



Dedicated to a continuing rural atmosphere

From The Chair

By Mid Hoppenrath

By now I'm sure you have heard the good news that the Rancho Santa Fe School District Board has declined to enter into an agreement (memorandum of understanding) with a developer to promote their development in exchange for a free school site in Elfin Forest. Many thanks to the town council's Quail Ridge (aka Sage Hills) subcommittee for all their hard work on behalf of the community. Thanks also to Superintendent Lindy Delaney and RSF school board members Jim Depolo and Richard Burdge for taking the time to attend our September town council meeting and listen to our feelings.

At the September meeting the community also met the SunCal development team who will be building Harmony Grove Meadows. It was great to have an opportunity to explain our concerns about sewer and density before the development is planned.

You have probably also heard that the first place community in our size category in the America in Bloom contest was again Lewes, Delaware. But our community did very well, and as we said all along, the experience of working together to further beautify Elfin Forest is worth the effort of competing. Again, thanks to all who participated. As Henry Kaiser said, "Live daringly, boldly, fearlessly. Taste the relish to be found in competition -- in having put forth the best within you."

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Town Council Meeting – Wednesday, October 5th @7:30PM
At The Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Fire Station

Topics: Lennar Homes – Extension of Bridges Project and SEWER!
Also, Jet Ridge update.

Our Gardens Are The Best

By Eric Anderson

Our America In Bloom (AIB) special mention states: "Its private gardens come as close to paradise on earth as seems attainable." We really do have some of the best private gardens around and Elfin Forest received a rating of four blooms (out of five). I want to thank everyone again and again for all the effort. I am delighted and proud of the participation, hard work, planning and how nice our community looks. We did the most possible to win.

But the main thing I want to say is what a fantastic job Evelyn Alemanni did for America In Bloom. She created our brag book, got us tons of PR exposure, got us organized and focused on what we needed to do. Evelyn created a presentation poster board for display at the symposium; it was a masterpiece.

Everyone at the recent AIB National Symposium and Awards Program in Cleveland raved about our community, the gardens and how much they would like to visit. As a judge, Evelyn has really improved the national AIB program (and if they use all her ideas it will really improve). Evelyn gave several presentations at the symposium (I think more than any one else). They were very professional and interesting.

The weather in Cleveland was beautiful 78° and was actually a great place to visit. The botanical garden was fantastic. I especially enjoyed the Children's Garden (which we are doing over at Quail Botanical Garden in Encinitas now). The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum is located in Cleveland, so Cleveland really *Rocks!* Thanks again for letting me do this project and represent us.

Calendar For October

Date	Time	Event
Weds 10/5	7:30 PM	Town Council Meeting
Tues 10/4, 10/18	7 PM	Fire Training@Firehouse
Weds 10/12	7 PM	Fire Auxiliary @MaryGarman's House
Mon 10/10	7 PM	Fire Board@Firehouse
Sat 10/22	8 AM	Fire Training@Firehouse
Sat 10/1 9/15	10 AM	Bookmobile@Firehouse
Every Thurs	6:30 PM	Yoga@Firehouse

Our Day Will Come

By Cheri Smith

Of course it's disappointing to learn that Lewes, DE has taken the AIB prize again. And while we know how much was gained in our entering, in all that we did as an end in itself to beautify, strengthen and celebrate our community, still I think we ought, at some future date, try again. Our September town council meeting was one of the most inspiring experiences of community involvement one could ever hope to be part of! The lively overflowing crowd, the articulate and impassioned voices, our preparation (with Patti Newton at the helm) took what was probably a foregone conclusion and turned it around. Would we have had a video of that meeting! It'll live in our hearts and minds as testimony to what involved citizens can do to shape their community.

We made a huge and gallant effort with this last AIB competition. Evelyn's Alemanni's leadership was what every community hopes to have in with all her extraordinary organization ability, creativity, passion, and hard work. Eric's Anderson's total dedication was awesome. As was the giving and helpful enthusiasm of Patti Newton, Peggy Petitmermet, Lynda Clerke, to name a few of all those who jumped in and did so much, opening their homes, doing all that was needed. It was community spirit in action!

Yet I do see that our rose...of all we can be...is still opening and not yet in full bloom. May I suggest then, therefore, we wait two to three years and mull over (with more wonderful suggestions coming now from Cleveland) new and exciting possibilities and try again. The highest ideal of competition (as in the Greek Olympics) is that it stretches us, disciplines and motivates us to be all we can be. Let's hold the vision, then, of future victory! Our day will come.

