Last Thursday, parts of California, Arizona and Mexico had their lights turned off. All together, about four million people were welcomed into the dark ages.

MiraCosta College was shut down on Thursday and Friday due to this blackout. All three campuses found the libraries, student centers and all classrooms to be completely dark and unusable. This led to a backup on the roads as offices and businesses were also forced to close and send everyone home. Even though the power was back on Friday morning, the campuses and surrounding schools still remained closed.

In Yuma, Arizona a utility worker triggered this blackout. It was due to a mix up on a high-voltage power line that was the link between Arizona and San Diego. This caused the series of electrical grid failures all across Southern California. “The outage appears to be related to a procedure an APS employee was carrying out in the North Gila substation... operating and protection protocols typically would have isolated the resulting outage to the Yuma area. The reason that did not occur in this case will be the focal point of the investigation into the event, which already is underway,” APS representative said in a statement regarding the blackout.

Not only did it have an impact on San Diegans, but also shut down the San Onofre Nuclear Power Plant. Although, it has been noted that the power outage caused no safety issues as the overall power plant had power.

Not only did the power plant not have any issues with safety but there also appeared to be no increase in illegal activity due to the blackout in San Diego. The beaches can’t say the same as this blackout caused some sewage spill. It closed some of the beaches in the San Diego area temporarily.

MCC left in the darkness

Michelle Maher
Assignment Editor

Photos by Dustin Kamon
The 319 has changed to the 325

Dennis Selke
Asst. Editor in Chief
On Aug. 28 the North County Transit District announced the elimination of the Breeze 319 bus route, which used to serve the MCC Oceanside campus every hour. The new Breeze 325 will serve the college every half hour.

Route 302 has not changed and will continue every hour as before. The NCTD has a trip planning hotline, which offers the option to talk to a live person or go through a list of bus route changes by route number. The number is (855) 287-6283 and their representative explained how MCC students from various areas can reach the Oceanside campus.

Library expands services

Chris Neufeld
Copy Editor
The Miramar College Library has incorporated two new systems that can be located straight from your computer or the computers at any of the three campuses. The first system will include the ability to text, email and even tweet a librarian. The second system is called “Films on Demand.”

This first system will enable students to receive help in a multitude of ways. The new system allows for students to contact a librarian 24/7 with any questions he or she has about anything that they are confused about. The website offers many ways to look up a reference, students will be able to visually see how to go about doing something.

In this era of ever changing technology, the Miramar College Library has no trouble keeping up. The website offers many ways to connect with your local librarian. The new Tweet feature allows students to post their questions via Tweet and text message. If your question isn’t very urgent and you don’t need an answer right away, the email option will work perfectly for that situation. It will also allow for a librarian to look up a student’s question more in depth and provide a very accurate response.

The Associated Student Government has established a committee to organize and coordinate the efforts of college volunteers to encourage more participations and increase the number of volunteer hours for all three campuses. The MCC Service Learning Department and The MCC Volunteer Club are joining forces this year with ASG and the Athletic Department to reach to goal of more than 1000 hours by April 13.

The Volunteer and Community Outreach Committee Co-chairpersons are Samantha Garcia, Student Trustee, and Pat Pardo, ASG Vice President of Public Relations. Committee members are Blanca Castro, Vice President of the PLC, Brooke Miles, ASG Senator, Patty Bach, San Elijo and Zachary Wad, Oceanside. Carol Wilkinson, MCC Service Learning Coordinator, will advise the group.

As part of the year’s goals and objectives the ASG hopes to “build community involvement and awareness by giving back to communities by volunteering 1000 hours of group service by April 13, 2012.” The ASG’s three objectives tare to work with Service Learning to identify volunteer opportunities, forms and strategies to coordinate the efforts and to execute the volunteer activities in the stated goal amount. The objectives are being met. The committee is formed, the pool of students is building up and volunteer efforts are being tracked. There are more than 20 volunteers and they have exceed the initial goal of having 55 hours logged in by Aug. 19.

Last year the ASG, several clubs and other service groups logged more than 200 volunteer hours. MCC groups received three awards for their work. “MCC’s Service Learning Department was named to President Obama’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for the third consecutive year last month.”

