



Dedicated to a continuing rural atmosphere

From The Field

By Eric Anderson

What a great parade and picnic honoring Jennifer and Charles Coburn as the EF/HG Citizens of the Year! All the art they've created around the community has really enhanced our rural environment. I really like the special fire fighter monument installed just days before the picnic.

The Parade and Picnic committee, the EF/HG Fire Department, and the whole community participated to make this a very memorable event. I want to especially mention Nona Barker, Lori Vitale, Kelli Graham, May Meijntes and Jeff Swenerton for all the extra effort they put in to make sure everyone had a great time. The parade had more participants than ever including almost forty kids on bikes. Some of the vehicles were really quite spectacular and the judges had a tough job picking the winners.

The food was very good, especially the BBQ pulled pork. The Retro Rockets played great creating a fun atmosphere. The cake walk was a hit (thanks to all the bakers in the community). The real highlight was the water-ball reverse tug of war with fire hoses put together by Bob Kephart. Finally, I want to thank everyone who came, participated, helped set up and clean up. I continue to really appreciate how great it is to be a part of such a great rural community.

The whole of Elfin Forest and Harmony Grove has been very active working on issues that impact our rural life style. We had a very productive discussion regarding the GP 2020 plan for Harmony Grove with Gary Pryor and Ivan Holler. It took an extra meeting

(Continued next page)

Contents

From The Field1

Fire Department Promotions2

Citizens Of The Year2

Calendar For August2

Parade Awardees3

Generous Neighbors3

TC Board Meets With County DPLU Leaders4

Parade/Picnic Photos4

GP2020 Circulation Plan Update5

More Parade/Picnic Photos5

Minutes Of EF/HG Town Council Meeting6

Firefighters Steeled For Duty6

Second Update On Bridges Unit 6 & 77

Spring Photo Contest Winners9

Interpretive Center at EF Reserve10

TECC Acquires HG Parcel10

What's Happening At The Fire Department11

Pajama Parties Poison Poll Purity11

News From Questhaven Retreat12

HG Spiritualist Church Services12

Classified16

No Town Council Meeting in August

From the Field (continued)

and several workshops to work out the EF/HG TC board consensus for the GP 2020. We will not be holding the August town council meeting in order to take some time to create our strategic plan for the community for 2007 (and beyond). I personally would like community input as well on where you want our community to be next year.

The Bridges committee is participating with The Escondido Creek Conservancy in hiring Everett Delano to represent us on the Lennar Bridges 6 & 7 at the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors (see Jacqueline's article). Have a great summer. Plan to attend the 10 year anniversary of the Harmony Grove Fire events in October.

Fire Department Promotions

By Frank Twohy, Chief EF/HG Fire Dept.

The Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Fire Department is pleased to announce the addition of Donald Heiser to the department as deputy chief. Deputy Chief Heiser is a thirty-three year fire veteran and recently retired after fourteen years as the Chief of the City of Encinitas Fire Department and Director of Marine Safety. He is a certified instructor and will teach numerous certified fire classes to our fire fighters. He will also provide core officer training and bring his thirty plus years of fire fighting experience to our department.

Captain Dawn Pettijohn who has been with the department for fourteen years has been promoted to Battalion Chief. Chief Pettijohn is an example of a person who is committed to our community's safety. She is an outstanding example of dedication to the fire service and all of our firefighters respect and trust her.

Bob Kephart, a member of our department for sixteen years, has been promoted to Captain. It is hard to imagine anyone more talented in fixing things and working with our mapping and tele-video teaching system.

We are truly blessed to have such fine people serving our communities. I sleep better at night just knowing they are here!

Citizens Of The Year

By Patti Newton

The town council board selected Charles and Jennifer Coburn as the 2006 EF/HG Citizens of the Year. The Coburns received this award for the wonderfully creative and beautiful art they created for our entry monument and road markers. These handcrafted pieces give the community a readily identifiable cohesion. The Coburns have donated countless hours and continue to be inspired by the natural beauty around us. Their joie de vivre is obvious and our community is much better for their creative genius and generosity. You can see more examples of their work at www.coburntopiary.com.



EF/HG 2006 Citizens of the Year Jennifer and Charles Coburn. (Photo by Evelyn Alemanni)

Calendar For August

Date	Time	Event
Tues 8/1, 8/15	7 PM	Fire Training@Firehouse
Wed 8/9	7 PM	Fire Auxiliary@Mary Garman's House
Mon 8/14	7 PM	Fire Board@Firehouse
Sat 8/26	8 AM	Fire Training@Firehouse
Sat 8/5, 8/19	10 AM	Bookmobile@Firehouse

Parade Awardees

By Eric Anderson

Congratulations to the awardees and a thank you to all participants and judges Mid Hoppenrath, Evelyn Alemanni and Mary Moore for a great job!

Best Theme (perpetual Elfin Forest Cup)

The Fontaine Family

Jeff Lee - 2nd

Matt McCaw - 3rd

Best Motorized Decorated

Brandon McCaw - 1st

Adam Zeigler - 2nd

Judges Choice

Jayne Bartholme - 1st

Henry Sidwell - 2nd

Rose Sidwell - 3rd

Most Unique

Watson - 1st

Morgan Kendall - 2nd

Henry Sidwell - 3rd

Motorized (10 entries!)

