



## A Newsletter for Crest

Volume 13

September-October, 2011

Number 5

### What's New in Crest



Have you noticed the new welcome sign adorning our black-board at the top of the hill? Thanks to Reno Wilson and the local Boy Scouts who installed this

new addition. The sign was found at the fire station and had been there for years. If anyone knows the history behind the sign, let us know. They also added a concrete slab to provide an even and level spot to stand on while writing. The Scouts have made a significant contribution to our community lately as you will read throughout this edition.

Our last edition was all about the July 4<sup>th</sup> event.

I am happy to report that the Crest Community residents stepped up to make the event a resounding success.

See page 8 for a long list of "thanks" to the



many folks that pitched in. We also have several unclaimed prizes from the silent auction. Check it out and see if one of these prizes belongs to you.

Speaking of new, have you had an opportunity to meet Kevin and Eva, new owners of the Crest Foods Market? Kevin took over in mid- August and is busy renovating the building and preparing to give the store a complete makeover both inside and out. He plans on bringing in a new and varied food and liquor selection and he tells me Lotto is back as well. Drop by and welcome them to Crest. With that said, we would be remiss if we didn't state the obvious - we are all sad to see the Shammas

family, Tony, Patti, Nick, Alec and Jackie moving on to other endeavors. We will miss their friendly faces at Crest Foods and appreciate their many years of service as well as their generous contributions to our community events. The good news is that since they live in our community, we will continue to see them.

Check the calendar this month for a variety of Crest activities. Plan on attending the Friday, October 14<sup>th</sup> Bingo night at the clubhouse from 6:30 to 8:30. Another great music night is in the works thanks to our hosts David Silva and Tom Baird.

Thank you both for all your hard work! Special guests this month will be the Sinclairs and Don Halte. Mark your calendar for Saturday, September 24, from 7-10 pm. See page 7 for more details.



David and Tom will also be performing at Cuyamaca Rancho State Park on September 3. See page 6 for more information.

CCA dinner and Kiwanis breakfast dates can be found on page 2. These volunteer events raise money to support community events and programs in Crest. There is no easier way to support your community than by enjoying an inexpensive quality meal while visiting with your Crest neighbors.

EDI (Earth Discovery Institute)/ Crestridge has another great FUNdraising event planned on November 5<sup>th</sup> called Hawks, Hikes and Heroes. See page 18 for details.

Have you joined the CCA yet? Join before September 15 and be eligible for a drawing for the "Taste of Crest" sampler package member of the CCA. See page 27 for more info.

## September-October @ Crest County Library

### Children's Programs

Rosie's Craft & Coloring Table - Every Tuesday

Baby Storytime - Friday, Sept 16 & Oct 21, 10:30 AM

Improve Reading Skills - Tuesday, September 27, 6:30 PM

Bilingual PJ Storytime - Wednesday, Sept 21 & Oct 26, 5 PM

Read to a Dog Program - Friday, Sept 9 & 23 Oct 7 & 21, 3:30PM

**Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month!**

Cowboy Bob "El Vaquero" enjoy Mexican folk songs!

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 6:30 PM**

### Teen Programs

"Make It and Take It Crafts" - Every Friday 3:30 PM

Video game Fun, PS3 or Wii. All Month!

**Celebrate Teen Read Month: October**

Join our Reading for Chocolate team! Complete  
3 book reviews sheets and get a free candy bar!

### Adult Programs

**Hispanic Heritage: Pigmented Textiles**

**Peggy Caballero Tuesday 20, 6:30 PM**

**Crest Mystery Book Club**

September: Donna Leon's, Through a Glass Darkly

October: Andrea Kane, Dark room

**Club de Lectura 'Leyendo Juntos'**

Septiembre: Veneno de Cristal por Donna Leon

Octubre: Cuarto Oscuro por Andrea Kane

*Be sure to visit and post your views on our blog:*

<http://crestlibrarymysterybookclub.blogspot.com>

**FREE BILINGUAL COMPUTER CLASSES**

*Thursdays call Rosi for appointment*

*Beginners 11 AM Intermediate 11:30 AM*

**Clases de computación en español llame para hacer cita**

**Saturday Family Crafters 11 AM**

*Sept 3 & Oct 15, Beginning Crochet - Tejido en gancho*

*September 10, Making Shrinky Dinks-Figuras de plástico*

*September 17, Make Pet Treats- Golosinas para tu mascota*

*Sept 24 & Oct 29, Scrapbooking Fun- Hoja para tu álbum!*

*October 1, Soapmaking-Hacer jabones*

*October 8, Ribbon Jewelry - Hacer joyería de fantasia*

*October 22, Pot Holder Looms- Usando el Telar*

**For more information, please phone the Library: 619-442-7083**

*All Library Programs are subject to change or cancellation without notice.*

*Todos los programas de la biblioteca están sujetos a cambio o cancelación sin aviso.*



SDCL Crest Branch  
105 Juanita Lane - El Cajon, CA  
T 12-8 W Thu 9:30-6  
F 9:30-5 Sat 9:30-3  
Sun & Mon Closed



# Crest Contacts

<b>Crest Community Contacts</b>		
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	Kandhy Kathy	444-4996 440-6097
Clubhouse Rentals rentals@thecrestsun.com	Rick Bradt (email)	444-2641 or 44-CREST
Crest Fire Safe Council crestfiresafecouncil@yahoo.com	Kandhy Franklin (email)	44-crest
Crest Garden Club <a href="mailto:Rold@sbcglobal.net">Rold@sbcglobal.net</a>	Arlene Palmer Marsha	441-0187
Crest Historical Scty.	Dorothy Miller	444-0968
Crest Kiwanis	Karen Nelson	749-9180
Crest Library	Rosi Mejia	442-7083
Crestridge Reserve	Cathy Chadwick	749-5767
Crest School www.cajonvalley.net	Office (website)	588-3128
Crest Sun Newsletter <a href="mailto:editor@thecrestsun.com">editor@thecrestsun.com</a> Information <a href="mailto:winters72@hotmail.com">winters72@hotmail.com</a>	Linda Hjelle (email)	440-8540 517-9838
The Crest Sun website webmaster@thecrestsun.com	Karin Weiss (email)	579-3951
E-Crest-rians	Kandhy Franklin	444-4996
St Louise Church	Father Languille	444-3076
Sub-Regional Planning. crestplanning.org	Judy Bowen (website)	440-0783
<b>Help Lines</b>		
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	(858)	974-2020
San Miguel Fire Dst Crest Fire Office Fire Marshal Public Info Officer Fire Chief www.smgfire.org	Business office. Burn Permits Marsha Larsen Leonard Villarreal August Ghio (website)	670-0500 588-8112 660-5356 660-5359 660-5351
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	(619)	662-7321
CALTRANS	(619)	688-6785
Code Enforcement	(858)	694-2705
Contractors Board	(Fraud) (800)	321-2752
Crime Stoppers	(619)	531-1547

FBI (telephone scam)	(858)	565-1255
Fish & Game	(951)	443-2944
Illegal Dumping	(858)	495-5143
Noise Abatement (dogs), abandoned vehicles, solid waste complaints	(858)	694-3741
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
<b>Stores and Restaurants</b>		
Crest Foods	Kevin	444-8132
Lenard's Pizzeria	Sam – Pg 22	444-1389
Rainbow Farms Mrkt	Mark –Pg 14	444-7504
<b>Advertisers</b>		
Bowlby Electric	George pg 6	440-3051
Crest Computer Guys	Skye – pg 7	800- 571-9645
Kathy Kuts	Kathy – pg 26	447-1945
Knox Reprographics	Mary pg 31	230-6300
Marvelous Organizing	Risa – pg 29	231-1113
Notary on the Spot	Betty pg 6	820-3062
PU-Products.com	Mitch pg 11	
Real Estate & Loans	Rayna –pg	922-2524
Xango	Marie – pg 17	328-1157
Yard/Repairs/ Bee Removal	Al – pg 19	442-4879

**Next Crest Sun  
Deadline:  
October 20**

**Advertisers:  
See page 31  
for additional  
information.**



Bath time for my little friend

SEPTEMBER 2011						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

OCTOBER 2011						
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

## Calendar of Events September-October 2011

09/03/11	2-4 pm	Paso Picach Campfire Center – Concert – David Silva and Tom Baird
09/06/11	1:00 Tuesday	Historical Society Meeting– Crest Library
09/06/11	5-7 pm Wed	CCA Dinner is still under discussion – Watch for Board for more information
09/08/11	6:00 pm -Thurs	San Miguel Fire Protection District Board Meeting - 2850 Orange Way – Spring Valley
09/10/11	7:30 am – Sat	Kiwanis Board Meeting – Clubhouse
09/10/11	6:30	Library Program – Pigmented Textiles with Peggy Caballero
09/12/11	9:30 - Mon	Crest Garden Club --CCA Clubhouse Call Marsha for Details 440-1167
09/12/11	7:00 pm	Sub Regional Planning Group –
09/13/11	6:30	Library Program: Cowboy Bob – Mexican Folk Songs
09/13/11	5:45 – Tues	Crest Community Association – Board Meeting – Clubhouse
09/15/11		Join the CCA by 9/15 and be in the drawing for A Taste of Crest raffle
09/15/11		Family Movie Night at the Crest Community Church
9/17/11	9:00-12:00	Reserve Rangers Meetings
09/19/11	6:00 pm	Kiwanis General Meeting – visitors welcome – Clubhouse
09/20/11	7:00 pm – Tu	Crest Community Association – General Meeting
09/24/11	7-10:00 pm	MUSIC NIGHT AT THE CLUBHOUSE
09/24/11	8:30-10:30 Sat	Kiwanis Community Breakfast – Clubhouse
09/25/11		Crest Community Church in the Park
10/04/11	1:00 pm- Tues	Historical Society Mtg – Library
10/08/11	7:30 am	Kiwanis Board Meeting – Clubhouse
10/08/11	7:30-12:30	Fall Native Plant Sale
10/10/11	9:30 – Mon	Crest Garden Club – TBA - Call Marsha for Details 440-1167
10/10/11	7:00 pm Mon.	Sub Regional Planning Group –
10/11/11	5:45 – Tues	CCA Board Meeting – Clubhouse – Board Meets
10/13/11	6:00 pm - Thurs	San Miguel Fire Protection District Board Meeting - 2850 Orange Way – Spring Valley
10/14/11	6:30-8:30	Bingo @ the Clubhouse
10/17/11	6:00 pm	Kiwanis General Meeting Speaker
10/18/11	7:00 pm Tues	CCA General Meeting
10/20/11	5:00 pm	Deadline for Crest Sun Submissions
10/22/11	8-10:30 AM	Kiwanis Breakfast –
11/05/11	8:00-12:30	Hawks, Hikes & Heroes EDI/Crestridge Fundraising Event



## Crest Kiwanis Membership Now Open !

by Suzanne Mullins

Kiwanis is an international service organization that also has a local chapter here in Crest. Members do not have to be business owners, but individuals who care about their Community. Since 2003, Kiwanis members have sponsored and supported Crest School and local community projects as well as international efforts to aide children around the world.

