



A Newsletter for Crest

Volume 8

March/April 2007

Number 5

It is with great sadness we announce the passing of Betty Lucas, editor of the Crest Sun, webmaster of the Crest website, and Branch manager of the Crest Library. Betty was a wonderful asset to our community and will be missed by all. We watched her handle her illness with amazing strength and grace. Her attitude was an inspiration. We hope that we can live up to her high standards and commitment, but we know she can never be replaced.

We are resuming publication of the Crest Sun with this memorial to Betty. The regular bi-monthly publication will resume with the May/June issue.

We want to welcome and thank our new volunteer staff that will continue to keep our community informed.

Crest Sun Editors:

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Contributing editor - Chris Seebold

winters72@hotmail.com (447-5826)

Crest Website: www.thecrestsun.com

Webmaster: Karin Weiss (579-3951)

Thecrestsun@cox.net

The Crest Sun welcomes information from the community.

Next deadline: April 20, 2007

Memories of Betty and Ray Lucas

A Personal Reflection.....

On December 26, 2006 and February 2, 2007, Crest lost two of its finest citizens- Ray and Betty Lucas. Ray and Betty were long-time residents of Crest and made a difference in our community.

They were both actively involved with their beloved church, St. Louise, whether it be working at the 4th of July booth, training altar servers, holding office in the Altar Society, being lay ministers, or choosing carpet, furnishings, and stained-glass windows for the church after the Cedar Fire.

I first met Betty at Crest Garden Club meetings some years ago. In 2003, I began volunteering at the Crest Library where Betty worked with Elisa James. Within a few months our community suffered terrible devastation in the October 2003 Cedar Fire. As we all returned to Crest in the one or two days following the fire, my husband and I drove around to see what was still standing. We were shocked to see the Crest Library- perfect fire fuel- still here and, in fact, open with Elisa and Betty inside and at work. Betty was already compiling a list of who had lost homes, who needed contacting, and what

had to be done. It was remarkable and uplifting.

Early in the next year, our wonderful Elisa retired and Betty became branch manager. Jeanie Sheridan and I were hired to help at the branch. It was a joy for both of us to work with Betty. As anyone who knew her will verify, Betty had an amazing amount of energy. It seems everyone was surprised to find out that Betty was 76 when she died- people thought she was much younger because of her vivaciousness and quick mind. She got a big kick out of thinking County library personnel didn't know how old she was and she thought probably would ask her to retire if they discovered her age!

Every day I worked with Betty I became more aware of her abilities, energy, intelligence, common sense, and her many talents. In her early seventies she had started taking computer classes and was soon skillful in all aspects of computer use. Ray would drop by the library to tutor a young student, then discuss and check-out our latest non-fiction books.

In addition to working 30 hours per week running the Crest Library, Betty edited, published, and delivered our 600 issue Crest newsletter, *The Crest Sun*, for the past 7 years. She also ran *The Crest Sun* web-site. When the paper was returned from the printer, Betty joked that besides the library her other job was doing her paper route before work. I pictured Betty on a bicycle making early morning deliveries around Crest!

Betty's third job for the roughly three years after the fire was an assistant to Father Irwin at St. Louise Church. Betty was thrilled to be, as she called it, Father's "unpaid secretary." She was extremely active in the community recovery after the Cedar Fire as well as in all the repair details at St. Louise which was severely damaged in the fire. As if this wasn't enough, Betty was on the board of the Crest

Historical Society and edited their newsletter, *Echoes*.

In her spare time, she knit baby blankets for unwed mothers and hand made rosaries to send to missionaries overseas.

What I found to be the most wonderful thing about Betty was how she absolutely loved her job at the library and loved the Crest community. The moment someone walked in the door at the library, Betty greeted them enthusiastically by name, remembering some totally obscure piece of information or book they had mentioned perhaps even many months before. And this she did with each and every patron, each and every time they stopped in. Talk about personal service! I would look at her and ask how she could do that but she would just laugh at my utter amazement. She was remarkable.

Ray and Betty had a long and caring 45 year partnership. Ray would have a cup of tea ready for her on a cold afternoon and a terrific dinner waiting for Betty when she got off work. Betty bragged about his cooking and shared his recipes with me- all except Ray's famous 4th of July chili!

I learned a lot about giving from observing these two wonderful people. They made a tremendous difference and left Crest a better place. I will miss them both so very much

Kathy Fiedor

Miss D was a great teacher...

Miss D was by far my favorite teacher at Central Bucks High School as a member of the class of "56". Betty had such kind ways and was always there for us if needed. Many of us have continued on with sewing and quilting and I know it is because of her gentle way of showing us when we had made mistakes but never in a scolding manner.

