



From The Chair

by Bill Telesco

On behalf of the entire Town Council I would like to wish everyone in Elfin Forest / Harmony Grove area a happy and safe New Years. Well, its election time and we need all residents to attend the Town meeting on Wed Feb 6th 2002 at 7:30 pm. There will be Fire and Board of Directors elections that night. We need to add 2 positions to each board and will still take nominations from the floor that night. Please make sure you can attend its for the area's future.

Safety on Elfin Forest and Harmony Grove Roads is still a major problem. There was a death this past month, a worker at the Dam project was killed on his way to work. So, please be very careful when driving these roads. Truck traffic will continue to increase in coming weeks, as will the CHP Patrols. Once again, have a healthy and safe New Year and see you all Feb

EF/HG Forum Minutes

by Patti Newton

January 2, 2002

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Evelyn Alemanni, Patti Newton, Linda Hamilton, Elizabeth Wood, Nancy Reed, Bill Talesco, Mid Hoppenrath

Bruce Ruff, county Sheriff candidate, was one of two scheduled speakers; he failed to show or notify the board.

The board accepted nominations to fill four positions on the town council board. The increasingly demanding work load has necessitated the addition of two additional board member positions. Evelyn Alemanni

Contents

From The Chair	1
EF/HG Forum Minutes	1
Community Service Through ART	2
EF/HG News	3
Support Kevin Barnard	5
Rabidly Rural	5
Trails at Questhaven Retreat	5
Garden Greetings	6
State Finds Fire Ants At San Elijo	7
chaparral by e-mail?	7
Avon 3-day Walk	8
From the Internet	8
Playgroup Schedule	8
From the Internet (Cont.)	9
Creek Happenings	10
Joy in the Morning	11
Pancake Breakfast Heads Up!	11
That's The Law	11
From The Internet	11
Elfin Forest Classified	13
Elfin Forest Town Council Board	14
E.F. Calendar - February 2002	14

nominated Eric Anderson and Janet McGirk (second by Elizabeth Wood).

An article appeared recently in the North County Times regarding the OMWD dam project and the traffic it generates.

The California Highway Patrol works the Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove area approximately three to four hours/day during times it deems most effective.

ITEM 1: Evelyn Alemanni explained that our originally scheduled guest speaker, Supervisor Bill

Horn, declined to attend because, as his staffer explained, he “had something more important to do.” Evelyn then introduced our guest speaker, 5th District Supervisor candidate, Kevin Barnard, a Harmony Grove resident. Kevin, a San Diego County Police officer, explained some of the events that led him to seek the 5th District position. Some Elfin Forest residents may recall reading about the police officer who was criticized for going through a barricade during the Harmony Grove firestorm ('96). He attended the post-fire meeting at the firehouse and discovered a number of residents were dismayed at not being allowed to get to their homes during that time. He saw a need for change and spoke up about the inherent conflicts. He saw the sheriffs were unprepared for the ensuing anger. Kevin, in particular, was facing the possibility of charges from the DA's office (they didn't materialize).

Kevin was asked to chair the newly formed opposition group when the City of Escondido proposed to annex Harmony Grove for industrial use. His experience as a police officer (particularly in San Diego, known for its leadership) gave him a unique insight into the issues involved. His approach was to identify the problems and potential solutions, then act as a conduit for resources to attack those problems. He wanted to move beyond the NIMBY (not in my backyard) approach and he proceeded to identify the “stakeholders”; this meant forging ahead in an atmosphere of competing interests and distrust. Clearly, to move forward, all parties would have to become involved. Kevin was instrumental in bringing property owners together to tackle the issues. As a result, the Harmony Grove/Eden Valley Citizens for Smart Employment has evolved into a diverse, remarkably powerful and highly respected organization. Admittedly, the group has a ways to go but the dialogue has been, and continues to be, very productive.

Kevin (and Fire Chief Frank Twohy) also had a hand in representing the interests of the community when they each gave a presentation during the hearings on the highly charged redistricting (supervisor) plans. In each of the proposed plans, Elfin Forest and Harmony Grove were physically divided. He and Twohy asked that they be drawn to include the areas together. As a result, every proposed plan thereafter showed them together. As Kevin continued to discuss this and other issues, people began to ask him to consider running against Supervisor Bill Horn; whose “Hornymander” was deemed offensive and unacceptable. After some consideration and consultations with mentors, Kevin decided it was a

reasonable response given the path he'd already taken.

Ideally, Kevin wants to see communication with communities encouraged and made an integral part of the decision-making process, especially when it has a stake in it. This puts him at odds with Horn's style. A realist, Kevin believes compromise is a vital component to good planning.

It will be difficult to beat Horn, a two-time incumbent with a significant war chest. Money and volunteers are critical to a campaign that is short on time. With the election in March, time is of the essence. Kevin can be reached at info@kevinbarnard.com, or at www.kevinbarnard.com or at 760-743-6100.

OPEN FORUM: The Fire Dept. will have elections at its Feb. 6th meeting. Nona Barker encouraged anyone interested in joining to do so. Terms are two years. The Fire Board is expanding to include two more positions.

Kevin Barnard is “hosting” a 12+ Golden Retriever mix he found at the corner of Harmony Grove and KaunaLoa Roads. If anyone knows where he belongs (the dog thinks he belongs on Kevin's couch) please contact Kevin (see above).

