

#### A Newsletter for Crest

Volume 14 March April 2012 Number 2



Spring is in the air in Crest! The community calendar is full of great activities so get your calendar ready.

Plan to bring your kids to the

Kiwanis Easter Egg Hunt on March 24 in Nancy Jane Park. The Crest Community Church will once again host Crest's annual Easter Sunrise Service in the park on April 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00. Additionally they have planned a second park worship event on March 4 from 10-2 pm that will includes food, fun and fellowship. All are invited to attend.

In January and February, fire protection issues were the topic of discussion by Fire Chief Augie Ghio and Supervisor Dianne Jacob at two public forums. Important information regarding Crest fire protection issues can be found in this issue including: 1) San Miguel's plans to possibly outsource Crest's services to another district 2) Minutes from the Prop E Oversight Committee (including the budget) 3) Information on how you can help to try to repeal the recently passed SRA fee. The passage of AB24 increases fees for Crest residents by \$135 and is considered to be triple taxation for fire protection fees for rural areas (page 23-25)

Another important issue requiring your attention is the Board of Supervisors' plan to eliminate our local planning group. See page 15-16 for information on how you can make sure communities can continue to have a say on regarding local planning issues.

Delicious food has been the topic of conversation in Crest lately. The CCA served two fabulous

dinners in January and February. That Sally Bruner sure can cook; her meatloaf and chicken dinners are some of the best "homemade fixins" I've had in a long time! Sally and the CCA has asked for a little assistance so we can continue to enjoy these great low-cost meals. See page 5 to see what you can do to help out just a little bit. What's next? Mark your calendars for Irish stew on March 7 and a great ham dinner on April 4.

Speaking of great food, be sure to support your local Kiwanis group by attending their stupendous breakfasts on March 24 and April 28. Remember the proceeds support our Crest Kids and other important community projects.



The Crest Sun Facebook page now has 70 friends and counting. Check the page to see updated news regarding lost pets, crimes in Crest and information that becomes available between issues of the

paper. You do not need to have a Facebook account to utilize this feature (info on page 30).

Speaking of crimes, are you aware of the many burglaries that have been taking place in Crest? Be the eyes and ears of your neighborhood and report any suspicious activity. Lock your doors and follow the advice the sheriffs have posted in this issue (see page 9.)



Another great **music night** is scheduled at the clubhouse on March 24<sup>th</sup> hosted by Dave Silva and Tom Baird. Drop by for a great night of music at no cost.

And, of course, check out the activities in our Crest Library on page 2.

SO MUCH TO DO, SO LITTLE TIME!



### MARCH -APRIL EVENTS @ CREST LIBRARY

#### **CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS**

Coloring Table Every Tuesday during open hours

PJ Story-time Tuesday March 27th and April 24th at 6:30 pm

Baby Story-time Friday March 16th and April 20th at 10:30am

#### **TEEN PROGRAMS**

Video Game Fun! PlayStation & Wii for your enjoyment!

Make it and Take Crafts Every Friday

Free Supplies Provided!

#### **ADULT PROGRAMS**

FREE BASIC COMPUTER CLASSES EVERY THURSDAY from 11:00am - Noon

CALL Martha for an appointment 619-442-7083

#### **MYSTERY BOOK CLUB**

Mystery lovers; and any who just love to read March book of the Month is: Dead as a doornail by Charlaine Harris.

**April book of the Month**: Blasphemy by Douglas Preston. Submit your comments on the book in the Library or

At: http://crestlibrarymysterybookclub.blogspot.com

#### **CLUB DE LECTURA LEYENDO JUNTOS**

Participa comunicando to opinion en nuestro blog acerca
Del libro, en Marso: Más muerto que nunca de Charlaíne Harrís
En Abril: Blasfemía de Douglas Preston

#### SATURDAY FAMILY CRAFT PROGRAM 11 A.M.

Soap-making March 3rd & April 14th - Pet treats March 10th & April 7th
Pot holder looms March 17th – Scrapbooking March 24th
Wire sculptures March 31st – Knitting April 21st & 28th
CELEBRATE NATIONAL WOMAN'S MONTH IN MARCH

All Library programs are subject to change or cancellation without notice Todos los programa de la biblioteca son sujtos acambio o cancelacion si aviso



## Crest Contacts

Crest Comp	nunity Conta	cts
Crest Community Assn. johnson7409@att.net	Paul Johnson (email)	442-4022
Crest Comm.Church crestchurch@sbcglobal.net	Kerri Lambert (email)	442-3736
Crest Black Board	Kathy	440-6097
(Call if you do not get	T tatiny	588-0869
callback in 24 hours)	D: 1 D 1	
Clubhouse Rentals	Rick Bradt	444-2641
rentals@thecrestsun.com Crest Fire Safe Council	(email) Kandhy Franklin	or 44-CREST 44-crest
crestfiresafecouncil@yahoo.com	(email)	44-crest
Crest Garden Club	Arlene Palmer	441-0187
Rold@sbcglobal.net	Marsha	
Crest Historical Scty.	Dorothy Miller	444-0968
Crest Kiwanis	Dennis Plunkett	335-7401
denplunkett@yahoo.com		
Crest Library	Rosi Mejia	442-7083
Crestridge Reserve	Cathy Chadwick	749-5767
Crest School	Office	588-3128
www.cajonvalley.net	(website)	
Crest Sun Newsletter	Linda Hjelle	440-8540
editor@thecrestsun.com Information	(email)	517-9838
winters72@hotmail.com		445 5006
	Chris Seebold	447-5826
The Crest Sun website webmaster@thecrestsun.com	Karin Weiss	579-3951
E-Crest-rians	Kandhy Franklin	444-4996
St Louise Church	Father Burnia	444-3076
Sub-Regional Planning.	Judy Bowen	440-0783
crestplanning.org	(website)	110 0703
Hel	p Lines	
Child Abuse Hot line	(800)	344-6000
Highway Patrol:		
Traffic Related	(858)	637-3800
Abandoned Vehicles	(619)	441-4264
Sheriff (non-emergency)	Dispatch (858)	565-5200
Alpine Station	(619)	659-2600
Licensing Division San Miguel Fire Dst	(858)	974-2020
Crest Fire Office	Business office. Burn Permits	670-0500 588-8112
Fire Marshal	Marsha Larsen	660-5356
Public Info Officer	Leonard Villarreal	660-5359
Fire Chief	August Ghio	660-5351
www.smgfire.org	(website)	
Adult Protective Svs	(800)	510-2020
Child Abuse Hot Line	(800)	344-6000
Animal Control	(760)	438-2312
Auto Repair, Bureau	(800)	952-5210
Border Patrol CALTRANS	(619) (619)	662-7321 688-6785
Code Enforcement	(858)	694-2705
Contractors Board	(Fraud) (800)	321-2752
Crime Stoppers	(619)	531-1547
<del></del>	(8.9)	55- 20.7

EDI (talanda a a a a a a	(0.50)	565 1055
FBI (telephone scam)	(858)	565-1255
Fish & Game	(951)	443-2944
Illegal Dumping	(858)	495-5143
Noise Abatement (dogs), abandoned vehicles,	(858)	694-3741
solid waste complaints	(636)	094-3741
Planning & Land Use	(858)	694-3741
Poison Control	(800)	876-4766
Postal Police (mail)	MailFraud(877)	876-2455
Real Estate fraud/info	(619)	525-4192
Road Conditions	(800)	427-7623
Secret Service -Fraud	Currency/Credit	557-5640
Social Services	(619)	401-6000
SD Regional Center	(858)	576-2938
US Forest Service	(619)	445-6235
Stores ar	nd Restaurants	}
Crest Foods	Kevin pg 14	444-8132
Lenardo's Pizzeria	Sam - pg 19	444-1389
Rainbow Farms Mrkt	Mark –pg 8	444-7504
Ad	vertisers	
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Child Care	Summer-pg 22	623-0548
Crest Computer Guys	Skye – pg 10	800-571-
		9645
Custom Carpentry	Andy – pg 22	442-7934
Just Runs 4WD Club	Roger – pg 21	579-7120
Kathy Kuts	Kathy – pg 28	447-1945
Kelly's Kreations	Kelly – pg 6	904-608-4438
Hemigirl4271@yahoo.com		
Knox Reprographics	Mary pg 30	230-6300
Marvelous Organizing	Risa – pg 26	231-1113
Fetch Pet Care	Stephanie pg 7	287-PETS
FetchPetCare.com	Dayma na 10	000 0504
Real Estate & Loans SD Homes	Rayna –pg 13	922-2524
Yard/Repairs/ Bee	Al – pg 27	442-4879
Removal	, " PS 21	TT4-T017
Vacancy	Pg 26	
HOUSE FOR RENT		444-3089

