



Dedicated to a Continuing Rural Atmosphere

July Town Council Meeting Date

Please note the changed date! Because the July 4 holiday falls on our regular meeting date, the meeting date has been changed to the following **Wednesday, July 11**. Our guest speakers will be from the Olivenhain Municipal Water District. They will give an update on the dam(n) construction and traffic.

June EF/HG Forum Minutes

by Patti Newton

DATE: June 17, 2001

OPEN FORUM: Evelyn Alemanni passed out ballots for the 26th annual “Orchids and Onions” awards, organized by volunteers from a host of professional design organizations to sharpen public antennae and encourage discussion about what constitutes “good” regional or urban planning, design and good solutions to environmental problems. Marty Benowitz encouraged anyone interested in volunteering for Fourth of July picnic tasks to call him at work 591-9700 or at home 591-4404. Joan Hershfeld announced the fire auxiliary meeting is next Weds. At 7 p.m. for those interested in participating. Kevin Barnard, of Harmony Grove, presented the Power Point program prepared for LAFCO (Land Agency Formation Commission) regarding the industrialization of 900 acres in the area. The Harmony Grove/Eden Valley Citizens Group was formed to create a planning group because it was excluded any county planning group's area of concern. Another issue of concern is HG's area is split between two supervisorial districts

See Minutes, page 2

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**Invest in our Communities
Safety and Future
Vote YES on Proposition
S on July 24th**

Minutes, from page 1

(Slater and Horn). An effort is underway to incorporate the area into Slater's district. Redistricting is currently under revision. There is a need to create a more unified coalition of area groups, i.e., EF/HG Town Council, Eden Valley, and HG to represent community concerns and interests. A coalescing of these entities would result in a more powerful political body. Incorporation of the HG name into the EF Town Council was a recent first step toward that end. Sue Varty discussed the OMWD's proposed rate reductions and why she is opposed to the plan. Sue thinks the plan, as proposed, is unfair because it forces owners of larger parcels (like EF) to subsidize others. There is little, if any benefit to EF residents. Because the bulk of rate payers who benefit in the four other districts, it is unlikely Sue's vote will have any influence.

ITEM 1.: The Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Fire Department, and its consultant, Greg Lowry, presented its position on Proposition S. On July 24, 2001, the EF/HG FD will ask CSA 107 voters to approve an annual increase in the existing Special Tax Rate. If passed, it will become effective on July 1, 2001 and continue escalating each year through June 30, 2015. Benefit units (in the amount of \$8.50/acre) will be capped at an eight-acre maximum. In the first year, the tax rate will be \$34/benefit unit. The second year it will double to \$68, year three will triple to \$204; until by year 15, the amount will max out at \$510 annually thereafter. Frank Twohy and Nona Barker explained the department's rationale for the funding. Among the reasons, the area is a prime target for annexation by surrounding cities, an issue the community has vigorously fought off in the past. Cities will attack essential services first; a volunteer fire department is perceived as a weakness. The City of San Marcos has told LAFCO the EF/HG

FD is not able to respond to emergency incidents in a timely manner. It positions itself as better equipped to manage the CSA. Twohy and Barker agree that approval of Proposition S sends a message that the community is willing and able to fund its own services, negating the need for outside services. Other benefits of the plan as described by the EF/HG FD are: Preservation of the quality of the community's rural atmosphere; ensures the continuity of the EF/HG communities; enhanced 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; assist in reducing insurance premiums; contributes to faster response times; facilitates advanced training of staff.

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EF/HG News

by Evelyn Alemanni

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 Saturday July 14, 2001 10:00AM at Elfin Growers for a tour of their growing grounds. (corner of Elfin Forest Rd. and Elfin Forest Lane and end at 20022 Elfin Forest Road for refreshments hosted by Rachel and Rob Barnes.

Questions? Call 760-471-4952.

The garden club has no officers, membership requirements or dues. We get together monthly to share the joys and challenges of gardening in Elfin Forest. Want to host a meeting? Contact Evelyn Alemanni, 471-7224 or Alemanni@allea.com.

University Commons

The developer of this project has told us that they are purchasing the Huff property as one of their open space mitigation parcels. This is 110 acres adjacent the landfill. The property connects to other parcels being purchased as open space for the Villages of La Costa project, so it is a very good choice.

July Holiday Parade and Picnic

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

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 or 591-9700 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.