Elfin Forest Hometown Halloween

By Lori Vitale

Last year the Elfin Forest Hometown Halloween was a huge success. A couple of truckloads of local kids ran up and down driveways to trick-or-treat in their own neighborhood. Everyone had a great time. If you would like to welcome trick-or-treaters (between 5PM – 8PM) or obtain the list of neighbors welcoming trick-or-treaters, please contact Lori Vitale at 760-752-7868 or lori@ricochet.com.

Motoplex At The Trash Plant

By Lori Drake

I live in San Elijo and am a homeowner on the board of directors of our HOA. I want to give you a heads up on a potential buyer for the recycling center on San Elijo Road. This proposal will have a big impact on us all and I pass the info along so you can decide for yourself. Two men, Scott Beyer and John Valenty, are supposedly in escrow to purchase the recycling center and want to turn it into an indoor racing venue called "World Motoplex." The facility will be open to the general public for parties and general entertainment, as well as bookings by groups and corporations for team building events, sales meetings, business luncheons, awards banquets, management retreats, fund raisers, etc.. Hours of operation are proposed to be from 6AM to 10PM. Here's a website link: www.worldmotoplex.com.

The city of San Marcos told them that in order to get approval for their proposed project they'd first have to get resident support. They made a presentation to 28 residents (representatives from each community in San Elijo). A definite majority was unreceptive. They asked us to form a ten member community task force/advisory panel to work with them to redesign their plans to add amenities that will benefit the surrounding communities.

The main problem is the business would include competitions where people everywhere would bring their go-karts and motorized dirt bikes for events. Imagine the traffic for the trailers of event participants and spectator traffic. It could become very problematic if these vehicles are used illegally on our trail systems and the surrounding hills of our communities. They also propose 39,000 square feet of retail sales and merchandizing (including vehicle sales) and 10,000 square feet of conference space.

We decided to do a community web poll to ask for feedback and boy did we get it (overwhelmingly against even with added amenities)! We sent them a letter with over 300 signatures (we could have easily had a thousand) telling them we respected their outreach but even with added amenities (like a pool and fitness center) we still could not support such a venue moving into that building.

Editors Note: At press time (9/21) Lori Drake reports that the Motoplex promoters have cancelled their purchase agreement but have also said they would continue to move forward with the project.

Harmony Grove Meadows

By Mid Hoppenrath

Great news! The county staff is recommending denial of the Harmony Grove Meadows project because "it is inconsistent with the overall planning effort being conducted in the Harmony Grove area in conjunction with GP2020. In keeping with the concept of density gradually diminishing from the Village center, GP2020 designates the Harmony Grove Meadows site for low-density rural residential densities between 1 du/2 acres and 1 du/40 acres. Development at these densities would not require sewer service. The project that proposes to develop the Village has an overall density of 1.53 du/acre. Harmony Grove Meadows proposes an overall density of 2 du/acre. This is in direct conflict with the overall concept for Harmony Grove and will not be supported by the department."

Obviously the county staff continues to strongly support the village development pattern for Harmony Grove. There is a lot more (my copy of the county's information package for the GPA application is 58 pages long). We can further discuss this at the next board and town council meetings. I hope this means the SunCal team will be radically redesigning this project.

2006 Garden Festival Needs You!

By Evelyn Alemanni

Since its inception in 2003, the Elfin Forest Garden Festival has raised a significant amount of money for the community. In fact, it might just be our biggest source of revenue. To pull it off again in 2006, we need your help. Can you volunteer to help organize? Could you offer your garden to be toured? Can you "docent" a garden? Would you like to sell some unique merchandise at the garden marketplace?

There are lots of opportunities, and we need your help to make it happen. Let me know... alemanni@allea.com or 760-471-7224.

Just Moved Here?

If you just moved here, contact Karen Gardner 760-744-9500 to get your free six month subscription to the newsletter and discounts on town council merchandise.

West Nile Virus

By Patti Newton

An Eden Valley resident turned in a dead scrub jay to County Vector Control that tested positive for West Nile Virus. A Harmony Grove resident also found a dead scrub jay but it was too late to be tested. Dead birds are one of the earliest warning signs that West Nile virus has arrived in an area. Vector Control is specifically concerned about scrub jays, hawks, crows and ravens. If you find a dead bird, please visit the county website and complete the online form at www.sdcounty.ca.gov/deh/eforms/chd_deadbird.html or call the County Vector Control Program at 888-551-4636.