Although we may be best known for our monthly pancake breakfasts; it's what the breakfast proceeds are used for that matters most. We provide holiday food and gift baskets to Crest families, give merit certificates for Crest elementary students, fund special activities at the Crest Library, provide equipment for Crest School, and recently helped send a Santee girls' softball team to the Western States Nationals in Portland, Oregon. We sponsor an annual Easter Egg hunt at Nancy Jane Park and K kids at Crest Elementary and Builders Clubs at Los Coches Creek and Greenfield Middle Schools.



Crest Kiwanis partners with the City of El Cajon Recreation Department to host the all F.O.R.E Rec golf tournament. This annual tournament benefits children whose parents cannot afford the activity fees, covers bussing to Crestridge Ecological Reserve and provides after school programs for free.

To enter the tournament call Susan @ 619 441-1680  
Tax id # 95-6000703

To continue all these projects, Kiwanis must grow to be more effective in our service. Believe it or not, participation in Kiwanis is fun, and after all the dust settles on a project, very satisfying.

### *You are invited to...*

...our general meeting, held every 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month at 6:00 p.m. in the Crest Community Clubhouse. A light dinner is provided by members, and the agenda includes a guest speaker and upcoming service activities.

Guest speaker topics have included local leaders, authors, legal experts and members' travelogues to other countries.

For additional information contact Karen Nelson, President. 619 665-2636

## Please join this year

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need everyday, but when the need  
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**CUYAMACA RANCHO  
STATE PARK**

**WHAT?** The outstanding music of:

**Baird & Silva \* --- LIVE**

**WHEN:** Saturday, September 3, 2011,  
2:00PM -4:00 PM

**WHERE:** Paso Picacho Campfire Center

**COST:** \$8.00 per car (Admission/parking)

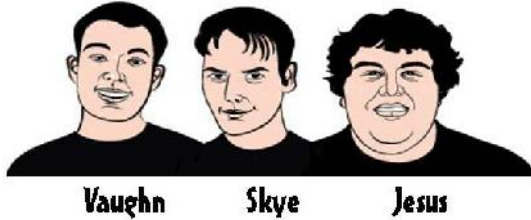
**PROGRAM:** Hear Live Music midst the  
wind in the pines!

\* The duo brings original music and cover tune favorites; a bit  
of rock-inspired jazz with a folk touch.

**JOIN IN THIS UNIQUE MUSICAL ADVENTURE!!**  
**[www.crspia.org](http://www.crspia.org)**

(CPSPIA supports the mission of California State Parks,  
Cuyamaca Rancho and Palomar Mountain State Parks  
through educational and interpretive activities that  
enhance the experience of the public.

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## MUSIC NIGHT

at the Crest Clubhouse

Saturday, September 24 from 7-10 pm

Featuring:

David Silva and Tom Baird

Don Halte

The Sinclairs

Bring your own snacks and beverage and join us  
or purchase snacks from the Deli tray (for a small donation)

All Crest Residents Invited

Bingo is back at the CCA clubhouse

### BINGO NIGHT IN CREST

Friday, October 14, 2011 from 6:30-8:30 pm

Cost \$10 (pay at the door)

**Seasonal prizes and a Grand Prize at the end**

Bring a snack to share and your own beverage

Bring a Friend

Thanks to Dick Sutton who helps make Bingo Night Happen! I also want to thank Yvonne Dailey for her Avon donations in April, (Yvonne is a long time resident and you can get her books at the Crest stores).

Hope to see you there!!





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

Mailing address: P.O. Box 21489, El Cajon, CA 92021

e-mail: [wrplanning@aol.com](mailto:wrplanning@aol.com) website: [www.crestplanning.org](http://www.crestplanning.org)

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 [www.crestplanning.org](http://www.crestplanning.org). The website can also be accessed by going to the [www.thecrestsun.com](http://www.thecrestsun.com) website and clicking on planning group or organizations.

**The Following are segments from the June 13, 2011 minutes regarding Crest. For a full copy of the minutes go to [www.crestplanning.org](http://www.crestplanning.org)**

The County Board of Supervisors has withdrawn its objections to the Sycuan Casino liquor license application, so it is no longer supporting the Dehesa community opposition to granting a license

A Draft Urban Water Management Plan has been prepared by the Padre Dam Water District. Copies for review can be requested by calling 619-258-4613.

On 29 June 2011 the Board of Supervisors will hear options for consideration for an amendment to the Equine Ordinance. Final consideration of the amendment will occur in Fall, 2012; Department of Planning and Land Use will devise an Interim Policy to cover enforcement of essential health and safety aspects of the existing ordinance, while enforcement of some zoning violations will be suspended.

Item 7. Unfinished Business. Stone Monument at La Cresta Road and Park Drive. Vice-chairman Harris introduced Mr. Dave Williams, the property owner of 105 North Park Drive where the Stone Monument is located. Mr. Williams explained that he had hired a survey of his property boundaries and the monument's location which determined that some (a little less than one-fourth) of the monument footprint is on his property. He would like the monument removed from its current location for the safety reasons that have previously been considered by the Planning Group. North Park Drive was established in 1928, and the Crest Historical Society claims the monument was constructed as a Federal WPA project. (Note from the Editor: The Crest Historical Society did not state that it was a Federal WPA project and corrected information was given to a Board member for the next meeting). Mr. Williams wants it removed from his property but does not want to bear the expense. He is willing to cooperate with whoever might want to relocate it.

Judy Bowen moved that the Planning Group contacts the Crest Community Association and the Crest Historical Society about the need to move the monument to prevent its demolition, but this item was continued to the next meeting without action.



### The Garden Club

The August Garden Club meeting was a potluck get together enjoying the view from Joni's deck. Joni will be moving soon to Escondido and will be missed.

#### Next Meeting

Linda Chase and Jackie Grace will be hosting our next meeting, September 12. It's time for a little gardening TLC at the clubhouse so for September bring your gardening gloves and tools and let's all sweat together for the cause. Also bring some food to share while we bask in feeling good about what we have accomplished. We'll have the swap again this month. We'll also have a sign-up sheet for upcoming meetings so be thinking about what month you would like. The Garden Club has a plant swap at each meeting which can include seeds, cuttings, and garden related items such as garden books & of course plants.

The Garden Club meets the second Monday of each month at 10:00 am. Members take turns hosting and providing refreshments and there is a \$10 yearly membership fee. If you would like information regarding join the club, contact Arlene Palmer at 441-0187.



# Crest Community Association

## A Message from our CCA President

I can't believe summer is almost over. I don't know about you but Jeanne's and my life has changed as fast as the season. We too have become a casualty of this economy. We both have had careers taken from us and have had to "rethink and restart" our life.



Being fairly new to our town I have reflected on the phrase BACK FROM THE ASHES.

All of you that we have had the opportunity to know have been a blessing on how no

matter the past we can always live for and hope for a better tomorrow. That came to true life as this year's 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade was quickly falling on us.

With the permitting process and some requirements that were asked of us from the County last year, it did not look like it was going to materialize. Also with the lack of volunteer involvement, I was tasked with presenting the possibility of not being able to complete what was necessary to hold our annual parade.

When this was discussed at first it seemed our fate. Then Linda Hjelle and Kandy Franklin said "Crest will rise to the occasion; we just have to have to appeal to them with the facts." As you know Linda went on a mission to appeal for volunteers and she quickly handled the County's wish list. Because of her diligence, the County worked well with us and lifted a huge traffic roadblock and co-operated as a partner rather than – you know the county. Also she gave us I think one of the best raffles ever. What a great variety of things to bid on. Without you none of this year's parade would have been possible.

We also reached out to the Kiwanis. I approached their board and gave them what we were facing and they quickly rallied to provide all the support we needed. Thank you to Karen Nelson and all in your team. I am looking forward to partnering in future events.

Kandhy got vendors to come and Rick Bradt handled the Parade staging. Barbara Kingsbury and

her husband were the smiling faces selling you the cold drinks. And to my wife Jeanne for handling the numerous many details and phone calls to pull it all together. Your CCA board members worked behind the scene to help anywhere we could. By the attendance and comments we have heard, everyone seemed to enjoy the day.

I say all this because this 4<sup>th</sup> truly impressed on me what Crest is all about. To me the town and its people can rise to and above any challenge it faces. I needed help and got more than I thought was possible. Thank you all for showing me what a true community is all about.

With that, have you noticed our new WELCOME TO CREST sign above the chalkboard? Thanks to Reno Wilson and our Boy Scouts for helping him with his Eagle Scout Project. The re-staining of the fence on the clubhouse is next on their list, as well as constructing a shed in the back of the clubhouse for future chair storage. What a gift we have in our Scouts and all the community service they have provided us. It is a tribute to the leadership of Steve Goldberg and his team.

