



Dedicated to a continuing rural atmosphere

**From The Chair**

By Mid Hoppenrath

Be sure to attend the annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade and Picnic at the Elfin Forest / Harmony Grove Fire Station on Sunday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>. This is always a fun event and a great opportunity to chat with neighbors and make new friends. There is still time to volunteer to help and we always welcome extra hands and hearts to make the work lighter.

Please consider joining the Town Council Heritage Committee to preserve our rich history and local treasures like old farm implements and handmade quilts. We hope to move the committee into the old Johnston-Ward Farmhouse along with other area historical groups. Perhaps we can add a garden of heritage plants and a display of vintage tractors? New Urban West plans a grand opening of this historic building on July 12<sup>th</sup>.

The Town Council has added a web page to provide current information on the proposed Harmony Grove Meadows development. There will also be a committee formed to follow up with developers and county plans for this area, please consider volunteering for this committee if you feel this project will impact your lifestyle.

Traffic is the next major topic for county-community discussions later this month. Watch for notices of the workshop on revisions to the county circulation element, such as a downgrading of Elfin Forest and Harmony Grove Roads and Country Club Drive, that'll be considered as part of the GP 2020 plan.

Just a reminder, there'll be no Town Council meeting in July because so many residents are away on vacations; the next public meeting will be August 3<sup>rd</sup>.

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***No Town Council Meeting in July***

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## Annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade and Picnic

By Janet McGurk

You're invited to the annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade and Picnic on Sunday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>. This year's theme is *Elfs in Bloom*. See the flyer on page 16 of this issue of the *chaparral* for times and costs. We have lined up a banjo band for your entertainment, great games for the children, ping pong, food and drinks. The old dunk tank is coming back! So be prepared to get wet!

Of course, none of this works without the much needed **VOLUNTEERS. WE NEED YOU!** Please call us and give us a helping hand for setup on Saturday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, help with games, tickets, or cleanup on Sunday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>. Call Rachel Barnes 760-471-4300 or Janet McGurk, 760-471-0831.

Put the flyer on your refrigerator keep the date and times handy. See you there!



Kathleen Humphreys of New Urban West presents Janet McGurk a check for \$1000 to help fund the 4<sup>th</sup> of July festivities

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## You Be The Judge 4<sup>th</sup> Of July Parade

By Lisa Stephenson

During the America in Bloom Pot Luck it was announced, to our surprise, that my husband, Tom, and I would be running the parade again this year. Yes folks, the look of shock on my face was real! I love the guilt trip of: "If you don't do it there will be no parade for the children". Since we can't bear the thought of disappointing all those sweet little elves, we had no choice but to say yes.

July 2005

However, we're making a few changes to simplify the parade. We'll still have all the kooky categories for the line up, but won't be competing for medals this time. Since everyone works so hard on their bikes and carts, etc, it just becomes too hard to pick out the best. So congratulations, you have all won! This eliminates the sad faces of the losers.

We also came up with a new and fun idea. After running it by a few of our more serious veteran parade competitors, we decided that you, the participants, parade watchers and guests all get to be this year's float judges. Talk about community involvement! You will be the ones to decide who gets to win the beloved trophy.

Here is how it works. At check in, you'll receive a line up sheet for your category and one ticket. From there, you get to choose your favorite float. There will be a "heavily guarded" table set up with coffee cans representing your favorite float. Place the ticket in the can. Tickets will be tallied during the picnic. Shortly after, we'll announce the winner! Late tickets may be accepted. Note: Float entries may bribe.

**The Details:** The Parade theme this year is "Elfs in Bloom" Line up for the parade is at 12:15 at the turn off south of Fortuna del Sur on Elfin Forest Road.

**Floats:** We are asking that you be there at least thirty minutes early. The longer you display your masterpiece, the more tickets you may get. At this point we haven't a clue who is showing up, so do your best to get there early. The parade will start sort of promptly at 12:45 in keeping with the Elfin Forest tradition. Steve Barker will be leading the parade.

The categories are as follows, (and I am sure there will be a few made up ones too)

- Fire engines
- Boys and girls bicycles
- Man's best friend (dog, cat, goat, pig, cow, chicken, gold fish,) Remember, the pavement can be very hot so please have plan B so Fido doesn't suffer.
- Horses
- Music man
- Tractors, ATV's, golf carts
- Rust bucket
- Baby buggies

Good luck, be creative and, remember, you are all winners!