Catherine Probasco

Betty was a great conversationalist and a worldly woman.....

As a hairdresser in Crest, many of my neighbors sit in my chair and have their hair cut and styled. Some come often, some come only once in a while, and some--like Ray and Betty Lucas--come like clockwork. Once a month I knew I could count on Ray (age 78) to come in for a gentleman's trim and Betty (76) for a cut and style. Sometimes they would schedule appointments on the same day, usually at 3 and 3:30 pm. Betty would catch me up on the goings on of Crest and the rest of the world. She would tell me about the Crest library and the work she was doing there. She was a great conversationalist and a worldly woman who, even at the age of 76, was versed in computers and on the up-and-up of current events. The two were devout Catholics, and even after Betty went to live at a special care facility, Ray continued to attend Daily Mass. The story of Betty and Ray is inspiring: the two were married for 45 years, experienced life together, passed away just close to one month apart, and will now rest together in peace. I will miss them both.

Kathy Kaderabek

Betty was always ready to move mountains.....

I moved up to Crest two winters ago, right in the middle of intense cold and rain that didn't seem like it would ever stop. It was a major adjustment coming from the hustle and bustle of the city to the quiet life of the country. My heat wouldn't work; I couldn't seem to warm up!! I stopped by the library one day to introduce myself and there was Betty with a big warm and welcoming smile and her soft voice, ready to do whatever she could to make me feel at home. We immediately connected—I had been a professional librarian for 9 years, and an elementary teacher with an extensive background in entertaining children. Betty booked me on the spot for a program, and in the two years I knew her, we worked together on many other

activities for her story hours. I shared my excitement about the idea of getting a local group together to march as Crest Clowns in the 4th of July parade in 2006 and she backed us 100% with funding for supplies and training. And she was out there the day of the parade taking pictures for the Crest Sun.

Betty was always ready to move mountains in her quiet, confident way, answer questions, give support, help with a computer issue, answer a library question, hug a child, and of course take pictures for the many activities and events she planned and would write up in the Crest Sun. She was a focal point in the community through the library and I know in her church as well. She was always available to help with anything at a moment's notice—she was a true giver and steadfast in her faith. I will miss her; we all will miss her.

Risa Goldberg

The family and friends of Ray and Betty Lucas wish to acknowledge the kindness of Tony at Crest Foods for his generous donation of food for the funeral reception of Ray and Betty.

**FRIENDS OF CREST
Crest Fire Station Fund
Emergency Project**

The Crest Fire Station provides our community with medical emergency services in addition to fire protection. Because of the close proximity of these services, the Community's ISO rating is a "4" for our homeowner's insurance. Without our fire station our rating could double, making it likely that we will be without affordable insurance.

Currently, the tax base of Bostonia Station is supporting the Crest Fire Station. Even though our firemen are the lowest paid crew

in East County, the Crest Fire Department is still experiencing a budgetary shortfall of \$150,000 for this fiscal year!

A Crest Fire Station Fund has been created to help facilitate donations to assist with the operating expenses of the Crest Fire Station. Individuals and businesses have expressed the desire to contribute to the operating cost of the Crest Fire Station.

The last page of this newsletter is dedicated to providing you with additional information on how you can help this endeavor. This is an opportunity to make a tax-deductible donation to protect your home, your life, and keep insurance rates from skyrocketing.

Western Heritage Days – June 2-3

Don Halte and "Mountain Echo" Trio will be singing in El Cajon at the "Western Heritage Days" on June 2nd, Saturday. This is the 4th annual affair to raise money for the Olaf Weighorst Museum located on Rea St. (downtown El Cajon.) For two days (Sat. 6/2 & Sun. 6/3) Rea St. is blocked off for Western celebrations, demonstrations, music, food, gun fights, arts/crafts and beer gardens. Authentic western outfits are the dress of the event. Western music is played on stage by many bands during the two days. Mark your calendars for this fun-filled worthwhile event.

Crest Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast

Saturday, April 14th
8:30-11:00 a.m.
St Louis Parish Hall



All are welcome!

Donations Accepted.

Help raise \$\$\$\$ for our Fire Station Fund!

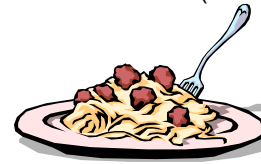
Join Us!

Spaghetti Dinner
April 19th at Crest School
Time: 5:30-7:30 p.m.
\$5 Kids - \$7 Adults

Join us for this great community event to help raise money for your Fire Station!

