



Dedicated to a continuing rural atmosphere

From The Chair

By Mid Hoppenrath

Welcome to all our new fellow council members in the northernmost part of Harmony Grove and to our new directors, Bob McGurk, Jan Denny, Greg Parman, and at-large member Terry Walsh. Thank you to our returning incumbents, Evelyn Alemanni and Patti Newton. Thanks also to the residents who volunteer countless hours to serve on organizations such as the Elfin Forest Community Foundation, the Fire Board of Directors, and the Fire Auxiliary, and who perform much needed services such as editing and publishing our newsletter. One of the things that really set this community apart from our neighboring cities is the degree of activism in our residents. We need to encourage each other to continue to keep up our efforts to preserve our rural lifestyle.

Opportunities abound to get involved in the development of your neighborhood. We will be forming subcommittees to help us manage traffic issues, help organize fundraising events like the 4th of July picnic, and give special attention to community issues wherever it's needed. Residents in some of our neighborhoods in both Harmony Grove and Elfin Forest are considering gating their roads to restrict access and we will need to consider the impacts of these decisions. Please contact any of your Town Council board members to join these subcommittees and really make a difference in your community.

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Town Council Meeting – Wednesday, March 3rd @ 7:30PM

At The Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Fire Station

Topics: Road Gating and Paving and Burglaries

Election Results

On February 4th elections were held for the Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Town Council Board, the Elfin Forest/Harmony Fire Board of Directors, and the Elfin Forest Community Foundation.

Results of the Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Town Council Board elections were as follows: incumbent Patti Newton was reelected to the Board with 36 votes; incumbent Evelyn Alemanni was reelected to the Board with 34 votes; Robert McGurk was elected to the Board with 39 votes; Greg Parman was elected to the Board with 34 votes; Jan Denny was elected to the Board with 30 votes; Terry Walsh, with 16 votes, was asked to be an at-large Town Council Board Member. The ballot initiative to allow that portion of Harmony Grove not currently in CSA 107 to be represented by the Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Town Council passed with 22 Yes votes and 16 No votes.

The results of the Elfin Forest/Harmony Fire Board of Directors election were not received for inclusion in this issue of the *chaparral*. We hope to have it available for a future issue.

The three incumbent members of the board of the Elfin Forest Community Foundation (Mike Vallee, Frank Twohy, and Virginia McMannus) were reelected for subsequent terms.

chaparral by email

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

Calendar For March 2004

Date	Time	Event
Weds 3/4	7:30 PM	EF/HG Town Council Meeting
Tues 3/2 3/16	7 PM	Fire Training@Firehouse
Every Thurs	6:30 PM	Yoga
Mon 3/8	7 PM	Fire Board@Firehouse
Weds 3/10	7 PM	Fire Auxiliary@Firehouse
Sat 3/27	8 AM	Fire Training@Firehouse

Permit Renewal Pending For Fraternity House

An application for renewal of the conditional use permit for Fraternity House has been submitted to the city of San Marcos. The name is a euphemism as the facility is a home for AIDs patients. The notice sign was placed in an obscure location along Elfin Forest Road and only one person in the surrounding area received a Notice of Intent on January 21st.

Complaints and concerns about the Fraternity house need to be submitted in writing by March 1st. They are going through the review process as we speak. The more letters of concern that are submitted, the more effective they will be.

Fraternity House is a business run in our rural community. It leases the million-dollar San Diego County-owned house it uses as its facility for \$1 a year. With eight resident patients and attending staff the septic system is frequently overwhelmed. Our seasonal creeks have been polluted by Fraternity House. A large amount of traffic is sent through our community by buses taking resident patients to and from their doctor's appointments and by the people who work and visit Fraternity House. They show little regard for the speed limit or our equestrian pets.

Young families live in close proximity to the Fraternity House. Neighbors have tried to get information on the background of the men who live there. The people who oversee the house choose not to share any information about these individuals. Instead, they feel we should just trust their judgment as to whether or not these men are a threat to this community.

It's time to take our community back and put an end to this gross mismanagement of county properties! Take a look at the two other county owned homes next to the Fraternity House. It's pretty obvious the people overseeing these properties have little respect for this community and are no better then ghetto slumlords.

