



**Elfin Forest/
Harmony Grove
chaparral**

Dedicated to a continuing rural atmosphere

**From the Chair
By Evelyn Alemanni**

As always, there are lots of things going on in our valley.

The Rancho Santa Fe School District is choosing sites for new schools and we all received a copy of their survey. Many residents told me they didn't understand it or have enough information to properly answer the questions. The town council has invited the RSF Superintendent, Dr. Vinson, to speak at our August meeting to explain the siting process, identify the sites in Elfin Forest being considered, and answer all your questions. Dr. Vinson has not yet responded to our invitation, but we will stay on it.

Fortunately, our own recently distributed **Elfin Forest Survey** is much easier to understand. It's important that all of you complete and return it so that we can have accurate data as we deal with issues including GP2020 and new schools. If you didn't receive a survey, call your block captain.

The 4th of July picnic and parade is coming up on Sunday June 30th. These events are a great opportunity to meet new neighbors and celebrate our rural lifestyle. Check the articles later in the newsletter with more details on these events and how to participate as a volunteer.

Contents

An Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Tradition.....2
 4th of July Parade Details2
 Your Elfin Forest Survey Responses are Important!.....3
 Second Annual TECC Berkley Hart Benefit Dinner Concert3
 Volunteer to Help with Picnic/Parade.....3
 Elfin Forest Bookmobile3
 Minutes Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Town Council Meeting.....4
 The San Marcos Growth Management and Neighborhood Protection Act5
 Congratulations to Community Foundation Grant Recipients6
 Free Chipping!.....6
 WHOA!!!!!!6
 Help TECC6
 Rancho Santa Fe School District's Search for New School Sites7
 San Elijo Update8
 Elfin Forest is NOT a Motocross Track.....9
 Don't Be the Cause of a Fire!!9
 Garden Greetings10
 Business Takes Top Honors.....10
 Rancho Santa Fe School District Board Meeting Schedule10
 Pizza Is Coming, Pizza Is Coming!.....11
 News from Questhaven Retreat11
 Never on Sunday11
 Beautify your Home and Win Free Stuff.....11
 Elfin Forest Classified.....13

June Town Council Meeting – Wednesday, June 5, 7:30 p.m.

Important topics will be presented.

Our featured speaker will be Trish Boaz, Environmental Resource Manager from the County of San Diego Department of Planning and Land Use. She will tell us about the county's Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP). Two months ago, we heard a presentation by Janet Fairbanks from SANDAG on a similar program being implemented by the cities. Trish will "fill in the blanks" and show how the open space corridors will be connected through County lands. Because open space and conservation are important to the preservation of the rural atmosphere in our valley, this is a meeting you don't want to miss.

An Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Tradition

By Janet McGurk

This year marks the 25th annual Parade, our Silver Jubilee and the theme for this year's parade! It has been fun over the years to see our community's creativity in bringing each year's theme to the decorating of people, bikes, tractors, horses and other assorted modes of transportation. One year we even had a bus converted into a space shuttle. The Hamilton Stables, as it has for many years, is again the parade sponsor. (See a list of categories for the competition, in the following column.) Each year at the parade we honor a citizen for their contributions in service to the community. This year we are honoring David Cronshaw for the years he has been editing, publishing, and mailing the *chaparral* newsletter plus all the other activities he has quietly done.

Not only do we have a parade but also a community picnic. This has been a tradition for 30 years that started as a means for our Volunteer Fire Department to raise funds to buy needed equipment and to further the training of the firefighters. It began as a potluck meal and a few games for the kids. I still remember the "old dunk tank" that finally rusted out. Oh, how my son loved that one. This year it was decided to go back to our "rural roots" and have a potluck meal. To be able to cover our costs for the plates, napkins, utensils, canopies, tables, and the ever lovely "port-a-potties", we will still have an admittance fee. Tickets (including drinks, games, pony rides, raffle tickets, etc.) can be ordered through your block captain or by mail with the order form on the picnic notice in this newsletter. Your custom ticket order will be waiting for you at the picnic; there will be a "Will Call" line for this. This way you can avoid the lines with the usual long wait and can get right to the fun.

Also, we **still need volunteers** to help make the picnic a success and run smoothly. Here is a list of areas that still need (at the time of this printing) someone to run them: horseshoe tournaments, the children's games, set-up and tear down. Also needed are individuals willing to give an hour of their time on the day of the picnic to help in the various booths. Please contact Janet McGurk at 471-0831 or mcgurk@bytebloc.com.

4th of July Parade Details

By Linda Hamilton

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

Our 25th annual 4th of July parade will be held on Sunday, June 30. This year's theme, "Silver Jubilee – Celebrating 25 Years in Elfin Forest" gives you lots of opportunities for creativity.

Pull out your 25-year-old clothes, drive a 25-year-old car, and paint yourself silver... You get the idea. As always, the citizens of the year will lead the parade, riding in a beautiful red convertible.

Is this the year that you'll win one of the fabulous PRIZES? Categories are as follows:

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

LINE-UP is at 1 p.m. at the usual spot between Fortuna Del Norte and the Pickard's.

