

#### **Elfin Forest Renamed Four Corners**

#### by Arie Franken

September 1, 2001. Only 2 months after the failed Special Tax Proposition S for CSA 107, the San Diego Local formation Organization (LLAFCO) has called Special Study for dividing up of C.S.A.107. LAFFCO coined the name "Four Corners" for this Sphere of Influence and Annexation study area.

LLAFCO staff has been directed to contact each of the four surrounding cities and the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District, asking for a map of the portions they want of CSA 107. This area includes all of Harmony Grove and Elfin Forest.

Escondido and San Marcos preempted LLAFCO. Their land grab maps were prepared several years ago. Both cities have previous studies and plan only to add more land to them. San Marcos officials were most interested in the areas east and north of Elfin Forest Road. Areas not developed as of yet. It would be easier for San Marcos to add their low density developments on those large tracks of land. Escondido states their need for industrial space is still a high priority and Harmony Grove is ripe for new industrial development. Encinitas and Carlsbad officials reported they have discussed this issue before, though not formally. Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District would only be interested in areas South of the Escondido Creek.

Because of the failure of the Special Tax Rate increase, LLAFCO officials said they were forced to call for the study. By 2004 the CSA will no longer be able to fund medical and fire service at safe levels.

See Renamed, page 2

#### **Contents**

Elfin Forest Renamed Four Corners

2 From The Chair

2 Ready Set Gooooo!

Ef/hg Town Council Meeting Minutes 3

> Happenings along the Creek 6 7

**EF News** 

The Way Up Club 8

chaparral by e-mail? 8

How Many New Neighbors Do We Have? 12

> News from Ouesthaven Retreat 13

From The Internet 14

Elfin Forest Classified 15

Elfin Forest Town Council Board 16

> E.F. Calendar - June 2001 16

Save the Fire Dept! Vote 'Yes' on Proposition S on July 24th.

## Renamed, from page 1

Asked why they don't contract with the California Division of Forestry, Nona Barker, president of the Fire Advisory Board said, "Even if the Special Tax increase had passed, the CSA still would be under funded for a contract with CDF. That contract would amount to about 1 million a year. We would have had to double the rate increase to cover it."

LLAFCO officials say the process for the study could take as long as two years. Longer if the cities dispute the land each desire. But the ultimate outcome will be they same.

CSA 107 will cease to exist. Property owners will see the County Service Area 107 portion of their tax bill disappear. Only to be replaced by the respective cities own tax structure.

## Ready Set GoodOO!

#### by Arie Franken

September 1, 2001 - With the overwhelming passage of Proposition S, the Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Fire Dept. Inc. has already begun to flex its newly found community strength. The Fire Advisory Board has directed its staff to begin exploring plans for living quarters that will house fire fighters. This is the first step in providing CSA 107 with 24 hour a day, 7 days a week staffing. The new house will be located on the building pad directly behind the current Fire Station. Response times to any emergency incident will be cut dramatically as the fire fighters won't be responding to the station from their homes. The fire fighters will be living on the property of the fire station.

#### From The Chair

## by Douglas Dill

It was very special having our District 3 representative on the County Board of Supervisors, the Honorable Supervisor Pam Slater, as our guest speaker at the last Town Council meeting. We had a strong turn out to show Supervisor Slater that as a community we are concerned about many local issues that need her attention and support. The Town Council thanks Supervisor Slater and her staff for coming out for the visit.

I can't believe it's almost summer! But that means 4th of July is near. So plan to be in the parade and at the picnic held at the fire station. Mark your calendars for the weekend before July 4th. That's when it's happening.

Can you volunteer sometime to prepare or work at the event? Check inside this issue for more details on how you can help.

One thing nice about living out here in Elfin Forest and Harmony Grove is getting the Chaparral. A few months ago there was an article about a man in Escondido that builds Owl boxes. You install one of these boxes on top of a tall tree or a 20 foot pole on your property an see if you can get an owl to nest in it. Besides being interesting birds, owls are natural rodent control devices. With all the mice and gophers that we share this space with it was worth a try and a great learning experience for the whole family. So that is just what we did. It took a few months after we installed it, but by late April, early May we had an owl with a couple noisy chirping young. Maybe its too early to tell, but it sure seems like there are less gophers digging up the ground around that owl's nest.



Bill Lambert, Owner Personally Supervises Every Job!

Family Owned & Operated Serving North County For 20 years Expert Tree Pruning & Removals Brush Clearing For Fire Prevention



FREE Estimates • Competitive Rates





## **Ef/hg Town Council Meeting Minutes**

by Patti Newton

DATE: May 2, 2001

In anticipation of Supervisor Slater's visit, the Town Council prepared a letter outlining community concerns so that she would be able to address them adequately. The following is a combination of that letter, Slater's response, and recorded topics discussed during the meeting. Town Council correspondence is italicized.

