



# MISSION VIEJO REPORTER

NEWS FROM THE MISSION VIEJO HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION INC.

Volume 1, Issue 1

<http://www.missionviejohoa.org>

April/May 2007

## Presidents Corner

*Building an improved HOA with Greater Communications and Current Neighborhood Issues*

### Todd McMahon

Mission Viejo HOA President

Welcome back to our HOA newsletter! Your HOA has completely revamped its operations and we now offer even greater avenues of communications. Our main avenue of providing information will be our web site, [www.missionviejohoa.org](http://www.missionviejohoa.org) however many of us wanted to also see the revival of our newsletter. In keeping with the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary theme, we have decided to call our new newsletter the Mission Viejo Reporter, which was started by the Mission Viejo Company when the development was initiated in 1972. We hope you enjoy this newsletter, however to ensure that continued issues make their way to you we ask that you provide us with feedback on its usefulness. We are also looking for a dedicated newsletter editor, so if you have the desire, this effort can be a rewarding community service.

In addition to this printed newsletter, we also are providing an e-mailing list service on our web site in

*continued on page 2*

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Presidents Corner
- 1 Mission Viejo Exhibits
- 2 Mission Viejo 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration Announcement
- 4 National Register Designation?

**Mission Viejo Clean-Up Weekend** will be June 9-10. We are asking all residents to clean-up perimeter areas, greenbelts, parks and your property. Please help make Mission Viejo look great!

## Mission Viejo Aurora Celebrates its 35th Anniversary With Free Exhibits!

*Visit them today!*



Mission Viejo Aurora Exhibit now on display at the Aurora History Museum

Mission Viejo is celebrating its 35th anniversary! To celebrate, the Mission Viejo HOA, in cooperation with the City of Mission Viejo California, the City of Aurora History Museum, the Aurora Public Library, along with support from Shea Homes, Paul Finger - Remax Masters, Cheri Long- Priority Properties Real Estate, Mission Viejo Shopping Center, Mission Plaza Aurora, Seville Townhomes HOA, Cherry Glen Townhomes HOA and Mission Viejo Plaza LLLP are proud to announce an exhibition in tribute to the Mission Viejo California and Mission Viejo Aurora. The exhibitions are being held at our [Mission Viejo Library](#), 15324 E Hampden Circle, (for the California Story) and the [Aurora History Museum](#), 15051 East Alameda Parkway Aurora, Colorado 80012 (for the expanded the Colorado Mission Viejo Aurora Story) Both will run from March 2, 2007 - June 17, 2007. Please be sure to see these great exhibitions!!

which we will provide to you electronic copies of this newsletter, periodic "e-news" items, community events and HOA meeting information delivered right to your e-mail box. The HOA web site also has a special news section as well as Board information, HOA policies, meeting agendas, city zoning ordinance information and copies of our existing covenants. We believe that this information has never before been so easily accessible. So, if you have any questions about our neighborhood, please check our web site first and sign up for our other services if you desire.

The HOA has spent a great deal of time and effort talking with City officials and residents about the pawnbroker business, which is located in the Mission Viejo shopping center. In summary, after two meetings with the City of Aurora's zoning staff and the assistant City Manager and the assistant City Attorney, as well as consultation with our HOA attorney we could find no legal impediment to the pawnshop opening up in our neighborhood. I along with a small number of neighborhood representatives did meet with the pawnbroker business owners and we did get a better understanding of their business and a sense of the potential impacts to our community. Fortunately they are planning to address some of our concerns such as fixing up the building by taking down the old roof-top ramp which had decayed over the years and painting the outside. We were also told the business will be opened under the name "Cash in a Flash" which may alleviate some of the negative connotations of the pawnshop name.

The owners were invited to a community meeting the HOA held on March 20<sup>th</sup> in which we had representatives of the Aurora Police department there to answer questions. However, both owners declined our invitation to attend. Although the pawnbrokers business is legitimate and one in which we cannot stop from opening we should all carefully monitor the situation and report any incidents of crime or criminal misconduct immediately to the Aurora Police Department. You can get more details on our web site under the news section.

