Mira Mesa Town Council Newsletter

Volume 38, Issue 5 May 2013

Mira Mesa Town Council Meeting

- Monday, May 6, 2013
  7 p.m. - 9 p.m.
  Mira Mesa Senior Center
  8460 Mira Mesa Blvd.

Agenda:

- County Supervisor Dave Roberts
- San Diego County District Attorney's Office

Business of the Month:

- Mira Mesa Women's Club

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Spring Brings Warm Temps, Scaly Critters

Temperatures are on the rise. Colorful wildflowers are putting on a show along our freeways. And more furry and scaly creatures have begun appearing in our yards and parks.

You may have even spotted a rabbit or found some shedded snake skin.

All sorts of wildlife emerge in the spring, and March and April mark the start of rattlesnake season in San Diego County. Recent news reports have described human rattlesnake bites. As the reptiles come out of hibernation, it's not uncommon to spot them locally, though bites are rare. Most sightings happen between now and October.

The County's Department of Animal Services has removed dozens of rattlesnakes from residents' homes and yards so far this month, said Dawn Danielson, Animal Services Director.

The snakes are most likely venturing out in search of food and to soak up the sun, said Mary Ramsey, Supervising Park Ranger for the County's Department of Parks & Recreation. She oversees the Dos Picos County and Collier County parks, which are both in Ramona.

This rattlesnake was spotted by a hiker along a trail in the County's Del Dios Highlands Preserve in early April.

Ramsey said she warns visitors to be aware of their surroundings, especially of where they're placing their hands or feet or where they sit.

Typically, Ramsey said the snakes are either sunning themselves or on their way somewhere.

"People think they're going to chase you — that isn't so," she said. "They don't want anything to do with us."

If you encounter one of the five varieties of rattlesnakes

*(See **Snakes** on page 15)*

Los Peñasquitos Canyon Ticks Test Positive for Tularemia

Several ticks trapped in routine monitoring near Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve March 29 have tested positive for tularemia, also known as "rabbit fever," San Diego County Department of Environmental Health officials said.

The National Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) say tularemia is a potentially dangerous illness that people can contract from infected animals such as rabbits and rodents in a number of ways — through direct contact with an infected animal; by drinking or inhaling contaminated water, dust or aerosols; or through "vectors," pests such as ticks that bite an infected animal and then a person.

"We recommend that people use insect repellent, especially when hiking in brushy areas, to prevent ticks and other insects from biting them," said DEH Director Jack Miller. "Flea and tick control products should also be used on pets."

Dr. Wilma Wooten, County Public Health Officer, said

*(See **Ticks** on page 15)*

2013 MIRA MESA TOWN COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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President's Message for May

Every once in awhile a really great idea comes along. When that happens we have to be either lucky enough or smart enough to grab it and take advantage of it. Well, that just happened recently. John Horst, our treasurer, came up with one heck of an idea. I guess that John, like so many of us was pondering why MMTC exists, what is great about Mira Mesa, and what MMTC should dwell upon to make the community even better.

Well, here is what he came up with. First, John figured that Mira Mesa is all about excellence in education. Clearly without solid neighborhood schools supported by parents and the community as a whole the community has little reason to exist. Clearly first-rate schools are a bedrock element of a great community

Second, John thought about culture and the incredible diversity we share here in Mira Mesa. A community without cultural variety (and I have been in a few) is almost like a picture without color or depth. So, John's second pillar is richness in culture.

Then he thought of what makes our economic engines hum and keeps us vital and vibrant. That evolved the third pillar: innovation in industry.

So, what is so important about these three things? Most will say that this is nothing new. Mira Mesa has, after all, had these things for quite some time. Heck, if you want a lecture on excellence in education, just spend a few minutes with any of our principals or a member of the Mira Mesa High Cluster Council. And for richness in culture, just look around. My gosh! It just doesn't get any richer than this. Innovation in industry? We have that in spades. We have tiny businesses that started a few years ago with a couple of people and a lot of sweat and midnight oil that are now booming establishments with dozens of employees. And then there's the high-tech Sorrento Mesa with literally dozens of nationally known companies in the biomedical and electronics industries. Mira Mesa is an incredibly rich employment center.

What does that mean to you, you might ask. Well, it means that you don't have to apologize to anyone for where you live. People are so proud to live in La Jolla that they petitioned the Post Office for recognition as a community. So 92037, for example, is not San Diego, California, but rather La Jolla, California even though La Jolla is well and truly a city of San Diego community. Mira Mesa is no La Jolla, you might retort. True, we don't have many beaches in Mira Mesa, but if API scores mean anything, we do have better schools. In terms of cultural diversity and industry, la Jolla trails Mira Mesa by a wide margin.

My point is let's be proud, very proud, to be a part of Mira Mesa. And as part of that pride, each of us should do what we can for our community by supporting excellence in education, richness in culture, and innovation in industry. And whenever possible we should remind others, particularly those from other communities what a great place Mira Mesa is to live and Play.

San Diego Children's Choir Announces Annual Concert

San Diego Children's Choir is pleased to present its 23rd Annual Spring Concert A Century of Song on May 12, 2013 at Copley Symphony Hall in Downtown San Diego. This performance will feature songs representing each decade of music composed during the last 100 years, including some old favorites sure to please all audiences.

In addition, San Diego Children's Choir is beginning a Spring Session of the Early Years program providing children ages 4 - 5 with the opportunity to pair music with games, singing, dancing and rhythm instruments. The ten-week session, April 6 to June 8, meets in two locations on Saturday mornings: Rancho Bernardo from 9:00 to 9:45 a.m and Mira Mesa from 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. Tuition is $120.

