



Forest & Harmony Grove *chaparral*

Dedicated to a Continuing Rural Atmosphere



From The Chair

by Bill Telesco

The past month has seen various meetings between Olivenhain Water District, County Water Authority and the residents of Elfin Forest and Harmony Grove to discuss the Dam project and related issues. On November 5th., at the Town Council meeting both organizations gave presentations and answered questions from concerned citizens. The issues of traffic, truck safety, the light on Harmony Grove Road and when the project will be completed were discussed. The project is in its final 18 months of construction and there will be a major increase in truck and car traffic on Harmony Grove Road. Everyone must be extra careful when driving and be alert for trucks that speed or violate safety rules.

Our next Town Council meeting is December 5th and will be the Christmas Dessert Potluck, please show up and enjoy an evening of fun and food. The following meeting of the Town Council is a very important one. Our new County Supervisor, Bill Horn will be the guest speaker. Let's all show up and have our questions answered about where Elfin Forest-Harmony Grove is heading in the future.

Just a reminder that the Town Council Elections will be held in February 2002, if you are interested in running for the board please let us know. We need help in many areas, so why not join and help move our com-

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chaparral by e-mail?

by David Cronshaw

If you're not already receiving a **full color**, PDF format, copy of the *chaparral* by email, **in addition** to the regular hard copy, send an email note to **efchap-**

Why are Americans so united? They don't resemble one another even if you paint them! They speak all the languages of the world and form an astonishing mixture of civilizations. Some of them are nearly extinct, others are incompatible with one another, and in matters of religious beliefs, not even God can count how many they are.

Still, the American tragedy turned three hundred million people into a hand put on the heart. Nobody rushed to accuse the White House, the army, the secret services that they are only a bunch of losers. Nobody rushed to empty their bank accounts. Nobody rushed on the streets nearby to gape about.

The Americans volunteered to donate blood and to give a helping hand. After the first moments of panic, they raised the flag on the smoking ruins, putting on T-shirts, caps and ties in the colors of the national flag. They placed flags on buildings and cars as if in every place and on every car a minister or the president was passing. On every occasion they started singing their traditional song: "God Bless America!".

Silent as a rock, I watched the charity concert broadcast on Saturday once, twice, three times, on different TV channels. There were Clint Eastwood, Willie Nelson, Robert de Niro, Julia Roberts, Cassius Clay, Jack Nicholson, Bruce Springsteen, Sylvester Stallone, James Wood, and many others whom no film or producers could ever bring together. The American's solidarity spirit turned them into a choir. Actually, choir is not the word. What you could hear was the heavy artillery of the American soul. What neither George W. Bush, nor Bill Clinton, nor Colin Powell could say without facing the risk of stumbling over words and sounds, was being heard in a great and unmistakable way in this charity concert.

I don't know how it happened that all this obsessive singing of America didn't sound croaky, nationalist, or ostentatious! It made you green with envy because you weren't able to sing for your country without running the risk of being considered chauvinist, ridiculous, or suspected of who-knows-what mean interests. I watched the live broadcast and the rerun of its rerun for hours listening to the story of the guy who went down one hundred floors with a woman in a wheelchair without knowing who she

Imperceptibly, with every word and musical note, the memory of some turned into a modern myth of tragic heroes. And with every phone call, millions and millions of dollars were put in a collection aimed at rewarding not a man or a family, but a spirit which nothing can buy. What on earth can unite the Americans in such a way? Their land? Their galloping history? Their economic power? Money? I tried for hours to find an answer, humming songs and murmuring phrases which risk of sounding like commonplaces. I thought things over, but I reached only one conclusion. Only freedom can work such miracles!

Christmas Party Host Needed

by Mary Moore

We need someone to volunteer to host a Christmas party for our playgroup either December 14th or 21st. Toni did an excellent job last year, but we really need to share this responsibility. It would be a shame not to have one. Please call or e-mail me as soon as possible if you can do this, or with suggestions.

Also, Toni has volunteered to do the playgroup schedule starting in January since I'll be having our new baby boy. Hopefully I won't be out of touch for too long.

