March, 2012

Mira Mesa Town Council

Meet Councilmember Lorie Zapf

Beginning in 2013, Mira Mesa will become a part of the new City Council District 6. District 6 is currently represented by Lorie Zapf, who will represent Mira Mesa through 2014. Please join us on March 5 to meet Councilmember Zapf, and welcome her to Mira Mesa.

Lorie Zapf, a longtime community leader, was elected to City Council in 2010 to improve the quality of life in San Diego and bring common-sense solutions to City Hall.

Lorie believes the success of the City of San Diego is directly tied to the success of our local businesses. During her first year in office she partnered with Council President Tony Young and the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce to introduce a Small Business Policy Assistance Package. These reforms will support small businesses, streamline bureaucracy and make it easier to do business at City Hall.

Lorie and her husband founded and managed a natural food company from their offices in Clairemont. She has translated her experience and expertise running a small business to her current work on City Council. While government isn't a business, making financial decisions based on business principles is the way to get San Diego's finances back in the black.

An outdoor enthusiast, Lorie has contributed many volunteer hours working on conservation projects, including helping to construct hiking trails and building wheelchair accessible campsites/picnic areas. She has orchestrated numerous cleanup events throughout District 6 in partnership with local community groups and nonprofits. Those cleanups have removed over five tons of trash from San Diego's watersheds.

Lorie holds Master's and Bachelor's degrees in marketing communications and journalism. She has been married to her husband, Eric, for 15 years. They live in Clairemont where they are raising two school-age children.

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Mira Mesa Town Council Meeting

Monday, March 5, 2012
7 - 9 p.m.

Mira Mesa Senior Center
8460 Mira Mesa Blvd

Agenda:

Meet Councilmember Lorie Zapf

Business of the Month:

Magical Moments Professional DJ Services

Visit us online at www.miramesatowncouncil.org or "like" us on facebook

MIRA MESA TOWN COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS, 2012

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Mira Mesa Town Council Meetings

Mira Mesa 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 held the first Monday of each month at the *Mira Mesa Senior Center* from 7 to 9 p.m., with no meeting held in July.

The 2012 Mira Mesa Town Council meeting schedule is:

January 9 **	**July - NO MEETING**
February 6	**August 6**
March 5	**September 10 ****
April 2	**October 1**
May 7	**November 5**
June 4	**December 3**

**** Jan & Sept meetings on the 2nd Monday due to holiday**

Contact Us:

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www.MiraMesaTownCouncil.org

Please send items for publication to:
newsletter@miramesatowncouncil.org

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 MMTC committees and community groups include:

- **MMTC BANNER DISTRICT COMMITTEE**
- **MMTC COMMUNITY PRIDE COMMITTEE**
- **MMTC FOURTH OF JULY COMMITTEE**
- **MMTC STREET FAIR COMMITTEE**
- **MMTC MAINTENANCE ASSESSMENT DISTRICT COMMITTEE**
- **CLUSTER SCHOOLS COUNCIL**
- **COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP**
- **HEROES**
- **MIRA MESA COMMUNITY VISION**
- **MISS/MISS TEEN MIRA MESA**
- **RECREATION COUNCIL**
- **RETIRED SENIOR VOLUNTEER PATROL (RSVP)**

Come to a Mira Mesa Town Council general meeting or contact one of our directors for more information. Also see page 7 for specific meeting times and locations.

Business of the Month: Magical Moments Professional DJ Services

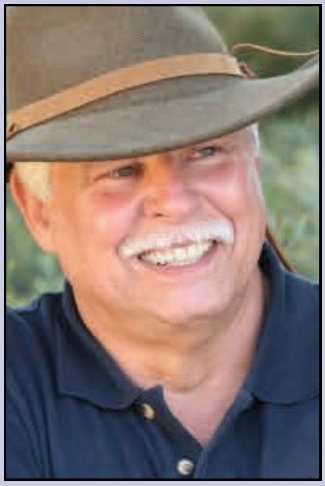
Magical Moments Professional Disc Jockey service has been providing quality entertainment since 1990. Mark James, owner and primary Disc Jockey, maintains a music library of over 100 thousand songs: a library covering music selections from Classical to Country, Jazz to Hip Hop, Latin and Rock. Not only does Mr. James provide music, but serves as the event coordinator and MC/Host of your event, coordinating with photographers, catering, and facilities management to ensure your day is exactly as designed. With state of the art equipment and lighting, you are guaranteed the best DJ experience in San Diego.

