



MORGAN HILL
(CA) BRANCH

The Wildflower

October-November-December 2016

Volume XXXV, Issue 2

Branch Programs 4th Tuesday of the Month at Morgan Hill Library
6:30 pm Branch Update, 7:00 pm Program

*please
join us*

Women in Philanthropy

Tuesday, October 25



Speakers from AWASA International School, KIVA, Community Solutions, Operation Freedom Paws, & Learning and Loving Education Center

- Branch Update on Scholarships

Women and Culinary Arts

Tuesday, November 22



With Cynthia Sandberg of Love Apple Farm

- Branch Update on Inter Branch Council

Contact: [Janet McElroy](#)

*please
join us*



SAVE THE DATE

Holiday Party &
35th Anniversary Celebration

Sunday, December 11

Catered Lunch at the Grange Hall

Contact: [Margo](#)

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THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Mary Cox, President



Branding



What is our Brand? When someone hears 'AAUW-Morgan Hill', what comes to mind? Branding is an image. It envisions our promise to the girls and women we support, our members, and our community. AAUW National presents branding as professionalism and consistency to ensure that our community recognizes our branch as a reliable and committed organization for women's equity and empowerment.

The foundation of our branch brand is our AAUW-MH logo, Wildflower Run, website, promotional materials and communication. Here are a few points on branding we'd like to pass on to our members:

- **AAUW-MH Logo, Advertising:** The logo has a standard format and color scheme and can be obtained from [Gretchen Merrick](#) (Publicity) or a board member. There is also a recommended 8 color palate and style format for advertising materials.
- **Name:** If someone may not be familiar with 'AAUW', use American Association of University Women.
- **Communication:** Let others know about AAUW-MH, focusing on our primary messages: supporting issues that affect women, fundraising through the Wildflower Run, scholarships for girls and women, community grants, and educational programs.
- **Business Cards:** Create your own AAUW business cards (template on AAUW 'branding' link below).
- **Community:** Be professional and introduce yourself as an AAUW-MH member wherever you can!

Check out: [AAUW Branding Toolkit](#)

WILDFLOWER NEWSLETTER GOES QUARTERLY

Carol O'Hare and Suman Ganapathy, Editors

In order to provide the most efficient and effective way to communicate with branch members, we are changing from a monthly to quarterly newsletter, along with an expanded use of weekly emails. **The newsletter will focus on mission-based articles, and our branch community.** Weekly emails will include more time-sensitive information about upcoming programs and activities. The monthly calendar of events will be posted on the branch website under 'Events and Activities' on a regular basis. We will also make extensive use of links, from both the newsletter and the weekly emails, encouraging members to read more about topics of interest. We hope that this will make better use of time for our busy members, newsletter staff, and contributors!



This issue of the Wildflower covers October, November, & December. The October Calendar of Events is available [HERE](#).

SEPTEMBER BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

[Sandy Stoob](#), Secretary

The new 2016-2017 AAUW Morgan Hill board met for the first time on September 1, 2016.

Peggy Martin, CFO, presented her proposal for the annual budget, which was approved. For details about the \$6995 budget, go [HERE](#). Peggy also reported that **Marissa Campi** and she successfully reviewed our financial books.

Elizabeth Mandel, Allocations Committee Chair, introduced the proposal for distributing the \$48,975 raised at the time of the Wildflower Run for the branch's philanthropic activities. The proposal was discussed and approved. For complete details, go to [page 4](#).

Carol O'Hare, 'The Wildflower' Copy Editor, presented the newsletter committee's recommendation to change the frequency of the newsletter from monthly to quarterly, with expanded use of the weekly emails. The proposal was accepted.



PHILANTROPY HONOREE

[Peggy Martin](#), 2015 Honoree



Please join us in congratulating **Janet McElroy** as our 2016 Outstanding Philanthropist and Volunteer to be honored on November 4 at the Morgan Hill Community Foundation Philanthropy Event at the Community and Cultural Center. To purchase tickets for the Gala, go [HERE](#).

Janet exemplifies our mission of education and equity for women and girls by her leadership in our branch. She has served our branch as President, Co-President, Co-VP of Programs twice, Co-VP of Membership, and on the Leadership Development and Scholarship committees.