It takes all of us to make a difference so please write and call the City of San Marcos Planning Division with your concerns for the safety of our children and the environment. Contact: Norm Pederson, City of San Marcos, 1 Civic Center Drive, San Marcos, 92069 or 760-744-1050 x3204.

Supervisor Grants Matching Funds For Garden Festival

By Evelyn Alemanni

San Diego County Fifth District Supervisor Bill Horn has offered Elfin Forest a grant of up to \$15,000 in matching funds for whatever monies we raise with the Elfin Forest Garden Festival. Who knew that Supervisor Horn could be a garden angel and friend of the trails? The proceeds from this year's garden festival (see related article) will go toward the beautification of the trail created when gates are installed at both ends of the unpaved portion of Questhaven Road. The existing battered chain link fence will be removed and replaced with split rail fence with the goal of creating a safe and scenic place to walk and ride. Many thanks to Supervisor Horn and his staff. Now you can do your part, and order your garden festival tickets! An order form is on the back of the cover page, or you can order tickets online at www.elfinforestgardens.info.



San Diego County Fifth District Supervisor Bill Horn

Thank You, Fire Department

By Carolee Ferguson

A most heart-felt **Thank You** to the Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Fire Department and paramedics for their quick response and part in saving my husband, Larry Ferguson, last Sunday evening (February 8th) when he suffered a heart attack. Larry is progressing very nicely now and, hopefully, will be home in a few days. Sincerely, Carolee Ferguson.

New Urban West Supports Garden Festival

By Evelyn Alemanni

Happy to help with a community fundraiser, Linda Bailey of New Urban West, Inc., developers of the proposed Village at Harmony Grove, presented a check for \$1000 to the Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Town Council to be used for the Elfin Forest Garden Festival. New Urban West joins Hunter Industries and Marilyn's Own as major sponsors of the event which will be on April 24th.



New Urban West's Linda Bailey presents Evelyn Alemanni with a donation for the garden festival.

Minutes Of The Fire Auxiliary

By Mary Garman

Date: February 12, 2003

Meeting called to order at 7:15 PM.

Minutes and Treasurer's report read and approved.

Old Business: Claudia Constanzo still has some Entertainment Books for sale.

New Business: After a lengthy discussion, the Fire Auxiliary voted against having a Pancake Breakfast fund raiser this spring but will instead work to make the next Chili Cook-Off fund raiser a much larger and more successful fund raising event.

Thanks to Jan Murphy and Myrna and Terry Rife who will be providing lunch in February for the Fire Department Training Day.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30.

“Blossoms and Barns” Get Your 2004 Garden Festival Tickets Now!

By Evelyn Alemanni



There's a new twist to the garden festival to be held on April 24. You know that it's a fundraiser for creating, maintaining and beautifying our trails. Now, the county has

committed to MATCHING the funds we raise, up to \$15,000! So have a good time, and do “double” good while you're at it. Visit barns and enjoy the gardens that surround them.

One of the gardens will be in the April issue of *Sunset*. Others have won local and national awards. Tickets are limited, so order yours today. Don't miss out while people from all over the country ooh and ah over Elfin Forest gardens. Tickets are \$20 and lunch is \$12, same as last year.



Eight gardens will be open, lunch served at the Questhaven Retreat, and Elfin Valley Nursery will host a 7500 sq. ft. garden marketplace. Preview the gardens and order tickets at www.elfinforestgardens.info.

Many thanks to our wonderful new sponsors, New Urban West, Hunter Industries, Tri-C, Ecke, Diggity Dog, and Proven Winners. Want to be a sponsor or open your garden for next year's tour? Contact Evelyn Alemanni at 760-471-7224 or alemanni@allea.com.

Elf Alerts

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.

RSF Garden Tour & Luncheon

By Donna Ferrier

On Saturday, April 17th, the Rancho Santa Fe Garden Club presents a garden tour and luncheon from 9AM until 4PM with a check-in time at 8:30AM. Shuttle buses leaving from the Rancho Santa Fe Garden Club located at 17025 Avenida de Acacias, Rancho Santa Fe, will board **promptly at 9AM** to begin a tour of four magnificent local gardens.

At 1PM the buses will drop tour attendees at the Delicias restaurant, located in the beautiful village of Rancho Santa Fe, a short walk from the RSF Garden Club, for a delightful luncheon. After lunch, attendees can walk to the Garden Club and have the opportunity to browse through the Flower Show and Plant Sale, which will be open for the entire weekend.