We also are in the process of installing a back-up generator for the clubhouse. This was provided by a grant Kandhy wrote for us. This will ensure the clubhouse will be available for any challenges that may come upon us in the future. Kandhy and husband Charles seem to never stop thinking of ways to help us.

Because of all of your support, I can say we have enough resources to care for the clubhouse the remainder of this year and next. We have completed a couple of repairs to the kitchen, and all yearly inspections (termite, fire inspection) have come back clean. Taxes and insurance are paid and all obligations are current. We are looking into installing darker sun blocking blinds on the upper windows as well as a retractable patio cover.

Thank You for the opportunity to serve as your CCA President. See you at the dinners and future events (hopefully I am in town).

Paul Johnson, President

**Join the CCA and Support your Community. The CCA Application can be found on page 27.**

## More July 4<sup>th</sup> Event Information

### Winners of the Crest Parade:

Most unique Entry – Rob Bruggema

Best Float – Phil Baites

\*Most Patriotic – Nate Schaffer

\*People's Choice – The train float (Nate, call 619-517-9838 for your certificate and prize)

**There were so many great floats and participants when choosing the above winners.**

**Honorable mentions** go to the following parade participants: Dennis Karnousky, Dave Selor, Kevin Nelson **for Most Unique Entry**; Ryan Ogden, Phil Simon Heidi Slabaugh **for Best Float**; Sara Triglia, Julia McKenney, Jim Stielau, Ashley Wolters, Shelby Riddle, Kerry Lambert, Boby Christian, Phil Simon and Tony Burbak **for most patriotic.**

### Silent Auction winners: Thanks to all of you that donated and participated in the silent auction.

We still have a few unclaimed gifts. We hope you saved your ticket stubs or can help us with some missing information.. Call 619-517-9838 to claim your raffle item.

- Ladderball - Ticket 998163 (no name on ticket)
- Just for Ladies Basket – Ticket 998918 (Becky Gay – bad phone number)
- Piggy bank with \$15 gift card – Ticket 997194 Cristi – bad phone number)
- Knitting Crochet Gift Basket – Pamela - phone xxx3188)

## What Made the 65<sup>th</sup> July 4<sup>th</sup> Event Special? - YOU DID! THANK YOU.....

By Linda Hjelle

As chairperson of the July 4<sup>th</sup> event for 2011, I am happy to report that I have a renewed faith in my community. When we thought it couldn't be done, you stepped up to the plate three weeks before the event and made it happen! **The 65<sup>th</sup> July 4<sup>th</sup> event was a true community event.** The heartwarming responses I received to my plea for assistance was amazing! Below are folks that reached out to help out. There were so many of you, please forgive me if I inadvertently miss a name or two.

**In no particular order, these are our Crest heroes: Membership/Signs:** Jackie Grace **Historical Society Booth:** Dorothy Miller and Gilbert Mastri. **Setup:** Ron and Joe Young, Johnna Hitt, Genieva Clark, Joe Hart, Sally Bruner, Ralleen Ratzlaff, **Kiwanis Food Sales:** Karen Nelson, Mary & Don McClellan, Suzanne Mullins, Susan Lee Cooke, Don & Barb Halte, Dennis Plunkett, Rosemarie Michelsen, Pat Bunsold, Dick Sutton, Sally Bruner, Trish McKenna-Weir & Bill Forney, and Patty Dee Minnich **CCA Food Sales:** Jeanne Johnson, Griselda Layman and family, Lucy Calferio, Erin Warnok and husband, Ginny Burnight, Glenna Evans, Barbara Kingsbury-Sempsrott, Paul Johnson, Steve Goldberg & boy scouts, Kandhy and Charles Collins **Cleanup:** Cathy Chadwick, Dave Burnight, Dave Winters; Keri Lambert & CCC; Kids Games: Pastor Tony and Kerri, Shawn Bush and the Crest Community Church folks; **Vendor committee:** Jeanne Johnson, Judy Becler, Kandhy Franklin.

**The Street Brigade volunteers really pulled it off:** Thanks to: Grant & Catherine Clinger, Kim Briscoe, David and Julie Miller. Dave Williams, David Sawyer, Liz Clarno; Highway Patrol Volunteer Senior Patrol officers; Grant & Pam Mitchell, John Mitchell, RoseMary Hobbs, Dennis Sempsrott, Claudia Garber, Mike and Lisa Winters, Gail and Mick Luhnnow, Diane Brim, Mary Cobbs, Miguel Arispe and all of you that volunteered at the last minute on streets that had not yet been assigned.

**The Parade Setup Crew** did a fantastic job! Robin Boyd, Kandhy Franklin, Rick Bradt, and Ryan Dixon, Sharon Bueller and of course the firefighters from Crest Fire Station 15 and Rob and Valerie Bruggema who helped with cleanup.

**THE SUPER RAFFLE WAS INDEED SUPER!** I hope you were able to see the great variety of donations. The 38 prizes were unique and generous! Thanks to each and every one of you. We raised almost \$1,000 thanks to your help. Thanks to: Lori Johnson, Jerry Hjelle, Gloria Harpeneau, Matt Johnson and Linda Hjelle who worked on making this project succeed. Sylvia Binley really stepped up to provide us with some additional financial resources to make our baskets extra special. Bonnie Daniels brought excitement to the day with her donation of a biplane ride! Other great items were donated by our local vendors, Kathy Kuts, Lenardos, Crest Foods, Rainbow Market, and Simply Marvelous Organizing. Baskets and specialty items were donated by Sally Bowlby, Liz Clarno, Linda and Jerry Hjelle, Jackie Grace, Judy Becker, Barbara Atkins, Karin Weiss, Suzanne Mullins, Gloria Harpeneau and Shelly, Carol Gilmore, Ryan and Jennifer Ogden, Cathy Chadwick, Marie's Painters, Lisa and Mike Winters. Beverly Cameron not only donated to the silent auction but setup and ran a fishing pond for the kids. Thanks to EDI, Armstrong Nursery and Boomers and Asmar Auto Care for their donations of fabulous gifts.

**Music** was once again a success thanks to the efforts of Chris Seebold. A special thanks to the Ballad Mongers and David Silva and Tom Baird for making the day such a success! A special thanks to Ginny Burnight who helped us out financially to bring some great music to the day. Thanks to Robert Phillips for providing the stage and Jeanne Johnson for singing our national anthem. A special thanks goes to the San Miguel Fire Protection District, the County Parks System, the Highway Patrol Senior Patrol Division, and Alpine Sheriffs office and San Diego County.



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### **From the Office of Dianne Jacob:**

*County Supervisor Dianne Jacob represents the people of the Second District which includes all of East County, the Ramona and Julian areas and the City of Poway. For more information contact Jennifer Stone (619) 531-4766*

SD County Supervisors Jacob Slater-Price brought action before the Board of Supervisors Aug. 2 urging the Board to oppose the state's new \$150 fire tax. The action also asked that the Board support legal efforts to challenge the tax and communicate the Board's opposition to the governor and state legislators. The action passed 5-0. On Wednesday, letters were sent to Governor Brown and the entire San Diego state delegation. The letters were signed by all five members of the Board of Supervisors emphasizing the following points and urging them to repeal ABX1 29:

- The FY2011-12 State Budget (ABX1 29) included the establishment of a fire prevention fee of up to \$150 per structure within state responsibility areas (SRAs). A SRA fire prevention fee is not the solution to balancing the State budget. We oppose the SRA fee and urge you to take immediate action to repeal ABX1 29.
- The SRA Fee constitutes an illegal tax and is a desperate measure that unfairly targets rural property owners who already pay for fire protection through property taxes. This amounts to double taxation because many of these property owners also pay additional taxes and benefit assessment fees to local fire districts as much as \$382 annually. There is no guarantee that the same amount of funds contributed by residents (more than 65,000) will be reinvested back into San Diego County for additional fire prevention.
- ABX1 29 does not ensure that a higher level of tax being collected translates into a higher level of fire protection.
- An additional concern is that revenues generated by this new fee will be directed to fund CAL Fire administrative expenses and supplant existing CAL FIRE services.
- It is important that we collaboratively do everything possible to protect the citizens of this region and the State of California. We urge you to make public safety a budget priority by restoring CAL FIRE funding immediately to protect life, safety and property throughout the state and in the San Diego region. We urge that you repeal ABX1 29.

### **Additional Information from the Recent CCA Meeting Regarding the Fire Prevention Fee:**

At the CCA meeting Chief Guio made a presentation regarding the possible benefit fee for State Responsibility Areas (SRA) which would be approximately **\$150.00 per habitable dwelling** per owner. The Chief and the fire associations whom he works with are against this proposal. Crest and Elfin Forest are the two areas with the highest benefit fees; they should be exempt. The way the bill is being constructed right now, this proposal would be a tax, and therefore be brought before the voters. The chief is asking that anyone who gets their property tax bill this September with this fee on their bill to contact his office immediately. The goal of Chief Guio is to gather all of the residents who receive this on their bill in order to appeal this bill. Crest Fire Safe Council offered to assist by collecting information, and keep the community informed with updates.

### **Tips on Taking Photos of Your Kids (Thanks to Costco.com for these great tips)**

1. Stay low. Taking a kids' picture from standing height is a common mistake. Get down and you'll have a much more complimentary angle.
2. Stay close. Keeping the frame tight around your subject will help you avoid competing and distracting visuals.
3. Candid is best. When a camera comes out kids tend to either ham it up too much or be too shy. Get them distracted then catch them with a fast shutter speed.
4. Ask questions. If you need to take a posed picture, ask the kids a real question to get a real reaction "Do you like baseball? Can lead to much more interesting reactions than "Say cheese."