Next Crest Sun Deadline April 20, 2012

Advertisers:
See page 30
for additional
information.
Submit your news for
the next Crest Sun
Newsletter to
editor@thecrestsun.com



MARCH 2	2012						
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#### Calendar of Events March - April 2012

		Calendar of Events March - April 2012
03/04/12	10-2:00 pm	Food & Fun & Fellowship at Nancy Jane Park – Crest Community Church-All are invited
03/06/12	1:00 Tuesday	Historical Society Meeting- Crest Library
03/07/12	5-7 pm Wed	CCA Dinner – Irish Stew at the Clubhouse
03/08/12	6:30 pm –	Kiwanis Board Meeting - Clubhouse
03/12/12	11:00 am	Garden Club Meeting Marsha for Details 440-1167
03/12/12	7:00 pm	Sub Regional Planning Group
03/14/12	5:30 pm	San Miguel Fire Protection District Board Meeting - 2850 Orange Way – Spring Valley <a href="http://www.smgfire.org/Board/agenda.htm">http://www.smgfire.org/Board/agenda.htm</a> for agenda
03/19/12	6:00 pm	Kiwanis General Meeting – visitors welcome – Clubhouse
03/20/12	6:00 - Tues	CCA Board Meeting (before general meeting – closed session)
	7:00 pm	CCA General Meeting (Crest Community Association) – Clubhouse
	Tues	(Public invited)
03/24/12	8:00-10:00	Kiwanis Breakfast – Clubhouse – all invited
03/24/12	6-10 pm	Music Night at the Crest Clubhouse – Hosts: David Silva and Tom Baird
03/29/12		Deadline to submit comments to Supervisor's regarding the Planning Group (see page ??)
04/04/12	5-7 pm Wed	CCA Dinner – Ham Dinner at the Clubhouse
4/05/12	4-9 pm	Public Hearing regarding SDG&E Rate increase – (see page 21)
04/07/12	8:30-10:30	Kiwanis Easter Egg Hunt and Pancake Breakfast at the Clubhouse and Nancy Jane Park. Watch the bulletin board for additional information -
04/0812	7:00 am	Annual Easter Sunrise Service at Nancy Jane Park hosted by Crest Church
04/09/12	9:30 – Mon	Crest Garden ClubKathy Fiedor's house -Call Marsha for Details 440-1167
04/09/12	7:00	Sub Regional Planning Group
04/10/12	1:00 pm- TU	Historical Society Mtg – Library
04/11/12	5:30 pm -	San Miguel Fire Protection District Board Meeting - 2850 Orange Way – Spring
	Thurs	Valley
04/16/12	6:00 pm	Kiwanis General Meeting – visitors welcome – Clubhouse
04/17/12	6:00 - Tues	CCA Board Meeting (before general meeting – closed session)
	7:00 pm Tues	CCA General Meeting (Crest Community Association) – Clubhouse (Public invited)
04/20/12	5:00 pm	Deadline for submissions to the Crest Sun Newsletter
04/28/12	8-10:00	Kiwanis Breakfast – Clubhouse – all invited.

## **Crest Community Association**



The Crest Community Association is the center of activities for the Crest Community. They need just a little of

your time or resources to continue to provide these great community resources. Here are a few ideas on what you can do to help out.

#### 1. Step up to the Plate:

Have you been to a CCA dinner? The dinners are not only delicious and inexpensive, but it is a great opportunity to get to know and visit with your Crest



neighbors. The proceeds support and maintain the clubhouse.

We need your volunteer efforts to help us keep the dinners not only affordable to the community but to help us make a profit. A little help from many would cut food costs and will help Sally with the event. If you can volunteer to help out with just one of the following items a couple times a year, call or email Sally so she can put you on the list to help out occasionally. Call her at 579-9862 or email <a href="mailto:Sallybruner@cox.net">Sallybruner@cox.net</a> and let her know how you can help.

- Help to prep of a small portion of the meal the day of the event or before.
- Buy 5 or 10 pounds of vegetables (potatoes, carrots, etc. depending on the month). Prepping them is helpful, but if you are too busy, just drop them off.
- Help out by donating a few dollars toward the purchase of the main course.
- Volunteer for backup to help with clean up or setup.

This month's dinner is Irish stew and all the fixins all for the low price of \$6.

A personal note from the editor: Sally, you Rock! Your meatloaf, spaghetti and chicken dinners the past few months have been outstanding! I can't wait for the next one.

## 2. Help make this July 4<sup>th</sup> Event the best ever! It's time to start planning

Did you volunteer during the July 4<sup>th</sup> festivities last year? We need help again this year. Have you ever helped out before? Old and new volunteers are invited to help out with this great event. Again, we aren't asking you to plan the entire event, just one small piece of the puzzle. Can we count on you to help out, before, during or after the event? This is fun and rewarding and the proceeds go to supporting the Crest Clubhouse expenses. Can you help out with:

- · Setup or breakdown of activities
- Food sales
- Silent Auction- help, gather, or donate
- Cleanup
- Parade setup
- Barricade pickup, drop off or maintenance during the parade
- Vendor help
- Trash pickup
- Music
- Fund raiser ideas
- Games and activities
- Trophies and awards

If you are willing to help, drop an email to <a href="Editor@thecrestsun.com">Editor@thecrestsun.com</a> and I'll pass it on to the CCA or write a note and drop it in the CCA mailbox in front of the clubhouse or mail to CCA July 4<sup>th</sup> Help - 113 N Park Dr. EC 92021 and we will contact you when the planning meetings start. Include your name, phone number(s), email, and areas of interest as well as any suggestions to make this event the best ever.

## **CCA Changes Meeting Dates For Board Meetings:**

Make a note for your calendars. The CCA has moved the date of their Board meetings to one hour prior to the regular scheduled monthly general meeting. On the third Tuesday of each month the Board will meet at 6:00 pm which is usually closed session and the General meeting will start at 7:00 pm.

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Crest Tidbits:

Want to welcome a new neighbor to Crest? Is there a new baby in the family, a 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary or recent retirement? If you have a line or two to share with and about Crest residents, send it to editor@thecrestsun or leave a message at 517-9838. Comments will be printed and edited at the editor's discretion.

Olivia Rose Cavins will be one year old on March 24! Olivia is the daughter of Crest residents Brent and Julia Cavins and granddaughter of Ray and Sylvia Cavins. Folks will be flying in from Washington DC, Iowa, South Carolina and Reno to celebrate this great event.

Congratulations to **Linda Hjelle** for being juried into "The Best of Nature Photography Show" which runs from January 2012 through May 2012 at the Ordover Gallery in the San Diego Natural History Museum. Seventy-two images were selected from 200 photographers who entered a total of just under one thousand images. "If you'd like to see some wonderful nature photography, visit the Natural History Museum free the first Tuesday of each month. We want to thank our own Crest woodpeckers for posing."



Crest resident, **Lucy Cafiero**, has had her first book published. *One in Eight – A Teen's Guide to Understanding Breast Cancer* was born out of a workshop that Lucy does in San Diego high schools to inform young teen girls about breast cancer. Almost 9 years ago, Lucy was misdiagnosed for 15 months with a form of breast cancer that is not detectable through mammography. Her HMO doctor did not suggest any further testing and shrugged it off as a fibroid cyst. After researching all the different types of breast cancer, Lucy felt if she had been more informed prior to her diagnosis, she would have been better able to direct the course of her outcome.

"I feel if we empower our young women through education, mistakes like these can be avoided. It's okay to question your doctors if you feel they may be wrong. Let's face it, it's your body and it's your life. The more we know about ourselves the better off we'll be. I wrote this book and do these workshops for the sole purpose of empowering young girls and women alike to take their health into their own hands. Knowledge is Power! Two book signings have been scheduled so far, one will be February 25<sup>th</sup> at the La Mesa Library on Allison St. from 10-12:30; and Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup> at San Pasquel Wine Tasting Room in La Mesa Village from 7-9 pm. You can also go to Amazon.com to purchase copies under Health/Fitness/Diseases/Cancer. If you would like a signed copy, please send a request via email to: <a href="mailto:lucy@one-in-eight.info">lucy@one-in-eight.info</a> or <a href="mailto:one-in-eight@yahoo.com">one-in-eight@yahoo.com</a>. Lucy also has a Facebook page at: <a href="mailto:https://www.facebook.com/pages/One-in-Eight">https://www.facebook.com/pages/One-in-Eight</a>. Go to her page and "like" it!