The first announced event is a beach cleanup on Sept. 7. To become a volunteer, e-mail, Samantha Garcia at sgarcia@miracosta.edu or Pat Pardo at p.pardo@miracosta.edu.

Film

“The Devils Miner” Sept. 23, (82 min.)
1 p.m. San Elijo Campus, Rm. 204
7 p.m. Oceanside Campus, Rm.
3601 (Little Theatre)

Dance

Dance Studio Hour
Nov. 3, 7:30 p.m.
San Elijo Campus room 204
Free Admission.

Music

Faculty Recital “Classics Then and Now”
Sept. 24, 7:30 p.m.
Concert Hall, Bldg.
2400 at Oceanside Campus

General Admission $10, students seniors $8.

Learning is for everyone (L.I.F.E) presents:
“From Boys 2 Men--An Adventure in Paradise” by Marshall Lubin. A recounting our two young boys’ adventure on a surfing safari to Hawaii to Samoa, and beyond.
Sept. 16 at 1 p.m. in room 201 on the San Elijo Campus
The Second Amendment really means . . .

John Adams

As I go to start today’s debate off by saying that I love the Constitution of the United States of America, the Second Amendment says exactly the following, “A well-regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a Free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.”

What the Second Amendment really means is a profoundaly different topic. In 1776 economic inquiry, “Wealth of Nations,” specialization has played a part in the past. The book has allowed a particular career path or given line of specialization to be followed by many different careers.

The United States Census is the San Diego Timeteben. These militias are necessary because they will be able to protect the people if the government becomes too oppressive, and too controlling of the people that it governs.

The second and most controversial part of the Second Amendment is what we will look at next. The next part of the amendment says “the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.” Now many people will tell you that the Second Amendment is only applicable when we talk about militias. I am here to tell you that the founding fathers never intended the Second Amendment to be only applicable when we talk about militias. The Second Amendment says: “A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State ...” This phrase means that a well regulated militia is not only authorized to exist, but it is necessary for the security of a free State. Now, most of you may already know that there are many of these well regulated militias around Southern California. One example is the San Diego Timeteben. These militias are necessary because they will be able to protect the people if the government becomes too oppressive, and too controlling of the people that it governs.

The second part is just as important. If the only people who owned a gun were those groups of well regulated militia, they wanted every person to be able to carry a gun in which a single musket, they wanted every person to be able to carry a gun in which a single musket could take someone’s life. I’m not suggesting that we take away all guns. If cops couldn’t carry guns I would be frightened at night. If we sent our brave soldiers to war with flowers and an apology letter, I would be forming my own army. If the only people who owned a gun were political leaders, who many have the informed or corrupt, don’t get the idea I don’t like guns. I just don’t like the idea of my crazy neighbor or stranger having a gun.

My interpretation of the Second Amendment is that it is necessary for a well regulated Militia, “to be constantly checked upon so they do not abuse the power that comes with owning a gun.” The treatment part is just as important. Militias have the right to own guns if it is “necessary to the security of a free State.” However, the Second Amendment states, “A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, shall not be infringed.”

I am claiming my First Amendment right

I am claiming my Second Amendment right

Let’s break this up. The people for whom the Constitution writers intended to own a gun is “a well regulated militia.” This means that we need to have groups of people that are together a common good. Also, we shouldn’t forget that it starts out by saying that these groups of people who own guns need to be well regulated. This means that they need to be constantly checked upon so they do not abuse the power that comes with owning a gun.

As outlined in Adam Smith’s 1776 economic inquiry, “Wealth of Nations,” specialization has played a defining role in society. Throughout industrialization, many individuals have been trained to perform a specific task. This has been translated into the individual pursuing a particular career path or given line of work. This niche labor, such as that of a doctor or a chemist, has allowed individuals to master and contribute towards a field with unprecedented efficiency.

In our democracy, individuals who pursue a life in government are keen on the daily events and micro-debates of the political agenda. Most individuals, however, are not specialized in fields involving the political scene. Due to this, they have only a casual understanding of issues involving the political scene. Learning the political landscape can be a monumental task. Therefore, it is essential for individuals to develop an informed perspective on political decisions.

