

**DEDICATED TO A CONTINUING RURAL ATMOSPHERE****Annual Fire Department Meeting****EF/HG Fire Station****Monday, October 10, 2011 7:00 pm****From the Chair****By Jacqueline Arsivaud-Benjamin**

The Fall season was inaugurated with a bang of sorts, first with a great presentation by our Fire Department on September 7<sup>th</sup> on the realities of what will happen in case of wildfire (see it on our new website), and followed on the next day with the first regional blackout – For one blissful night, the sky looked like what I remembered in 1989 when we first bought the land where we built our house: delightfully dark.

Turnout at the September community meeting was disappointing giving the subject, and the harsh reality that in the next wildfire, your house is very unlikely to be defended by a fire truck: with only one fire truck fully staffed 24/7, its survival will be almost entirely dependent on how well you built a defensive perimeter around it. I know a lot of old time residents think they know it all, but listening to Chief Calhoun and Captain Barker sent this old timer to the clipper and the saw, for one. I would really encourage you to look at the presentation, and then to actually walk your property and trim, cut and yank out as needed...

If you missed the meeting, you need to know that it is important not to use a bulldozer, bobcat or any other mechanical device when thinning vegetation for the required 100' perimeter around your home. It may seem like fun to play on, and it sure is quick, but in many cases it may be illegal. This is because you are most likely dealing with protected, coastal sage scrub, the vegetation most prevalent in our "backyards". Bulldozing also creates havoc on your neighbors for years to come: erosion takes its toll and rains take the topsoil away, invasive weeds not only colonize the cleared area but

also spread to the creek beds and protected open space, and when they dry out they pose a much greater fire risk than the native vegetation. So get out your hand trimmers to do the thinning, and leave the roots undisturbed.

Happy gardening now that the weather has turned cooler, and don't forget to come to the Pancake Breakfast on September 25<sup>th</sup>!

Finally, OMWD has awarded the pipeline contract to Utah Pacific and construction of the raw water pipeline down Elfin Forest Rd will begin this fall.



July 2011 EFHG Parade

## *Jeff and Carolyn Swenerton Are the 2011 Citizens of the Year*

*By Betsy Keithley*

The Swenertons built their house in 1978 or 1979 - the party years. They raised 2 girls here and today have the whole family here, including 2 grandchildren who live in Germany.

Jeff - back when the dump was still operational and the only traffic on Elfin Forest Rd was trash trucks that exceeded the load limit, and were very annoying, Jeff contacted the County and Mashburn, who used to collect the trash, and forced the trucks to drive through San Marcos to get to the dump rather than on Elfin Forest Rd. He is a tireless member of the TECC Board focusing on educational programs at the Interpretive Center at the EF Recreational Preserve



Carolyn has served on the Fire Dept Auxiliary and the Trails Committee. She has been a Block Captain since the idea was first formulated. She greets new people in the local neighborhood and makes them feel welcome. For the last 5 years they both have Chaired the Picnic Committee to put on the best 4th of July picnics.

Together they make a formidable team and are part of why Elfin Forest is a wonderful place to live.

## *Bridges Unit 7 Property is Acquired for Open Space*

*By Jacqueline Arsivaud-Benjamin*

FINALLY, it is official, the 100 acre Bridges Unit 7 acquisition is closing by end of September, after more than six years of work from a whole crew of people from all sorts of organizations, and more obstacles than any of the folks who do this for a living have ever seen on a single project. This property completes the buffer on Elfin Forest 's southern flank between ourselves and Rancho Santa Fe, and insures that no sewer service will come that way to threaten our rural community character. It also marks the first time the community sues the

largest home builder in the country and wins, not a small accomplishment for tiny Elfin Forest. The property will be managed in perpetuity through the Endangered Habitat Conservancy, whose sister organization, EHL, played a crucial role in derailing Lennar's application to build homes or sewer there.

A community celebration in October is being planned to recognize those who have made this possible and thank them. If you would like to help plan, underwrite, volunteer or in any other way contribute to the event please let me know at [j.arsivaud@gmail.com](mailto:j.arsivaud@gmail.com). Details will be forthcoming on e-alert as they are finalized.



