

Calendar

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26, 2009

• **Poetry Reading.** The Manhattan Beach Senior Poetry Circle celebrates Older Americans Month with a poetry reading at the Manhattan Beach Library at 7 p.m. Free Poetry Reading.

UPCOMING

• **Renewal Through Art Class.** Renewal Through Art for Seniors is an art class for adults 55 and older. A ten-week session will be offered on Thursdays at the Joslyn Center from 10:30 am to 12:00 pm beginning May 29, 2009. A variety of media will be used and techniques demonstrated with the overriding object the student's experience, not the art product. The class is free and students provide their own materials. Pre registration is required. Call the Older Adults Program at (310) 802-5447.

• **Fun Class for Kids on Etiquette and Social Skills.** The City of MB Parks & Recreation Department proudly announces the return of its popular course in good manners by etiquette instructor Diane O'Farrill. "Etiquette and Social Skills for Children" Ages 6-12. A two-session course on Saturdays, July 18 & 25, or Saturdays, August 15 & 22, 2009 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Classes will take place at Live Oak Park Hall 1901 Valley Drive Manhattan Beach. Residents \$78; non-residents \$84. For further information, please call The Manhattan Beach Parks & Recreation Department 310-802-5448. This popular educational program covers the basics of good manners needed by children to interact successfully in various social situations. It offers children tips on social interaction that help boost self-esteem and confidence. MB Recreation Services Manager Idris J. Al-Oboudi says: "Mrs. O'Farrill's class has been a very popular course. And now, back by popular demand, we are thrilled that the program will continue under the direction of her niece Diane O'Farrill." Diane is a graduate of San Diego State University with a bachelor's degree in elementary education and has five years experience in teaching and developing socially confident boys and girls. In addition, she earned her Masters of Arts

in Teaching and Multiple Subject Teaching Credential from the University of Southern California. For information please call The Manhattan Beach Parks & Recreation Department (310) 802-5448

ONGOING

• **Older Adults discussion group.** Come discuss current events, movies, topics of local and national interest, whatever is on your mind. The discussion group meets every Monday from 9:00 a.m. – noon at the Joslyn Community Center, 1601 Valley Drive. For more information please call (310) 802-5447.

• **Play Reading.** Fun and adventure await you. Spontaneous and unrehearsed activity facilitated by KC Johnson and Maria A. Ruiz, two experienced artists in the South Bay, offers each participant a role in scenes chosen for you – or you may bring your own short scenes to read. Every 1st Tuesday from 1:30-3:30 p.m. at Joslyn Center, 1601 Valley Drive, MB. Free Event, Sponsored by Parks and Rec. All are welcome. Info: 310-325-3251 or 310- 540-5635.

• **Play Scrabble.** This event is sponsored by the MB Parks and Rec and facilitated by the Manhattan Beach Senior Citizens Resource Committee. 1-3-1-1-2-3-1-1 (Scrabble). Play Scrabble every 1st and 3rd Thursday at Joslyn Community Center, 1601 Valley Drive. A free event, experience not required and all are welcome (4-1-1-3-1-3-1). 1:30 – 4 p.m. Info 310-802-5447.

• **Poetry Reading Circle** Recent/longtime, amateur and wannabe poets are welcome to read their own o favorite poems every 2nd and 4th Tuesday from 1:30-3:30 p.m. at Joslyn Center, 1601 Valley Drive, MB. Free Event, Sponsored b y Parks and Rec. All are welcome. Info 802-5447.

• **Petanque, French game of Boules** at Live Oak Field, Manhattan Beach. Play Petanque (played by 17 million people in France), an outdoor social game for every lever of fitness; no experience required. Sponsored by Parks and Rec. All are welcome every 2nd and 4th Thursday 1-3 p.m adjacent to Joslyn Center. Info 310-802-5447. •

Local Students Awarded Scholarships from Neptunians

By Karen Russo

At its final meeting of the season, the Manhattan Beach Neptunian Women's Club awarded thousands of dollars in scholarships to Mira Costa High School graduating seniors and El Camino College students. No small task, the committee of Neptunian members Sabine Birkenfeld, Terrill Burnett, and Sherry Gore had to select five among 75 worthy Mira Costa candidates. Assisting in the process were Katherine Folkman and Gail Curry, College and Career Counselors for Mira Costa.