The Flower Show includes artistic arrangements of roses, miniatures, oriental-style, and table-settings. The Plant Sale will also be open for shopping and will include donations from Garden Club members and nursery-grown specimens compatible with the gardens on the tour.

The cost of this wonderful event is \$40.00 for RSF Garden Club members and \$50.00 for non-members, including the luncheon. Reservations are required. In the event of a sell-out, we'll establish a standby list.

The Flower Show, Horticulture Exhibits, and Plant Sale will be open to the public on Saturday, April 17 and Sunday, April 18 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., free of charge.

Please make Garden Tour checks payable to the *Rancho Santa Fe Garden Club* and mail to:

RSF Garden Club Programs
P.O. Box 483
Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92067

Past *chaparral* Issues On Web

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

The School Yard

By John Stiker

Welcome back to the School Yard! First important note: Our next meeting is on March 11th at 7PM (earlier than usual due to budget submission requirements). This week's column will just be a short recap of the issues discussed at the February 25th meeting. Reminder: Proposition K will be on your March 2nd ballot.

As we've shared, Prop K is our \$4.8 million "safety and repair" bond to conduct capital repairs on the R. Roger Rowe site. Key items that will be addressed in Proposition K include:

- Improvements in student safety at drop-off and pick-up
- Updating of fire, communication, and electrical systems
- Upgrading technology in the classrooms to 21st century standards
- Long-needed improvements to infrastructure such as sewer and water

Also included will be non-glamorous items such as continued compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), upgrading to current seismic standards, and restoring the site to its original state after the new school is built. The total assessment for Prop K is estimated to be less than \$7 per year for

each \$100,000 of assessed value – a small price for important upgrades!

Traffic at Quantum – As we all know, the single biggest legitimate issue with the Quantum site for a second school is the traffic concerns on Del Dios. At our last board meeting in January, the traffic engineering firm Katz & Okitsu presented their initial survey results. While it appeared that the use of roundabouts did substantially relieve traffic on Del Dios and did enable us to mitigate the traffic impacts of a school to be opened at Quantum, we on the board (and many members of the audience) had a number of unresolved questions coming out of that study. On the 25th, we will see the next round of results on this study which should answer most if not all of those questions, as well as provide in-depth detail on the assumptions, terms, and impacts.

Superintendent's Contract - On the 25th the Board will be reviewing our three-year contract with Superintendent Vinson (due to expire at the end of this school year) and will decide what action to take going forward. This will be a closed session item and any action taken will be reported at the beginning of open session at 7PM.

Next Steps - *Please vote YES on Prop K!* And as always, we eagerly look forward to your comments and input by phone, email, or at our meeting on March 11th!



RSF School District Quantum Site Middle School Conceptual Sketch

It's Gotta Stop!

Our community is a peaceful and beautiful place. SHAME on those who don't do their part to keep it that way. Here are some of the most recent nuisances. Let's all work together to make sure these activities are stopped. If you encounter an offender and have a digital camera, take a picture and email it to the newsletter editor and the sheriff. If you only have a pencil, jot down the vehicle license number and description. In any case, when you see something illegal or even questionable, call the sheriff. Don't wait for your neighbor to call. These illegal, criminal and annoying activities will continue as long as we allow them to by remaining idle.

Burglaries – During the period from February 16th through the 23rd three homes in Elfin Forest were burglarized. Two homes on Elfin Forest Road and one on Elfin Oaks. The break-ins occurred during the day when the residents were at work and the thieves took cameras, computers, jewelry, and money. This could be construction workers from the local mega-developments on their lunch breaks trying to supplement their incomes with your property. Keep your eyes open and your doors locked!

Illegal Dumping - At the beginning of February, someone dumped this load of concrete and construction materials on the unpaved portion of Questhaven Road. Within a few days, another load was dropped next to it.



Illegal dumping on Questhaven Road

This should be easy to spot and prevent. Make sure you record the license number of and any identifying information about the dumper's vehicle. Don't confront them, let the sheriff handle it. The penalties for illegal dumping are severe.

