

What's Happening in Crest

As we remember the 2nd anniversary of the Firestorm, we celebrate with those third of the fire victims who are in their new houses; but we also remember the other two thirds who are still not settled and hope they will soon be in their new homes.

In this the month where we set aside a day to give thanks (only one day?), we remember the other parts of our country who have suffered so much from hurricanes and floods. I have heard many say that as bad as the Fire was, the others have suffered so much more. Let us be thankful for the what we have.

The Crest Sun wishes all of our readers a joyous, peaceful holiday season.

The Crest Sun thanks you for your generous donations and the support you have given us. Please support our advertisers; they provide the means to print our newsletter.

If you have information to share, please call;

Chris at 447-5826 or Betty at 442-7083 or send it to;

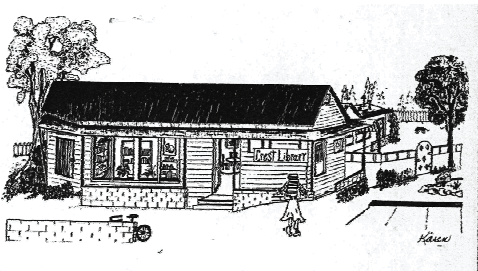
Chris at winters72@hotmail.com or Betty at blucas@thecrestsun.com

We have had questions about the painting of the library. It has just been delayed and is still on the schedule. Please watch the website and notices at the library for more information

We thank the Kiwanis for their interest. and support them in their works. Please note the Pie Sale notice in the Kiwanis page 18 and support them by buying a pie or two.

Please continue to bring the rings from aluminum cans to the library. There is a container there. These rings help provide dialysis for needy patients.

Crest Library Corner 105 Juanita Lane 619- 442-7083



Please note our Hours

Tuesday	12 to 8
Wednesday	10 to 6
Thursday	10 to 6
Friday	10 to 5
Saturday	10 to 3

Coming Events at the Library

Attn: Teens and preteens- age 8 and up.

**The library will be having game day on
Thursdays from 3 to 4**

**The first one on Nov 3
Board games - word games
Come and join in the fun**

Pajama Nights– 6:30 PM

**Tuesday, November 22--Special Guest Entertainer!
Tuesday, December 20-- December Holidays**

Food for Thought

Sponsored by In-and-Out Burger

**Thru November 19
Children 4-12**

**earn a coupon for a free hamburger
or each 5 books they read.**

Limit 3 coupons

sign up at the Library

**Come visit your library.
Our hours allow
us to offer more services.**

We can Send and Receive Faxes for you

**We have Videos, DVDs, CDs, Books on Tape or
CD,**

**Best Sellers waiting for you.
2 fast computers for public use**

We have a copy machine for your use.

Readers' Express 7 day checkout

School Days Robert B Parker

The Widow of the South.....Robert Hicks

Polar Shift, Clive Cussler with Paul Kemprecos

The Lincoln Lawyer..... Michael Connelly

Tyrannosaur CanyonDouglas Preston

Crest Community Church

Announcing!!!

AWANA CLUBS

**EVERY WEDNESDAY
SEPTEMBER thru MAY**

@ 7 PM

K > THRU > Sr High

**TEACHING BOYS AND GIRLS:
**RESPECT FOR GOD, COUNTRY, AND
EACH OTHER.**

***** GAMES, CRAFTS, BIBLE STUDY,
AWARDS, AND GOOD TIMES!**

******BRING A FRIEND!!!!!!**

QUESTIONS ??? CALL Crest Community Church @ 442-3736

Our Backyard

**LARGE SCALE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT TURNED DOWN,
BUT THE FIGHT IS NOT OVER!**

by Christina Seebold

Good news for Crest Residents who opposed the Singing Hills Estates development. At a special Planning Group/ Town Hall Meeting on Tuesday, October 18th. developer's representatives met with opposition from nearly 100 Crest residents and our local planning board.

The developer's newest proposal consisted of clustering 235 homes on 1/2 acre lots, including a sewage treatment plant in the 900+ acre open space at the south end of Crest. Planning group members had many concerns. Board member Pat Ulm was loudly applauded when she said that this urban style development offered no benefits to Crest and was not in keeping with the rural character of the community.

The plan calls for access to the development via La Cresta Road, and Dehesa Roads, with a potential access through the old grade to Shadow Mountain. The developers want to do extensive cut and fill on the hilly terrain, disrupting the existing drainage, and interfering with the wildlife corridor.

In the end Ms. Ulm made a motion to oppose the plan. She cited the fact that the plan has been altered significantly from the original plan, and proposed that it be removed from the pipeline, and become subject to the MSCP 2020, which calls for previously undeveloped lands to be subject to a 20 acre per parcel minimum. The board unanimously approved the motion.