Magical Moments also provides Karaoke, providing a complete library of old favorites and current hits, all digitally mastered. Karaoke can be added on to any event or booked separately as a stand alone service.

Mark James has been a resident of Mira Mesa for over 20 years, providing his services to several local events including The Taste of Mira Mesa, Volunteer of the Year ceremony, Mira Mesa High School sponsored Band Competitions, and just recently hosted the Miss Mira Mesa and Miss Teen Mira Mesa Pageant. Magical Moments has volunteered its services to help out local establishments such as Chick-Fil-A and during the devastating wildfires of 2003, Mark James volunteered his services and equipment at the Mira Mesa High School Red Cross staging area providing safety and informational announcements.

Overall, whether Magical Moments is providing your DJ service for a Wedding, Party, or Hosting / MC your event, Mark James has only one goal - to ensure your complete satisfaction, taking the worry out of the day, so you can simply enjoy your event to its fullest potential.

President's Message for March



Ted Brengel

Last month those attending the monthly MMTC meeting were treated to a brief meeting with our two new queens. Both Monica Fung, Miss Mira Mesa, and Morgan Sibley, Miss Teen Mira Mesa were at the meeting. I am certain that these lovely and talented young ladies will represent Mira Mesa well at this year's events.

The March MMTC meeting will also provide a rare treat. We will meet Lorie Zapf who will become our council member after the November elections. She will serve as our council member for two years until we elect a new Sixth District City Council Member in November of 2014, when all of the even numbered city council districts vote for their representatives. I am sure she will be glad to answer your question, so don't miss this opportunity.

I hope everyone has already marked their calendars for two important events one of which is right around the corner. If not, do so now! Of course I am writing about the annual *Taste of Mira Mesa* which is on March 28, and the Volunteer Dinner honoring Judy Taylor which is on May 5. Do not miss the Taste of Mira Mesa. First you will get some really good food at a very low price. Then, of course, all the very best people in Mira Mesa will be there. If you want to bend you City Councilman's ear or maybe have a word with your San Diego Unified School District Representative, they will both be there as well. So, good food and good people, but that's not all. There is also a silent auction which is a lot of fun. As I said—an evening not to be missed. See you there.

The Volunteer of the Year Dinner is a little father off, but mark it on the calendar anyway. It is very important that we honor our volunteers and this is you opportunity to meet and applaud one of the finest. Not only that but it's a fun evening.

Our Business of the Month for March will be Magical Moments DJ Services. He was master of Ceremonies for the Miss Mira Mesa Pageant and did a fantastic job. Not only that, but he donated his services to us. So, should you find yourself in need of a DJ or master of ceremonies, look no further.

One final thought for this month. With warmer weather and the beginning of daylight savings time, kids will be out playing—some of them in the street. Please slow down and extra few miles per hour just in case one should get in your path. Think about this. If you hit a child it simply won't be enough to be right.

Have a great month!!!

Mira Mesa High School "Phantom of the Opera" March 9-17

The Broadway classic has made its way to the Mira Mesa High School stage! Directed by Daniel Kriley, Andrew Lloyd Webber's "The Phantom of the Opera" will have performances in the Mira Mesa High School theatre Friday, March 9, at 7 p.m.; Saturday, March 10, at 2 p.m. and at 7 p.m.; Thursday, March 15, at 3 p.m.; Friday, March 16, at 7 p.m., and Saturday, March 17, at 7 p.m.

To find out more about the show, the cast, the crew and/or to order tickets in advance (all seats are assigned), see http://www.miramesatheatre.org/the-phantom-of-the-opera.html

Pam Stevens' "Mira Mesa" in San Diego Public Library Local Authors Exhibit

Pam Stevens, a freelance writer, librarian, and active volunteer with MMTC and other groups in Mira Mesa, where she and her husband, Jeff, have lived since 1980, was among the San Diego County authors honored at a reception at the Central Library in downtown San Diego February 3, to mark the opening of the 2011 Local Authors Exhibit. Her book, *Mira Mesa*, published in 2011, a photo history in Arcadia Publishing's Images of America series, tells how San Diego's largest suburban community grew from the first tract homes and "schools in houses" in 1969 and the early 1970s to bustling multi-ethnic Mira Mesa today. Pam Stevens' *Mira Mesa* is among the books that were on display at the Central Library in February, and will be part of an online exhibit through 2012 reachable via the San Diego Public Library website, www.sandiegolibrary.org. *Mira Mesa* is available at Barnes & Noble or via amazon.com.