A big thank you to Scott from the Computer Guys. "Scott came to my house after work and worked on my car for FREE after responding to an ad I had placed in Craigslist for a mobile mechanic. He went totally out of his way to get my car going.....I never met the man before. Thank you Scott – These are the people we need to recognize in Crest." Patrick Wolff

If you have been to the library recently, you may have noticed the absence of **Rosi Mejia**, our Crest Librarian. Rosi is on leave taking care of her husband who is very ill. Keep Rosi and her family in your thoughts and prayers. Hurry back Rosi!



#### **Zumba Anyone?**

Interested in getting together
And doing an informal Zumba exercise
class at the Clubhouse once a week?
Email: Editor@thecrestsun with your
preference of morning or an evening
and we might give it a try! (I have the
CD's and it is fun. Linda)



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### **Crest Crime Log**

C	rest Crime Log - <u>www.crimemap</u> p	oing.com
12/14/11 11:38 am	Poss. Narcotic Controlled Substance	300 BI Vista Abierta
12/31/11 12:30 pm	Take Vehicle w/o owner's consent	1200 BI Mt View Rd
01/05/12 2:40 pm	Battery on Person	200 Bl La Cresta Heights Rd
01/15/12 12:01 a m	Residential Burglary	1000 Bl Matamo Bl
01/22/12 12:01 am	Petty Theft	1100 Bl Hamlet Pl
01/22/12 9:00 pm	Vehicle break in/theft	100 Bl Beech Pl
01/29/12	Motorcycle Theft/Bicycle	Holly Rd (Reported by resident)
01/31/11 11:45 am	Grand Theft	700 Bl La Cresta Blvd.
02/01/12 11:20 am	Fraud	1000 BI Old Mt View Rd
02/07/12 9:30 am	Vehicle break in/theft	1900 BI Vista De La Montana
02/18/12 1:30 pm	Petty Theft	Lilac Dr/Jarrett Ln
02/19/12 10:00 pm	Grand Theft	300 Bl Lilac Dr
02/21/12	Vehicle vandalism/cut gas line	2400 BI Suncrest (reported by resident)
02/24/12 5:00 pm	Grand Theft	2400 Bl Suncrest
02/24/12 8:00 am	Vandalism (less than \$400)	100 BI Scenic DR
02/12	Gas Siphoned from Car	North Lane (reported by resident)

#### **Sheriff's Tips on Crime Prevention:**

Crest continues to be the target of burglaries. The Sheriff's office offers the following tips:

SCAM Artist. Scammers take advantage of the good will of others. They also want to repair something in and around your house. Recently, someone provided a check for services "promised", and never heard from them again. The Scammer cashed the check and went on to another victim. Anyone who approaches you regarding anything including but not limited to debris clearing, rebuilding, telephone solicitation even a person "appearing" to be delivering a package and stating the package is a "collect on delivery"....
VERIFY! Report Suspicious Activity too! The phone number to report suspicious activity is (858) 565-5200.

number to report suspicious activity is (858) 565-5200. Describe the event as briefly as possible: what, where, when, and how. If it's suspicious, call the Sheriff's Department! You may save a life or stop a crime! State Contractor Board is happy to verify information for you. 1-800-321-2751.

Review your credit history. Contact Equifax, 1-877-322-8228, Experian, 888-397-3742, Trans Union 800-493-2392. Be Aware! All three Credit Companies are offering "credit monitoring service" for a monthly charge. Under Fair & Accurate Transaction (FACT) Act, at your request, each major credit reporting agency will provide you with one free credit report every 12 months. If you choose not to participate in their credit monitoring service for a monthly fee, ensure it is clear that you want only your free annual report. We would recommend calling each agency separately. You will be sure this is an accurate account from each

agency. It takes time, but worth it. Calling one each month for three months allows close monitoring for possible ID Theft. Closely monitor your credit cards, check book and all other forms of Identification. Take only that which you need when going to work and shopping.

Maintain an inventory of your valuables. Be sure to include a brief description of the item, make/model, serial number and a picture if possible. It is a type of insurance, helping us to recover your property in case of theft. Keep one copy in your home, and another outside of your home.

<u>Protect your vehicle</u>. Lock it, park carefully, mark your Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) in several places such as tailgates, spoilers and under the hood, using an engraver or dye marker. By doing this, we make it more difficult for thieves to sell parts stolen from the vehicle.

<u>Teach "9-1-1" responsibility to children</u>. Dial 9-1-1 for fire or medical emergencies and serious crime in progress.

Start a Neighborhood Watch and join an Alpine/East County Rural Neighborhood Watch "e~network" in your area. Neighborhood Watch is a crime prevention program which involves neighbors getting to know each other, working together, and implementing crime prevention techniques.

Partnership with your Alpine & Rural Sheriff's Report suspicious activities: 858-565-5200 or Emergency - Call 9-1-1

For additional information, contact Crime Prevention Specialist Paula Dickenson, 619 659-2608.

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## 10 Clever Ideas that Make Life a Little Easier



 Hull strawberries using a straw.

 Rubbing a shelled walnut over scratches in your furniture will disguise dings and scrapes.



b Stop cut apples browning in your child's lunch box by cutting it then securing it back in place with a rubber band.

 Overhaul your linen cupboard, store bed linen sets inside one of their own pillowcases and there will be no more hunting through piles for a match.



 Pump up the volume by placing your iPhone & iPod in a bowl. The concave shape amplifies the music.



- Attach a Velcro strip to the wall to store soft toys.
- Forever losing your bathroom essentials? Use magnetic strips to store bobby pins,



tweezers and clippers, behind a vanity door.

 Store shoes inside shower caps to stop dirty soles rubbing on your clothes. And you can find them in just about every hotel.



- Bake cupcakes directly in ice-cream cones, so much more fun and easier for kids to eat.
- Turn your muffin pan upside down, bake cookie-dough over the top and voila, you have cookie bowls for fruit or icecream.



For more ideas, Check out: http://www.thedailybuzz.com.au/2011/11/25-clever-ideas\_household-tips\_storage-ideas/

## Advertised Airline Pricing Must Now Include Additional Fees

Did you know that the Department of Transportation has implemented changes regarding the need to disclose additional fees in their advertised prices?

As of January 2012 all airport taxes and fees must be included in the package prices in order to make shopping for and purchasing travel easier for you. Airlines are now required to provide full disclosure of previously concealed fees and changes.

Additional passenger protections include less time on the tarmac, disclosure of baggage fees, and also refunding baggage fees of lost baggage. To read more of U.S. Department of Transportation Expands Airline Passenger Protections, released by the DOT, go to: http://www.dot.gov/affairs/2011/dot5111.html

The additional passenger protections are to insure air travelers are treated with the respect they deserve."

#### **Notes on Couponing:**

Need to save a few bucks? Check out these sites and look for items you regularly use:

Mom.com

The Grocery Game.com

Are you new to couponing and want to learn how to save big bucks?

HotCouponWorld.com

Want to link electronic coupons to your store loyalty card?





## What Can You Do To Support the Crest Community?

#### Join the Crest Historical Society

The Crest Historical Society (CHS) works to preserve and share Crest History with the community. CHS is always looking for new members. There is one general meeting a year. A monthly workshop meets the first Tuesday of each month at 1 pm at the Library.

Members receive ECHOES, the newsletter, 4 times a year. For information call Dorothy Miller 444-0968

# Support the Crest Historical Society, Inc. Membership Form includes a monthly newsletter \$2.50 (over 65) \$15.00 Non-Profit \$5.00 (under 65) \$25.00 Corporation/Business \$10.00 Family \$100.00 Life Member Name Address City/State/Zip: Phone: E-Mail Make check payable to: Crest Historical Society Mail to: P.O Box 2182 El Cajon, CA 92021





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	- 4000 IOI # 10 STOOFIITS	□ \$150 for 5 students	\$30 for 1 student	U Other
Name				
Address				
City/State/Zip				
Phone				
Email				

"Because of the Earth Discovery Institute, every student in our K-5 school has had the opportunity to learn about environmental ideals and ideas. The students are now not only aware of what is in their own backyards but realize their individual responsibility to keep the world protected. Thank you for providing these invaluable lessons and experiences." -Sally Saltaztein, 3rd Grade Teacher, Student Council Advisor, Vista Grande Elementary School, El Cajon

Earth Discovery Institute is a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization. Tax ID # 26-2288903. Your donation is tax deductib

#### JOIN THE CCA AND SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY CLUBHOUSE

Send this form in with your check made out to the Crest Community Association (CCA) Mailing Address: CCA 113 No Park Dr. El Cajon, CA 92021 Membership Levels:

Lifetime \$500 _	Business \$50 _	Family \$35	Individual \$25	Senior \$12 (65+)
Name		Phoi		
Address		Email	:	

#### **BINGO** News

Thanks to all who came to BINGO NIGHT. It was a pleasant surprise to have Rosanna Sutton come and be a part of the evening. We thank her for her excellent job calling and choosing the games! Some of our great prizes were Kiwanis Breakfast Tickets—Thanks to Dennis Plunkett and Crest Kiwanis, Also, a Calzone and Drink from Crest Foods, and a \$10.00 McDonalds cards from a CCA member. We hope to have another BINGO NIGHT in May, so check the next issue of Crest Sun. Hope to see you at our wonderful community events!