Children learn to open up their minds and creative spirits while experiencing basic choral skills. Research shows that rhythm impacts all parts of the brain, enhancing the areas that affect communication, motor, cognitive, social and emotional capabilities. The SDCC Early Years program introduces children to purposeful play and interactive music making, instilling music appreciation in children early on.

Monday, July 22 through Friday, July 26, 2013 is San Diego Children's Choir's annual Making Music Summer Camp. This summer camp is structured as a week of introduction through thematic choral music immersion and interactive music making. Children 5 to 11 years are welcome. Completion of this summer camp will enhance students' ability to perform, interpret and create meaningful musical experiences alone and with others. At a cost of only $200 per child, you may choose to attend the 9 a.m. to noon class, the 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. class, or make it a full day of musical fun!

Regional Crime Rates Up, Still Among Lowest in 30 Years

In 2012, both violent and property crime rates in the San Diego region increased for the first time since 2001 and 2003, respectively, according to the SANDAG annual regional crime report.

The violent crime rate (homicide, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault) rose 7 percent to 3.77 per 1,000 residents, while the property crime rate (burglary, larceny, and motor vehicle theft) rose 6 percent to 22.15.

The number of homicides across the region saw the greatest one-year increase: 107 homicides were reported in 2012, a 30 percent increase from 2011. Over the past 30 years, homicides in the San Diego region peaked at 278 in 1991 and decreased fairly steadily to 86 in 1998. Since then, the number has fluctuated, but has not dropped below 67 (in 2010) or exceeded 130 (in 2003).

The annual report, *Thirty Years of Crime in the San Diego Region: 1983 through 2012*, compiles crime data from all 18 cities and the unincorporated areas of the county. The report serves as an important tool for local law enforcement agencies to track public safety trends over time and gauge the effectiveness of enforcement strategies and crime prevention programs.

"Despite the recent upswing in crime, it is important to remember that the rates we are seeing today are still among the lowest in the past 30 years," said Dr. Cynthia Burke, SANDAG director of criminal justice research. "However, with that said, we are continuing to closely monitor the trend reversal and factors that may be contributing to it. In the past few years, there have been significant cuts in resources for crime prevention and other law enforcement efforts. In addition, recent legisla-

*(See **Crime** on page 14)*

Homicides saw the greatest one-year increase.

Personal Property Statements Late-Filing Deadline Approaching

The annual personal property statements for businesses, aircraft and vessels, and notices of electronic filing (E-file) for San Diego County were distributed in January and February. Taxpayers receiving a statement or notice of electronic filing were required to file by April 2, 2013. Ernie Dronenburg, the San Diego County Assessor, wants to remind owners of businesses, general aircraft or vessels that the deadline to file this year without a penalty is May 7, 2013. All filings received and/or postmarked after May 7, 2013 will be subject to a 10 percent late filing penalty.

Ownership and taxability of all personal property is determined each year as of January 1. Any taxpayer receiving a statement or notice who was not the owner as of January 1, 2013 should return the statement or notice with all closing information included as soon as possible. This information will be used to update the Assessor's records and future assessment notices.

This year, 56,000 San Diego County business owners will be able to complete their filing online. The Assessor's office has developed an online e-file process that is easy to access, easy

*(See **Statements** on page 14)*

Ownership and taxability of all personal property is determined each year as of January 1.

History Lessons in Nation's Capitol for JROTC Students

Living American history and how to share that knowledge with their peers was the topic when JROTC students from throughout the district spent a recent week in Washington, D.C. at the invitation of a veterans group.

The students visited the U.S Capitol (sponsored by Congresswoman Susan Davis), the US Supreme Court, Library of Congress, Arlington National Cemetery, the US Holocaust Memorial Museum, the Smithsonian Museums, the White House and the home of George Washington in Mt Vernon, Va.

The educational trip, sponsored and fully-funded by the Military Order of World Wars is conducted each year by a selection panel of military veterans. This year's trip centered on student-to-student teaching techniques as each cadet researched and presented assigned historical sites, monuments and figures.

Mira Mesa High senior Samantha Bui was among the dozen or so JROTC students from San Diego who were invited to spend a week in the nation's capitol.

Leadership, citizenship responsibilities and key American historical events were discussed by the students in group settings; throughout the trip students were assessed for their leadership qualities, participation and subject knowledge by members of the Military Order of World Wars.

Mira Mesa High senior Samantha Bui was among those invited.

Agriculture Secretary Tom Villsack

AG Secretary praises Spring, Summer Fun Café program

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack had lunch with kids at San Diego Unified's Spring Fun Café Thursday, lauding the program and it bigger summertime counterpart, and challenging other cities and school districts to do the same.

Vilsack was joined at the event by Superintendent Designate Cindy Marten, City Council Member Marty Emerald, County Health Officer Wilma Wooten and other local officials.

Enjoying a lunch that included turkey and Swiss sandwich on a whole-wheat bun, baby carrots (from Bakersfield), Pixie tangerines from Ojai, kumquats from Pauma Valley and oranges from Valley Center, Vilsack called for a nationwide effort to double the number of meals served this summer.

"When school lets out, millions of low-income children no longer get a healthy breakfast or lunch, but USDA's summer meals program helps to fill that gap and is an invaluable investment in the future of America's children," said Vilsack. "Poor nutrition during the summer months can have a negative impact on a child's health, as well as their academic performance during the school year. Communities across the nation can work with us to ensure that all children have access to healthy foods, all year long."

Superintendent-Designate

*(See **Meal** on page 13)*

Singers, dancers, musicians, bands, actors, magicians, mimes, jugglers, acrobats, puppeteers, poets, and other performers of all sorts are encouraged to audition!

Mira Mesa's Got Talent Returns — Auditions May 2 and 9

by Alexander Nguyen & Pam Stevens

Does San Diego have talent?