Kelley Hauch (sp) - 1st

Brandon McCaw - 2nd

Rose Sidwell - 3rd

Bicycle (35 bikes!)

MacFadden - 1st

Tessoro - 2nd

Amanda K - 3rd

Equestrian - Kids

Briana 1st

Cari & PJ - tied 2nd

Carlee - 3rd

Equestrian Adult

Katie - 1st

Linda - 2nd

Petra - 3rd

Elf Alerts

Elf alerts are periodic email messages regarding important local events and supplement the newsletter. To subscribe, contact Rachel Barnes at rbarnesCPA@aol.com. Your email info may be shared with the fire department but no one else. Have you changed your email address? Tell Rachel.

Generous Neighbors

By Lori Vitale

A special thanks goes to our neighbors who generously underwrote some of the major expenses for the July 4th Picnic. Sue Hill of Prudential Realty, who provided the hamburger, hotdogs and condiments, and Ken and Debra Dubs major donors and underwriters for all the children's games



Sue Hill (Photo by Lori Vitale)



Ken and Debra Dubs (Photo by Joy Jackson)

Past *chaparral* Issues On Web

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

Town Council Board Meets With County DPLU Leaders

By Mid Hoppenrath, TC Board Member

The Town Council Board of Directors met recently with Gary Pryor, Director of the San Diego County Department of Planning and Land Use (DPLU), and Ivan Holler, Deputy Director of the DPLU, as well as Stephanie Gaines, our area planner, to discuss GP2020 issues as they relate to our valley. This type of meeting is a very rare event and a testimony to the excellent relationship the Board has built with county staff over the years of planning the Village concept.

The DPLU staff strongly support the Draft GP2020 plan, which has several hundred *fewer* homes for our area compared to the dreaded “Board Alternate” GP2020 plan. The Draft GP2020 plan also has less impact to local traffic and more protection for our open space and ridge lines. Gary and Ivan stressed that we should remain unified and consistent in our support of the Draft GP2020 plan to help defeat the Board Alternate plan.

We told them that the EFHG Town Council Board had adopted the following five positions:

1. Strong support for the Village plan (the Draft GP2020 plan) and strong opposition to the Board Alternative Plan.
2. Support for downgrading Harmony Grove and Elfin Forest Roads and Country Club Drive, and elimination of the SC1375 extension to Del Dios.
3. Opposition to any development of ridge lines or flood plains.
4. Support for Community Character Guidelines regarding rural character, septic systems, etc.
5. Support for equity mechanisms such as Purchase of Development Rights where applicable.

Gary mentioned that a city sewer connection can be a problem in rural areas because the county has less control over developers who petition a nearby city for sewer. He added that projects with a need for sewer as zoned, such as the Harmony Grove Village project, can have a county-regulated sewage treatment plant sized only for their requirements and thus prevent other “me-too” developers from more easily obtaining sewer for projects that would not otherwise qualify for sewer service. In the Draft GP2020 plan, only the Village would qualify for sewer service, whereas in the Board Alternative,

several other projects would qualify for sewer, such as Harmony Grove Meadows and Eden Hills.

Gary, Ivan, and Stephanie understand our commitment to a rural lifestyle and the preservation of habitat. Their message was clear: we must rally to support the Draft GP2020 plan and oppose the Board Alternative plan if we are to prevent urban sprawl and maintain our rural vision for this valley.

Parade/Picnic Photos

(Photo credits – Evelyn Alemanni, Joy Jackson, Lori Vitale)



GP2020 Circulation Plan Update

How It May Affect Our Local Roads

By Jacqueline Arsivaud-Benjamin and Mid Hoppenrath

This is a follow-up on the article published in the May *chaparral* detailing the Town Council request to downgrade several roads in the Elfin Forest and Harmony Grove. The county is currently considering circulation element updates as part of the GP2020 plan approval process, and now is the time to ask the county to approve our traffic goals for the keeping the area rural.

You may remember receiving one of the 400 community surveys and traffic petitions we distributed to every property owner within the boundaries of our jurisdiction, which included several traffic issues. Your feedback was pretty clear:

- Eight in ten residents strongly disagree (6 or 7 on a 7 point agreement scale) with the widening of Elfin Forest and Harmony Grove Roads from their existing 2-lane configuration to the 4 lane maximum allowed by current zoning.
- We received 93 petitions requesting the downgrade of Elfin Forest and Harmony Grove Roads from 4-lane collectors to 2-lane collectors, the vacation of the county's easement on those roads, and the removal of Country Club Drive and SC1375 from the county's map of major Circulation Elements.

Both data points have been shared with county staff at the meeting referenced in our previous article, and with the San Dieguito Planning Group. We will also be presenting the same to Supervisor Bill Horn and Supervisor Slater-Price's staff in the next few weeks.

We have previously communicated our request for the downgrading of these roads to the DPLU GP2020 team staff, as well as to the GP2020 Road Network Planning team during their presentation to the San Dieguito Planning Group on June 23, 2005. Our message has remained consistent: help us preserve the unique ecosystem and culture of our community by directing traffic to alternative routes.