**CCA Dinner** 

March 7, 2012 5-7 pm Menu entre: Irish Stew April 4, 2012 5-7 pm

Menu entre: Ham Dinner

All are invited; only \$6 adults \$4 Kids 3-8; Kids under 3 eat free Includes Drink & Dessert only \$1

Can't stay for dinner?
Stop by and ask to have dinner to go



### Are you looking to BUY or SELL a home?

## I am your hometown realtor I've been a Crest resident for 14 years and I

#### am familiar with the unique issues of buying and selling homes in our community

I specialize in both traditional and short sales. With my previous experience in the loan industry I have extensive knowledge and resources available on all types of financing.

#### A big question on many folks mind is: "WHAT IS A SHORTSALE?"

\*\*\*In a short sale, the lender agrees to settle the debt owed on the property for less than the full amount. "Settled" means that the lender is writing off the debt (which is why you get a 1099 after a short sale for the amount of debt forgiven) and that they are not going to go after you for the money they lost by filing a deficiency judgment in the future.

\*\*\*NOT ALL SELLERS AND PROPERTIES QUALIFY FOR THIS, ASK YOUR TAX PROFESSIONAL IF YOU QUALIFY

#### I AM HERE TO ANSWER ANY OF YOUR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS REGARDING THE REAL ESTATE MARKET, ANYTIME!

MLS#	Address	Bed	Bath	Estimated SF	List Price	Sell Price
	<b>Homes Sold</b>					
100020885	108 Vista Wy	2	2	1655	\$239,000	230,000
110012093	3019 La Cresta Rd	4	4	3048	\$509,000	500,000
110066697	134 Albatross Pl	2	1	748	159,000	159,000
110049791	118 Wall Pl	3	3	1200	\$239,900	241,000
110050139	384 Paloma Ln	3	2	2511	\$229,900	214,000
	<b>Active Listings</b>					
110041460	218 Scenic Dr	2	2	1152	\$217,000	
110058907	214 Jarrett Ln	3	1	930	\$148,000	
120007700	340 Alta Ln	2	1	824	\$269,999	

Information is not guaranteed. DRE#01743695 Wednesday February 8th 2012 Sandicor Inc

## CREST FOODS & LIQUOR THE KING OF CREST

PHONE: 619-444-8132 FAX: 619-444-5460 1103 La Cresta Blvd El Cajon, CA 92021

#### HOURS

M-F 6AM TO 10PM - SAT 8AM TO 10PM - SUN 8AM TO 9PM

## Crest Community,

Thank-you for giving us the opportunity to start this business in your neighborhood. We appreciate the support you, other local businesses and churches have given us since we opened. We have tried to earn your respect by providing you with a clean environment to shop in as well as stocking our shelves with the goods you most like. THANK-YOU!



-Kevin





## CREST-DEHESA-GRANITE HILLS-HARBISON CANYON SUB-REGIONAL PLANNING GROUP

Mailing address: P.O. Box 21489, El Cajon, CA 92021
e-mail: <a href="mailto:wrplanning@aol.com">wrplanning@aol.com</a> website: <a href="mailto:www.crestplanning.org">www.crestplanning.org</a>
The mission of the sub-regional planning group is to advise and assist the Director of Planning, the Planning and Environmental Review Board, the

Zoning Administrator, the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors in the preparation, amendment and implementation of community and sub-regional plans.

Meetings are held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at 7:00 pm. Locations rotate between the Dehesa School, The Crest Community Center, and the Harbison Canyon Community Center. Meeting agendas, minutes, locations, and planning commission documents may be found on their website at <a href="https://www.crestplanning.org">www.crestplanning.org</a>. The website can also be accessed by going to the <a href="https://www.thecrestsun.com">www.thecrestsun.com</a> website and clicking on planning group or organizations.

## The following are segments from the December 12, 2011 minutes regarding Crest. For a full copy of the minutes go to www.crestplanning.org

**Announcements:** Wally Riggs announced that: 1) the County has attached a number of conditions to its approval of the cellular telephone antenna project at 519 Alta Lane, Crest;

2) the findings and recommendations of the County's Reduction of Red Tape task force were discussed at the last Board of Supervisor's meeting, including a concept to restructure the Planning Groups, and this topic will be an item on the agenda of the January Planning Group meeting (following a 4 January meeting of Planning Group chairpersons with Supervisor Jacob to discuss the future of Planning Groups).

Item 6b. Public Project Proposal. PLDO List Proposal. Chairman Riggs asked Judy Bowen for a status report about the PLDO List Proposal. Bowen reported that she had not yet obtained ideas or input from the community for amending or changing the existing list, and that County Department of Parks and Recreation is conducting a meeting on 20 December concerning PLDO project funding that she will attend.

#### The Possible End to our Local Planning Group?

By Linda Hjelle, Editor

In April 13, 2011, the Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution establishing the Red Tape Reduction Task Force consisting of seven, board-appointed members to evaluate the land development permitting process and identify any areas for improvement that would reduce both the time and costs associated with obtaining a permit. However, only developers were appointed to the task force. One of their recommendations was to do away with, or make major changes to the planning group.

At the February 13<sup>th</sup> Sub-regional Planning Group meeting at the Crest Clubhouse, the planning group members were asked as a group to comment on the above action.

Before there were planning/sponsor groups, one had to keep track individually of board agendas. If one agreed or disagreed with a development or land use issues proposal, one could go by oneself, or round up a group of likeminded people and speak before the board. Once the planning groups were formed by the board,

the duties included: tracking proposed developments (including roads, utilities, parks, schools, homes, commercial, industry, agriculture, etc.) and making recommendations to the Dept. of Planning & Land Use, the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors for our communities. The entities they advise take their comments seriously.

Editor's note: Planning groups are advisory. However local community planners have often been the first ones to alert community members to projects that could have serious impacts on the community character, groundwater availability, fire safety, traffic and other concerns. Elected within the local communities, planning groups are also more apt to reflect the views and values of the community. If these groups are eliminated, such decisions will be made at the county level by people often far-removed from the communities that will be impacted. Our supervisor wants our comments about the task force recommendations.

(continued from page 15)

You, as individuals, have the right to let each of your Board of Supervisor members know whether or not you want to be represented by a local group regarding planning and land use issues. The Board of Supervisors pushed back discussion/decision until March 29. Note: Supervisors Horn, Cox, and Roberts are in favor of eliminating the local planning groups

#### To Read more about this subject:

http://eastcountymagazine.org/node/8606 http://www.eastcountymagazine.org/node/8073 http://www.thevillagenews.com/story/61336/ http://www.valleycenter.com/series/pg2.htm

### Write to the supervisors and help save our local control:

E-mail:

Dianne Jacob – <u>Dianne.jacob@sdcounty.ca.gov</u>
Pam Slater-Price – <u>Pam.Slater@sdcounty.ca.gov</u>
Ron Roberts – <u>Ron-Roberts@sdcounty.ca.gov</u>
Bill Horn – <u>Bill.Horn@sdcounty.ca.gov</u>
Greg Cox – <u>Greg.cox@sdcounty.ca.gov</u>

Or Mail our County Supervisors individually: SD County Supervisor: County Administration Center 1600 Pacific Hwy Rm 335 San Diego, CA 92101



A walk through Crest on a spring day



## Music Night

at the Crest Clubhouse
Saturday, March 24
from 6-10 pm
Featuring:
Silva & Baird
& Special Guests
Bring your own spacks

Bring your own snacks and beverage and join us or purchase snacks from the Deli tray

**All Crest Residents Invited** 

## Earth Discovery Institute - Crestridge

#### Please Leash Your Dogs at Crestridge!

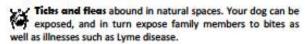
At Crestridge, and throughout San Diego County, dogs off their own property must be on leash. Here are some important reasons why...

#### For Dogs and Their People

Rattlesnakes are common most of the year here and off-leash dogs are more likely to be bitten. Injuries, expensive vet visits and death can result. If your dog is bitten, you will likely need to carry it home. If you are not near an entrance, this could be a very difficult and dangerous situation for you and your dog.