Community Service Through ART

by Deb LeLevier

Students wishing to enhance their community are invited to help the Escondido Creek Conservancy by collecting website content in the outdoors

Meet Saturdays In The Field To:

Draw, Paint, Photograph, Make Rubbings, Design Trail Maps, Find Plants and Animals, Write Stories With Images, Compose Poetry / Music / Song, Make Castings of Animal Tracks, Prepare Collected Materials For Web Pages, Be Part Of The Field Team Or The Web Team Or Both teams. Create Independently Or As A Group To Develop Your Creations and Discoveries Into Website Content. Directions, Items To Bring With You, And Schedule Click Here<<http://www.escondidocreek.org/swap01.html>> To Learn About TECC Visit “www.escondidocreek.org”<<http://www.escondidocreek.org>> Download a “Word” file to print this notice, click Flyer <<http://www.escondidocreek.org/srvcflyer2.doc>> For More Information Call (760) 436-7198 Or Email “twirled@yahoo.com” Student Community Service Project Directed By TECC Volunteer Webmaster, Mr. Ted Whirlledge, Credentialed Art Teacher

EF/HG News

by Evelyn Alemanni

Kevin Barnard is Running for Supervisor

Our friend and neighbor, Kevin Barnard, who lives in Harmony Grove, has filed to run against Bill Horn for 5th district county supervisor. Kevin is 44, and has worked for the San Diego Police Department for 22 years. He and his wife Heather have 3 dogs. Most important, Kevin understands the issues facing unincorporated areas such as Harmony Grove and Elfin Forest. He has served as the chairperson of the Harmony Grove/Eden Valley Citizens Group and was a key figure in fighting the annexation of Harmony Grove to Escondido. Want to know more about Kevin and his campaign? Check his website, www.kevinbarnard.com. Here's a letter from former Escondido mayor, Jerry Harmon. Dear Friends, I am writing you to wish you a Happy New Year and to tell you about an exciting candidate running for County Supervisor to replace Bill Horn. The battle must continue and the time has come to support the candidate on the front lines right now. That candidate is Kevin Barnard and he resides in Harmony Grove with his wife Heather and their three dogs. I have worked with Kevin personally and he has entered the race to protect our quality of life here in North County. While working with Kevin, I was impressed that he listens so well and was truly interested in hearing ideas about what could make the communities of North County better. He wants to guard against over-development and stand up for our quality of life. When he mentioned that he supports the continuation of the agricultural economy - that has been such an important part of our way of life - and that he was against the development of Gregory Canyon as a county landfill, I knew that he was someone whose values were much like mine. He has been endorsed by the Sierra Club and I believe he will be endorsed by the League of Conservation Voters soon. Horn's outrageous proposals for growth at taxpayer expense and a new, sprawl-inducing freeway east of I-15 must be stopped. Kevin has been a law enforcement officer for over twenty-three years and is a man of high integrity. He has been endorsed by the Deputy District Attorney's Association and the Public Defenders as a man we can all trust to do the right thing for the residents of our County. Kevin Barnard needs our vote on Election Day and our financial support to win the race. Please visit his website at <http://www.kevinbarnard.com> to

learn more about this very qualified individual. I think you will like him as I do. Please forward his website address to all of your friends and ask them to support Kevin Barnard and contribute financially, if possible. Thank you for taking time to read my letter and best wishes for a Happy New Year. With your support we can replace Bill Horn! Sincerely, Jerry Harmon <jharmon@cts.com> p.s. with only 58 days until the primary - time is of the essence! Please do what you can! Kevin will be on Roger Hedgecock's radio show, 600 AM KOGO on February 4, 3 - 6 pm.

Garden Club Meeting

February 9, 10 am. This month's garden club meeting IS NOT TO BE MISSED! Hosted by artist and sculptor, Peggy Petitmermet. You will be awed and inspired by her brilliantly designed and color coordinated garden, accented by her sculptures which have been featured in *Architectura Digest*. 1990 Cerr Pedrogoso 744-0649 The calendar for 2002 meetings is now being compiled. Would you like to host a meeting? We generally get together on the second Saturday of each month at 10 a.m. The garden club has no officers, membership requirements or dues. We get together monthly to share the joys and challenges of gardening in Elfin Forest. Contact Evelyn Alemanni, 471-7224 or Alemanni@allea.com.

By special arrangement, Elfin Valley Nursery (on the corner of Elfin Forest Rd. and Elfin Forest Lane) will be open from 10 - 1 to allow us to purchase plants at wholesale prices.

Elections

Serving on the Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Town Council is one important way to help preserve our community's character. Please complete the ballot below and mail it to EFHGTC, 20223 Elfin Forest Rd. or bring it to the meeting on February 6. We will also have ballots available at the meeting.

Vote for four

___ Janet McGurk

___ Eric Anderson

___ Evelyn Alemanni

___ Linda Hamilton

Write in _____

Bylaw change

Increase the number of board members from 7 to 9. ___ Yes ___ No

Website The brand new Elfin Forest Website is up and running, and being improved every week.

Check it out at efhgtc.org. You can list your business in the Links section for only \$10 per year!