Janet McElroy



AAUW MORGAN HILL WINS GAVILAN COMMUNITY SPIRIT AWARD

AAUW is the winner of the Gavilan College 2016 Community Spirit award for organizations in Morgan Hill/San Martin.

The award will be presented at the Chamber of Commerce breakfast on October 6 at 7:30 a.m. at [Mamma Mia's restaurant](#) on Dunne Avenue. Awards are given annually in each of the areas served by Gavilan College to honor the people and institutions that contribute to improving the quality of life in that community.

For information about AAUW activities that led to this award, go [HERE](#).





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WILDFLOWER RUN: MARCH 26, 2017

[Pat Toombs](#), *Wildflower Run Director*

Our 2017 Wildflower Run is already gearing up! It takes a lot of planning to put on the Run, which is our only money-making event that funds our AAUW mission-related programs and scholarships, both local and national. In 2016 we earned and will distribute almost \$49,000, and we hope to do even more in 2017. **This is the one time that we ask all members to volunteer in some way**, whether in the pre-planning stages or day-of-run support; it takes help from everyone to put on this major event.



Volunteering: If you would like to be even more involved in the Run, we still have a few positions available with additional responsibilities. If you have Excel spreadsheet experience or are a good organizer, we want to talk to you!

Please contact either

[Janet McElroy](#), **volunteer coordinator**, or [Pat Toombs](#), to discuss options.

This will be our 34th Wildflower Run. The first race, held in 1984, was for women and girls only, with a turnout of over 200 runners. Last year we had 1000 participants, including women, men, strollers, kids, and a special category for seniors 60+.

For a historical and pictorial perspective on the first 30 years of the Run, click [HERE](#).

For up-to-date Run information, go to www.wildflowerrun.org.

WILDFLOWER RUN SPONSORS

[Barbara Palmer](#), *WFR Sponsor Team Chair*

You've come a long way baby! When I served as Wildflower Run Director from 2004-2008, I thought we could and should be bringing in more money to support our mission for all the work and effort that we put into this event. In order to increase the amount of funds we raised for AAUW Fund, Tech Trek and scholarships, I decided to form a sponsor group that was separate from the previous donation committee. I talked to several people outside of the branch who were into nonprofit fundraising to better understand what we needed to do. This led to the development of a multi-page Presentation Packet that explained AAUW and how Run proceeds were used. We showed this to potential sponsors, and even if we did not get money, at least we made them aware of AAUW and great things we were doing for women and girls. That was the beginning of the structured sponsor



Barbara Palmer, 2004

team that continues today. Now the packet is more streamlined, but it is still personally delivered to current & potential sponsors. It is also available on our [website](#). Its success is obvious: in 2016 a record-setting \$27,550 was raised by this dynamic team!

Please contact me if you would like to serve on the Sponsor Team or if you have a lead on a potential contributing sponsor bf.palmer@mindspring.com.

WILDFLOWER RUN FUND ALLOCATION

[Elizabeth Mandel](#), *Chair*

The branch has approved allocation of **\$48,975** from Wildflower Run proceeds & donations. They include an impressive array of local scholarships, community action grants in support of local non-profit organizations, Stanford Tech Trek camperships for middle school girls, GEMS, and Speech Trek. In addition, we will support AAUW nationally by sending money to the AAUW Fund and working aggressively toward completing our MH Wildflower Run Research and Project Grants endowment.

Thank you to committee members and meeting participants: **Barbara Palmer** (Run Sponsors), **Joan Ensign** (Leadership), **Kathy Hansell** (Re-Entry Scholarships), **Joy Safakish** (Tech Trek), **Mary Ludwick** (AAUW Fund), **Donna Dicker** (Local Scholarships Coordinator), **Marissa Campi** (Keeping in Touch Grants), **Mary Cox** (President), **Pat Toombs** (Wildflower Run), **Peggy Martin** (CFO), **Carol O'Hare**, and **Patricia Kindred**.

For complete details, go to [ALLOCATIONS](#).

