



MISSION VIEJO REPORTER

NEWS FROM THE MISSION VIEJO HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION INC.

Vol. 02 No. 4

April 2009

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Fearless Mission Viejo

“The only thing we have to fear is fear itself.” This famous statement by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in his inaugural address of 1932 was quoted and used by the Mission Viejo Company to market our neighborhood in 1973 when bad economic times hit our community. Back in 1973, the problem was soaring interest rates and increasing building costs. Although our current national and local economic crisis may be much greater, the lesson for us now is that our neighborhood has seen bad economic times and survived. Just as it was in the past and is still true today we have great assets and amenities that continue to support our home values. A sign of our strong neighborhood support has been the fast adoption of our Trash/Recycling Membership program. As



of this printing we are lacking only 62 residents away from achieving our financial return. Our fears will soon fade away once we achieve that number as we will be on solid financial ground and hopefully you will see some physical improvements to our neighborhood. So if you have not done so already, please sign up for our neighborhood trash program, it will help to chase those fears away. I would also like to remind you to check our website regularly. Our web site is where you can sign-up for our e-mail newsletter, get copies of our covenants, financial reports, minutes and agendas. Stay informed and let's build a fearless community!

— Todd McMahon,
Mission Viejo HOA President

Thanks for Your Monetary Support

We would like to extend a special Thank You to all those who have contributed funds to support our organization these past three months! Until we reach our 775 participation number in the trash program, your monetary support is helping the HOA sustain our operations and helping us to get through till we see a return from our Trash/Recycling program. We are very close to that point but if you still would like to make a contribution to the HOA we would greatly appreciate it. Please send us your dues or contributions to the MISSION VIEJO HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION INC. 4255 S. BUCKLEY ROAD, #110 AURORA, CO 80013-2951 or use our online dues payment option at http://www.missionviejohoa.org/pay_dues_on-line.htm. Thank you again very much!

One Mission, One Truck, One Day!

If you haven't yet changed your trash provider to Pro Disposal, here are some reasons why you should do it. As you know, the neighborhood goal is to have one truck rolling down each street on one day per week, saving emissions to our air and adding quiet to our environment. Pro Disposal offers single stream recycling, making it easy to recycle and do something good for our planet. It works



like this: Plastics #1-7, plastic bags, glass of any color, steel and aluminum cans, paper products, paper board, and corrugated cardboard can be put all together in one labeled trash container. Rinse food and beverage containers to eliminate food waste, which can contaminate cans and jars. It is not necessary to remove labels from cans or jars. Put the kids in charge!

continued on page 2

Opportunity to Learn About Laredo Middle School

Have you ever wondered about what middle school is like these days? Perhaps you're a parent of an elementary student in our neighborhood and are curious about what the future holds for your child? Maybe you're a realtor in the area and would like to arm yourself with information about the school that Mission Viejo Elementary feeds into? On April 24th anyone who's interested can get a tour of Laredo Middle School, see the school in motion, and get your questions answered. The "Peek at the Pride" event will be held from 8:30 to 10:00 a.m. on April 24th. Just call the Laredo front office to put your name on the list (720-886-5200)! They'd love to have you visit!

Neighborhood Cleanup Plans

Plans are underway for a neighborhood cleanup during the month of May. The area that will be targeted for this cleanup is the area along the fence on Chambers Road. Since volunteers cleaned up the area in September 2007, much of the mulch has worn away. During the cleanup then, it was not possible to spread mulch on the whole area because of time and volunteer constraints. This time we hope to spread mulch on the area we did before and also to trim bushes and remove dead bushes and branches from East Nassau to the library. We also hope to spread mulch on this section. This will take lots of volunteers. Please watch your next newsletter for information on date and time.

Next HOA Meeting
Third Tuesday
April 21st • 6:30 p.m.
Mission Viejo Library
Everyone is Welcome!