The town council will have Elfin Forest license plate holders, mugs, wine glasses, and T shirts for sale. In

addition, David Cronshaw is creating CDs with PDF files of Chaparrals going back several years. This is a wonderful historical archive of Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove events that you'll want to own. You may order one by email to efchaparral@yahoo.com or at the picnic. The cost is \$10 for the complete archive CD.

If you don't want to stand in line for picnic tickets on Sunday, contact any town council board member and purchase tickets early. Kids are \$5, adults \$8. Or stop by the fire station on Saturday afternoon, June 30, and purchase your tickets then.

Orchids and Onions

Vote yea or nay on local buildings

By Ann Jarmusch

ARCHITECTURE CRITIC

June 3, 2001

If you've noticed a building, park, signs or a community face lift you enjoy seeing or using -- or think it should have been done more thoughtfully, or perhaps not at all -- your annual chance to express yourself is here.

It's time to vote for San Diego County's 2001 Orchids & Onions community awareness program, the people's choice awards for positive and negative additions, deletions or omissions to our built environment.

Now in its 26th year, Orchids & Onions is organized by volunteers from a host of professional design organizations to sharpen public antennae and encourage discussion about what constitutes "good" regional or urban planning, design and good solutions to environmental problems.

The building(s) or project(s) you nominate by the ballot printed here or on-line will be reviewed by this year's panel of judges, all San Diego County residents, none of whom is a professional designer. Their crop of winners and losers will be announced at a public awards celebration Oct. 18.

The evening awards event is a win-win situation, even for those bearing up under Onion awards. While the Orchid & Onions roster rewards responsible planning, architecture and design in our fast-growing county, proceeds also benefit the nonprofit Christmas in April program, which assists people in need with home repairs and maintenance.

For more information, call (619) 232-0109 or visit (and nominate projects on) the Orchids & Onions Web site at www.gather.com.

See EF News, page 4

EF News, from page 4

Send nominations to Orchids and Onions, 233 A St. Suite 200, San Diego, CA 92101 or fax to 619-232-4542. Note to our elves: isn't there a project you're familiar with that deserves a nomination? Please take 5 minutes and make your vote count.

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Equestrian Manners

A person who recently moved to Elfin Forest was heard telling someone, "This is an equestrian community and that means I can ride wherever I want." As a long time Elfin Forest resident, this is news to me.

Many community members have worked with the trails committee and the Elfin Forest Foundation to create trails, and private home owners have dedicated easements through their properties to avoid the problems of trespassing. Fortunately, most of our equestrians are thoughtful and respectful people who would never consider riding across anyone else's property without permission.

But there are some who think nothing of riding on other people's driveways, garden paths, private roads and "dropping a load" without so much as a "do you mind if I...." Others have gone riding equipped with wire cutters and bolt cutters to compromise the integrity of fences. You know who you are. Please don't spoil it for everyone. The whole community will appreciate your thoughtfulness when you're careful and respectful not only of property rights, but of other people's privacy when you ride.

Just another thought: if you use the trails, please consider donating some of your time and materials to help maintain them.

Rancho Santa Fe Opposes Vacation of Elfin Forest Rd. Easements

For more than two years, the town council has been working with the county to vacate the easements of Elfin Forest Rd. that permit it to be widened to 4 lanes. We do not need more than 2 lanes. Harmony Grove Rd. should not be widened due to its topography, biology, and proximity to the creek. The county completed a study supporting this action.

The May 10 issue of the Rancho Santa Fe Review contained an article stating that the RSF Association strongly opposes the reclassification of the roadways. Jim Ashcraft, chairman of the association's road and traffic committee said, "The Association is vigorously opposing this action because maintaining

the surviving remnants of an already severely inadequate roadway circulation system is crucial to this community as well as to the entire mid-North County area. Given the vast number of already approved developments in the area of Elfin Forest, it is in insanity to eliminate critically needed planned future roadway improvements. He urged those who oppose the vacation of the easements to write to San Dieguito Planning Group chair, Ken King, POB 2798, RSF, 92067.

It is galling that the developers who live in RSF and are largely responsible for creating the traffic mess by not paying their share of infrastructure costs are promoting the destruction of our community. Please, take the time to write to Ken King at the address above to support keeping Elfin Forest Rd. as it is, and vacating the easements.