Dam Hotline

In the last two weeks there have been two fatal car crashes on Harmony Grove Rd. One involved a dam worker. It is up to all of us to be vigilant and drive safely, but more important, to drive defensively. New workers on the project are not familiar with our roads and often drive too fast for the conditions. PLEASE report any unsafe drivers to the sheriff. For other problems with the dam project, contact Olivenhain Dam Hotline 877-426-2010

Motocross

Elfin Forest is home to some of the finest stands of coastal chaparral remaining. Its biological richness is host to many endangered species of plants and animals and its conservation should be a priority for all of us who live here. During the past few months, we've seen a dramatic increase in off-road motorcycle activities on the horse trails. Motorcycles are not compatible with equestrian trails or endangered habitat. They destroy habitat, drive off wildlife, and make the trails unusable for horses. Besides that, there is a FINE if you are caught. While we believe that the majority of riders are not from Elfin Forest, we should have ZERO TOLERANCE for this activity. One rider tells a friend who tells a friend, and soon, we have no habitat left. A developer's dream, right? So please, call the sheriff anytime you see this illegal activity. Unfortunately, the sheriff has no offroad motorcycles so it's difficult for them to pursue the offenders. They have officers willing to ride, but nothing for them to ride. HERE's an IDEA!!! It would be a simple thing for the developers in the surrounding area, including Brookfield, San Elijo, Cielo del Norte, Cielo, and Quail Ridge to all contribute to the purchase of two or three motorcycles. It would protect their lands as well as ours. If you are willing to take on this project, please contact Evelyn Alemanni 471-7224, Alemanni@allea.com.

Elf Alerts

Are you getting your Elf Alert? If you recently changed your email address, you might be missing out. Elf Alerts are email notices about issues that need your immediate attention. They don't replace the newsletter, but supplement it. If you are not receiving them, please send your email address to Alemanni@allea.com and ask to be put on 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!

Elfin Forest Census

The town council board is in the process of compiling a questionnaire to serve as a census of Elfin Forest. Your responses are important so that the town council can accurately represent the views and opinions of the community, and also so that we can better understand the demographics of our community. We hope to have the materials ready for you by late February or March. Please be assured that your individual responses will be confidential, but the summary data may be published or used in presentations or responses to EIRs as a way to preserve and protect our community character.

Rancho Santa Fe Rd. Widening

This long-awaited and desperately needed project is scheduled to begin on January 18, 2002 and last for three years. No surprise that despite written requests, the town council did not get written information that was sent to people living along Rancho Santa Fe Rd. The city of Carlsbad has established a project information line 760-599-3738 - Let's all call and let them know that Elfin Forest residents are affected by the project and need to be on the mailing list for project updates.

Town Council

The Town Council's charter is to hold monthly meetings and present items of importance to the community. We are NOT city hall, and we have no enforcement powers. If you have problems with someone violating a county ordinance, please call the appropriate county enforcement offices, which are listed in your community guide. If you don't have a community guide, contact any board member to purchase one. They're still a bargain at \$20.

Lennar Homes doing a shell game (reprinted from the Olivenhain Newsletter)

Lennar Homes was granted its golf course building permit provided it placed 18% of the land in perpetual wildlife preserve. Now it is attempting to subdivide in the perpetual reserve and is asking to be allowed to purchase mitigation land elsewhere. Unfortunately, the site is along the Encinitas border in Bill Horn's district. If successful, Lennar will put one acre lots next to our 2 acre minimum zoning. Contact Bruce Ehlers, 760-944-9482 (taskforce@olivenhain.org) if you wish to help campaign against this shell game. Lennar should be held to the same rules that other developers are held to.

Rabidly Rural

by Evelyn Alemanni

Not a day goes by that I am not deeply grateful for the privilege of living in our beautiful rolling hills and the rural environment of our valley. It is these characteristics that attracted many of us to live here. Many of us came from suburbs that had things we don't have - street lights, sidewalks, playgrounds, sewer systems. Not having these things is part of the charm of a rural community, and we are dedicated to keeping it that way.

What are the special aspects of this community that endear it to you? We'd like to start a monthly column in this newsletter called "Rabidly Rural". The theme is appreciation of the rural life-style featuring comments from our neighbors on what they love about Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove and what they do to keep it that way. All we need is a line or two, or as much as you want to write. Send your comments to Alemanni@allea.com.

Trails at Questhaven Retreat

Questhaven Retreat is a 640 acre nature preserve and church on Questhaven Rd. It is criss-crossed by miles of trails which meander through pristine habitat. These trails are made available for the use of retreatants and the experience of God in nature. It is for this reason that we respectfully request that you not ride horses on these trails. Horses can damage the trails and disturb the meditative atmosphere which is so important to our retreatants. If you would like to enjoy the trails on foot, please contact the office at 760-744-1500. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation.

Support Kevin Barnard

by Kim Hunter


I'm writing to tell you about an exciting candidate running for County Supervisor, Kevin Barnard. Kevin has been a law enforcement officer for over twenty-three years and is a man of high integrity. He has been endorsed by the Deputy District Attorney's Association and the Public Defenders as a man we can all trust to do the right thing for the residents of our County.