The EF/HG Town Council's primary mission and vision is preserve and enhance the rural life-style we all enjoy in this community. Listed below are the major issues facing our community:

The Town Council requests you support the GP 2020 plan that ELIMINATES the threat to rural residential communities from higher density subdivisions and annexation into adjoining incorporated cities. Specifically:

- (a) The removal of Harmony Grove and Eden Valley from Escondido's sphere of influence;
- (b) A moratorium on all specific plan amendment approvals in CSA 107 until Plan GP 2020 is adopted by the County Board of Supervisors;
- (c) Incorporate all of CSA 107 into District 3

## **Supervisor Slater's Response:**

- (a) The Land Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) and the City of Escondido are working on a comprehensive update of Escondido's Sphere of Influence. LAFCO approved a staff report that includes studying the removal of Deer Springs and Harmony Grove from the City of Escondido's Sphere of Influence.
- (b) Moratorium on all Specific Plan Amendments in CSA 107: A number of communities (including Ramona and Alpine) have asked to have a moratorium on development approvals in their respective Planning Areas. At this time, no formal request has been made to the Board of Supervisors. The Board of Supervisors has never adopted a moratorium as a means to control growth. The Board has adopted "Smart Growth" policies to direct development into areas where the infrastructure can accommodate the growth.
- (c) Incorporate all of CSA 107 in District 3: The Redistricting Advisory Committee is in the process of taking public testimony and input. Supervisors and their staff are not allowed to speak to the Com-

mittee members about the Redistricting process. The next public meeting for the Committee will be on May 8, 2001 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Encinitas Council Chambers at 505 Vulcan Avenue.

The EF/HG Town Council supports raising County Service Area 107 assessment fees to assure the integrity of CSA107, maintain it's potential and improve the EF/HG Volunteer Fire Department service to the community.

## **Supervisor Slater's Response:**

The Fire Department is going before voters in CSA 107 in July to ask their approval on raising the CSA benefit fee. The present fee is \$30.60 a year, and the fee increase would add an \$8.50 increase every year for 15 years. The proposed fee increase would generate a total of approximately \$7 million over the 15-year period.

According to Chief Twohy, the fee increase will allow the department to move to a partially paid staff and provide some housing quarters. Twohy says the increase will help keep the fire department strong, and as a result, help keep Elfin Forest rural. When other cities and critics eye Elfin Forest, they contend the EF fire department can't provide essential services as well as they can, Twohy says.

The proposed fee increase numbers take into account the community growing from about 325 homes to 850 homes. Two developments are in the works, according to Twohy.

Without an increase, the fire department expects its expenses will exceed revenues by the end of FY '03/ '04.

My recommendation is to support the Fire Department putting this question before the voters. If you choose to take a position on the increase, my recommendation is to support it. It only affects voters in CSA 107, the increase will help ward off annexation efforts, keep the community rural, and it's for public safety.

The EF/HG Town Council requests you assist us in helping to maintain the rural character of roads. Downgrade classification of Elfin Forest and Harmony Grove Roads to two-lane rural from four-lane collector. Further:

- (a) Proceed with process to make Harmony Grove Road a scenic route;
- (b) Close unpaved Questhaven Road to through traffic. This pristine Live Oak riparian area will be destroyed by the hundreds (if not thousands) of

Average Daily Trips (ADTs) generated by the San Elijo Hills project in San Marcos.

Elfin Forest and Harmony Grove Roads are designated as four-Lane Collectors in the county's Transportation Element. County Public Works staff has looked into the issue. Based on the most recent traffic counts, staff has recommended the roads be reclassified as Town Collectors at three lanes; however, these two roads would not be three lanes along their entire length. They would include turn-pockets at intersections but would remain at two lanes for travel. There was concern the third lane would become a passing lane, creating a potential safety issue. This action would require a General Plan Amendment, and staff is reluctant to process too many amendments when GP2020 may require more changes.

- (a) Harmony Grove Road is not currently listed on the County's Priority List for Scenic Routes. The Scenic Highway Element of the General Plan (Part VI) provides guidance criteria for designation of scenic roadways.
- (b) County Public Works staff has looked at the vacation of this section of Questhaven Road. This would require construction of a turnaround for traffic that inadvertently takes the road. Staff has indicated the environmental assessment for the vacation is currently in process. The Vacation request could potentially reach the Board of Supervisors for action sometime in Fall 2001.

Quail Ridge Development: - In principle, the Town Council supports subdivisions that conform to existing two-acre minimum zoning. Issues remain that prevent support as it is currently proposed.

County staff indicated the developer submitted a replacement Tentative Map for the project approximately 30 days ago. The revised project reduces the number of dwelling units from 75 to 69 on minimum two-acre lots. The developer is negotiating with Wildlife Agencies regarding the level of environmental review for the project. County staff believes an EIR is necessary because of potential impacts to Gnatcatcher and Coastal Sage habitat. The Draft EIR is slated for circulation and public review sometime in December 2001.

Cielo Norte Development: - The Town Council requests you oppose this subdivision because it does not conform to existing two-acre minimum zoning. The proposed, tightly clustered, half-acre lot sizes are totally out of character with our rural community.

This project has not come to the Board of Supervisors for action. Staff indicates the developer plans to submit maps and plans about mid-May and the EIR should be going out for public review sometime during the Summer, 2001.

Mandate purchase of open space mitigation land by local developers within CSA107.

Typically, the county requires mitigation in the same area if possible, subject to the approval of the Wildlife Agencies. Sometimes, however, it is necessary to purchase land outside the area.