Discover the answer at the Mira Mesa Theatre Guild's Third Annual Mira Mesa's Got Talent on Saturday, May 25, from 7 to 10pm. Not only a talent competition but a variety show offering family entertainment for all ages, Mira Mesa's Got Talent moves this year to a new location, the Wangenheim Middle School Theatre, 9320 Gold Coast Drive (school entrance from Dunholme Street, off Westchester. The theatre is on the south end of the parking lot.)

Singers, dancers, musicians, bands, actors, magicians, mimes, jugglers, acrobats, puppeteers, poets, and other performers of all sorts are encouraged to audition! The talent competition is open to all San Diegans. This year there will be two divisions for contestants: the kids/teen division for ages 8 through 15 and the adult division for age 16 and up. Do you or somebody in your family want to perform? Auditions for contestants will take place May 2 and May 9. www.miramesa theatreguild.org

Print and fill out the audition form at www.miramesa theatreguild.org. (If under 18, a parent's signature is required.) Come audition either Thursday, May 2, or Thursday, May 9, at the Wangenheim Middle

*(See **Talent** on page 14)*

Last year was one of the worst year on record for West Nile virus.

County Kicks Off West Nile-Virus-Prevention Campaign

County Board of Supervisors Chairman Greg Cox and Deputy Public Health Officer Dr. Eric McDonald kicked off the County's 2013 West Nile virus prevention campaign Wednesday by reminding people how they can protect themselves from the potentially-deadly disease.

Last year marked one of the worst on record for West Nile virus both in California and across the Country — but not here, where the County of San Diego has taken strong steps to control mosquitoes that spread the disease and strongly encouraged the public to join the fight by using the County's "Protect, Prevent, Report" campaign cry.

"The outbreak across the country last year reminds us that we cannot let our guard down and that we need the public to help," Cox said. "To stay safe, we must continue to be safe."

Cox, McDonald and County environmental health officials held a press conference at Hollister Pond in Chula Vista, one of more than 200 waterways that the County routinely treats with granular larvicide dropped by helicopters to kill mosquito larvae during West Nile virus season.

West Nile virus is mainly a bird disease that can be spread to people when a mosquito feeds off an infected animal and then a human.

*(See **Mosquito** on page 13)*

County-Coordinated More on the Menu Delivers for Seniors

When 83-year-old Alice Hill was a child, she lived near a grove of apple trees in Minnesota and her supply of fresh apples was abundant. Steamed apples with cinnamon were her favorite dessert.

As a homebound senior in San Diego County, her access to fresh apples and other produce has been limited. Many older adults find themselves in a similar situation unable to get to the grocery store or local farmers markets.

Now thanks to the County-coordinated More on the Menu (MOM) program, Alice and her fellow homebound seniors are able to enjoy regular deliveries of fresh produce.

"Seniors like Alice grew up appreciating the taste and health benefits of fresh produce and have been hampered because of cost or an inability to shop," said Pam Smith, director of the San Diego County Health and Human Services Agency Aging & Independence Services. "Thankfully, MOM can fill an important nutritional gap for them with the help of community support."

MOM provides fresh fruits and vegetables to low-income seniors currently receiving home-delivered meals from the county's contracted nutrition providers. The program has making the deliveries for a year and recently expanded service to nearly 250 homebound clients across the county.

MOM is part of the county's Live Well, San Diego! initiative to ensure that San Diego County residents of all ages have the ability to lead a healthy lifestyle.

The program is funded completely by community donations and as funding increases, more seniors will receive the service. All contributions go directly for the purchase and delivery of fresh produce. The county covers all administrative costs.

To support MOM, visit www.GiveToMOM.org.

Alice Hill

Vaccination Encouraged to Protect Children from Disease

There are 14 childhood diseases that can be prevented by vaccines. Yet, a growing number of San Diego parents are not vaccinating their children.

The percentage of kindergarteners with a personal belief exemption (PBE) grew from 1.7 percent in 2001 to 3.3 percent in 2011. There are more than 42,000 kindergartners in San Diego County.

County health officials are encouraging parents to make sure their children get the recommended vaccines.

"Vaccines are the safest and most effective way parents can protect their children against disease," said Wilma Wooten, M.D., M.P.H., County Public Health Officer. "Immunizations prevent disease, disability, and in the worst of cases, death."

Vaccinations help protect local residents from disease. Countywide immunization efforts are an important contribution to the County's Live Well, San Diego! initiative. Parents should ask their doctor or clinic to check their child's immunization record and make sure their baby is up-to-date.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends infants get shots at birth, 2, 4, 6, 12-15, and 18 months of age to protect them

*(See **Vaccination** on page 12)*

"Vaccines are the safest and most effective way parents can protect their children against disease."

Book Donations Help Expand Walker Elementary's Library

Walker Elementary School has received a $4,200 donation from City National Bank, good enough to purchase more than 800 books from the local Mira Mesa Barnes and Noble Book Store.

As a result, each student at Walker received a brand new book and teachers received free books to fill their classroom libraries.

Jonny Holt, Community Relations Manager at Mira Mesa's Barnes and Noble Booksellers, and his staff, along with Walker Elementary School worked together to extend literacy opportunities by providing a Barnes and Noble Family Fun Night Book Fair and Fundraiser.

Christian Weissmann, City National Bank's Vice President, Branch Manager, Reading is the Way Up program, has presented the school with a $4,200 certificate to purchase books from Barnes and Noble including the bookstore's 25% institutional discount. The Holiday Book Drive is part of City National Bank's Reading is the Way Up program. For more information, contact Walker Elementary School Principal Rochelle Dawes at (858) 271-8050.