# About Crest



## THE CREST OBSERVATION POST DURING WORLD WAR II - 1940's

During World War II there was an observation post located behind the Suncrest Clubhouse (what is now the Community Church). It was manned by volunteers. The purpose was to track aircraft flying over San Diego County. It was a very small building and consisted of a chair, a telephone and whatever magazines could be rounded up for the observers' use.

(Pictured is Elaine Dupuis – at her post in 1940)

The volunteers worked in four hour shifts and it was manned 24 hours a day. When a plane flew over, the observer would call the tracking station located in Santa Ana. They had a very large map that they used miniature airplanes on and they would plot the course of the plane by the observers' information as to what direction the plane had come from and what direction it was going.

The high school boys would generally take a night shift so they could get up in the mornings and go to school. It was all part of people doing what they could for the war.



## ***Kyle Goldberg Awarded Eagle Scout Metal***

Eagle Scout is the highest rank attainable in the Boy Scouting program of the Boy Scouts of America. Requirements include earning at least 21 merit badges and demonstrating Scout Spirit through the Boy Scout Oath and Law, service, and leadership. This includes an extensive service project that the Scout plans, organizes, leads, and manages.

Kyle Goldberg, 16 received the Eagle award at a ceremony held at the Crest Community Association on Saturday, August 6. Only two percent of the Boy Scouts make it to Eagle and it can take several years to earn this

award. Kyle started in the Tiger Cubs in Cub Scouts in the first grade. Congratulations Kyle and thank you for your service to the Crest Community.

The Crest Community Association has been a direct benefactor of Kyle's projects. His Eagle Project entailed directing work to be done consisting of the improvements to the shed including electrical, shelves and clean up. He also worked to refinish the benches and new door closers on the front doors. During his ceremony, a plaque of appreciation was presented to CCA for the Eagle scouts from Troop 332.

Crest should be particularly proud of our local Scouts. We have a higher than usual number of Scouts earning this award. Troup 332 may attain the distinction of having seven out of seven boys earn this award by the end of the year.



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## COME ON DOWN TO A SPOOKTACULAR BACKYARD HALLOWEEN BIRTHDAY CARNIVAL

*(Thanks to Crest Resident,  
Risa Goldberg for providing  
this great holiday idea).*

Halloween's coming and your child has a birthday to celebrate. Why not combine the two. Here's how:

**INVITATIONS:** Hold a piece of black construction paper horizontally, bring the short sides together in the middle and fold. Cut off the upper left and right corners to make a slanted roof. With a white crayon, decorate to look like a dungeon with shingles, doors, windows; Cut the windows and doors on two sides so they open, then draw pictures underneath. Flow your words around the pictures:

**My birthday is coming,  
\_\_\_\_\_ is the date,  
We're starting at \_\_\_\_\_  
So please don't be late.  
It's a Halloween carnival,  
There are prizes to win,  
So wear your best costume,  
Don't knock, just come in.....**

### **PARTY NIGHT AMBIENCE:**

- Graveyard:** Attach black and orange crepe paper streamers and white spider webs (from the drug store) to your trees, shrubs, and side of house.
- Make tombstones** by stuffing large paper grocery bags with newspaper. Tie them off at the top, then with a marker write R.I.P. on one side and a name on the other.
- Draw ghosts, cats and witches** on large butcher paper. Cut out two of each shape, paint and staple, leaving an opening on one side for newspaper stuffing. Hang on a clothesline strung across your yard.
- Set out cornstalks** if available; use bales of hay for seating.
- Cover tables** with white sheets.
- Set pumpkins** on tables for centerpieces. They can be used later for decorating.
- Play spooky** Halloween tapes
- Use colored light** bulbs in your outdoor light fixtures.
- Rent a small helium tank.** Blow up black and orange balloons; attach one to a chair with each guest's name on it.
- Purchase dry ice;** have an adult "witch" stirring a pot of "magic potion." Wear gloves when handling the ice.
- Pumpkin Goody Bags:** Take two squares of orange felt and round off the corners. Add a 4 1/2" piece of sticky-back Velcro to the bottom of each, then glue the rest of the bag together. Glue on a green felt stem and black felt eyes, nose, and mouth. Stuff with little bags of popcorn and candies.

### **GAMES AND ACTIVITIES**

- Parade and conga line;** provide extra clothes for anyone needing a costume—baggy pants, oversized tees, hats, wigs, scarves, makeup for a last-minute face.
- Pumpkin decorating.** Provide markers, pipe cleaners, tissue paper, glue, scissors, hats, scarves, wigs, and pumpkins. Give each guest a prize ribbon for participation.

**Mummy wrap:** Divide guests into teams; each team picks someone to be the mummy. When you blow your whistle, team members take turns wrapping up their designated "mummy" from head to foot in toilet paper.

**Haunted house tour:** Drape chairs with sheets and blankets or use a large oven or refrigerator packing carton open at two ends. Sprinkle grape nuts or cornflakes on the bottom. Begin the tour by reading a spooky story by flashlight. Tour leader then leads the group, holding hands, through the tunnel, meeting creepy crawlies and various body parts, which he passes from child to child:

*Hair—wig, Brains—cauliflower, Teeth—candy corn*

*Nose—a carrot. Ear—dried prune or apricot*

*Eyeballs—peeled grapes, Intestines—cooked spaghetti*

*Fingers—gummy worms. heel—piece of cut potato, Stomach—water balloon. Liver—raw liver*

Have someone outside the house do sound effects—cackling, groaning, clanking, laughing

**Fortune Teller:** Divide a large sheet of poster board into 8 squares, number them and set on the ground. Guests toss a penny onto a square. You have a box of numbered, prewritten, silly fortunes which correspond to the numbers on the cardboard. Find the matching number and read the fortune.

**Pumpkin Toss:** Stuff 6-8 paper bags with newspaper, tie with twisties, paint them orange and draw pumpkin faces. Set them up on the ground. Guests have 3 tries with a beanbag to knock them over.

### **FOOD:**

Roasted pumpkin seeds, chips, dips, cupcakes, popcorn, and pretzels are standard party fare. Liven up the food with:

**Ghostcakes—**Take a round lollipop, wrap a piece of white tissue or paper towel around the top to look like a ghost and tie off with a pipe cleaner. Twist each end of the pipe cleaner around a birthday candle and pull out to the sides to look like arms. Give your "ghost" eyes and a mouth, then stick it into a cupcake. When it's time to sing "Happy Birthday," light the candles. Each guest can take one home.

**Vampires—**Spread bread with peanut butter or cream cheese. Guests can make spooky faces with slices of banana, grapes, chocolate chips, or raisins for eyes, dried fruit for nose, puffed rice for mouth, almonds for fangs.

**Devils' Eyeballs—**Boil eggs, rinse in cold water, peel and slice lengthwise. Scoop out yolks into a bowl; set the whites aside. Mash the yolks with a fork; mix in mayonnaise, salt and pepper. Thin with water if mixture is too thick. Fill the egg whites with the yolk mixture, sprinkle paprika on top. With an eyedropper, dribble a few drops of red food coloring over the white to look like blood.

**Witches' brew—**Mix up pineapple and orange juices, ginger ale, and raspberry sherbet, or your favorite fruit juice and ice cream combination. Freeze some juice in a latex glove. When done, cut off the glove and float the frozen hand in the punch. Party guests will take home a balloon, a goody bag, a pumpkin, a ribbon, and their ghostcake. Let your children help with the preparations and share in the excitement of making this a memorable Halloween birthday carnival party for all.

**Travel tip: What are your rights if you get involuntarily bumped from your flight?**

- If they can get you to your destination within an hour, there is no compensation.
- Over 2 hours compensation of \$400
- Over 4 hours 200% plus you get to keep your ticket.

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## FIRE SAFETY

Summer is heating up and here at Crestridge, we know that our surrounding communities have the issue of wildfire on their minds. In this issue of the newsletter, we provide important information about residential fire safety, especially in the Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) areas like Crest, Harbison Canyon, Granite Hills, Lakeside and Alpine. Next, we describe what happens on reserve lands to help protect our neighbors. Finally, we provide you with many resources if you want to expand your knowledge or actions toward fire safety.

## RESIDENTIAL FIRE SAFETY:

When it comes to protecting your home, current fire science indicates that multiple factors are important. Vegetation management often receives the most emphasis and is sometimes misunderstood to mean complete vegetation clearing. This is neither the correct approach for fire safety nor does it support the habitat in WUI areas that many of us love to live in or near. Here is an excerpt of detailed discussions of the important fire safety factors, as well as political, historical, and financial influences on fire policy from the website of the California Chaparral Institute:

1. The primary mechanism for homes igniting during a wildfire is glowing embers. Embers can travel miles from the fire front. This is why wildfires jump ten-lane interstate highways and over large lakes. In a detailed report from the Institute for Business and Home Safety (2008), it was explained that "Wind-blown embers, which can travel one mile or more, were the biggest threat to homes in the Witch Creek Wildfire. There were few, if any, reports of homes burned as a result of direct contact with flames."
2. The concept of "defensible space" by itself is not an adequate solution for Southern California. It presumes wildfires are small and firefighting resources will always be available. This is not realistic. The most damaging wildfires are typically large events that tax firefighting agencies. Chances are there may not be a firefighter available to use the defensible space. It is best to create a "survivable space" in which the home can survive on its own. This means fire-safety needs to focus on fire-resistant construction as well as proper fuel management.
3. Stripping the land of native vegetation leads to erosion and the growth of invasive weeds. Weeds demand continual maintenance to control. Once dried, they pose an extended fire risk since they are much more flammable than properly thinned native vegetation.
4. Lightly irrigated, properly thinned and spaced shrubs can act as a "green" fire barrier, absorbing heat and deflecting oncoming embers. Bare, open space cannot do this.
5. There are a number of reasons one decides to live next to a natural environment; peacefulness, enjoyment of wildlife, uncluttered vistas, native wildflowers, a chance to take an evening stroll through nature. Although an easy target, native vegetation is not the enemy. We are next to it because of it. Therefore, it makes sense to build a home that is adapted to the environment in which it exists. Consequently, the first place to start when trying to protect your home from wildfire is from **the structure out, not from the wildland in** which includes:
  - a. Proper attic vent construction (to keep out embers), non-combustible roofing (to resist embers), enclosed eaves (to defend against embers), and the removal of flammable objects such as wood fences, patio furniture, wood decking, etc. (to prevent ignition by embers).
  - b. Making sure the first 30 feet around the home is free of flammable materials and is landscaped with fire resistant vegetation.
  - c. The next 70 feet should not be stripped to bare ground as the photo above suggests. Selectively thin the native vegetation, remove the dead wood, maintain a loose canopy, without disturbing the soil. Make sure to avoid ornamentals such as Mexican fan palms and low growing acacia. Burning material from these species are well known by firefighters for being responsible in igniting homes.