Support the development of multi-use trails that link major recreational parks in the area (Lake Hodges, Coast-to-Crest Trail, Elfin Forest Reserve and Daley Ranch). Support county-sponsored incentives to encourage landowners to allow right of use on their properties to create these trails and for maintenance and landscaping.

The County does support trails and encourages developers to include trails connecting to the County system. For example, Starwood/Crosby Development, as a condition of development, must provide a link to the Coast to Crest Trail. The County also works with willing landowners that will allow trails along the perimeter of their property. The San Dieguito River Park Coast to Crest Trail extends almost twenty miles with the Sikes Adobe as the center point.

Support increased California Highway Patrol funding to provide on-going patrol and traffic enforcement on Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove area roads.

CHP funding is not a county responsibility; obviously that decision will come from the state and from the CHP. However, we can write a letter to the local CHP and our local state delegation, encouraging more CHP funding and patrol on these roads.

Current green trash policy prohibits EF/HG residents from effective weed/vegetation abatement maintenance of parcels and promotes unsafe fire conditions. Re-negotiate EDCO trash removal service contract to allow up to 16 cans of green waste per week from eight. The large lot sizes combined with the requirements for fire safe zones around structures can create a hardship on residents trying to efficiently remove flammable cuttings in a timely manner.

To increase the number of containers for pick-up, you will have make arrangements with your waste hauler; however, you may be asked to pay an additional fee. County staff indicated if there is a particu-

lar time of year when you have more green waste than usual, you could contact your waste hauler and request an additional pick up. You may want to set up a community event and order a dumpster and have the entire community share the cost for the additional green waste disposal. The waste hauler also suggested you temporarily stockpile extra green waste in plastic bags for the next waste cycle.

The Town Council would like the opportunity to provide input into North County MSCP process.

The county welcomes community input to the North County MSCP. Approximately two weeks ago, the Director of the MSCP Division gave a presentation to Planning Group chairpersons. County staff is also available to provide presentations. To schedule a presentation, contact Tom Oberbauer at (858) 694-3700. Individuals can also go to the county's web site and access the MSCP web page for information.

## San Elijo Hills/Issues of Concern

City of San Marcos City Engineer said San Elijo Hills could pay for its mitigation. The mitigation requires San Elijo Hills to construct two traffic lanes of Questhaven Road by the 2,250 dwelling unit. Based on current estimates, the 2,250th unit would be completed in the Fall of 2003. Should we experience an economic downturn, the time line could be extended further.

All the right-of-way with the exception of one parcel has been acquired.

Design is approximately 50% complete.

The estimated cost for the road from the University at Twin Oaks Valley Road to Rancho Santa Fe Road is \$50 million. Based on the most recent estimates, the City of San Marcos is approximately \$10 million short.

One of the biggest expenses is the removal of the rock. Hanson Aggregate may help the city out and take the rock from the first cut. The rough estimate is approximately one million cubic yards of material. Geotechnical studies have to be conducted to determine the exact amount. If Hanson does take the rock, this would reduce the cost of the project, which in turn reduces the shortfall.

The completion of this road is on the city's priority list.

The project requires new permits because of the length of time since the project was originally approved. There are no major concerns about the permits.

The city is committed to stopping construction if the project gets to the 2,250 dwelling unit and the road is not completed.

The reason for the shortfall is that the city would like to build the entire road at one time rather than having the developer only provide the first two lanes while the city waits for funding for the remaining two lanes.

The following question was answered through open discussion and Q&A.

Promote regional major road improvements in North County that do not encourage suburban sprawl into rural communities. Support the Twin Oaks Valley Road connection to San Elijo Hills in San Marcos. Support expanding capacity of the Del Dios corridor through the San Dieguito Valley.

The county is not able to add a lot of new roads to the North County area. The issues surrounding the incomplete Route 56 are a case study in associated problems. Slater is confident that a north/south freeway between I-5 and I-15 will not happen. Routes 67 and 125 are more likely and are under consideration. What North County lacks is a decent east/west corridor. The county is looking at augmenting and upgrading existing (and problem) roads. Several cities are actively participating on committees (including Caltrans) to hammer out regional solutions which don't burden any one area unduly. It looks as though there will be no more than seven new roads created. Attempts to get better ridership on the Coaster are underway. Some Elfin Forest residents have been working with the county to create a "loop": road around (rather than through) Elfin Forest, an idea the county likes. Another idea under consideration is the development of a road paralleling Palomar Airport Road.

Fire Chief, Frank Twohy thanked Pam Slater for the \$12,000 grant to the EF/HG FD.

Leonard Wittwer thanked Slater and the Board of Supervisors for its recognition of The Escondido Creek Conservancy's efforts to preserve land in the Escondido Creek watershed in honor of National Wetlands Month. Slater stated she is interested in TECC projects and suggested it contact her office for funding opportunities.

## Q & A:

Re Cielo Del Norte project -- how will those residents access the project? Del Dios Highway? Elfin Forest Road? Suggested residents comment on EIR to register concerns.

Harmony Grove Spiritualist Assn. registered concerns over the continual flooding problem and inadequacy of the bridge.

Harmony Grove seeks Slater's support in asking LAFCO to support removal of same from Escondido's sphere of influence.