AAUW AND LEADERSHIP MORGAN HILL

AAUW-MH believes it is important to develop our members as future leaders in our community, as well as in our branch. To that end we plan to again sponsor a member to attend Leadership Morgan Hill (LMH), class of 2017. For details and application procedure, click [HERE](#). The deadline to submit your application for branch sponsorship is Oct. 16. Funds for the \$1300 LMH tuition sponsorship come from the 2016 Wildflower Run Fund.

Margaret McCann, member of the 2016 class, describes her experience:

“AAUW had great representation in LMH's class of 2016. I was one of three members, along with **Kathy Sullivan** and



Cinda Meister, and we all quickly assumed leading roles. My expectations were different from my cohorts; I was thinking that more leadership training was involved, when in fact the emphasis was more on community awareness and possible future roles in the community. What I did learn,

however, was how a motivated team in a short amount of time can transform a community eyesore into a beautiful park at the Loritta Bonfante Johnson Education Center at Central HS. This is Leadership Morgan Hill's trademark: improving the community with projects while exposing class members to the many organizations and programs that keep Morgan Hill running smoothly. I have come away with a deeper understanding of how the extensive amount of community involvement from many different sources makes Morgan Hill such a desirable place to live.”



Cinda, Margaret, and Kathy at LMH graduation

AAUW FUND: BLAINE/CATE AMERICAN FELLOWSHIP ENDOWMENT

Mary Ludwick, AAUW Fund VP



In 1958 AAUW launched its nonprofit Educational Foundation to manage the Fellowship and Grant programs that had been a hallmark of AAUW since its founding in 1882. In 1971 the Research and Project

Grants program was added. Women in Morgan Hill were inspired by the AAUW mission to empower women and girls to reach their highest potential and founded its own branch in 1981.

In 1991 we celebrated our branch's ten year anniversary – and the 100 year anniversary of AAUW – by establishing the **Blaine/Cate American Fellowship Endowment** for graduate studies. This \$100,000 endowment was named for two of our charter members, Irene Blaine and Barbara Cate. It was completed in 2002, and the first fellowship was awarded two years later.



This year's fellow is Elizabeth Hare, an environmental anthropologist and PhD candidate at UC Santa Cruz. Lizzy's dissertation explores the competing narratives about what this landscape once was and what it could be in the future.

In 2014, our branch established the **Morgan Hill Wildflower Run Research & Project Grants Endowment** (#4403), a \$75,000 fund to continue the good works enabled by our annual Wildflower Run fundraiser. As we celebrate our branch's 35th anniversary in December, we can be proud of the educational opportunities that our endowments offer.



ANNUAL AAUW FUND CA FELLOWS LUNCHEON

Celebrate and honor our 2016-2017 California Fellowship and Grant recipients on Saturday, October 29, (12- 3 pm).

Hear the inspiring stories of the women that our AAUW Fund donations support.

The luncheon takes place at the Crow Canyon Country Club, 711 Silver Lake Dr, Danville. Cost is \$40.

For online or mail-in registration, go to [AAUW CA](#). Deadline is October 17.

[Carol O'Hare](#) will coordinate carpooling.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Jenny Redfern & Maggie Leininger, Membership Co-VPs

Renewed Your Membership?

Our fiscal year runs July 1 - June 30. You can:

- Renew through the national website [HERE](#). It's easy and quick
- Print out the renewal form [HERE](#), complete and send it with a \$94 check to AAUW Morgan Hill to: Maggie Leininger, 15385 La Arboleda Way, Morgan Hill, CA 95037
- Contact [Jenny](#) for help. 408-829-7522



Won't You Be My Neighbor?

What a beautiful day in the neighborhood. On Sept. 10, 75 members and guests, including Tech Trek girls and families, got re-acquainted at our fall membership brunch