While the individual still has the opportunity to vote and seeks to make informed decisions, this construct innately leaves the “non-governmental” masses, the vast majority of citizens, at the unchecked will of the political specialists. The appeals of outspoken political figures distort the perception of the individual, leaving her or him susceptible to exploit by adjunct causes and underlying special interests of the elite, specialized powers. The ability to continue making an informed vote towards government into a lucrative rendezvous for capitalizing on self-interest. Politics becomes an attempt to lure the masses rather than a public service “for the people.”

Decision-making requires a thorough understanding of not only the issue at hand, but also of how the issue holistically pertains to an individual and her or his surroundings. Our democracy seeks to be a reflection of the will of the people, meaning that each individual ought to contribute his or her own perspective into the collective discussion. When individuals succumb to the assertions of external forces, they give up the liberty of independent thought and become a means for another’s ends. Although people today have unprecedented access to information, these often secondary sources must be scoured for bias, as they may be offsets of profit-seeking self-interests or outlets of biased adversarial partisanship. It is understandable to delegate authority to specialized political analysts, such as economists or experienced governmental figures, who may dedicate the time to comprehend the bureaucratic language and put pieces in to context. However, individuals ought to formulate opinions regarding their representatives based on the original source, whether it is a speech or an economic plan, to wholly understand the choices that they make.

While political debates may seem burdensome, the individual’s dedication to making an informed decision upon voting ensures a functioning democracy and keeps the representatives working in the interest of the people. In the current state of affairs, the individual must put forth a commitment beyond his or her immediate livelihood to ultimately exercise his or her voting rights effectively. Although politics may seem cumbersome, exercising one’s opinion is a rather exclusive privilege even among the standards of today. Ultimately, Democracy is the foundation, and the presence in accordance with the people at the cost of individual participation.
The Guahan Grill was located near the intersection of Ocean编 Blvd. and College Blvd. When I walked into
this place, I knew that I would like it based on how it looks. The paintings on the wall and the overall look of
the restaurant made it seem as though I was walking into an authentic Guamanian eatery. The food there is amazing. I
tried the lumpia and the chicken with noodle plate, and both were to die
for. The service is great, as my drink was always full and the server was
very courteous. Well, enough about what you all probably expect from a
review and let me move on to the most important part of this place, the
bathroom.

The actual bathroom, as a whole, is nothing too amazing, but let me
explain why it needs to be mentioned. If you know how sometimes you go
to wash your hands, but when you press

the water on then at the sink it only stays on for like two seconds, causing
you to have to press it about 34 times to get your hands clean? Not the case
here. When I pressed the button on the sink, the water stayed on for about
30 seconds, allowing me to fully wash my hands without having to repeatedly
press the button. It was so amazing.

Bieber “singing” about how hard love is
when you are 13. No, it’s not Justin
Bieber, you’re just stupid.

I also feel like this is the perfect place for a first date. It’s super laid
back, colorful and yet still intimate enough to hold a conversation with
the person next to you.

Their art décor is amazingly
beautiful as well. I kind of wish it was
for sale so that I could talk about how I
will buy them when I win the Lottery.

Another fantastic thing about this

place is that it is family owned.

Two brothers from Guam decided to
open this little piece of heaven. You
know those places that are Italian
restaurants owned by people who
have never been to Italy? This isn’t
like that, but at the end of the day
I can more that the food is delicious
than that the food is legit, even still,
legit it is.

For food I recommend the Lumpia
and the Guahan Noodles with Chicken.
The 4000 building is home to MiraCosta College's Automotive Technology Department. With programs such as Basic Engine Performance, Smog Technician and Automotive Electronics, students are given the opportunity to learn automotive theory and troubleshooting in a classroom while developing practical skills during lab in the auto shop.

Having grown 136 percent in the last five years, the automotive department has no shortage of demand—yet students who do not opt for CSU elective credits or seek preparation for State automotive certification examinations often overlook this integral part of the Oceanside campus.

Since its opening in 2006, the department has integrated small engine repair, an air conditioning class, both automatic and manual transmissions training, and a complete smog program. "The program is growing, and we're trying to cover every subject students might have to encounter in a job—we want to offer a broad knowledge," stated Professor Arnaldo Williams. According to Williams, some dealerships are asking technicians to have an AA and are demanding more from workers.