Motocross - These off-road motorcycle riders are not just a public nuisance with the noise and dust they make. They frequently created a public safety hazard and liability by trespassing via the horse trails, private roads, County Water Authority and OMWD easements, and even through the chaparral. The riders ignore posted "no trespassing" and "no motorized vehicle" warnings. Their presence invites other illegal riders who see them racing along the roads.



Off-road motorcyclists trespassing on the CWA easement

If you see off-road motorcyclists traversing several properties (and regardless of what the riders might tell you) you can be sure that they are doing so without the permission of the property's owners. A check of neighbors found unanimous lack of consent.

Elfin Forest is not a motocross track. Let's not wait until someone is injured by or liable for the injury of trespassing off-road motorcyclists. Operating a motorized vehicle is NOT permitted on a community trail.

Construction Vehicles - The following email was received: "Heavy dirt/rock hauling trucks are coming through Elfin Forest from the east to the San Elijo school site. Also, I was behind a fuel truck barreling through Elfin Forest and spilling fuel all the way that pulled into the large empty lot just south of Elfin Forest Road, east of the San Elijo Hills town center! I took down license plate numbers and company names."

Remember, there are speed and weight limits on Elfin Forest and Harmony Grove Roads and construction traffic is prohibited from using Questhaven Road as a short cut to the San Elijo Hills and University Common developments in San Marcos. Don't let violators endanger us by tolerating their behavior.

Leave Me Alone

The Federal Telephone Consumer Protection Act of 1991 and Federal Communications Commission rules prohibit unsolicited advertisements, known as junk faxes, from being sent to fax machines at homes or businesses. Such faxes cost the recipients money for fax paper and toner. In spite of the prohibition, it was often ignored in California. That's because junk faxers cited a state law that permitted junk faxes as long as the fax itself included a toll-free phone number for a fax recipient to call to "opt out" of receiving faxes.

A bill that eradicated that loophole was initiated in 2002 by Assemblywoman Christine Kehoe, D-San Diego and the legislation was approved. The law making sure California's junk-fax law conforms with federal law went into effect in January 2003. Still, the junk faxes keep coming. Some of them have opt-out information on them, even though it doesn't matter anymore. The faxes shouldn't be sent, period.

One of the provisions of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act that was supposed to start in August was for marketers to get written permission from recipients before faxing unsolicited ads, even to those who had an "established" relationship with the faxer. A week before the rule was to go into effect, the FCC decided to delay the start date to January 2005. Many business and nonprofit groups complained that the written-permission rule would place an unreasonable burden on them.

Tom Dresslar, spokesman for the state Attorney General's Office, suggests taking these steps if you are receiving junk faxes:

- File a complaint with the attorney general's Public Inquiry Unit and the FCC. To file an online complaint with the Attorney General's Office, go to: www.ag.ca.gov/consumers/mailform.html. To file an online complaint with the FCC, go to: www.fcc.gov/cgb/complaints.html. You also can call the FCC's Consumer Center at 888-225-5322.
- File a complaint in Small Claims Court. Dresslar said individuals can sue for \$500 per violation, and up to \$1,500 per violation if the junk fax continued to be sent to you after you had asked a company to stop.
- He suggests keeping copies of all junk faxes you receive.

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www.elfinforestgardens.info
www.coburntopiary.com
www.elfinforestcommunityfoundation.org
www.sdhortsoc.org
www.buenacreekgardens.com
www.fishmagiciantackle.com
www.debraleebaldwin.com

ALL.EA

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

News From Questhaven Retreat



**Sunday worship is at 10:45 a.m.
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 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.

Sunday Services

Mar 7th - The Sacredness of the Lenten Season

Rev. Myrna Triggs

Mar 14th - Spiritual Friendship-Priceless Pearl in the Sea of Humanity - Rev. Jonathan Wiltshire

Mar 21st - Christ Centered Reflections on the Spring

Equinox: Balancing the Inner with the Outer

Rev. Alexandra Alba

Mar 28st - The Healing Power of Forgiveness

Rev. Bette Harper-Davis

Apr 4st - Christ Created the Pattern of Our Faith

Rev. Phyllis Isaac

The Holy Quest

The Holy Quest is offered as a three-day course based on the teachings of Flower A. Newhouse designed to lead you to the discovery of a way of life that opens you to your highest purpose in God's Plan. Topics to be covered: Christian Mysticism; Our Sevenfold Bodies; Christian Discipleship; Angels; and Flower A. Newhouse: Mystic, Seer and Teacher. Registration fee: \$225.00: Includes two nights accommodations, meals, study materials, and a certificate of completion. Course is limited to 20 individuals.