Welcome New Members

- **Marilyn Chong** (MA in Special Ed, SJSU) is a special education teacher at Martin Murphy Middle School. She joined after attending a branch program at the library. marilyn.w.chong@gmail.com
- **Kyung Hee Lee** (MFA in Interior Design, Texas Women's Univ.) is already attending Ukuladies. Betsy Ding invited her join. khl218@yahoo.com
- **Danielle Davenport** (BA Economics, SJSU; MS Computer Info Systems, UTexas-Austin), is interested in public policy and is running for a seat on the Gavilan College Board of Trustees. davenport2lydford@yahoo.com
- **Nancy Fishman** (PhD Psychology, Wayne State U.-Detroit) belonged to AAUW member in Michigan before moving to California in April. She learned about our branch from all our Wildflower Run signs. nancy.fishman@icloud.com
- **Judith A. Kenney** (BS and MEd Educ., U of Maine; MA Counseling, SJSU) works as a group facilitator in the County Juvenile Probation department. jkenney5@aol.com
- **Marian Sacco** (BS Chemistry, Marietta College-Ohio; MS Pharmacy Sci., Northeastern U.) is a real estate agent. Monica McClintock encouraged her to join. marian.sacco@gmail.com
- Welcome to returning member **Stacy Forgy**, sforgy1@yahoo.com.

Merry Christmas

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OUR BEGINNINGS- AAUW MORGAN HILL

Carol O'Hare, Historian

Nancy Foster, Charter Member

Nancy's thoughts about AAUW:



"AAUW is a wonderful organization for women to expand their relationships, to increase and use their leadership abilities and to explore their talents with other women. I especially have enjoyed my experiences with interest groups that encouraged greater friendships."

Nancy and Bob came to Morgan Hill for a "one year trial" in 1965 -- and never left. Read Nancy's story [HERE](#).

This is the eighth and last in a series of interviews with Morgan Hill's charter members. The branch will celebrate 35 years in December 2016.

If you missed previous articles, click [CATE GADWAY THORNTON](#) [GREGG GARRETT TARVIN](#) and [TRAN TOW](#)

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MEMORABLE TRAVELS

[Donna Dicker](#), Coordinator

Summer time found many of our members traveling.



Jenny Redfern sent us “one of the corniest photos from the 5000+ mile trip...” that she and Bob took to There and Back, also known as On Route 66. Jenny is posing with the Gemini Giant, a 1950s relic in Wilmington, Illinois a few miles from her childhood home.



Joan Sullivan and Marianne Thornton visited Machu Picchu during a July trip to Peru that included a stay in the rain forest of the Tambopata Reserve.



Lorrie and Scotty Scott took their daughters and their husbands on a trip to Norway and Denmark where they visited relatives.



Hiking in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland is the way **Lori Mains** celebrated her recovery from meningitis. “Many thanks to all of my AAUW friends who helped me battle back.”



Peter and Elena Anderson spent three weeks in the Rajasthan state of India seeing the sites and vaccinating children under five years for polio. The photo shows them going house

to house in a Delhi neighborhood looking for children to vaccinate.

For more travel news from the Andersons, go [HERE](#).

FRIENDSHIP CORNER

[Donna Dicker](#), Coordinator



A big thank you to **Sandra and John Lim** for opening their home for the September brunch. John is looking forward to getting back to the tennis courts after his final chemo treatment.

Wedding bells rang recently for **Nancy Lowe**. Congratulations to Nancy and her husband Doug Martin.

Well wishes to **Pat Egan** who is recovering from surgery to repair heart valves.



Jean Skeels Pinard was featured in the “Stories of the Past” video, presented by the MH Historical Society at the Founders Dinner in September. (Jean was born in MH in 1928.)

Congratulations to **Cinda Meister** and husband Brad Jones on the grand reopening of the new location of BookSmart.



Lila Washington, a longtime branch member, passed away September 27. We will miss her warm smile, generous heart, and how her presence seemed to light up a room. We send our condolences to her family.



Here are photos of AAUW members, **Donna Dicker**, **Peggy Martin**, and **Maggie Leininger**, volunteering at the AAUW Booth on September 24-25 during **The Taste of Morgan Hill, 2016**. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped out during the popular two-day annual event.