One Mission, One Truck, One Day!


continued from front page

The recycle bin goes out every other week on your regular trash day. Weekly trash pickup allows 8 bags or bins of household trash, plus 6 bags of yard waste or bundles of tree limbs. Tree and shrub clippings can be put in a bin rather than tied in a bundle. To get aboard, contact your current trash provider and cancel service. Ask for a refund for months paid for but not used, or time your change for the end of your billing cycle. Use the sign up coupon in this newsletter to go with Pro Disposal. Be a part of making our community and our earth "green." It's never too late to support your community and join the Mission Viejo Trash/Recycling and Membership Program! Pricing for our program is just \$64.00 for 4 month billing or \$176.00 for yearly billing (this equates to one free month of service a year!!).

National Autism Awareness Month

The Autism Society of America and local chapters educate the public about autism and related issues within the autism community. Among the activities: Bounce for Autism. "Bouncers will participate in the 'Bounce House' and have tons of fun throughout Pump It Up's Party Zone while raising funds and awareness for autism." See autism-society.org for details.

Sign up Today
for the Mission Viejo Trash Program!
Sign up on the Web or Use This Form



MISSION VIEJO
HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION, INC.
AURORA, COLORADO



PRO DISPOSAL, Inc.
and

Once 775 participants are achieved, Pro Disposal, Inc. will pay \$2.00 for every paid participant per month to the Mission Viejo Homeowner's Association Inc.

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Start Date (Month/Year): _____

Comments: _____

Mail this form to: Mission Viejo Homeowners Association, Inc.
 4255 S. Buckley Road, Aurora, CO 80013-2951

Drop it off: In an envelope (postage-free) at the Mission Viejo HOA mailbox (#110) in the UPS Store located at 4255 S. Buckley Road, Aurora, CO 80013-2951 in the Quincy Place Shopping Center (just north of King Soopers).

Mission Viejo HOA Board of Directors



MISSION VIEJO
 HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION, INC.
 AURORA, COLORADO



Todd McMahon, President
 303-817-6932

president@missionviejohoa.org

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secretary@missionviejohoa.org

Troy Haller, Board Member At Large
 boardmember1@missionviejohoa.org

Tricia Roush, Board Member At Large
 boardmember2@missionviejohoa.org

MISSION VIEJO TRASH PROGRAM

Pro Disposal, Inc., 303-791-3827

MISSION VIEJO HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

4255 S. Buckley Road, #110
 Aurora, CO 80013-2951

COMMITTEES

Neighborhood Watch

Tom Tobiassen, neighborhoodwatch@missionviejohoa.org

Welcome Committee

Tricia Roush, welcome@missionviejohoa.org

WEBSITE

www.missionviejohoa.org
 webmaster@missionviejohoa.org

The Mission Viejo Homeowners' Association Inc. is a state non-profit organization. The purpose of the Mission Viejo HOA is to unite the unit owners of the Mission Viejo subdivisions in Aurora, Colorado; to encourage civic improvements within said area, to encourage community activities including, but not by way of limitation, the beautification, maintenance, and general appearance of vacant and improved lots, streets, parkways, entrances, open and recreational areas situated within the area and used in common by its residents; enhance the safety of Mission Viejo; facilitate enforcement of any and all building restrictions, protective covenants, and to otherwise act in the interests of the members of the Association.

The deadline for articles and advertisements is the 15th of the month for the next month's issue except the Jan. issue which is Dec. 6th. **All articles must be approved by the editor for publication, or as space permits.** To submit an article, e-mail an attachment to Todd McMahon at president@missionviejohoa.org. All letters or articles need to include your name and daytime phone number. All articles must be approved by the Board for publication, or as space permits.

To place an ad, call Colorado Lasertype, 303-979-7499 or e-mail getinfo@ColoradoLasertype.com • www.ColoradoLasertype.com

Appearance of an advertisement in this publication does not constitute a recommendation or endorsement by the Association of the goods or services offered. The opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the individual authors and not the Board of your Association. Neither the Board, publisher, nor the authors intend to provide any professional service or opinion through this publication.

Fourth of July Event Planning

COME ONE, COME ALL!

It's the 6th annual Mission Viejo Community July 4th Celebration!!!



The celebration will be Saturday July 4, 2009 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Mission Viejo Park. We are currently looking for anyone interested in helping to make this year's event another success. Please contact Elaine at Elaine@Eventouragelc.com.