Dates for the 2nd series: March 5-7, 2004, 3rd series May 14-16, 2004. See the web for further details or please call 760-744-1500, www.questhaven.org. The Christward Ministry, 20560 Questhaven Road, Escondido, CA 92029.

chaparral Advertising

Please support our advertisers! Many of them are your friends and neighbors. Do you advertise in the *chaparral*? 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.

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 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:

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

Robert Jennings – Deputy 760-510-5223

Darren Dollard – COPPS - 760-510-5220

George Barrone – COPPS - 760-510-5221

Sgt. Dan Wilson – COPPS – 760-510-5231

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

March Playgroup Schedule

By Anna Waite

Friday, March 12th - Train Ride to historic San Juan Capistrano. Depart Oceanside Amtrak Station at 10:18 AM. Directions: 5 North to Mission - West to Coast Highway - Left to Topika - Left to Fremont - Right to 2135 South Fremont, Oceanside. Please arrive about 25 minutes early to purchase tickets (\$8.50 each way including kids). The train leaves on time. Leave San Juan Capistrano at 1:40 PM. Pack a lunch and snacks for you and your kids. We will visit a petting zoo and walk around this historic town. This will be a fun trip for the kids.

Friday, March 26th 6-9PM - Mom's Night Out at Savory Restaurant in Encinitas (Union Bank Center across from Red Robin) on El Camino Real. Please RSVP by Wednesday March 24th to Anna 760-752-1835.

San Elijo Hills Contact

If you need to report any problems with the grading, traffic, etc. regarding the San Elijo Hills (SEH) project, please contact Phil Stillman who is SEH liaison with the community. He can be reached at philstillman@fstlaw.com. If you feel the problem was still not resolved, call San Elijo at 760-918-8200.

Town Council Website

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



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Escondido, CA 92025

(760) 741-6211

lindab@nuwi.com

Exp. 4/04



Elfin Forest School of Rock!

Wanted:

**Smart/Creative/Talented E.F. Teenagers OR Adults
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Tutors/Kids- Send your rates, subject, availability to

zparman@ucsd.edu
752-9599

Earn money... Save money... Get a local Study Buddy!

After school sessions M-Th: 3:30-6:30 Weekends: As needed
Location: Can be arranged or at Parman's (Upstairs Guest Flat)

Writing
Math
Science
Guitar
Drums

Are you an expert in something?

Offer your knowledge, expand our horizons!

Classified

Local Baby, Animal and House Sitters

Brooke York - EF Resident, LCC School 10th grader, Baby Sitting. Tel: 760-752-7784

Jared York - EF Resident, RSF School 8th grader, Baby sit or feed animals. Tel: 760-752-7784

Free: To any local family, just call to arrange pick up! 54" Huffy graphite basketball hoop/backboard, no net. Sturdy steel pole too if we cut it off/dig it out. 8048 Harmony Grove Road. Call Barry Bridge at 619-818-0249 or 760-744-2914.

For Sale: Engineered wood flooring. Robbins Urban Exotics Walnut Bister, 5" width, various lengths. 28SF per box, 40 boxes available. Regularly \$6+ per SF, only \$4SF OBO. Call Dan at 760-809-5955.

Wanted To Rent: Mature/responsible lady with two horses and well-behaved border collies seeks guest house/cottage in rural, private setting. EF/Twin Oaks areas preferred. Will consider full or partial exchange for services. Please call 760-752-7831

Who ya gonna call?

To report **illegal dumping**: 858-495-5143

To report **excessive noise**: 858-694-3741

Brushing, Grading, Clearing Questions?

If you have questions about guidelines, policies and standards for brushing, grading, and clearing, or if you need to report a violation, call the County Department of Planning and Land Use 760-940-2893.



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

Exp. 2/05

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(858) 748-1141
or (760) 789-1493

Exp.5/04

Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Town Council Board members: Evelyn Alemanni 471-7224, Mid Hoppenrath 747-1145, Jan Denny 736-8436, Arie Franken 471-2648, Robert McGurk 471-0831, Patti Newton 471-8937, Eric Anderson 471-1464, Greg Parman 752-9599

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