*Keeping it Rural - Farm scene on cake*



**Elfin Forest / Harmony Grove Fire Department  
And Fire Auxiliary present**

# **Pancake Breakfast and Open House**

PLEASE JOIN US AS WE OBSERVE FIRE PREVENTION AWARENESS  
AND RAISE MONEY FOR NEW GYM EQUIPMENT

**Sunday 7:30 – 11:30 am**

**September 25<sup>th</sup>**

**\$8.00 PER PERSON**

**\$4.00 AGES 3 – 10**

**20223 ELFIN FOREST ROAD, ELFIN FOREST**

**MENU: PANCAKES BACON SAUSAGE FRESH FRUIT JUICE MILK COFFEE**

**WE INVITE YOU TO:**

- ❖ **BE THERE, BRING FAMILY AND FRIENDS**
- ❖ **SHARE YOUR HOMEMADE MUFFINS, JAMS, JELLY AND YOUR READY TO EAT HOME GROWN FRUIT**
- ❖ **BRING YOUR CAMERA AND HAVE YOUR PICTURE TAKEN ON A FIRETRUCK**
- ❖ **VISIT OUR BEAUTIFUL FIREWISE GARDEN**
- ❖ **TAKE HOME FIRE SAFETY MATERIALS - FOR ALL AGES**



## *Elfin Forest Trails Committee Does Trail Maintenance*

*Bonnie Baumgartner, Chair of Trails Committee*

In the last several months, the trail committee has been actively adding new fencing along the trails, brushing trails, and doing some minor erosion control and repair. The split rail fencing has been our major expense. Labor for fence post digging and tractor equipment and operation was donated.

Most of the fencing along Elfin Forest Lane has been placed. The erosion on the Elfin Forest Rd. trail at Circa de Media has been repaired, and we are currently clearing brush on the Faraway Lane Trail.



Often after our work, we have gotten together for pizza and a beer, and some friendly banter.

Many thanks to the Trail Committee Members: Joy Jackson, Nancy Reed, Carolyn Swenerton, Carla Zilka, Sandra Bartsch; and the friends of the Trails: Danny Goodrich, Roxanne De Mik, Jay Zilka, Jeff Swenerton, Ken Baumgartner for their sweat equity in our trail refurbishing efforts. Go Team!

See you on the Trails!



Joy, Bonnie, Carolyn and Nancy

## *Board of Supervisors Reviews Equine Ordinances*

*By Bonnie Baumgartner, Chair Equine Ordinances Committee*

In March the Board of Supervisors (BOS) directed Department of Land Use (DPLU) staff to review the County's Equine Ordinances and report back with suggestions. This was in response to requests from the Equine community, in general, Valley Center's Equine Committee, and Michelle Kimball's San Diego Equestrian Foundation, (SDEF.ORG) specifically. The concern was the onerous and expensive process of obtaining a Major Use Permit (MUP) for boarding facilities, riding academies, and individuals boarding even a single horse.

On May 20, 2011, the BOS voted 7-0 to proceed with a review and revision of the Equine Ordinances patterned after the Boutique Winery Regulations tiered approach.

The Equine Ordinance Committee of the EFHG Town Council had also voted to support this approach because it seemed to be the best way to maintain horses in our rural residential community. The last survey done in EFHG showed that 70 % of people in our valley want to maintain the ability to have animals and our rural life-style. Not all of us have horses, but we respect the right to have them. The EOC committee also respects the fact that our non-horse owning neighbors expect us to maintain best management practices (BMP's) with regard to manure, dust, flies , noise- etc. We all have to be good neighbors.

This is the beginning of a process that can take as long as two years to finish and will require an environmental impact report (EIR). We will keep you posted as we progress.

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## *Elfin Forest Community Foundation Awarded Grants in Spring 2011*

*By Steve Barker, Chair EFCF*

The Foundation met in April and welcomed newly elected Board members Will Stosic and Alan Lasnover. Board members present were Steve Barker, Martha Blane, Tony DeBellis, Frank Twohy and Lori Vitale. Virginia McManus was absent. Officers elected for 2011 were Steve Barker as President, Mike Vallee as Treasurer and Will Stosic as Secretary. The Treasurer reported Fund income for the previous 6-month period of \$5,176 with no reported expenses.

Grant requests for the period totaled \$13379.82. The following grants were approved:

- 1) Sky Mountain - \$300.00 for Environmental Educational Programs
- 2) The Escondido Creek Conservancy - \$2200 for Water Testing Equipment
- 3) Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Fire Department - \$2500 toward funding of an ATV for off road rescue.