Let us know if you are interested in assisting with the planning, or can help out on the day of the event. Look for more information in the next edition of the Mission Viejo newsletter!

Residents Continue to Save Money

Residents of Mission Viejo delivered the March newsletters during the week of March 1. Since there have been some additions and changes to the list of volunteers, we would again like to say thank you to our volunteers. They are: **Tricia Roush, Lori Underwood, Dala Giffen, Ron Dunlap, Dee Klaus, Clarence Fuhrer, Amy McDonald, Troy Haller, Vance Tucker, Randy Ridlen, Chris Hammeren, Cathryn Ridlen, Shelby and Elaine Lay, Andrea Niernberger, Steve and Sandy Weiner, Gregg Flannery, Mally Blecha, Dena Appleton, Sharon Wolseth, Sean Ratchford, Nancy Miani, Mary Williams and Lois Kiefer.** With their help, the HOA has already saved \$600 to be used on other worthwhile projects.

This month the newsletters are being distributed to the volunteers at a social get-together at Elaine Lay's house so that the carriers can meet other volunteers. If you are interested in helping with this project, opportunities are still available. Please call **Elaine Lay** at **303-699-0657** if you are interested.

Welcome Committee Update

If you are new to our neighborhood, welcome to Mission Viejo! The Welcome Committee makes an effort to visit new residents within a month of moving into their home in Mission Viejo. We bring a bag of cookies or some other yummy treat, and a packet of information. Most of the information is about the Home Owners Association, the Trash Program with Pro Disposal, and Mission Viejo, but some local businesses have provided coupons, menus, or flyers about their businesses, too. We hope the information helps you get acquainted with the neighborhood.

Since November 2008, when the Welcome Committee started up, we have visited 32 homes. Unless it was clear a home was not occupied, information packets and a treat have been left at each property. It has been fun getting to meet our new residents. Some of the new home sales are rental properties. If you notice a new neighbor in a rental property, please send an e-mail to the Welcome Committee. We'd like to make renters feel welcome and a part of the neighborhood, too.

If you would like to help welcome people to the neighborhood, please consider volunteering with the Welcome Committee. It is the primary way we let new residents know about the H.O.A. and the Trash Program, and more volunteers are welcome. welcome@missionviejohoa.org

— Tricia Roush

10 Ways To Chase Away Stress

- Take deep breaths.
- Take a walk outside of the office.
- Say no to what you don't have time to do.
- Leave work on time.
- Lower demands you put on yourself.
- Ask questions and communicate with coworkers.
- Take care of taxing tasks in the morning to get them out of the way.
- Look at large projects as a series of steps to complete one by one.
- Laugh at least once a day.
- Live for today. Don't dwell in the past or worry about the future.

Town Hall Meeting
JOIN SENATOR SUZANNE WILLIAMS
Saturday, April 14th, 2009
 10 a.m. – noon
 Mission Viejo Library
 15324 E. Hampden Cir, Aurora, CO 80013
Topic: How the Stimulus Package Effects Colorado's
 Transportation, Education and Health
Committed and Connected to our Community
suzanne.williams.senate@state.co.us

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Modify or Refinance Your Home Loan?

President Obama's new "HOME AFFORDABLE MODIFICATION PROGRAM" might help you and your family stay in your home during these difficult financial times. You can visit a new federal website at <http://makinghomeaffordable.gov> to find out if you meet the eligibility requirements. The President's plan was created to help millions of homeowners refinance or modify their mortgages. A Home Affordable Refinance will help borrowers whose loans are held by Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac refinance into a more affordable mortgage. Many homeowners are struggling to make their monthly mortgage payments either because their interest rate has increased or they have less income. A Home Affordable Modification will provide them with mortgage payments they can afford. Who is Eligible, do you know if Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac own your loan? Use the self-assessment tools provided on this government website to see who owns your loan and if you are among the 7 to 9 million homeowners who can benefit from the Making Home Affordable program.