Kevin Barnard needs our vote on Election Day and our support in the race for 5th District Supervisor. Please visit his web site at www.kevinbarnard.com to learn more. I think you will like him as I do.

Many in Elfin Forest have had the pleasure of personally meeting Kevin Barnard, and many of us have seen him in action expertly resolving touchy issues that seemed impossible. Kevin has an incredible talent for finding the ethical win win that pleases both sides of disputes. His skills for being an excellent listener, with the ability to reconcile conflicting stories and find common ground were perfected through years of Police Detective work and produced numerous recognition awards for excellence. These same skills offer us the opportunity of a life time to resolve planning disputes, and move forward to a brighter future.

He is truly a wonderful, direct, caring and highly intelligent, problem solver, who will make the communities of North County better. We need Kevin's help with escalating public service, school and transportation issues. We need Kevin's resolution talents to achieve a win-win that properly balances population growth with Quality of Life needs. We need Kevin's abilities to make North County the best. What a blessing to each and every citizen and to all communities to have Kevin Barnard as Supervisor.

The Election is March 5th. Please spread the word.




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Garden Greetings

by Nancy Reed

February 2002

February is an in-between month in the garden. You can finish up January chores of pruning and bare root planting or get ready for March, the second best time to plant in southern California. You can still plant cool season flowers and veggies, but they will be short lived and take up space that can be used next month by warm season plants. Ask yourself, what do you like more, warm or cold season plants? Then follow your heart and plant what you like best. One thing is for sure, February will bring rain and it will be cold at some point.

If you are like me and feel that it's not gardening without planting you are still in luck, some of the most beautiful shrubs can be planted now. They include camellias, azaleas, clivia, gerberas, gladioli and lilly-of-the-valley. Lettuce and its tangy cousin, mesclun are also easily started from seed now and are sure to make the pickiest eater of the family a salad lover. Other jobs for February include fertilizing avocados, citrus, deciduous trees, roses and all perennials. Trim and feed fuchsias. Be on the lookout for snails and slugs. Make a beer coffin out of an old pie tin or use an environmentally friendly product that utilizes iron and will not harm kids, pets and other mammals. One year I gave buckets to my daughter and several friends. They had a contest to see how many snails they could pick in 5 minutes. I treated everyone to ice cream for a job well done.

Eucalyptus Update

As you travel in Elfin Forest and beyond you cannot help but notice the tremendous die off of the red gum eucalyptus from the lerp psyllid, *Glycaspis brimblecombi*. This ravenous bug, imported from Australia several years ago is killing hundreds of thousands of these majestic red gums, once thought to be indescribable. Governmental agencies and homeowners alike are being forced to spend untold amounts of money to cut down and replace the dead and diseased trees. That includes this writer. We have been told no chemical or biological weapon was effective, but that's the old news.

Dr. Don Dahlston of UC Berkley found a parasitic wasp in Australia, (*Psyllapagus* genus) which feeds on the lerp nymphs. This stops the lerp psyllid reproductive cycle cold. Trials in Rancho Santa Fe have been very promising, albeit slow. Until the repro-

duction of the parasitic wasp can be increased to allow for more wide spread use, what can be done?

A well-known and widely used chemical, imidacloprid (the active ingredient in Advantage, used for pet flea control) has been found to be effective against the lerp psyllid. It has two different applications, soil drench under the name Merit and micro tree injection under the name Imicide. Both are "systemic" applications and only harm what eats the treated tree. Both methods cost a little less than \$100 per average 20-inch tree. Prices vary depending on the size of the tree.

The soil drench/Merit method utilizes injection of the chemical into the ground surrounding the tree, followed by several days of irrigation. Microinjection/ Imicide utilizes multiple small (1/16th of an inch) holes drilled around the base of the tree with injection of chemical, fertilizer and a carrier product to help get the ingredients to the leaves. I understand both treatments also are effective against the long-horn beetle, another active, deadly eucalyptus bug. Merit and Imicide treatments are only available from licensed contractors. Merit is available from Jack Olmsted at Plant Tek, 760-471-6420 and Imicide is available from Tom Launder at Arborist Consulting Services, 760-630-3147.

If you have eucalyptus on your property irrigate and lightly feed as the weather warms up. Most references advise deep watering in the drip line, not next to the trunk. I've been using black soaker hoses that are made out of recycled tires that attach to the end of a garden hose. I just barely turn on the water so the soaker slowly weeps. I water for 8 to 10 hours once a month. I've been fertilizing with composted horse manure about once every 6 months. Take out dead trees and keep the area clean of dead leaves and branches, as they are a real fire hazard. If you keep the wood for firewood cover the stack w/ plastic to literally cook the longhorn beetle. If not covered the stack will become a beetle nursery and staging area for future attacks.

On a personal note, all my trees are infected. I took out 33 trees several weeks ago and will treat the trees I wish to save. Replacement trees are on the way, a combo of pines, acacias and other scrubs. My trail where the eucalyptus once stood as sentinels will still be nice, but it will never be as majestic as it was before the lerp psyllid.

State Finds Fire Ants At San Elijo

By Frank Oddo

REPORT INFESTATIONS TO 1-888-434-7326

San Elijo, January 23, 2002 - An inspector for the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) stopped to speak with Frank Oddo today to ask him to notify the community of Elfin Forest that Red Imported Fire Ants have been positively identified in the San Elijo project.