A check was received from the Elfin Forest Town Council for \$20,000. The money comes from OMWD as Community mitigation for construction impacts from the Unit AA pipeline. These funds must be granted by the Foundation to the community before October 2013.

## Grant Applications for these funds as well as the regular Fall Foundation Funding cycle are due October 15<sup>th</sup>.

Information about the Foundation and grant applications can be found at -  
<http://www.elfinforestcommunityfoundation.org>

# General Plan Update

*By Jacqueline Arsivaud-*

On August 3, 2011 the Board of Supervisors adopted the General Plan Update. What this vote means for our specific community includes:

- Elfin Forest minimum lot size is now 4 acre for the most part. If your lot is less than 4 acres, no worry, you still have a legal lot. This only affects future subdivisions, and is intended to transition from higher densities of 2 acres in RSF to the 20 acre minimum size in the buffer zone between ourselves and San Marcos.
- The property known as Harmony Groves Meadows received a density increase from 25 units under the old General Plan to 170 under this new update. The property owner (a bank currently) still has to apply for a tentative map to subdivide the 210 acres and there will be plenty of opportunity to comment and intervene at that point.
- The other large (over 500 acres) property we were concerned about - University Heights - did not get its request for added density but instead is zoned at 20 acre minimum per lot.

Following adoption of the plan, the Board voted to schedule a workshop to review the Property Specific Requests submitted during the General Plan Update hearings that were not included in the adopted plan. Approximately 187 requests throughout the county will be available for review, which are listed in the [inventory of property specific requests](#). The requests were submitted during public testimony on the General Plan Update and evaluated in the March 16, 2011 staff report, which is available on the General Plan Update [website](#).

A new staff report will be prepared for review of the 187 requests, which will be available to the public at least 10 days prior to the November 9, 2011 workshop. The previous staff analysis of each request will be supplemented with additional information regarding conformance with the newly adopted General Plan Guiding Principles and with implications of amending the General Plan to incorporate the request.

The November 9, 2011 workshop will be held during a regularly scheduled Board meeting, which begins at 9 am in the Board Chambers at 1600 Pacific Highway. Note that this workshop is for discussion of the 187 Property Specific Requests only.

DPLU staff is available to discuss this process in more detail and will consider any information submitted on the 187 Property Specific Requests prior to October 1 in the preparation of the staff report. For more information or to coordinate with staff, email: [gpupdate@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:gpupdate@sdcounty.ca.gov).

Horned Toad Lizard  
Photographed on  
approved Cielo del  
Norte plan property

2011





**ELFIN  
FOREST**  
&  
**HARMONY  
GROVE**



**JULY 4**  
**PARADE**  
&  
**PICNIC  
2011**



Thanks to all of you who came out to join our 33rd annual celebration of our country's birthday on July 3, 2011, we had a terrific parade and picnic! We had a record number of participants in the parade, excellent food, great entertainment and fun games for all ages. Our Fire Department was honored by the Duracell company for being an outstanding volunteer Fire Department, and Duracell gave them a donation of \$2000.

Once again, the planning for the event was led by Jeff Swenerton who, along with his hardworking wife, Carolyn, was chosen by the Elfin Forest Harmony Grove Town Council to be the 2011 Citizens of the year. Jeff and Carolyn were chosen for this honor not just for their work for many years on the parade and picnic, but for their efforts for the community in so many ways dating back over twenty years. Jeff has been very active with The Escondido Creek Conservancy, the Elfin Forest Harmony Grove Town Council, numerous community committees and work parties, and other efforts including minimizing the impact of what was at one time the San Diego County Landfill.

The winners of the best entry in the parade were the Fontaine family, whose "Best Motorized Small Vehicle" depicted a fire crew fighting a fire, including simulated smoke and a fire dog.

We could not have had such a great event without a small army of volunteers who worked very hard to make this event happen. Thank you all for doing such a great job. We also couldn't have done it without the help of our corporate sponsor, Albertsons in San Elijo Hills, who donated a significant amount of the food and beverages. When you shop there be sure to thank the manager!

## *Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Town Council Has New Website and Facebook Page*

*By Jacqueline Arsivaud-Benjamin*

If you have not visited the new community website at [efhgtc.org](http://efhgtc.org), go check it out!