Newsletter

The *chaparral* is an important way to keep you informed of what's going on in our community. It's your best resource for news about Elfin Forest and Harmony Grove and the issues affecting us. It is also the town council's primary means of raising funds. Unfortunately, copying costs have increased 50%, and postage has increased as well. We don't want to have to increase the subscription price! So, if you have not yet paid for your subscription, please do so right away. Mail your check for \$15 to the Elfin Forest Town Council at 20223 Elfin Forest Rd.

Please contact David Cronshaw (email: efchaparral@yahoo.com) if you have any cost saving ideas - we already use bulk rate postage, and have copies made at Office Depot.

Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove nominated for Scenic Americas 2001 Last Chance Landscapes Program

Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove has been nominated for Scenic America's 2001 Last Chance Landscapes program. Finalists will be announced on Monday, November 19, 2001 at a national press conference in Washington, DC. Finalists will receive personalized press kits and copies of the 2001 Last Chance Landscapes publication for distribution to their local media.

Scenic America keeps people informed about scenic conservation issues at the national, state, and local levels. The Last Chance Landscapes program reflects the challenges to Americas communities and countryside as well as potential solutions. Scenic America believes that citizen groups have a profound effect on the scenic beauty, economic health, and livability of their communities.

Prop S Ballots

by Nona Barker

By the time you are reading this, the Proposition S ballot should be in your hands. Please Vote and mail your ballot back to the Registrar of Voters.

If you need more information on Proposition S before you vote, go to the Proposition S booth at the community's Picnic on Sunday, July 1. You may also telephone the following:

Chief Frank Twohy: 471-8825. Nona Barker: 471-5559, Susan Cronshaw: 736-9257, Byron Macfarlane: 471-1235, Rob Hill: 744-0505, Bob Kephart : 471-0689, Tim Costanzo: 744-9053, John Hershfeld: 591-9653

**Now is the time
TO VOTE
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ON PROP S**



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Happenings Along The Creek

by Deb LeLevier

TECC receives Grant for \$16,390.00

TECC has once again been the fortunate recipient of a grant. This one is for \$16,390.00 and will be used for planning on the newly acquired 76- acre preserve.

The grantor is The San Diego Foundation Blasker Rose-Miah Fund. The money will be used to conduct a biological survey to inventory and map the existing natural resources of the recently acquired 76-acre Escondido Creek Preserve; To prepare an enhancement plan for the degraded habitat within the 76-acre parcel; and to prepare a long-term habitat management plan for the 76-acre parcel and Escondido Creek natural corridor.

The San Diego Foundation has been very good to TECC and once again we thank them from the bottom of our hearts. Thanks also to our dynamic duo-Martha Blane & Ann Beck-Witte- for their volunteer efforts in successfully writing the grant!

Elfin Forest Community Foundation Grants Follow-up

Last month TECC reported on its receipt of 3 separate grants. As I write, I am enjoying the pleasure of our new computer & its “fixings”. It is heavenly! The difference between our old equipment & the new is like night & day on different sides of the equator! Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! to the members of the EFCF.

Our Bioassessment Equipment has been purchased & already put to use. Last week our Stream Team spent two full days in the field collecting samples from Escondido Creek and Agua Hedionda Creek. There will be more information on this project in our Summer edition of the Watershed Voice. When the samples are processed, a full report will appear in the Chaparral.

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! to the members of the EFCF for sharing our vision & making our work possible.

The Trash Hotline continues as usual. Be expecting calls for volunteers for our next community clean-up or contact us at 471-9354.

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! again to the members of the EFCF.

What is CSA 107?

by Nona Barker

If you look on your property tax bill you'll see on the right a box stating all the different taxes that your property tax bill includes. Look for CSA 107.

CSA stands for County Service Area. A County Service Area is an Unincorporated area of San Diego County with a special tax attached to it. Our area is designated # 107.

County Service Area 107 is your fire department and only your fire department. Not San Marcos, not Escondido City. Yours. Elfin Forest and Harmony Grove!

County Service Area 107 is:

- 1) the legal boundary of the Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove area
- 2) the legal boundary of the Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Fire Department
- 3) the mechanism the local voters approved in 1982 to collect the special benefit tax for the Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Fire Department.

How it works:

Every April and December you pay your property tax. The portion of your property tax bill collected for County Service Area (CSA) 107 is put in a County of San Diego special fund. This fund is managed by the Special Districts Department of the County of San Diego.

Each month, the Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Fire Department submits a claim form to Special Districts for money spent. Each month the Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Fire Department receives a check back from Special Districts.

Any questions?