Subscription Reminder

by Susan Cronshaw

Some of Elfin Forest is still in the LAST CENTURY.....please check your expiration date. Are you getting a copy in a previous owners name? Let us know. Have new neighbors? Introduce them to our paper and let us know so that we can add them to the mailing list. The chaparral is an important means of local communication and needs to be as current as possible, but we often do not know about homeowner changes. Please call 760 736 9257 with questions, changes, or comments. Copy costs have more than doubled and the bulk mail permit went from

Upcoming Town Council Meetings

December 5 - Holiday Desert Potluck, update on Cielo del Norte. Be sure to bring your favorite dessert to share. This meeting is a lot of fun - bring the kids!

January 2 - Bill Horn - 5th district supervisor. We will take nominations for the town council board. Start thinking about helping your community by serving on the board.

February 6 - Fire board meeting and elections.

Bylaw Change Proposal

Because of the volume of projects that the town council works on, we are proposing to add two additional board members. This will be discussed at the December meeting and will be placed on the ballot in February.

Want to be on the Town Council Board?

It's time again to start thinking about serving your community by participating on the town council board of directors. Nominations will be taken at the January meeting. Each director is elected for a two year term and commits to attending board meetings and community meetings. In addition, each director heads up at least one project and arranges for the speaker(s) for one community meeting. This is a wonderful way to get involved and make a difference. If you have questions about serving on the board, please call any of the current directors.

Website

The brand new Elfin Forest Website is up and running, and being improved every week. Check it out at efhgtc.org. You can list your business in the Links section for only \$10 per year!

Holiday Gift Ideas

The town council has new "elf wear" for sale. T shirts with a beautiful new logo designed and printed by Trinity Products (Bob Goetz of Elfin Forest) proudly announce "Keep it Rural." Lots of us wore the shirts to a recent board of supervisors meeting to help get the point across. These shirts are gray and available in small, medium, large and extra large. Cost is \$10. We also have visors and baseball caps with the "Keep it Rural" slogan, and of course, the wonderful license plate holders, wine glasses

who has made available packets of narcissus bulbs. These are gorgeous bulbs, 6 per package, 17 cm. Squirrels and gophers DO NOT eat them. They grow in full sun to a height of 24". The flowers are pale yellow with a bright yellow center and look somewhat like paperwhites. These would do well planted along the trails, because they need no water in summer and naturalize. Only \$2.50 per package.

You can reserve your bulbs via email (Alemanni@allea.com) and pick them up at the December town council meeting.

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!

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December 7th: More Babies on the Way in January of 2002! Shower for Mary Moore & Michelle Sidwell @ the beautiful home of the Goetz. Please RSVP Rose @ 744-2299. 2:00-4:00 20780 Fortuna Del Norte

December 14th: Holiday Party! Join the Playgroup Parents & Kids @ the Parman's. Talent show, X-Mas Pageant, gift exchange & Ho Ho Ho. R.S.V.P. Zana. 4:30-? 752-9599 or parmanranch@aol.com. Whoever would like to participate in the gift exchange, please note each child's name & age. Need Talented People - volunteer to sing, dance, play an instrument! Bring your favorite Holiday Food & Beverage to Share. 19856 Fortuna Del Este.

December 21st: Time to Play! Last event of 2001... Anna Waite's Home 1465 Paint Mountain Road 752-1835. 2:00-4:00

December 28th: Time to Rest! Playgroup on Holiday Break. Happy New Year!

Elfin Forest Landscape Project

by Lynda Clerke

Full steam ahead!! The final drawings are in and the placement/positioning of the walls have been approved. We will begin contacting residents who own property along Elfin Forest Road to obtain written approval for tree planting and wall construction. Frank Oddo and I will begin calling the week of November 26th.

Initial clean up will soon begin. We greatly urge all residents to PLEASE take some time NOW to clean up their property. This project is about keeping Elfin Forest beautiful. Disposing of overgrown shrubbery, old building materials, trash and other waste products would be greatly appreciated.

In last months newsletter I did not identify the people in the picture shown below our article. From left

Is your backyard wild yet?
We have everything you need to attract nature to your garden—field-tested seed; bird-friendly houses, feeders and birdbaths; plus a large selection of birding scopes and binoculars to help you enjoy it all. **Visit us soon!**



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regarding the landscape project. Your suggestions and concerns are always welcome.

