b>1</b><br>Kathak Dance Classes – 10 am, Mira Mesa Library<br>Zumba w/ Azi – 1 pm, Mira Mesa Library                     |
| <b>2</b><br>Our Town Flea Market – 8 am, Mira Mesa High School                    | <b>3</b><br>Mira Mesa Town Council – 7pm, Mira Mesa Senior Center<br>Crafts with Kim – Mira Mesa Library   | <b>4</b><br>Golden Friends – 10 am, Mira Mesa Senior Center   | <b>5</b><br>Line Dance – 4:30 pm, Mira Mesa Library<br>Kiwanis, Scripps-Mira Branch – 6:30 am, Mimi's Restaurant<br>Exchange Club of San Diego – 6:30 pm, Mandarin Garden Restaurant   | <b>6</b><br>Teen Writing Club – 4pm, Mira Mesa Library  | <b>7</b>   | <b>8</b><br>CHANUKKAH BEGINS<br>Kathak Dance Classes – 10 am, Mira Mesa Library<br>Zumba w/ Azi – 1 pm, Mira Mesa Library |
| <b>9</b><br>Our Town Flea Market – 8 am, Mira Mesa High School                    | <b>10</b><br>Mira Mesa Town Council Board of Directors – 6pm, Mira Mesa Senior Center<br>Crafts with Kim – Mira Mesa Library                     | <b>11</b><br>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 | <b>12</b><br>Line Dance – 4:30 pm, Mira Mesa Library<br>Exchange Club of San Diego – 6:30 pm, Mandarin Garden Restaurant<br>Mira Mesa Banner District – 6:30 pm, location TBD<br>Kiwanis, Scripps-Mira Branch – 7:15 am, Mimi's Restaurant | <b>13</b>   | <b>14</b><br>Khanh's Drawing Class – 4 pm, Mira Mesa Library | <b>15</b><br>Kathak Dance Classes – 10 am, Mira Mesa Library<br>Zumba w/ Azi – 1 pm, Mira Mesa Library                    |
| <b>16</b><br>CHANUKKAH ENDS<br>Our Town Flea Market – 8 am, Mira Mesa High School | <b>17</b><br>Mira Mesa Community Planning Group – 7 pm, Vulcan Materials Office, 7220 Trade St, Suite 205<br>Crafts with Kim – Mira Mesa Library | <b>18</b><br>Golden Friends – 10 am, Mira Mesa Senior Center<br>Banned Book Club – 6:45 pm, Mira Mesa Library   | <b>19</b><br>Line Dance – 4:30 pm, Mira Mesa Library<br>Mira Mesa Homework Helpers – 6pm, Mira Mesa Library<br>Kiwanis, Scripps-Mira Branch – 7:15 am, Mimi's Restaurant   | <b>20</b><br>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 | <b>21</b><br>Teen Advisory Board – Mira Mesa Library         | <b>22</b><br>Kathak Dance Classes – 10 am, Mira Mesa Library<br>Zumba w/ Azi – 1 pm, Mira Mesa Library                    |
| <b>23</b><br>FESTIVUS<br>Our Town Flea Market – 8 am, Mira Mesa High School       | <b>24</b><br>CHRISTMAS EVE   | <b>25</b><br>CHRISTMAS  | <b>26</b><br>KWANZAA BEGINS  | <b>27</b><br>Mira Mesa Chamber of Commerce – Mixer, 6 pm, see website for location  | <b>28</b>  | <b>29</b>   |
| <b>30</b><br>Our Town Flea Market – 8 am, Mira Mesa High School                   | <b>31</b><br>NEW YEAR'S EVE  |   |  |   |  |   |

## Minutes From Last Month's General Membership Meeting

### CALL TO ORDER

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Ted Brengel asked for members to start submitting Volunteer of the Year nominations.
- Approval of Minutes from the October meeting, by acclamation

### TREASURER'S REPORT —

Jeff Stevens

- Checking Acct. \$12,302
- Street Fair Acct. \$22,198
- Savings \$15,876
- 4th of July Acct. \$670
- Scholarship Fund \$12,363

### RECOGNITION OF BUSINESS OF THE MONTH —

The Joint — Bari Vaz made presentation.

### MIRA MESA TOWN COUNCIL NOMINATION COMMITTEE —

Jon Labaw  
The following names were placed into nomination for these positions:

- President Ted Brengel
  - 1st Vice President Bari Vaz
  - 2nd Vice President Brandy Ludwick
  - Secretary Jeff Stevens
  - Newsletter Editor Alexander Nguyen
  - Treasurer John Horst
  - Parliamentarian Christiane Hoffman
  - Members at Large Jennifer Kvalvik, Maria Pankau, Jon Labaw, Christina Keene
- Chuck Sweet made a MOTION, seconded by Tom Derr: Since none of the nominees were opposed that we appoint them as officers for 2013. Motion carried unanimously.