Parade starts at 2 p.m.

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

For more information, call: Kathy Pickard 744-1447 or Linda Hamilton 744-7952

Your Elfin Forest Survey Responses are Important!

During the past few weeks, you should have received a copy of the Elfin Forest Survey from your block captain. These surveys are to be completed by all Elfin Forest residents and businesses. If you didn't get one, please contact your block captain or any town council board member.

The survey was designed by the town council board members to reflect concerns that our community faces. Elfin Forest resident, Jacqueline Benjamin, a professional marketing research consultant, helped with the design and layout of the survey to assure that the questions are clear, concise, and meaningful.

Completion of the survey will allow the Town Council to know how **YOU** want the community to develop over the next twenty years. Your **confidential input** will enable the Town Council to more accurately represent your interests in the many issues facing the community, as we confront prospective developers and others attempting to change some of our community's characteristics. The survey data will be compiled and presented to the County so that your collective opinions are considered as the County updates its general plan and its long-range community plan, GP2020, which is also in preparation. Please be assured that your confidentiality will be maintained and that the data will only be analyzed in aggregate.

To get an accurate picture of Elfin Forest attitudes, it is paramount that every survey be returned. A stamped envelope addressed to the town council was included in all packets to make it easy to return the survey.

As a way to thank all participants, each survey packet includes a raffle ticket that you can use at the 4th of July picnic.

Dam! Dangerous Traffic on Harmony Grove Road

PLEASE report any unsafe drivers to the sheriff. For other problems with the dam project, contact:

Olivenhain Dam Hotline
877-426-2010

Second Annual TECC Berkley Hart Benefit Dinner Concert **By Nancy Reed**

Mark your calendar and save this date! The second annual TECC Berkley Hart benefit dinner concert is set for Saturday, August 3rd at the Lazy J Ranch. The \$50.00 admission includes food, beer/wine, dessert, coffee and the concert. Such a deal! Call Nancy Reed (471-7933) for more information. Tickets will be available soon.

Volunteer to Help with Picnic/Parade

We've been hosting a community picnic for 30 years and a parade for 25 and guess what? It's still mostly the same people doing all the work and they're getting tired.

If you are new to Elfin Forest or if you've never before helped with setup or the many other picnic tasks, here's your chance to meet your neighbors and join the fun. We need volunteers to assist with setting up, running games, making snow cones, serving drinks, and tearing down the event. Bring your entire family to the firehouse for picnic setup on Saturday, June 29. Stay as long as you like. Any time you can offer is better than none; even an hour makes a difference.

Elfin Forest Bookmobile **By Mickey Cross**

A great way to help entertain your children or yourself over the summer months is to visit the County Library's Bookmobile at the EF Fire Dept.

They can order books ahead of time for you by phone and, if in stock, have it by the next time they come out. They have regular books, children's books, and books on tape. Stop by and pick up a schedule from them whenever the bookmobile is here. The bookmobile is here every other Tuesday from 1:30pm to 3:30pm. Next stop dates are May 28th, and June 11th & 25th.

The bookmobile is a free service run year around. Why go to the library when the library can come to you!!

Questions about the bookmobile: call Cheryl at 760-643-5125

Minutes Of Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Town Council Meeting

By Patti Newton

DATE: May 1, 2002

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Telesco, Evelyn Alemanni, Patti Newton, Linda Hamilton, Mid Hoppenrath, Nancy Reed, Eric Anderson, Janet McGurk

CALL TO ORDER: 7:35 p.m.

ITEM #1: Alex Newton, field rep and **Rebecca Cole**, public relations, of the Olivenhain Municipal Water District updated residents on the dam project and urged them to call with any questions and concerns. As is the custom of the County Water Authority, dams are normally named to reflect the geographic area they occupy; a permanent name change will be considered on May 23rd. Residents were asked which they preferred of six potential names, i.e., Harmony Grove, Harmony, Box Canyon, Del Dios, Elfin Forest, Olivenhain. Residents overwhelmingly approved Elfin Forest.

ITEM #2: John Rollin, and **Julia Quinn**, of the S.D. County Department of Public Works (DPW), discussed issues regarding the final closure of the San Marcos Landfill. The EIR comments from concerned citizens are due by May 20th. The town council has drafted a comment letter and placed it on the web site for review before sending it. The EIR will be certified June 19th. The DPW anticipates commencement of construction (court mandated timeframe) in August 2003. The DPW will need to import approximately 430,000 cubic yards of soil, necessitating 30,000 truck trips over about seven months. That equates to 400 one-way truck trips per day between the hours of 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. A final route has not been identified since a supplier for the cover material has not yet been selected. The material required is of a very specific composition as per the Title 7 and court-mandated requirements. It was suggested that the DPW wait on the closure until the local road improvements are completed; the DPW would have to get permission from the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) and the Integrated Waste Management Board (IWMB). Residents asked for consideration of extra CHP and flagmen, a change in the hours of operation to avoid peak traffic snarls, and mitigation for any blasting (if it occurs). The buffer zone will remain unchanged until the City of San Marcos is satisfied with the closure. The County of San Diego can rescind the open space easement if it desires. Residents suggested it be dedicated as open space in

perpetuity. Rollin suggested these comments be included in the EIR comments.