We are pleased to report that the San Dieguito Planning Group has approved all of our traffic goals. We must now take our requests to the San Diego Planning Commission on July 28th and to the Board of Supervisors on August 2nd. You can help by letting the SD Planning Commission know how you

feel: send an email to the secretary of the Planning Group Cheryl Jones (cheryl.jones@sdcounty.ca.gov), Bill Horn (bill.horn@sdcounty.ca.gov), Pam Slater-Price (pam.slater@sdcounty.ca.gov), Dianne Jacob (dianne.jacob@sdcounty.ca.gov), Greg Cox (greg.cox@sdcounty.ca.gov), and Ron Roberts (ron.roberts@sdcounty.ca.gov).

We have had help from Eden Valley residents who are supporting our traffic goals, and from New Urban West, who has included our requests in their traffic impact analysis.

Together, we can make this happen!!

More Parade/Picnic Photos



Minutes Of Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Town Council Meeting

By Steve Barker

Date: July 5, 2006

Call to Order: 7:00 PM.

Members present: Eric Anderson, Steve Barker, Jacqueline Arsivaud-Benjamin, Mid Hoppenrath and Bill Wilgenburg.

7:05: Meeting to order and introductions.

7:15: Eric Anderson introduced **Debra Keeney**, County of San Diego Emergency Service Coordinator. Debra gave the members an overview of the County's initiative to develop county wide "community protection plans" for the unincorporated areas of the County. The county's Office of Emergency Services, OES, is available to help the community develop a comprehensive plan to address preparation for disasters such as fire, flood and earthquake. The County offers their template and advice on how to develop a plan that would include input from the Town Council, Fire and Sheriff's Department. She suggested the community appoint a lead group to coordinate the planning effort and urged the community to visit the County's OES website at www.sdcounty.ca.gov/odp for more information. She also has available an excellent "Family Disaster Plan and Personal Survival Guide" designed to guide families through their own planning process. The Town council has some copies available. This information is also available on the OES website.

8:00: Eric introduced **Loralee Olejnik**, community relations specialist from San Diego Medical Service Enterprise, a public/ private partnership that provides 911 paramedic services to CSA 17 (a county service area, that includes Rancho Santa Fe, Solana Beach, Encinitas, Del Mar and most of the Elfin Forest. Loralee described how 911 works, who answers the call and where they are located. San Diego Medical Services operates three 24-hour and two 12-hour ambulances in CSA 17.

8:15: **Jacqueline Arsivaud-Benjamin** gave a road update from the recent San Dieguito Planning Group review of area roads as part of the pending GP2020 process.

8:20: Eric gave a "shout out" to the folks in Eden Valley who really have been helpful to the process to
August 2006

keep Country Club Drive from being upgraded and designated by the County for more traffic in the GP2020 plan.

8:25: Eric reminded the community that the San Diego Planning Commission is slated to review (see Jacqueline Arsivaud-Benjamin Bridge's update in this issue of the *chaparral*) and comment on the proposed Bridges project on August 25 and that community attendance to show our displeasure with this development's impacts on our community. Call Eric Anderson for information on how you can get involved.

8:30: Eric reminded the members that there is NO AUGUST TOWN COUNCIL MEETING and the meeting adjourned.

Adjourned: 8:30 PM.

Firefighters Steeled For Duty

By Patti Newton

On Tuesday, June 27, the Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Fire Department used several fire trucks to escort their two newest recruits astride an industrial forklift from their birthplace on Questhaven Road to their new post in front of the fire station.



Designed and created by local artists, Charles and Jennifer Coburn of Coburn Topiary & Garden Art, these steely characters assumed fulltime duty mounted on a boulder near the existing sign the Coburns also created for the fire department.

Fire Chief, Frank Twohy stated, "The community has invested a great deal of time, money, and sweat equity to ensure the property reflects the professionalism of the department and the values of our community. The extensive native landscaping and "fire-wise" garden belong to all of us and we're proud to host them.



The new sign remains highly visible while still blending into the landscape."

2nd Update On Bridges Unit 6 & 7 By Jacqueline Arsivaud-Benjamin

Last month we made the community aware in these pages of Bridges Unit 6 and 7, a new development to the south that would encroach into Elfin Forest and bring sewer to our valley with it. The San Diego Planning Commission was supposed to review the case on June 30 after the continuance we had requested was granted on June 2. At 5 PM the day before the hearing was supposed to take place, we learned that the matter would be pulled from the agenda and reconvened until the August 25 session of the Planning Commission. Since the last update, your Town Council Board has been working along several axes to understand the project's potential impact on our community and devise appropriate action.

Proposed Northerly Route Emergency Exit

You might recall that the Final Draft Environmental Report included a new element not previously contained in the draft, a secondary emergency route for the 26 homes proposed for the Elfin Forest side of the creek, known as Unit 7. When we reviewed that plan in more detail, it became apparent that the developer had chosen to bring the evacuating traffic from Unit 7 only to the OMWD pipeline easement which runs to Suerte Del Este, the dirt road to Rancho. The advantage to the developer of showing their emergency route stopping there is that it minimizes the need for them to mitigate the impact of disturbing sensitive native vegetation: instead of showing the full impact of taking the evacuating traffic to the nearest road, which would cut a 40 foot swath through what is currently mitigation land for close to a mile (to either Fortuna Ranch Road or Canyon de Oro), the FEIR only shows a couple hundred feet of emergency road and associated impact.