## Citizen of the Year Nominations

By Evelyn Alemanni

In last month's *chaparral* you were invited to submit nominations for Citizen of the Year. Everyone in Elfin Forest and Harmony Grove is eligible for this award. The town council board makes the decision based on your nominations and the award is presented at the picnic. Here's what you said:

Eric Anderson – For his leadership in the America in Bloom contest and his kindness and helpfulness on a moment's notice.

Mid Hoppenrath – For her consistently high level of involvement. She has spent countless hours working on land and traffic use issues, sent countless letters, attended meetings and public hearings. Her gift of time has been of great benefit to the community by protecting the community interest.

Peggy Petitmermet and Karen Gardner – for their stewardship and vision for the Fire Wise garden.

Jan Denny - For her tireless work on the town council, the traffic committee, and for accomplishing needed repairs on Fortuna del Sur and the paving of a large portion of Sequest Trail. Also for helping with other private roads.

Evelyn Alemanni – For another amazing garden festival, co-chairing the America in Bloom, and many years of effort to turn Questhaven Road into a trail.

## Annual TECC Benefit Dinner

By Nancy Reed

Save Saturday August 20th for the Fourth Usually Annual Escondido Creek Conservancy Benefit Dinner Concert at the Lazy J Ranch overlooking the Escondido Creek under the full moon. Tickets are \$50 and include dinner, beer, wine, coffee, dessert and the harmonies of Berkley Hart. For more information contact Nancy Reed at [nancy@elfinforest.net](mailto:nancy@elfinforest.net) or 760-579-1936.

## Calendar For July

Date	Time	Event
Tues 7/5 7/19	7 PM	Fire Training@Firehouse
Weds 7/13	7 PM	Fire Auxiliary@Firehouse
Mon 7/11	7 PM	Fire Board@Firehouse
Sat 7/30	8 AM	Fire Training@Firehouse
Every Thurs	6:30 PM	Yoga@Firehouse

## What's Happening At The Fire

Department – June 2005

By Captain Dawn Pettijohn

The mitigation fee payment for the Max Altman property has finally been received. The \$260,000 is earmarked to replace our 20-year-old Rescue 2890. It's the first out apparatus on vehicle accidents, medical aids, or any type of physical rescue and is our reserve pumper to satisfy ISO requirements. The Apparatus Committee is reviewing specifications in preparation of the new order.

The Department received a federal grant of \$4000 for the development of a CERT Program (Community Emergency Response Team). San Diego County currently has 19 teams. Designed to provide support and assistance during disasters where conventional emergency services can become overwhelmed, the CERT Program provides risk and hazard training to help you protect yourself, your family, your neighbors and your neighborhood in an emergency situation. The Department is seeking 30 volunteers to receive the training. If interested, contact us at 760-744-2186. For more information, check the SD County Office of Emergency Services website at: [co.san-diego.ca.us/oes/community/programs/CERT](http://co.san-diego.ca.us/oes/community/programs/CERT).

In June, our wildland training will be in full swing. We sent crews to the Lake Hodges drill in May for instruction in initial attack, structure protection, safety around power lines and dozers, fire shelter deployment and firing operations. We participated in Fire School at Camp Pendleton. This live fire training lets us practice initial attack on vegetation fires. Both drills hone our skills working with agencies we'll respond with on strike team assignments.

Fire season is officially open. With all the rain we had this winter, there is a lot of new growth. This "light flashy fuel" is typically a problem with starts as it burns very quickly and can allow the fire to outrun initial suppression efforts. Take the time now to clear your property and create a 100 foot defensible space around your home. And remember, driveways and roads are your escape routes in a fire, and should also be cleared back so there is no chance that the fire can overrun you during an evacuation. We would be happy to answer any questions about clearance codes and requirements. Help us now...so we can help you later!

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## The Village Development Pattern

By Mid Hoppenrath

Harmony Grove has had to make some tough choices over the years, and one was to support the county's GP 2020 village concept. Some wonder how we can support the dense village project but adamantly oppose neighboring high-density projects in the Harmony Grove area. The key to our support of the village concept lies in understanding the Village Development Pattern.