Poison oak grows throughout the reserve. Dogs can pass through the plants unaffected but transmit the highly irritating oils to the skin of family members who may then require medical attention.

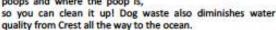


It's against the law to have a dog off-leash anywhere except in a dog park. Fines become higher with repeat citations. If a dog hurts a person or another dog, it can be impounded. That's hard on the dog and its family.

#### For Others

- It's good trail manners to have your dog on a leash so it won't scare or harm other people. Not everyone likes or is comfortable being approached by loose dogs.
- You never know how your dog may react to other people or dogs. Dogs off leash are under less control than dogs on a leash and may behave in unexpected ways.
- Fights between dogs are preventable when dogs are on leash, but not as much when they are loose. Injuries to dogs are painful to the dogs and upsetting to people, not to mention expensive to treat, the source of bad feelings between neighbors, and potentially serious legal consequences.
- Off leash dogs can cause dangerous confrontations with equestrians and mountain bikers, both legal users of the

Please pick up after your dog. Dog poop is smelly, messy and detracts from a pleasant hiking experience. When your dog is on leash, you know when it poops and where the poop is,



#### For the Land

- Crestridge is an Ecological Reserve. By definition, the needs of the wildlife come first. Dogs off leash pursue and have been observed to injure and even kill native animals here.
- Even when dogs 'only' chase wild animals, it forces the native animals away from areas upon which they may depend for food, water, or shelter and diminishes the habitat overall.
- Dogs 'mark' the areas they pass through. The smell of dogs can deter wildlife from using those areas. When this marking is confined to trails, disruption to wildlife is minimized. When dogs roam through the habitat, the affected area is greatly expanded.

#### IT'S THE LAW!

- San Diego County Code: If you walk or otherwise bring a dog to public or other private property (where dogs are permitted), you must restrain the dog by a hand held leash (not longer than 6 feet in length) (SDCC Sections 62.669[a], 62.601[d], and 62.601[y]).
- California Department of Fish and Game Codes for Ecological Reserves: FISH AND GAME CODE SECTION 3960. It is unlawful to permit or allow any dog to pursue any mammal in a ecological reserve if hunting within the ecological reserve is unlawful.
- California Department of Fish and Game rules for Crestridge Ecological Reserve posted at all entrances require dogs to be leashed at all time in the reserve.

#### The Bottom Line

The ability to bring dogs into an ecological reserve is a privilege granted by the California Department of Fish and Game. This privilege can be revoked if lack of cooperation with leash requirements is determined to be damaging the animals or plants that are protected in the reserve. You may or may not agree, but lack of cooperation by relatively few users can potentially result in loss of the privilege for all. When you walk your dog on leash, you preserve the privilege for all who enjoy walking with their dogs in this beautiful place.

#### Off-leash Dog Areas in San Diego County

Coronado - Beach	North end of Coronado Municipal Beach
Del Mar - Beach	Hwy 101 at Border Ave and Camino Del Mar; across from racetrack. Off-leash season: SeptJune
El Cajon - Wells Park Off Leash Area	1153 East Madison Avenue; 7 days, 7am-9pm, may be closed in rainy weather
Encinitas - Rancho Coastal Humane	389 Requeza St; Open to public for licensed/spayed/neutered dogs 10 am - 5 pm 7 days a week
La Mesa - Harry Griffin Dog Park	9550 Milden St, La Mesa, CA 91944, 7am - one hour after dusk
Poway - Poway Dog Park	Poway Community Park 13094 Bowron Rd. Until 9:30 pm
San Diego - Cape Hart Park	Soledad Mountain Road near Felspar Street
San Diego - Fiesta Island	Sea World Dr. to Fiesta Island Rd.
San Diego - Grape Street and 28th St.	Restricted hrs: 7:30 - 10 am, 4-9 pm (Mon-Fri)
San Diego - Morley Field	Jacaranda Place near the tennis courts
San Diego - Nate's Point	El Prado and North Balboa

Earth Discovery Institute \* 120 North Park Drive \* El Cajon, CA 92021 \* 619-447-4715 \* info@earthdiscovery.org

#### **Suncrest Truck Trail Update:**

A special thank you to David Richardson for helping to coordinate efforts to request the City of El Cajon to make necessary improvements the unrepaired portion of the old grade. Both the Crest Community Association and the sub-regional planning have agreed to write a letter to the City of El Cajon supporting a cooperative road maintenance plan. The goal of this effort is to establish an emergency evacuation route for Crest residents.. During the 2003 Cedar Fire over a hundred cars had to evacuate by this route when La Cresta Blvd was engulfed in flames.

The Earth Discovery Institute and, EDI will be supporting several south San Diego County conservation agencies with community outreach and interpretive events. We hope that in addition to events at Crestridge, you'll also enjoy learning about what else is happening in this area.

March 1-4, 2012: San Diego Bird Festival

The San Diego Audubon Society invites you to San Diego for the 16th annual San Diego Bird Festival, being held at the Marina Village Conference Center. This year's banquet keynote speaker is Kenn Kaufman. He is a field editor for Audubon magazine and a contributor to every major birding magazine and author of Kingbird Highway, Flights Against the Sunset, and Lives of North American Birds. Basic registration is \$20 for those 13 years and older. Field trips are priced individually, though several are free. To register visit <a href="http://www.sandiegoaudubon.org/index.php/events/bird-festival">http://www.sandiegoaudubon.org/index.php/events/bird-festival</a> or contact David Kimball at <a href="mailto:birdfest@cox.net">birdfest@cox.net</a> or (619) 224-4975.

#### March 3 2012, 9am-1pm: Willow and Acorn Planting, BLM's Sycamore Canyon

Help restore an area that's been hard hit by past over-grazing and multiple fires. Willows cuttings and acorns will be planted to help restore a creek/riparian area upon which many native animal species depend including the endangered Least Bell's vireo. Wear long pants, a hat, gloves (if you have them) and sturdy shoes. Bring sunscreen or rain protection, as the weather indicates. Bring water and a water bottle if you have one. Gloves, tools, water and snacks will be provided. No restroom at this location. We are happy to sign for community service or extra credit hours. To RSVP, and for directions or more information, contact Cathy Chadwick, <a href="mailto:chadgroup@cox.net">chadgroup@cox.net</a> or 619-277-3605.

#### March 10, 2012, 9am-1pm: Native Plant Landscaping at Rancho Jamul Ecological Reserve

Help the California Department of Fish and Game with landscaping at the budding Conservation Education Center at Rancho Jamul Ecological Reserve. To demonstrate water-wise and habitat friendly practices, the entrance area of the facility will be transformed from lawn and water-hungry ornamental plants, to native plants with several interpretive features such as plants used by native Americans, a wildlife 'tracking pond,' and an information kiosk. This work day will consist of planting and. Wear long pants, a hat, gloves (if you have them) and sturdy shoes. Bring sunscreen or rain protection, as the weather indicates. Bring water and a water bottle if you have one. Gloves, tools, water and snacks will be provided. We are happy to sign for community service or extra credit hours. To RSVP, and for directions or more information, contact Cathy Chadwick, <a href="mailto:chadgroup@cox.net">chadgroup@cox.net</a> or 619-277-3605. This project is being conducted with support from the US Fish and Wildlife Service Schoolyard Habitats program.

#### Want to help a great cause?

A special note from Crest resident Gloria E Goodenough -



The American Cancer Society Relay For Life represents the hope that those lost to cancer will never be forgotten, that those who face cancer will be supported, and that one day cancer will be eliminated. Relay For Life is more than just a fundraiser. It's a life-changing experience. At Relay, every person in the community has a chance to celebrate, remember, and fight back. And every person who participates joins others around the globe as part of this worldwide movement to end cancer. Everyone's reason to Relay is as unique as their own personal story. At Relay, you can find healing, comfort, and support from others who have faced cancer or who have lost a loved one to the disease. You have a chance to meet people in the community who are equally as passionate about finding an end to cancer in our lifetime. You can thank all the people who have done so much to support you through your personal cancer experience. And you can gather together with friends, family, and colleagues to laugh, cry, and create lasting memories.

If you would like to become involved by either participating or donating, please contact me. Gloria E. Goodenough, Cancer survivor and member of the Circle of Hope Relay Team.