We contacted OMWD to inquire as to whether they were aware of the route described in the EIR – they were not. After our meeting OMWD submitted a letter to the Planning Commission stating that they did not authorize the Bridges to use their property in the manner described in the EIR, and proposing a better and safer egress for an emergency route (out to Fortuna Ranch Road). The pipeline easement is actually not designed to be drivable at all, as it is only a protective surface for the pipeline. The easement is very steep and narrow, making it unlikely that cars could navigate it at all. It ends on the East side on a

dirt road in the middle of the chaparral, likely to be engulfed in flames in the event of a wildfire, and on the West side is not passable at all, with boulders blocking the way towards Fortuna Ranch Road in Encinitas.

We also met with our own Fire Department to go over the proposed emergency route, so they could explain to the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Department, who has jurisdiction over this project, the safety ramifications of approving the northerly route as designed. Chief Twohy has subsequently met with a LAFCO representative and will be meeting with the Lennar project manager to go over his concerns.

Impact of Sewer in Elfin Forest

As discussed in the previous article on this topic last month, this project proposes to annex to the Rancho Santa Fe Irrigation District for sewer purposes, and to bring sewer to Unit 7 in Elfin Forest via a pipe constructed within the bridge that would span the Escondido Creek. In an unrelated meeting with Gary Pryor and Ivan Holler, the top executives at the San Diego County Department of Planning of Land Use, the agency with responsibility to oversee this project, Mr. Pryor stated that “the growth inducing effects of bringing sewer to a rural community are well known”. He was referring to a different project in the context of his remarks to the Board, but nonetheless it is a fact contested by no one – including those in charge of granting approval for such projects – that bringing sewer to a rural community is growth inducing. In other words it makes it considerably more likely that adjacent or nearby property owners will request annexation to the sewer district as well, to develop properties which might have been barely viable with septic, but which all of a sudden can be developed with the high density – and associated profits - that connection to sewer affords.

The Town Council's position on this issue is that sewer cannot be allowed north of the creek into Elfin Forest, regardless of what the project applicant calls the area. The purchase of the property where Unit 7 is proposed was not made at the same time as the rest of the Bridges project, but at a later time for speculative purposes, and Unit 7 is not a part of the already approved Bridges project. Simply changing the zip code to 92067 and annexing into RSF sewer does not change the reality of the topography of the area, which is a creek dividing two distinct and separate communities, those of Rancho Santa Fe and Elfin
(continued next page)

(Update On Bridges – continued)

Forest, respectively. LAFCO (the Local Agency Formation Commission, created by the Legislature in 1963 to discourage urban sprawl and encourage the orderly formation and development of local government agencies) has already ruled twice that the border between the two communities is the Escondido Creek. LAFCO named Escondido Creek as the northern boundary for Rancho Santa Fe when reviewing Rancho Santa Fe incorporation proposals in December 1986 and the community reiterated that boundary during the recent incorporation study of 2005-06.

The Town Council has communicated several times to the applicant that because Unit 7 is in Elfin Forest, we expect them to abide by our community standards, which include: no sewer, two acre minimum lot size and dark skies. We are about rural living, not suburban sprawl, even undoubtedly very high class sprawl. According to the Bridges EIR, following current zoning ordinances would allow them to build six probably spectacular estates on the land they own. Six, not twenty six as proposed. Elfin Forest has no gated communities surrounded by chain link fences topped with razor wire, as the Bridges have on their westerly border with the city of Encinitas, and would likely install on our side, nor do we plan to allow any to be built in our community.

Our Solution

We believe that there exists a solution to this seemingly intractable problem and that could be a win-win for Lennar, for the gnatcatcher, and for the surrounding communities including Elfin Forest. We are proposing that Lennar sell the 87 acres it purchased in Elfin Forest a few years ago to site Unit 7 to a land conservancy (like TECC, but it could be any conservancy of their choice), so that the land is truly preserved in perpetuity, by the title not being held by the developer.

Lennar, who recently closed its San Diego office, might look favorably on an opportunity to sell the land at a profit before real estate values in San Diego continue the downward trend recently announced, instead of getting tied up in court for years. They may also be eligible for a sizable tax write-off which could further make the deal pencil out. They would also score a big public relations win by voluntarily stepping away from destroying pristine habitat so

many agencies and organizations are concerned about.

Your Town Council Board is working with TECC and others to identify potential sources of financing, and early indications are there is funding available for this type of project from a variety of sources, some local and some national.

Reneging on Biological Easement on Unit 6

As discussed in the previous article, The Bridges are also proposing to vacate a previously set aside biological easement and build 6 homes on that piece of land (Unit 6). Elfin Forest, as a community characterized by open space and rural style home sites, is very concerned about what would be a precedent-setting event if the Board of Supervisors allowed the vacation to take place. We have literally hundreds of acres in Elfin Forest as mitigation lands set aside in perpetuity to offset the negative impacts of developments or other habitat destroying projects (like pipelines).

We are concerned that once the County allows the Bridges to reverse this easement on such a large acreage for the purpose of large scale development (as opposed to allowing private homeowners to build a gazebo in their open space easement for example), this would open the door for developers everywhere – including in our community - to go back on their word and try to develop land previously set aside as open space.

For example Rancho Cielo, another neighboring project, apparently still holds the title for the over 800 acres they have open space easements on. The Bridges themselves have at least 120 acres of open space on their property, as part of Santa Fe Creek, which they also still hold title to.