Quail Ridge Development

by Phil Young

The Quail Ridge Development Committee met on November 14, 2001, in response to receipt of a Notice of Preparation of Environmental Impact Report for this project. Basically, the Committee objected to a number of aspects of the proposed development, including walls and guard houses at the road entering and exiting the project; regional trails in the project; severe disruption of the land forms by grading up to 60 feet off of the tops and ridges of mountains; inadequate drainage and septic studies; and, most importantly, the massive disruption of wildlife corridors and the biological impact on plant and animal species. The Committee seeks your input. Anyone who has any suggestions or specific problems, or has specific positive comments that they would like incorporated in our ongoing discussions with the county, should contact Kathy Pickard, the Committee President, at 744-1447.

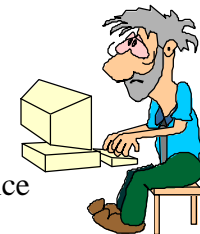
Get Your Questions Ready for Bill Horn

by Kim Hunter

Supervisor Horn will be visiting Elfin Forest soon. I would hope our residents recognize how his beliefs will effect our lives. You know me, I always have questions and opinions. What about you? What do you envision for the future and how do you see us getting there? How will our Supervisor's views strengthen or weaken us? And can we find balance? This is an opportunity to influence our future. Let's make the most of it. Be there and be prepared. Only then can we vote intelligently in the future.

David Cronshaw B. Sc. (EE)
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Please send your tax deductible donations & renewals by December 31, 2001 to :TECC, PO BOX 460791, Escondido, CA 92046

Stream Team

With the arrival of fall, the San Diego Stream Team is preparing for its biannual water quality sampling. The recent rainfall has set us back a few weeks, but our Escondido Creek Watershed Team (AKA the SDST iDream Team!) plans to complete their work by December 6th. Two sites will be tested on our creek and an additional two on Agua Hedionda Creek.

While complete, scientific results of the spring sampling are not yet ready for publication, we do have preliminary results. As expected, the Escondido Creek is in an impaired condition. A low number

vari category; these are ones that have high tolerance to sewage, nitrates, and other types of urban runoff and pollution.

More specific data and updates will be available in 2002. Also look for a more detailed SDST update article in our upcoming edition of the Watershed Voice.

Interested in volunteering your time with the prestigious SDST? Please contact TECC @ teccsters@yahoo.com, by phone @ 760-471-9354, and check our website for articles and updates: www.escondidocreek.org

Whatever your interests or talents, TECC has a volunteer opportunity waiting just for you!

Garden Club

by Evelyn Alemanni

The calendar for 2002 meetings is now being compiled. Would you like to host a meeting? We generally get together on the second Saturday of each month at 10 a.m.

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. Contact Evelyn Alemanni, 471-7224 or Alemanni@allea.com.

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Tis the season to count one's blessings, be merry and give gifts. I am very thankful as of late; we in Elfin Forest are so blessed with so much. We have the natural beauty of the sage covered hills, large lots, dark skies, a tight knit community and a delightful Mediterranean climate. This last item is a special set of geologic, climatic and oceanic happenstance that allows for gardening year round. It also makes gardening here different than most of the rest of the world. Much of the gardening media on the market does not address our special climate. But a special group of publications does address southern California gardening. They make perfect holiday gifts for the gardeners on your list.

Sunset has numerous items, many available at local home improvement and bookstores. I have had a subscription to the monthly magazine for over 20 years and much to the chagrin of my husband, I never toss one out! The gardening section includes a monthly to do list, construction projects and new trends, tools and plants. Sections on travel, home improvement and cooking also make this my favorite mag. The Sunset Western Garden Book is the bible of many a southern California gardener. It was completely revised and updated this year. Sunset also has the Western Landscaping Book and Problem Solver to round out the trio. Sunset can also be reached at www.sunset.com and at 800-526-5111.