### ANNOUNCEMENT —

Grand Opening of Mira Mesa Community Office. Need information about the Mira Mesa community in the City of San

Diego or one of our community organizations? Call us! 858-609-6629 or visit Mira Mesa Community Office, 10717 Camino Ruiz, Suite 228. Open House Thursday, November 8, 5:30pm to 7:30pm

### FIRST RESPONDERS —

SDPD Northeastern Division (Lt. Mark Saunders)

- Northeastern Division is now on Face Book — SDPD Northwestern Division
- An officer is dedicated to patrol around Mira Mesa High School on school days
- Major chop shop arrest in Mira Mesa
- Major gang arrest in Mira Mesa
- SDPD didn't beef up patrols for Halloween. This was an oversight and a mistake
- Overall there is a good lid on gang activity in Mira Mesa
- Homeless person problem was discussed

**PRESENTATION** — Walker Elementary Principal Rochelle Dawes and Pastor Darrel Dunlap, Christ Community Church made presentations that made us aware of the poverty that 72% of the Walker Elementary School students experience. They also presented us with many volunteer opportunities. To volunteer or make donations please go to website: [www.gotochrist.com](http://www.gotochrist.com) or a check can be mailed (CCC Food truck, 9535 Kearny Villa Rd. #101, San Diego, CA 92126. Chuck Sweet made a MOTION, seconded by Alex Nguyen. That the Mira Mesa Town Council donate \$300 to pay for 2 tons of food for Walker Elementary School. Motion passed 32 in favor, 1 opposed.

**PRESENTATION** — Mira Mesa CERT Steve Glass talked about personal and family disaster management.

**PRESENTATION** — "Youth Advisory Board", a project of San Diego County District Attorney Bonnie Dumanis – Jeffrey Anderson talked about this project that engages high school students to get involved in programs that help them make proper choices so they stand a greater chance of achieving success.

**PRESENTATION** — Mira Mesa High School Parent Booster Organization – Flea Market to raise money for Grad Night events. Market will be open every Sunday start Nov. 11.

**COUNCILMEMBER CARL DEMAIO** (John Ly) — John Ly announced that this would be his last meeting with the MMTC since Councilmember Lori Zapf is responsible for Mira Mesa

**COUNCILMEMBER LORIE ZAPF** (Kenneth Nakayama) — Kenneth Nakayama introduced himself and is eager to assist citizens in the community of Mira Mesa

**COUNTY SUPERVISOR PAM SLATER-PRICE** (Marc Reggier) announced that this would be the last meeting that County Supervisor Pam Slater-Price would be serving us. He expressed her gratitude for the honor of being our supervisor. He talked about the problem and danger of prescription drugs getting into the wrong hands.

**TWO-MINUTE PRESENTATIONS BY SOME COMMUNITY GROUPS**

**MEETING ADJOURNED**



Miss Mira Mesa at the grand opening of Sandwich Emporium with councilmembers Carl DeMaio and Lorie Zapf.

## Business Members Directory

### 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@Mira  
MesaTown  
Council.org**

Fran Laporga-Ching  
**A-1 Self Storage**  
9701 Camino Ruiz  
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Tommie Mooney  
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San Diego, CA 92126  
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brett@mesacenters.com

**Sandy**  
**The Real Estate Lady**  
Buying? Selling? Let's Chat  
**(858) 361-5229**  
DRE # 0133457  
LOCATED IN THE MIRA MESA MALL (VONS SHOPPING CENTER)  
SandyTheRealEstateLady.com



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## Mira Mesa Town Council — Annual Membership Application

Primary Member/Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_

Companion Member Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Business/Corporation Name \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State/Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Business/Cell Number \_\_\_\_\_

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<br>Military/Student | Corp/Bus | Corp/Bus<br>Joint MMCC | Non-Profit<br>Joint MMCC |
|------------------|------------|--------------------------------------|----------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| July 1 - Sept 30 | \$20.00    | \$10.00                              | \$50.00  | \$150.00               | \$90.00                  |
| Oct 1 - Dec 31   | \$15.00    | \$7.50                               | \$37.50  | \$112.50               | \$67.50                  |
| Jan 1 - Mar 31   | \$10.00    | \$5.00                               | \$25.00  | \$75.00                | \$45.00                  |
| Apr 1 - June 30  | \$5.00     | \$2.50                               | \$12.50  | \$56.25                | \$22.50                  |

Any resident, business, or non-profit may join 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](http://www.MiraMesaTownCouncil.org)) and other approved council expenses. Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Cash / Check # \_\_\_\_\_ There will be a \$25 fee for all returned checks.

Mira Mesa Town Council  
 PMB 230  
 10606-08 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  
 PMB 230  
 10606-08 Camino Ruiz  
 San Diego, CA 92126

[issues@miramesatowncouncil.org](mailto:issues@miramesatowncouncil.org)  
[www.MiraMesaTownCouncil.org](http://www.MiraMesaTownCouncil.org)

Please send items for publication to:  
[newsletter@miramesatowncouncil.org](mailto:newsletter@miramesatowncouncil.org)