- Silent auction
- Entertainment
- Support your community!

Sponsored by the Crest PTA, Kiwanis and Friends of Crest (FOC).



Crest Community Contacts

CCA	Noelle Carranza	447-6269
Community Church	Anna Johnston	442-3736
Cornerstone Church	Paster Dennis	579-5633
Crest Black Board	Friends of Crest	44-Crest
Crest Foods	Tony	444-8132
Crest Historical Society	Dorothy Miller	444-0968
Crest Kiwanis	Andy Knutson	442-3349
Crest Library		442-7083
Crest School	Office	588-3128
Crest Newsletter	Linda	440-8540
	Chris	447-5826
Crest Sun Website	Karin Weiss	579-3951
www.thecrestsun.com		
E-Crest-rians	Kandhy Franklin-Collins	444-4996
East County Fire Dept	Business	579-6034
Friends of Crest		44-Crest
Lenardo Pizzeria	Sam	444-1389
Rainbow Farms Mrkt	Mark	444-7504
Rural bus		478-5875
Sheriff	Dispatch-Business	858-565-5200
St Louise Church	Father Eggleston	444-3076
Sub-Regional Planning		440-5270

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 Crest Library
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The newsletter is not responsible for problems that occur as a result of information in this newsletter. We assume information to be accurate as given to us.



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Crestridge Ecological Reserve

Crestridge Ecological Reserve is a 3,000-acre ecological reserve located on the north side of Crest. The main entrance is located at the end of Horsemill Road. From the 1970's – 1990's several developments were proposed for the area. But due to its ecological value and the hard work of your neighbors, the area was acquired for preservation in 1999.

Education: Crestridge is now the home of The Earth Discovery Institute (EDI), a program of the Endangered Habitats League in San Diego providing environmental education. EDI is rooted in the belief that young people and the natural environment need each other to thrive. In anticipation of the ongoing and dramatic population surge in the county, communities are searching for ways to accommodate growth while preserving a unique and treasured environment. San Diego, home to more biological diversity and unique imperiled species than any other place in the country, is looking to its young people as the future stewards of these resources. The Earth Discovery Institute prepares these upcoming generations of leaders. Over the past 4 years, students from 4th-12th grade and 6 different school districts have visited the Reserve as part of a cutting-edge effort that addresses curriculum content standards for each grade level through outdoor, hands-on activities. The students' experience also includes 'service learning.' Through activities such as native plant restoration and sustainable building construction, they learn the importance of giving to the environment and the community, making the Reserve and the world healthier for their contribution. During the 2005-06 school year, over 1,700 students participated in the program. During the 2006-07 school year, nearly 2,900 students will participate. By May 2007, students will have planted over 1,000 native plants toward restoration of 5-7 acres of badly disturbed habitat.

Community: The Endangered Habitats League at Crestridge Ecological Reserve is committed to community involvement for building awareness of the need to preserve native ecosystems and providing opportunities for recreation that is compatible with preservation. Toward these goals, EHL provides various opportunities for education and involvement. A strawbale visitor kiosk, designed by James Hubbell was reconstructed after the Cedar Fire of October 2003. Built primarily by at-risk urban youth and volunteers, the kiosk provides an example of sustainable building techniques, a gathering place, and an aesthetic gem in the native landscape. Community education 'walks' on various topics and community work days have been ongoing since 2003. The Reserve's third native plant sale will take place in April 2007 (see below) and a series of science-based day camps are being planned for the summer of 2007. In 2006, volunteers contributed over 500 hours to education, restoration, building and community education. Additional volunteer participation in the education program will increase this amount to over 1000 hours in 2007.

Announcements:

April 28th Native Plant Sale – 8:00 a.m. to benefit the Endangered Habitats League and the East County Fire Protection District. Buy beautiful and water-wise plants that support the local habitat and attract birds and helpful insects to your yard. Hike with experts who can point out many exciting features of the reserve.

Docents needed for education program: Volunteers are needed to serve as field instructors in EDI's education programs. If you love the outdoors, are committed to sharing your love of the outdoors with children, enjoy doing hands-on projects with curious students, and want to learn more about ecology, this could be the opportunity you've been waiting for! Come be a part of changing the world in your own backyard! Ongoing time commitment is 4 hours per week (during school hours). Training will be provided.