ITEM #3: Curt Noland and **Jeff O'Conner**, San Elijo Hills (SEH), updated residents on SEH. There are 135,000 square feet of commercial space in the town center that will become available the middle of next year. Update on status of permits relating to roads. They anticipate completion of improvements to San Elijo Road by the time of the final closure of the landfill. Rancho Santa Fe Road from San Elijo Road to La Costa Avenue has been cleared and staked. Supposed to be an 18-month timeframe but work seems to be stopped for unknown reasons. The funding is in place for this and the improvements scheduled for San Elijo Road to Melrose. San Marcos has the remainder out for bid. San Elijo Road east through the SEH project (approx. 2.5 miles) has been designed and has gone through plan check. Rights of way have been acquired (with one exception) and all permits are ready, however, SEH will wait for University Commons (presumably by the end of the year). Tenants under consideration for the grocery in the town center are commensurate with Boney's, Henry's, although one of the "Big Three" is still a possibility. Residents registered their disgust with the orange street lights. Curt agreed to consider alternatives and get back to the community. The City of San Marcos is likely to vote on the proposed ridgeline golf course this August. There are currently 421 occupied homes in SEH. Grading and blasting will continue for another four to six weeks.

ITEM #4: Open Forum. Janet McGurk: The fourth of July Parade/picnic will be on June 30th. It will be a potluck this year. We still need volunteers and donations for the raffle and silent auction. **Ari Franken** announced the formation of a new Yoga class to begin May 22nd. It is designed for all levels and will begin at 6:30 p.m. at the firehouse. **Evelyn Alemanni:** There is an opening for a new board member on the town council. Interested parties can contact any board member for information. **Patti Newton:** One of the new mailbox kiosks has been broken into. Suggested people refrain from mailing anything until the morning before the carrier arrives.

ADJOURNED: 9:10 p.m.

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. Cost for the PDF version is free to regular "hardcopy" subscribers and only \$10.00/year to receive the PDF version only.

The San Marcos Growth Management and Neighborhood Protection Act By Cynthia Skovgard

The San Marcos Chamber of Citizens needs your help and support in collecting signatures for "The San Marcos Growth Management and Neighborhood Protection Act". To qualify this initiative for the November 5th election we need 2,500 Registered Voters from the City of San Marcos to sign it before June 14th. This Initiative allows the citizens of San Marcos the "RIGHT TO VOTE " on the amount of growth and development over and above what the General Plan now allows.

San Marcos has a General Plan that will permit up to 98,000 people and the commercial and industrial development to serve them. Our current population is 54,000. This initiative says if you want to increase San Marcos's holding capacity beyond this level, then the people of San Marcos must be allowed to vote on the specific proposal.

Currently all it takes is a simple majority vote of our city council members, who might be influenced by special interest groups, to get approval for higher density and intensity of use changes to our General Plan.

This initiative includes protection for sphere of influence proposals, which San Marcos is always so eager to annex and approve higher density zoning changes to. Currently there is such a project threatening to induce more urban sprawl into some sensitive wildlife corridors, and create more destruction of wildlife habitat north of Palomar College.

The "Highlands" project is tentatively scheduled for presentation to the Planning Commission on June 3rd. This high-density housing project is being proposed on land that is presently zoned one dwelling per 2 or 4 acres. Its plans will put 230 homes on a portion of a 225-acre site that is 60% percent in the unincorporated area of San Diego County. The extension of Las Posas Road across Hedionda Creek required for this project is just the beginning. Once Las Posas crosses the creek it will be possible for the rest of this valley to be developed in a similar manner to the Santa Fe Hills, high-density project that adjoins it. The city is pushing for this project with intent to extend Las Posas Road through to the rural area of Buena Creek Road in Vista.

The "Friends of Hedionda Creek" needs our help alerting the Santa Fe Hills community of the upcoming meeting to encourage their presence and voice their concerns at the Planning Commission meeting. Therefore, a joint effort of distributing information about this high-density proposal and gathering signatures for our petition will be held.

We will be going door to door so we need a lot of help! Please join us on Saturday, June 1st from 10:00 A.M. to 12:30 for our "FOCUS on SANTA FE HILLS" joint effort. If you are unable to help with this event, we still urgently need your help collecting signatures on any day before June 14th. For further information, please contact Cynthia Skovgard (760) 744-8380 or ChamberCitizens@aol.com

Town Council Website

The Elfin Forest Website is up and running, and being improved every week. Check it out at:

www.efhgtc.org

You can list your business in the Links section for only \$10 per year!

chaparral Advertising

Do you advertise in the *chaparral*? **We love our advertisers!** Along with subscription fees, they help make this newsletter possible and they let the community know of the many wonderful businesses and services available.

To renew your advertising, send a JPG format file and a check for the advertising. See rates below. Send your check, payable to the Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Town Council to 20223 Elfin Forest Rd.

chaparral Advertising Rates:

	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 - must be resubmitted every 3 months.