Sabine Birkenfeld introduced each of the young Mira Costa scholars who said a few words about their future plans. Taylor Spivey, awarded the academic scholarship, will be attending Cal State University at San Luis Obispo to study architecture. This summer she will work as a lifeguard, I believe in Manhattan Beach. Noticing how petite she is, I asked if she could guard at the ocean. "Yes," she said. "I am fast."

Hunter Porter, a jazz guitarist, won the music scholarship and will go to USC's Thornton School of music. He performed this year in Mira Costa's great rendition of *Crazy for You*.

Alyssa Sbarounis won the award in fashion design and will be attending FIDM, Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandizing in Los Angeles. She was looking forward to being in the Mira Costa Fashion show that evening, and had modeled in an earlier Neptunian fashion show. During the summer, she will work as a YWCA camp counselor.

Julian Nguyen and Kara Kahl were recipients of the Elizabeth Dorsey art scholarships, donated by the late Elizabeth Dorsey, a

long-time Neptunian member and dedicated sponsor of young artists. Julien will attend the Rhode Island School of Design where he will major in painting with hopes of a career as a fine art painter. Kara Kahl will study graphic design at the Art Institute in Santa Monica with plans to work in animation. Right now she is taking a class to work this summer as a veterinarian's assistant.

In addition to the Mira Costa students, Neptunians award two scholarships for continuing El Camino students. One is the Marilyn Owen Policewoman Memorial Scholarship Fund, established by Owen's husband in memory of her as both a member of the Neptunians and of the Manhattan Beach Police Department. This year the award went to Erin Morris-Wilson. She is graduating from El Camino and going to Cal State Dominguez to study criminal justice. As a mother of a baby boy and living with her grandmother, her plate is full, but she hopes to give back to the community by becoming a detective for the LAPD.

The Maude Withers Nursing Memorial Scholarship Fund was established in her memory as an early member of Neptunians (1913) and for her diligent efforts through card parties and other fundraising projects to support needy students. Originally funded by Withers' daughter, individual members have continued supporting the fund, boosted by 50-year member Helen Darby. This year's scholarship winner is Salwa Hammami. A 40-year-old wife and mother from Tunisia who had been unable to continue her education there, is now fulfilling her dreams

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DOES AGE REALLY MATTER?

Not to our Residents.

That's because true age is more a matter of perception than a measure of time. The lifestyle at our community is designed to help residents achieve a sense of balance over six key areas of wellness. It enables them to improve and maintain health, while living purposeful, self-directed lives. We call it Optimum Life®, and it could be your lifestyle today.

Interested?

To learn more about our exceptional community, call or visit today and discover why we believe the best life to live is an Optimum Life®.

- One affordable monthly fee
- Spacious apartments
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- Transportation
- Outings and/or events daily

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It's The Right Time to Save. Go Metro.

In these uncertain economic times, you can create your own stimulus package simply by going Metro. Experts estimate you can save \$8,416 annually by using public transit in LA instead of paying for gas and parking. LA is among the top 20 cities where you can save the most by taking public transit. Find your best route with the Trip Planner at metro.net.

Metro Adding 41 Buses For Express Lane Project

Forty-one compressed natural gas buses are being purchased by Metro for its Express Lane demonstration project aimed at maximizing freeway capacity. Next year the buses will provide additional transit alternatives on the carpool lanes along the I-10 (H Monte Bassey) and I-110 (Harbor Freeway Transitway) corridors.

Cut 40 Minutes Off Your Commute

Take the Metro Green Line to the Harbor Station and then hop aboard Metro Express lines 444, 445, 446, 447 or 458K to downtown via the 110 Freeway carpool lanes. Bypass the Metro Blue Line into downtown and save time— about 20 minutes each way. Check your connection at metro.net.

See The LA Marathon on Metro

Go Metro Rail to see all the action at the 24th Annual LA Marathon on Monday, May 25. The course starts in Universal City and winds through the heart of LA to finish downtown. Be sure to check metro.net for information on extensive bus detours prompted by the race.

TAP Ready For Reduced Fare Customers

Metro riders with Senior, College/Vocational or Student I-15 discount passes need to submit an application for a new reusable TAP card. You can get applications at Metro Customer Centers or online. Check metro.net/tapcardfare for details or call 313.680.0054.

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