## Lenardo Pizzeria & Restaurant



## 1331 La Cresta Blvd, Crest 92021 Call 444-1389 or 444-0992

	PIZZA:	Medium 14" La	arge 18"	Giant 28"
Cheese Only		\$8.99	\$12.99	\$19.99
One Topping		\$9.99	\$13.99	\$22.99
Vegetarian		\$13.99	\$16.99	\$25.99
(Mushroom, Onions, Green peppe	er & Olives)	·	•	•
Greek Pizza		\$14.99	\$16.99	\$25.99
	neese, Feta cheese, Gyros meat & Basi			
The Works		\$16.99	\$20.99	\$29.99
_ '. ''	sage, Onion, Mushroom, Green pepper		eno)	
Calzone	(h )	\$9.99		
(Mozzarella, Ricota, & Parmesan o	cheese)	¢4.25	¢4 75	<b>ተ</b> 2 00
Additional topping:		\$1.25	\$1.75	\$3.00
	Subs & Sar			
BLT				\$5.49
Vegetarian Sub				\$5.49
Italian Sub (Ham, Salami, & chees	se)			\$5.99
Club Sub (Turkey, Bacon & Chees	e)			\$5.99
Roast Beef Sub				\$5.99
BBQ Sandwich				\$5.99
Meat Ball Sub				\$5.99
Italian Sausage Sub				\$5.99
	Beef, Turkey, & Cheese)			
	RVED W/LETTUCE, TOMATO, ON			
Salads:		Pasta: (All serv	ed with E	Breadsticks)
Garden Salad	\$4.49	Lasagna	\$6.49	•
Antipasto Salad	\$5.59	Spaghetti w/ Meatballs	\$6.49	
Greek		Meat Ravioli		
Salad				
Chef Salad	\$5.99	Cheese Ravioli	\$6.49	
C	ambar (All Cambas sam	rad with Erica and Cal	a al \	
	ombo: (All Combos serv			\$5.99
•				
Chicken Sandwich Combo				\$5.99
Fried Chicken Combo				\$5.99
Fish & Chips Combo				\$7.49
	mushroom, onion, green pepper & Chee			
	cken, mushroom, onion, green pepper,			\$7.49
(P	rices may change without notice	7)		



#### INTERESTED IN BEING PART OF A CRESTRIDGE OR TRAIL

**NETWORK?** There have been multiple accidents in both the Crestridge Preserve and the trails in South Crest. Some of these have needed medical attention and involved horses. The problem of using a cell phone to call for help came to light. If you use a cell phone to call 911, many times it goes to Sacramento Highway Patrol before it is dispatched to our area. This adds time to getting help in a timely



manner, and sometimes giving the rescue teams a bad reputation for being late to the scene. If you are a resident who is at home during the day, or just want to be a part of a network of assistance, then please come to a meeting at the Crest club house. At this meeting, we will come up with a plan of communication and solicit names and land-line phone numbers that can be used to get help quickly. We are also trying to get approved a method to call dispatch or the fire house directly in order to cut the time down for response. We will have the meeting in the early evening during the week for those who can attend. You don't have to be a user of the area, a horseman, walker, or bicyclist, but just someone who wants to help. Watch the sign boards for the date of the meeting. An email will be sent to the Crest group as well posting this on our Face book and Crest web site.

#### SOUTH LANE PARK UPDATE: 2011/2012 PLDO Projects Priority List

The list for the PLDO Funds for parks was presented to the sub-regional group and the county. Most of the suggestions which were submitted by the community to the county were not accepted, as they were not classified as "active recreation". The Sub-regional group was tasked to re-look at the list and then re-submit. Just as a reminder, South Land Park is an unfunded and undeveloped park, and whatever repairs get done are being accomplished by volunteers, and extra time the park workers have. The Park Department is looking into weed abatement and possibly using goats to get this done. It would be great if residents around the arena and those that use the arena would check the board during spring break to come and do a work day for the arena. We still have problems at the arena with horses being left unattended or left to graze. The sides of the arena have been pushed out and need to be reset. Check the community sign boards for the dates. See you there.

Requested Projects Priority List for South Lane Park (based on community solicited input):

- Install a horse/dog waterer device (snout activated.)
- Install/provide an access at the south/east corner of the fence for pedestrians/horses.
- Install concrete benches.
- Construct a walking/jogging path through the park with circuit training stops.
- Install signs stating "Engage in Equine Activities at Your Own Risk."
- Supportive infrastructure materials (chalk or white board, benches, activity balls) for after school activities.
- Acquisition of parkland for additional parks in the sub-region in areas currently with no parks.

Recreation Program Priority List: After school programs at Nancy Jane Park for elementary school and middle school aged children. The CCA will work with the county on this item and allow the Crest Community Association building that is across the street from the park to be used for these after school programs.

#### Crest Garden Club



If you are interested in becoming a member of the garden club, call Arlene Palmer at 444-0187 for more information or Marsha Rold at rold@sbcglobal.net.

The Crest Garden Club celebrated the Christmas holiday in January so I guess it was really a 2012 Party. It was a potluck with lots of good food and our gift swap. We discussed the programs for the coming year and our upcoming Members Spring Garden Tour. Dues of \$10 were collected for the year. If you didn't get your dues paid to Arlene at the January meeting, don't forget to do so soon.

The February 13 meeting was held at Joni's new home in Escondido. We toured her new home and had a great lunch. A side trip was also included to the Gardens at the Glass Ranch which was filled with beautiful flowers and an amazing array of glass creations. Check it out at:

www.glassranchstudio.com/ or watch a short video

Our March meeting will include flower pounding at Kathy Fiedor's house and April's scheduled meeting includes the annual spring garden tour.

/www.youtube.com/watch?v=ElhwgLCalAo

#### JustRuns.com



No Meetings No Officers No Dues

#### **JustRuns!**

Info call: Roger 619/579-7120



#### SDG&E Wants Ratepayers to Pickup \$463.9 in Uninsured Losses

A public hearing will be held on April 5 from 4-9 pm at the Al Bahr Shriner Auditorium at 4330 Kearny Mesa Rd in San Diego. SDG&E wants to charge ratepayers \$463.9 million to cover settlements the utility paid for the 2007 wildfires that it caused according to the CA Public Utilities.

Tell the CPUC what you think about this proposal during this important meeting. Commissioner Timothy Alan Simon will hold the meeting.

This follows another recent rate hike that was proposed by SDG&E to charge homeowners and business a fee for producing solar energy. The California Public Utilities rejected a proposal to create a "Network Use Fee.

#### Crest Childcare re you looking for loving ChildCare for your son or daughter? Let me introduce myself! Qualifications: mother of two beautiful girli I'm also a homeschoole Sunday School teacher Nursery worker Former private school teach I hold a Bachelor's degree. I have impeccable references ested in working together to provide the care your little one deserves. Services Offered: school care with experienced tutoring and homew completion. I'd be willing to pick them up from school. Experienced childcare all day for all ages! If this sounds like the kind of Care you'd like your Children to have, please Call me at the number provided



Contact: Summer Elam 4-year Crest resident 619-623-0548



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## ANDY HART Journeyman Carpenter

30 years local building experience. Use my skills for your home project.

Crest Resident

Phone: (619) 442-7934 Cell: (619) 277-7807



DON'T YOU JUST LOVE CREST? (Chloe stopped to say "Hi")

## **Crest Fire Protection Issues**

## Minutes of the Budget Oversight Committee meeting for Prop E

By Kandhy Franklin-Collins

Editor's Note: Prop E is the fee reflected on your tax bill as "Fire/EMS Spec Tax" as a result of the passage of proposition E for fire protection services in Crest and Bostonia. These fees, totaling 1.46 million dollars for the 2010/2011 year go to the San Miguel Fire Protection District to support the Crest/Bostonia stations. The Budget Oversight Committee, consisting of Crest residents, reviews this budget to assure the money is being used correctly. Below are the minutes of the January 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

This meeting was called as it is a requirement of Proposition E language and is the intent of LAFCO to review the budget on a yearly basis. Members of the Crest and Bostonia are always invited.

Meeting was called to order at 4:30 pm at the Crest Clubhouse. In attendance were: Chief August Ghio, committee members Richard Fiedor, Doug Perry, and Kandhy Franklin. Guests were David Richardson and David Jones.

At this meeting we will be reviewing the budget from the previous year and the projections for this year.

As we examined the first pages, there was a discussion about the importance of getting the documents early enough so that the information could be studied. Committee members did not get the budget until the same day of the meeting. Chief Ghio agreed and would make sure they would be distributed two weeks prior to the next review meeting.

Discussion of wages earned by East County Firefighters: Although not part of the budget meeting prevue, the Chief explained the tier structure of the wages and how they compared to the wages of the San Miguel Firefighters as we consolidated the two districts. East County would not be to parity until 7 years into the consolidation. The original stipend agreed to will terminate at the end of this year as the former East County personnel will be in the San Miguel pay band at that time.