Principal Rochelle Dawes with City National Bank's Vice President Christian Weissmann.

Zack McGough, an eighth grader from Wangenheim, placed first at the San Diego and state science fairs.

Wangenheim Student Places First at State Science Fair

A Wangenheim eighth grader earned a first place ribbon at the 59th Annual Greater San Diego Science and Engineering Fair and the California State Science Fair.

Zach McGaugh also won the Marine Technology Award and the Sweepstakes, which was a $600 prize. Only four students out of 700 were awarded the Sweepstakes.

More than 160 students from San Diego Unified district schools participated in the science fair, representing Wangenheim, Morse High, Pershing Middle, De Portola Middle and others.

Students submitted projects in one of the following categories: Animal sciences, behavioral and social sciences, biochemistry, computer science, Earth and planetary sciences, engineering — electrical and mechanical, engineering--energy and transport, engineering — materials and bioengineering, environmental sciences and management, mathematical sciences, medicine and health sciences, microbiology, physics and astronomy, plant sciences, and product testing/consumer science (junior division only).

McGaugh's project was to find what material works best to line inside of a surf bootie to prevent foot penetration from a stingray barb. His friend has been stung by a stingray five times and almost lost his foot. This inspired McGaugh to find a solution to this problem.

"Anyone can do a great job on a science fair project if they know how to ask questions, have determination and persevere," he said.

At the California State Science Fair, McGough placed first in his division and earned another $500. He also won the California Coastal Beach Award.

Golf Tournament to Benefit High School Athletic Department

The Third Annual Golf Tournament, which benefits the Mira Mesa High School Athletic Department, begins at 1p.m. on Sunday, May 5 at the beautiful Riverwalk Golf Course in Mission Valley.

The cost is $110 for players which includes a golf cart for each four-some, range balls, complimentary video swing analysis, an awards dinner and much more.

Also, there are several opportunities for companies or individuals who are interested in sponsoring this event.

For instance, did you know that even if you do not want to play, you can fund a military participant or four-some? More information is available on www.MiraMesaHighSchool Foundation.org or through the Mira Mesa High School athletic department.

John Lee Evans

March Madness: Final Four for San Diego Unified

By John Lee Evans
San Diego Unified Board President

On March 28, 2013 we received news that San Diego Unified had made it into the Final Four of 75 large, urban school districts across the nation. The Broad Prize is awarded by the Broad Foundation, an educational philanthropic organization. This is an award for which we did not apply. They noticed our steady progress in test scores and our increasing graduation rate. They analyzed our progress over the past four years.

The next step is a week-long visit by a team of academic researchers to gain more in-depth information about our schools that cannot be derived from statistics and test scores. We will talk about our community-based school reform that has led to our steady progress. We will point out our nationally recognized music programs and our role as a leader in high tech classrooms. We will show them our career technical programs that prepare students in fields ranging from medicine to automotive technology to construction to culinary arts.

We will show the team our Vision 2020 for a quality school in every neighborhood. Vision 2020 includes higher standards for student achievement, schools as attractive neighborhood learning centers, parents and community supporting our schools and the development of more effective teaching in the classroom.

Some naysayers have been questioning the value of public schools. Our teachers, staff parents and students are to be congratulated for their success in making San Diego a nationally recognized school district. At San Diego Unified we are all in this together. Our efforts are paying off.

Proud to Represent Mira Mesa

County Supervisor Dave Roberts

By Dave Roberts
County Supervisor

April 16 marked my 100th day of representing District 3 — which includes Mira Mesa — on the San Diego County Board of Supervisors.

I have felt privileged to make contact with community leaders and residents. With each conversation, Mira Mesa residents impart a special affection and pride for their community and the things that make it unique. I applaud that spirit and understand why Mira Mesa has so much of it.

Mira Mesa is at its best on the Fourth of July. The town council produces a terrific parade and fireworks display.

Community outreach is one of my top priorities, and that's why I have attended several Mira Mesa Town Council meetings. I am scheduled to host the council's May 6 meeting.

Also present at each town council meeting is Lindsey Masukawa, one of my policy advisors and my field representative assigned to Mira Mesa.

While Mira Mesa is contained entirely within the city of San Diego, residents have access to an array of county programs and I hope you take advantage of them.

The Neighborhood Reinvestment Program provides grants for eligible community projects. In January, my office issued a $5,000 check to Mira Mesa West Little League for uniforms, equipment and supplies. Nonprofit groups interested in applying for NRP grants can learn more about them on my Website, www.supervisordaveroberts.com.

Also at the county, I have joined the Filipino-American and Latino employee relations groups. Many members of these groups hail from Mira Mesa.

And I have worked to advance alternative energy initiatives. Homeowners in Mira Mesa could soon have access to financing for energy efficiency upgrades.

I hosted a forum for small business owners in Escondido and plan to host a similar forum in Mira Mesa.

How can the County of San Diego serve you better? Just let me know. Contact my office at (619) 531-5533.

Relay For Life Requests to 'Paint the Town Purple' for Cancer

This year Paint the Town Purple Week is from April 27 to May 4.

Beginning May 1, 2013, local businesses, community organizations and individuals are being asked to show their support for Relay For Life of Mira Mesa/Rancho Peñasquitos and help raise awareness for the fight against cancer by decking out the town — including homes, restaurants, businesses, meeting halls or other areas — in purple.

"We want everyone to see purple and to think about celebrating, remembering, and fighting back," said Carole Harland, volunteer event co-chair and Paint the Town Purple initiator. Plans are quickly moving forward to turn Mira Mesa and Rancho Peñasquitos purple.

The Relay For Life committee has 5-inch or 8-inch purple pull ribbons available for a $5 or $8 donation.