Your Town Council Board's Response

To vigorously pursue the positions described above, and to understand the full array of options open to us as a community to do so, the Town Council Board has authorized joining the Escondido Creek Conservancy in hiring the law offices of Everett DeLano III, a local well-known attorney with a strong track record of winning environmental lawsuits.

We are also preparing an aggressive public relations campaign to have local media publish articles about the project's proposed impact, and the win-win

(continued next page)

(Update On Bridges – continued)

solution we are putting forward, of the land being sold to a land conservancy organization.

We will of course be meeting with our elected officials, Bill Horn, Pam Slater-Price's staff and the other members of the Board of Supervisors, who make the ultimate decision on this matter.

We wish to send the message to this developer and others watching for the outcome of this brazen land grab, that the community will not let this project go forward as is without a serious fight.

What You Can Do:

To help make sure that your elected officials understand your views, you can write either an Op-Ed piece or a letter to the Editor for the local newspapers to make your voice heard. A lot of time politicians monitor the contents and tenor of the letters to the editor as a gauge of public opinion. Please see separate article on tips to write either and contact information for the San Diego Union Tribune, the Los Angeles Times, the North County Times, and the Rancho Santa Fe Review.

The matter will be in front of the San Diego Planning Commission on August 25th at 9am at 5201 Ruffin Road, DPLU Room. Here are the various ways you can make your opinion heard, in descending order of commitment:

- You can show up and fill out a speaker form, and actually address the commissioners on your concerns about the project.
- You can email or call the county staff in charge of the project: Gary Pryor, the DPLU Director, at gary.pryor@sdcounty.ca.gov or 858- 694-2962
- You can email the commissioners through the secretary of the Planning Group, Cheryl Jones (cheryl.jones@sdcounty.ca.gov).

If you can only take off time once to go make your voice heard, then save it for when the matter comes in front of the Board of Supervisors sometimes in September. The date has not been announced yet, but look in these pages for the date in the next newsletter, or contact me at simshona@aol.com.

As Mid stated in another article elsewhere in this newsletter, together we can make it happen!

Spring Photo Contest Winners

By Kimberly Thorner, Asst. G.M. OMWD

The Olivenhain Municipal Water District Board of Directors recognized winning photographers at their July 14, 2006 meeting. The Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve (Reserve), a department of the District, kicked off its first annual photo contest for amateur photographers in March. The contest was designed to be a fun and educational way to showcase the beauty of the Reserve and was open to photographers of all ages. Thirty-eight entries were received.

Carrie Barton of Encinitas placed first in three of the four categories and was awarded a \$25 gift certificate from Steele Realty for her Best in Show entry titled "Dewey Dandelion".



Dewey Dandelion (photo:Carrie Barton)

Angela D. Beaty, also of Encinitas, captured first place in the People in Action category. The winners will be on display at local venues (including the Eckerly YMCA and the Quail Botanical Gardens, printed in various local media publications and on the Reserve's web page: <http://www.olivenhain.com/parks.html>).



OMWD Director Susan Varty presents Angela Beaty with photo contest awards

Interpretive Center at EF Reserve

By Geoffrey Smith, TECC Executive Director

The Olivenhain Municipal Water District (OMWD) has obtained a grant from the State of California for an Interpretive Center to be set in the Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve (EFRR) parking lot staging area. Working with The Escondido Creek Conservancy (TECC), an exciting partnership has been established to design and build a unique facility. The purpose of the center is multi-fold, providing a much-needed nature interpretive resource for the hundreds of families, children and recreationists who come to hike the trails. The facility will also provide an important resource for OMWD rangers and TECC staff and volunteers.

TECC has enthusiastically supported this project, and has committed \$50,000 towards the construction. Recognizing the special nature of this setting, TECC is exploring a number of exciting architectural options that honor the unique natural setting in a holistic way. Discussions are under way with the architectural firm of James and Drew Hubbell (www.hubbellandhubbell.com), whose earth-friendly designs are world renowned and highly treasured. James Hubbell's early draft conceptual design for the Center is shown here:



Your help is needed to build this unique community treasure. A capital campaign goal of \$600,000 has been set, with over a third of that amount having been raised to date. **Please consider a generous gift today in support of the capital campaign.** Naming rights are available and gifts of \$50 or \$50,000 are welcome. All donors will be recognized in a permanent donor display. Please contact the TECC office today at 760-471-9354 for information or to make your gift.

TECC Acquires HG Parcel

By Geoffrey Smith, TECC Executive Director

The Escondido Creek Conservancy (TECC) added in May a new property to the Escondido Creek Preserve by securing title to a 10-acre property in San Elijo Canyon known as the 'Lerliche' property. Situated on the north-west side of Harmony Grove Road opposite of the Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve, this steep and rugged parcel is now placed in open space protection under the management of TECC further preserving the sensitive watershed habitat in this area. The rich chaparral habitat is of high quality, with only a small amount of non-native invasive penetration. A small lean-to shack will need to be dismantled and removed – all in a day's work for TECC volunteers (contact the office to volunteer!) The land is designated 'Natural Upland Habitat' and falls within the pre-approved mitigation area (PAMA) under the MHCP.