**How Crestridge Protects Its Neighbors:** The Endangered Habitats Conservancy (EHC) and EDI partner to manage conservation and recreation at Crestridge. These efforts include several that help keep the surrounding community safe from wildfire. **Illegal motor vehicles, homeless camping, and ignition of fireworks** are all potential sources of wildfire ignition that EHC works hard to prevent by maintaining gates and fences and by working with California Department of Fish and Game wardens, the San Diego Sheriff's Department, and CalFire for law enforcement assistance when needed.

**Invasive, non-native grasses** are one of the most easily ignited fire fuels. EHC works to control non-native grasses which benefits the habitat and removes this dangerous source of fuel.

**Vegetation in the reserve adjacent to neighbors** is managed for fire safety according to the following standard: When an occupied (i.e., lived-in) dwelling is within 100 feet or less of the reserve boundary, vegetation within that distance on reserve land is thinned to no more than 50% of native vegetation cover and all non-native plants are removed. If you live adjacent to the reserve and have concerns about vegetation, please contact Cathy Chadwick, chadgroup@cox.net or 619-277-3605.

### Wildfire Prevention, Preparation, and Safety Resources:

**California Chaparral Institute;** <http://www.californiachaparral.com/>

**California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, aka, CalFire;** [www.fire.ca.gov/](http://www.fire.ca.gov/)

**California Native Plant Society, San Diego Chapter, CNPS Policies, Guidelines, and Resources for Post-fire Recovery and Revegetation;**

<http://www.cnpssd.org/fire/index.html>

**Fire Safe Council of California;** [www.firesafecouncil.org](http://www.firesafecouncil.org), **Fire Safe Council of San Diego County;** <http://www.firesafesdcounty.org/>

**Native Plant Landscaping to Reduce Wildfire Risk: Recommendations for Landscaping Near**

**San Diego's Canyons and Wildlands;** <http://www.cnpssd.org/fire/ReduceFireRisk.pdf>

**San Diego County Family Disaster Planning;** [http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/oes/community/oes\\_jl\\_familyplan.html](http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/oes/community/oes_jl_familyplan.html)

**San Miguel Consolidated Fire District, Fire Prevention:** <http://www.smgfire.org/prevention.htm>

**University of California's Homeowner's Wildfire Mitigation Guide;** <http://ucanr.org/sites/Wildfire/>

## Save the Date:

**September 17 and November 12, 2011, 9am – 12 noon: Reserve Rangers Meetings**

**October 8, 2011, 7:30am – 12:30pm: Fall Native Plant Sale**

**November 5, 2011, 8am – 12:30pm: Hawks, Hikes and Heroes Fundraiser**

**More Information/Get in Touch with EDI;** [info@earthdiscovery.org](mailto:info@earthdiscovery.org), 619-447-4715







**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2011**  
**CRESTRIDGE ECOLOGICAL RESERVE**  
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## **HAWKS, HIKES, AND HEROES**

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It won't happen by magic. It takes well trained instructors and building great relationships with schools and youth programs. It takes community support and informative materials. It takes a lot of time and dedicated staff and volunteers. These critical elements can only exist with your support.

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### **THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS AND PARTNERS:**

San Diego Mountain Biking Association ○ REI ○ Friends of Crest ○ Crest Kiwanis  
Endangered Habitats Conservancy ○ CA Dept of Fish and Game ○ US Fish and Wildlife Service  
WILDCOAST ○ Mission Federal Credit Union ○ Cajon Valley Union School District ○ Pine Valley Mountain Riders

**Now I Understand**

**By Jonathan Maddock**

(Dedicated To All Parents And Their Teenagers)

I always knew this day would come,  
When we would need to say our goodbyes,  
As we wait to take on what lies ahead,  
And although we had our fights,  
I still learned a lot from you.

At times I really didn't like you,  
Especially when you told me what to do,  
But now that I'm older,  
I can now finally see,  
That you were only looking out for me.

Now I understand,  
Why you did all the things you did,  
You truly did love and care about me,  
And I thank you very much for that,  
Now I understand.

Even though you might be gone  
You will never be too far,  
You will be kept safe in my heart,  
And I will never forget who you are,  
You Taught Me A Lot About Myself,  
And about the one who created us,  
And I thank you very much for that too.

Now I understand,  
Why you did all the things you did,  
You truly did love and care about me,  
And I thank you very Much for that,  
Now I understand

**Griselda's Corner:**

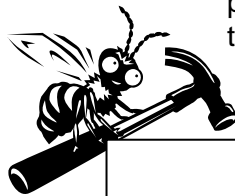
By Griselda Layman

Wow! what a fun time we had at the park during the 4th. of July!!

You could feel the excitement and smell the various delicious flavors of the cooking food.

It was time to re-acquaint with some of the Crest residents, and meet others. Even Bill decided to join in the event by helping granddaughter Madison (who was here on vacation from Colorado) sell ice cold soft drinks at the park. There was something for everyone, young and old alike. Parade, music, food, vendors, alpacas, raffle with excellent prizes, friendly folks, and much, much more. It was nice to see the local talent and interesting displays around the area. What a great, well organized Crest party.

Next time you see or read of an event taking place in our community, come on over, meet the interesting area residents and join the fun!



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619-442-4879 or (619) 916-8437 (cell)  
If no answer please leave a message**



**New Message Board at Crestridge**

Crestridge Ecological Reserve would like to thank Thomas Hahn, Crest Eagle Scout, and his team of Boy Scouts for building a much needed information kiosk at Crestridge.

(Photo: Information Kiosk under construction)



## Vote For Picacho State Recreation Area

Coca Cola's Live Positively campaign allows for parks nationwide to compete for three grants to promote recreation. To cast your vote for Picacho State Recreation Area go to: [WWW.Livepositively.com](http://WWW.Livepositively.com). There is no limit to the number of times you can vote. Upload photos of Picacho SRA and earn additional points. **Contest ends September 6, 2011**

### A note from Crest resident Sue Barney:

I work for Picacho State Recreation Area, a CA State Park. If you haven't visited, we are located along a 9 mile stretch of the lower Colorado River about 3 hours from Crest. Two or our four employees reside in Crest and many Crest residents visit our park regularly. I'm sure you are aware of the budget crisis within State Parks. Seventy parks are slated for closure in July of 2012 and Picacho SRA is one of those. State Parks are looking for creative ideas and community partnerships to find ways to keep the parks open. Many people are asking what they can do. Picacho SRA is currently entered in a contest to win a grant from Coca Cola in their Vote for America's Favorite Park contest. While this would not be a long term solution, a grant could perhaps keep us afloat a while longer.



(Do you have old photos or stories to share?)  
This photo is of George O'Dell and his 1938 Nash Lafayette parked in front to Sal Arbassio's Suncrest Market.

## 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

**A SPECIAL THANKS TO THE CREST KIWANIS CLUB FOR DONATING THE PROCEEDS FROM THEIR RECENT BREAKFAST TO THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY FOR FUTURE PROJECTS.**

### Support the Crest Historical Society, Inc

Membership Form includes a monthly newsletter

\_\_\_\_\_ \$2.50 (over 65)  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$5.00 (under 65)  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$10.00 Family

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Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to: Crest Historical Society P.O Box 2182 El Cajon, CA 92021

**Sign up for the Historical Society at the July 4<sup>th</sup> event and check out Crest's History!  
The Crest Historical Society meets the first Tuesday of each month at 1 pm at the library.**



# Thriving While Surviving

By: Lucy Cafiero

The first time I ever heard of a “dragon boat”, I was sitting in a committee planning meeting for Survivor Day in San Diego. One of the other volunteers, the Founder of Team Survivor San Diego, came up to me after the meeting and said they were looking for women to start up a Dragon Boat team to represent the City of San Diego. The only requirement was you had to be female and have had some kind of cancer. Lucky me! I was female and a breast cancer survivor. She told me they were having an orientation the following Sunday morning at 8:00 on Fiesta Island by the Youth Aquatic Center.

As soon as I got home, I pulled up “dragon boat” on my computer. This is what I found: Dragon boat racing began in China more than 2000 years ago when according to folklore a young poet fell afoul of the reigning king. He was banished from court and returned to drown himself in despair. Because the people dearly loved him, they entered the water in large boats to throw rice to nourish his soul and to beat their drums loudly to scare away the fish from his body. The large brightly colored dragonheads on their boats symbolized the powerful dragons that would protect their young patriot. A hero to the people thereafter, a festival occurred every year to celebrate his young life.



Similar to outrigger canoe racing but unlike competitive rowing and canoe racing, dragon boating has a rich fabric of ancient ceremonial, ritualistic and religious traditions. In other words, the modern competitive aspect is but one small part of this complex of water craftsmanship.