"We saw this as the perfect opportunity to both raise awareness and to contribute to the fundraising needed to save lives — 100% of the funds raised will be donated to the American Cancer Society through our Relay For Life," said Harland, who is also a breast cancer survivor of close to 8 years. Students, businesses, community members, and supporters can get their ribbons by contacting Carole Harland at 858-672-6284 or by emailingMMPQRelayForLife @gmail.com.

The committee is asking that "Paint the Town Purple" ribbons to be displayed at businesses, tied on trees in neighborhoods, on car antennas and at homes from May 1 until Relay For Life of Mira Mesa/ Rancho Peñasquitos ends on May 19, 2013.

Paint the Town Purple supports Relay For Life of Mira Mesa/Rancho Peñasquitos, an overnight event that brings the community together in the fight against cancer, which will be held May 18, 2013 at Hilltop Community Park, 9711 Oviedo Way, San Diego, 92129. Individuals and teams — made up of family, friends, co-workers and community groups — will unite to fundraise, walk the track, socialize, take in the entertainment, and participate in a variety of activities going on throughout the 24 events. The public is welcome and encouraged to attend.

Relay For Life is the largest single fundraiser in the world. The proceeds go directly to fund Society research, education, patient services and advocacy programs and support our efforts to help you stay well, to help you get well if you have cancer, and to find cures and fight back. Relay For Life is an amazing and satisfying experience and it really brings the community together.

The audition dates for the Third Annual Mira Mesa's Got Talent are May 2 and May 9 at Wangenheim Middle School.

Events of Interest

- **May 3 — Vern Goodwin Scholarship application due**
- **May 3 — eReader eClinic: Learn to Download eBooks, Mira Mesa Library, 3pm**
- **May 10 — Susan's Storytime- Special Mother's Day Storytime, Barnes & Noble, 10:30am**
- **May 11 — Vernal Pool Walk, López Ridge Park, 9am**
- **May 25 — Mira Mesa's Got Talent, Wangenheim Middle School, 7pm**

May 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Line Dance – 4:30 pm, Mira Mesa Library; Kiwanis, Scripps-Mira Branch – 6:30 am, Mimi's Restaurant; Exchange Club of San Diego – 6:30 pm, Mandarin Garden Restaurant	2 Teen Writing Club – 4pm, Mira Mesa Library	3 Pastel Drawing with Joseph Nyiri, 4pm, Mira Mesa Library	4 Kathak Dance Classes – 10 am, Mira Mesa Library; Zumba w/ Azi – 1 pm, Mira Mesa Library
5 **CINCO DE MAYO**	6 Mira Mesa Town Council – 7pm, Mira Mesa Senior Center; Crafts with Kim – 1pm, Mira Mesa Library	7 Golden Friends – 10 am, Mira Mesa Senior Center; 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, Scottish Rites Center	8 Line Dance – 4:30 pm, Mira Mesa Library; Mira Mesa Homework Helpers – 6pm, Mira Mesa Library; Exchange Club of San Diego – 6:30 pm, Mandarin Garden Restaurant; Mira Mesa Banner District – 6:30 pm, location TBD; Kiwanis, Scripps-Mira Branch – 7:15 am, Mimi's Restaurant	9 Sr Center Board of Governors – 2 pm, Mira Mesa Senior Center; Gentle Yoga – 9:30am, Mira Mesa Library	10 Pastel Drawing with Joseph Nyiri – 4pm, Mira Mesa Library	11 Kathak Dance Classes – 10 am, Mira Mesa Library; Zumba w/ Azi – 1 pm, Mira Mesa Library
12 **MOTHER'S DAY**	13 Mira Mesa Town Council Board of Directors – 6pm, Mira Mesa Community Office; Crafts with Kim – 1pm, Mira Mesa Library	14 Golden Friends – 10 am, Mira Mesa Senior Center	15 Line Dance – 4:30 pm, Mira Mesa Library; Mira Mesa Homework Helpers – 6pm, Mira Mesa Library; Kiwanis, Scripps-Mira Branch – 7:15 am, Mimi's Restaurant	16 Teen Writing Club – 4pm, Mira Mesa Library; Mira Mesa Theatre Guild – 6 pm, location varies; Community Pride – 6:30 pm, call for location; Black Mountain Democratic Club –	17	18 Kathak Dance Classes – 10 am, Mira Mesa Library; 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; Crafts with Kim –	21 Gentle Yoga – 6pm, Mira Mesa Library	22 Line Dance – 4:30 pm, Mira Mesa Library; Mira Mesa Homework Helpers – 6pm, Mira Mesa Library	23 Gentle Yoga – 9:30am, Mira Mesa Library; Street Fair Committee Meeting – 6:45pm, Mira Mesa Senior Center	24 Teen Advisory Board – 4pm, Mira Mesa Library	25 Mira Mesa's Got Talent – 7pm, Wangenheim Middle School
26	27 **MEMORIAL DAY**	28 Banned Book Club — 6:30pm, Mira Mesa Library	29 Line Dance – 4:30 pm, Mira Mesa Library; Mira Mesa Homework Helpers – 6pm, Mira Mesa Library	30	31	

Minutes From Last Month's General Membership Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

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

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR DINNER — Pam Stevens asked people to get their reservations in for the Volunteer of the Year dinner honoring Bari Vaz. The dinner will have a New Orleans theme and will be held at the Senior Center on April 20, ticket cost $25, available online or by mail. Stone Brewing Co. will be donating beer for the event.