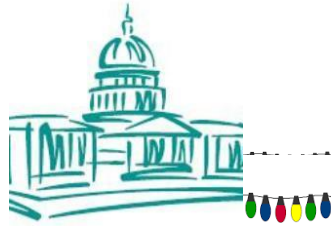


Send items for Friendship and Travel to [Donna Dicker](#)

PUBLIC POLICY: CALIFORNIA PROPOSITIONS

Janet Wright, Acting Public Policy Chair

The AAUW Public Policy Committee has analyzed the **California Propositions**. Five of the seventeen are relevant to AAUW's mission and the Committee has taken positions on them. **AAUW supports 51, 52, 55 and 58, and opposes 53 as it could nullify 51.** The propositions involve (1) funding for education, 2) fees on hospitals used to obtain matching federal funds for Medi-Cal, (3) the extension of Prop 30, (4) the tax on high earners through 2030, and (5) allowing children to be taught for a limited time in languages other than English, if English is not their primary language. **For more info, see the AAUW CA [Perspective](#), pages 14-15.**



Happy Holidays!

In other news, (1) Anheuser-Busch signed the White House Equal Pay Pledge after AAUW circulated a petition urging the company to do so. (2) In a sign of progress, Harvey Mudd College reformed its computer science department to be more inclusive. Women now make up 55% of computer science majors, and 64% of the school's female students accepted a full time job in the technology industry upon graduation. (3) On a discouraging note, Stanford instituted a new restrictive alcohol policy as a result of the Brock Turner case, shifting the blame onto the victims rather than the perpetrators.

Do vote this November & make your voice heard.

LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND: SUPREME COURT CASES

Janet Wright, LAF Chair

In December of last year I wrote about three key cases that were coming up before the Supreme Court that were important in terms of AAUW's mission. These cases have been decided. AAUW signed onto briefs in each case, showing their support.

The most exciting result was in (1) **Whole Women's Health v. Hellerstedt**. This case challenged two Texas TRAP laws that attempted to severely limit women's access to abortion. In a 5-3 decision, the court rejected both laws. Apparently the LAF staff at AAUW headquarters in Washington was dancing in the halls to celebrate this important decision.

The second case, (2) **Fisher v. University of Texas at Austin**, was the court's first race-conscious admissions decision since 2003. The court followed its earlier decision and affirmed the constitutionality of such policies.

However, in (3) **Zubick v. Burwell**, the decision was not as favorable. The court vacated the lower courts' decisions and sent the cases back for reconsideration, offering no guidance on the legal issues raised. Women working for religious nonprofits will continue to lack clarity regarding their access to contraceptives.

AAUW urges all its members to sign its [petition](#) to urge Congress to consider President Obama's nominee for the Supreme Court vacancy.

SPOTLIGHT ON INTEREST GROUPS: SMART E-GALS



Got Questions?

We find answers! Smart eGals welcomes you. We meet with our iPhones and iPads on the second Tuesday of the month from 5:30 pm until 7 pm at Jan Conrey's home to solve each other's queries about our smart devices. We all learn something and enjoy being together. Snacks and sips are provided by alternating members.

Contact [Joan Ensign](#) or [Jan Conrey](#) to let us know to expect you.



Back Row: Doris Bliven, Patricia Kindred, Joan Ensign

Front row: Karen Kinsinger, Pat Egan, Carolyn Wilson, Jan Conrey



Happy Holidays!

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TECH TREK

[Joy Safakish](#), Tech Trek Coordinator

At the September Membership & Neighborhood Brunch, seven young ladies shared their Tech Trek Camp Marie Curie experiences at Stanford this past July.

The girls displayed bright posters showing dorm life and educational activities. They took turns describing various activities, such as the salt marsh field trip and squid dissections. They told us about the onerous job of rolling paper for hours that finally brought rewards as their engineering design creation took form. Listeners heard the campers' comments about Professional Women's Night and how they were inspired to attend college and

tech
trek

consider STEM careers. The girls also enjoyed star gazing, robotics, and forensics. They expressed their gratitude for making their camp scholarship possible.

Many thanks to **Marji McMillan** and **Susan Oldham-Fritts** for helping the girls prepare their presentations.

Would you like to become involved in Tech Trek?

In the coming year there are many ways to help – our **Kick-Off Meeting is October 24, 7pm, home of Joy Safakish.**

Keep watching the weekly emails for more details.

Questions? Contact [Joy](#).



Happy
Holidays!