After months of planning with a student team from Mira Costa (which ended up with just one lone volunteer left after everybody else flaked out..), we finally have a totally redesigned and up to date Town Council website. Some of the new info you'll find there:

- everything a new resident need to know about the community (from how to get a welcome basket and finding their block captain to specs on dark skies- approved light fixtures!)
- a special Equine Corner for our horse loving friends with info on the regulations that apply here, and emergency evacuation info
- info on volunteer opportunities, organized groups you can join, and the many ways to get involved: this is *your* community!
- links to press coverage on our community for the last few years
- an expanded history section, and a run down on our past successes as a community *keeping it rural*.
- the minutes of past Town Council meetings and official correspondence we have sent on your behalf in last couple of years
- an event section so you can plan ahead to get involved (and see great pictures of this year's Independence day celebration).
- a link to our new Facebook page

Let us know what you think and whether you have suggestions to make it more useful. If you need a website designed, or know someone who does, consider hiring Mimi Sampson at Fotelle Artistic ([fotelle.artistic@gmail.com](mailto:fotelle.artistic@gmail.com)), who donated hundreds of hours of work to not only design the web site but take all the photos and redesign our logo and letterhead.

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### *Newcomer's Corner* we'd like to welcome the following families to the community:

William and Holly Stosic moved to Fortuna Del Este recently and already started to volunteer with the community: William was elected to the Board of the Community Foundation! They have a grown up daughter in Arizona, and are interested in animal rescue, animal rights, music, travel and horticulture. They are eager to start volunteering in the community, Holly says "please call upon us to help with any event or program".

Sarah and Jeff Witt moved to Canyon de Oro from Encinitas a few months ago, with their two little boys, Branson (6) and Kaleb (2). Sarah is a structural engineer and Jeff a stock market analyst, and Sarah noted they moved to Elfin Forest because "we would like to raise our kids in a more rural setting". They like to hike, cook and travel. Sarah would like to join the Conservation committee.

JP and Gigi Theberge are moving to their new home on Elfin Forest Road from La Costa – they temporarily moved in but expect to have to move out to the onsite trailer soon so the extensive remodel they have planned can start in earnest. In JP's words: "My wife, Gigi, and I and our 3 small children, are very excited to move into this wonderful community. I run a market research firm called Cultural Edge Consulting based out of Carlsbad and my wife is a homemaker (currently), a writer and the former director of Marketing / PR for the SD Humane Society and SPCA. We are big animal lovers, but have little experience with horses. A full-size dressage arena might motivate us to learn more about it, but with our oldest barely 5, we might wait a few years." Oh, and JP is off to China to compete in the Paratriathlon World Championship!

If you notice new people moving in your neighborhood, please send an email to [efhgtc@gmail.com](mailto:efhgtc@gmail.com) so the Welcome Committee (Minoo!) can drop off a welcome basket. Also direct them to the New Resident section of the new web site at [efhgtc.org](http://efhgtc.org).



# *Many Wonderful Items Auctioned at the Picnic*

*By Jacqueline Arsivaud-Benjamin*

This year with lower attendance (and none of the beloved Coburn Topiary sculptures, save your pennies for next year!), auction proceeds were about \$2,000 less than last few years, but still raised close to \$5,000. Most expensive items sold were the Fire Department Birthday Bash at \$700, and the Estate Planning Package from the law offices of Marty Benowitz at \$650. A big thanks to all of you who bid, and to all our generous donors below – please consider giving them your business where appropriate:

Amy Molenaar  
 Bobbie McFarlane  
 Boris Said  
 Brett's BBQ  
 Carters Hay and Feed  
 David Barwick, David Alan Collection  
 Eric Anderson, Anderson Seed Co  
 Fireplace Plus  
 French salon San Elijo Hills  
 Jeff and Carolyn Swenerton  
 Kevin Barnard  
 La Costa Kids  
 Linda Watson  
 Maria Morgan, Captured moment Photography  
 Martha Blane and Leonard Wittwer  
 Mimi Sampson, Fotelle Artistic  
 Nancy Reed  
 Peppertree Hills Eatery, San Elijo  
 Rob Albert, Evergreen Research  
 Subway San Marcos  
 Toes on Melrose  
 Totally Bamboo, Joanne and Tom Sullivan  
 Virginia McManus