Congratulations to Community Foundation Grant Recipients

By Betsy Keithley, Secretary Community Foundation

The board of directors of the Elfin Forest Community Foundation met on Thursday evening, April 25, 2002 to evaluate the grant proposals that were submitted by the March 15, 2002 deadline. All proposals were funded. The projects are (in no particular order):

- 1) Elfin Forest Trails Committee - \$2,600 for fencing and landscaping associated with a trail along Elfin Forest Lane.
- 2) Elfin Forest Landscape Foundation - \$8,800 for continuation of the project to landscape and put trail fencing along Elfin Forest Road.
- 3) Elfin Forest Landscape Foundation - \$1,000 to cover the cost of rebuilding the engine of the landscape mini-truck used in the Elfin Forest Rd project.
- 4) Elfin Forest Landscape Foundation - \$650 to cover the cost of removing 2 eucalyptus trees from the trails-right of way on the Brown's property.
- 5) Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Fire Department - \$2,781.15 to cover the cost of 10 Icon programmable hand held VHF portable radios.
- 6) Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Town Council - \$2,500 to cover the up-front costs of the annual 4th of July picnic.

Congratulations to all the recipients and the community thanks you for your involvement and commitment to helping maintain the rural environment of Elfin Forest and Harmony Grove.

Free Chipping!

By Nancy Reed

The Resource Conservation District of San Diego is offering FREE chipping for a limited time. A federal grant (that's our tax dollars) has enabled this service aimed at reducing fire hazards. All the material to be chipped must be in one area accessible by the truck and chipping equipment. Limbs and branches can be no larger than 8 inches in diameter. Sorry, but they won't shred your compost. Call 619-562-0096 for more information.

WHOA!!!!!!!

By Tom Stephenson

As urban sprawl continues to consume North County, horse properties are becoming more and more scarce and soon will be few and far between. That's great for Elfin Forest property values. Or is it? Recently, some realtors have been promoting Elfin Forest as a great place to establish public horse facilities in our private rural community. Do you want boarding stables on a grand scale operating seven days a week popping up here and there or possibly even next door? I don't!

County zoning laws specify that our horse properties be for personal horse keeping only. Check out what the County Department of Planning and Land Use has to say about horse keeping on the Internet starting at www.co.san-diego.ca.us. In the Animal Schedule of the Zoning Ordinance Summary our properties have an Animal Regulation Designation of "V." This designation requires that a Major Use Permit (MUP) be obtained for a V designated property to be used as a "Public Stable" or "Boarding and Breeding Stable." There are many requirements to obtain a MUP including consent of a majority of the immediate neighbors. The County will enforce zoning violations and the fines are harsh.

Residents of San Elijo Hills might think this is a great place to board their horses and use our trails. We don't share their enthusiasm nor do we appreciate them using Elfin Forest to promote their community. Remember folks; only a small portion of their community is currently built.

We have to fight hard to save what we have otherwise we don't deserve to keep it. Zoning enforcement starts with you. It's your choice. You have access to the information. Read and share it. Let's all continue to keep protecting the future of this rare and special place.

Help TECC

Please help TECC save these precious, irreplaceable lands; donate today! You may use the donation envelope inserted in the recent Watershed Voice or mail in your own envelope to:

TECC @ PO Box 460791 Escondido, CA 92046

(Note: An incorrect zip code for TECC was printed in the last newsletter. We apologize for the error.)

Rancho Santa Fe School District's Search for New School Sites

By Mickey Cross

Due to questions regarding the survey sent out by the Rancho Santa Fe (RSF) School District (the District), I wrote this article to help everyone understand why, from this writer's point of view, there is an immediate need to build a new school. The current school was designed for 500-600 students and now has a student population of approximately 775. There are 14 "portables" (temporary trailer classrooms) on the school playground area to house the overflow of students. Approximately 70 students from Elfin Forest attend the RSF Elementary School. A demographic study ordered by the District predicts that this will increase to around 137 by 2008.

For over two years the District has been searching for a new school site within its boundaries. Out of an original list of nineteen sites, they are down to two: the Quantum and Salm sites. Other properties were deemed unacceptable for a variety of reasons: inaccessibility due to narrow and/or private roads, too steep, locations near plant nurseries where hazardous pesticides were or are being used, too close to an aqueduct (a water line under very high pressure), etc. There've been multiple public meetings of the RSF District Board (the Board) discussing this issue this year alone. If you are interested in attending Board meetings check the *chaparral* for dates and times or call the school at 858-756-1141. The office staff is there during the summer.

The Quantum site on Del Dios Highway at the junction of El Camino del Norte is approximately 36.6 acres (24 net usable acres) of raw land. It is large enough to accommodate a school site and possibly community playing fields and another community or neighbor joint use. The Salm site is north of Del Dios Highway east and not far from the Quantum site. It is narrower than the Quantum site and is just west of the "Summit" Development. There are 27.5 acres (approx. 20 net usable) of raw land. The Quantum site is a property inside the "covenant" of RSF and the Salm site is not. The Quantum site is currently for sale and the Salm is not.