TECC donors will soon be contacted for an exclusive tour of this property, which commands lofty views of San Elijo Canyon, Harmony Grove and the Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve. It is the financial support of our donors that makes TECC's program of acquisition, restoration and education possible. Please consider a gift today!



TECC Board Member Leonard Wittwer surveys the Lerliche property prior to acquisition. (Photo credit: Geoffrey Smith)

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 or elfinforest.com.

What's Happening At The Fire Department – August 2006

By Captain Dawn Pettijohn



We take this opportunity to say how great the July 4th celebration was and express our sincere appreciation to all who worked so hard to make it a hit. This well organized event provided great fun and everyone seemed to have a blast, even with the heat and

humidity. The water ball fight made a grand finale for good times in this enchanted place. Isn't that what it's all about...good times with good friends? Thank you all for coming.



Chief Twohy would like to introduce Donald Heiser as second Deputy Chief of the EF/HG Fire Department. With 33 years in the fire service, recently retired as Fire Chief of Encinitas Fire Department, he brings a lot of knowledge. Combined with Deputy Chief Neville and Chief Twohy at the helm, we are ready for whatever the future brings.

Congratulations to Probationary firefighters Brian Smith and Bob Berkey. Both have been accepted to Palomar College Firefighter I Academy. And best of luck to Firefighter Lance Candelaria who is off now to paramedic school.

We've reapplied for an Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) for a Wellness and Fitness. This \$178,000 grant would allow us to provide our firefighters with annual physical examinations, fitness evaluation and testing, immunizations, fitness equipment and peer fitness trainers to advise them on how to stay in shape and reduce the risk of job related illness or injury.

A reminder on clearance:

- Effective fuel modification zones for a defensible space around your home are 100 ft. Be careful when clearing with mowers not to hit a rock and spark a fire in the tender dry conditions.
- Limb trees up 10' to prevent remove ladder fuels.
- Clear 10' back from all driveways and roads to provide a safe escape route. Maintain at least a 13.6' vertical clearance of canopies over driveways and roadways.

With our beloved rural environment comes the danger of wildfire. Don't get caught unprepared.

Pajama Parties Poison Poll Purity By Patti Newton

Last month, after completing a poll worker seminar, I ended up involuntarily hosting a most unusual "sleepover"! Two electronic interlopers from the Registrar of Voters office with whom I'd only just become acquainted, apparently took a vote and elected to ride in the back of my Jeep so they could stay at my house for an entire week! Imagine that! You would have thought the seminar staff would have taken a couple of minutes to, at the very least, warn me of a soiree at my place or review proper etiquette for these voting machine pajama parties! I mean, what should we wear (is red, white, and blue over the top)? Do they enjoy games like, say, Hide and Seek? Pin the Tail on the Donkey (do I need to include an elephant to be fair)? And surely, these Diebold touch screen machines have become adept at playing charades by now!

Registrar of Voters, Mikel Haas, quoted in the 7/7/2006 NCT article, "Resident calls for recount in 50th District runoff," stated, "...any person who has possession of a [voting] machine must follow a strict protocol, establishing a chain of custody." Obviously Mr. Haas has never hosted a pajama party! Strict protocol and chain of custody – they sound like promising party games in need of some imaginative new rules (especially when no one is looking)!

And speaking of rules: contrary to Secretary of State officials' statements that "no state law exists prohibiting poll inspectors from taking the machines home," it is in fact, a direct violation of state and federal laws expressly enacted last March by the National Association of Elections Directors (NASD) to plug up this gaping breach of the system. Think of it as contributing to the delinquency of a minor or subverting democracy; by their very nature these "sleepovers" de-certify the machines, effectively nullifying the election.

I am deeply troubled that the Registrar of Voters and the Secretary of State care so little about the integrity of our elections. These infamously vulnerable, easily hack-able machines never should have been certified by the Secretary of State at all, much less been allowed to sleep around with strangers and play reckless games without custody.

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.

- Aug. 6 *The Importance of Faith* Rev. Susan Cary
Aug. 13 *Perfected Souls Light Our Path - Are You Listening?* Rev. Blake Isaac
Aug. 20 *Inner Aspects of Healing*
Rev. Elizabeth Wood
Aug. 27 *"Thy Kingdom Come"- Insights into Effective Prayer* Rev. Jonathan Wiltshire

chaparral Advertising

Please support our advertisers! Many of them are your friends and neighbors. *Consider advertising your business here.* Along with subscription fees, ads help make this newsletter possible and let the community know of the many wonderful businesses and services available.

To renew your advertising, send a JPG format file and a check (see rates below) payable to the Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Town Council, 20652 Elfin Forest Road, Elfin Forest, CA. 92029.

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

Community, Non-Commercial Classified Ads:
1" x 3 1/2" (approx. 4 lines): no charge to residents - must be resubmitted every 3 months. Non-residents cost is \$10/month.