Also of concern is the perception the pawnshop business may bring to the neighborhood, which might affect our home values and our image as a family friendly neighborhood. The HOA has worked very hard to try to solicit respectable tenants for the vacant

spaces in the center over the last 9 months. Clearly the HOA is disappointed in the owners of the building that allowed the pawnbrokers business to open in our neighborhood however these matters are difficult for our HOA to influence, since they are outside our formal HOA boundaries. We will however continue to put pressure on the current owners to bring us viable businesses and we will continue to make contacts with the City to see that our needs are properly addressed. One of the best ways to beat any potential lessening value of our community is through better education, which is why the HOA Board made contacts with the City of Mission Viejo California and the City of Aurora to bring two exhibits that celebrate the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our community. Mission Viejo was a trendsetter in terms of community planning and its design is one we should all be proud of. Please visit these two exhibits before they end. It's never been a better time to celebrate the many good aspects of our fine neighborhood!

Todd McMahon

## **Mission Viejo 4th of July Celebration**



**PLEASE JOIN US - MAKE IT A  
SUCCESS**

**Family friendly fun – Meet your  
neighbors!**

**Wednesday, July 4<sup>th</sup> 2007 10:00  
a.m.–1:00 p.m. Mission Viejo Park**

- Decorate yourself, your bike and/or your pet to join our Patriotic Parade.
- BBQ lunch will be provided to the first 500 residents following the parade.
- Activity booths and demonstrations for kids of all ages will be set up following the parade.

*continued on page 3*

## DUES REMINDER-WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!

The Mission Viejo Homeowners' Association, Inc. would like to **THANK YOU** for the continued support of your neighborhood homeowners' organization. The HOA has been very busy rebuilding the organization by passing new board policies, reviewing our practices and taking the initiative to be as responsive as we can to the needs of the community. However our budget is stressed to the limit and we desperately need your support now!

So if you haven't done so, please join us by sending your voluntary dues of **only \$50** per household, per year. Mail your payment today to the Mission Viejo Homeowners' Association Inc. **4255 S. Buckley Road, #110, Aurora, CO 80013-2951**. Help us to ensure new projects and initiatives happen in 2007 and that you have a community voice. Any and all contributions are greatly appreciated. **THANK YOU!!**

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### MISSION VIEJO EXHIBITS

PLACE: MISSION VIEJO LIBRARY, 15324 E. HAMPDEN CIRCLE AND THE AURORA HISTORY MUSEUM, 15051 EAST ALAMEDA PARKWAY

TIME: LIBRARY HOURS: 10 AM - 9 PM MONDAY & TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY - SATURDAY 10 AM - 6PM. AURORA HISTORY MUSEUM HOURS: TUESDAY-FRIDAY, 9AM -4PM SATURDAY & SUNDAY, 11AM -4PM CLOSED MONDAYS. **BOTH EXHIBITS WILL BE ON DISPLAY TILL JUNE 17<sup>TH</sup>.**

*Both exhibits are free. Come see what makes Mission Viejo a special neighborhood! The smaller Library exhibit comes from our sister city in California. The larger Museum display highlights the uniqueness of Mission Viejo Aurora.*

### MISSION VIEJO HOA BOARD MEETINGS

PLACE: MISSION VIEJO LIBRARY, 15324 E. HAMPDEN CIRCLE AURORA, CO

TIME: EVERY THIRD TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH, 6:30 - 8: 00 PM

### CLEAN-UP WEEKEND

MISSION VIEJO CLEAN-UP WEEKEND JUNE 9-10.

### MISSION INTERDEPENDENCE DAY

PLACE: MISSION VIEJO PARK

TIME: JULY 4, 2007, 10:00 AM - 1: 00 PM

*Please plan to join us for this great family neighborhood event!*



## Mission Viejo 4th of July Celebration

*continued from page 2*

**If you want to sponsor the event, we'd love to have your support!**

Ideally, we would like you to set-up a booth or fun activity for the members of our community. Some ideas: Balloon Animals and Art, Face Paints, Ring Toss, Fishing Pond, Water Balloon Toss, Putt Putt, Velcro Wall, Cake Walk, etc. You should provide material and supervision for the booth AND you may hand out promotional materials for your company at your booth. Want to provide a clown, magician, or give a dance demonstration? Tell us your idea! If you can't join us, we do appreciate your financial support so that we may continue providing this event, which is planned and run by neighbors who volunteer their time and effort for the Mission Viejo community. Three sponsorship levels are available: GOLD/\$100 or more, SILVER/\$50 or more and BRONZE/\$25.