Residents cited concerns regarding loss of open space, additional traffic, light and air pollution. The Granite Hills High librarian, expressed her concern for the community, as well as the impact on the school system. Granite Hills High School has a current enrollment of approx. 3,000 students. Friends of Crest has been supporting the Endangered Habitat League's efforts to acquire the land for preservation. The fight is not over yet, as the local planning board's decision is an advisory one. Ultimately the County Planning Department will decide. A Great Big Thank You and a hug to all of you who turned out to give Crest a voice. Keep showing up!

NEIGHBORS IN OUR BACKYARD ...by Christina Seebold

Sometimes we forget that a community is about more than a name and a place on a map. It is more than streets and buildings. The people make a place special. The spirit of the residents gives each place a unique identity. In the first half of the 1980s, my family and I had the good fortune of meeting a very interesting neighbor. I would like you to meet him too...

FRANCISCO MUÑOZ -

I knew that he was a former pilot and had developed a landing strip and community in Bahía de los Angeles where he owned a good bit of property. He had chickens and grew grapes and other fruit, and sometimes he was gone to Mexico.

When he was here, he was occasionally alone while his wife, Leysl, led hiking tours in Baja. He was always affectionate and talkative, and he had a zesty sense of humor. He showed us the shelves on the side of his house laden with his collection of hundreds of old bottles gathered from Baja beaches. There were fishing nets, and glass floats on the wall.

Sometimes he invited my children to play in his yard when he was out working in the garden. In 1987 we moved to another place in Crest, and eventually lost contact.

Then in September 1995 I picked up a copy of the Reader. On the front cover was a half-page picture of Francisco, standing in front of a plane with the word Baja emblazoned on its side.

There was another Baja Airline's plane behind it. The headline was "I've Got Perry Mason on Board!", and beneath it the words "Erle Stanley Gardner's Daredevil Companion". Under the photo, the caption read, "Francisco Muñoz and his Baja Airlines planes, c. 1950s". This in depth article, by Jeannette De Wyze, provided a glimpse at the amazing life of Francisco Muñoz.

You may remember the character, Perry Mason, from the 1960s television show, based on the novels by author Erle Stanley Gardner. Gardner was an avid explorer, and also wrote of his Baja travels. These trips were facilitated by a daring pilot described by Erle in one of his books, *The Hidden Heart of Baja*, as a "quick-thinking, quick-talking aviator, who has been flying long enough to have developed an uncanny skill as well as an encyclopedic knowledge of the country over which he is flying."

His pilot was none other than Crest resident, Francisco Muñoz. This article proceeded to illuminate specific adventures Gardner and Muñoz had in the 1960s. They flew along the

Pacific Coast of Baja, exploring the shoreline sometimes only 10 to 15 feet above the sand, landing on the beach whenever it struck their fancy. Muñoz had logged many hours flying in Baja.

He lived in Imperial Beach in the 1950s, when he began flying over the pristine wilderness. He decided to start an airline service from Tijuana to Bahía de los Angeles to take sport fishermen to the fishing paradise on the Sea of Cortez. Soon he was flying all over the peninsula.

His clients included the president of Mexico, as well as movie stars, and Baja aficionados who wanted an adventure off the beaten path. His exploits with Gardner included flights to photograph whales in Scammon's Lagoon, hair-raising encounters with stormy weather, and shuttling assistants, mail, and materials between the author's Temecula ranch and various campsites in Baja. In 1970 he flew the deceased writer's ashes from El Cajon to San Pedro Mártir, where his remains were scattered.

Francisco was raised on his grandparents' ranch in Coahuila, Mexico. He wanted to be a pilot from the time he was eight years old. His parents sent him to seminary school, but he was determined to follow his path. As a teen he earned money working as a butcher to save enough for flying lessons. He said, at seventeen, he only had about 8 hours of instruction before he was flying solo. By the time he was 20 he had enough hours to apply for a commercial pilot's license.

In 2003, Francisco and Leysl lost their home in the Cedar Fire. They were one of the first to rebuild. I last saw them at the first fire anniversary picnic. He is 86 now, and has Parkinson's. Leysl says he has a lot of trouble walking, and the morning we spoke his medications had conjured up a beautiful vision of a gray whale in the bedroom.

I hope his memories are a great source of comfort. She says he has led a truly wonderful life. If you are inspired to read more, the Reader article is on loan at the Crest Library. It has been donated to the Crest Historical Society. Leysl says that you can read about some of Francisco's adventures in the Erle Stanley Gardner book, *Off the Beaten Track in Baja*. You can also check out *Hovering over Baja*, and *Hunting the Desert Whale*. They are in the County Library system

Critters In Crest

Owls

By Shelton Stanley

Since moving to Crest, we have lost six to eight cats, mysteriously. Maybe more! I've lost count!