There is no risk of getting West Nile virus from touching a dead bird but, for your protection, do not handle the bird without gloves. Vector Control recommends all standing water be dumped. If you have livestock, the water troughs and buckets must be dumped and changed once a day. Mosquito larvae sit at the bottom of the water tubs if the water isn't fully changed each day. Be sure to wear long sleeved shirts and long pants when you go out in the evening or early morning hours. For more information, go to www.co.san-diego.ca.us/deh/chd/wnv/index.html or www.ct.gov/doag/cwp/view.asp?a=1367&q=259124.

Schoolhouse Way Closed

By John Berhman, SD Union Tribune

A short stretch of Schoolhouse Way that leads into the school's parking lot has to be dug up to install utilities for a new elementary school. Kathy Tanner, executive director of facilities planning and development for the San Marcos Unified School District, said that the district plans to close the road September 19th, when grading for the new school is expected to begin. An alternate plan to access the campus is being developed.

Students in grades 6 to 8 begin class at 7:45 a.m., while those in kindergarten through grade 5 start at 8 a.m. Pickup time for the upper grades is 2 p.m., while the lower grades are released 15 minutes later.

Parents will be notified of the plan, Tanner said, and it will be posted on the district's Web site, at www.smusd.org.

Editor's Note: This article is excerpted from the September 3rd San Diego Union Tribune.

Fire Protection Gel Last Call

By Jan Denny

Fire Captain Dawn Pettijohn says only three more orders of Barricade fire blocking gel are required to qualify for the quantity discount. The gel is applied to combustible materials before they are threatened by a fire. The gel provides an insulating zone between the heat of the fire and the protected surface, even at temperatures of up to 3500° Fahrenheit.

The Barricade gel concentrate is diluted and sprayed on with a Barricade hose applicator. Once applied, it will protect the structure for 6 – 26 hours depending on the thickness of application. If not immediately used the gel will last 3 – 5 years if the containers are shaken twice a year.

Barricade International recommends each home purchase a home kit and a spare case of gel. The home kit costs \$320, and consists of 4 jugs, 1 ¼ gallons each, as well as a hose applicator. Total coverage for all 4 jugs is 2,000 square feet. The spare case provides an extra 4 jugs, and costs \$250.00. Shipping costs \$50 per case. The total cost for a single home would be **\$670.00** for one home kit and one spare case.

Barricade International is offering a 10% discount on orders placed by the Elfin Forest / Harmony Grove Fire Department. This reduces a single home's cost to **\$613.00** for one home kit, one spare case, and shipping.

If twelve or more homes order a home kit and spare case of gel through the fire department, every order will get a 30% discount, and shipping costs will also be reduced to \$20 / case, bringing a single home's cost to **\$439.00**.

If you're interested in participating in this bulk purchase, please call the fire department at 760 744-2186 and ask for Captain Dawn Pettijohn. Once placed, orders should arrive within two weeks.

See: www.barricadegel.com/default.asp.

Town Council Website

The town council's website is continually updated. Check it out at: efhgtc.org. **Note:** the town council is not affiliated with elfinforest.net and elfinforest.com.

Self Defense Classes

By Mickey Cross

Anyone interested in a self defense class? Two such classes were offered in the summer at Palomar College for either kids (ages 6-10) or teen and adults (11 and up). The fire department is willing to let us use the fire station, so we can do it for half price.

The kid's class focuses on anti-abduction techniques. It teaches them techniques to get away from an abductor, enlist help from adults, avoid danger, and to defend themselves. The class is 1.5 hours long.

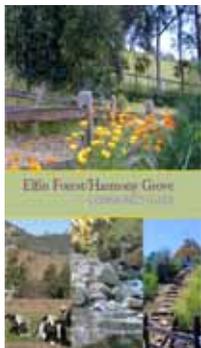
The teen/adult class (DeTac) teaches the basics of escaping a physical attack/attempted rape using empty hand combat. The 3 hour course covers escapes from restraints, bone and joint disruption, primal striking, environmental exploitation, combat psychology, survival tactics, avoiding confrontations, street survival tactics and ground grappling.