Mira Mesa Volunteer of the Year Dinner May 5 to Honor Judy Taylor

By Pam Stevens

The Mira Mesa Town Council will honor longtime Mira Mesa resident Judy Taylor, active Mira Mesa/Scripps Ranch RSVP member and Golden Friends president, as 2011 Mira Mesa Volunteer of the Year at the MMTC's annual Volunteer of the Year Dinner on Saturday, May 5, 2012, at the Country Inn and Suites hotel ballroom, 5975 Lusk Blvd., in western Mira Mesa.

Planning is now underway for the gala event, which will start with a reception from 6 to 7 p.m., followed by a buffet dinner. This year's dinner will be a fiesta! A cash bar will be open all evening. After dinner and the program with presentations to Judy by elected officials and appreciative fellow volunteers and friends, enjoy music and dancing into the evening.

The annual MMTC Volunteer of the Year Dinner also offers an opportunity for people to make donations to the MMTC/Verne Goodwin Scholarship Fund, named after Mira Mesa's first Volunteer of the Year, Verne Goodwin, in 1984. MMTC uses the fund to award college scholarships to graduating high school seniors from Mira Mesa based on their community service.

Judy Taylor moved to Mira Mesa in May 1971 with her husband and three children. Her service to the community dates back to the early days of Walker Elementary School PTA in the 1970s, where she served as president, vice president, and treasurer. For a brief biography of Judy Taylor, please go to http://www.miramesatowncouncil.org/voy_2011.html.

The cost for the Volunteer of the Year Dinner will be the same as last year, $35 per person. MMTC members will receive mailed invitations, and online reservation and payment will again be available via the MMTC website.

For further information, contact MMTC Volunteer of the Year Dinner Committee co-chairs Pam Stevens, pstevens@san.rr.com, or Christina Keene, christinakeene@gmail.com.

Moving Our Schools Forward in 2012

By John Lee Evans, President, SD Unified Board of Education

Mira Mesa schools continue to perform very well and are an enhancement to our neighborhood. It is due in no small part to the dedicated principals, teachers, support staff, parents and community members who all care a great deal about quality schools in Mira Mesa.

The budget crisis in the state of California will have a big effect on the operational budget of our schools next year. We have already eliminated millions in central administration and outside contracts to keep most of the money in the schools. We have also reduced transportation funding to keep more money in the classrooms.

After reviewing every department last fall, it became very clear that we cannot keep cutting staff. The district is already functioning with a skeleton crew in many cases. We have 2,000 fewer employees than just a few years ago.

But we have a $124 million dollar shortfall due to reduced funds from the state. The Board cannot vote that shortfall away. The November ballot initiative for taxes will come too late to help us for next school year. We have two choices: increase class size and cut academic programs and student support services (resulting in over 1,000 layoffs) or have concessions from employees. The school police officers' union has already agreed to the concessions, so now there will be no need for layoffs in that department and our kids will be safe.

The Board of Education and the Superintendent have also agreed to the same package of concessions. I have faith that our other employee groups will do the right thing. We really need to return next year with the same level of staffing and programs.

We need to make it clear to our state legislators that we cannot continue to provide quality education without adequate funding. As parents, community members, teachers and staff we need to work together to protect the education of all children in Mira Mesa and throughout San Diego.

MMTC/Verne Goodwin College Scholarship Applications Coming Soon

By Pam Stevens

Are you or is someone in your family a graduating high school senior who's been involved with community service and could use $500 for college next year? Write an essay on volunteering! The 2012 Mira Mesa Town Council / Verne Goodwin Scholarship Awards, named after Mira Mesa's first Volunteer of the Year, Verne Goodwin, are designed for students who have enjoyed community volunteering. No specific GPA is required. All graduating high school seniors who are Mira Mesa residents are eligible to apply, no matter what high school they attend, as long as they are planning to further their education within the next year through community college, university, or technical school, and have participated in community service.