Sheriff's Department Contacts

In an emergency, please call 911. For non-emergency reporting, contact the following:

General - 760-510-5200

Jackie Cruz – Agriculture crime prevention specialist
760-940-4350

Betty (B.J.) Williams – Crime Prevention
Specialist/Neighborhood Watch 760-510-5254

August 2006

HG Spiritualist Church Services

The Harmony Grove Spiritualist Church services are:

Saturday: Healing 1 PM – 2 PM
Church Service 2 PM – 3 PM

Sunday: Healing 10 AM – 11 AM
Church Service 11 AM – Noon



HOUNDS TO HORSES
In-Home Pet Services
760-PET-8822
www.houndstohorses.com
exp. 4/07

The Next Time You Leave Home, Your Pet Doesn't Have To.
Janean & Bill Huston
PHONE: 760.738.8822
1023 Country Club Drive
Escondido, CA 92029

Insured, Bonded, Member of Pet Sitters International

JACK STANKO
Free Estimates



Concrete Work
Cornerstone Paving & Sealcoating
Paving, Patching & Sealing

License #785256
Bonded
Exp 10/06

Business 909-657-3050

SPIRITUAL READER AND HEALER

Readings in English & Spanish
PARTIES • WEDDINGS

Rev. Beverly Rose Jones

For Appointment: (760) 739-7254
bnbjones@Ltsp.com

exp. 4/07

chaparral By Email

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



In today's uncertain times...

Do you need help managing your investments?

If you are like many investors, you may be reacting to daily market ups and downs—buying or selling without a clear investment strategy. In today's complex marketplace, this could be costing you money or exposing you to undue risk.

That's why we offer individuals and institutions a variety of portfolio management programs in which experienced professionals take on the complicated task of day-to-day portfolio management, while you still retain control of your financial destiny.

You deserve:

- Risk management
- Personalized investment strategy
- Strategic asset allocation
- Ongoing consultation and evaluation

For a complimentary consultation, call:

Todd G. Vitale
Financial Advisor, Corporate Vice President
760-918-3420 800-526-7707
todd.vitale@ubs.com

5050 Avenida Encinas, Suite 370, Carlsbad, CA 92008
www.ubs.com/financialservicesinc

Mr. Vitale is celebrating 18 years of service with the Firm.

You & Us




YOUR ELFIN FOREST NEIGHBOR, EVELINE F. BUSTILLIOS
 SUCCESSFULLY REPRESENTING ALL
 YOUR REAL ESTATE INTERESTS SINCE 1991



Eveline F. Bustillios

cell: 858-354-0600
 eMail: eveline@coldwellbanker.com
 web: www.evelinebustillos.com



Exp. 8/07

Need a Lawyer?

Martin Benowitz
 1905 Diamond St. Ste. B
 La Costa Meadows Industrial
 Center
 760-591-9700

*Your neighbor in Elfin Forest for
 22 years.*

**Business Transaction and Estate
 Planning Lawyer in the nearby
 business community.**

***Corporations, LLC, Limited
 Partnerships, Trusts, Wills,
 Durable Powers of Attorney,
 International Estate Planning, and
 Asset Protection Experience.***

760-591-9700

Exp. 9/06

Need a Website?

Call for a free consultation.

Check these samples of our recent work:

- www.plantplants.com
- www.sunshinegardensinc.com
- www.decorsandiego.com
- www.sdhortsoc.org
- www.andersonslacostanursery.com
- www.efhgtc.org (town council website)
- www.elfinforestgardens.info
- www.coburntopiary.com
- www.elfinforestcommunityfoundation.org
- www.newcoursejumps.com
- www.buenacreekgardens.com

ALL.EA

Evelyn Alemanni 760-591-0417
alemanni@allea.com
www.allea.com



Sue Hill

"Elfin Forest Specialist"

760-744-3430

suehill@prusd.com

Exp. 4/07



**Prudential
California Realty**

Marketing exceptional properties exceptionally well!

Elfin Forest Resident for 25 years
North County Real Estate Professional for 19 years
Supporter of Elfin Forest Fire Department, Town Council & Community Events

Listing & Selling more Elfin Forest properties than the competition!



For more information on this and other Elfin Forest properties, call Sue!



COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE SERVICES
Sales • Leasing • Management • Construction

Whether you require a commercial property for lease or purchase, property management or commercial construction, contact Dubs and Company, Inc. We strive to provide the unparalleled expertise, service, and the attention to detail that you deserve.

•Elfin Forest Residents•

Kenneth P. Dubs, Sr., CCIM
Kenneth P. Dubs, Jr.

Debra A. Dubs
Deanna K. Dubs

"Your Smallest Requirement is our Biggest Concern."

1850 Diamond Street, Suite 105
San Marcos, CA 92078

Exp. 6/07

(760) 591-4100

www.dubsandcompany.com

Classified

Local Baby, Animal and House Sitters

Ryan Anderson - Baby Sitting/Pet Care. High school freshmen, responsible, with own transportation. 760-471-5850

Amanda Clerke - Experienced Babysitter/Pet Care. Elfin Forest resident, RSF School. YMCA babysitter certification. 12 years old. Please call 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 Sale: 1985, 35 foot Coachmen travel trailer used for gardener to live in. One bedroom, needs work: \$500. Will deliver in Elfin Forest. Call Karl or Linda Watson 760-744-3489.

For Sale: 1500 lb capacity Motorcycle / ATV hydraulic lift. \$60.00. 760-471-7224



Guest House For Rent: 1 Bedroom / 1 Bath, Private property with parking. Quiet, clean individuals. 760-746-4692 for appointment.

Wanted: Newly married couple looking to rent 2-bedroom granny flat. Responsible college graduates. Quiet and trustworthy. Contact Karina or Rodney at 760-717-9894 or kleem22@hotmail.com.