Ann Hough and Alden  
 Bonnie and Ken Baumgartner  
 Bret and Leah Bookhamer  
 Carolee Ferguson, Holistic Healing Massage  
 Dave Felker, Polara Golf  
 Denice Dudek, Dogs & Suds  
 Fire Etc  
 Frank Twohy, EFFD  
 Hendo's Pizza  
 Kathy Macon, Say Provence  
 LA Boxing on Melrose  
 Linda and Craig Dado, Del Mar Thoroughbred Club

Mariah's Westwind restaurant  
 Marty Benowitz, Esq.  
 Mino and Manuchehr Sohaey  
 Patti Newton  
 Quilt in a Day, San Marcos  
 Sandra Bartsch & Jeano Erforth  
 Suzie and Dave Kaplan  
 Toni Fairman, BioWellness  
 Valentine and Conception Blanca  
 Windmill Cleaners



*Michelle Sidwell organizes the Cake Walk at the Picnic and it looks like so much fun to decorate the cakes - and then eat them!*



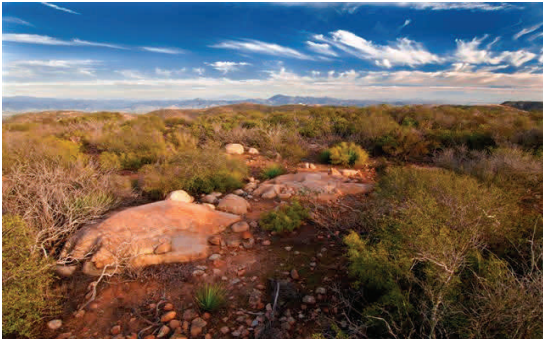
## *Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove and YOU!*

### *Together We Make a Difference!*

With Fall approaching we start to notice the changing of the season and appreciate how fortunate we are to live in the wonderful natural surroundings of Elfin Forest and Harmony Grove. There really is no place like it! What you may not realize is that there are forces at work which would change the shape of our landscape, bringing large housing developments that would forever spoil the beautiful view sheds that we all enjoy and disrupt the peaceful rural lifestyle that we value.



Since 1991, The Escondido Creek Conservancy, a dedicated group of local residents, have worked tirelessly on your behalf to save over 2000 acres of natural open space in the Escondido Creek Watershed, the majority of that land within the Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove area. In the last 12 months alone, TECC has facilitated the preservation of 119 acres along Harmony Grove Road, opposite the Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve, by purchasing the Family Stations property and transferring it to the County of San Diego. In addition, after decades of work by TECC, the 100 acre Cielo Azul property was finally purchased by the County for permanent preservation. If developed, this



property would have meant homes on the popular "Way Up Trail" in the middle of the Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve. TECC contributed it's Coler parcel of 45 contiguous acres worth over \$1.2 million to make the deal happen.

It is no secret that there are several very large tracts of pristine open space in the Elfin Forest/ Harmony Grove area that must be saved now before they are developed. Should these tracts be developed, they would permanently alter the character and quality of the contiguous reserve we have all worked so hard to protect for our grandkids.

### **What you can do:**

#### **Help cover the cost of our overhead - we will do the rest!**

- *Become a member of TECC* - annual membership starts at just \$25 - you supply the funds to cover the costs of doing business. Also, when TECC is fighting to preserve open space, membership numbers can be used as political clout. Sign up at <http://escondidocreek.org/support-the-conservancy/>
- *Donate funds to the land acquisition fund.* An anonymous donor has started a matching fund of \$100,000, so any donations up to that amount will be doubled. We have currently raised \$67,000 against this match. Donations can be made through our website at [http:// bettergivingsd.guidestar.org/NonprofitHome.aspx](http://bettergivingsd.guidestar.org/NonprofitHome.aspx).
- *Sign up for our mailing list* at [www.escondidocreek.org](http://www.escondidocreek.org) to receive details of our events and activities or join us on Facebook.

*The future of Elfin Forest and Harmony Grove is in our hands.*

## *Notice How Much Nicer Elfin Forest Road Looks?*

*By Minoosohae*

People surprise us in so many different ways. Recently the board members of Elfin Forest Harmony Grove Town Council noticed that a lot of signs - mostly real estate signs - were going up along Elfin Forest Road. This road is the main (and only public) road through the community, and according to the County's signs ordinance, as well as the policy passed by the Town Council Board back in 1995, signs cannot be installed within the right of way (which encompasses both sides of the road for a total width of 80').