The 2012 MMTC/Verne Goodwin Scholarship application will be posted on the Mira Mesa Town Council website, www.miramesatowncouncil.org. Scholarship applications will also be available at Mira Mesa High School and Scripps Ranch High School no later than March 26 (the week before spring break). This year's MMTC Scholarship Committee will again be chaired by Jon Labaw, jlabaw13@gmail.com. MMTC members who would like to take part in the Scholarship Committee's review of applications (a mid-May meeting) are encouraged to email Jon.

Scholarship recipients will be invited to attend the June 4 MMTC meeting to receive their checks and will be recognized at their schools' award ceremonies. Applications are due in early May. For more information, see www.miramesatowncouncil.org.

March 28 "Taste of Mira Mesa" to Benefit Schools

By Pam Stevens

"Taste of Mira Mesa 2012" will take place on Wednesday, March 28, 2012, from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM in the garden courtyard at Gen-Probe, Inc., in western Mira Mesa, 6333 Sequence Drive, San Diego, CA 92121. Details and an opportunity to register/buy tickets online are posted at: http://www.miramesahighschoolfoundation.org/atm_taste_of_mira_mesa_2012.html

The event is sponsored by the Mira Mesa High School Foundation as a fundraiser for Mira Mesa High School and its feeder schools - Challenger and Wangenheim Middle Schools, and Hickman, Mason, Sandburg, Ericson, Walker, and Hage Elementary Schools. Mira Mesa restaurants set up tables around the edge of the tropically landscaped courtyard, offering "tastes" of their cuisine, and MMHS performing arts students and others provide entertainment. While enjoying this "grazing" dinner, guests can browse an amazing array of gift baskets on display in the silent auction, with items donated by schools, businesses, non-profit groups, and individuals.

"Taste of Mira Mesa 2012" will offer free babysitting, including pizza for the kids. (Sign up for childcare when you register and purchase your tickets online.) Tickets are $25 each.

Restaurants participating so far include:
Callahans, Chick-fil-A, Ashoka the Great, Croutons, Opera, L&L Hawaiian, Happy Sushi, Tomcat Bar & Grill, On the Border, Rubios, and Mira Mesa High School Culinary Arts.

"Taste of Mira Mesa 2012" corporate sponsors include Vulcan Materials and Pardee Homes.

The MMHS Foundation also sponsors the Mira Mesa Farmers Market, Tuesday afternoons from 3 to 6 PM (3 to 7 PM starting March 13) on the northeast corner of the MMHS campus, Mira Mesa Boulevard at Reagan Road. The Mira Mesa High School Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit group whose purpose is to raise funds for the benefit of students by improving school site facilities, academic, athletic and extra-curricular programs in all areas, including the arts, band and other programs. MMHS Foundation members are an energetic group of volunteers consisting of parents, alumni, school administrators, and other community members, with a Board that currently meets monthly on the third Wednesday, 6 PM in the MMHS Faculty Lounge. For more information, contact MMHS Foundation president Esther Alameddin, ealmeddin@gmail.com.

LOCAL NUMBERS

Emergency Services
Police/Fire/EMS 9-1-1
Poison Control 1-800-222-1222

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

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
Code Compliance 619-236-5500
Trash: uncollected, overflowing dumpster, trash-strewn lot, or recyclables 858-492-5055

General County Services Information
2-1-1 San Diego 2-1-1

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

Criminal Activity
Police Community Relations Office, NE.....858-538-8120
Police Community Relations Office, NW.....858-523-7031
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

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
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Website: http://www.sandi.net/board/evans.pdf

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

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Local office: 1350 Front St., Suite 6054, Sixth Floor
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Ph: (619) 525-4641
Website: www.governor.ca.gov.