Our *new* next door neighbors at the time (they're still our neighbors) told us about cats disappearing and that coyotes were the culprits. That was over 12 years ago. Since then, we have assumed it was coyotes that were responsible for the cat disappearances. After all, we

could hear them virtually every night and morning in our part of Crest! We also blamed them for the disappearances of ducks our daughter had here several years ago too.

Consequently, every time the kids (now adults) or later, grandkids, brought kittens home (here), I implored them to take them back, as they would just eventually end up being "coyote food".

This worked for only a few years, because in June, my wife brought home two more kittens. She was in cahoots with our daughter. They fell in love with them and used the excuse that they wanted them for the grandkids, but our son-in-law is allergic to cats, so they brought them here! Surprise!? Naturally, we kept them. (Grandpa doesn't have a say in matters like this. Just ask Grandma!)

But since the Cedar fire of 2003, we hadn't heard coyotes howling until about July or August of this year (2005), which made me think there must be something else preying on cats, and "our cats". I mentioned this to an aunt that lives in Vista. She suggested that 'owls' were also to blame. So I did some research. Online, of course!

I figured Barn Owls might be the culprits. They are common here, and big birds. They stand at about 15 to 20 inches tall and have a wingspan of 42 to 44 inches, and weigh a little less than a pound. Crows weigh about a pound, for comparison. The owls wingspan is greater than a crows.

Owls are "raptors". "Birds of prey", along with hawks, eagles and falcons. Barn owls, Family Tytonidae, order Tyto alba pratincola, are too small to prey on cats. The list of preferred victims, I mean prey, included voles, mice and gophers. This is not the owl I was looking for.

Going through my list of owls that are likely present here in Crest, I found what I was looking for: the Great Horned Owl (Family Strigidae, Order Bulbo virginianus). So called because they were first discovered in Virginia in the 1800's. This owl is big enough to eat cats! Height: 18 to 25 inches. Wingspan: 36 to 60 inches!

Weight: 3 to 4 pounds or more. The Pacific Horned Owl [B.v. pacificus], is also *suspect* and is of about the same size and ranges *here* in Crest too.

Cottontail rabbits are apparently their main food, but the owls will take squirrels (hopefully the ground squirrels around here), jackrabbits (I haven't seen any in Crest), mice, skunks (eww!), pocket gophers (yeah!), snakes (snakes are my friends, except for the rattlers), "domestic cats", bats, beetles, scorpions, frogs, grasshoppers, and a wide variety of birds, from small passerines, like sparrows, to ducks, pheasants (quail are more likely here in Crest), and even other owls, (like barn owls). Crest is just one big smorgasborg to a great horned owl. But don't worry about your cat(s), unless you live near wide open spaces where owls prefer to hunt. You won't see them amongst houses. Structures and trees interfere with their "cruising".

I once saw an owl out front, to the side of our house from a distance, sitting atop a telephone pole on a neighbor's property. It was raining. It was early evening. The owl just sat there, perched on the pole, in the rain, for hours. It may have been scanning the terrain for food, or not? I don't know. It's rare to see owls in daylight.

One of our granddaughters saw a HUGE bird sitting on a "horse fence" in South Lane Park. Grandma told her that it was an owl. It was most likely a Great Horned owl scanning the terrain

just after dawn, for a meal. She said it had what looked like 'horns' on it's head. Those "horns" are just feathers, but give them that "horned" look. Thus the name.

Owls use their ears to locate their prey in the dark, not their eyes. Their ears are located in different positions on each side of the head, which allows them to "triangulate" the position of their prey. Their wings are of such a design that they fly silently, and so can nab their prey without being detected.

Owls eat small prey whole, and tear larger prey into pieces and then swallow the pieces whole. The parts that don't or won't digest, like fur and bones, get formed into "pellets" in the stomach and are then "up-chucked"(seriously, that's the wording my 'research source' used to describe this phenomena). I haven't seen any of these "pellets" yet, but I will be keeping an eye out for them from now on.

These owls (barn and great horned) eyes are as large as human eyes. If they were the size of a human, their eyes would be as large as oranges! Barn owl eyes are black. All others are yellow around a black pupil. There is a lot to be discovered about owls on the Internet! You can Google just about anything! Try "barn owl" and see what you get.

If you have a critter story you would like to share, or you would like to see a particular critter covered in this column, please contact the editor: [Betty Lucas](#).