My personal favorite is written by Del Mar treasure Pat Welsh. Southern California Gardening, a month-by-month guide is simply the best book for southern California gardening on the market today. The month-by-month format, down to earth explanations and simple solutions are invaluable. The book has an easy to read format, excellent index and in-depth discussions not found anywhere else. Gardening is addressed from an organic point of view, but not to the exclusion of chemicals if necessary. Better living through chemistry is no longer an appreciate motto. But, chemicals are useful if used sparingly after organic methods fail. I have had the pleasure of attending several Pat Walsh lectures; if you ever get the chance to hear Pat Walsh, do not pass it by. Pat Welsh's Southern California Gardening, a month-by-month guide is available at Barn's and Nobel and Armstrong's.

dening guide. Bruce and Sharon Asakawa's California Gardener's guide is new and has had much good press. Both are available at Barn's and Nobel.

Now if you have any time left to garden this month you can plant bare-root roses, berries and vines, plant camellias and bulbs that have been chilled. Keep planting cool season flowers and veggies (see list from previous Chaparral). Prune natives, raspberries, and grapes and fruit trees. Water if no rain, turn off the sprinklers if it does. Start compost and mulch trees and to stop weeds.

Lastly, I wanted to thank some very special folks who make life worth living. Becca, my lab is my friend and constant companion. She doesn't dig the yard up and sits with me for hours while I work and garden. My horse Classic, who has given me hours of joy I thought I'd never experience. Not to mention tons of manure for compost. My best friend Suzanne helps me garden, decorate and have fun. She is always there for me. My daughter Danielle is a joy. It is a privilege to be her mother. And my husband Jerry, who makes it all possible. Jerry puts up with me getting dirty whenever possible, stealing his truck and returning it dirty, and lets me dream big. Thank you Elfin Forest for your beauty, rural nature and friendliness. Happy holidays to every one, may God bless and keep your gardens green.

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Weekly - Meditation

Weekly, Wednesday at 7:15 p.m. - beginning in October Meet at El Chapelito, Led by Jean Michalewicz. Meditation is a sacred time to build the bridge into Divine Reality. You are welcome to join in meditative attunement and prayer.

Bi-Monthly - The Way Within Meditation

1st & 3rd Wednesday at 12:00 Noon - beginning in October. Meet in the Academy, Led by Rev. Phyllis Isaac. The Way Within Meditation classes continue in its third year. All who have participated have found the power of group meditation and prayer of great value and we invite others to join us.

Bi-Monthly - Exploration in Prayer

2nd & 4th Wednesday at 12:00 Noon - beginning in October. Meet in the Academy, Led by Rev. Elizabeth Wood. Prayer is communion with God. When properly done, prayer is an opening of the inner

- Dec 2 The Whole Armor of God Rev. Phyllis Isaac
- Dec 9 Stewardship for Christ Rev. Blake Isaac
- Dec 16 The Lord is My Shepherd Rev. Elizabeth Wood

Christmas Retreat


- Dec 21 7:30 p.m. Candlelighting Service
- Dec 22 Activities to bring us closer to the Christ
- Dec 23 10:45 a.m. - Christmas Joy: Christ's Perpetual Light Upon Us Rev. Jonathan Wiltshire
- Dec 30 Twelve Months of Discipleship Evelyn Alemani

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>.

Study groups meet on weeknights in Oceanside, San Marcos, and Escondido, and on the Retreat grounds. Please call the office for times and locations.



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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

With regard to speeding, I believe that community-requested radar traps (or other types of speeding enforcement) have often backfired on the very residents whose representatives had requested them. Admittedly anecdotal, but over the years I've noted that where law-enforcement statistics on such activities were reported, they indicated that the majority of issued tickets ended up with local residents. 80% was a figure that sticks with me, although I don't know if this is typical. Certainly I don't know how many residents are in the HGR hinterland.

Those of us that live here are going to be aware of horses, driveways and the bicycle traffic. Horses are an area where many city folk are sadly oblivious due to simple unintended ignorance. A radar trap won't help with that. Maybe non-standard signage would.

The increased heavy-traffic volume (re cement trucks) during the day would probably reduce traffic speeds since EFR & HGR are double-yellow end-to-end; the risk of incidents may be more affected by density & restricted through-vehicle visibility rather than speed. Perhaps concerns are mainly with this heavy commercial and other vehicles associated with the dam project. Can a "Rent-a-Cop" legally target only certain types of road user, and if so is this the intention?