Congressman, 50th District: Brian Bilbray
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ngudino@sandigo.gov

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Ph: (858) 689-6290, Fax: (858) 689-6296
Website: : http://www.assembly.ca.gov/fletcher
Ph: (916) 319-2075.
Field Representative: Sterling McHale,
Shea.Benton@asm.ca.gov

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County Supervisor District 3: Pam Slater-Price
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E-mail: pam-slater@co.san-diego.ca.us
Website: http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/cnty/bos/sup3/
Representative to Mira Mesa: Steven Hadley

County Supervisor District 4: Ron Roberts
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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

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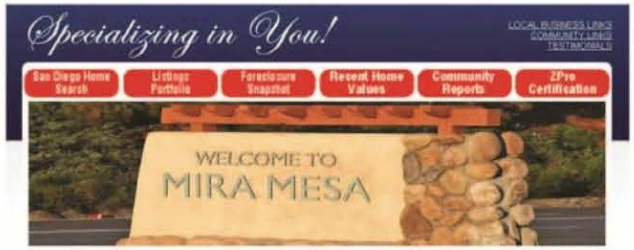

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One Issue - $25.00, **Three Issues** (Buy 2, Get 1 Free) - $50.00, **Full Year** - $150.00 (Buy 6, Get 5 Free)- To place an ad contact: Newsletter@MiraMesaTownCouncil.org

March 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 **VITA Tax Preparation** – 9:30 am-1:30 pm, Mira Mesa Library. Free by appointment	**2** **Khanh's Drawing Class** – 4:00 am, Mira Mesa Library. Children age 7 & up	**3** **Fil-Am Sr. Citizens Assn** – 10 am, Mira Mesa Senior Center **Zumba with Azi** – 1 pm, Mira Mesa Library
4 **FAASDNC Meeting** – 12 pm, Mira Mesa Recreation Center	**5** **Mira Mesa Town Council**—7pm, Mira Mesa Senior Center	***6*** **Golden Friends** – 10 am, Mira Mesa Senior Center **Mira Mesa Maintenance Assessment District** – 7 pm, Mira Mesa Senior Center	**7** **Kiwanis, Scripps-Mira Branch** – 7:15 am, Mimi's Restaurant	***8*** **VITA Tax Preparation** – 9:30 am-1:30 pm, Mira Mesa Library. Free by appointment	**9** **Khanh's Drawing Class** – 4:00 am, Mira Mesa Library. Children age 7 & up	***10*** **Zumba with Azi** – 1 pm, Mira Mesa Library
11	***12*** **Mira Mesa Town Council Board of Directors** – 6:45 pm, Mira Mesa Senior Center	**13** **Golden Friends** – 10 am, Mira Mesa Senior Center **Epicentre Oversight Committee** – call for information **Mira Mesa Women's Club** – 7 pm, Mira Mesa Senior Center **Friends of the Library** – 7 pm, Mira Mesa Library **Recreation Council** – 7 pm, Lopez Ridge Rec Center **Black Mountain Masonic Lodge #845 F.& A,M,** – 7:30 pm, Mission Valley Scottish Rites Center	**14** **Kiwanis, Scripps-Mira Branch** – 6:30 am, Mimi's Restaurant **Exchange Club of San Diego** – 6:30 pm, Mandarin Garden Restaurant	***15*** **VITA Tax Preparation** – 9:30 am-1:30 pm, Mira Mesa Library. Free by appointment **Sr Center Board of Governors** – 2 pm, Mira Mesa Senior Center **Mira Mesa Theatre Guild** – 6 pm, location varies **Community Pride –** 6:30 pm, call for location **Black Mountain Democratic Club** – 7 pm, Mesa Village Rec Hall 1	**16** **Khanh's Drawing Class** – 4:00 am, Mira Mesa Library. Children age 7 & up	***17*** **Zumba with Azi** – 1 pm, Mira Mesa Library
18	**19** **Mira Mesa Community Planning Group** – 7 pm, Vulcan Materials Office, 7220 Trade St, Suite 205	**20** **Mira Mesa Chamber of Commerce** – 7 am, Hera Hub, 9710 Scranton Rd, #160, San Diego 92121 **Golden Friends** – 10 am, Mira Mesa Senior Center	**21** **Kiwanis, Scripps-Mira Branch** – 7:15 am, Mimi's Restaurant **Exchange Club of San Diego** – 6:30 pm, Mandarin Garden Restaurant **Mira Mesa Banner District** – 6:30 pm, location TBD	**22** **VITA Tax Preparation** – 9:30 am-1:30 pm, Mira Mesa Library. Free by appointment	**23**	**24** **Zumba with Azi** – 1 pm, Mira Mesa Library
25	**26** **Mira Mesa Cluster Schools Council** - 6 pm, Mira Mesa High School Media Room	**27** **Golden Friends** – 10 am, Mira Mesa Senior Center **Banned Book Club**—6:45 pm, Mira Mesa Library	**28** **Kiwanis, Scripps-Mira Branch** – 7:15 am, Mimi's Restaurant	**29** **VITA Tax Preparation** – 9:30 am-1:30 pm, Mira Mesa Library. Free by appointment	**30**	**31** **Gentle Yoga with Patty** – 12:30 pm, Mira Mesa Library