The Clean-up Committee, in its effort to continue to beautify the area, which benefits us all, including prospective purchasers, decided to start with friendly phone calls and asked these companies to remove their signs. That is when the surprises started. Most of these ladies and gentlemen responded with a very nice gesture and even apologizing that they did not check the rules and regulations before putting the sign up, and removed them immediately. On the other hand, a very few were completely the opposite way.

In this article we would like to thank all the agents for their cooperation and making our main thoroughfare into the community not too crowded with different shapes and size signs, and also ask the other who still have their signs up along the main highway to remove them as soon as possible.

If you have a home for sale, we appreciate your cooperation as well in letting your agent know that signs can only be installed in front of the property for sale.

As another way to recognize the real estate professionals who complied, we'd like to invite them to submit a list of the homes they have for sale in Elfin Forest with the agent contact info, and we will publish those notifications for free in the next Chaparral. Send the info to [efhgtc@gmail.com](mailto:efhgtc@gmail.com), and we thank you.

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## *Free Talk - "Getting to Know Natives"*

*Sponsored by The Escondido Creek Conservancy*

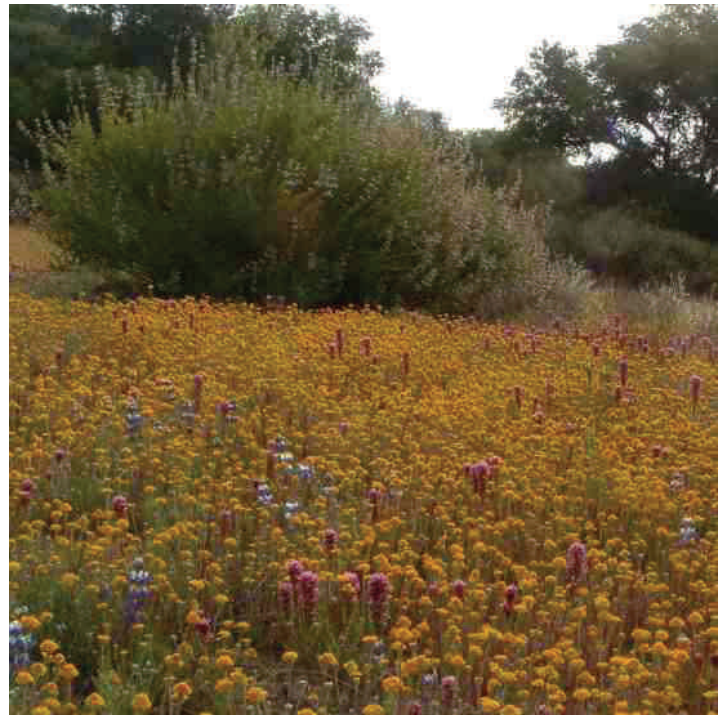
Thursday, September 22nd., 5:00 pm

Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve

- Interpretive Center

.With Valerie Philips, Manager of Las Pilitas  
Native Plant Nursery in Escondido

As part of the Fire and Rebirth theme at the Interpretive Center this fall, come and find out how to select native plants for fire safety. There will be a display of native plants available for people to view. Admission Free, donations to TECC welcome. RSVP to [information@escondidocreek.org](mailto:information@escondidocreek.org) or phone 760-471-9354.





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## *Neighborhood Watch – Why YOU should be involved ...*

The best way to discourage criminal activity in your neighborhood is to establish a communication network known as Neighborhood Watch.

Get to know your neighbors, share information, report suspicious activity, and become a crime prevention advocate. Be pro-active residents, offer to become street or block captains and encourage your neighbors to join Neighborhood Watch.

The Crime Prevention Unit of the Sheriffs Department is committed to educating all communities on numerous public safety topics. Please contact Jackie Cruz of the Sheriff's Crime Prevention Unit to schedule FREE crime prevention programs and FREE home security consultations.

### SHERIFF'S COMMUNICATION CENTER CONTACT INFORMATION

**Emergency**

**9-1-1(Life in Danger or Crime in Progress)**

**Sheriff's Dispatch  
(24 hrs a day)**

760-510-5200 Press 1- NON-EMERGENCY to report a "Crime After the Fact" or to report "Suspicious Activity" or request information etc.