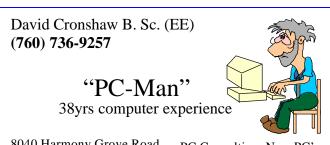
Do the traffic numbers for San Elijo Hills, i.e., the 2,250 trigger for road improvements take into consideration traffic generated by commercial development? John Weil will research and respond.

There is growing concern over the dangers associated with the EF/HG Road turn (near old fire station), i.e., road needs to be widened and potholes filled. Slater promised to have the Dept. Of Public Works evaluate the whole road for improvements.

Community requested more stringent enforcement of truck traffic using roads.

Harmony Grove resident suggested the extension of Citracado Parkway in lieu of installation on SC1375. Interested parties may request free subscription to the newsletter, Slater Slate" by calling Slater's office.





8040 Harmony Grove Road Elfin Forest, CA 92029 email: pcman@tfb.com

PC Consulting, New PC's, Upgrades, S/W Installations. Networking, Troubleshooting

## **Happenings along the Creek**

by Deb LeLevier

Thank You to the Elfin Forest Community Foundation A great big thank you goes out to the Elfin Forest Community Foundation for choosing to fund three of TECC's grant proposals! Our first funded grant will purchase new office equipment- computer, fax, copier, & scanner- to replace our aged & ailing machines. The second funded the Trash Hotline & tipping fees for another year. And the third will purchase Bioassessment Sampling Equipment to initiate our macroinvertebrate water quality-testing program. Staff recently attended a 3-day San Diego Stream Team workshop & TECC is now a member of this exciting citizen monitoring group. Benthic Macroinvertebrate (bugs) testing assesses the degree of health or impairment of creeks & streams.

Of note: the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) has required the co-permitees to add Benthic Macroinvertebrate testing (in addition to their regular chemical testing) of creeks in the new Storm Water Permit. Read more about this in the Summer edition of TECC's Watershed Voice (If you are not on our mailing list and would like to receive our quarterly newsletter, please send your mailing information to teccsters@msn.com.

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! To EFCF for seeing the value in our requests, sharing our vision, and providing the funds for TECC to reach its goals. Thank you!

## **TECC's Annual Spring Wildflower Hike**

Was held on Saturday, April 28 and was well attended by 17 friends & neighbors. President, Leonard Wittwer began the hike by displaying maps & outlining the boundaries of TECC's newly acquired 76 acres, adjacent to the Reserve.

After crossing the creek, the group toured the TECC owned property, then headed southwest & upward, circling back to the top of the Elfin Forest Reserve, and ended by heading down the Way Up Trail. The hike lasted three and half-hours, the weather were perfect, and the flowers spectacular. One special sighting was a rarely seen white Nightshade (purple is the one more commonly found). Dudleya, Monkey Flower, Owl's Clover, Blue Dicks, Rockrose, Indian Paintbrush, Miner's Lettuce (a favorite salad ingredient of one of the hikers!) and many more

flowers too numerous to list were identified & enjoyed. Several hikers brought along flower guides including the Flowering Plants of the Santa Monica Mountains, Coastal & Chaparral Regions of Southern California by Nancy Dale, which is one of the best guides available for plant identification. Watch for announcements of future TECC hikes. Hope to see you out on the trail "smelling the roses!"

#### In brief:

In celebration of National Wetlands Month, TECC was honored by Supervisor Pam Slater for its work in preserving the Escondido Creek & its watershed. President Leonard Wittwer attended the ceremony at the County Board of Supervisors meeting & brought home a handsome certificate of recognition.

## **Calling all Volunteers**

It's trash (pickup) time again in the watershed! We need able-bodied folks to help for a few hours on a Saturday morning in June (exact date to be determined). "Old" volunteers: come on back! New volunteers: we sure would like to have you aboard (our trash truck!) Rumor has it that people actually enjoy these community cleanups! Call TECC today (you don't want to be left out!) @ 471-9354 or e-mail @ teccsters@msn.com to sign up. It's our neighborhood, so let's all join in to clean it up!

#### **EF News**

by Evelyn Alemanni

## **June Town Council Meeting**

The fire department will present its proposal for Prop. S. This is a meeting you don't want to miss. Bring all your questions about increases in rates and what they mean to you and your community. We'll also have an update on what's happening in Harmony Grove.

#### **Elf Alerts**

Are you getting your Elf Alert? If you recently changed your email address, you might be missing out.

Elf Alerts are email notices about issues that need your immediate attention. They don't replace the newsletter, but supplement it.

If you are not receiving them, please send your email address to Alemanni@allea.com and ask to be put on the list. Don't worry, the emails are sent as blind CCs, so your address is not made public, and we don't share the list with ANYONE!

#### **Garden Club**

Join us Questhaven Retreat, 20560 Questhaven Rd. at 10 am on June 16 for guided nature walks in this most unusual, pristine setting. Botanists have called it one of the finest examples of the "elfin forest"



chaparral in existence. Meet at the parking lot near the office. After the hike, you'll have a chance to see nature-inspired artwork by several Questhaven artists.

Want to host a meeting? Contact Evelyn Alemanni, 471-7224 or Alemanni@allea.com.