Our costs are \$15 for the kid's and \$25 for the teen/adult course plus a \$1 surcharge to give to the fire department as thanks for letting us use the station. In order to make this cost effective to the instructor, we would need to have a group of at least 25 participants for each class. A parent should attend with the kids (to listen, not to participate).

We will probably do this on a Saturday. Since we plan to have only one class for each group, let me know if there is a day/time that you absolutely cannot do. Majority rules. If you can't make this class, Palomar College will have these classes on October 15th for double the price...still a good deal! Questions: Mickey Cross at 760-744-2034 or mickeykc@juno.com.

Community Guides Are Here

By Evelyn Alemanni



Our new community guide is available at all town council meetings. This beautiful, keepsake edition has nearly 200 color photos showing our community's past and present. They make wonderful gifts and an indispensable marketing tool for realtors. It provides resources for rural living, a history of our community, and much, much more. The price is \$25 or five for \$100.

Beautify With Spring Bulbs

By Evelyn Alemanni

Once again, the town council is offering spring bulbs for sale at prices much lower than retail. This year's bulbs are of the largest and best quality I've ever seen. Please order from the selections below. You can view photos of the selections and print out an order form on the town council's web site, www.efhgtc.org/bulbs.htm. We may have more varieties than those listed here; check the website and watch for an elf alert.

Last year the bulbs sold quickly, so get your order in right away. Why not order a few extra and get together with people on your block to plant them around your street monument! Please email your order to alemanni@allea.com. Bulbs can be picked up at my house. Make your check payable to the Elfin Forest / Harmony Grove town council.

Narcissus	Your Price (each)
Dutch Master	0.40
Ice Follies	0.40
Ranunculas	
Mixed	0.50
Freesia-Single Flower	
Mixed	0.25
Bearded Iris Rebloomers	
City Lights	3.50
Amaryllis	
Red Lion	6.00

Landscape Contest

By Cathy Lubenski

Proud yard owners are urged to start planting drought-tolerant plants for the third annual California-Friendly Landscape Contest. The contest has expanded to include residents of the city of San Diego and the Olivenhain Municipal Water District in North County, as well as the Otay and Padre Dam water districts and the Sweetwater Authority.

Winners are eligible for up to \$2,500 in prizes. The deadline for entry is April 16th, 2006. For more information or to request an application, call 619-667-6202. The contest is held to encourage residents to save water with drought-tolerant yards and gardens.

Minutes Of Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Town Council Meeting

By Patti Newton

Date: September 7, 2005

Call to order: 7:30 PM.

Members Present: Mid Hoppenrath, Joe Benson, Patti Newton, Bill Osborn, Bob McGurk, Bill Wilgenburg, Cheri Smith.

Board Updates: **Frank Twohy** said the fire department has three members in the hurricane-ravaged south. Michelle Roberts, an EMT, is the wife of town council member-at-large, Bill Osborn, of Harmony Grove; she is with the Air National Guard and is currently assisting with evacuations at Louis Armstrong Airport. Dawn Pettijohn and Nona Barker are both serving 30-day deployments and we don't know yet where they will be assigned.

Mid Hoppenrath addressed the issue of SDGE fleet parking on Country Club Drive. The county is investigating whether or not SDGE can obtain a permit to do this in a residential area. The proposed Harmony Grove Meadows project's preliminary documents were submitted and county staff has recommended denial. Overall, staff thought it was too dense and also not eligible for sewer.

Bill Osborn has initiated communicating with local groups. He has been busy contacting surrounding communities to see how they are dealing with issues of concern to us all. He wants to learn about their tactics, and to share information which fosters communication among the communities. For example, Eden Valley is dealing with a property owner on 30 acres who is removing Coast live oaks illegally. He was cited but ignored it. Local news station Channel Ten has expressed an interest in working on the story.

Cheri Smith gave us an update for Jan Denny who is out of town. The survey and petition drive in the community (EF, HG, and EV) is moving forward. It will deal with traffic, census, and demographic issues. Among them is the potential removal of Country Club Drive from the county circulation element and the reclassification of Elfin Forest and Harmony Grove Roads from four to two lanes. NUW has supported this endeavor. The petition and survey language is being hammered out now. NUW used an updated traffic model (an upgrade of SANDAG's

model) which shows these roads can be downgraded successfully. The Johnston-Ward house is home to the newly created Heritage Gallery which has acquired its tax number, enabling it to accept donations and loans of historical artifacts from the area.