The Board will decide what type of school will be built on any site. It is projected that at build out the District will need about three elementary schools and one middle school to accommodate all of the students

given the current District boundaries. The Board also decides whether the elementary schools will be K-4, K-5 or K-6, as well as what grades will be in the middle school: 5-8, 6-8 or 7-8. The site committee, set up by Superintendent Dr. Daniel Vinson and representing people from all over the district, voted to recommend that the Board: site a middle school at the Quantum site and continue as additional information becomes available, explore the Salm site, and keep the current school in RSF as an elementary school (K-4, K-5 or K-6). The Board may accept, modify, or reject these recommendations and no decision will be made until after public meetings.

To my knowledge, there are only a few sites in Elfin Forest suitable for a school. There have yet been no public presentations to the Board regarding possible sites in Elfin Forest. But because the school would require a minimum of 8-10 acres, the logical sites that the school could purchase, in my opinion, would be either from the Quail Ridge development somewhere near Fortuna del Norte (but far enough away from the aqueduct) or by Elfin Oaks/Circa de Media, or they could purchase property adjacent to Colina Encantada (open land in the process of a lot split by Michael Garrison). All of these properties are along Elfin Forest Road. Due to the fact that most of the other roads in Elfin Forest are narrow, curvy, and privately maintained, Elfin Forest Road would appear to have the least impact with the best accessibility for the majority of residents.

Having the District purchase property in Elfin Forest now is, again in my opinion, very important. It allows the District to buy at today's prices and hold the land until needed (if needed) putting future property owners and developers on notice that a school could be built on that particular site in the future. Not buying now guarantees not having a school here at all because it is unlikely a suitable (8-10 acres) site will be available.

A school will not be built in Elfin Forest until there are enough Elfin Forest students to support it and/or the other schools are full (or near full). It will probably be an elementary-only school with its actual grade configuration determined by the Board. It would remain in the RSF District with the same high quality of education and standards as other schools in the District. Children could walk or ride bikes to school and their parents would benefit from the shorter commute. **(Continued Next Page)**

Rancho Santa Fe School District's Search for New School Sites (Continued)

If a school were not built here, eventually the other schools in the district would become over-crowded. I believe smaller schools and smaller classrooms equate to better learning and higher test scores by students. Middle school students from Elfin Forest would still attend school in the RSF area, wherever the District decides to place the middle school.

I have talked with Dr. Vinson on many occasions and can tell you he is a man who thinks towards the future. He is very intelligent and very fair. He, like the Board, only wants the best for ALL of the children, regardless of whether those children live in or out of the covenant. The teachers in the school and all of the parents I have spoken with think he is wonderful. Dr. Vinson joined the District this school year after the retirement of the prior superintendent, Dr. Rowe, last year. He has come into this school with an incredibly difficult task to accomplish...to site a new school as soon as possible and deserves our support. We are hoping to have him out to our Town Council meeting in August, thanks to Evelyn Alemanni, to talk to us about the District's plans to site and/or build new schools.

You can access information on the school at their web site: www.rsf.k12.ca.us. Their phone number is 858-756-1141 and fax 858-756-0712. The District's address is P.O. Box 809, Rancho Santa Fe, Calif. 92067. If you can't make it to a meeting, you can mail or fax comments (well ahead of meeting time) or drop them by at the office.

Superintendent: Dr. Daniel Vinson
Board of Trustees: Kathleen Stumm, President
Deborah Plummer, VP
Barbara Taylor, Clerk
Linda S. Bowman
Michael Kreiss

If you have questions, please call me at 744-2034 or e-mail me at mickeykc@juno.com.

San Elijo Update

By Kim Hunter

Thank to Curt Noland and Jeff O'Conner of San Elijo for coming to our Town Council meeting. (Do you

think they could talk to our County Supervisor and convince him it's not so bad?)

Town Center - Good news is that a Henrys/Trader Joe's type market is an option to the other "Big Three." Just the same, I'm glad San Elijo opened that door as do many other Elfin Forest and San Elijo residents. Also, Nona may get her bar but it may not open until Nancy's daughter is old enough to drink.

Sales - We have 421 new San Elijo neighbors. Projections were 1 sale a week, but sales were boosted after San Elijo was judged Master Planned Community of the Year by the National Association of Homebuilders.

Roads - SANDAG has tentatively granted San Marcos funding for a portion of Rancho Santa Fe (RSF) Road (Island to Melrose). Hopefully, permits are forthcoming or SANDAG will yank it for not being "ready to go." University Commons has taken over permits and construction of RSF Road (towards San Marcos) and the first segment of San Elijo Road widening. They applied for a 404 permit and hope to get it this month if Gnatcatchers are not nesting. Otherwise they will have to wait until the end of breeding season in August. Carlsbad's section of RSF Road has permits. To get updated on projections, I suggest we have University Commons out sometime soon. The Twin Oaks Valley Road connection is still in limbo. Right of way has been obtained, except for Byron White, who San Marcos does not feel will be a hindrance. Design is done, but no permits have been submitted and funding is still absent. San Elijo has been asked to hold that 404 permit application until University Commons permits are issued. Then, provided the permits and right of way are finalized, the roadway will be in position to apply for Regional funding. Still a long haul here.