Even after replacing the auto-body side, the auto shop—complete with engine reconstruction machinery, a clean room, a hot tank, alignment machines, multiple lifts and much more—struggles to find space for the introduction of new technology. The building, as a whole, often housing three classes simultaneously, forebodes a need to expand in order to meet rising demand. With the integration of electronic brakes and steering wheels, technology is leaving an unprecedented impact in the automobile and in the way in which it is serviced. Professor Steve Vail explains that the old image of a mechanic is not what it is today, "It's not like the old days with a dirty rag in his back pocket and chewing tobacco," but rather an effective communicator who is both computer savvy and mathematically inclined. "In Europe," states Vail, "technicians are held in high regard."

Whether you are training to become a technician or like working with cars as a hobby, the Automotive Department provides a state of the art education and offers students the ability to create and fix mechanical systems anywhere in the world.
The MCC Community Learning Center helps students rebuild lives

Here’s Mirtha C. Astorga’s story

In 2005 my granddaughter was born here in California while I was living in my country Peru. I have only one son, and Samantha (my granddaughter) brightened my life again. I was traveling frequently before and after her birth, but when I came to receive 2006, I met as special person in the New Year’s party whom I married in a short time so I stayed here to live my new life. As soon as I could, I got a job delivering newspapers, and then I was hired as a Courier Delivery in California Overnight (ONTAC) where I’ve worked for three years. In January 2010, I got my citizenship and I remember that day as it was yesterday because I made a promise now, I will do my best for this wonderful country being a successful woman.” Unfortunately, two months later I tripped and fell when I was working, and because of the injury (two broken fingers and an strong pain in my back), I was in disability 16 months. My husband couldn’t deal with this so he moved from our house 5 months after my injury. Now we’re divorced since July 2011. I’m also unemployed right now. I can’t do the same kind of job I used to do because the doctor told me not to lift over 15 lbs. and the average in my delivery route, 40 lbs per box, and about 50 boxes per day.

This June a friend of mine seeing that I was depressed, recommended me to study English where she was studying. Because of her, I enrolled at MiraCosta Noncredit ESL College in Level 7 and VESL during the summer term. At MiraCosta Community Learning Center, I recovered my self-esteem with the excellent teachers I had, the kindly staff who was working there, and with the classmates from different countries I met in both places.

This fall semester I will be a full-time student, I’ve already enrolled in ESL 180, BUS 137, MDT 113 and KINE 111 (total: 12 credits).

My major is Medical Administrative Professional because I have read this career is in the Top 50 careers with the largest employment opportunity in California.

Concerning my background, I’ve finished high school and some courses in Business Administration, Marketing and Sales in Peru. I ran my own business with 30 people under my management for eight years as Authorized Distributor of Rainbow Vacuum Cleaners from Rexair, Inc. with headquarters in Troy, Michigan. I also have been Distributor of Robot Vacuum Cleaners from Mexico for five years. I sold my business when I got married here. Now, I am starting from zero but with a very good attitude to achieve my new goals.

Finally, receiving a scholarship motivated me to help other students who are studying English as a Second Language; they will love the Read & Write Gold software because they think English is going to be easier for them.

I have lofty goals--how do I achieve them?

Dearest SDW

Thanks for asking! You’d be surprised at how little I get asked this question. I assume you are asking because you saw the most recent episode of Jersey Shore and realized that the people ruling America don’t seem to have a real job. You are looking at the glamorous lifestyle and everything that they have that you don’t. Maybe you are frightened by the state of politics here. I understand, we have it all been here. There is a secret longing in your heart to become what you always thought you could be, Supreme Dictator of the World. It has a nice ring to it. I’m not going to lie. First thing you need to be sure of is, are you prepared for such an important role? You have to understand that with great power comes great responsibility. Are you prepared to hold the state of the world in your hands? Think about that for a moment.

Still want to be the Supreme Dictator of the World I see. The second thing you will need to do is become President of the United States of America. Sorry ladies, maybe it will happen for us around year 2050. If you don’t know how to become President of the United States then you sit, are way off your league and need to take up new hobbies. Some hobbies I enjoy are reading, hanging out with friends at places like “Coor’s,” daydreaming about killing vampires and, of course, writing for the Chariot.