Summer Camp: The Earth Discovery Institute and Arimaw Productions present Summer Science Camp 2007 at Crestridge Ecological Reserve. Join our talented instructors for 4 fun weeks of science-themed day camp at Crestridge Ecological Reserve. Learn fascinating scientific facts, create cool projects, and join exciting activities in this beautiful natural setting. The camp will take place from 9am-2pm as follows: June 25-29: **THE AVATAR**, (*no camp week of July 2-6*), July 9-13: **CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATORS**, July 16-20: **LIVING IN THE FUTURE**, July 23-27: **MADAGASCAR**.

See flyers at the library and local stores or call 619-749-5767 for more information.

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about Crest?*

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April at the Crest County Library

105 Juanita Lane - El Cajon, CA 92021

➤ Children's Programs

Rosi's Coloring Table

Every Tuesday during open hours

PJ Story time

Tuesday, April 10 6:30 pm

Celebrate Día de los Niños. Storyteller *Steven Gregory* and musician *Reiko Obata* bring to life colorful Latin American and Mexican folktales and captivating musical rhythms. The audience will not only hear Latin musical instruments, such as drums, guiros, flutes and guitar, but will get a chance to participate!

Tuesday, April 24 6:30 pm

➤ Teen Programs

"Make It and Take It Crafts"

Every Saturday during open hours

Free supplies provided.

Play Station 2: Guitar Hero video games!

April 14 to 21

➤ Family Programs-All Ages

Friday Afternoon at the Movies *PG-Rated*

Fridays, 3:00 p.m.

➤ Adult Programs

Computer Help Class

Wednesdays, 12:00-1:00 p.m.

Call for appointments 619-442-7083

➤ Crest Mystery Book Club

Discussing *Monkeewrench* by *P.J. Tracy*

Thursday, April 5 1:00 p.m.

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

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

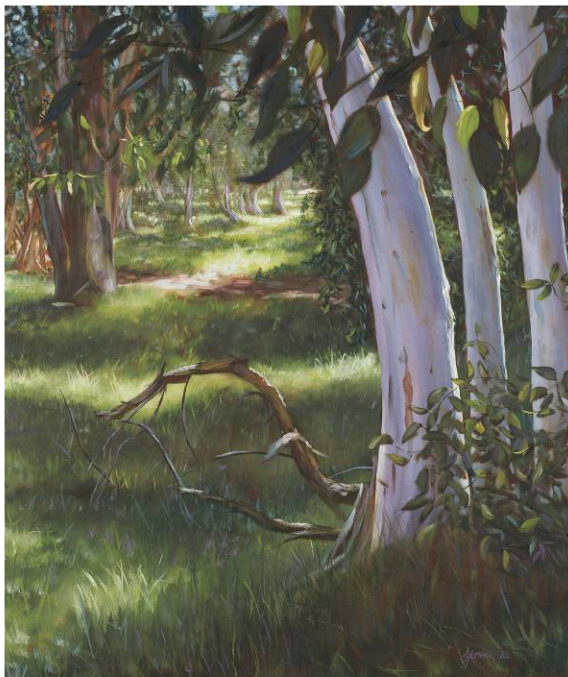
Todos los programas de la biblioteca son sujeto a cambio o cancelación sin aviso.

Memories in Art of South Lane Park

I started this piece in May 2005 from a photo I had that was taken before the fires. It took me a little over a year to finish it. I really wanted to capture the magnificence of standing under the huge old Eucalyptus trees. I was devastated when I found out they were cutting almost all of them down and I had a very difficult time finishing this painting because of the deep sadness I felt. As you see, I overcame and did finish. Our family can now look at this painting and remember all the wonderful adventures we had there.



The Way It Was, original oil by Jennifer Kai Nilles



Out My Back Door,
original oil by Jennifer Kai Nilles

This piece was completed in 2002 when our family lived right next to South Lane Park on Eucalyptus Dr. My husband grew up there and has very fond memories of playing in the “forrest”. He would climb trees, build forts, make rope swings, hide out, catch frogs, and build dam’s when it rained. He shared with us how there was once a California Condor nesting in the tall Eucalyptus trees and the San Diego Zoo was watching them because they are endangered. What an honor that is for our community to have that in our history. When we lived there, our children would run around out back doing the same things with their dad that he used to do.

I usually do reproductions of my work only upon special request. But given the loss of the trees in South Lane Park, I decided to make Gicles of these paintings available to Crest at an affordable price. It is my hope that you will be able to hang them in your home to enjoy for many years. These Gicles are printed on Archival Paper with Archival Inks. They should be treated as Fine Art, framed and Matted. Please call or email me for prices and info.