## **University Commons EIR**

The town council has obtained a copy of the EIR for University Commons, the project which extends from Rancho Santa Fe Rd. to San Elijo Hills and which will add many more hundreds of homes and commercial/industrial sites. If you would like to volunteer to review all or some of this EIR, please contact any town council board member.

## 4th of July Parade and Picnic

This year, the parade and picnic are on Sunday, July 1.

Remember how much fun this event has been for the last 22 years? Start thinking about what you're going to do to help continue this wonderful community tradition. Please call Marty Benowitz at 591-4404 to volunteer your time. We need people to sell advance tickets, help on Saturday with setup, to help with the parade, to cook and serve food, organize and run games, donate raffle and silent auction prizes, and help clean up afterwards. This is a great way to get to know your neighbors and have fun.

## **Batiquitos Lagoon Foundation Second Saturday Speaker Series**

Learn more about the environment and your community at the Batiquitos Lagoon Foundation Nature Center! We will be hosting speakers on different environmental topics every second Saturday at 10am, free to the public.

Call (760) 845-3501 or check out our website at www.batiquitosfoundation.org for more information.

Contact:

Batiquitos Lagoon Foundation Nature Center Christina Simokat, Nature Center Manager 7380 Gabbiano Lane Carlsbad, CA 92009

## Kids' Saturdays at Batiquitos Lagoon!

Come find out more about The Creatures of Batiquitos Lagoon every third Saturday from 10 to 11am! We'll have special walks and talks for the kids, and parents are welcome! Join us at the Nature Center for these free ongoing events. Refreshments will be served, and afterwards take a stroll through Batiquitos Lagoon, or find out more about the Foundation from the docents and staff. Call (760) 845-3501 or check out our website at www.batiquitosfoundation.org for more information.

## The Way Up Club

#### By Deb LeLevier

Friday, May 4, 2001 was the inaugural hike of the "Way Up Club", the brainchild of Elfin Forest's own Dr. Elizabeth Keithley. The "goals" of the club are to get in shape and enjoy nature and the camaraderie of friends. Eight neighbors, The Jacksons, The Swenertons, Betsy Keithley, John Olsen, Virginia McManus, & Deborah LeLevier attended the first outing. Also enjoying the fun were K-9 companions: Orleans, Madison, Dolly, Matt, & Cressa.

After a self-paced hike up the "hill" in the Reserve, wine, cheese, fresh bread, & chocolates were enjoyed while viewing a spectacular sunset. An "almost full" moon lighted the way down- along with moon shadows & glowing "bugs" (thought to be extra terrestrial).

Such a nice time was had by all that the following Friday brought out another group of eight enthusiastic hikers & their pooches.

Please join us! There are no dues, officers, or bylaws. All's that is required is your desire to participate! When? Every Friday night. We meet at 6:15 P.M & the hike begins @ 6:30 P.M.- until the days get longer. Where? The Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve. Park on the road, since the gates will close before we come down. Bring a flashlight, a walking stick if you like, your favorite beverage & snack. Hope to see you there!

## chaparral by e-mail?

#### by David Cronshaw

If you're not already receiving a **full color** copy of the *chaparral* by email, **in addition to** the regular hard copy, send an email note to **efchaparral@yahoo.com** and I'll add you to the list.

# Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Town Council 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade 2001

Yes, neighbors, it is parade time again! Pull out your decorations, costumes, bikes, and tractors. Bathe your dogs and horses, grab the kids and join the parade. It's better to be in the parade than to watch so don't be shy.....JOIN THE FUN!!!

This year's theme is 'Celebrating Our Rural Lifestyle In Elfin Forest."

#### Prize Categories are:

- 1. Girl's Bicycle best decorated bicycle ridden by a girl
- 2. Boy's Bicycle best decorated bicycle ridden by a boy
- 3. Man's Best Friend You decide what pet best fits the description
- 4. Horses The best in the West
- 5. Parade Theme Float Celebrating Our Rural Lifestyle In Elfin Forest
- 6. Music Man Best musical entry
- 7. Automobiles Do you have a classic car from the last century?
- 8. Tractors Do you have an old tractor, new tractor, garden tractor....Join the Parade!
- 9. Other Motorized Vehicles decorated golf carts, quads, motorbikes, etc.

**DATE**: Sunday, July 1<sup>th</sup>

**LINEUP** 1pm at the usual spot between Fortuna Del Norte and the Pickard's.

Look for the decorated red pickup.

PARADE STARTS 2pm

Get your creative juices flowing and make this parade the best yet!!!

For more information, call:

Kathy Pickard 744-1447 Linda Hamilton 744-7952

## **Arguments in Favor of Proposition S**

**The Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Fire Departments revenue** from the current special tax is marginal. The current Special Tax was approved by the voters in 1982. The current Special Tax requires augmentation with grants, private donations and numerous fund raising activities. Even with these combined efforts, fire, rescue and medical service requirements are rapidly exceeding available funding. As a result, in late 1999, the Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Fire Advisory Board began developing an approach to analyze the future of C.S.A 107 and the Fire Department.

The Boards concerns centered on the departments ability to continue to provide the highest level of fire, rescue and emergency medical services to the communities of Elfin Forest and Harmony Grove and thereby assuring the autonomy of our communities. Neighboring Cities have already attempted to annex parts of our community. Annexations would further reduce the Fire Departments revenue and drastically change our communities rural character.