TREASURER'S REPORT — John Horst

- Consolidated and simplified some categories. MTMC is applying for a $9200 grant to cover about half the cost of the Fourth of July event (excluding fireworks).
- Police protection for parade is $4,000. Lots of small costs add up. More no parking signs are required, even in red zones.
- The cost for the parade and fun day in the park are getting close to $20,000.
- Scripps Mesa Fireworks is raising money for fireworks separately. The budget includes $1,000 for nonspecified donations, in addition to $1500 in specified donations. The budget has a 10% cushion for unexpected expenses. Motion (Sweet/Frichtel) to approve budget. 31-0 approved. Checking balance $36,242.26, Savings $15,879.49, Scholarship $12,375.38

RECOGNITION OF BUSINESS OF THE MONTH — Collins Family Jewelers.

PRESENTATION — Congressman Peters introduced himself and said that he enjoyed Taste of Mira Mesa. He was elected in November. Wants to work to avoid situations like Salk Elementary School which took 32 years before construction could start. He is on the Armed Services Committee, Emerging Threats (particularly cyber threats) Committee, and the Science, Space and Technology Committee. Questions and Answers.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT — Ted Brengel. Ted Brengel. Verne Goodwin was the first Mira Mesa Town Council volunteer of the year in 1984, at which time we established the MMTC/Verne Goodwin Scholarship fund. We collect donations to the scholarship fund at the time of the annual dinner, but it is otherwise independent of the dinner. Scholarships are given to graduating Mira Mesa students based on volunteer service

PRESENTATION — San Diego 2-1-1 - Bill York. 2-1-1 is a 3 digit dialing code, set up to connect people with resources. This used to require a lot of frustrating phone calls. Everyone knows 911 and 411. 2-1-1 has been proliferating across the country. Trained specialists. 208 languages. Launched in 2005. The company was previously Infolink, part of United Way. They were the place to call during the 2007 fires. Searchable online databases. See www.211sandiego.org for more information. There are 300,000 veterans in San Diego. There are 6000 veteran's programs from 400 agencies. Average wait time at 2-1-1 is about 1.5 minutes

PRESENTATION — Heifer International, Mira Mesa Women's Club, Susan Sragovicz. Going to buy an ark. Gift ark from Heifer International. To be distributed all over the world. Mission is to end hunger and poverty and care for the earth. Go to a community in serious need and give them animals, train them on how to take care of them. Give away one offspring to someone else in community. People have steady source of food and income for first time in their life. One of the first things they do is send their kids to school. Education is the key to a better life. Heifer also trains people to be health workers, and does gender equality training. Most women in the world are still treated as property. Teach farmers sustainable farming technique.

PRESENTATION — Rolling Reader, Hoa Quach. San Diego based nonprofit. Asking for MMTC support. Has been active at Mason and Ericson for many years. Don't have enough money to buy books. $5/book. Trying to buy 125 books. Jennifer Ruark – wonderful program. Hoa is product of Rolling Reader. Will discuss a donation at the Board meeting and present proposal next month.

PRESENTATION — Relay for Life, Elvira Medina. Thanks for $200 donation. May 18-19. Almost everyone has close relative or friend diagnosed with cancer. Help and support people who are battling these diseases and help fund research. Challenge MMTC to start Relay for Life team.

RECOGNITION OF ELECTED OFFICIALS AND THEIR REPRESENTATIVES

TWO-MINUTE PRESENTATIONS BY SOME COMMUNITY GROUPS

MEETING ADJOURNED

Congressman Scott Peters

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Jessie Garcia and Frank Pham helping students to learn how to separate proteins.

Mira Mesa High Biotech Students' Bright Ideas Recognized

Science kits designed and built by Mira Mesa High biotechnology students received the Bright Ideas Society award at the recent San Diego Festival of Science and Engineering.

After receiving the award from the San Diego City Council on March 19, students were on hand at the Festival on March 23 to show the 55,000 in attendance what they learned. The Bright Idea Society is sponsored by the Kimmich Educational Foundation at the San Diego Foundation. It recognizes three programs in San Diego county schools each year.

The students in the Mira Mesa High School biotechnology class were the recipients of the award not only for their own learning, but their effectiveness in passing on their learning to other science classrooms. In their biotechnology class the students learn both laboratory techniques and biological principals necessary for success in the biotechnology industry.

The students then apply their knowledge to manufacture four different interactive STEM — science, technology, engineering and mathematics – science kits. The four kits are: ocean acidification, enzymes, bacterial transformation, and protein purification. Other high school students can benefit by using the hands-on STEM experiments. These STEM education kits are then distributed for free to more than 200 high school science classrooms throughout the year.

At the Petco Park event, Bright Ideas Society award winners from the Mira Mesa High biotechnology class presented their work to the approximately 55,000 children who attended the San Diego Festival of Science at Engineering at Petco Park. During the festival, the Biotechnology students had interactive STEM activities for children of all ages to learn about carbon dioxide effects on ocean mollusks, separation of specific proteins from a cell, changing DNA in bacteria to make them glow, and how enzymes work.

No specific GPA is required. All graduating high school seniors who are Mira Mesa residents are eligible to apply.

Community Service Scholarship Application Deadline Nears

Are you a graduating high school senior who's been involved with community service and could use $1,000 for college next year? Write an essay on volunteering!

The 2013 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 2013 MMTC/Verne Goodwin Scholarship application is posted on the Mira Mesa Town Council website, Scholarship applications are available at Mira Mesa High School and Scripps Ranch High School.

This year's MMTC Scholarship Committee will again be chaired by Jon Labaw. Applications are due in May 3, send completed applications and essay to jlabaw13@gmail.com. For more information, visit www.miramesatowncouncil.org.

Babies are not the only ones who should be immunized.

Vaccination: Health care professionals also need to be up to date

(Continued from page 5)

against many diseases, including measles, meningitis, and whooping cough.