### OTHER IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

San Marcos Patrol Station  
182 Santar Place-San Marcos

760-510-5200 Business Office – Information  
Hours Mon-Fri 8 a.m to 5 p.m.  
Closed Holidays

760-510-5254 County Crime Prevention  
jackie.cruz@sdsheriff.org

# Picnic Accounting

by Jacqueline Arsivaud-Benjamin

The 4<sup>th</sup> of July picnic this year had a bit of a different flavor with the Duracell sponsorship, and we had great hopes that we would be able to turn over \$2,000 in picnic profits to the Fire Department. Duracell separately presented the department with a check for \$2,000, contributed another \$1,000 in gift cards, and \$2,300 towards the catering bill from Brett's BBQ. One big surprise this year when our treasurer, May Meintjes, completed the accounting, was that we would have lost \$1,800 if Duracell had not contributed to the food costs to the tune of \$2,300 - we usually more or less break even. The combination of a lower attendance (only 300 sold tickets, vs. 350 to 400 in other years) and some cost overruns resulted in net cash proceeds of only \$493 instead of what we thought would be at least \$2,000, which we expected to donate to the Fire Department.

Even though auction income was also a record low (less than \$5,000), the Town Council Board voted to give the Fire Department \$1,500 from the total proceeds. We are disappointed it was not as high as we had hoped, but we have a plan in place to rein in costs better next year.

We also voted to make the accounting completely transparent, so here are the details, courtesy of May:

**\*\* If we had not had the payment from Duracell for Bretts BBQ of \$2346.69 we would have been in the hole for \$1800.00.**

Expenses	Budgeted	Actual
DJ	695.00	695.00
Bretts BBQ	2200.00	147.92
Decorations	200.00	90.00
Games prizes	400.00	403.08
Trophies and Ribbons	90.00	100.83
Rentals + Dunk Tank	1310.00	1632.69
7 Chafing Dishes	0	227.08
Drinks/Sodas	0	21.98
Porta Potties	270.00	198.93
Straw	0	182.02
Flyers	150	13.04
Licence	35.00	35.00
Condiments/Extras	240.00	192.78
Total Costs	5590.00	3940.35
Income	6,000.00	4434.09
Net Profit		493.74

# *Elfin Forest-Harmony Grove Town Council Board Meeting*

## *Fire Station, August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011 7 pm*

**Board Members present:** Jacqueline Arsivaud-Benjamin, Bonnie Baumgartner, Amy Molenaar, Mid Nancy Goodrich, Minooshaey, May Meintjes, Gordon Taggart, Sandra Bartsch, Mid Hoppenrath

**Board Members absent:** Melanie Fallon

**This meeting was called to order by Chair Jacqueline Arsivaud-Benjamin at approximately 7:05 pm.**

### **Density Threat: Harmony Grove Meadows Update**

The new approved General Plan allows an increase in density at Harmony Grove Meadows; however, HG Meadows will need to still acquire a subdivision map and prepare an EIR and push it out for public review. Additionally, HG Meadows will be challenged with needing to improve the bridge on Country Club Drive as well as ensure there is more than one Fire Access road to, and out of, the subdivision. Harmony Grove Meadows is still a threat to our community, but there are many issues that will hinder or slow development

The EFHGTC Board will keep abreast of development, keep the community involved and informed, and plan a course of action at a later date if need be.

### **Treasurer's Report**

May Meintjes reviewed the accounting and balance for the Fourth of July Picnic and Parade. Increased expenditures related to equipment rentals, catering and lower ticket sales resulted in a lower-than-expected profit of approximately \$500. (\$4434 income against \$3940 Expense).

The news is disappointing to the Board and will be disappointing to the Fire Department and the community as the original plan was to give the Fire Department \$2000. As a gesture of goodwill the Board recommends an additional donation to the Fire Department from the EFHGTC Picnic and Parade Silent Auction funds.

Bonnie Baumgartner motions to disburse the \$500 profit and an additional \$1000 from the EFHGTC Silent Auction to the Fire Department and recommends full disclosure and transparent accounting of the EFHGTC Picnic and Parade financials. Jacqueline Arsivaud-Benjamin seconds the motion and all attending EFHG Board Members approve.

Jacqueline Arsivaud-Benjamin will write an article in the Chaparral regarding the picnic and accounting and will plan a post-mortem meeting with the Picnic Planning Committee to determine an improved planning and budgeting process for 2012.

### **Signs Policy**

In 1995 the Town Council passed a resolution that no signs should be placed along the streets of Elfin Forest.