A discussion was then started regarding the reduction of property taxes and how it has affected the District and the income from Prop E as well as discussing the costs saved due to attrition and saved costs. This totaled \$500.000.

The Prop E fee does have a fixed 3% escalator in it. This is approved by the San Miguel board every year. This is necessary to ensure that there is sufficient revenue to cover the Operation and Maintenance costs of Stations 19 (Bostonia) and 18 (Crest).

The Chief explained the operational changes and cost reductions that the District has implemented over the past 4 years:

- The District has renegotiated firefighter sick leave and annual (vacation) leave time into one category. They went from 44 total leave hours monthly down to 30 hours at top step.
- 2. District employees and the Board are paying 50% of their health benefit increases and they are paying their full share of retirement contributions at 9% for safety and 8% for nonsafety employees. This has eliminated EMPC for new employees and frozen existing employees to the 2008 highest year of pay for retirement.
- 3. The once every 10 or 11 year cycle of a 27<sup>th</sup> pay check system has been eliminated.
- 4. Holiday pay has been eliminated for firefighters.
- Reduced the number of firefighters that could take leave at the same time saving significant overtime expenses.

- There is a reduction of annual leave (day off or vacation/sickleave shifts budgeted annually from 18 to 14.) This includes Workers Comp time.
- 7. Staff personnel are also taking 5 non-paid furlough days and the fire chief has voluntarily taken 12 non-paid furlough days.

## Some other points of information given to us by the Chief:

1) We are looking at a budget shortfall of over \$1.2 million dollars in FY 2012/2013. What are some of the steps we can take to remedy the situation? One of the solutions is to close a

station, which would be to lay off 9 firefighters (not an option supported by the Board or the Fire Chief). Another would be to have brown outs which jeopardizes public safety (not supported by the Board or the Fire Chief). The board could vote to use the reserves for one year to do business. This places the District at risk of not having sufficient funds to pay bills during the last two months of the year when the District can no longer borrow from the County. Another solution would be to negotiate an 8-12% in benefits/pay over the amount district employees have already given up.

The last idea would be to send out a Request For Proposal (RFP) for a feasibility study to see if the fire services could be outsourced to another agency with the goals of permanently fixing the district's structural budget deficit and improving emergency services by fully staffing Station 23 and perhaps bringing additional response capabilities to the District service areas. This RFP would look at the aspects of other agency business models, how they compare to San Miguel, abd what type of out-sourcing would be possible. (Editor's Note: For more information regarding the RFP go to http://www.smgfire.org/.)

2), SRA fee discussion with regard to the fee imposed on Crest and district residents who reside in SRA areas. This is a state fee and includes things that our Fire District is already doing such as; education, fire safety,

and vegetation management/defensible space inspections/enforcement. The Board and the Fire Chief's Association are against this SRA Fee as Crest and Bostonia already pay a fee for these services. If the new benefit fee were to be used to provide additional emergency response services then this new fee would be considered a tax and that would have to be voted on with a 2/3's majority. Crest residents will get a reduction of \$35.00 of the \$150 fee per the State. This fee has been voted on and will go forward. The Gann group will challenge it in court once the bills are sent out.

The rest of the budget was reviewed and discussed as presented. Meeting adjourned at 6:15 pm. Minutes submitted by: Kandhy Franklin, Committee Member

## 2010/2011 Crest/Bostonia Budget – San Miguel Fire Protection District.

Attached is the 2010/2011 final Budget which reflects all the fees/property taxes/propositions and how it is budgeted totaling \$2,895,594.

(Former East County Fire Di 2010/2011 Final Bu Projected Revenue Property Taxes Crest Benefit Fee Bostonia Benefit Fee Firefighter/Paramedic Benefit Fee Prop E Total Revenue  Budgeted Expenditures Salaries and Benefits Board of Directors	Budget Amount \$765,541 \$60,700 \$246,476 \$358,494 \$1,464,383 \$2,895,594
Property Taxes Crest Benefit Fee Bostonia Benefit Fee Firefighter/Paramedic Benefit Fee Prop E Total Revenue  Budgeted Expenditures Salaries and Benefits Board of Directors	\$765,541 \$60,700 \$246,476 \$358,494 \$1,464,383 \$2,895,594
Crest Benefit Fee Bostonia Benefit Fee Friefighter/Paramedic Benefit Fee Prop E Total Revenue  Budgeted Expenditures Salaries and Benefits Board of Directors	\$60,700 \$246,476 \$358,494 \$1,464,383 \$2,895,594
Bostonia Benefit Fee Firefighter/Paramedic Benefit Fee Prop E Total Revenue  Budgeted Expenditures Salaries and Benefits Board of Directors	\$246,476 \$358,494 \$1,464,383 \$2,895,594
Firefighter/Paramedic Benefit Fee Prop E Total Revenue  Budgeted Expenditures Salaries and Benefits Board of Directors	\$358,494 \$1,464,383 \$2,895,594 \$1,840,498
Prop E Total Revenue  Budgeted Expenditures Salaries and Benefits Board of Directors	\$1,464,383 \$2,895,594 \$1,840,498
Total Revenue  Budgeted Expenditures Salaries and Benefits Board of Directors	\$2,895,594 \$1,840,498
Budgeted Expenditures Salaries and Benefits Board of Directors	\$1,840,498
Salaries and Benefits Board of Directors	
Board of Directors	
A March 1 and 1 an	\$44,126
Administration	\$469,524
Fire Prevention	\$2,892
Operations	\$186,026
Facilities Maintenance	\$86,884
Fleet Maintenance	\$98,431
Mapping	\$645
SCBA Program	\$2,688
Personnel Development	\$31,341
Explorer Program	\$88
Fire Investigations	\$289
Reserve Program	\$480
Reserve Academy	\$13,406
PIO	\$188
Speakers Bureau	\$500
Volunteer Program	\$0
Capital Reserves Fund Budget	\$4,965
Uncompensated Leave Fund Budget	\$0
Special Projects Fund Budget	\$0
Facilities Depreciation/Replacement Fund Budget	\$12,000
Vehicle Depreciation/Replacement Fund Budget	\$0
Fire Mitigation Fees Fund Budget	\$1,000
Total Expenses	\$2,795,968
Difference	

#### More on SRA FEE AB24 Impact on Crest

As a follow up to the recent Fire Protection Meeting

at the Crest Clubhouse, it is important that all Crest residents take a few minutes to send off a letter in protest of the SRA Fire Prevention Fees as soon as possible. If this fee is not turned around, rural CA residents pay an additional \$150 fee to the state in addition to our present fees. The Bostonia and Crest Communities already pay \$2.89 million per year to San Miguel. Tell all your friends to also write immediately to reverse this unfair triple taxation for rural California residents. Below is the sample letter that was discussed at the recent San Miguel and Dianne Jacob meetings. Please share this with all your neighbors in the rural areas. Address correspondence to: George Gentry **Executive Officer, Board of Forestry** P.O. Box 944246 Sacramento CA, 94244

#### **Subject: AB 24- SRA Fire Prevention Fees**

As a resident of the community of Crest, which is within San Diego County, I want to inform you of my strong opposition to AB 24 and its intent to impose a \$150 fee on each structure on each parcel. Crest is within the State Responsibility Area (SRA) and our residents would be billed this fee, minus the \$35 discount for already paying other such fees locally.

This is unacceptable. Communities such as Crest already pay a number of special benefit and emergency fees (second highest in San Diego County), voted in by our community, to ensure that we receive an acceptable level of fire, emergency medical, vegetation inspection/enforcement, fire prevention, community readiness and other emergency related core services.

Communities such as Crest have already experienced the impact of significant wildfires (2003 and 2007 Wildfires) and we took action by voting in fees to take care of our fire department (San Miguel Consolidated Fire

Protection District) so we would have the services we need to maintain a safe community. AB 24 is bad legislation that was not well thought out and did not adequately consider those of us who voluntarily took care of our own communities and are already paying significant fees on top of our property taxes.

I strongly request that the State of California reconsider the value of AB 24 and re-evaluate what it should have been constructed to accomplish. That is to provide improved fire prevention in SRA areas that currently do not have those services. Sincerely,

Dianne Jacob shared the following statement regarding this \$150 fee for rural homeowners: "I question the motives of the fire board and the governor for trying to triple tax rural property owners who already pay for fire protection with property taxes and special assessments. There are fewer rural residents than urban residents so this is a politically convenient way for the state to try to pawn off its budget mess on people in rural areas. The triple tax is unfair, legally questionable and does zip to address the state's real problem: bureaucratic bloat."