The Village Development Pattern is a blueprint for density distribution that concentrates the density at the village core and gradually decreases density in outlying areas. It is precisely this pattern that would disallow other high-density developments. County staff zoned this pattern into the original GP 2020 map. We have a duty to criticize other nearby projects if they do not follow the Village Development Pattern; that is, if they are not very low density.

Last year, the Board of Supervisors recommended a Consensus Alternate Map that would allow higher-density "urban nodes" in several parcels around the village area. Both maps are being studied as part of the GP2020 process. In the Harmony Grove Meadows project we are seeing the first of what will likely be many applications for a GPA from developers seeking, prior to GP2020 becoming law, to take advantage of this alternate density distribution. Members of the Town Council Board recently met with Supervisor Horn to voice our concerns over this turn of events.

Supervisor Horn told us he has an open door policy for the Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Town Council. He told us the alternate map was just that, an alternate way of distributing the density. He told us that he liked plans that had community support and that respected the existing property rights of the landowners. He said it was important for the community to publicly support the original map, which is also strongly supported by county staff. He thanked us for bringing the matter to his attention.

Although we felt it was a very positive meeting, we must rally widespread support for the original map if we are to keep the Village Development Pattern. Our first opportunity to defend this pattern may be with the Harmony Grove Meadows project.

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## Cancer Awareness

By Sue Tolman Hamelehle

Hello Elfin Forest friends. As I look around at my family and friends, I often wonder if cancer is more prevalent than when I was young, or whether maybe because I am now in my forties, I just know more people affected by it. Most of you have either been touched by cancer, or know someone who has.

Luckily for me, I am the only person in my family who has had it. I think it is much harder to watch a loved one suffer through treatments, than to endure it oneself. I have had several different cancers and can say from experience that breast cancer is a devastating disease for many families. Last summer I was diagnosed with both infiltrating lobular carcinoma and ductal carcinoma in situ. I was lucky, some people have not been so lucky.

As difficult as fundraising is for me, I have registered to walk in this year's Susan G. Komen 3-day walk to raise money for breast cancer. It is one way to take a positive stand in the fight against breast cancer. It also shows many newly-diagnosed patients that it is not a death sentence, but can be just a 'bend in the road of life'. If you would like to sponsor me, you can log on to [www.the3day.org](http://www.the3day.org), click on the San Diego walk and 'sponsor a participant', search for "Sue Tolman" and click on my name. Or feel free to contact me for a sponsorship form at 760-591-0190 or stolman1@yahoo.com.

Remember to treasure every day.

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## Private Roads

By Evelyn Alemanni

Living on a private road, while it sounds exclusive and wonderful, has enormous responsibilities attached. First of all, maintenance and repair are YOUR JOB. So is cleaning the street. That means pulling the weeds that might grow in cracks in the pavement. It means getting out the blower and being sure the street (at least fronting your property) is clear of debris and dirt. It means picking up trash, even if it's not yours. If large vehicles come to your house and damage the road, it's your responsibility to have repairs made right away. Remember, roads need to be safe and accessible (not to mention attractive), and it's up to each one of us to keep them that way.

# Minutes Of Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Town Council Meeting

By Patti Newton

**Date:** June 1, 2005

**Call to order:** 7:35 PM.

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

**Board Updates:** Heritage committee will be installing the Citizen of the Year plaques permanently soon. The committee welcomes suggestions for historic information and artifacts, prominent citizens, etc.

**Treasurer's Report:** **Bob McGurk** stated that revenues last month were approximately \$3685.63, mostly from Garden Festival (thanks **Evelyn Alemanni**); which is our largest fundraiser. Expenses were mostly to pay for the Questhaven nature trail. This will stop the public drive through and create a one-mile trail. Construction of split rail fence is to be finished within a month.

Introduced **Kathleen Humphreys** for July 4<sup>th</sup> picnic for New Urban West.

**RSF School District:** **Jim Depolo** said June 9<sup>th</sup> is the next RSF board meeting. At this point, Elfin Forest site is not generating much conversation. The July meeting may have some discussion on this, not likely for next week's meeting. The Aliso Canyon site is taking lion's share of time at this point.