Bob McGurk gave the treasurer's report. He also encouraged residents to check out the new Questhaven Road nature trail which is stunningly beautiful.

New Urban West's **Kathleen Humphreys** presented a check for the Heritage Gallery to Cheri Smith. Kathleen explained the historical book created by NUW is for sale at \$4.95/copy. NUW is matching the sales price to donate to the Heritage Gallery. The funds have totaled \$514.80 (amount of check presented) to date. Kathleen also presented Cheri with a plaque with photo of Johnston-Ward house and a copy of the Heritage Gallery plaque that hangs on the wall in the house.

Item #1: Rancho Santa Fe School District/Sage Hills. **Patti Newton** introduced Rancho Santa Fe School District Superintendent **Lindy Delaney**, and board members, **Richard Burdge**, and **Jim Depolo**, as well as **Fred Talarico**, Sage Hills representative. They were in attendance to discuss the proposed Memorandum of Understanding outlining the respective obligations of each party relating to the offer of 20 acres for a district school site.

To date, the RSFSD has been very attentive to the concerns of this community. Patti read aloud a letter from the town council which was sent to Delaney and her board regarding the MOU. Our guests fielded questions from residents. Many community members spoke passionately and with great conviction about the lack of candor from Sage Hills over the years; others asked questions relating to the need for a school site here, especially as it is on the fringe of the district boundaries.

Chief Twohy made it clear to Sage Hills that there were many details to be discussed and worked out. **Sue Varty**, OMWD Director, informed Sage Hills that the district would not take kindly to a de-annexation from its service district, especially in view of the fact that long-range planning and funding for projects included the Sage Hills parcel.

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(Minutes EF/HG Town Council continued)

Item #2: Harmony Grove Meadows. Residents expressed their concerns about such issues as access, traffic, and noise. Timeframe: very preliminary at this point. Working with a PR guy a website may be up in a week. You can e-mail them at

Harmonygrovemeadows@yahoo.com. The fire department will insist on improvement of the Arizona crossing (Harmony Grove and Country Club Drive) which will cost at least \$1million and a variety of contributions to the fire department will be required. www.suncal.com, privately owned. Clearly, the community has issues with the proposed density of the project and it must meet GP2020 recommendations for the site to be acceptable.

Open Forum: Nancy Reed's daughter, Danielle, won the state championship in pole bending. The RSFSD board meeting is Thursday evening at the school. Anyone interested in carpooling is welcome to call Patti Newton to make arrangements. Frank Twohy offered the fire department parking lot so people can easily rendezvous and carpool.

Adjourned 9:25 p.m.

Minutes Of Fire Auxiliary Meeting By Mary Garman

Date: August 8, 2005

Call to order: 7:15 PM.

The Secretary and Treasurer reports were read and approved.

Old business: After talking with several race directors it was determined that the 10K race the auxiliary was trying to plan would not work in our area. We're still working on a bike race to replace the 10K run.

New business: Discussion of coming year events we are planning. We decided to do more community events that enable everyone to get to know our great volunteer fire department. We are planning an ice cream social and chili cook-off. Included in this event is a used tack and saddle sale and a great big Halloween Party for kids and adults.

Myrna and Terry Rife are on duty for help for October and serving lunch for the fire department. Our next meeting will be November 9th at Mary Garman's home.

New Urban West Traffic Meeting By Jan Denny

Date: July 28, 2005

Attendees: Tom Zanic and Jason Han, New Urban West (NUW). Cheri Smith and Jan Denny, Elfin Forest (EF) / Harmony Grove (HG) Town Council.

Action Items:

1. NUW – explain their projected level-of-service for EF and HG roads.
2. Town Council – complete and circulate the petition and survey.

Notes: Tom welcomed Cheri as the new traffic committee head then reviewed the history behind the NUW plan and the current traffic study. Tom explained they plan to widen HG Road inside their development to three lanes (one center passing lane) from Country Club to Wilgen. They don't want to widen HG or EF roads to four lanes inside or outside their boundaries. Their traffic plan includes more smaller roads, versus fewer larger roads.