Crest Community Church

welcomes everyone to be a part of our

December Christmas Events:

**Wednesday evening December 21 we will be
Christmas Caroling in Crest with our AWANA clubs.
Meet at the church at 7:00 p.m.
and dress for cold weather!**

**Saturday evening December 24 at 5:00 p.m.
we will hold our Annual Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service.**

Sunday December 25 at 10:45 a.m. we will have a Special Christmas Program

The Critical Hours program

San Diego Youth & Community Services (SDYCS) continues to provide a youth program for kids in the community! While the Rec Center is currently being built, the youth program is located in Nancy Jane Park at the Crest Resource Center (in the mobile modular unit).

The youth program coordinates activities and projects focusing on academics, recreation and skills building. Youth can come in and do homework, have a light snack and engage in various

activities and outdoor events! We have "Movie Night" every Thursday and check out some reptiles and critters on Wednesdays!

The youth program has no specific age requirement but the program focuses on youth between the ages of 11 and 14. There is no fee for this program. It's free of charge! Our hours of operation are: Monday through Thursday, 3 pm to 7 pm.

Contact Derek Montebianco at 619-258-6877

How to identify and treat a stroke

A neurologist says that if he can get to a stroke victim within 3 hours he can totally reverse the effects of a stroke...totally. He said the trick was getting a stroke recognized, diagnosed and getting to the patient within 3 hours which is tough.

Read and Learn!

Sometimes symptoms of a stroke are difficult to identify. Unfortunately, the lack of awareness spells disaster. The stroke victim may suffer brain damage when people nearby fail to recognize the symptoms of a stroke. Now doctors say a bystander can recognize a stroke by asking three simple questions:

1. *Ask the individual to SMILE.
2. *Ask him or her to RAISE BOTH ARMS
3. *Ask the person to SPEAK A SIMPLE SENTENCE (Coherently) (ie . It is sunny out today) If he or she has trouble with any of these tasks, call 911 immediately and describe the symptoms to the dispatcher.

After discovering that a group of non-medical volunteers could identify facial weakness, arm weakness and speech problems, researchers urged the general public to learn the three questions. They presented their conclusions at the American Stroke Association's annual meeting last February. Widespread use of this test could result in prompt diagnosis and treatment of the stroke and prevent brain damage.

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South Lane Park Update!!

Equestrians, hikers, walkers, and bicyclists have you seen the facelift at South Lane Park? A big thanks goes out to the 90 Home Depot, Albertsons', Sav-On, and De Walt Tools volunteers who came early and left late to install the following:

1. Youth physical exercise area: first station of an exercise circuit.
2. 4 hitching posts for horses
3. Incredible walking path, through the center of the park bordered by peeled logs.
4. Landscape planting of the South Lane Park Sign

Volunteers also weeded huge areas. They provided all of the labor and supplies for this project, as well as donating all of the tools used for the day to Crest's Fire Safe Council.

Still to be completed in South Lane Park:

Now all we need is to tie in the plumbing and get volunteers to help water for an hour or two one day a week. If you could donate time on either Monday, Wednesday or Friday please give Kandhy Franklin a call at 444-4996.

The E-Crest-Rians will be paying the water bill, so it is time to ask for memberships and donations. Any memberships or donations can be dropped off at the Crest Resource Center, or in their mailbox at 120 North Park Drive. You can also mail it to 384 Paloma Lane, Crest, CA 92021-4240. Any help would be greatly appreciated.

South Lane Park Secondary Emergency Disaster Communications site for Crest..
Things are happening and we need you!!

The E-Crest-Rians , CCA, CCC, and other community groups have submitted their letters of support to make this happen. We will be using a sea-train-metal container that will be retro-fitted into a multi-use building for both the E-Quest-Rians (as an announcer's booth) and as an emergency site to house supplies for Crest Fire Safe Council. The decision to put in the temporary building came because of the restrictions and permits necessary to build. Once this is in place, we will have emergency phone service, electricity, and water to the park. Our ultimate goal is to get a restroom installed in the park as well.

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The CCA is inviting Larry Duke and the arborist from the county to the next CCA meeting to discuss the removal of 50-80 trees at South Lane Park. Check the chalkboard to confirm the date. We have heard that the Eucalyptus is also called the "Widowmaker" because of being prone to sudden breaking of branches, capturing too much wind and breaking, and breaking due to stress and lack of water. More information and updates will be made available at the meeting.

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New Girl Scout Troops Forming

Girls from grades K-6 can join Girl Scouts.

New troops are now forming. There are a few troops at Crest now, but there are several girls, especially in the first and second grade, who need a leader to start a new troop.