History

Supposedly these ants began infesting the Southern states sometime in the 1930's. They have migrated across the US and recently have begun to infest areas of Southern CA and the Central Valley region.

Appearance

They are very small, ranging from approximately one-sixteenth of an inch to one-quarter of an inch. They are reddish-brown in color and, although different from our non-threatening resident ants, it is not easy to distinguish them by sight.

Where they live

Red Imported Fire Ants live underground. They build a unique type of mound on lawns, in gardens, parks, fields, cemeteries and inside homes - anywhere there is moisture to sustain their colonies.

The mounds begin as small piles of fine soil with small holes. According to the CDFA these can grow look like large gopher mounds that can be as much as 18 inches across or even larger.

Fire Ants are also attracted to electrical currents. Look for evidence of them in electrical boxes such as outdoor sprinkling systems, outdoor electrical panels to the house and in swimming pool pumps.

What is the threat?

The sting of a fire ant is extremely painful, and raises itchy welts. For those allergic to the venom, one or more bites can result in shock and death.

Red Imported Fire Ants are also a threat to wildlife and agriculture. They will attack and kill pets and our wildlife including everything from quail, roadrunners, lizards, squirrels, and baby deer to young coyotes and bobcats. They will attack those working in orchards, stables and gardens, successfully usurp beneficial insects, and devour crops such as those we plant in our backyards, our orchards such as citrus, strawberries and corn, as well as our ornamental gardens.

Reason for attacks

Fire Ants attack when their nests are disturbed, typically when a person or animal inadvertently steps on their mound. They follow the movement, swarming onto the people or animals before the victims realize an attack is under way. Then the ants begin to sting, injecting venom that feels like a poke with a hot needle. Each ant can sting a number of times so even if there are relatively few ants, the number of bites can be serious. Each sting site hurts for about an hour. The site will form a blister-like sore that is filled with fluid. Over half of those stung by Fire Ants develop reactions where they have been stung. This includes swelling, itching, redness and pain.

Some people - the CDFA notes about 2 out of every 100 people - develop potentially life-threatening reactions. Symptoms to watch for include the same as bee sting allergy - severe swelling, shortness of breath, dizziness, nausea, headaches and profuse sweating. Immediately seek help.

chaparral by e-mail?

by David Cronshaw

If you're not already receiving a **full color**, PDF format, copy of the *chaparral* by email, **in addition to** the regular hard copy, send an email note to **efchaparral@yahoo.com** and I'll add you to the list.



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Avon 3-day Walk

By Sue Tolman Hamelehle

The AVON 3-Day, 60 mile walk is an event, sponsored by Avon, to raise money for Breast Cancer. This event will be the first 3-Day event in San Diego and I am honored to be walking. There will be over 3,000 walkers at the San Diego event and hundreds of support crew. The AVON foundation commits funds for early detection, awareness and research for Breast Cancer.

Many families have lost a loved one to Breast Cancer. Many more have witnessed the trauma of someone close to them who has been diagnosed with Breast Cancer. Often, the key to surviving this disease is early detection. Many women do not get the proper medical care and find out too late that they have Cancer. I was lucky. My Cancer (Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma) was detected early enough for treatment, many others are not so lucky. These events not only raise funds, they also raise awareness. We must get the word out that we can make a positive difference for millions of women and their families.

If you care to sponsor me, or know of a company that would like to sponsor me, please contact me and I will arrange it. Thank you.

20466 Fortuna Del Sur, Elfin Forest, CA 92029,
760-591-0190, stolman1@yahoo.com

Playgroup Schedule

by Mary Moore

February 1: Nicole Macaluso's home, 11am. 6311 El Montevideo, Rancho Santa Fe, (858) 756-0765.

February 8: Leo Mullins Park (next to Target in Encinitas), 1pm.

February 15: Valentine party at Anna Waite's home, 2pm. 1465 Paint Mountain Road, 752-1835.

February 22: Stagecoach Park, 1pm. This is a great park for bicycles.

Congratulations to Peter and Michelle Sidwell on the birth of their baby girl, Olivia Leigh. She was born on January 10 weighing 8 lbs 6oz.

Congratulations to Rick and Mary Moore on the birth of their baby boy, Clayton Keith. He was born on January 11 weighing 7 lbs, 12 oz.

From the Internet

Breaking News from Ireland...

New Year's Eve, a lady stood up at the local pub and said that it was time to get ready for the celebrations.

At the stroke of midnight, she wanted every husband to be standing next to the one person who made his life worth living.

Well, it was kind of embarrassing. The bartender was nearly crushed to death.

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Protect Against Identity Theft

Sent by Evelyn Alemanni

We've all heard horror stories about fraud that's committed us in your name, address, SS#, credit, etc. Unfortunately I (the author of this piece who happens to be an attorney) have first hand knowledge, because my wallet was stolen last month and within a week the thief(s) ordered an expensive monthly cell phone package, applied for a VISA credit card, had a credit line approved to buy a Gateway computer, received a PIN number from DMV to change my driving record information on line, and more. But here's some critical information to limit the damage in case this happens to you or someone you know.