Tom explained that HG and EF roads are currently classified as four lanes from the boundary of Escondido to the boundary of San Marcos. He said their traffic models are not heavy enough to escalate EF Road from the current two lanes to a required four lanes to stay below the county standard Level-of-Service (LOS) levels E or F (both considered failing). Jason did not know exactly what LOS would be indicated if EF and HG roads were downgraded to two lanes. Tom explained that their traffic models project to 2030.

Tom and Cherie discussed the need for the signage being funded by NUW to be 'esthetically resonant' with the EF street monuments. Jan asked how the NUW traffic model could differ so from the Department of Planning and Land Use (DPLU) / GP2020 map provided by Dahvia Locke at the June 22, 2005 San Dieguito Planning Group Meeting. The GP2020 presentation forecasted traffic deficiencies for both HG and EF roads. These roads are two out of ten for which the county is forecasting deficiencies. The GP2020 study listed HG Road as a two lane collector (which is currently at two lanes) and EF Road as a four lane collector (which is currently at two lanes).

(Continued next page)

(NUW Traffic Meeting continued)

The accompanying map indicates EF and HG roads will be between levels E and F by the year 2020 – levels that are not considered acceptable by the county. Tom and Jason said they weren't aware of that discrepancy, but would look into it and get back to the traffic committee.

Jan asked who NUW has spoken with to gauge their receptiveness to downgrading HG and EF roads as part of the NUW general plan amendment. Tom said he is aware that the town council would like the county to vacate their easement on EF Road. Tom agreed to help us with this and we discussed the timetable to work on this together with the county. Tom provided the following status reports:

- Supervisor Bill Horn – he did not register a negative opinion, and said he supported filing the amendment.
- Gary Pryor, County Planning Director and head of DPLU – responsible for managing development against current growth plans. Has not registered a negative position.
- Ivan Holler, head of DPLU's GP2020 team; Dahvia Locke, county planner with DPLU's GP2020 team – responsible for defining future-looking growth plans. Support the downgrade.
- Bob Goralka, manager of the Department of Public Works (DPW) – responsible for engineering analysis of traffic studies and proposals received from developers. Has questioned several areas of NUW's traffic study and asked for revised traffic models. Has not announced a position.
- Shandra Wallar, Assistant Director of DPW – has been open minded and wants to see the traffic study numbers. Is higher ranking than Bob Goralka.
- Eric Gibson, DPLU for current plan – prepares report for the San Diego Board of Supervisors (BOS). Has not announced a position.

Tom Zanic explained that DPW is the department currently giving most scrutiny to the traffic models. They are more influenced by numbers than politics, but politics (i.e. the desires of the citizens) does play a role.

Jan asked how we should proceed. Tom suggested:

1. Circulate our petition to collect signatures on downgrading the roads.
2. Circulate our community survey to include comments on the downgrading of Elfin Forest / Harmony Grove Roads that could be included in our letter.
3. Compose a letter from the Town Council referencing the results of the petition and the survey **before October**.
4. Make an appointment with the county to present the Council's letter. Bring a mass of people as a show of support for the letter.
5. Present the letter to the BOS.

Tom explained the timeline:

1. DPW / DPLU will submit their recommendation to the BOS by 3rd quarter 2006.
2. The Planning commission reviews the recommendation and provides input.
3. BOS will vote on the reclassification by 4th quarter 2006.
4. Expect to request vacating the easement after the reclassification is approved.

Jan was concerned that we wouldn't have an answer on vacating until 2007, which will be long after the county has made a decision about the monuments on the EF Road easement. Tom offered to bring the vacating issue to Shandra Wallar when we meet en masse in October.



America in Bloom Results

By Evelyn Alemanni

Ok, I admit it. Losing graciously is not my strongest virtue. Losing twice to the same town (Lewes, Delaware) is hard to fathom, especially when our “elves” worked exceptionally hard for two years.

The good news is that in 2003 the point spread between us and the winner was 28 points. This year, we narrowed it to a mere 13 points. In 2003, we earned a three bloom rating, this year we won four blooms.

The table below summarizes the results for the top three cities in our population category. It’s important to remember that Eureka Springs, Arkansas and Lewes are both tourist towns. Their commercial sector depends on tourism for its livelihood so they work hard to look good. Also, our population of about 800 was up against towns with 3000-5000 people. In each category the maximum possible points was 125.