As I researched this further, I found out breast cancer survivors were introduced to the sport in 1996, as the result of a study by Dr. Don McKenzie, a sports medicine researcher from Vancouver, BC, who wanted to disprove the theory that women with breast cancer surgery (lymph node dissection) should not participate in strenuous upper body exercise because it was thought to cause lymphedema, a painful swelling of the arm. Today there are over 120 world wide teams and 60 across Canada. San Diego, the city that is surrounded by water, didn't have a breast cancer team racing in any of the many races held world wide! That was soon to change; April 2007, 11 women, who had suffered and beat several different types of cancer, came together to form the now over 20 member, Team Survivor, representing San Diego in races in Tempe, AZ and Long Beach, CA.

I cannot begin to tell you how being on this team of amazing women has changed my life. My story is just one of many. Diagnosed in May of 2003 with Invasive Lobular Carcinoma, a type of breast cancer that is not detectable with a mammogram, required a double mastectomy, very aggressive chemotherapy treatments as well as 40 radiation treatments. I had always been very active, physically and now I felt very lost. When I read about this doctor and his team of women, “A Breast in a Boat”, I decided to go for it! I'm now a full fledged member and part of this amazing journey with my team mates; team mates who have suffered as I have and fought hard to live. Combined, we have battled thyroid cancer, breast cancer, lymphoma, a rare muscle cancer, brain cancer, skin cancer. Every Sunday we paddle for those who are still fighting or who have lost the battle of this horrid disease.

These phenomenal women come from all walks of life; lawyer, politician, nurses, teachers, artists, a professional organizer, theater, engineers; ages from 28 to 73!! We are truly a team of women to be reckoned with! Our second year of racing, we took 1<sup>st</sup> place in Tempe, AZ Survivor race! And then we repeated our success in Long Beach, CA where we took 2<sup>nd</sup> place (silver medals) in the Survivor race and 1<sup>st</sup> place (gold medals) in the open women's race!! Our success would not be possible without the dedication of our coach, Cheance, who kicks our butts every Sunday morning during practice. A woman who hasn't had cancer but was racing in Canada one weekend and walked into a sea of pink; pink warriors who battled breast cancer, paddling together as a team and Cheance knew she had to bring this to San Diego.



If you are a female cancer survivor (any type) and would like to come out some Sunday morning, we would love to have you on board! If you would like to donate to our team, please go to our website:

<http://teamsurvivorsd.org>

First Row kneeling: Angie (our one arm drummer & founder of Team Survivor SD), Cheance (our coach), Ronnie, Paula, Penny; Second row left to right: Lucy, Roberta, Julie, Steve (our steersman), Debbie, Nichole, Trisha, Donna; Last row left to right: Sue, Eleanor, Pam, Sue, Mary, Julie. **TEAM SURVIVOR AT LONG BEACH, 2010 SHOWING OFF GOLD MEDAL!**

# Lenardo Pizzeria & Restaurant

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



<b>PIZZA:</b>	<b>Medium 14"</b>	<b>Large 18"</b>	<b>Giant 28"</b>
Cheese Only	\$8.99	\$12.99	\$19.99
One Topping	\$9.99	\$13.99	\$22.99
Vegetarian (Mushroom, Onions, Green pepper & Olives)	\$13.99	\$15.99	\$25.99
Greek Pizza (Fresh garlic sauce, Mozzarella cheese, Feta cheese, Gyros meat & Basil)	\$14.99	\$16.99	\$25.99
The Works (Pepperoni, Canadian bacon, Sausage, Onion, Mushroom, Green pepper, Black olives, Pineapple and Jalapeno)	\$16.99	\$20.99	\$29.99
Calzone (Mozzarella, Ricota, & Parmesan cheese)	\$9.99		
Additional topping:	\$1.25	\$1.75	\$3.00

## Subs & Sandwiches

Ham & Cheese .....	\$5.49
Turkey & Cheese .....	\$5.49
BLT .....	\$5.49
Vegetarian Sub .....	\$5.49
Italian Sub (Ham, Salami, & cheese) .....	\$5.99
Club Sub (Turkey, Bacon & Cheese) .....	\$5.99
Roast Beef Sub .....	\$5.99
BBQ Sandwich .....	\$5.99
Meat Ball Sub .....	\$5.99
Italian Sausage Sub .....	\$5.99
Gyros Sandwich .....	\$5.99
Ham, Turkey & Cheese .....	\$6.99
Lenardo's Special Sub (Roast Beef, Turkey, & Cheese).....	\$6.99

ALL SUBS SERVED W/LETTUCE, TOMATO, ONION, PEPPERONCINE, & ITALIAN DRESSING

### Salads:

Garden Salad.....	\$4.49
Antipasto Salad.....	\$5.59
Greek	\$5.99
Salad.....	
Chef Salad.....	\$5.99

### Pasta: (All served with Breadsticks)

Lasagna.....	\$6.49
Spaghetti w/ Meatballs.....	\$6.49
Meat Ravioli.....	\$6.49
Cheese Ravioli.....	\$6.49

### Combo: (All Combos served with Fries and Salad)

½ lb Hamburger Combo .....	\$5.99
½ lb Shrimp Combo .....	\$5.99
Chicken Sandwich Combo .....	\$5.99
Fried Chicken Combo .....	\$5.99
Fish & Chips Combo.....	\$7.49
Gyro's Combo.....	\$7.49
Hot Wings Combo .....	\$7.49
Philly Steak Combo (Steak meat, mushroom, onion, green pepper & Cheese) .....	\$7.49
Philly Chicken Combo (Breast chicken, mushroom, onion, green pepper, & cheese).....	\$7.49

# South Lane Barn Owl Chronicle

Text and Photos by Suzanne Mullins



It's about 8:35 p.m. in June with just a hint of the last rays of daylight providing a silhouette of our barn owl nesting box. In the opening of the box stands an owl. It checks to see if it is clear and leaps out only to fly to a nearby tree branch. Then another owl stands in the opening, its body leaning forward and back like a hesitant diver at a municipal pool. Finally it too takes the plunge and quickly spreads its wings in a graceful swoop up to a nearby shed rooftop. Suddenly another owl appears in the opening. More hesitant than the second owl, this third owl shares the space with a fourth owl who leans its head out the lower left corner of the opening and simultaneously shoves the reluctant sibling back as it takes the lead to fly. The timid owl once again appears in the opening, this time squawking non-stop until it drops off the edge and flutters up to rest on top of the box. Three owls now are sitting on nearby woodpile conversationally squeaking or ticking as the fourth continues to sit on the box and squawk. Suddenly a fifth owl flies in from the direction of South Lane Park. It circles overhead emitting a drawn out hissing scream that startles the hairs on the back of my neck and heads in the direction of the woodpile. Shortly thereafter a symphony begins of less intense shrieks and more rapid and clicking. Dinner must have just been served.



Barn owls (*Tyto Alba*) are common throughout San Diego County and anywhere there is an ample food supply. (mice, gophers, rats, small birds, reptiles and insects) Individually owls can consume 4 mammals a night. Hence, our decision to place a barn owl nesting box on our property. We purchased our owl nesting box from Hillsdale Middle School's ecology club, Roots & Shoots. We installed it in August, 2009, and believe around March or April of this year is when our first family of owls moved in.

Barn owls begin looking for possible nesting sites (boxes, open rafters, tree trunks) in October. However, they don't

produce offspring until the following Spring. Two to eleven eggs can be laid although the average clutch is five eggs. We know we had three chicks and, at the time of this writing, have yet to determine exactly how many eggs were laid. Their nest is not a true stick nest, but a secure, protected opening lined with owl pellets. (regurgitated animal fur and bone.)

According to my internet research, eggs are incubated 29-34 days. They begin to fly at two months but return to the nesting box. When threatened they lower their head, sway side to side and emit a loud hiss like a cat or a high pitched scream. At the age of three to five months they leave the box and seek other daytime sleeping places. They can reproduce at less than one year old. They don't live long, just one to three years. Pairs mate for life, although some males may have a second family. The adult male does most of the hunting/feeding of the youngsters for their first two months.

Barn owls are 12"- 15" tall, with long legs, toes and talons and a wingspan of 24" – 40". They have a flat, white face that acts like a disc to trap and focus sound. One ear is set higher than the other, giving them the advantage of hearing prey above and below them. Larger eyes allow them excellent night vision. Their wing feathers are irregular and make no noise while flapping. This incredible combination of hearing, sight and stealth flight affords them the ability catch prey in total darkness. They eat their prey whole and regurgitate the indigestible parts (fur, bone) in the form of pellets one inch to three inches in length. The nightly feeding of an owl family is very loud. The rasping, food begging calls, hissing notes, guttural grunts, less intense shrieks and rapid beak clicking starts after sunset and goes on until dawn. I advise anyone installing a box to place it on a sturdy post, a minimum of 10' high and AWAY from bedroom windows.



(continued from page 23)

One internet site stated mating pairs may return to re-use the same nesting box...that's what we are hoping for.

Authors update: "Our" owls stopped returning at dusk about a month after the last owlet vacated the nesting box. If you have recently noticed white three inch to five inch splats on the street or your driveway beneath trees...there has been an owl in your 'hood.



Fledging showing off its wing.

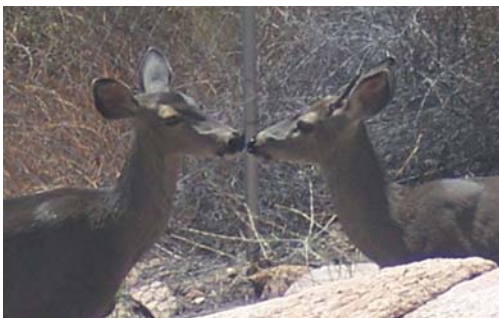
Editor's note: Since we can't afford to print in color, I recommend you go to [www.thecrestsun.com](http://www.thecrestsun.com), click on our latest edition of the paper and check out these fabulous photos in color.

### And Speaking of Critters in Crest....

By Linda Hjelle



Take a look at these critters that were also spotted in south Crest this month. Crest is the coolest place to live!!! Have you ever seen a long-tailed weasel? I hadn't until this little critter showed up in our wood pile. This little guy is a carnivore which might be why we have fewer gophers, rats and mice lately (it eats about 40% of its body weight every day!) No, we can't rent him out.