Storms of the Century

Here are the three worst weather and climate events of the twentieth century, based on devastation caused to human life and property, scientific discovery, meteorology and climatology, and test of technology:

- The Dust Bowl drought during the 1930's Depression.
- Tornado outbreak of April 3-4, 1974, which killed over 300 people in 12 states.
- Galveston, Texas's hurricane of 1900.

Strategies To Keep Allergies At Bay

'Tis the season for allergy sufferers. Hay fever affects more than 35 million people. Here are some do's and don'ts to help alleviate allergy attacks:

- DO keep windows closed at night. Use air conditioning which cleans, cools and dries the air.
- DO minimize early morning activities outdoors between 5 and 10 a.m. This is the time of day when pollen is most prevalent.
- DO keep your car windows closed when you travel by car.
- DO take a vacation during the height of the pollen season. Pick a place that's more pollen-free, like the beach or the sea.
- DO take the medications prescribed by your allergist.
- DON'T spend much time outdoors when the pollen count, humidity or wind factor is high.
- DON'T rake leaves or mow lawns, which stirs up molds and pollens. Leave this for someone who isn't allergic.
- DON'T hang sheets or clothing out to dry as pollens and molds may collect in these items.
- DON'T grow too many indoor plants. Wet soil is a breeding ground for molds.

The Benefits of Smiling

You can forget about Prozac or St. John's Wort. A genuine smile increases the production of serotonin, the happy hormone.

It's a bonding agent. Smiling builds bridges to other people around us. It keeps us from remaining aloof and separate from one another. Babies as young as three weeks old even recognize smiling as a bonding behavior.

What a workout! One smile uses more than 16 muscles.

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Mission Viejo

Treasure in Your Back Yard

Did you know that you have a treasure in your back yard? Don't get the shovel just yet! As a matter of fact, you don't need any tools to find it. It's located just 10 minutes east of Mission Viejo on Hampden Ave., between Tower and Gun Club Roads (21901 E. Hampden). Just go 50 yards past the last house on the left and you are there. It's the Plains Conservation Center, 1,100 acres of natural short grass prairie just as the settlers found it in the late 1800s.

The Plains Conservation Center offers an 1887 sod community called Wells Crossing, an 1837 Cheyenne Indian village, a museum with documented history of the settlement of the West with live prairie animals, and wagon rides out to the prairie with a naturalist explaining many of the animals and plants that you see in their natural habitat. It's a jewel in the middle of Aurora that has existed as an outdoor educational facility since 1950.

Every Saturday you can visit the P.C.C. for free!! The day begins at 9:00 a.m. as you and your family take a wagon ride to the 1887 sod village and feed the animals: the Plymouth Bard Rock chickens, Bronze turkeys, and steers, that the settlers either brought out with them or acquired after arrival. In the sod village you will see a one room prairie school house, blacksmith shop, sod homes (with late 19th century antiques and furnishings), hen house, wind mill, farm tools, heritage garden, and dug out. When you are done, the wagon will take you back to the museum where a naturalist will facilitate family oriented programs. If you'd like to spend more time in the sod village, you are welcome to drive your car or take the easy 10-minute walk back. On the first



Saturday of each month, historical interpreters discuss how people lived in 1887 as they guide you on walking tours of the structures. School lessons will be taught in the prairie schoolhouse. At 3 p.m. every Saturday, you are welcome to join a naturalist guided wagon ride of the prairie to see all the plants and animals as they live in their unrestricted natural environment (\$5 /person for the wagon ride. Groups of ten or more people must make a reservation). Can't stay for the wagon ride, as the kids need to eat or get to soccer practice? Return at 7:00 p.m. for the Sunset Safari Wagon Ride (for the same wagon experience) followed by a marshmallow roast over an outdoor fire under the stars (please make reservations for the evening ride-\$5 fee/person for the wagon ride). The Sunset Safari Wagon Rides (night rides) begin on May 23, 2009.

The Plains Conservation Center exists to bring the natural wonder of the prairie into the realm of personal experience by: preserving a remnant of the eastern Colorado high plains; educating the public about its natural and cultural heritage; and Nurturing sound conservation and environmental ethics. If you have out of town guests or you are looking for a family day, the Plains Conservation Center is both close and free. It's the treasure in your back yard!