**Item #1:** **Kent Mahaffey** and **Marco** of Berwick Productions (432-0790 [admin@birdshow.net](mailto:admin@birdshow.net), office 737-6735) in Harmony Grove. This company ran the bird show at the Wild Animal Park for many years. It recently began doing its own show so they are no longer doing them at the Wild Animal Park. They've built a large barn on the property for the birds and are gearing up to do educational programs in schools. This meeting is the first time they've worked since last year. "Lola" and "Bruce" performed delightfully. "Yoyo" did the money retrieval and return.

Berwick takes in rehabbed and other birds of prey that cannot be released to the wild. They demonstrated using "Bucko", a full grown great horned owl or hoot owl. Superbly camouflaged, he looks like tree bark. "Fred" the cockatoo from the old Baretta TV series lives there. Many of their birds

outlive the published records for captive birds, a fact they are proud of.

**Item #2:** Proposed development, Harmony Grove Meadows, in Harmony Grove. Town Council wants to form a committee of interested and affected residents to work with the developer to ensure this project complies with community guidelines.

HGM is applying for a GPA from the county. It is situated near the "old adobe" off Country Club just a bit past the Arizona crossing. It proposes building 224 homes on 81 useable acres (of 111). The BOS asked the staff to study the density for this parcel. GP 2020 map was a downzoning of many surrounding areas.

The Town Council supported staff recommendation to downzone this property. We will continue to support this recommendation. The EIR is our chance to make our voice heard again. This property is not currently zoned for this level of density. The Town Council has already sent a lot of information to the owner, Mr. Gray, and Mid Hoppenrath encourages any other interested parties to write letters of their own outlining their concerns. Contact Mid and/or check [www.efhgtc.org](http://www.efhgtc.org) for information. It is early in this project – we will be on it all the way. The BOS request to study the density potential is worrisome.

**Open Forum:** **Nona Barker** announced the fire department got a new volunteer firefighter, Michelle Osborn, EMT, Bill's wife, who has signed up. She will be working one weekday/week. Had calls each shift she worked already so far. Nona still seeks volunteers. FD will fully train volunteers.

**Steve Barker:** TECC has been searching 18 months for an Executive Director. TECC received a couple generous grants enabling it to fund the position. It conducted a wide search to interview several candidates to concentrate on preservation of space in the watershed. Lucky to find **Geoffrey Smith**, 35 year resident of San Diego county from Mira Mesa, who has a background in county environmental organizations. His wife is an elementary teacher in Bear Valley. Geoffrey knows many of the people who work on the issues of protection already. Twenty years as IT engineer. Completed masters in non-profit management.

**Adjourned: 9:15 p.m.**

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## A New Trail for the Valley

By Evelyn Alemanni

It took five long years but, finally, the unpaved portion of Questhaven Road has been gated at both ends and is available as a trail for your enjoyment. At the request of neighbors who were deeply concerned by the potential for dangerous traffic on this 12-foot wide dirt road from both construction workers and future residents of nearby housing projects, the Christward Ministry (Questhaven Retreat) worked with the county to get the road easement vacated.

County engineers evaluated the road, the vegetation and waterways along the road, and determined that it could never be paved or widened due to extreme environmental impacts. In fact, as early as the mid 1980's the county had already slated it for a trail.

You are invited to enjoy the trail during daylight hours. Walk, bike, ride your horse, but PLEASE, no motorized vehicles of any kind and of course, NO SMOKING! Please leave the trail nice for others and don't litter.

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## Past *chaparral* Issues On Web

Past issues of the *chaparral* are now posted at [www.efhgtc.org](http://www.efhgtc.org) in downloadable PDF format.



Birds trained by Kent Mahaffey and assistant, Marco, perform at June's town council meeting.

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## How Green Was My Cesspool Or Don't Panic Over Sewer in HG

By Mid Hoppenrath

Concern over where the Harmony Grove Village would get sewer service has some Elfin Forest residents worried over setting a precedent that would grease the way for high-density development in Elfin Forest. I don't blame them. We must never let sewer into Elfin Forest.

Sewer service was always part of the Harmony Grove village plan, and many of us actually prefer sewer from the city, provided it doesn't mean annexation or a return to the Escondido SOI. It seems a waste (no pun intended) of resources and an unnecessary drain (again, you know) on the environment to build a second sewage treatment plant virtually adjacent to the city plant.