Daisy Girl Scouts kindergarten
Brownies grades 1-3
Juniors grades 4-6

There is free training available. Call Ruth Maas at (619) 444-4284, or (619) 709-1083. Or you can e-mail at ruthmaas3@hotmail.com

Girls are welcome to visit a Girl Scout meeting. Call for more information. Girl Scouts is fun and a good way to make life-long friends.

Crest Coordinating Committee for Fire Recovery

Dear Crest Residents,

I have a fire safety urgent concern! LAST MONTH ON A Thursday afternoon at about 6:00pm

I was driving by South Lane Park to see what a great job the Home Depot Volunteers did to clean it up. As I was driving on South Lane I witnessed 4 young men walking right across Torrey's (Hawkins) fence line and up near the area she lives in. I stopped and called to them and told them they were trespassing and should get off her property.

Two of the kids turned back but the other two strode forward and lit a fire cracker and tossed it into the dry grass. Then they ran back toward me (I was in the car) and shouted, "Torrey shot at me!" Making a big joke of it.

I went over to the Fire Department and reported it. Consequently the Fire Department went to the property- apparently earlier that same afternoon, the same kids had thrown a firecracker that started a small grass fire that Torrey had put out with dirt. Photos were taken to document the area.

Meanwhile- I was informed that a resident video taped the boys leaving the area. We have informed the Sheriff's Department and hope that Juvenile Probation will follow it up. This is serious. If there had been a Santa Ana wind that day - we could have had a wild fire.

There were several other witnesses to this event. And we are very angry and upset about this callous disregard for private property and fire safety.

Another fire survivor came in the resource center this week and said that they had witnessed kids on motor bikes going down their dirt drive throwing firecrackers into the brush.

WHAT ARE THESE KIDS THINKING? HOW CAN THIS BE HAPPENING? PARENTS- THIS IS A HEADS UP. WE CANNOT DEPEND ON THE LAW ENFORCEMENT TO TAKE CARE OF THIS! THIS IS AN URGENT COMMUNITY MATTER.

Talk to your kids and ask them to help protect our neighborhood.

Crest Community Picnic

The Crest Coordinating Committee for Fire Recovery wants to thank all the Crest organizations, churches, business and friends for donating the great BBQ, drinks, desserts and prizes for the Community Picnic that will take place on October 23. Thanks to all our local entertainment for the good cheer they brought to the event. The gloomy, drizzly, skies cleared up and the sun came out and the beautiful day brought a good time to all.

CRWRC and the CRT thanks all Fire Survivors, builders and contractors for donating extra building materials to the non-profit rebuilds. Especially Ken Cherry for donating a large number of beautiful light fixtures for free.

CRWRC

Christian Reform World Relief Committee (CRWRC) a volunteer labor organization has spent 18 weeks, with 92 volunteers in our community. They come for three week stays and have almost completed 3 homes during that time. The first home that is totally finished is for Mr. Sharp from Harbison Canyon. They celebrated the " Last Nail Ceremony" with prayer and song and lots of TV cameras.

We thank them from the bottom of our hearts for all their good work.

Crestridge Preserve

Volunteers are needed to help with the completion of the James Hubbell designed visitor kiosk at the Reserve. The original kiosk burned in the Cedar fire. In anticipation of a November 5th grand opening, we need volunteers for Oct 29th. In addition to dedicating the kiosk, the Nov 5th event will include walking tours and our first Native Plant Sale with experts on hand to help with Native Plant landscaping. For additional information or to RSVP, please contact Cathy Chadwick at chadgroup@aol.com or 619-277-3605

St Louise Church

**Do you know someone who needs a Thanksgiving Basket?
Turn in names by Oct 30th**

**Would you like to help by donating money or food for the baskets?
Or your time to help pack and distribute them?**

Contact our Social Outreach chairman,

Barbara Halte at 444-4503

**We are also sending packages to our servicemen in Iraq,
please contact Barbara if you would like to help with these.**

**Thursday
November 3, 2005**

6:30- 8:30

In the Parish Hall

Join us for Ladies Night

All women in Crest are invited..

Christmas Events

Sunday, December 11 at 5 PM

**Get in the spirit of Christmas with The Hanging of the Greens.
Immediately followed by a Pot luck dinner in the Parish Hall.**

Saturday, December 24 at 5:30 PM

Christmas Posada

Saturday , December 24 at 10 PM

Christmas Eve Mass

Sunday, December 25 at 10 AM

Traditional Christmas Mass

The community is invited to join us.

All are welcome!

Random Thoughts

By Millie Colburn Walker

Loss, Grief and Healing

Well, here we are and we just had our two year anniversary since the Firestorm. I did not notice the date exactly on that day, because I was struggling with a new problem. My favorite husband once said to me, as I was crying about some trouble one of my kids had gotten into, "Don't waste your energy crying about this because by tomorrow it may be resolved, or it may be worse, or it may be something else altogether".