Proposed Golf Course - San Elijo downsized roads when they "eliminated" golf course traffic and use in finalizing their plan and the ridgeline has always been a protected non-developable preserve. Switching the land use from Regional Hiking Park to developed course, clubhouse, and restaurant has created quite a stir in San Marcos. Meetings on it may start as early as June. I hope everyone will make the effort to become informed about details of the proposal.

Elfin Forest is NOT a Motocross Track By Evelyn Alemanni

Elfin Forest is home to some of the finest stands of coastal chaparral remaining in Southern California. Its biological richness hosts many endangered species of plants and animals and conservation of this priceless treasure should be a priority for all of us.

During the past few months we've seen a dramatic increase in off-road motorcycle and quad runner activities on horse trails and water road easements. Motorized vehicles of any kind are not compatible with equestrian trails or endangered habitat. They destroy habitat and make the trails unsafe and unusable for horses. With the lack of rain this past winter, sparks from these vehicles present a HUGE FIRE DANGER. Their noise echoes through the valley and disturbs everyone within earshot.

Worse yet, some parents allow children to ride motorcycles alone on the trails. If your child were to be injured, how long could it be before you know about it? What might happen to your child who is vulnerable and alone on a trail?

All the land in Elfin Forest and the surrounding areas is privately owned and riders are trespassing. Many homeowners who have graciously made trails available across their properties have said they will block their trails if the motorcycle riding continues.

If you must ride, ride on your own property. We believe that the majority of riders are not from Elfin Forest and we should have **ZERO TOLERANCE** for this activity. One rider tells a friend who tells a friend, and soon, our valley is home to a continual motocross rally and we have no habitat or, for that matter, sanity left.

Please call the sheriff anytime you see this illegal activity. The sheriff has told us that even if they don't come out immediately, they make a note of the time and date of the incident and can use this information to determine trends. They then will make spontaneous visits when they predict riders are out. They are grateful for the calls they get from us.

So, dirt bikers and quad runner riders you've been warned. We're watching, we're reporting, and there's a HUGE FINE when you get caught.

Don't Be the Cause of a Fire!! By Nona Barker

You don't have to have a match to start a fire! Every year people trying to eliminate their fire hazards by mowing start fires instead. Hot, dry, and windy weather are perfect conditions for a fire. Here's how to keep cool, eliminate the fire hazard, and prevent a fire:

1. Don't mow during the "heat of the day". Mow before 10:00 AM and after 6:00 PM. If it's too hot for you, it's too hot to mow.
2. Keep the mower, exhaust system, and spark arrester in proper working order and free of carbon buildup.
3. Use the recommended grade of fuel and don't top off.
4. Avoid *striking rocks with metal blades*. A grass-hidden rock is enough to start a fire.
5. Keep the engine and cooling fins free of oil and dust. It reduces the chance of a mower catching fire and lets the mower run cooler and last longer.
6. Keep the mower free of flammable materials. Check the grass outlet, around the blade, and the grass bag for obstructions.
7. Spark arresters are required on all portable gasoline powered equipment (Tractors, harvesters, chain saws, and mowers).
8. Grinding *and* welding operations require 10 feet of clearance and a fire extinguisher.
9. Keep a shovel and a fire extinguisher handy. Call 9-1-1, in case of a fire.

BEWARE – Lawn mowers are designed to mow lawns, not dry grass or weeds!

*Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Fire Department
20223 Elfin Forest Road - 744-2186*

CDF/San Diego Unit, Fire Prevention Bureau, San Diego County, 2249 Jamacha Road, El Cajon 92019
(619) 590-3100

Garden Greetings

By Nancy Reed

I was lucky enough to have known Charles



Ledgerwood, the Seed Man of Carlsbad. My daughter Danielle had the pleasure of learning about weights and measures by watching Mr. Ledgerwood measure the minute weights of various seeds in his antique scales. The spirit and seeds of Mr.

Ledgerwood lives on today at Urban Seed & Flower, owned by the husband and wife team of Michael Bliss and Maurice Taitano.

Michael and Maurice approached Mr. Ledgerwood asking for his blessing to start a seed store in San Diego. To their surprise, Mr. Lederwood offered them his inventory and supplies. Upon his death, Urban Seed and Flower was born. It's first home was in La Mesa, but by a twist of fate Urban Seed and Flower has found a permanent home in a reborn antique shop on Adams Avenue in San Diego.

And what a beautiful home it is! Lots of garden art, furniture and, of course, the seeds in those turn of the century breadboxes. Now, Maurice was very candid with me and stated she does not have the same depth of knowledge as Mr. Ledgerwood. But Charles had been at it for over 70 years! Maurice and Michael bring years of experience as landscape architects to the business. They know what seeds work here in San Diego.