*Please note:*

*All booth ideas and activities are subject to approval by the Interdependence Day Committee. Please be aware, they are approved on a first come first serve basis. Any giveaways you wish to distribute must also be approved by the committee before the day of the event. All cash contributions will be applied to the Interdependence Day general fund to provide entertainment and promotion for the event.*

*We also need volunteers willing to help on the day of the event. Some opportunities that are available are helping with supervision of activities and games, relieving other volunteers who need breaks, helping with set-up and decorations, the list goes on!*

**QUESTIONS?** Contact Lori Underwood at [loribellej@hotmail.com](mailto:loribellej@hotmail.com) or call (303) 617-0276

### Mission Viejo Executive Board:

Todd McMahon - President,  
[president@missionviejohoa.org](mailto:president@missionviejohoa.org)

Alan Engels - Vice President,  
[vicepresident@missionviejohoa.org](mailto:vicepresident@missionviejohoa.org)

Tom Brandhorst - Treasurer  
[treasurer@missionviejohoa.org](mailto:treasurer@missionviejohoa.org)

Ron Costa - Secretary  
[secretary@missionviejohoa.org](mailto:secretary@missionviejohoa.org)

Troy Haller - Board Member  
[boardmember1@missionviejohoa.org](mailto:boardmember1@missionviejohoa.org)

To Report City Zoning Code Violations or Graffiti please call Access Aurora at: **303-739-7000**

## **NATIONAL REGISTER DESIGNATION?**

We have received interest in our neighborhood from across the country regarding our community's 35th anniversary exhibits. Several people who have seen the exhibits which document our unique neighborhood history have suggested that the Mission Viejo community consider a nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. **What does a National Register Designation Mean?**

Listing properties in the National Register often changes the way communities perceive their historic places and strengthens the credibility of efforts by private citizens and public officials to preserve these resources as living parts of our communities. Listing honors a property by recognizing its importance to its community, state, or the Nation. **What are a few of the benefits of having the neighborhood listed on the National Register?** Creation of a body of information for local community planning, neighborhood revitalization, that will create a greater sense of community history and local pride. Eligibility to compete for grants from the Colorado Historical Society's State Historical Fund. These grants may be used for acquisition and development, education, and survey and planning projects. Eligibility to apply for state tax credits for restoration, rehabilitation, or preservation of State Register properties. Limited protection from state and federal agency actions that would affect the neighborhood.

**Would there be further restrictions on my property?** Under Federal law, private property owners can do anything they wish with their National Register-listed property, provided that no Federal license, permit, or funding is involved. Owners have no obligation to open their properties to the public, to restore them, or even to maintain them, if they choose not to do so. Private property owners may object to the proposed nomination of their property. If a majority of private property owner's objects to a nomination, then the property cannot be listed in the National Register. **Could Listing the Property Encourage other forms of Designation?** Yes, the City of Aurora has its own local designation process. Being listed on the National Register may make it easier to enact local designation for the community. With owner consent after local designation, all residents with a designated property, planning an improvement would need to go through a design review process by the Aurora Historic Preservation Board. This would ensure that the character of the community remains intact.

We are not the standard fifty years old, which is usually required for consideration to the National Register however we might qualify as exceptionally important. Most likely the first filings would be designated initially. Over time the district could expand to include all areas. What do residents think? Please e-mail the Board at [webmaster@missionviejohoa.org](mailto:webmaster@missionviejohoa.org) and tell us if you are in favor of pursuing this idea or not. Thanks

This edition of the **MISSION VIEJO REPORTER** has been sent to all homeowners, but we would appreciate knowing if you would like to continue to receive it. Please, let us know by e-mailing us at [webmaster@missionviejohoa.org](mailto:webmaster@missionviejohoa.org) or through our postal address. We need to know so we can make the best use of our limited HOA resources. If you prefer to receive future newsletters by e-mail only, it will help to reduce overall costs so let us know and we can assist you in setting up an e-mail subscription. Also, if your contact information is incorrect, please let us know that too, so that we can correct our mailing database. **Thank You!**

Mission Viejo Homeowners' Association Inc.  
4255 S. Buckley Road, #1110  
Aurora, CO 80013-2951