I don't think his sage advice stopped my tears on that day, but apparently it meant something to me, because I remember it almost every time I am overwhelmed by another problem. Of

course I also excused him for being so calm about the kids being in trouble because he had never been a biological father so what did he know about getting caught up in their troubles. But back to the anniversary; I am not back in my old neighborhood, but my heart still goes out to all of you who experienced that firestorm just the same. I lost everything I owned except for a few clothes, some personal items and my husband's ashes.

Two years before that, in July, I had lost my husband to cancer, and I was still healing. Fortunately I have family and friends who rallied around me during both devastating events. When the hugging, sympathy and outpouring of human love waned it became just between God and me. My problem then was that I was still kind of mad at Him (yes, mad at God) because my husband died. So how do you go to the one you have conveniently blamed for your problem to solve the next problem? I didn't.

Sadly I must confess I just got madder and madder. I found myself crying a lot, yelling a lot, complaining a lot and having some really terrible fits of anger that seemed to come from somewhere deep within me. One day as I was having a fit I caught a look at myself in the bathroom mirror. I was surprised to see that face, because it didn't look very familiar to me and for a split second I thought someone had come up behind me. Before I whirled around to see who was sneaking up on me in my own house while I was having a fit, I realized it was me. I was shocked!

Then I got uppity and figured it had to be just another burden God was putting on me. Then as I was getting stupid and almost shook my fist at the ceiling I realized it was me not responding correctly to the deep grief that had come upon me. As I thought about the things I had been saying lately about my losses and my grief I decided I had to do something to fix me. Of course I asked God what to do and I immediately knew that answer, go back to where I was before this all started. I didn't want to and I knew it would be difficult, but I made a promise to give it a shot.

I figure I got my next jolt to settle it when I was watching a new series on tv. At the end of the program the head guy said the name of someone who wrote or said these words and then he said something like this, when you look long into an abyss, the abyss looks into you. I immediately wrote it down and pondered on it. I think I have looked way too long into the abyss of losing someone and some things that were very dear to me. I am not too sure if an abyss would normally be scary but the only time I have heard one mentioned it was in a scary movie or book. No one ever said, hey let's go down to the abyss and throw rocks into it. So I don't want the abyss to get to know me any better as an angry, crying, yelling, complaining, fit having monster. I want to stop looking into the hurt of the past and get back to being calm and content. Besides I am way too old for all of the energy it takes to work up all it takes to be angry.



KIWANIS FUNDRAISER TO BENEFIT THE CHILDREN OF YOUR COMMUNITY

**PUMPKIN PIE
PUMPKIN PIE ICE CREAM
GRAHAM CRACKER CRUST
CINNAMON WHIPPED TOPPING
CHOCOLATE MAPLE LEAVES GARNISH
SERVES 8-10**

\$10

**Purchase a voucher from a Kiwanis member.
Pick up your pies from Cold Stone Creamery
at your convenience between November 1st
and December 24th.**

**Give a voucher as a
great, novel idea for hostess gifts, Secret
Santa, teacher gifts, or the mail carrier!**

**If you don't know a Kiwanis
member, call**

Susan 619-322-8832

or

Karen 619-749-9180

Middle School News

by Claire Fox

This is my first year at middle school, and I am enjoying it. There are a lot more people than there was at Crest Elementary but that is what makes it fun.

I joined an after school club called Builders Club, it is just like k-kids which they have at Crest but for middle schoolers. They help the community and the school. Mrs. Warner is our advisor along with Mr. Halte.

We had less than a month to get the club started and we did it. We have a wonderful ceremony, and now have about 15 kids and officers. Thanks Mrs. Warner for starting the club. I miss all my teachers at Crest Elementary but Middle school is good.

A message from the Builder's Club of Greenfield Middle School

The Builder's Club at GMS originally started several years ago, sponsored by the Alpine Kiwanis and then by Spring Valley. The club was inactive for a few years until the news broke about Crest starting their own Kiwanis club. What an opportunity!

With the first K-Kids moving up to middle school we had the momentum going and took advantage of their experience. The GMS club was officially reinstated at a ceremony held on September 28th-just a month after school began.

Five officers have been elected; we have 20 members and continue to grow and be known on campus. The evening was full of surprises, including the return of the banner and the bell that was used before. The kids are thrilled and really feel official now.

We thank our sponsoring Crest Kiwanis Club and our advisor Don Halte for making it a memorable evening. We appreciate all their support! The kids have been busy on several community service projects this year.