Surveys indicate that vaccination coverage in San Diego County is at a near all-time high. However, about 45,000 babies are born every year and they should be immunized on time to stay healthy.

Babies are not the only ones who should be vaccinated. Parents, older siblings, grandparents, health care professionals, and babysitters also need to be up to date. High immunization coverage levels mean fewer people get sick from vaccine-preventable diseases.

"No child, adolescent, or adult should suffer from a vaccine-preventable disease," Wooten said. "Immunizations are among the most successful and cost-effective things parents can do to protect their children from serious disease."

For more information on immunizations and the diseases they prevent, parents should contact their health care provider, visit www.sdiz.org or call the County Immunization Branch at (866) 358-2966.

Craft Brewing Has More Economic Impact Than ComicCon

Craft breweries and brewpubs in San Diego generated a $299.5 million economic impact in 2011, according to a new study published today by the National University System Institute for Policy Research (NUSIPR).

Craft brewing has been one of San Diego's fastest growing business sectors. Since 2011, the total number of craft breweries in the region has more than doubled. The study identifies three areas where craft breweries are clustered in the county: North Park, Mira Mesa and an area covering Vista, Carlsbad and Escondido. While San Diego has attracted wide public interest and industry acclaim for its craft beer, little is known about its impact on the economy. To further study this issue, the NUSIPR evaluated industry labor data and measured its economic effects within the region.

The economic contribution of craft brewers is more than 1 ½ times greater than the economic impact of Comic-Con International, San Diego's largest annual convention. NUSIPR also found that the industry made $680.8 million in sales, and employed 1,630 workers in 2011.

"San Diego's craft brewing industry is a major economic driver in the region," remarked NUSIPR Senior Policy Analyst Vince Vasquez, whom authored of the study. "That said, more partnerships and investment will be needed to advance industry development long-term. Competitor markets are also experiencing similar growth and interest in new brewpubs and breweries."

Callahan's Pub & Brewery was one of the first microbreweries in Mira Mesa.

Mosquito: West Nile virus killed 16 people in California last year

(Continued from page 4)

Across the U.S. in 2012, more than 5,000 people got West Nile virus and 243 people died. In California alone, 451 people got sick and 16 people died. By contrast, just one man was diagnosed with West Nile virus in San Diego County last year. He did not get sick, but was diagnosed when he went to donate blood.

Cox and McDonald said the County would continue its aerial larvicide applications and other efforts, including: hand-treating more than 2,000 other potential mosquito breeding grounds; searching for and treating neglected "green" swimming pools; giving out free mosquito-eating fish; providing educational material to children and the general public; and using texts and social media to provide the public with West Nile virus updates if needed.

But McDonald urged people to continue to help protect themselves by following the County advice:

Protect yourself and your family from mosquito bites. Stay inside if you can between dusk and dawn — when mosquitoes are most active. Wear long sleeves and pants when you're outside. Use insect repellant that contains DEET, picaridin, oil of eucalyptus or IR3535 when you're outside. Check the screens on your doors and windows to make sure they're not ripped or torn.

Prevent mosquito breeding by looking around your back yard and emptying out items that collect standing water — from toys to pots to buckets and old tires.

Lastly, Report dead birds, which can carry the virus, and green swimming pools, which can become mosquito-breeding grounds, to the County's Vector Control Program. For more information about West Nile virus and how to protect yourself, call (858) 694-2888 or visit SDFightTheBite.com.

"Across the U.S. in 2012, more than 5,000 people got West Nile virus and 243 people died."

Meal: Nearly $700K USDA funds support SDUSD meal program

(Continued from page 4)

Marten noted that nearly $700,000 in USDA funds supports the summer-winter-spring programs and in 2012 nearly 308,000 meals were served. The current program runs through the end of April.

USDA's summer meals programs operate through partnerships between USDA, state agencies and local organizations. Local sponsors, such as schools, local government agencies, faith-based and non-profit community organizations, and residential and non-residential camps provide free meals and activities to eligible low-income children during the summer months.

In 2012, USDA's partners served 144 million summer meals at 38,800 sites, feeding approximately 2.3 million children on a typical summer day. For more information on becoming a SFSP-sponsor or site, visit http://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/.

To find a site in your community, call 1-866-3-Hungry or 1-877-8-Hambre.

Non-residential burglaries saw a 5 percent decrease.

Crime: Robberies increased by 5 percent in the region

(Continued from page 3)
tion has put new strains on law enforcement by shifting an increasing number of offenders and ex-offenders from state supervision to local supervision."

Other interesting facts in this year's report include:

In 2012, there were 11,838 violent crimes reported to law enforcement in the San Diego region. The most common type was aggravated assault, which represented two-thirds (66%) of all violent crime in 2012; robbery represented 27 percent, rape 6 percent, and homicide 1 percent.

With 69,613 property crimes reported in 2012, one in every 45 residents was the victim of a property crime, a rate still lower than it was five years earlier (when it was one in 36 in 2008).

The total number of robberies reported across the region increased 5 percent, with upticks in all of the location types except bank robberies, which decreased 22 percent from 2011 to 2012.

While the number of robberies with a firearm only increased 1 percent over the past year, the number of aggravated assaults with a firearm increased by 27 percent.

There were a greater number of residential burglaries, larcenies, and motor vehicle thefts in 2012, compared to 2011. The only exception was non-residential burglaries, which decreased 5 percent.

Over the past 10 years, the percentage of stolen property recovered has decreased from 46 percent to 21 percent, possibly reflecting changes in technology and the ease of disposing stolen property, as well as priorities of law enforcement to focus on violent crime with limited available resources and changes in how this information is compiled and reported.

At mid-year 2012, national violent and property crime rates were also up, compared to 2011, but to a lesser degree than in the San Diego region. Increases were greater in the western region of the United States, but large California cities did not have increases consistently larger than other western cities.