In response to the Fire Departments urgent need for increased long term funding, a strategic, operational and financial plan which includes a recommendation to increase the existing special tax rate for CSA 107 was developed.

This Special Tax increase proposed for a typical home on 2 acres works out to be about 65 cents a week. 65 cents is less than your weekly newspaper, and much less than your morning cup of coffee.

## Benefits of the plan:

Preserves the quality of the community's rural atmosphere

Ensures the continuity of the Elfin Forest and Harmony Grove communities

Enhances delivery of fire and emergency medical services

Provides state-of-the-art fire apparatus and advanced medical equipment

Provides 24/7 staffing of the department

Helps maintain property values

Helps reduce insurance premiums

Contributes to faster response times

Facilitates Advanced training of staff

Elfin Forest *chaparral* 10 June 2001

<sup>\*</sup>All expenses for this special ballot measure, including but not limited to, the consultant, brochure, printing and election cost were paid for with private grants, donations and other fund raising activities. No special tax money was used.

# IMPORTANT DATES FOR PROPOSITION S

Event	Date	Day	Time	Place
PUBLIC WORKSHOP	June 6	Wednesday	7 p.m.	Fire Station
LAST PUBLIC WORKSHOP	June 11	Monday	7 p.m.	Fire Station
OFFICIAL BALLOTS MAILED	June 22 – 25	Saturday – Monday		Your home
Community Parade and Picnic	July 1	Sunday		Fire Station
LAST DAY to register to VOTE in this election	July 8	Sunday	Registrar of Voters Office closes 5 p.m.	
ELECTION Day	JULY 24 <sup>th</sup>	Ballots must be received by 8 pm at the	Registrar of Voters	NO POSTMARKS ALLOWED

## **Propostion S Workshops**

The workshops are designed to give you the information you will need to make an educated decision when it comes time to vote on July 24, 2001.

May 31 Thursday 7 PM

**June 6** Wednesday 7 PM

**June 11** Monday 7 PM

All expenses for this special ballot measure, including but not limited to, the consultant, brochure, printing and election cost were paid for with private grants, donations and other fund raising activities. No special tax money was used.

## **How Many New Neighbors Do We Have?** by Kim Hunter

Well that's a long story! Yesterday, May 9th, I talked to Jeff O'Conner of San Elijo after two of John's Trucking Big Rigs tried to demolish my car by running San Elijo stop signs. Nona was behind them and mimed a panic driver attack as she followed them. Good thing! If she hadn't made me laugh, I might have stormed the new San Elijo Community center, instead of waiting to calmly call San Elijo. Jeff said they were aware of the ongoing problem, had requested Sheriff assistance, and he was on his way to a construction meeting where the contractors would be told again to knock it off. Thank you, Jeff!

Then I said I had one quick question about the golf course. Jeff said he reads the Chaparral, I misquoted him and therefore he would not answer any of MY questions. Which leads to my 2 cents this month.

I immediately pulled the latest Chaparral and found my name under an article about how many homes are occupied in San Elijo and the difference between a loose "sold" and a concrete "closed escrow". OK, I swear to Jeff and everyone else reading this, that Jeff told me about 30 homes had actually CLOSED escrow on April 9th, 5 days after San Elijo publicized a claim of 130 homes "sold". What the heck did I miss and miss-quote?

Now I like Jeff, believe him to be honest, and quite frankly view him as a necessity to San Elijo relations because he is the only one who conveys a sense of honesty, integrity, and hope of goodwill to others. Only Jeff could make me backtrack, and ponder whether I had voiced an untruth about San Elijo......and what the heck was IT?

Out of respect for Jeff, and with a sense of duty to rectify any misinformation, I ventured into the depths of San Elijo. So here's the numbers from May 9th.

Shea has at most 35 in, or in the process of moving in; 3-5 available; with no further occupancies available until approx. November. Carmel has 7 or 8 moving in or just moved in, 2-3 available now, with a future 10 available for move-in at the earliest September. I didn't talk to Western Pacific, as San Elijo maliciously had them call the cops for trespassing the one and only time I tried to view their models and the sales lady recognized me from public hearings and immediately called Curt, then proceeded to put my 9 yr. old into

unwarranted hysterics and waisted taxpayer money over a false report.

However, a new move-in resident said "only the houses with grass in front have buyers closing escrow." My 12 yr. old counted 18, while I watched my rear-view mirror, and wished we had covered my Elfin Forest car sticker.

So there you go! By my family's count 35+8+18 =61. 3398 total units - 61 means San Elijo has 3,337 units left to go, plus commercial, schools, institutional and maybe a golf course, clubhouse, and related facilities like hotel, restaurant etc. Ahh! why are they only contemplating 4 lanes and when will we ever even see that much????

And Jeff (since you are reading this), as things progressed from April 9th to May 9th, numbers will change again by the time you get this issue of the chaparral. Please feel free to publish your numbers in our paper. And do not ever think, I would purposely print an untruth. Never ever is that my intent! Instead perhaps we need clearer communication, And more of it so that nothing gets misconstrued. Cutting off communication is NOT a neighborly thing to do.We need to resolve not dissolve.