In September, they collected backpacks and school supplies for the survivors of hurricane Katrina. Over 500 lbs. were shipped free of charge by Southwest Airlines, landing in Dallas, picked up by a local school district truck, and donated to kids in grades K-12.

Also, the members started fund raising with ice cream sales at school and will be doing more sales and events in the future. Watch the Crest Sun for what's coming up!

POP-TOP TABS are being collected at Greenfield during lunch to help kids with kidney dialysis and burn treatment. Each tab is worth one minute of treatment. Save your tabs and bring them to the Town Hall Meeting. Hope to see you all there!

Ginger Warner

CREST COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION CLUBHOUSE REBUILD

On October 15th, the concrete foundations and slab were poured thanks to the work of Gary Meredith and volunteers.

The roof structure will be a Timber Frame with a tongue and groove wood ceiling. The Timber Frame is scheduled for delivery on October 31st. Cascade Joinery will be installing the Timber Frame and the Structural Insulated "Roof" Panels (SIPS) from November 1st through the 10th. The roof structure will be built on the ground and sheathed with the tongue and groove ceiling. A crane will lift the roof structure on to the support posts on approximately November 5th.

Next, the porch will be framed, the T&G ceiling added, and the SIPS panels will be installed.

We will need Carpenter volunteers to frame approximately 80 lineal feet of exterior walls before Cascade Joinery can complete their portion of work on November 6th.

We will have updates on the signboard. We encourage spectators and would appreciate a large community showing on the crane raising day.

The Carpenters Joint Apprenticeship and Training class is scheduled to complete the conventional framing of the kitchen, bathroom, and adjacent roof area the week of November 14th through the 18th. We will be providing drinks, snacks, and lunch everyday (great opportunity to help for those without construction experience or time).

We need a Mechanical Contractor who is willing to provide material and labor. We are still in desperate need of community volunteers for electrical, siding, and window installation and more.

El Cajon Roofing will provide all of the materials and labor to do the roof. Lecke & Harbeau Plumbing has also volunteered their materials and labor and will complete all of the plumbing work.

Thank you both for giving a 100%.

This will be your opportunity to volunteer to rebuild your Crest Community Association Clubhouse. We need everything from general labor to skilled volunteers.

Our goal is to have every community member involved. We are short of funds and are currently seeking donations.

Watch the signboard for updates. Saturday the 29th help with the final clean-up and preparation for the Timber Frame, start time is 7:00 am.

Please call Phil Goettsch, construction coordinator, with questions and donations at 447-7471.

Debbie Goettsch,
CCA President

At our October general meeting, Little Miss Crest Sammi Bell, a kindergarten student at Crest School, honored us with a visit. She was dressed in a pink cowgirl outfit, complete with pink boots, and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Phil Goettsch, chairperson for the new clubhouse, reports that the slab has been poured, thanks to the many volunteers who participated. The timber frame has been ordered and will arrive on October 31. Continuing demands by the county regarding permits, unanticipated costs, etc., have not shaken Phil's resolve to continue organizing and planning as chairperson and to "get the gol darn thing completed."

Many CCA members participated in the organization of a Community Picnic on October 23 and a Town Hall Meeting on October 26. The purpose of the CCA is to serve the needs of the community. We hope our efforts have impacted you and your families and will continue to do so as challenges emerge in the future.

We are pleased to announce that the minutes of the general meetings will be available for review by the Saturday following the meetings. Please stop by the library to read them; or, contact Secretary Susan Lee Cooke to request that a copy be emailed to you (susanleecooke@cox.net).

Our meetings take place on the third Tuesday of the month at Crest Resource Center, 7:00 p.m. GREAT door prizes and dessert are always shared.

<p>CREST LOGO ITEMS FOR SALE</p> <p>T-SHIRTS – M, L, 1X, 2X \$10 MANY COLORS</p> <p>BALL CAPS \$10 LIGHTED KEYCHAINS \$1</p> <p>LICENSE FRAMES \$4 and \$12</p> <p>RESOURCE CENTER EXACT CHANGE OR CHECK</p>	<p>NEXT MEETING:</p> <p>TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15,</p> <p>7:00 P.M.</p> <p>CREST RESOURCE CENTER GREAT DOOR PRIZES DESSERT</p> <p>JOIN US IN HELPING TO IMPROVE OUR COMMUNITY</p>	<p>CCA COMMUNITY CHALKBOARD NOTICES</p> <p>SEVERAL DAYS IN ADVANCE CONTACT</p> <p>COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER TO REQUEST A NOTICE</p> <p>MONDAY – THURSDAY 9 A.M. TO 4 P.M.</p> <p>619-328-0900</p>
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HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

From the Desk of the Firechief

The fires of 2003 were sad examples of the devastation of property and loss of life that can occur when wildfire runs unchecked, particularly when pushed by strong Santa Ana winds. In terms of protecting property and lives, there were a number of critical shortcomings that were identified after the fires, as well as several measures that proved to be very effective.