Maurice has also been busy starting a line of cards from a collection of antique seed packages that came with the inventory. The artwork is classic with rich colors with a down to earth feeling. If you do not see them, be sure to ask. Seed prices are \$1.50 to 2.00 a package. New flower mixes have been added and you can place special orders. Some plants and trees are also available.

Urban Seed and Flower is located at 2856 Adams Avenue, just one block west of 805. Hours are Wednesday through Saturday 11am to 5pm. Other hours by appointment, call 619-584-7768. Please tell them you saw it in the *chaparral*.

Business Takes Top Honors

By Shari McCray

Shari McCray owner of local gift basket firm, A Joyful Presence, earned top honors for Design Excellence at the National Gift Basket Convention and Trade Show held in Las Vegas April 4 – 7. McCray competed for recognition among 108 entries. A Joyful Presence was awarded 2nd place in the Publisher's Choice category. The Jubilee! 2002 annual convention attracted more than 2500 attendees, representing 46 states and 5 countries.

With this highly coveted industry award, McCray has now achieved qualification status to compete in the 2003 Gift Basket Designer of the Year competition. Competitions are a part of the overall gift basket industry's program to generate original, creative packaged gift concepts.

A Joyful Presence was founded in 1997 and serves both private and corporate accounts. The firm specializes in custom gift baskets for all occasions. For more information visit the company web site at www.agiftbasketofjoy.com or call (760) 752-1777.

Rancho Santa Fe School District Board Meeting Schedule

By Mickey Cross

May 30th (Thursday) at 7pm – Special Meeting for discussion of the results of the school survey and possibly Dr. Vinson's recommendations to the Board on what type of school to build and where. There might be a recommendation regarding obtaining land in Elfin Forest for a new school. There will be no public input at this meeting, but it's important to get this information directly from the source.

June 5th (Wednesday) at 7 pm – Special meeting for public input (*very important for you to attend*.) The Board may decide on the new school and a possible school bond issue for the November election either tonight or at their regular meeting on June 19th.

June 19th (Thursday) at 7 pm – The regularly scheduled meeting see agenda for June 5th above.

Meetings are held at 5927 La Granada Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92067 in the LGI building adjacent to the main gym on the east end of the campus near the public library. Questions: call Mickey Cross at 744-2034 or e-mail at mickeykc@juno.com.

Pizza Is Coming, Pizza Is Coming! By Nancy Reed

In spite of all the beauty we have in Elfin Forest, one thing has been missing, pizza delivery. But that is about to change. I have arranged for Leucadia Pizza to make a special 911 Friday night run to Elfin Forest. For this to happen the entire areas order must be over \$100 and a 15% tip must be paid to the driver. All orders must be phoned into Leucadia Pizza by 4pm. You can call it in the day before. Delivery will be made to individual houses. Pizzas can be paid via cash, credit card and /or check. For a complete menu, go to www.leucadiapizza.com. Call in all orders to the Encinitas restaurant only, 760-942-2222. Call Nancy Reed at 760-471-7933 for any questions.

News from Questhaven Retreat June 2002

Sunday worship is at 10:45 a.m. All are welcome. Questhaven Retreat is at 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 7:15 p.m.

Meet at El Chapelito, Led by Jean Michalewicz.

The Way Within Meditation Classes

1st & 3rd Wednesday at 12:00 Noon

Meet in the Academy, Led by Rev. Phyllis Isaac.

Exploration in Prayer Classes

2nd & 4th Wednesday at 12:00 Noon

Meet in the Academy, Led by Rev. Elizabeth Wood.

Sunday Services

June 2 - Rev. Susan S. Cary, **The Spiritual Lives of Johann Sebastian Bach and George Frederich Handel.**

June 9 - Rev. Elizabeth Wood, **Nature's Influence Upon our Growth.**

June 16 - Rev. Blake Isaac, **Fatherhood: A Lesson in God's Love.**

June 23 - Rev. Jonathan Wiltshire, **Teachableness: Staying Spiritually Alive.**

June 30 - Rev. Phyllis Isaac, **America the Beautiful.**

Never on Sunday

Did you know that San Diego County Code prohibits operation of construction equipment or machinery on Sundays and major holidays? So if you're thinking about doing any grading on a Sunday, be prepared to pay a fine.

Beautify your Home and Win Free Stuff

Is your yard crying out for help? The upcoming *Landscapers' Challenge* series needs Los Angeles area homeowners who want to re-design an outdoor area. They are also looking for landscape designers and architects. Just like the *Designers' Challenge* series, three landscape designers present plans to solve a homeowner's outdoor design dilemma. Homeowners chosen to appear will receive the plans and the services of the chosen landscape designer for free! Homeowners just pay for labor and materials. Email: Landscapers' Challenge, Pie Town Productions, landscape@pietownprods.com.

Are you the Turf King/Queen of Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove and up for a little neighborly competition? The producers of a new HGTV gardening series are seeking homeowners in the Los Angeles area to compete against one another for the best-looking yard. Each homeowner is given \$1000 worth of planting materials and identical tools, access to a professional landscape designer, and up to six friends or family members to be part of your team. It's a race against the clock to see which team can design, demolish and install the best-looking landscape. If you would like to be a contestant, and have a neighbor who is also interested, contact them at: groundrules@pietownprods.com.