Call **303-693-3621** or check our website **www.plainscenter.org** for additional information on any of the programs, to make reservations or to become a member of the P.C.C., or for more details on summer camps.

— Mission Viejo resident Steve Weiner



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- Free Market Analysis on our neighborhood

Cherry Creek Schools News – April 2009

2009 GRADUATION DATES

Friday, May 22: 8 a.m. – Smoky Hill High School

The district's 2009-2010 traditional, transitional and 4-track calendars are available on the district's website at:

www.cherrycreekschools.org.

SUMMER SPORTS CAMP/ DRIVERS' ED BROCHURE ONLINE

The 2009 Cherry Creek School District Summer Sports Camp/Drivers' Education brochure will only be available online this year. Please refer to the following address in late April to download the brochure:

<http://www.cherrycreekschools.org/SummerCamps>

Registration for camps will still be done by mail or drop off. No online registration.

ECS OFFERS EXTRA LEARNING, EXTRA FUN

Did you know that the Cherry Creek School District offers 81 programs that provide affordable, high quality child care and enrichment activities for students before and after school and on some holidays and school breaks?

At the Feb. 9 Board of Education meeting, Assistant Superintendent Eric Flor reported on the district's Extended Child Services (ECS) programs, which are fun and educational for kids and a huge help to parents. All the programs are licensed, fee-based, and self-supporting.

The programs include:

- Before and After School Programs: Offered at all Cherry Creek elementary schools to provide high quality day care and enrichment activities from 6:30 a.m. until school begins and from school dismissal until 6 p.m. Open all day on some school holidays and breaks when many parents still have to work.
- Intersession: Offered at the district's year-round schools to provide child care and educational opportunities for off-track students.
- Kindergarten Enrichment: Offered at all elementary schools that do not have full-day kindergarten. Provides enrichment activities for kindergartners during the half-day (either morning or afternoon) that they are not in regular kindergarten classes.
- Child Development Programs: Provide infant and toddler care to Cherry Creek School District employees. Offered at Thunder Ridge Middle School and Eaglecrest and Overland high schools.

Flor said ECS programs benefit students, parents and the district as a whole because they supplement what children are learning in school. Research from the U.S. Department of Education also shows that children who participate in such programs behave better in class, handle conflict more effectively, and cooperate with teachers as well as their peers.

For more information about any of the ECS programs, call the ECS office at **720-886-8034**.

YOU'RE INVITED!

HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMANCES AND EVENTS

Smoky Hill High School

- Apr 16 7:15 p.m., Major Works Concert
- Apr 17 7:15 p.m., Improv Show
- Apr 23-24 7:15 p.m., Spring Play
- Apr 28 7:15 p.m., Jazz on the Hill

Exercise For People Over 50

Begin by standing on a comfortable surface, where you have plenty of room at each side. With a 5-lb potato sack in each hand, extend your arms straight out from your sides and hold them there as long as you can. Try to reach a full minute and then relax. Each day you will find that you can hold this position for just a bit longer. After a couple of weeks, move up to 10-lb potato sacks. Then try 50-lb potato sacks, and then eventually try to get to where you can lift a 100-lb potato sack in each hand, and hold your arms straight for more than a full minute. (I'm at this level.)

After you feel confident at that level, put a potato in each sack.

— Sheldon Spiegelman

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Traditions of The Easter Egg

Eggs were colored, blessed, exchanged and eaten as part of the rites of spring long before Christian times. Even the earliest civilizations held springtime festivals to welcome the sun's rising from its long winter sleep. They thought of the sun's return from darkness as an annual miracle and regarded the egg as a natural wonder and a proof of the renewal of life. As Christianity spread, the egg was adopted as a symbol of Christ's Resurrection from the tomb.



In Slavic countries:

Baskets of food including eggs are traditionally taken to church to be blessed on Holy Saturday or before the Easter midnight Mass, then taken home for a part of Easter breakfast.