1. As everyone always advises, cancel your credit cards immediately, but the key is having the toll free numbers and your card numbers handy so you know whom to call. Keep those where you can find them easily.

2. File a police report immediately in the jurisdiction where it was stolen, this proves to credit providers you were diligent, and is a first step toward an investigation (if there ever is one).

3. But here's what is perhaps most important (I never ever thought to do this): Call the three national credit reporting organizations immediately to place a fraud alert on your name and SS#. I had never heard of doing that until advised by a bank that called to tell me an application for credit was made over the Internet in my name. The alert means any company that checks your credit knows your information was stolen and they have to contact you by phone to authorize new credit. By the time I was advised to do this, almost 2 weeks after the theft, all the damage had been done.

There are records of all the credit checks initiated by the thieves' purchases, none of which I knew about before placing the alert. Since then, no additional damage has been done, and the thieves threw my wallet away this weekend (someone turned it in). It seems to have stopped them in their tracks. The numbers are:

Equifax 1-800-525-6285

Experian (formerly TRW) 1-888-397-3742

Trans Union 1-800-680-7289

Social Security Administration (fraud line) 1-800-269-0271

Place the contents of your wallet on a photocopy machine. Do both sides of each license, credit card,

etc. You will know what you had in your wallet and all of the account numbers and phone numbers to call and cancel. Keep the photocopy in a safe place.

From the Internet (Cont.)

Sip the Vodka

A new priest at his first mass was so nervous he could hardly speak. After mass he asked the monsignor how he had done. The monsignor replied, "When I am worried about getting nervous on the pulpit, I put a glass of vodka next to the water glass. If I start to get nervous, I take a sip."

So next Sunday he took the monsignor's advice. At the beginning of the sermon, he got nervous and took a drink. He proceeded to talk up a storm. Upon his return to his office after mass, he found the following note on the door:

1. Sip the Vodka, don't gulp.
2. There are 10 commandments, not 12.
3. There are 12 disciples, not 10.
4. Jesus was consecrated, not constipated.
5. Jacob wagered his donkey, he did not bet his ass.
6. We do not refer to Jesus Christ as the late J. C.
7. The Father, Son, and Holy Ghost are not referred to as Big Daddy, Junior and the Spook.
8. When David was hit by a rock and was knocked off his Donkey, don't say he was stoned off his ass.
9. We do not refer to the cross as the "Big T."
10. The Virgin Mary is not called "Mary with the Cherry,"
11. The recommended grace before a meal is not "Rub-a-dub-dub, Thanks for the grub, yeah God."
12. Next Sunday there will be a taffy pulling contest at St. Peter's, not a Peter-pulling contest at St. Taffy's.

chaparral Advertising Rates:

One-time rates:

1" x 3.5" - \$5.00

2" x 3.5" - \$7.50

5" x 3.5" - \$12.00

1/2 page - \$20.00

Yearly rates:

1" x 3.5" - \$36.00/year

2" x 3.5" - \$55.00/year

5" x 3.5" - \$115.00/year

1/2 page - \$165.00/year

Community, Non-Commercial Classified Ads:
1" x 3 1/2"(approx. 4 lines): no charge - must be resubmitted every 3 months.

Creek Happenings

by Deb Lelevier

A Clean Start to the New Year

With the end of 2001 only days away, TECC organized a watershed clean-up in order to start 2002 with a clean slate.

Bright & early on 12/28/01, a faithful band of local environmentalists gathered together to clean up the hood. When all was said and done, about 9 truck loads had been collected. As usual, the more we looked, the more we found. From broken bottles, to rain gutters, to doors and mattresses and the unimaginable, this energetic, good-natured crew picked and lugged for 4 hours until the area was clean.

BIG thanks go out to our great crew! On the road: Gervais Pimentel, Patti Newton, & Colin Mc Kim who bent & picked up all those annoying cans & cups that fly out of commuter vehicles.

The off-road, muscle-man/woman crew included: two more Mc Kims: Jim & Stuart, Frank McCulloch, Chief Frank Twohy, Leonard Wittwer, and our AWESOME Girl-Power Team of Nancy Reed, Danielle & Becka Gradisher, and Jaime Costanzo. (GIRLS RULE!) Those 4 gals, out on their own, worked really hard digging in the mud & lugging bags of wet garden waste, a TV, and more up the creek embankment.

Special thanks to Tim Costanzo & Jerry Gradisher for loaning their trucks.

Thank you to the EFCF for funding TECC's trash hotline (several of the areas cleaned were the result of hotline calls) and dumping fees.

On this year-end outing, close to \$200.00 in tipping fees were saved, thanks to the kind & generous Bob Griffin, Superintendent of Morrison Knudsen, a contractor working on a project close to the creek. Bob allowed TECC to use their project dumpster for disposal of most of the debris. Besides the tipping fees, time, energy, mileage, and the environment were also spared. As always, cans & bottles were collected separately to be recycled by Frank McCulloch.

Additional kudos go out to the Wirth Family for doing a fine job of keeping their 2-mile Adopt-a-Road stretch looking great! As always, Frank & Pat McCulloch are the super-stars keeping 4-miles PLUS of Harmony Grove Road spotless with their 3 times/week trash round-ups. In addition, Frank goes beyond the call-of-duty, descending the Escondido

Creek banks to pull up unbelievably heavy large articles. Imagine! Someone actually searching for trash! (Pat says it keeps him out of trouble; that's a good thing!) Those piles on the side of the road you see in your travels are not the work of some magic little elf; they are the labor of love of our favorite lumber jack-sized volunteer!