However, the situation is very different for Elfin Forest. The Elfin Forest Community Standards disallow sewer, and the residents have made it clear there is to be no sewer in Elfin Forest. We must fight every attempt to bring sewer service into Elfin Forest, but at the same time, don't panic over sewer in Harmony Grove.

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## Who's Looking at our Web Site?

By Evelyn Alemanni

The town council website, [www.efhgtc.org](http://www.efhgtc.org), contains tons of useful information about our community. Apparently, you think so, too. Here are the statistics for the site since the beginning of the year:

Total hits since January 1, 2005:	1247
Total hits, last 30 days:	232
Average hits per day:	7
Total visitors since January 1:	932
Total visitors last 30 days:	167

It's not just local people who are checking it out. According to the stats, people from Italy, Spain, South Africa, Canada and the Philippines also viewed the site.

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## Town Council Website

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

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## Some Gardening Thoughts: Natural Predators and the Cycle of Things By Patti Newton

Somehow I managed to reach the ripe old age of 49, well, never mind... without ever having planted my own vegetable garden until this year. Although I've lived on the same 2-1/2 acres for the last 18 years, I was always afraid to give it a try; perhaps the persistently sorry state of my houseplants was discouraging me from realizing my full potential!

Strangely, when the '96 Harmony Grove firestorm destroyed our home, landscaping, and personal possessions, it presented a unique opportunity to start fresh, from the clothes on our backs to the design of our new home and garden. My husband, Richard, and I went from being slash-and-burn, rip-and-tear gardeners to winning San Diego Home & Garden Magazine's 2005 Garden of the Year!

This is the first year for our vegetable garden (please, please, take some zucchini) and so far we've had no trouble with pests of any sort, in spite of the fact we live adjacent to hundreds of acres of chaparral. I wondered why we weren't having trouble with the ubiquitous snails until I saw one of our 'resident' roadrunners hop the fence, jump into the garden, and proceed to smash them on the stepping stones. Her mate, an avid lizard hunter, often joins her there. These lovebirds also help manage the hundreds of caterpillars currently inhabiting a tree in our front yard. At this rate, we're looking forward to meeting the rest of the family!

The cliff swallows are easily the best airborne fly-catching aviators we have. They provide endless entertainment as they seemingly perform aerobatics as they work the air for bugs and skim our swimming pool for in-flight re-fueling.

Down at the stable, the owl box houses our first brood of barn owl chicks which are fed a steady diet of mice and gophers. The silent flight allowing parents to snatch unwary prey stands in stark contrast to the din of chicks anxiously awaiting their arrival.

Ounce for ounce, the hummingbirds are the fiercest of all birds. The Jack Russell terriers of the avian world, they have no sense of their relative size as evidenced by their aggressive behavior. Brazenly chiding much larger birds or drinking from the hose six inches from my hand as I water plants, they exhibit no fear. Hummingbird social order is

apparently maintained through brute force! What roadrunners are to monogamy, hummingbirds are to ferocity!

In the stable area, nests are always lined with horsehair; those near the house are made cozy using Golden Retriever hair! And as much as Richard and I love to entertain, we cannot begin to match the nightlife our stone house provides for the dozens of merrymakers who perch on its moonlit outcroppings.

Wondrous as it is, nature can and does work against us too. A great blue heron makes the occasional reconnaissance trip in hopes we've forgotten to place the netting over the Koi pond. From time to time we see the aquatic garter snakes and "bumped into" a rattlesnake there once. My two dogs even get into the primordial act each morning as they search the base of the telephone pole for snake skeletons and skulls of small animals dropped by an owl the night before.

Immediately after the fire we knew our lives were irrevocably changed, but we had no idea how much for the better it would be. Our land has never been so full of life, our lives so abundant. Oh, and by the way, the houseplants are thriving too!

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## Just Moved Here?

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

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## Community Guides Are Here By Evelyn Alemanni

Our brand new community guide is here and will be available at all town council meetings.



This is a beautiful, keepsake edition with nearly 200 color photos showing our community's past and present. They make wonderful gifts and an indispensable marketing tool for realtors.