After becoming President you will need to change a few things. Our First thing you need to do is that there is always something annoying called “checks and balances.” This makes sure that no one becomes their Supreme Dictator of the United States just so they can start getting used to your name and Supreme Dictator together in one sentence. Time to build your military! Do you expect the rest of the world to just allow you to become their Supreme Dictator? They won’t unless you have a huge army to back them. Could you be so strong that you could join the dark side. While you think that he being Supreme Dictator of the World is necessary—if you can’t bake a cookie that would convince people to bow to your wishes then you aren’t ready and need to read some hobbies where I list suggested hobbies. After you have completed convincing all other countries to bow to your wishes, slap on the title because you are officially the Supreme Dictator of the World!

The University of Values

Intramural Sports Schedule

Soccer Sept. 16 1-3 p.m. Fields
Softball Oct. 7 noon-2 p.m. Softball field
Kickball Oct. 14 noon-2 p.m. Softball field
Soccer Oct. 21 1-3 p.m. fields

Open Play
Volleyball Sept. 13 5:30-8 p.m. Gym
Sept. 20 5:30-8 p.m. Sept. 27 5:30-8 p.m.
Oct. 4 5:30-8 p.m.
Oct. 11 5:30-8 p.m.
Basketball Oct. 17 6-8 p.m. Gym
Oct. 24 6-8 p.m.
Oct. 31 6-8 p.m.

Everyone is welcome. Join the fun.
Internship Opportunities
Media Integration Consultant Intern
Better Business Choices, Oceanside
Intern will get exposure to the media industry, Magazine, Web, Radio and TV. Will assist in integration of media, and public outreach.
Intern, KPRI Radio, San Diego
Intern will assist in radio programming, production, promotions, marketing & sales. Internet web development. Intern must be positive, creative, self-motivated and reliable. Must have strong computer and writing skills.
Production Intern, In-Flight Media Associates, Encinitas
Intern will get hands-on production experience with digital video formats, including digitizing the DMS tape library, maintaining tape logs and inventory. Reviewing scripts, working with editor as needed on editing projects.
Comm, Marketing and Customer Service Intern, North County Transit District, Oceanside
Intern will assist with media research, social media outreach. Updating the organization’s website and press notices. Must be energetic, organized and proficient in Microsoft Office. Have strong knowledge of social networks.
Job Opportunities
Executive Assistant, Hosts Restaurants, Oceanside
Hourly wage: Based on experience, start at $12 an hour. Must have previous experience as an office manager/executive assistant, who can work at least 30 hours per week. Must be able to provide correspondence, make travel arrangements, and deal with confidential information. Email resume to aherrmann@hoottwinc.com
Kids club counselor, The Children’s School, La Jolla
$10/hr. Part Time. Care for students before and after school. Preschool through kindergarten and first through eighth grade. Promote a positive environment for children at all times. Must be 18 years of age or older. Six months experience in a similar program. 6-12 ECE units required. To apply email a cover letter and resume to activities@tcocj.org

Don’t miss upcoming Miracostas College scholarship deadlines!
Thursday, September 13, 2011 is the deadline for submitting applications for the following Miracostas College Foundation scholarships:
Mort & Agatha Winkski Memorial Scholarship: Eligibility: Student must be currently enrolled full-time (12 units) and complete 12 units of applicable units at Miracosta, maintain a 3.0 Grade Point Average (GPA) each semester, and have financial need. This is a $500 renewable scholarship up to four semesters (fall/spring) to students continuing to meet the criteria.
Osher Scholarship: Eligibility: must be receiving a California Community Colleges Board of Governors Enrollment Fee Waiver (BOGW), must have completed 24 units, and an essay of 250 words or less must be submitted. Scholarships awarded to students who meet the above criteria. Application deadline is Wednesday, October 12, 2011.

Transfer Center
Miracosta College Transfer Center
MiraCosta College Transfer Center is now on Facebook! Check us out and hit “Like” if you are interested in updates and important information.