THANKS to all of YOU for giving your valuable time during the busy holiday season! You are the best!

Land Acquisition Fund Raising Campaign

TECC's 1:1 anonymous donor, match campaign is in full swing, but we have a long way to go to raise \$50,000 by March 31, 2002.

Many of you have already given to this important cause, but we need to hear from many more folks to make this a true success. This is a great time to renew your membership or start a new one for you or someone else! Whether you give \$25.00 or \$48,000.00, it will be matched, appreciated, and go into TECC's Land Acquisition Fund at the San Diego Foundation.

The only way to ensure protecting open space in perpetuity is to purchase it; and that is TECC's #1 goal for this new year.

Thanks to those of you who have given so far: Leonard Wittwer & Martha Blane, Debbie & Eddie Robison, Joy & Dave Jackson, Carla & Jay Zilka, Richard Murphy, Alan & Gail Ross, Jim, Linda, Stuart & Colin Mc Kim, Frank McCulloch, Gerald & Sue Varty, Robert & Gervais Pimentel, Rick & Mary Moore, John & Carol Rayes, Trey & Toni Fairman, Jim Roberts, Deborah LeLevier, Charlotte Gumbrell, Ali Shapouri & Associates, Tom Golich, Helen Simmons, Vivian Doering, Dennis & Viola Cummins, Drs. Ken & Donna Carr, Dick & Dolores Barber, Joan Perron, Chip & Nancy Hatch, Ed & Janice Hall, Adeline Black, Jack & Sarah Paxton, Wallace Tucker, Andy Mauro, Sam & Sandy Farrow, Bob & Cynthia Moore, Arthur Henning, Denise & Dave Stillinger, Rick Mercurio, Joan Chitea, Ann Beck-Witte, Linda Sorensen, Laurilyn Burson. Apologies if I have missed adding your name!

As you can see many of your neighbors want to preserve open space in our watershed. Names you do not recognize? TECC has supporters all over the county, state, and beyond.

Please consider a donation now while it can be doubled! Wild places are quickly disappearing; once they are gone, they are gone forever.

Joy in the Morning

by Carolyn Swenerton

How many of you have resolved to make physical fitness a priority for 2002? Did you know that there is a great way to do that right here in Elfin Forest? Joy Jackson leads an hour long exercise class every Tuesday and Thursday morning at the fire station. The class meets at 6 AM. Oh yes, 6AM is early! Don't think about it-just get out of bed and do it!

Joy is a Registered Nurse and has been teaching exercise classes since 1980. Joy was among the first group of exercise instructors to be certified by ACE.

Classes begin with a step-aerobic warm-up, followed by weight and strength training, and those fun abdominal crunches! Stretching and a cool down complete the class. This total body workout is a great way to start your day. Wear comfortable clothes and good supportive tennis shoes. Bring a mat, hand-held weights, and a step if you have one. There are extra weights and steps available at the firehouse.

The first class is free. A three month session is \$45 or \$5 for a drop-in class. Classes are free for members of the fire department.

From The Internet

One day, a father of a very wealthy family took his son on a trip to the country with the firm purpose of showing his son how poor people can be. They spent a couple of days and nights on the farm of what would be considered a very poor family.

On their return from the trip, the father asked his son, "How was the trip?" "It was great, Dad." "Did you see how poor people can be?" the father asked. "Oh yeah," said the son. "So what did you learn from the trip?" asked the father.

The son answered, "I saw that we have one dog and they have four. We have a pool that reaches to the middle of our garden and they have a creek that has no end. We have imported lanterns in our garden and they have the stars at night." "Our patio reaches to the front yard and they have the whole horizon. We have a small piece of land to live on and they have fields that go beyond our sight. We have servants who serve us, but they serve others." "We buy our food, but they grow theirs. We have walls around our property to protect us and they have friends to protect them."

With this, the boy's father was speechless. Then his son added, "Thanks, Dad, for showing me how poor we are."

Pancake Breakfast Heads Up!

by Susan Cronshaw

April may or may not bring showers to Elfin Forest, but it WILL bring a fun filled day. On April 20th. the Fire Auxiliary will be holding a Pancake Breakfast. This will not be the usual breakfast, delicious as those may be. This time there will be several additional events to tickle your fancy. Events limited only by the imagination and energy of the Auxiliary - and that gives a very wide scope. If you are proud of your gardening ability (and the roses should be in their first flush by April) there will be a flower competition. Flower arranging? Veggies? Best bloom? Most unusual? There may also be a plant stall where you can donate your extra cuttings and seedlings and buy someone else's produce. Now is the time to start thinking about what you can grow to swap. Are you crafty? Not like a fox, but with your hands.

There may be a craft display and sale. Races for all ages? Maybe. Competitions and games for all? Probably. There will be plenty of information in the next issue, when plans have been finalized. But do your bit now and plan ahead to KEEP THIS DATE FREE.