It provides resources for rural living, a history of our community, and much, much more. The price is \$25 or five for \$100. *You can also pick one up at any town council meeting.*

**When you renew your newsletter subscription for two years, you can purchase the community guide for \$20. Renew for five years and the guide is yours for only \$15.**

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## Fire-Resistive Landscape With Mulch!

By Greg Rubin, California's Own Native Landscape

Some concern has been expressed recently about the shredded redwood mulch on the new Fire Department Native Fire Resistive Landscape. Affectionately known as "Gorilla Hair", people are worried that its use may have created a fire bomb. I thought I would try to clarify why it is used with native landscapes and the true nature of its flammability, by looking at how it responded in the very real Cedar Fire of 2003.

**Why is there so much mulch?** Because of the small size of the new plants, the landscape appears to be a sea of red with little green tufts. The small plant size can give the illusion of "too much mulch". This appearance will change as the plants quickly grow to maturity.

**Why use shredded redwood, instead of chips or gravel?** California natives have a very specific ecology that is supported by a duff layer of leaves and bark. Redwood is similar in that it forms a dense mat, is full of tannic acid, breaks down slowly, and discourages weeds. Without this layer, the landscapes become unstable and weedy. Dry weeds act as a fire ladder that when mixed with natives create a truly dangerous situation. Chipped mulch breaks down too quickly "dumping" organic matter into the system. This can kill the natives with fertility and encourage weeds.

Gravel never breaks down, but does hold a lot of heat and moisture. Hot/wet conditions lead to pathogens, which quickly kill most natives. Succulents, non-natives, and some desert plants can tolerate this, but not most of our chaparral/woodland plants.

**Does shredded redwood burn?** Like most things organic, shredded redwood can burn. However, the fire tends to be a low-intensity smolder that can be quickly put out by raking the mulch towards the blackened areas in a fire. There is very little flame height and as long as the surrounding trees and shrubs have been pruned up even a few feet, the fire tends not to ladder up. Shredded redwood compacts down to about an inch thick after 6 months, creating a poorly oxygenated fuel.

**Mulching for succulents and next to structures.** I would not run any organic mulch right up against a structure in a burn area. Near the eaves I would use

6-12" rocks with natives, while gravel would be fine for succulents. An 8 to 10' no-mulch zone would be excellent.

**Gorilla hair and the Cedar Fire.** The true flammability of gorilla hair was tested in the Cedar Fire of 2003. In this case, mulch was placed right up to the structure (a mistake I won't repeat). Nevertheless, the scorch marks on the wall were only about 1 inch high. The house did not burn. Neither did established manzanitas growing in the mulch. In fact, dozens of plastic marker flags placed in the mulch prior to the fire did not even melt or scorch! Many plants weren't burned or re-grew after the fire.

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## 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](mailto:alemanni@allea.com) and ask to be added to the list. Don't worry, the emails are sent as blind CCs, so your address is not made public, and we share the list with the fire department.



**Danielle Gradisher and Lyric were hi-point champions at the 4H horse show at the Del Mar Fair June 23rd. The team competed in the junior (14 and under) gymkhana division bringing home blue ribbons in 4 of the 5 events. This qualifies them to represent the county at the State Fair in August in Sacramento.**

## Garden Projects for July

By Evelyn Alemanni

If you haven't cut back the weeds, don't wait. As the days warm up and the landscape becomes parched, it's time to get serious about fire safety. When you're weed whacking or mowing, the smallest spark can set off a fire, so keep the hose, a rake and shovel handy. Remember to move fire wood away from the house.

On a cheerier note, don't wait to set out summer flowers, herbs and vegetables today! It's not too late to plant favorites like peppers, corn, and tomatoes. You can also continue planting roses, trees, berries, etc.

As the days get hotter, increase your watering, especially for container plants. Mulch around trees, shrubs, roses, and annuals to conserve water.

### Maintenance

- Check your irrigation system for leaks and clogs.
- Continue to deadhead (cut off spent blossoms) roses and all blooming plants.
- Water early in the morning to be sure your plants get most of the water.
- Stop watering established native plants.
- Two weeks before fruits ripen, put netting over trees to keep birds from devouring your crop. Harvest fruit on trees.
- Continue applying snail and slug bait.
- Cut back hydrangeas.
- Pinch chrysanthemums for bushy growth and more flowers.
- Spray for aphids, scale, whitefly, rust and powdery mildew.