GEMS, Girls Engaged in Math and Science

[Susan Oldham-Fritts](#), GEMS Coordinator

While the history of Tech Trek is well publicized, how many of you know the **origin of GEMS** (Girls Engaged in Math and Science)? Begun in 2002 by Dr. Lauren Jenkins as Girls Club, our branch funded this 8th-9th grade Tech Trek alumnae program as a "science girl scouts" to follow up the camp experience and expand upon the objectives of Tech Trek. In 2004 Girls Club morphed into GEMS. Eventually, GEMS grew to include 10th-12th graders as the original girls progressed through high school. In 2007, leadership of this program was handed over to Susan Oldham-Fritts.



GEMS is an inclusive program open to all local middle and high school girls interested in one or more of the STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) disciplines. We provide STEM enrichment activities during the school year to our members on a cost-free basis, allowing us to serve girls from all socioeconomic levels. Funded by Wildflower Run proceeds and donations, GEMS is one of the many avenues through which we contribute to the AAUW mission to advance equity for women and girls.

To see the results of GEMS member surveys and read some of the girls' comments, go [HERE](#). To learn more about GEMS, see our [webpage](#).

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Copy Editor: Carol O'Hare
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COMMUNITY EVENTS FALL 2016

1. [Friends of the Library](#), Morgan Hill Library

Oct 18 [Steinbeck](#) Program with Dr. Susan, Shillinglaw, director of National Steinbeck Ctr (7 pm)

Nov 5 Fall Book Sale (10 am – 3 pm)

Dec 13 South Valley String Quartet and annual meeting (7 pm)

2. [Kiwanis Club](#)

Oct 8 15th Annual Cioppino and Pasta Feed, MH Buddhist Community Center (5:30 pm), \$50 or \$25

3. [Learning and Loving Education Center](#)

Oct 8 Gran Festa fundraiser, St Catherine's Parish Hall (3 – 7 pm) \$50

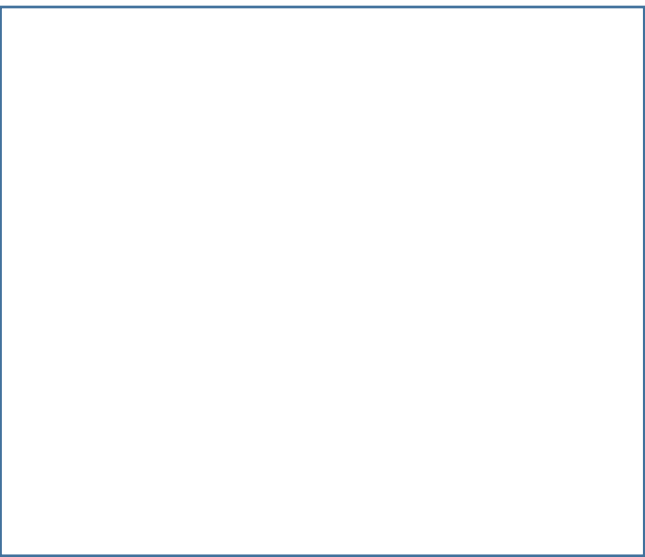
4. [Morgan Hill Historical Society](#), Villa Mira Monte

Nov 4-6 Holiday Boutique 10 am-5 pm, **Nov 3** (6 – 9 pm)

Dec 2-3 Holiday Tea (11:30 am), \$50, reservations required

5. [South Bay Singers](#)

Dec 4 "Love and Joy" Christmas Concert, Gilroy Presbyterian Church (9 pm) \$15



6. [South Valley Civic Theater](#), Morgan Hill Community Playhouse

Sept 30 – Oct 22 "The Little Mermaid Jr," \$16 - \$25

Nov 19 – Dec 12 "The 1940s Radio Hour"

7. [South Valley Symphony](#), Gavilan College Theater

Oct 8 "From Broadway to Hollywood" (7:30 pm), \$25, children/students free

Dec 18 "Holiday Stocking Stuffers" (4 pm)

8. [WERC Wildlife Education and Rehabilitation Center](#)

Oct 15 Wildlife Fest BBQ and Auction, MH Buddhist Community Center, \$45, kids \$10 (12 – 3 pm)

[Other Holiday Events](#)

Oct 31 Halloween Safe Trick or Treat, downtown MH Dunne to Main (5 – 7 pm)

Dec 2 Holiday Concert with combined choirs, LDS Temple, free



See you Next Year