It is significant that we were four points higher than Lewes in Community Involvement; two points higher in Landscape, and only one point off in Floral Displays, when Lewes spends more than \$300,000 annually just for flowers on their golf course! In my opinion, Elfin Forest should have won. Why? The judges are supposed to “split scores” when a category doesn’t apply. The judging grid has possible points for municipal, commercial, and residential sectors. Because we have no commercial sector, we should not have been scored in that category. In recalculating the score, we actually come in at 86.6%, which puts us 2 points ahead of Lewes. AIB’s judging committee has been made aware of the error. They have never before faced such a situation, so it will be interesting to see what happens. In our hearts, we know we won. More at www.efhgtc.org/aib.htm.

Town	Elfin Forest	Eureka Springs	Lewes
Tidiness	107	107	114
Environment	107	108	99
Com. Involvmnt.	116	110	112
Heritage	107	112	111
Forestry	90	105.5	97
Landscape	105	100	103
Floral Displays	108	106	109
Turf	93	96	101
Total	833	844.5	846
Percent	83.3	84.45	84.6

New Community Calendar Planned

By Evelyn Alemanni

To help keep everyone informed about community events and opportunities to get involved, the town council approved the creation of a full-size calendar which will be distributed at no charge to every family in Elfin Forest and Harmony Grove. The design and layout are being donated by ALL.EA.

The calendar will include dates for town council meetings, fire training, due dates for grant proposals, and much more. Each month will include special information on the rural lifestyle and/or a community group. Here’s what you can do to help move this project forward:

Submit photos (we need 12-14). You can either send me a 300 dpi .jpg or .tif file sized to a max of 8” wide or send me an original which I’ll scan and return to you.

Send a list of important dates/meetings for your group – all groups are eligible. Email those to me at alemanni@allea.com.

Send contact info and URL for your group’s website to me, same as above.

Advertise. We’re sending this calendar FREE to everyone, but we need to cover printing and postage expenses. Tell everyone in the community about your business by placing your ad. Send a .jpg or .tif file to me at the email address above.

Ad rates:

3.5” x ½”	\$50
3.5” x 1”	\$80
3.5” x 2” (Business card)	\$150
3.5” x 4”	\$275
3.5” x 6”	\$400

Contact me if you need a different size.

Due date: Materials must be submitted by Oct. 15th.

chaparral By Email

If you’re not already receiving a full color, PDF format copy of the *chaparral* by email send an email note to alemanni@allea.com to be added to the list. The PDF version is free to regular “hardcopy” subscribers and only \$10.00/year to receive the PDF version only.

News From Questhaven Retreat



Sunday worship is at 10:45 AM.
All are welcome.
20560 Questhaven Road.
760-744-1500
www.questhaven.org.

Study groups meet on weeknights. Please call the office for times and locations.

Weekly Meditation - Wednesday at 7:30 PM.

Oct 2—Initiation, Illumination and Mastery Through the Feminine: The Gifts of Master Mary, Feminine Saints, and Masters —*Rev. Alexandra Alba*

Oct 9—Insights Into Mysticism
—*Rev. Elizabeth Wood*

Oct 14-16—The Holy Quest Series III

Oct 16—'Upon this Rock...' —Building Spiritual Certainty from Inner Experience
—*Rev. Jonathan Wiltshire*

Oct 23—Garden Angels Across America
—*Evelyn Alemanni*

Oct 30—Quicken Your Love for God with Longing
—*Rev. Myrna Triggs*

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Past issues of the chaparral are now posted at www.efhgtc.org in downloadable PDF format.

Sheriff's Department Contacts

In an emergency, please call 911. For non-emergency reporting, contact the following: Gen -760-510-5200
Jackie Cruz – Agriculture crime prevention specialist
760-940-4350

Sgt. Dan Wilson – COPPS – 760-510-5231
Betty (B.J.) Williams – Crime Prevention
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alemanni@allea.com

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At the September EF/HG Town Council meeting Kathleen Humphreys from New Urban West, presented a photo plaque and donation of \$514.80 to the Johnston Ward House Heritage Committee Chair, Cheri Smith. The donation is to benefit the Heritage Gallery at the Johnston Ward House. It represents \$257.40 of sale proceeds from THE STORY OF HARMONY GROVE VILLAGE: A PROMISE FOR THE FUTURE a booklet commissioned by New Urban West. New Urban West matched the proceeds to bring the total donation to \$514.80. The booklet is being sold for \$4.95 and all proceeds go to benefit the Heritage Gallery. This is the first, hopefully, of many checks that will be presented to the Heritage Committee. If you are interested in obtaining a copy of the booklet please contact Kathleen Humphreys at New Urban West.