That's The Law

by Elton (Joe) Rife

I was arrested at my residence of 24 years. A woman who was boarding her horses in a neighboring yard accused me of shooting them with a Red Ryder BB gun. I was taken to Vista jail where I posted \$25,000.00 bail. The next day I discovered that the sheriff had told a neighbor of my pending arrest, the news was spreading. Several days later my home was broken into, the door destroyed, the house searched, and the Red Ryder BB gun confiscated. Many more days go by, I still do not know exactly what I am arrested for, and when I wake up to read the paper I find a front-page story telling me exactly what I am charged with. Did I shoot the horses? NO! Doesn't matter though, that's the law!



Sunday Services

Sunday worship is at 10:45 a.m. All are welcome.

Tape recordings of all Sunday services are available for rental or purchase.

Questhaven Retreat is at 20560 Questhaven Rd.
760-744-1500.

Visit us on the Internet at <http://www.questhaven.org>.

Study groups meet on weeknights in Oceanside, San Marcos, and Escondido, and on the Retreat grounds. Please call the office for times and locations.

Weekly - Meditation

*Wednesday at 7:15 p.m.
Meet at El Chapelito, Led by Jean Michalewicz.*

Meditation is a sacred time to build the bridge into Divine Reality. You are welcome to join in meditative attunement and prayer.

Bi-Monthly - The Way Within Meditation Classes

*Bi-monthly, 1st & 3rd Wednesday at 12:00 Noon
Meet in the Academy, Led by Rev. Phyllis Isaac.*

The Way Within Meditation classes continue in its third year. All who have participated have found the power of group meditation and prayer of great value and we invite others to join us.

Bi-Monthly - Exploration in Prayer Classes

*Bi-monthly, 2nd & 4th Wednesday at 12:00 Noon
Meet in the Academy, Led by Rev. Elizabeth Wood.*

Prayer is communion with God. When properly done, prayer is an opening of the inner door. This series of classes will focus on the necessary steps to prepare us for communion with God's Presence.

Sunday Services

Feb 3	The Journey of a Disciple	Rev. Phyllis Isaac
Feb 10	Christ: The Rose of Sharon	Evelyn Alemanni
Feb 17	The Essential Quality of Forgiveness	Diane O'Connor
Feb 24	Transforming Love - God Centered Hearts in Action	Rev. Jonathan Wiltshire

MARCH

Mar 3	The Search for Shamballa	Rev. Susan S. Cary
Mar 10	Man Cannot Live by Bread Alone	Rev. Elizabeth Wood
Mar 17	Open Your Heart and Be Grateful	Jean Michalewicz

Elfin Forest Classified

Local Baby, Animal and House Sitters

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

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

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

Ski Utah!

2 Br. 2 Ba. condo on historic Main St. in Park City. Sleeps 7. One block to town lift or take free shuttle for 10 minute ride to Deer Valley. Call: Swenertons @ 471-4312

Solar Panels for sale. 4' x 8'.

\$100 each. 744-8169.

Everything But The Dog

Agility classes, K-9 Manners, K-9 Therapy Preparation, Tricks Training, Seminars, Problem Solving, Home consultations, Fun for dogs and their families, And more. Deb LeLevier, 471-0917

Non-Blooming Paperwhites?

I have a garden question that I should like some help with. Several years ago I planted out some paperwhite bulbs into the garden after they had flowered indoors, in the hope that they would naturalize and thrive. They have certainly thrived and multiplied but this year produced few blooms but much long foliage. Some I know were in too much shade and got too much water during the summer, these have been lifted. But others got plenty of sun. I am talking about many dozen bulbs. Is it worth my while replanting somewhere with more sun and less water? Should I give more fertilizer, or less? Is it a lost cause? Please let me know your ideas. Phone 736 9257, or email sbcronshaw@yahoo.com.

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or current resident

Paid up? Check label! Send check to the above Elfin Forest Town Council address

E.F. Calendar - February 2002

Date	Time	Event
1st Wed (6 th)	7:30pm	EF/HG Town Council Forum
Tuesdays (5 th & 19 th)	1:30pm to 3:30pm	Bookmobile @ Firehouse
1st Tue, (5 th)	7:00pm	Fire Training @ Firehouse
Every Friday	10:00am -Noon	Playgroup.
2nd Mon (11 th)	7:30pm	Fire Board @ Firehouse
2nd Wed, (13 th)	7:00pm	Fire Auxiliary @ Firehouse (check).
3rd Tue, (19 th)	7:00pm	Fire Training @ Firehouse
Last Sat (23 rd)	9:00am	Fire Training @ Firehouse TECC Spring Flowers Hike @ EF Reserve

Elfin Forest Town Council Board

Board members: Evelyn Alemanni 471-7224, Linda Hamilton 744-7952, Mid Hoppenrath 747-1145, Nancy Reed 471-7933, Alan Lasnover (471-8011), Kim Hunter (744-0670), Bill Telesco 746-4692, Elizabeth Wood 744-2594

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Articles for publication should be sent to David Cronshaw by email to efchaparral@yahoo.com in plain text format by the 15th of the month for inclusion in the next issue. Anonymous articles will not be published. Space limitations may cause articles to be held over to the next issue or edited for brevity. Articles considered unsuitable for publication will not be published.

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