Of those measures that worked well, one of the easiest and most effective measures is one that every homeowner can do at little or no cost, one that provides the most significant benefit.

The homeowner can clear a "Safe Zone" around the home. This Safe Zone is 100 feet in a large circle around the home where heavy brush and low hanging limbs from trees are removed and replaced with low growing vegetation. The importance of clearing and maintaining vegetation spaces around structures cannot be overemphasized. A good rule of thumb is that the wider the clearance, the better.

This is so important that the County Fire Code, the California Fire Code, the National Fire Protection Association, the International Fire and Building Code, and virtually all District Fire Codes requires these clearances. It is a proven method of protecting structures from fires.

A typical plan for vegetation management is that within 30 feet of the home, trees are typically not planted, and only moist, low growing plantings are sparsely planted. The concept is that the fire department needs to have some clear space to set up a defensible perimeter.

Within 30-100 feet of the home, vegetation can be heavier, but still is comprised of low growing species. Adequately spaced trees are allowed in this area, but it is of key importance that all low hanging branches are trimmed up to a minimum six-foot height level. This helps prevent the fire from spreading from the ground into the trees.

Wooden tables, chairs, and other flammable lawn ornaments can also spread fire into the house. Store these items away from the house. Stack firewood at least 30' away from the home and away from LP storage tanks.

Beyond 100 feet homeowners are encouraged to selectively prune and thin to keep the heavy vegetation to a reasonable density. It is better for the plant, and helps slow fire growth. Homeowners should not encroach on protected lands or neighbors' property. If clearance cannot be achieved without encroaching past your property line try working with your neighbor, or the fire department.

Thank you, and please contact the Fire Department if we can be of any assistance.

Darrell Jobs

Fire Chief

Crest PTA News
www.crestschoolpta.com

Happy Holiday Greetings from Crest Elementary School and the PTA!

These past two months have been full of tragedy in our country. When Hurricane Katrina struck, principal Sue Geller and I quickly organized a relief fund called "Make a Change in the World".

Students and parents were asked to dig into their piggy banks and donate their loose change for our collection jar. We were all incredibly surprised when we counted all those quarters, dollars and checks! With the help of generous hearts and caring kids, we totaled \$1750!

The funds were immediately sent to Operation USA, a non-profit relief organization with much lower overhead than other more popular groups. We wanted more of our money to get to where it needs to go. We also put together dozens of new and gently used backpacks filled with school supplies for children who lost everything. Thank you to everyone who supplied the goodies.

In September we started our Perfect Attendance Award program. Every month, the children that have never missed a day of school will be awarded a very special 'dog tag' key chain to hang on their backpacks. Every month a new tag will be awarded to coincide with an event that month, such as Halloween, Thanksgiving, Winter Holidays, etc. So don't be surprised when your child talks you out of leaving early for the Desert or the River!

Our Membership Drive theme this year is: "Dive in and Enjoy the Treasures of PTA." The PTA is responsible for many of the events at school, including the Music & Art Programs. If you haven't had a chance to join yet, it's never too late! A form can be found on our new website!

Just fill it out and drop off at the school office. Go to www.cajonvalley.net, click on 'Schools' then 'Crest Elementary' and click on the pencil: "PTA News".

In December, we will once again do Santa's Secret Shop, where kids can shop for their family. Gifts will range in price from 50 cents to \$15.00! Your child's teacher will be able to tell you which day they can shop and an envelope will be provided for money and to make a wish list. We need lots of volunteers for this one. So please let us know if you are interested in helping.

Cookbooks are still available at the school office. This wonderful book, makes a great gift from the heart of Crest! At only \$15, it helps fund our school programs and keeps on giving with great recipes! This spring we will be creating a supplement for this book, so get your recipes ready!

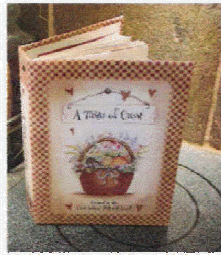
Wishing everyone a great Holiday season,

**Karin Weiss,
PTA President
crestptanews@cox.net**

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What would
you like under your
tree?



A Taste of
Crest
Cookbook,
of course!

Only \$15 at the
Crest School Office!

A great holiday gift!

Special Note: We were unable to recreate the SPONSORS page with the advertisements for this issue, do to a technical glitch. Our apologies. Webmaster@thecrestsun.com