## Attend the San Miguel Fire Protection District Board Meetings.

There are many issues pertaining to Crest Fire Protection Services. Since Crest has no elected Board members representing our area, it is important that community members attend the San Miguel Board Meetings to keep apprised of the issues.

Next Meetings: March 14 – 5:30

Note: Effective Wednesday May 11th, meetings will be held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month. Meetings will begin at 5PM. Board meetings are held at District Headquarters located at 2850 Via Orange Way, Spring Valley CA 91978 Obtain agenda at:

http://www.smgfire.org/Board/board.htm

#### School Calendars - 2011-12

#### Cajon Valley Union School District\*

#### Crest School & Los Coches Creek School Schedule 2011-2012

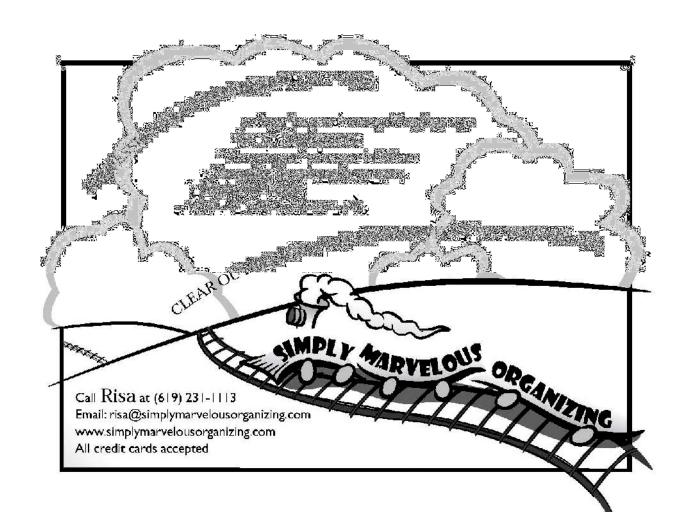
	2011-2012 Schedule	12/19-01/09	Winter Break
08/18/11	School Opens to Public	01/16/12	Martin Luther King Holiday
08/22/11	First Day of School	02/13/12	President's Day (Lincoln)
09/05/11	Labor Day	02/20/12	President's Day (Washington)
10/10/11	No School	04/02-4/13	Spring Break
11/11/11	Veterans Day	05/28/12	Memorial Day

11/21-11/25 Thanksgiving Holidays \*06/12/12 Last Day of School

#### Grossmont Union High School District Granite Hills Holiday Schedule 2011-2012

#### 2011-2012 Schedule

09/06/11	First Day of School	02/13/12	President's Day (Lincoln)
11/11/11	Veterans Day	02/20/12	President's Day (Washington)
11/21-11/25	Thanksgiving Holiday	04/02-06	Spring Break
12/19 - 01-02	: Winter Break	05/28/12	Memorial Day
01/16/12	Martin Luther King Holiday	06/20/12	Last Day of School



### Community Worship in Crest



Crest Community Church 2198 Suncrest Blvd, Phone: (619)-442-3736 Pastor Tony Lambert

#### **CREST CHURCH SCHEDULE:**

Sunday:

9:30 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages

10:45 a.m. Worship Services

Monday Evenings: Ladies Bible Study @ 6:30 pm

Tuesday Evenings: Men's Bible Study @ 6:30 pm

(Please call for location)

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. Bible Study/Awana

Friday Evening Youth Group 6-9 pm



#### St Louise de Marillac Catholic Church

2005 Crest Drive – Phone: (619) 444-3076, Fax: (619) 440-1325 Fr. Burnia

#### Regular Weekend Services (SEP-MAY):

Saturday..... 5:30 PM

Sunday...... 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM

Daily Mass: 8:00 AM (Mon-Thu)

## CREST COMMUNITY CHURCH SPECIAL EVENTS: Sunday March 4th - "Church in the Park" 10-2

Come join us for a time of Worship, Fun, Food and Fellowship!

#### Sunday, April 8th "Sunrise Service" 7 AM.

Please come join us! Both of these will be held at Nancy Jane Park.

Any questions, call 442-3736

MINOR STRUCTURE REPAIRS
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Warranty

Crest resident: Al Goulart, Jr. 619-442-4879 or (619) 916-8437 (cell) If no answer please leave a message

#### **VACANCY**

2 BEDROOM- 1 BATH AVAILABLE MARCH 1<sup>ST</sup>

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#### Letters From Crest Residents:

Dear Editor,

Our names are Joe and Janet Hart; we would like to give some insight to an increasingly, troubling, situation. We live directly across the street from Nancy Jane Park. We have noticed an increase of speed from the cars passing by. Although we have no children going to school, we have become very alarmed with the children standing by the road waiting for the bus or returning home. In fact, we witnessed a near accident with a speeding car crossing the double line to go around the school bus. We are also concerned for the safety of the children and their parents playing at the Park. There have been numerous animals loose near the road, and have little chance of survival if they are wounded by a car (we have had three incidences). We have witnessed cars chasing each other down the road, which resulted in an accident in front of the Park. 911 had to be called. We have also witnessed cars passing each other on a double line going down La Cresta Road not observing the 55 mile an hour speed limit. At the crest of the hill turning onto La Cresta Blvd. there is a sign stating 35 miles an hour but people are not observing that, either. La Cresta Blvd. is a residential area and should be treated as such. Lastly, we hope the community of Crest, will become as alarmed as we are and remember to slow down.

#### ABOUT CREST -SUNCREST 1925



(Photo thanks to the Crest Historical Society)



#### Crest Kiwanis

#### **Welcome to New Members Jim and Barbara Wesiles**

Crest Kiwanis is pleased to announce the induction of two new members into the Crest Kiwanis, Barbara and Jim Wesiles. Barbara and Jim are new to Crest and wanted to get involved in service projects that support our kids and community! WELCOME. Jim and Barbara were also welcomed into the Kiwanis family by Lt. Gov. Richard Higgins and guest speaker Mark Grant from the San Diego Padres.

**Representatives of the Crest School PTA** were at our February meeting to receive a donation check from Crest Kiwanis in the amount of \$2,791. This fund will purchase a new and much needed sound system. We love Crest School!



cookies at breakfast.

On February 26<sup>th</sup> the Crest Kiwanis joined " Team Crest" headed by Crest resident Veronica Dunn and her two daughters Iberia and Athena for the Annual MDA 5K Walk. Team Crest raised over \$4000. And we had lots of fun!

We want to thank the Girl Scout Brownie troop of Crest for helping us bus tables and sell



#### March 24 and April 28th 8-10:00 am @ the Crest Clubhouse **Kiwanis Breakfast**

Join us for a delicious breakfast buffet- meet your friends and find out what is happening in Crest! And you may win a delicious pie in our breakfast drawing.

March 10: The Kiwanis, K-kids and Builder's Clubs are volunteering at the Kiwanis Invitational Track **Meet** for developmentally disabled athletes at West Hills High School.

April 7th: 8:30-10:30 Kiwanis Easter Egg Hunt and Pancake Breakfast (Free for kids) Join us at the Crest Clubhouse and Nancy Jane Park – Watch the information board for additional information.

Do you have a community service project that you would like to have help with? Drop by any of our meetings (3rd Monday @ 7 p.m. CCA building) or call Dennis Plunkett and we might be able to help you out.









Alpine 19th Annual Victorian Tea – May 19

Please save this date. This year the 19th Annual Victorian Tea will be held at the Alpine Woman's Club on Saturday May 19th instead of in February. There will be two seatings, one at 11:30am and another at 2:30pm. The club is located at 2156 Alpine Blvd in the Town Hall. The proceeds from this annual fundraiser will go towards their scholarship fund and the maintenance of the historic Town Hall which was built in 1899. Look for ticket sales information during the latter part of March or call Karen Snipes at 619-445-5162.

#### Next Crest Sun Deadline: April 20, 2012

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**Linda Hjelle** – editor@thecrestsun.com or Lindahjelle@cox.net (517-9838)

Crest Website: www.thecrestsun.com Webmaster: Karin Weiss (579-3951) email: webmaster@thecrestsun.com

Information: Chris Seebold - help@thecrestsun.com or Winters72@hotmail.com (447-5826)

The Crest Sun is available at: Crest Foods, Rainbow Market, Lenardo's Pizzeria, and Crest Library or online at www.thecrestsun.com

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See website for info on how to advertise on the Crest web site or contact Karin Weiss,

webmaster@thecrestsun.com

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- Send your check for \$20 to The Crest Sun , 328 Lila Lane, Crest, CA 92021-
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**Call Karin Weiss at** 579-3951 or email webmaster@thecrestsun.com

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