Highlights of the February 6, 2012 MMTC Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Approval of Minutes from the January meeting, by acclamation
- Recognition of our "Business of the Month" - Mira Mesa Chamber of Commerce

PRESENTATION—MISS/MISS TEEN MIRA MESA

- Miss Mira Mesa, Monica Fung
- Miss Teen Mira Mesa, Morgan Sibley

FIRST RESPONDERS

- Northeastern Division - Sgt Robert Stinson and Acting Sgt Shannah Kanoa spoke about recent events in Mira Mesa.
  Residential break-ins are down. Car break-ins occurring, often when owner leaves property in view in the car.

PRESENTATION—COMMUNITY GROUPS

- Mira Mesa Town Council - President Ted Brengel discussed the major council events.
- Mira Mesa Community Planning Group - Chairman Bari Vaz discussed their efforts to ensure that Mira Mesa is developed in a family friendly and business friendly manner.
- Mira Mesa Recreation Council - Chairman Jeff Stevens spoke about managing and maintaining local parks.
- Mira Mesa Theatre Guild - Teri Ang spoke about their upcoming show and *Mira Mesa's Got Talent*.

ELECTED REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

City Councilman Carl DeMaio (John Ly)

- John discussed issues of concern to the Mira Mesa community

County Supervisor Pam Slater-Price (Steve Hadley)

- Steve presented county issues affecting Mira Mesa.
- County is looking for Mental Health professionals.

Congressman Brian Bilbray (Will Zasadny)

- Will spoke about Federal government issues of concern to the Mira Mesa community.
- Congressman will speak at MMTC April 2 meeting.

COMMUNITY GROUP REPORTS

- Epicentre - Meredith Foellmi is moving to another position, and is being replaced by Doug Reiss.
- Volunteer of the Year Dinner - May 5, seeking volunteers.
- MMTC Budget presented and approved.
- Challenger Middle School asked for donation to purchase 55 gallon drums for emergency response water storage.
- Several community groups spoke regarding their activities.

Meeting adjourned 8:45 p.m.

Next meeting Monday, March 5, 2012, 7 PM,
Mira Mesa Senior Center
Board meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at the Senior Center at 6:45 PM.

Meet "Sky of Red Poppies" Author Zohreh Ghahremani on March 27

by Pam Stevens

Meet Zohreh (Zoe) Ghahremani, author of *Sky of Red Poppies,* at the Mira Mesa Library's "One Book, One San Diego" sampler discussion Tuesday, March 27, from 6:30 to 8 PM at the library, 8405 New Salem St. This year three novels are being featured over the coming months in the "One Book, One San Diego" program, sponsored by KPBS and the San Diego Public Library – *Sky of Red Poppies*, by Zohreh (Zoe) Gharemani*, Moloka'ai*, by Alan Brennert*,* and *Into the Beautiful North*, by Luis Alberto Urrea. *Sky of Red Poppies* author Zoe Gharemani, a San Diego resident herself since 2000, will participate in the March 27 sampler discussion and share her insights.

While the evening will likely focus on *Sky of Red Poppies*, which begins with an unusual friendship between two young women coming of age in a politically divided 1960s Iran under rule of the Shah, the sampler discussion will offer an opportunity for comments about any of the three books featured this year - *Moloka'ai* and *Into the Beautiful North* as well. Everyone is encouraged to attend, whether you have already read any of the titles or not!