#### SUSAN HILL REALTOR®

(858) 756-4481 BUSINESS (858) 759-0116 FAX (858) 756-9377 HOME shillcb @ aol.com E-MAIL





6015 PASEO DELICIAS, P.O. BOX 2225 RANCHO SANTA FE, CA 92067

Independently Owned And Operated By NETT Incorporated.

#### chaparral Advertising Rates:

One-time rates:	Y early rates:
1" x 3.5" - \$5.00	1" x 3.5" - \$36.00/year
2" x 3.5" - \$7.50	2" x 3.5" - \$55.00/year
5" x 3.5" - \$12.00	5" x 3.5" - \$115.00/year
1/2 page - \$20.00	1/2 page - \$165.00/year

Community, Non-Commercial Classified Ads: 1" x 3 1/2"(approx. 4 lines): no charge - must be resubmitted every 3 months.

## **News from Questhaven Retreat**

#### by Evelyn Alemanni



#### **Meditation Class:**

The Way Within class meets at noon to 1:00 p.m. in the Academy on the first and third Wednesdays of each month.

Prayer and Meditation: Weekly, Wednesday at 7:15 p.m. - Meet in Chapelito.

#### **Exploration in Prayer Classes**

Bi-monthly, 2nd & 4th Wednesday at 12:00 noon -Meet in the Academy. Prayer is communion with God. When properly done, prayer is an opening of the inner door. This series of classes will focus on the necessary steps to prepare us for communion with God's Presence.

## MEGA ARTE DRESSAGE SCHOOL

## Meg Brown

Certified Dressage Trainor

Full training for horse & rider Show quality lesson horses

One-Hour Private Lessons @\$35 hourly





Nature Retreat June 16 and 17

Open House Saturday, June 16 from 10:00AM to 4:00PM

10 AM - Guided tours and nature walks.

12 PM - Picnic lunch. Bring a sack lunch.

12 - 4 PM - Friendship House hosts an "open studio" creative experience for you to express your revelations of nature in any art form you enjoy, including painting, photography and writing. Bring your own art supplies. You will also have a chance to see and purchase nature-inspired artwork by Questhaven artists.

Light refreshments will be available.

#### **PROGRAM**

May 27 - Preparing for Life's Highest Adventure -Diane O'Connor

June 3 - Spirits of Summer - Evelyn Alemanni

June 10 - The Princess: From Rebirth to Redemption Nancy McCormick

June 16, 17 - Nature Retreat - "Revelations in Nature"

June 16 - Creative exploration in nature and the arts

June 17 - The Green Gospel: Revelations from the Book of Nature - Rev. Jonathan Wiltshire

June 24 - The Aura: What Is It?, It's Function and How to Improve It Rev. Bette Harper

## **Sunday Services**

Sunday worship is at 10:45 a.m. All are welcome. Tape recordings of all Sunday services are available for rental or purchase.

Ouesthaven Retreat is at 20560 Ouesthaven Rd. 760-744-1500. Visit us on the Internet at http//www.questhaven.org.

#### **From The Internet**

Heavenly Ducks....

Three guys die in an accident and go to heaven. When they get there, St. Peter says, "We only have one rule in heaven. Don't step on the Ducks!"

So they enter heaven and sure enough, there are ducks all over the place.

It is almost impossible not to step on a duck and although they try their best to avoid them, the first guy accidentally steps on one.

Along comes St. Peter with the ugliest woman he ever saw. St. Peter chains them together and says, "Your punishment for stepping on a duck is to spend eternity chained to this ugly woman."

The next day, the second guy accidentally steps on a duck and along comes St. Peter, who doesn't miss a thing, and with him is another extremely ugly woman. He chains them together with the same admonishment as the first guy.

The third guy has observed all this and not wanting to be chained for all eternity to an ugly woman, is very careful where he steps. He manages to go months without stepping on any duck.

One day St. Peter comes up to him with the most gorgeous woman he had ever laid eyes on a very tall, tanned, curvaceous, sexy blonde. St. Peter chains them together without saying a word. The guy remarks, "Wonder what I did to deserve being chained to you for all eternity?" She says, "I don't know about you, but I stepped on a duck."

## **Living In Elfin Forest**

by Remi, age 8

Dancing in the moonlight, moonlight Dancing in the moonlight with stars aglow

Hiking up the hillside, hillside, hillside

Hiking up the hillside where wild animals go.

Sprouting like an oak tree, oak tree, oak tree Sprouting like an oak tree. Watch me grow!

Swinging from a treetop, treetop, treetop Swinging from a treetop and seeing all below.

Looking for elves, yes elves they live here. Looking for elves everywhere I go.

Know they're on the mountain top, mountaintop, mountain top

Know they're on the mountain top and Valley below.

Loving our waterways, people, and forests.

Loving me too, This I know!

Living in the best place, best place, best place Living in the best place. Feel it from head to toe!



#### Elfin Forest Classified

## **Local Baby, Animal and House Sitters**

Brittany York - EF Resident, RSF School 8th grader, 1Yr experience. Tel: 760-752-7784

Aubrey Brennecke - EF Resident, High School Student - 9th Grade. Tel: 752-9988.