120 West Grand Avenue, Suite 104

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Fax 760 741-4917

Email KathleenH@nuwi.com

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The RSF School District has some back-to-school surprises for you!

They are using a loophole in state law to avoid a public vote on long-term debt.

The School District is going to use so-called Certificates of Participation to mortgage the Rowe School so they can afford to pay the inflated \$9 million purchase price (\$2.5 million above appraised value) for the proposed Aliso Canyon school site without getting voter approval for a general obligation bond.

Source: RSF School District board meeting, August 11, 2005

They plan to transfer 370 students to the proposed Aliso Canyon school, including many who live within the Covenant.

Unfortunately, while district representatives might commit \$9 million of taxpayer money through COP financing to purchase the Aliso Canyon site, they can't count on a general obligation bond passing to provide sufficient construction funds. When that happens, our students will be stuck with substandard, portable classrooms at the new school.

Source: John Stiker, RSF School District board meeting, June 9, 2005

The Bottom Line: ←
Let the school board know they are failing Rancho Santa Fe students and taxpayers.

The proposed Aliso Canyon school site creates unmitigatable traffic and safety problems.

The Draft Environmental Impact Report identifies traffic impacts to El Camino Del Norte, Aliso Canyon Road, Via de Fortuna, El Montevideo, Del Dios Highway, Paseo Delicias, Via de la Valle, and Via Del Charro. The report blatantly ignores Lago Lindo (a one-lane bridge) and Avenida de Acacias, where increased traffic will have significant impacts.

Source: Draft EIR, p 4.12-11, p 4.12-13

The only proposed mitigation measures - roundabouts or traffic signals - won't adequately address the traffic nightmares the community will face if the proposed Aliso Canyon school is built.

The Draft EIR never mentions that Aliso Canyon Road is a dead-end road and that this could drastically impact emergency vehicle access to the proposed school site.

The Fire District and Sheriff's Departments are concerned about the lack of a "secondary emergency roadway access/evacuation route" to the site.

Source: Draft EIR, p 2-8

Rancho Santa Fe is a "Very High Fire Hazard" area and, unlike the Rowe School which is located next door to a fire station, the proposed Aliso Canyon school site is too far away from local fire stations for them to respond to fire and medical emergencies within their established response time goal of six minutes or less.

Source: Draft EIR, p 4.11-2

Students and nearby residents won't be able to safely evacuate in a fire or medical emergency if traffic is clogging the only access road.

What can you do?

• Call or write the Rancho Santa Fe School Board:
P.O. Box 809, Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92067
Phone: (858) 756-1141 • Fax: (858) 756-0712

• Join Citizens for Better Rancho Santa Fe Schools by calling (858) 756-6950 or visiting our website www.rsfcitizens.org.

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Local Baby, Animal and House Sitters

Amanda Clerke – Baby sit or feed animals. Parents will supervise and transport. EF Resident. 11 years old. 760-510-0143.

Emily Dill - Baby Sitting/Pet Sitting, EF Resident, 15 years old. Contact at 760-736-4333.

Jessica MacKinnon - Babysitting/Feed Animals, EF Resident, 14 years old, SFC High School - 9th grade, took babysitting course through Red Cross. Contact at 760-744-8955.

Brooke York - EF Resident, LCC School 12th grader, Baby Sitting. Tel: 760-752-7784.

Jared York - EF Resident, RSF School 10th grader, Baby sit or feed animals. Tel: 760-752-7784.

For Rent: Home in Harmony Grove 3-4 BR, 3BA, 3000 SF, View, 10 acres, very rural setting with pond. Lease available for 1-2 years. \$2000.00 per month. Call 760-741-6211.

For Sale: 1990 G & F two horse aluminum bumper pull horse trailer. King size, solid, tows perfect, needs paint \$2,500. Call 760-579-1936 for details.

Wanted: Rent, lease or purchase horse trailer to fit large warm blood. Contact: Vicki Pilling 760-518-0402.

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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 your Elf Alerts, please send your email address to alemanni@allea.com and ask to be added to the list. Don't worry, the emails are sent as blind CCs, so your address is not made public, and we share the list with the fire department.



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