This free event is hosted by the Mira Mesa Branch Library and the Mira Mesa Banned Book Club, the library's monthly book group that reads and discusses books from the American Library Association's list of classics that have been banned or challenged somewhere, as well as other thought-provoking titles. For further details about the "One Book, One San Diego" titles and authors, see http://www.kpbs.org/one-book/. For more information about the March 27 event or the Mira Mesa Banned Book Club in general, email book group facilitator Pam Stevens, pstevens@san.rr.com, or call the Mira Mesa Branch Library, 858-538-8165.

Salk Elementary School Progress

By Pam Stevens

When Congressman Brian Bilbray toured the Jonas Salk Elementary School site Jan. 26 with Dr. Peter Salk, San Diego Unified School District facilities planners Lee Dulgeroff and John Stokes, and others, including Congressional and City Council staffers and Mira Mesa community leaders, the Congressman received an on-the-spot briefing on the status of the planned school and US Fish & Wildlife Service requirements the school district will satisfy in order to proceed with its construction. The site is located at Parkdale and Flanders in southwestern Mira Mesa, next to Maddox Neighborhood Park.

In addition to building the elementary school, the school district will convey 6.1 acres of the site to the city, 4.1 acres for city park and 2 acres for joint use playing field, in exchange for allowing the district to implement offsite vernal pool mitigation on 12.7 acres of land at McAuliffe Park (next to Challenger Middle School). The park land at the Salk site is adjacent to Maddox Park. SDUSD staff said some land is also being conveyed to the city at the southern edge of the site between the school and the nearest house on Parkdale, as a buffer that would allow for "fire lane" access to the park by emergency vehicles. That could also provide pedestrian access to the park from Parkdale. According to SDUSD staff, plans for Jonas Salk Elementary School have been approved by the state architect's office, and the school district hopes to receive its construction permit for Salk Elementary School later this year, with an estimated opening date of Fall 2015.

The Environmental Impact Report for the Salk Elementary School project is posted on the SDUSD website at http://www.sandi.net/page/948.

4th of July FIREWORKS CANCELLED

After 37 years, THERE WILL NOT BE ANY 4TH OF JULY FIREWORKS, UNLESS WE RAISE $24,000 BY APRIL 4.

You can donate online at scrippsmesafireworks.org 100% of your donation goes to OUR fireworks. PLEASE HELP.

MARVIN MILES, DRE 00585385
619-993-8401

Scripps Mesa Fireworks Seeks Assistance with Annual Fireworks Extravaganza

By Bari Vaz

More than a decade ago, Scripps Mesa Fireworks was incorporated as a 501(c)3 charity to support the annual 4th of July Fireworks Extravaganza. Working with a generous donation from a local builder, and funds raised each year through donations, Scripps Mesa Fireworks has kept the show going even through the recent economic downturn.

In 2011, the cost of the annual fireworks show reached $24,000. With donations dwindling due to the bad economy, Scripps Mesa Fireworks had to rely on some last minute support to keep the show going. That commitment has left them with an empty bank account and a looming deadline of April 4 by which to raise the necessary funding to keep the show going in 2012.

If you would like to make a donation, please go to ScrippsMesaFireworks.org for information on donating via PayPal or mailing in a check. Additionally, sponsorship opportunities are available for corporations interested in supporting this community tradition. For more information on how you might help, contact Scripps Mesa Fireworks President Marv Miles at 619-993-8401.

The Mira Mesa Golden Friends not only celebrated Valentine's Day but also recognized the birthday of Golden Friends president, Judy Taylor, by presenting her with a bouquet of flowers at their Feb. 14 meeting, which also featured a performance of the Senior Songsters. Judy will be honored for being a sweetheart to the community over the years at the Mira Mesa Town Council's Volunteer of the Year Dinner on May 5, 2012 at the Country Inn and Suites hotel. Photo courtesy Golden Friends/Leonore Spafford

Mira Mesa 4th of July Parade and Family Fun Day in the Park

By Bari Vaz

Planning is underway for the 2012 Mira Mesa Fourth of July Parade and Family Fun Day in the Park. Our day will begin with the Pancake Breakfast at 7 a.m. in the Epicentre. At 11:00 AM, Family Fun Day will begin in the Mira Mesa Community Park featuring carnival rides, food vendors, entertainment on our Community Stage, and many other events. At 11:30 AM, the 38th Annual Mira Mesa Fourth of July Parade will roll from its starting point at Mira Mesa Blvd and Greenford Dr to the Community Park. Family Fun Day will continue until 9:00 PM, when we will hopefully enjoy another Fireworks Extravaganza synchronized to music provided by KYXY radio.