There is little evidence that speed ticketing improves driver awareness, safety or indeed consideration of other road users, except temporarily for the individual so convicted. They do provide a good revenue source for city or state, and boost insurer profits. However no doubt that the fact & reports of the continuing & conspicuous presence of a prowling cruiser may of themselves be effective in keeping things subdued; but would Officer Rent-a-Cop be using a regular black-and-white or his girlfriend's Honda Accord? Prevention better than cure...

Hearsay is that CHP & police officers don't tend to ticket at less than 7 or 8 mph over posted limits, except in school zones or during urban purges. Very few people don't speed every trip even on this basis, and I'd say a majority roll stop signs. I'm not sure our local population is so different, even or especially in this the main artery into/out of & through their own neighborhood.

It may prove fruitful to look into the relative effec-

tion may be based on considerations similar to those listed above, or just the result of economic or manpower concerns. Many CHP officers are very savvy about traffic patterns & driver behavior. If they offered any perspectives it would be useful to include such in any decisions or plans made. Whether specific areas are prone to certain types of accidents is a simple example of info they might provide. The idea of providing "protection" needs careful consideration if it is to be effective rather than symbolic.

Finally, we shouldn't forget that we have most of the control over local safety via our own driving habits. The most dangerous places for road users are near to their homes so there is one area we can improve ourselves. Apart from head-on collisions (especially common in good conditions in daylight) & reckless or substance-impaired drivers, the major risks to all are from vehicles entering, exiting (or turning around on) rural roads to sideroads or driveways, anything where a vehicle impedes, interrupts or crosses the flow of traffic. Again that means us, our guests and our service folks. What we can all do is be proactive in safely entering & leaving our driveways or sideroads: -Giving ample and proper turn signals (adding hand signals if we think it makes sure we're seen), both in time & distance (which will probably exceed the 100ft recommended in the CA driver's guide, certainly BEFORE we position the vehicle and start to brake); -Doing our best to make good use of our mirrors to see what's going on behind and around us before turning; -Not pulling out of driveways or sideroads in front of other vehicles forcing them to slow (in spite of law changes that make this OK sometimes); -Observing oncoming vehicles long enough as they approach to judge their speed and not just their distance; -Positioning our vehicles well especially for left turns both to be seen & to allow vehicles to pass on the right when possible; -Slowing down & giving wide berth around horses, joggers or cyclists. This also shows others the "country way".

If we want the area to be safer, let's start with us, over whom we do have control, and improve our interactions with other transiting & dam-related road users, over whom we don't. Indirectly, I suspect that attention to our road behavior, maybe with a dash of

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.

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Newcomer to Elfin Forest seeks to join existing regular poker game or to identify at least five persons who would be interested in playing poker monthly or bi-weekly on a regular basis. Call Alan @ 471-8011

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Horse Boarding Facility

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Elfin Forest & Harmony Grove Town Council
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E.F. Calendar - December 2001

Date	Time	Event
1st Wed (5 th)	7:30pm	EF/HG Town Council Forum
Tuesdays (11 th & 25 th)	1:30pm to 3:30pm	Bookmobile @ Firehouse
1st Tue, (4 th)	7:00pm	Fire Training @ Firehouse
Every Friday	10:00am -Noon	Playgroup.
2nd Mon (10 th)	7:30pm	Fire Board @ Firehouse
2nd Wed, (12 th)	7:00pm	Fire Auxiliary @ Firehouse (check).
3rd Tue, (18 th)	7:00pm	Fire Training @ Firehouse
Last Sat (29 th)	9:00am	Fire Training @ Firehouse TECC Spring Flowers Hike

Elfin Forest Town Council Board

Board members: Evelyn Alemanni 471-7224, Linda Hamilton 744-7952, Mid Hoppenrath 747-1145, Nancy Reed 471-7933, Alan Lasnover (471-8011), Kim Hunter (744-0670), Bill Telesco 746-4692, Elizabeth Wood 744-2594

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Articles for publication should be sent to David Cronshaw by email to efchaparral@yahoo.com in plain text format 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.