And how about this wonderful family spotted in south Crest? Mom, dad and the twins are doing fine.



# Community Worship in Crest



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

**Services:**

- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages
- 10:45 a.m. Worship Services - Sunday
- 6:30 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study/Awana
- Friday Evening Youth Group 6-9 pm

**Upcoming Events:**

**September:**

- 3 **Men's breakfast** 8:00 a.m.(rsvp by Sept.2nd 619-442-3736)
- 16 **MOVIE NIGHT @ CCChurch** come enjoy a family friendly movie, food for a very reasonable price, and fellowship with the community.
- 25 **Church in the Park** 10 am - 2 pm. Greet, Meet & Eat! We will have service in the park at 10 am then afterwards there will be a BBQ! And plenty of time for fellowship.

**October:**

- 1 8 AM **Men's breakfast** (rsvp by Sept. 23rd to 619-442-3736)
- 8 11 AM **Ladies Luncheon** (rsvp by Sept. 30th to 619-442-3736)



**St Louise de Marillac  
 Catholic Church**  
 2005 Crest Drive –  
 Phone: (619) 444-3076,  
 Fax: (619) 440-1325  
 Fr. Justin Langille, Pastor

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

- Saturday..... 5:30 PM
- Sunday..... 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM
- Daily Mass: 8:00 AM (Mon-Thu)

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD Is Your Box Ready?

Crest Community Church is once again inviting the Community to help with Operation Christmas Child by packing a shoe box to bring hope to impoverished children in the US and around the world at Christmas time. In some cases, besides the clothes on their backs the "shoe box" and the items inside become their only possessions. Operation Christmas Child is an easy opportunity for us, the people of Crest, to get involved with a "hands on" outreach to needy children all around the world.

This project is sponsored by Samaritans Purse (SP), an international, nondenominational Christian organization. Franklin Graham ( Billy Graham's son ), has been the President and CEO since 1979. SP was one of the first to respond to our Community during the 2003 Cedar Fire. They had a trailer in Crest for three months, assisting our community through the three local churches. Now it is our opportunity to give back.

Want to get started?

- 1.) Get a shoe box ( the plastic ones are best because they can handle the weather and protect their belongings. Some children use them to haul water ). You can get them at the 99 cent store, the Dollar store, Home Depot, etc.
- 2.) Decide if you want to help a BOY or a GIRL, then the age group of either 2-4, 5-9, Or 10-14. They need boxes for 10-14 year olds.
- 3.) Take a trip to the 99 cent store, Dollar store, Target, Walmart, etc. to fill your box.

**TOYS:** small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yos, jump ropes, small Etc A Sketch, toys that light up or make noise ( with extra batteries, packaged or in zip bag ), Slinys, etc.

**SCHOOL SUPPLIES:** pens pencils, and sharpeners, crayons or markers, stamps and ink pads sets, writing pads or paper, solar calculators, coloring or picture books, etc.

**HYGIENE ITEMS;** toothbrush, toothpaste, mild soap (in a plastic bag), comb, brushes, wash cloths, etc.

**OTHER:** Hard candy and lollipops (please double bag all candy), mints, gum-shirts, socks, ball caps, sunglasses, hair clips, toy jewelry, watches, flashlights ( with extra batteries ), umbrellas, etc.

**A PERSONAL NOTE;** In a separate envelope, you may enclose a note to the child and a photo of yourself and your family.

**DO NOT INCLUDE;** used or damaged items, war-related items such as toy guns, knives or military figures, CHOCOLATE or LIQUIDS, or LOTIONS, medications or vitamins, breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers, aerosol cans.

4.) Make a check out to Samaritans Purse, (OCC on memo line and number of boxes). \$7 for each box to help with shipping costs. Envelopes with labels, will be available in October at the both stores, the club house, or at Crest Community Church., or you can print you own at [www.samaritanspurse.org](http://www.samaritanspurse.org), then click on Operation Christmas Child, then on Pack A Box. Please mark your BOY or GIRL label with the age group, and tape to the lid of your box. Put your donation envelope on top of your gift items in the box. Please DO NOT SEAL the box. Secure it with rubber bands. \* If you want to donate on line you can go to [www.samaritanspurse.org](http://www.samaritanspurse.org), and click in Operation Christmas Child, then on EZ GIVE. You can pay with a debit or credit card and print a bar code label to put on your box. You can also track where your box went. It is tied into your e-mail address.

5.) Drop your boxes off at Crest Community Church by Sunday, November 13 th. For more information call the church office at (619) 442-3736. See more information in the next Crest Sun.





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- Tint Touch-up.....\$35
- Perm With Cut and Style.....\$50

#### Color Weaves

- Partial..... \$50
- Full..... \$65



Appointments and Walk-in's Welcome



After Hour Appointments Welcome



Complimentary Wine



Manicures & Pedicures Available

#### Color:

- Weaving
- Highlights
- Frosting
- Tint
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#### Hair

#### Straightening:

- Chemical Relaxing
- Temporary Hair pressing

**Kathy Kaderabek**  
 339 Lila Lane  
 El Cajon, CA 92021  
 (619) 447-1945



Call for your appointment today!  
 (619) 447-1945

## LETTERS FROM CREST RESIDENTS

### More on Barking Dogs

The article last issue had some good points regarding excessive noise (i.e. dog barking non-stop). Yes, all that information is good. When you call the Noise Control Office they tell you to get at least two neighbors to collaborate your complaint. Are they kidding me! In Crest you probably couldn't find two neighbors that don't have barking dogs to join a complaint. Even when you tell them (Noise Control) none of these people are willing to do anything because they have barking dogs too; they offer no possible remedies. I would think if you have a legitimate complaint it should be investigated to see if the animal is barking excessively. This organization is a joke!!! I have talked directly to the owners of barking dog(s) and they become irate. They say to me if I don't like it, move. Even one complaint should be enough for the owner(s). But it never is.

When I moved up to Crest in 2003, it was heaven to me and my husband. It was so quiet I knew this was the place for me to live. But, about 6 years ago the neighborhood changed and became noisy with barking dog(s) from several directions. These dog(s) wake me up just about every morning early (try 4AM), and then bark almost non-stop for hours on end. Not being able to open up your window to catch a breeze on any day because of barking dog(s) has gotten very old. I think that these irresponsible dog owners should be held accountable for excessive noise here in Crest. My remedy to all of this might be a small claims court action for nuisance.

Bonnie Daniels, Crest Resident

### Excessive Speed on the La Cresta Hill

I moved to Crest about 2 years ago. I really love it here. It is a pleasure to come home everyday from work except for one big thing; driving on La Cresta Road. I ALWAYS drive 55 or under and have been cut off, given the finger, and passed coming DOWN the hill four times. I have even had some man stop at the bottom light and yelling something at me and my lady last Friday. What I am doing from now on is recording ALL license plates of cars driving fast or recklessly and e-mailing them to the CHP office in El Cajon. I am also talking to them about radar on the hill. Almost every day, I see speeding. My neighbor's son was killed on that hill - who's next?

**J. Taylor, Crest resident**



# Crest Crime Log

**Crest Crime Log - [www.crimemapping.com](http://www.crimemapping.com)**  
**(apparently, they are backlogged since many of these**  
**dates are old but not duplicated- \*Also a new category has been added (Sex**  
**crimes/other)**

2/20 12:30 am	*Sexual Battery	
3/14 8:05 pm	DUI Alcohol .08	14400 BI Rios Canyon Rd
3/14 7:00 pm	Disorderly conduct	200 BI Alta Lane
3/23 12:30 am	Possess concentrated cannabis	100 BI North Lane
4/8 9:00 pm	Residential Burglary	100 BI Lake View Lane
4/5 2:19 pm	Possess Narcotic Controlled substance	100 BI N Park Drive
4/23 10:30 pm	Possess Marijuana	100 BI N Park Drive
4/26 11:40 am	Possess Syringe	14300 BI Ruis Rd
4/28 5:35 pm	DUI Alcohol	14300 BI Ruis Rd
4/11 10:00 pm	Vehicle Theft	100 BI La Cresta Rd
5/7 1:30 pm	Petty Theft	2200 BI Eucalyptus Drive
5/14 11:35 am	Control Substance Paraphernalia	200 BI Lilac Drive
5/14 12:15 pm	DUI Alcohol and/or drugs	300 BI Paloma
6/6 8:00 am	Grand theft	1000 BI Mt View Rd
6/12 12:00	Grand theft	200 BI East Lane
7/01 1:01 pm	Simple Battery	200 BI Lilac Dr
7/01 6:00 pm	Burglary	100 BI Scottford Dr.
7/08 2:30 pm	Simple Battery	100 BI Lilac Dr
7/08 2:30 pm	Simple Battery	100 BI Scenic Drive
7/12 8:00 pm	Vandalism (400 or less)	1500 BI Gipson Highlands
7/12 12:15 m	Take Vehicle w/o owners Consent	200 BI Mt View Rd
7/31 4:00 am	Burglary (Residential)	1100 BI La Cresta Blvd.
7/30 10:00 pm	Grand Theft	100 BI Promotory Drive
8/6 10:50 am	Battery on Person	100 BI North Park Drive

**JOIN THE CCA BY SEPT 15 TO BE INCLUDED IN THE DRAWING FOR PRIZES!**

## JOIN THE CCA AND SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY CLUBHOUSE

The July 4th Event marks the beginning of the Crest Community Association Membership Drive (July 1, 2011- June 30, 2012). Questions? Call Jackie at 442-1018

**Send this form in with your check made out to the Crest Community Association (CCA) or bring it to the park on the 4th.**

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 \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Interested in volunteering a little or a lot? Check area of interest:

July 4<sup>th</sup> Event  CCA Dinners  Music Nights  Gardening  Bunco

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**~REALTOR, LOAN CONSULTANT, NOTARY PUBLIC**

Dear Neighbor,

I have spoken to several of you who are now letting your house go into foreclosure because you are not aware of the benefits of doing a **SHORT SALE**. Here are some key points:

- **Sell Your Home Quickly and Easily For Top Market Value**
- **Pay Absolutely No Commissions & No Closing Costs**  
Avoid Foreclosure & Bankruptcy-Save your Credit on certain circumstances
- **Walk Away From Your Home With No Debt And No Tax Consequences**
- **\*\*\*The Mortgage Tax Debt Relief Act was originally only slated to go until the end of 2008, however it has now been extended to the end of 2012\*\*\*CERTAIN TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY TO THIS PLEASE CALL ME FOR SPECIFIC DETAILS\*\*\***

***Cajon Valley Union School District\****

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

**2011-2012 Schedule**

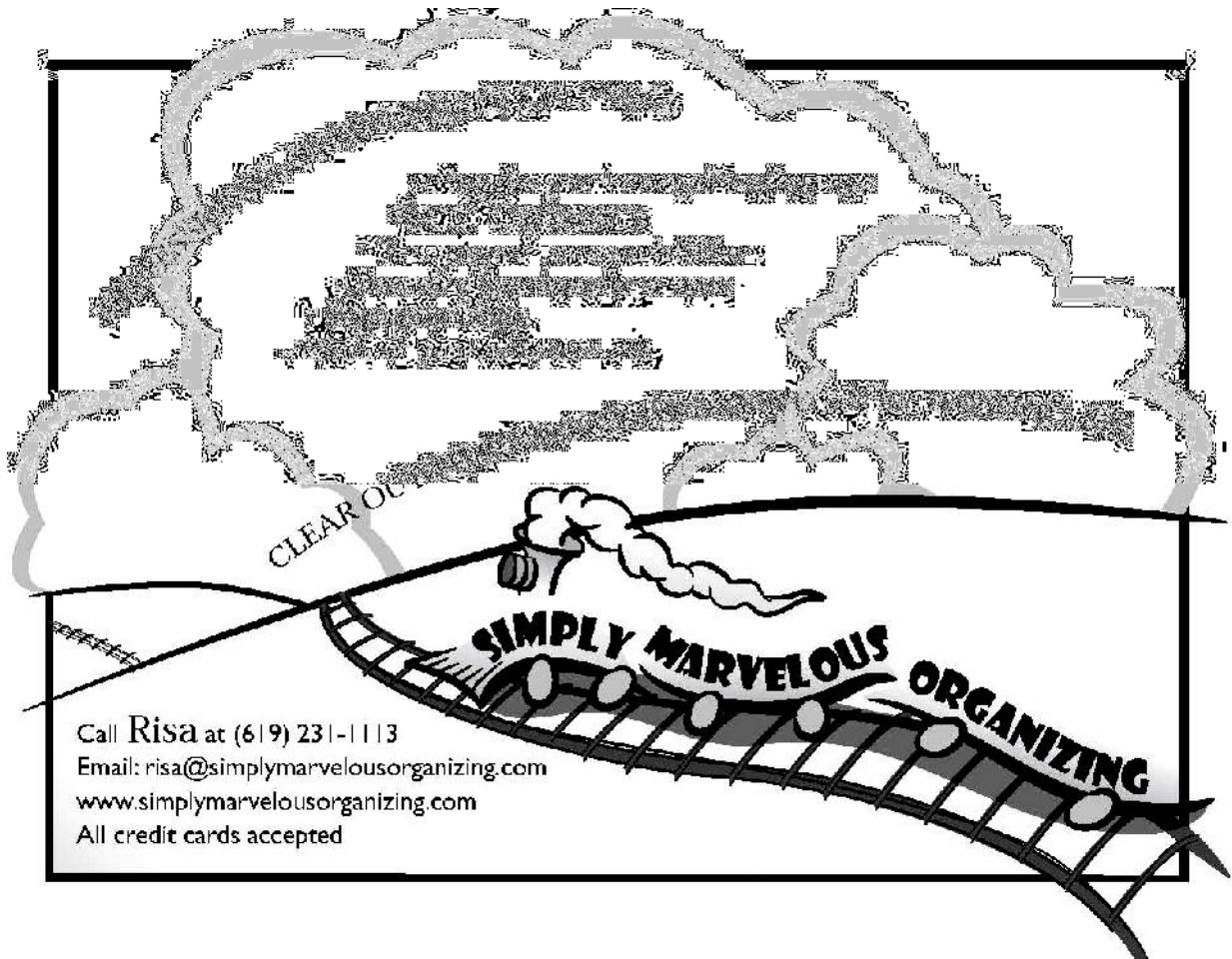
08/18/11	School Opens to Public	12/19-01/09	Winter Break
08/22/11	First Day of School	01/16/12	Martin Luther King Holiday
09/05/11	Labor Day	02/13/12	President's Day (Lincoln)
10/10/11	No School	02/20/12	President's Day (Washington)
11/11/11	Veterans Day	04/02-4/13	Spring Break
11/21-11/25	Thanksgiving Holidays	05/28/12	Memorial Day
		*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





## Remembering our Crest Friends:



**Earl J Lee**  
**6/18/28 – 8/6/11**

Earl Lee, long time Crest resident, was born 6/18/28 in Denver Colorado. He grew up in a small mining camp in Sucundo, Colorado, raised by his grandparents.

Earl joined the military at age 15, but was caught and sent home right before his deployment to Pearl Harbor. He reenlisted at age 17 and was sent to sweep mines off the China Coast, Singtan & Singapore Harbors. He was then assigned to the South Pacific where he was on the helm of the USS Davidson during the atomic bomb tests. At fast speed they went to ground zero; u-turned and followed the cloud for 600 miles and back to the lagoon – three different times. Consequently, Earl suffered long term health concerns over the years even though he was told at the time he wasn't exposed to any more radiation than a dental x-ray! As a result of this assignment, he spent many years involved with various military organizations and was instrumental forming a group that helped over 400 men receive compensation as a result of the radiation exposure.

Earl married Jean Robbins in 1948 while working at Convair and graduating from San Diego State. Earl and Jean and their two boys, David and Chris moved to Crest in 1958 where the kids attended Crest school, Granite Hills and Grossmont College. Earl was a member of the Crest volunteer fire department as well as a member of "The Bang Gang", a local group that would go to the back country shooting.

Earl was a member of the Air Corp reserve where he obtained his pilot's license. He and his family spent many years flying to vacation destinations in the US, Canada, and Mexico. He instilled his love of flying to his children who also became pilots. Throughout his career he used his flying skills to travel in his business which was building, maintaining and selling coin laundries in Arizona, Texas and California.

Unfortunately Earl and Jean lost their home to the 1970 fire but did rebuild.

A man of varied interests, Earl had a love of music starting as a young child. His mom played in an all girl's band and appeared on TV and at the Palladium in Los Angeles. He played many instruments including sax, piano, bass guitar, and organ. He also played drums with a local band, The Mavericks, or many years.

Earl is survived by his wife, Jean, his two children, David and Chris, two granddaughters and six great granddaughters. A private family internment will be at Fort Rosecrans. Earl will be missed by all.



**Albert "Al" William Austin**  
**1928-2011**

Albert William Austin, loving and devoted patriarch of the Austin family passed away on Saturday, August 6, 2011 at the age of 82 in his Crest home surrounded by his loving children, grandchildren, great grandchildren and large extended family.

Al was born in 1928 and grew up in the Los Angeles, CA in the 1930s and '40s. After Korea, he made his home with Marilyn in Crest, close to El Cajon, CA, in East County. Al always said that the reason he chose the quiet beauty of Crest to raise his family in was because of a tree. While looking for a home, he and his wife Marilyn spotted a modest home on Lento Lane; immediately Marilyn said that this is it! Amazed, because it was a modest home compared to the one they were leaving, he asked her why and she answered "the tree". "With a tree like that our kids can grow up in this very yard, be safe and have the time of their lives". They moved in and Al began to create the "famous" Austin tree house, it sported three levels, a "Bat Tower" and a boomerang branch. Along with all of Al's children, kids from the whole neighborhood played in that tree. This family home along with the Tree House survived all of the major fires in Crest that happened in the last 50 years.

Although all of Al's children now have homes of their own, Crest is still the family home and one of Al's children, his son-in-law, two of his grand children, and one of his great grand children still live in Crest.

His strength of character, abundant love for all and his never-ending generosity helped many, guided many more and supported those he loved; his family, his friends and everyone he knew.

Although he claimed he didn't know what he did there, Al was a war hero of the Korean War. In a matter of only three years, Regular Army Corporal Austin was awarded: The Army Occupation Medal (Japan), The Merits Unit Emblem, The UN Service Medal, and The Korean Service Medal with three bronze stars. When asked why he went to war, his answer was short: "For Family".

He was an active supportive member of St Louise de Marillac Catholic Church where his wife Marilyn was the church organist for 20 years.

Al traveled America as a salesman and made friends everywhere he went, delighting those he met with his brilliant mind, his humor and love of Life, and of course with his heart-warming stories of love, encouragement, and most of all, adventure.

Al was renowned for giving everything away to anyone he met who was in need. Every door in Al's house and heart was always open, because, as he so often said in so many ways: "You can replace all of those things...but you can never replace a person you love."

Albert was preceded in death by his beloved wife Marilyn, two sisters Dolly and Molly and his parents Alberto and Marie Austin. Albert is survived by his children, Carolyn, Albert, Alan, Cathleen, Cynthia, Andrew, and Sharon, 15 grandchildren, 5 great grandchildren and many close cherished friends.

He was a true gentleman in every sense of the word, with a loving, caring personality that enriched every person he came in contact with and left them with a smile on their face. This long-time resident of Crest, will be sorely missed by his family and friends.

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