"[D]o not delay because the May 7 penalty date is quickly approaching."

Statements: E-filers can call Kearny Mesa branch for assistance

(Continued from page 3)
to use and generally takes only a few minutes. It is available to most taxpayers with access to a computer and the internet.

If you are one of the 56,000 eligible e-filers and need assistance filing for 2013, you may call the Kearny Mesa Branch Office and a staff member will walk you through the process. To file electronically, go to our website at www.sdarcc.com. If you cannot file electronically, you may still file the paper version of the property statement. For help with electronic filing or to receive a statement, please call our customer service number at (858) 505-6100.

Unfortunately, at this time, the electronic filing process is not developed for those taxpayers filing for general aircraft, vessels or businesses requiring additional documentation with their statement.

Regardless of which way you are thinking of filing this year; do not delay because the May 7 penalty date is quickly approaching.

Carlo Cecchetto

Talent: Celebrity judges include News 8 anchor Carlo Ceccheto

(Continued from page 4)
School theatre. Auditions will be from 6 to 9pm each night. For questions about Mira Mesa's Got Talent auditions, email casting@miramesa theatreguild.org.

Mira Mesa's Got Talent winners become ambassadors of the Mira Mesa Theatre Guild and perform at events during the following year such as the 4th of July Fun Day in Mira Mesa Community Park, the Mira Mesa Street Fair in September, and the Miss Mira Mesa Pageant in February. In 2011, the winners were Cierra Rayne, a singer/guitarist from Julian, singer Julianne Manalo, and AJ Rockit, a young electric guitar player and singer from Carlsbad. Last year's winners were singer/keyboardist Willa Madrid, Sarahrose Gomez, a young belly dancer, and singer Madelyn Salazar (Madelyn Joy), all from Mira Mesa. Top winners receive cash and other prizes, including tickets to Hornblower Cruises, movie tickets, and more.

Celebrity judges for Mira Mesa's Got Talent on May 25 will include News 8 anchor Carlo Cecchetto, San Diego Sockers Team Captain Aaron Susi, and a mystery judge to be announced. Tickets ($15 general admission, $12 seniors/students/military) to the family-friendly show will be available online, www.miramesatheatre guild.org, or at the door.

Ticks: Tularemia can be treated, but illness is serious and deadly

(Continued from page 1)
tularemia cannot be transmitted from person-to-person and can be treated with antibiotics. However, Wooten said that the illness can be serious and even deadly in rare cases, and that people should consult their doctors immediately if they think they have contracted the disease.

"Symptoms in humans include lymph node swelling, headache and fever," Wooten said. "Other symptoms include a skin ulcer at the site of the bite, fatigue, body aches and nausea."

Miller said people can protect themselves from tick bites by following some simple rules:

- Stay on designated pathways, choose wide trails and walk in the center.
- Avoid grassy or brushy areas and do not handle wild rodents.
- Wear light-colored, long-sleeved clothing; tuck shirts into pants and pants into socks.
- Apply insect repellent to clothing and footwear.
- Check clothing, body and companions for ticks frequently.
- Leave pets at home or keep them on a leash. If they have not been already treated with a tick and flea regimen, use insecticide powders or sprays labeled for tick control.

Carefully remove attached ticks immediately. Remove embedded ticks by grabbing them with tweezers as close to the insect's head as possible and pulling out steadily and firmly.

If you develop symptoms within three weeks after visiting a tick-infested area, seek medical attention. Tell your doctor that you have recently been in a tick-infested area.

For more information about tularemia surveillance, call the Vector Control Program at (858) 694-2888 or visit the County Vector Control website, www.sdcounty.ca.gov/deh/pests/vector_disease.html

Several ticks trapped near Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve have tested positive for tularemia.

Snakes: Check yard before letting pets and children out to play

(Continued from page 1)
found in the county, give it space. Calmly back away from it, leave it alone and let it go on its way, Ramsey said.

If bitten, call 911 and remove any constricting clothing or accessories like rings or watchbands.

To avoid encounters with rattlesnakes, the Department of Animal Services suggests these steps:

- Wear sturdy hiking boots with ankle support so that your feet are protected.
- Stay on paths and trails. Avoid tall grass, weeds and brush where snakes may hide.
- Keep your dog on leash while hiking and be aware of what your dog is doing at all times.
- Make sure you can see where you are reaching and that you can see ahead of you. Look for concealed snakes before picking up rocks, sticks or wood.
- Consider bringing a walking stick while hiking. If you encounter a snake it may strike the stick instead of you or your pet.
- Give rattlesnakes the right-of-way.
- If you live in an area where rattlesnakes have been found, check your yard before letting your pets and children out to play.

The County encourages people to remove potential food or shelter for rattlesnakes from their properties. Make sure you don't have mice or rats and get rid of wood piles or garbage heaps that can make excellent hiding spots for snakes.

Residents of the County's unincorporated areas or the cities of Carlsbad, Del Mar, Encinitas, San Diego, Santee or Solana Beach can call Animal Services for help removing rattlesnakes if they pose an immediate threat. The number is 619-236-2341.

To learn more about snakes and other local wildlife, Dos Picos County Park offers an interpretive program — called Snakes n' Skins — each Saturday at 11 a.m. Snake and animal skins will be on display and available for touching. The park is located at 17953 Dos Picos Park Rd. in Ramona. The program is free and a $3 day use fee is required to enter the park. For more information, visitsdparks.org.

"Residents can call Animal Services for help removing rattlesnakes if they pose an immediate threat."

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www.MiraMesaTownCouncil.org

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

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
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) 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

MIRA MESA TOWN COUNCIL

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