Quality videos at a Reasonable price

iVIDEO
DIGITAL PRODUCTION SERVICES

Digital Editing DVD Production

Greg Parman
President

19856 Fortuna Del Este
Elfin Forest, CA 92029

619-218-9345
hm. 760-752-9599
email ivideo@direcway.com

"Hire a Pro from iVIDEO"

Professional Videos for all your needs

- Corporate Events
- Special Occasions
- Depositions
- Weddings
- Estate Brochures
- Birthdays
- Insurance Documentation
- Sporting Events
- Employee Training
- Photo Montages w/music
- Promos/Presentations
- Duplications/Transfers

exp 12/06

General Contractor AAA PRO Home Inspection

JEFF MULLEN
Custom Remodeling & Alterations

760-743-1851 CELL 760-715-8004

24 Years Trade Experience
Constr/Landscape Design
Decks & Patios
Painting & Repairs
Bonded

Lic.857327

Exp. 2/07

Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Town Council Board members: Mid Hoppenrath 747-1145, Eric Anderson 471-1464, Gordon Fines 291-1129, Bill Wilgenburg 746-9713, Cheri Smith 891-0294, Jacqueline Arsivaud-Benjamin 891-9061, Steve Barker 471-5559, Jeff Swenerton 471-4312, Betsy Keithley 471-8515

The *chaparral* is published monthly by the Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Town Council Board (a 501c3 non-profit corporation) and is distributed to residents of the Elfin Forest and Harmony Grove communities and elsewhere for a \$20.00 annual subscription. Check the mailing label for your subscription expiration date. If it has expired please send a check, payable to the Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Town Council, to 20652 Elfin Forest Road, Elfin Forest, CA 92029. For new subscriptions or address label corrections, contact Evelyn Alemanni at alemanni@allea.com or 471-7224. To protect you from unwanted junk mail and solicitations, the *chaparral* mailing list is not shared with anyone. **This newsletter is copyrighted. Unauthorized reproduction in any form is strictly prohibited.**

Articles of up to 500 words should be sent to newsletter editor Joe Alemanni by email to alemanni@vicrp.com 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.

**Thank You to the following individuals and
businesses for helping make the 2006
EF/HG**

4th of July Picnic a Huge Success:

***Dubs and Company
Sue Hill, Prudential Real Estate
Elfin Valley Nursery
Olivenhain Municipal Water District
Pardee Tree Company
Santa Fe Barbeque
Seedco/Eric Anderson
Stone Brewery***

***Fire Auxiliary
Jim Jakowich
Larry Cornwell
Retro Rockets Band
Bob Kephart
Tim Costanzo
The Meintjes Family
Rachel Barnes
Lisa Stephenson
The EF/HG Fire Department
Chief Frank Twohy
Nona & Steve Barker
4th of July Picnic Committee***

***All of the people who donated to the bake sale and cake
decorating contest.***

***All of the volunteers who helped set up and run the booths
and sell tickets!***



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING



GENERAL PLAN 2020: CIRCULATION ELEMENT (CE) ROAD NETWORK AND PROPOSED CHANGES TO CE FRAMEWORK

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors of the County of San Diego will conduct public hearings on General Plan 2020 (GP2020) as follows:

Planning Commission Hearing

Date: July 28, 2006
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Location: Department of Planning and Land Use Hearing Room, 5201 Ruffin Road, Suite B, San Diego, California 92123

Board of Supervisors Hearing

Date: August 2, 2006
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Location: County Administration Center, Board of Supervisors North Chamber, Room 310, 1600 Pacific Highway, San Diego, California 92101

Planning Reports for these hearings, as well as related attachments, will be available at the Department of Planning and Land Use and at the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors hearings. Both the Planning Report and final hearing agendas will also be available on the GP2020 website: www.sdcounty.ca.gov/dplu (click on General Plan 2020).

Questions and requests for additional information can be obtained by calling the GP2020 hotline at (619) 615-8289.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The purpose of these hearings is to review proposed General Plan revisions for Circulation Element (CE) roads and to receive direction from the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors on the CE road network needed to support future land use development within the unincorporated areas of San Diego County. Planning Commission and Board of Supervisor direction is also requested for minor revisions to the Draft Land Use Map, for proposed changes to the CE framework, and for the proposed level of service standard for CE roads.

All products submitted for review during these hearings are subject to further refinements and to future review by the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors as part of a complete package of General Plan 2020 products.

ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS: A Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report has been prepared and is on file at the Department of Planning and Land Use, 5201 Ruffin Road, Suite B, San Diego, California 92123.

GENERAL INFORMATION: This public hearing is accessible to individuals with disabilities. If interpreter services for the hearing impaired are needed for the Planning Commission hearing, please call the hearing secretary at (858) 694-3816, or California Relay Service, if notifying by TDD, no later than seven days prior to the date of the hearing. If interpreter services for the hearing impaired are needed for the Board of Supervisors hearing, please call the American With Disabilities Coordinator at (619) 531-5202.

NOTE: If you challenge the action which may be taken on this proposal in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the above public hearing, or in written correspondence delivered to the Hearing Body at or before the hearing. Rules of the Hearing Body may limit or impose requirements upon the submittal of such written correspondence.

For additional information about these hearings, contact Bob Citrano at (858) 694-3229.