Please call:

Chief Frank Twohy 471-8825

Nona Barker - 471-5559

Susan Cronshaw 736-9257

Byron Macfarlane 471-1235

Rob Hill 744-0505

Bob Kephart 471-0689

Greetings, Nona T. Barker; email: ecllamas@aol.com or nbarker@eaglecreek.com.

July Playgroup Schedule

by Mary Moore

July 6th at Victoria Kindel's home, 20177 Fortuna del Este (510-1943). We'll celebrate Morgans 4 year old birthday and Amandas 2 year old birthday. If you'd like to bring gifts, please donate them to San Diego Rescue Mission Woman and Children's Center. You can bring the unwrapped gifts to the Kindel's home.

July 13th at Mary Morres, 19919 Fortuna del Este (591-3080)

July 20th at Dare Delanos, 21622 Crestwind Drive (752-1361)

July 27th at Scotts Valley Park in Encinitas.

The Way Up Club

By David Cronshaw

Keep fit, enjoy a social activity and the long summer evenings. The Way Up Club meets every Friday evening at 6:15pm at the EF Recreational Reserve parking lot to walk up the Way Up Trail (park your vehicle up along the roadside because the gate will be locked when you get back down. Bring a drink and a snack to enjoy at the top. A flashlight might come in handy too. Call 471-8515 for information.

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 July Holiday Parade Saturday, July 1st 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 1th

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

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.

PROGRAM

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

July 1 One Nation Under God - Rev. Elizabeth Wood

July 8 Creative Imagination: Doorway to Awareness - Rev. Jonathan Wiltshire

July 15 Color Influences Our Outer and Inner Lives - Rev. Susan S. Cary

July 22 The Leadership of the Soul - Rev. Blake Isaac

July 29 A Greater Blessing - Evelyn Alemanni

August 5 Adventurer in Faith - Rev. Elizabeth Wood

August 12 The Perfecting of Our Lives - Rev. Phyllis Isaac

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.

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

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

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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. Classes forming now in your own neighborhood. Privates sessions also available. Adults welcome too as long as they are young at heart! Contact Deborah LeLevier @ 471-0917.

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chaparral Advertising Rates:

One-time rates:

1" x 3.5" - \$5.00

2" x 3.5" - \$7.50

5" x 3.5" - \$12.00

1/2 page - \$20.00

Yearly rates:

1" x 3.5" - \$36.00/year

2" x 3.5" - \$55.00/year

5" x 3.5" - \$115.00/year

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.

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Elfin Forest & Harmony Grove Town Council

20223 Elfin Forest Rd., Elfin Forest, CA 92029

June 25, 2001

Subscription Invoice

Dear *chaparral* subscriber,

If you already sent in your *chaparral* subscription for this year (July 2001 - June 2002), thank you. If not, your subscription to the *chaparral* is no longer current. If you're not sure, check the subscription expiration date on the address label on the back page. To ensure you receive the community newsletter in 2001-2002 please send a check for \$15.00, payable to "Elfin Forest Town Council", to the above address. If you think our records are in error, and sometimes they are, please call David Cronshaw @ 736-9257 or send an E-mail to efchaparral@yahoo.com.

Note: It is the policy of the Elfin Forest Town Council that no-one should go without a monthly copy of the *chaparral* because of financial hardship. Community residents wishing to receive a complimentary copy if the *chaparral* because of financial hardship should contact the Town Council @ 471-8937.

Proceeds from the sale of the *chaparral* may be used by the Elfin Forest Town Council Board to fund community events or other items the Board considers to be worthwhile investments for the community. A planned budget for the year is published in the February edition of the *chaparral*. If you have any questions about how your money will be used, feel free to ask any Board member.

Sincerely,

Elfin Forest Town Council

Please return this portion with your payment to help us keep our records accurate.

Date:

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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 - July 2001

Date	Time	Event
Sat 1st		Annual Picnic and Parade
Tuesdays (10 th & 26 th)	1:30pm to 3:30pm	Bookmobile @ Firehouse
1st Tue, (5 th)	7:00pm	Fire Training @ Firehouse
2 nd Wed (11 th .)	7:00pm	E.F.T.C Forum @ Firehouse
Every Friday	10:00am -Noon	Playgroup.
2 nd Mon (9 th)	7:30pm	Fire Board @ Firehouse
2 nd Wed, (11 th)	7:00pm	Fire Auxiliary @ Firehouse (check).
3 rd Tue, (17 th)	7:00pm	Fire Training @ Firehouse
Last Sat (28 th)	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 15th 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.