Is your group, organization, or company interested in participating in the 4th of July parade? Applications will be available online at the MMTC website beginning on March 1. Please contact Parade Coordinator Maria Pankau at mgpankau@hotmail.com if you have any additional questions.

If you are interested in being a food vendor or hosting a non-profit booth at the Family Fun Day, please contact Vendor Coordinator Jerry Ollinger at jerryollinger@hotmail.com for information on hosting a booth.

Sponsorship opportunities are also available. Please contact 4th of July Chairman Bari Vaz at barivaz@sbcglobal.net for information.

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Businesses whose names are proceeded by an asterisk offer discounts to Mira Mesa Town Council members who show their current membership card.

Mira Mesa/Rancho Penasquitos Relay for Life Coming May 19-20 *By Pam Stevens*

The Mira Mesa/Rancho Penasquitos Relay for Life is coming again to Hilltop Park in Rancho Penasquitos. This year's Relay will take place Saturday to Sunday, May 19-20, 2012. Relay for Life is sponsored by the American Cancer Society to raise awareness and raise funds for the fight against all kinds of cancer. Teams of walkers pledge to have at least one person on the track at all times during the 24 hours of the Relay. Since it's a relay, team members are free to simply come for the hour or two they'll be walking, or to make a day of it. Teams set up tents so that team members can camp out overnight on Saturday, getting up when it's their turn to walk. Team members raise funds by seeking donations in advance from family and friends. The Relay for Life begins at 9 AM Saturday with registration and survivor breakfast reception, followed by an opening ceremony, butterfly release, and survivors' lap. Cancer survivors are now being sought so they can be celebrated at Relay and invited to an April 15 "Survivor Soiree." A Relay for Life highlight is the luminaria ceremony after sundown Saturday night.

Mira Mesa Town Council is making a donation to help support the Relay for Life overall, and a number of Mira Mesans and Mira Mesa groups and businesses are going to be involved with various teams. Active MMTC members Tom and Brahna Derr, and their daughter, Deborah Derr, are again leading a team, the Purple Cancer Eaters, as they've done the past few years. The Mira Mesa High School Key Club, Mira Mesa High School Interact Club, Mira Mesa Red Cross Club, Epicentre Teen Advisory Council, Mira Mesa Presbyterian Church's The God Squad, and a Time Warner Cable group led by Trisha Norwood are among the 24 teams registered so far. Now's the time for anyone interested in starting a team or joining a team to sign up. People who don't have time to get involved with a team can simply enjoy going to the event, since there's continuous entertainment during the day on Saturday, and can help support the cause with individual donations. An easy and meaningful way to do that is to make a small donation for a pre-ordered butterfly in honor/memory of a loved one affected by cancer, or for one of the luminarias set out in the evening along the walking course around the park. Luminarias are small candles inside paper bags, labeled with the names of people the donors are honoring for their fight against cancer and/or in memory of loved ones who fought cancer.

For more information, visit http://www.relayforlife.org/miramesaca or email Trisha Norwood, tnorwoo1@san.rr.com.

Mira Mesa Street Fair Active Planning Starts in April *By Pam Stevens*

The MMTC Street Fair Committee will start active planning in April for the 14th Annual Mira Mesa Street Fair, set to take place on Saturday, September 15, 2012. According to Street Fair Committee chair Jeff Stevens, the first meeting of the Mira Mesa Street Fair Committee this year will be Thursday, April 26, 6:45 PM at the Verne Goodwin Mira Mesa Senior Center, 8450 Mira Mesa Boulevard. If you have ideas to share and/or would like to help plan and put on one of Mira Mesa's two biggest annual parties (the other is the 4th of July celebration), mark your calendar! For more information, email Jeff Stevens, jeffstev@san.rr.com.

Circus Vargas March 8-12
Mira Mesa Community Park
For times, prices, and ticket orders, call 877-GOT-FUN1 or visit www.CircusVargas.com

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 (Circle Choices):

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

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

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.

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