Central European countries:

Polish, Slavic and Ukrainian people create intricate designs on the eggs. They draw lines with a wax pencil or stylus, dip the egg in color, and repeat the process many times to make true works of art. Every dot and line in the pattern has a meaning. Yugoslavian Easter eggs bear the initials XV for "Christ is Risen," a traditional Easter greeting.

Russians:

During the reign of the Tsars, the Russian royal family carried the custom of decorative eggs to great lengths, giving exquisitely detailed jeweled eggs made by goldsmith Carl Faberge from the 1880's until 1917.

Germans:

Eggs that go into Easter foods are not broken, but emptied out. The empty shells are painted and decorated with bits of lace, cloth or ribbon, then hung with ribbons on an evergreen or small leafless tree.

Teen Services

To add your teen's name, please call **Colorado Lasertype** at **303-979-7499** and leave the following information: the **neighborhood you live in**, your age, phone number and the categories you would like included. Categories: **(B)** Baby-sitting * Red Cross Cert. for CPR **(L)** Lawn care **(S)** Snow removal **(P)** Pet & House sitting. No recommendation or endorsement of any of the names on this list is implied or stated by the homeowners association board or Colorado Lasertype.

Hailey Brower	13	B	720-381-0882
Cyle Custer	16	P/L/S	720-870-0916
Trevor Debter	12	P/L/S	303-841-5266
Emily Edgar	17	P	303-513-8649
Tyler Hynne	15	P/L/S	303-667-6566

Teen Services Updates in May

To ensure accuracy, we update the teen services list each year. If you would like to remain on the list, **you must call Colorado Lasertype at 303-979-7499 by April 15th** or your name will be deleted. Please leave the following information: your name (including spelling); age; what category you want: (B) Babysitting, (*) if you are Red Cross certified for CPR; (L) Lawn Care; (S) Snow Removal; (P) Pet & House Sitting; and **neighborhood you live in** (this is very important - we do 22 newsletters and need to know which one your name is in). **If you have renewed your information as of January 1st of this year, you do not need to call in an update.** Thank you.

—Colorado Lasertype

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Find a professional to suit your needs while supporting local businesses!

Visit our website for advertising information, ad rates, a map of the HOA newsletters we publish and details about our graphic design services.

www.ColoradoLasertype.com

Fitness Training For Your Brain

If you want to keep your brain fit, researchers believe that the most effective way to keep your brain in top shape is to do activities that pull you out of routines and expose your senses to new things. Here are simple three brain exercises:

1. Brush your teeth with the other hand. If you are right-handed, brush your teeth with your left. It may take a little more time, but it pulls your brain out of its normal routine and forces it to use the other side of its circuits.

2. Place clocks and pictures upside down for a day. This forces you to reorient and reinterpret familiar objects, which makes the brain use spatial networks it has not used in a long time.

3. Close your eyes. As you make your way around the house, close your eyes and force your brain to exercise the connections between your sense of touch and spatial memory.

CLASSIFIEDS

Classified ads are \$3.55/line. Call Colorado Lasertype at 303-979-7499 to place an ad. The deadline for placing a classified or display ad is the 15th of the month for the next month's issue (i.e., 15th of Sept. for Oct. issue), except the January issue, which has a deadline of December 6th.

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Giving Your Kids Extra Help

Lots of children need special help in school, whether it is because of Attention Deficit Disorder or Dyslexia. There are ways you can help at home to develop skills that will help them in the classroom. Here are some tips:

- 1. Make directions specific and simple.** Break complicated tasks into small steps. Limit the child to short subjects and activities, and reward persistence with praise and encouragement.
- 2. Help your child become organized.** Have a place for everything and require that things are always put back where they belong. Establish routines for doing daily chores and activities, and provide work charts or checklists as reminders for complicated tasks.
- 3. Repeat learning experiences.** Don't assume that your child has learned a skill or task, such as spelling his or her name or tying shoes. An hour later he/she may seem to have forgotten it completely. Repeat directions, perhaps using different words.
- 4. Cooperate with the school.** Request conferences with the teachers. They will inform you about their methods which you can reinforce at home.
- 5. Establish clear rules and consequences.** Talk about and agree upon consequences with your child. Write them down as a sort of formal agreement. Be consistent about enforcing them.