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Time to Renew Your chaparral Subscription?

The **chaparral**, the monthly newsletter published by the town council, is the only publication that consistently delivers all the news you need to know about Elfin Forest and Harmony Grove. It includes a complete listing of monthly community events, interesting articles, minutes of the town council meetings, and FREE classified ads. Mail completed form with payment to:

EF/HG Town Council 20223 Elfin Forest Road, Escondido, Calif. 92029

Subscribe today! Still only \$15 per year.

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Want to advertise your business on the town council website? A link is only \$10 per year. EFHGTC.ORG

Check to **Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Town Council** enclosed in the amount of _____

Elfin Forest Classified

Local Baby, Animal and House Sitters

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

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

Megan McLaughlin -EF Resident, Rancho Encinitas Academy 7th grader, infant CPR trained. Tel: 760-744-3664.

Local Elfin Forest Carpenter for hire 25 years experience... Call Jamie at 591-0348



Give a unique, memorable gift for any occasion!
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(760) 752-1777

7928 Harmony Grove Road
FREE Deliveries in Elfin Forest!

Exp 5-03 **a Joyful Presence Custom Gift Baskets**

Elf Alerts

Are you getting your Elf Alert? If you recently changed your email address, you are 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 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 don't share the list with ANYONE!



Wild Bird Center
Your ultimate backyard nature store.™

Henry's/McDonalds Shopping Center
1283 Encinitas Boulevard
Encinitas, CA 92024
Phone: (760) 334-6001
Fax: (760) 334-6003

Scott Todd and Ginny Szabo
Owners

Expn 1/03

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TIM & CLAUDIA COSTANZO



Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove 25th Annual Parade and Picnic

Sunday June 30, 2002

Come and have an old fashioned 4th of July

Potluck Dinner

A-M please bring Salads N-Z please bring Main Dishes
(Please bring food to serve 10)

There is a Bake Sale for Desserts!

Parade Line Up is at 1 p.m.

Parade Starts at 2 p.m.

This year's parade theme: Silver Jubilee

(Sponsored by Hamilton Stables)

Picnic / Potluck starts at 3 p.m.

Bring a Music CD to share

(We reserve the right not to play).

**Games ... Raffle ... Music ... Pony Ride
Horseshoe Tournament**

Tickets are on sale now, use the order form below.

Proceeds Support the Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Community

Admittance: \$20.00 per family \$5.00 per person
(You can pick up the tickets at the "Will Call line" at the picnic)

For Parade information call:Linda Hamilton @744-7952

For Picnic information call: Janet McGurk @471-0831 or Rachael Barnes @471-4300

To order tickets, please complete the form below and mail it, with a check payable to the Elfin Forest Harmony Grove Town Council to: Janet McGurk 7706 Camino Sereno Elfin Forest, CA 92029

Name _____

Phone Number _____

Email _____

		Quantity	Total
Family Admittance	\$20 (please indicate # of tickets needed)		
Adult Admittance	\$5 each		
Non-Alcoholic Drinks	\$1		
Alcoholic Drinks	\$2		
Child Games	\$0.50		
Cotton Candy/Snow Cones	\$1		
Raffle Tickets	\$1		
Hay Bales (first 40 get)	\$5		
Grand Totals			



Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove chaparral

Calendar for June 2002

**Check the date on your mailing label.
 If your payment is past due, this is your last issue.**

Date	Time	Event
Wednesday, 6/5	7: 30 pm	EF/HG Town Council meeting
Tuesdays 6/4, 6/18	1:30 pm to 3:30 pm	Bookmobile @ Firehouse
Tuesday 6/4	7 pm	Fire Training @ Firehouse
Every Friday	10 am – 12 pm	Playgroup
Monday 6/4	7:30 pm	Fire Board @ Firehouse
Wednesday 6/12	7 pm	Fire Auxiliary @ Firehouse (check)
Tuesday 6/11	7 pm	Fire Training @ Firehouse
Saturday 6/22	9 am	Fire Training @ Firehouse
Saturday 6/29	12 noon	Picnic setup @Firehouse

Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Town Council
Board members: Evelyn Alemanni 471-7224, Linda Hamilton 744-7952, Mid Hoppenrath 747-1145, Nancy Reed 471-7933, Bill Telesco 746-4692, Janet McGurk 471-0831, Eric Anderson 471-1464, you?

The Elfin Forest chaparral is published monthly by the Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Town Council Board and is distributed to residents of the Elfin Forest and Harmony Grove communities for a \$15.00 annual subscription. Check the mailing label for your subscription expiration date. If it has expired please send a check, payable to the Elfin Forest Town Council, 20223 Elfin Forest Road, Elfin Forest, CA 92029. For subscription or address label corrections, send email to Alemanni@allea.com or call Joe Alemanni 471-7224.

Articles for publication should be sent to Evelyn Alemanni by email to alemanni@allea.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.