Missing Lia, school of business, San Diego
Are you interested in the business field? Then you might be interested in the details of this opportunity.
Job duties:
- Maintain student’s academic records
- Assist in the admission process
- Assist in the registration process
- Assist in the financial aid process
- Assist in the student life process
- Assist in the career planning process
- Assist in the placement process
- Assist in the center’s communication process

Requirements:
- Possess excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Possess excellent interpersonal skills
- Possess excellent organizational skills
- Possess excellent computer skills
- Possess the ability to work independently
- Possess the ability to work as a team member
- Possess the ability to work under pressure
- Possess the ability to handle sensitive information

Salary:
- $15 per hour
- Full-time position

Application deadline:
- October 15, 2011

How to apply:
- Submit a resume and cover letter to Missy Stumpf, Assistant Dean of Student Services, MiraCosta College, 1400 Pacifica Way, Oceanside, CA 92056
- Email resume and cover letter to missy.stumpf@miracostsa.edu

Student Success Workshops
The Career Center is located in Bldg. 3700 on the Oceanside campus.

Health Services
Test Your Mood
Free Confidential Screening San Elijo Campus Conference Room Sept 15, 12 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Oceanfront Campus Artisan A & B Sept 20, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Free STD Testing
San Elijo Campus Conference Room Sept 27 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Oceanside Campus - every Tuesday 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Free Confidential Personal Counseling is available at Oceanside, San Elijo and CLC campuses.
For information or to set up an appointment call Health Services (760)759-6675.

Student Success Workshops
Oceanide Campus
Note Taking presented by Czarina Pinisel, Monday, September 12 from 12 – 1 p.m., OC 1202.

Monkey See, Monkey Write presented by Denise Stephenson & Brandi Blidnack, Tuesday, September 13 from 12 – 1 p.m., OC 1202.

MLA Formatting in Word 2010 presented by Jill Ringer-Tsager, September 13 from 2 – 3 p.m., OC 1201.

African Dance and Drumming for Stress Relief presented by Trisha Hanada-Rogers and Monik Jones, Wednesday, September 14 from 12 – 1 p.m., OC 1201.

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I am an angry person. I am writing this article so that I can vent on a lot of things that have been bothering me lately about the world. I know that a lot of you will be annoyed by reading the ranting of an angry person, but, I don’t care. And if you are annoyed, I’ll probably write an article about being angry with you soon.

I have been sitting around thinking a lot lately and I have realized something. I am angry. I realize that most of you probably share the same feelings I do about the following issues I have with society.

The first issue I have starts right here in MiraCosta College. I guess it happens everywhere, but because I attend this school I will talk about the issue here, at home.

The second issue I have is with the sun and its location in the sky when I drive.

Let me start by saying this disclaimer: I am not attacking the faculty or staff of any institution anywhere, ever. You are all amazing and excellent at the jobs that you do. Now, I think we all can agree that MCC provides an excellent education and that people who graduate from here move on to bigger and better things, blah, blah, blah. The issue I have is with the homework to in class time ratio. I mean really? I hate the fact that pretty much 90 percent of the work that students actually do is done at home in the form of homework. We go to class and discuss stuff for the duration of class, then the professor says, “Okay class, great discussion today. I expect a 2000 word essay on what we discussed by next class meeting.” Okay, I know this is a little exaggerated, but you get the point. All of the time that we spend outside of class is spent doing homework for the class. It’s kind of ridiculous. I wouldn’t care so much about the homework, but what makes me super angry is that we have to spend around four hours outside of class for every hour spent in class.

The second thing that enrages me is the fact that no matter which way I am driving on the 78, the sun is always in my face. I mean, can’t it make up its mind on where it wants to sit in the sky. Whether I drive east or west, no matter what time of day it is, it seems as though the sun is there to rein its terror over my life. I heard somewhere that the sun rises in the east and sets in the west. Well I think that needs to change. It could change up its routine once in a while and allow commuters to get a break from having to put their visors down or squint while driving. Furthermore, it seems as though the clouds only come out to block the sun on days that I am not driving, or days that I go to the beach. I’m almost 100 percent positive that the sun is out to get me. I mean can’t the sun have some more consideration for those of us that need to get home after school or work and stay out of our faces? I think the bottom line is that I hate the sun. Well, thanks for reading this week.