### Plant Now

- Plant tropicals - bananas, hibiscus, succulents, papayas, palms, canna, ginger, hibiscus, heliconia.
- Plant vegetables - cucumbers, eggplants, corn, melons, peppers, tomatoes, corn, beans, pumpkins, squash.
- Plant summer color - cosmos, marigolds, zinnias, asters, impatiens, lisianthus, lobelia, petunia, alyssum, verbena.

### Fertilize

- Fertilize everything that's actively growing: roses, fuchsias, cymbidiums, tropicals, annuals, vegetables and lawns.
- Fertilize everything in the vegetable garden..

## Fire Department Sponsoring Discount Purchases For Fire Protection Gel

By Jan Denny

Thanks to the heavy rains, this summer promises to be a challenge for our fire fighters. The Elfin Forest / Harmony Grove Fire Department agreed to coordinate bulk purchases of Barricade fire blocking gel for home use. The gel is applied to combustible materials before they are threatened by a fire. The gel provides an insulating zone between the heat of the fire and the protected surface, even at temperatures of up to 3500° Fahrenheit.

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

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

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

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

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

See: [www.barricadegel.com/default.asp](http://www.barricadegel.com/default.asp).

## News From Questhaven Retreat



Sunday worship is at 10:45 AM.  
All are welcome.  
20560 Questhaven Road.  
760-744-1500  
[www.questhaven.org](http://www.questhaven.org).

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

### Weekly Meditation

Wednesday at 7:30 PM.

**Holy Horticulture** – Tuesdays 1 – 4 PM

**July 3<sup>rd</sup>** Dedicated to the Truth: The Founding Fathers and Mothers of Our Country—*Anne Hubbell*

**July 10<sup>th</sup>** The Inner Values of Summer  
—*Rev. Elizabeth Wood*

**July 17<sup>th</sup>** Enlightenment-The Transformation of Consciousness—*Rev. Phyllis Isaac*

**July 24<sup>rd</sup>** How Thought and Feeling Influence Water  
—*Rev. Susan S. Cary*

**July 31<sup>st</sup>** Global Citizenship and Florence Nightingale: On Earth as it is in Heaven  
—*Deva Beck, PhD, RN*

## chaparral Advertising

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

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

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

### Community, Non-Commercial Classified Ads:

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

## New Railing in Fire Station

By Evelyn Alemanni

The town council (TC) donated the entire cost for installation and materials for a permanent aluminum railing along the ceiling of the community room in the fire station. This will allow pictures, quilts, etc. to be hung without damage to their wall. Thanks to Chief Twohy for his ongoing assistance. The project was part of the TC's America in Bloom initiative.

## Sheriff's Department Contacts

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

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

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

### Need a website?

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[www.andersonslacostanursery.com](http://www.andersonslacostanursery.com)  
[www.efhgtc.org](http://www.efhgtc.org) (town council website)  
[www.elfinforestgardens.info](http://www.elfinforestgardens.info)  
[www.coburntopiary.com](http://www.coburntopiary.com)  
[www.elfinforestcommunityfoundation.org](http://www.elfinforestcommunityfoundation.org)  
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**Jaisa Bishop**  
1299 Poppard Street  
La Jolla, CA 92037  
Bus: 858 428-0591 Fax: 858 439-3275  
Cell: 858 382-6428 jaisa@ajprca.com



**Prudential**  
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New Urban West, the builder of Harmony Grove Village, is proud to announce completion of the initial renovation of the white DeRaadt house, known in the historical records as the Johnston Ward House. This home will be saved by New Urban West and moved to the Harmony Grove Village center.

NUWI wishes to invite the community to an Open House on Tuesday, July 12, 2005 from 4 PM until 7:30 PM. Please mark your calendar and save this date. Please RSVP to Kathleen at 760 741-6211 before July 2.