There have been a lot of signs posted with the Elfin Forest area: real estate, bee removal, open houses, etc. Board members agree that these signs take away from the aesthetics of the community and can pose a danger as it can be difficult to see traffic from many of the private roads. The EFHGTC will look into and confirm whether the signage is against County Ordinances and whether it is acceptable to request that these signs be taken down.

Nancy Goodrich will research and determine if County Ordinance supports the 1995 Town Council resolution regarding signage in Elfin Forest.

### **CC&Rs**

CC&Rs were established in the early 1960s for most of Elfin Forest, with the exception of Paint Mountain.

The CC&Rs will be reviewed to determine if they are still enforceable and, if so, the EFHGTC Board may establish an informational meeting to alert the community that these CC&Rs do exist.

CC&Rs are a neighborhood issue and the EFHGTC Board will not get involved in enforcing any CC&Rs.

### **Website Designer Compensation**

In April 2009 the Board budgeted \$3000 to redesign the Elfin Forest Harmony Grove Town Council Website. Website designer, Mimi Sampson at Fotelle Artistic, has completed this project and the Board agrees that she did a very good job and provided us with a great website with a lot of content.

Jacqueline Arsivaud-Benjamin proposes a motion to compensate Mimi Sampson of Fotelle Artistic the full budgeted amount of \$3000. May Meintjes seconds the motion and all EFHGTC Board members are in agreement.

The EFHGTC website will need to be maintained to ensure that content is up to date and relevant for the community. May Meintjes proposes a motion to pay Mimi Sampson of Fotelle Artistic \$30 per hour for maintenance of the EFHGTC website. Bonnie Baumgartner seconds the motion and all EFHGTC Board Members are in agreement.

### **Community Meeting Topics for September 4<sup>th</sup>**

A community meeting will be held on September 4<sup>th</sup> and a few possible topics were discussed with all Board members agreeing that Fire Safety should be the priority. Jacqueline will check with the Fire Department to see if they would be willing to offer the community some tips for fire prevention and safety.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:30



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## Classifieds

**Elissa Benjamin**, 17, senior at Canyon Crest Academy, own transportation, available to **babysit, petsit and tutor** up to 10th grade in bio, English, and History - math to Algebra. Born and raised in Elfin Forest, lots of local references, very dependable, Red Cross CPR certified. Call [760-274-5379](tel:760-274-5379) or email [beret-noir@gmail.com](mailto:beret-noir@gmail.com).

**Get the best farm fresh eggs** from Eli on Faraway Lane, (mom is Mary Ellen). They are only \$3.00 a dozen and are wonderful! These eggs stand up in the frying pan and the yolks are a rich orange color. Eli's Farm Fresh Eggs, 7910 Faraway Lane, 760-510-8229, [elisteria4@gmail.com](mailto:elisteria4@gmail.com).

**Pet Sitting/Dog Training:** Harmony Grove resident, 4-H dog group member and AKC Junior Handler will pet sit for you and help you train your dog in basic commands. Call Lily Molenaar: 760-741-1111.

**BEYOND WORDS DESIGN** Interior, Exterior, Whole house design, Window Treatments, Color Consultation, etc. Free Consultation, Low Rates to Elfin Forest Residents Karen Tangorra 760/703 3994

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**Chad Clerke**, Pet Sitter, RSF Middle School, 14 years old, parents will provide transportation, please call [760-510-0143](tel:760-510-0143).

**Amanda Clerke**, Babysitter and Pet Sitter, Santa Fe Christian Senior, Has own car, please call [760-803-1532](tel:760-803-1532).

**Mary Ann Holden** Elfin Forest resident, horse and pet lover available for house sitting [760 591-3111](tel:760-591-3111)

**HOUSE CLEANING** - Shannon Yarnall, 33 years old, niece of Linda and Karl Watson, and Elfin Forest resident. Many years of house cleaning experience. Available Friday afternoons and weekends. Call [909-747-5225](tel:909-747-5225) or email [smyarnall@gmail.com](mailto:smyarnall@gmail.com).



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**Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Town Council Board members:** Jacqueline Arsivaud-Benjamin 760-855-0444, Bonnie Baumgartner 760-510-1175, Melanie Fallon 760-744-7090, May Meintjes 760-744-7336, Minoo Sohaey 760-510-9114, Nancy Goodrich. 760-591-9489, Amy Molenaar, 760-532-0133; Gordon Taggart, 760--744-3957; At Large members: Sandra Bartsch, Mid Hoppenrath

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