Mission Viejo HOA Financial Report
Alan Engels – Mission Viejo HOA Treasurer and Vice President

Beginning Balance 1/1/09			\$ 2,813.09
	Budget	Actual	Difference
YTD Income -Dues	\$830.00	\$1,640.00	\$810.00
YTD Income -Corp. Contrib.	\$0.00	\$230.35	\$230.35
YTD Budget Expenses	\$2,649.00	\$512.68	(\$2,136.32)
YTD Unfunded Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Current Balance 3/10/09		\$4,170.76	

Want To Make New Friends?

Mayo Clinic researchers say building friendships and creating thriving social circles is a key component of good health, even in adult life. In the clinic's *HealthQuest* newsletter, doctors recommend eight ways for adults to meet new friends:

- 1) Take your pet for walks and make conversation with folks who stop to chat.
- 2) Join a hobby group.
- 3) Become a volunteer in community groups or at a hospital, church, or school.
- 4) Go back to school. Take a course or two.
- 5) Shape up while meeting new people in an exercise class.
- 6) Get active in a cause or goal you believe in, such as a "fight against cancer" organization or political candidate's election committee.
- 7) Go out to lunch with a work or social acquaintance at least once a month.
- 8) Ask a small favor of a neighbor or coworker, and do the same for him or her.



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Around Aurora

MAKE SOME BUNNY EARS, all ages

Put a little spring in your step with your own set of bunny ears. Free.

April 8, 4 p.m.
Tallyn's Reach Library,
23911 E. Arapahoe Road, Aurora
303-627-3050 or auroralibrary.org



RECYCLED CRAFT, all ages. Free.

April 16, 4 p.m.
Mission Viejo Library, 15324 E. Hampden Circle, Aurora
303-326-8600 or auroralibrary.org

AURORA'S 118TH BIRTHDAY PARTY

Bring the whole family to celebrate Aurora's 118th birthday. See a magic show, have your face painted, make crafts, play Aurora Bingo and other games, win prizes and eat cake. Free admission.

April 30, 5 to 8 p.m.
Aurora History Museum, 15051 E. Alameda Parkway
303-739-6666 or auroramuseum.org

THE GREEN HOUSE: NEW DIRECTIONS IN SUSTAINABLE ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN

Explore the entire field of green residential design as it reaches a turning point of acceptance by both home builders and the general public at a traveling panel exhibit on loan from the National Building Museum in Washington, D.C. It features images and renderings of 21 contemporary green houses and

explores such issues as what makes a house green, the healthfulness, safety and comfort of a green house, and whether green houses can be architecturally attractive. Free admission.

Through May 3, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday
Aurora History Museum, 15051 E. Alameda Parkway
303-739-6666 or auroramuseum.org

BUILDING A GREENER COLORADO

This hands-on companion exhibit to the National Building Museum's exhibition, The Green House: New Directions in Sustainable Architecture and Design, features feature interactive displays from Colorado companies PK Geothermal, Urban Lumber, Solar Green and Namasté Solar, including a solar-powered doll house, a piece of furniture created from salvaged lumber, and a day lighting system. The exhibit also will highlight green building initiatives coordinated by the Governor's Energy Office and the City of Aurora. Through May 3, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday

Aurora History Museum, 15051 E. Alameda Parkway
303-739-6666 or auroramuseum.org

ANTIQUÉ APPRAISAL FAIR

Have your antiques and collectibles evaluated by local appraisers. All proceeds benefit the Aurora History Museum. \$5 per item; limit five items. Call 303-739-6705 for an appointment.

April 25, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Aurora History Museum, 15051 E. Alameda Parkway
auroramuseum.org

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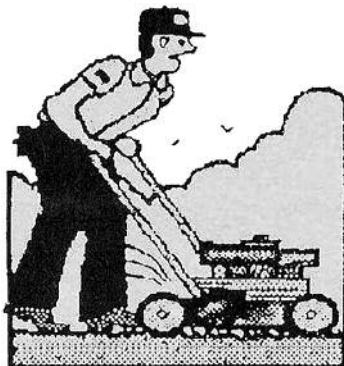
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