#### Ski Utah!

2 Br. 2 Ba. condo on historic Main St. in Park City. Sleeps 7. One block to town lift or take free shuttle for 10 minute ride to Deer Valley. Call: Swenertons @ 471-4312

## Wanted - Horse Training Facility

Professional horse trainer with clientele is seeking a training facility - 858-720-9997

#### **Guest House for Rent**

Separate 1brm. plus loft, 1 ba. on quiet street (Faraway Lane in Elfin Forest). \$1150 plus utilities. Available June 1st. Contact Mike or Nancy Biele 744-4347

## **Aquariums For Sale**

Large Breeding Aquarium, glass with enclosed wood stand 15"x48"x18"tall approx. 200 gallons. I also have a large show aquarium, glass with wood stand,10"x36"x18"tall approx. 100 gallons, filters, pumps etc. \$100 each or make me an offer I can't refuse. Jerry 760-471-9339 (jerry@elfinforest.net)

#### **GPS For Sale**

Magellan GPS 2000 XL, rugged and solid little unit tells you where you are with great accuracy.

Includes owner's manual and Lawrence Letham's fine book "GPS Made Easy". Thought I should give fellow Foresters and Geocachers first crack at it before EBAY. \$70 or best offer by the 30th of the month. Jerry 760-471-9339 (jerry@elfinforest.net)

#### Winter Rental Needed

Looking for a short term rental October to April/May in Elfin Forest. Single story preferably with horse corral oppotunity.

Call 760 942 7826. Tensie Coassin

## Try the HOT new Sport of K-9 Agility!

It curbs boredom, destructive behaviors, weight problems, and is just plain FUN for dog & handler! Suitable for any breed and any age (as long as Rover is physically sound). Don't have a dog but want to "play"? Trained "loaner" dogs available for class; this is a great way to build confidence in a child or adult! Does your child want a dog? Let him/her learn first about all aspects of dog care & ownership. Also available, classes including: "good manners", basic obedience, pleasant walking on a leash, come when called, preparation for therapy work, Canine Good Citizen Test, special problems, grooming, diet, and TRICKS! Specializing in teaching children, Contact Deborah LeLevier @ 471-0917.

## **Canyon Del Oro Access Control Project.**

Concerned about the growing cut-through traffic between Elfin Forest and Olivenhain? Send an email to canyongate@elfinforest.net to join the discussion group of volunteers working to restrict access to neighbors and residents who have legitimate business using this road.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

To attend a fund-raiser dinner & concert. All proceeds will benefit The Escondido Creek Conservancy's Land Acquisition Fund.

The date: Saturday, July 28, 2001.

Look for more information in next month's issue.

Questions? Contact Nancy Reed, event organizer, @ (760) 471-7933.



BULK RATE U.S. POSTAGE PAID Escondido, CA 92029 Permit No. 779

Elfin Forest & Harmony Grove Town Council 20223 Elfin Forest Road Elfin Forest, CA 92029

#### or current resident

#### Paid up? Check label! Send check to the above Elfin Forest Town Council address

#### E.F. Calendar - June 2001

Date	Time	Event
Tuesdays (12 <sup>th</sup> & 26 <sup>th)</sup>	1:30pm to 3:30pm	Bookmobile @ Firehouse
1st Tue, (5 <sup>th</sup> )	7:00pm	Fire Training @ Firehouse
1 <sup>st</sup> Wed (6 <sup>th</sup> .)	7:00pm	E.F.T.C Forum @ Firehouse
Every Friday	10:00am -Noon	Playgroup.
2nd Mon (11 <sup>th</sup> )	7:30pm	Fire Board @ Firehouse
2nd Wed, (13 <sup>th</sup> )	7:00pm	Fire Auxiliary @ Firehouse (check).
3rd Tue, (19 <sup>th</sup> )	7:00pm	Fire Training @ Firehouse
Last Sat (30 <sup>th</sup> )	9:00am	Fire Training @ Firehouse TECC Spring Flowers Hike @ EF Reserve

## **Elfin Forest Town Council Board**

Board members: Evelyn Alemanni 471-7224, Doug Dill 736-4333, Linda Hamilton 744-7952, Mid Hoppenrath 747-1145, Nancy Reed 471-7933, Patti Newton 471-8937, Bill Telesco 746-4692, Elizabeth Wood 744-2594

The Elfin Forest chaparral is published monthly by the Elfin Forest & Harmony Grove Town Council Board and distributed to residents of the Elfin Forest and Harmony Grove communities for a \$15.00 annual subscription. Check the mailing label for your subscription expiration date. If it has expired please send a check, payable to the Elfin Forest Town Council, 20223 Elfin Forest Road, Elfin Forest, CA 92029. For subscription or address label corrections, send email to efchaparral@yahoo.com or call David Cronshaw @ 736-9257.

Articles for publication should be sent to David Cronshaw by email to efchaparral@yahoo.com or fax (call first) to 736-4524 by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month for inclusion in the next issue. Anonymous articles will not be published. Space limitations may cause articles to be held over to the next issue or edited for brevity. Articles considered unsuitable for publication will not be published.

The Board gratefully acknowledges help from Susan Cronshaw towards production and distribution of this newsletter.