120 West Grand Avenue,  
Suite 104  
Escondido, CA 92025  
760 741-6211  
Fax 760 741-4917  
Email [KathleenH@nuwi.com](mailto:KathleenH@nuwi.com)



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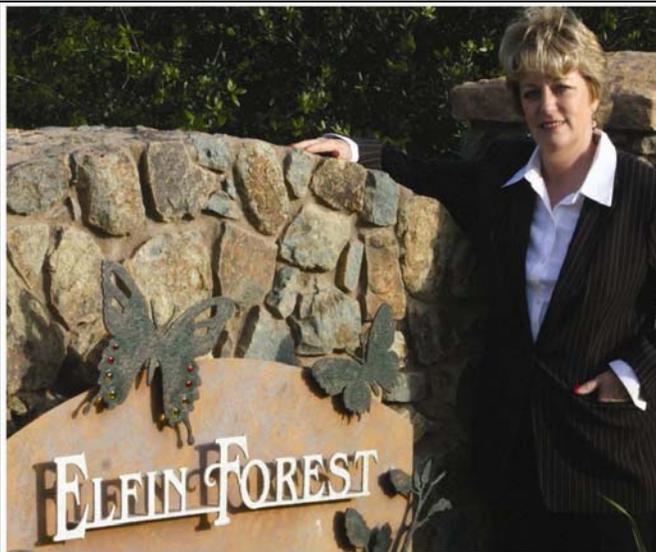
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Exp. 6/06

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### Local Baby, Animal and House Sitters

Brooke York - EF Resident, LCC School 11th grader, Baby Sitting. Tel: 760-752-7784

Jared York - EF Resident, RSF School 9th grader, Baby sit or feed animals. Tel: 760-752-7784

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

**For Sale:** 1999 Cadillac DeVille 4-door, white, leather seats, good condition. 48,500 miles. \$11,000. Call Mid Hoppenrath 760-747-1145.

**For Sale:** Oak Desk, three file cabinets (for legal size files), and bookshelf all matching and in very good condition. Must pick-up by June 18th. \$1,000 for everything. 760-752-1835 Lance Waite.

**For Sale:** Two registered Arabian horses, Black Stallion bloodlines, all tack, sell together \$3500.00. Girls are off at school, mom is tired of feeding them. Pitching machine w/self feeder and balls like new and batting cage net and poles \$1800.00. Saxophone used one year \$500.00, cheaper than renting. Flute used two years \$150.00. Call Shawn York 760-752-7784.

## 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](mailto: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.



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# The Rancho Santa Fe School Board Has A Double Standard



## On The One Hand

School Board representatives say a new school is necessary because there are too many temporary portable classrooms at the Rowe School.

## On The Other Hand

School Board representatives say if voters don't pass a general obligation bond to pay for construction of a new school, they'll install temporary portable classrooms on the proposed Aliso Canyon Road school site.



## On The One Hand

School Board representatives say a second school must be sited outside of the Covenant to relieve traffic in the downtown area.

## On The Other Hand

There is only one way in and out on Aliso Canyon Road - a major traffic and safety concern - and the proposed school will increase traffic substantially on nearby roads including Del Dios Highway, El Camino Del Norte and Lago Lindo.



## Their Double Standard Doesn't Make Sense

Taxpayers won't approve a school bond to pay for a site that costs seven-times more than alternative sites recommended by the state Department of Education. And they won't support a double standard for schools - or for students - inside or outside the Covenant.

### What can you do?

- Call or write the Rancho Santa Fe School Board and tell them to stop wasting our tax dollars on an unnecessary second school!

P.O. Box 809  
Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92067  
Phone: (858) 756-1141  
Fax: (858) 756-0712

To email school board members,  
go to [www.rsfschoolboard.org](http://www.rsfschoolboard.org)

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

## The Bottom Line:

The Rancho Santa Fe School Board is using a double standard for school sites inside and outside the Covenant. And they're hoping voters aren't paying attention.

Paid for by  
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# Elfs in Bloom

Annual 4th of July Picnic and Parade

Sunday



12:15 pm: Parade line-up Water road easement near Pickard's Driveway

Only parade in town with more participants than observers!

Kids - pets - tractors - wagons

Everybody Welcome

Prizes for best of the best of "Elfs in Bloom" Theme

12:45 pm: Parade to the Fire Department

1:00-4:00: Picnic Food Games and Fun for all

Location: Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Fire Department

**Come out and show your Community Spirit !!**

Adults \$10.00 Children \$ 7.00

**Volunteer HELP needed and appreciated.**

Call: Rachel 760-471-4952

Janet 760-471-0831