Jennifer Kai Nilles, the artist and Crest resident

Jennifer Kai Nilles, 619-244-0426, jennifer@jennikai.com, www.jennikai.com

Our Backyard

By Christina Seebold

Before Betty died, she asked that the next issue include a poem by Crest resident, and library patron, Jeff Peek. At the library Betty helped Jeff with computer skills, and when she became ill Jeff made frequent visits to her in the hospital, and convalescent home. She said his visits were a lot of fun, as well as a real comfort to her.

A couple of years ago Jeff's artistic talents were showcased in a Crest library exhibit of his detailed drawings. He is obviously a talented writer as well. He recently lost not only his friend Betty, but also his cherished canine companion. He was able to turn his sadness into a beautiful tribute to his little friend:

The first breaths of life she drew,
Still wet from birth,
This tiny thing,
As I held her in my hand,
To be my companion for all these years.

There is no stopping the tide of time
Which brought her to me,
And which will take her from me.

As her face turns white,
I realize she has begun to slip away.
At first, every few months,
Now each week I notice
a lessening of her abilities
And a placidness in her weakening eyes.

As I drive my old car she used to ride in,
I see the marks on the glass
From her wet nose.
They've been there for months
And they will remain awhile
Before I windex her away.

I've known what I must do
She's my dog, it will be my decision
This tiny thing was my companion
For all those years.

by Jeff Peek



Crest Elementary School News

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

It is time to register your new Kindergartner for the 2007/2008 school year. Early registration is greatly appreciated. Stop by the school and pick up the information flyer regarding your child's immunizations and required documents.

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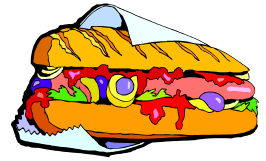
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Beech Mountain, NC	3 BR/ 2 Bath	Cedar Village	23, 44	June, October	\$700
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Connie Gipson

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Connie Gipson sold these Crest Properties In 2006



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Quality Service is important to me. That's why the majority of my business comes from repeat and referral clients. If you are looking for an agent that is responsive, knowledgeable and concerned, call me today. My 23 + years of experience selling property throughout San Diego County can help you through the home buying or selling process.



Connie's Crest Listings

1324 Tracey Lane (Pending in escrow)
\$975,000-\$1,075,000

1158 Hamlet Drive
\$630,000

Call Connie to see this beautifully upgraded home.



Critters in Crest Skunks

By Shelton Stanley

As the title of this column suggests, I focus on writing about critters that are likely to be present in and around Crest. Skunks are a critter I *know* are in Crest, because I have seen them!

Skunks are generally nocturnal and are omnivorous, eating things like seeds and bird seed, mice, voles, lizards, grubs, worms, fallen fruit, frogs, birds, eggs, *garbage* and all kinds of insects that are harmful to humans. And they eat scorpions and black widow spiders! They also eat road kill. This helps keep our roads clean, if the skunks themselves don't become road kill.

Skunks are members of the weasel family (*Mustelidae*). The skunk most likely to be in Crest is the striped skunk. The striped skunk is larger than the spotted skunk, and both are unmistakable in appearance. The striped skunk is more common than the spotted skunk.

A striped skunk is about the same weight as a domestic cat, weighing between six and ten pounds and measuring 20 to 30 inches long from the tip of the nose to the end of the tail. Spotted skunks are about half the size of striped skunks.

Skunks have between one and seven young from late April through early June. The average litter is five young.

The skunk's main enemies are cars and the Great Horned Owl. (See the November/December 2005 issue of The Crest Sun about the owls.).

Skunks are slow moving and never seem to be in a hurry. Their legs are short and they have long claws for digging. They dig for worms and grubs, etc.

When threatened, skunks rarely attack, unless cornered or are defending their young. When approached by an intruder and unable to escape, a skunk will usually ruffle-up its fur (sort of like a cat), shake its tail, stamp the ground with its front paws, growl (sort of like a cat), stand on its hind legs, turn its head and spit to scare off the possible attacker. If those tactics don't work, it lift's up its tail and sprays the perceived enemy.

So, if you run into a skunk, look for these signs before you panic. They are normally very docile (probably due to having so few natural enemies).

You should never feed skunks (or any other wild critters for that matter). They are wild animals and if you feed them, they could become dependant on you for their food, and that could lead to trouble. They might forget how to forage for themselves and could end up raiding your trash cans and making messes (after you stop feeding them).

Then there's always the possibility that they could feel threatened or cornered and spray you, or a pet, or *something* around your home and the smell could last for what would seem like a *very long time!*

Friends of Crest



✦ Emergency Project ✦

The tax base of the Bostonia Fire Station is supporting the Crest Fire Station. Our firemen are the lowest paid crew in East County. Their level of service provides us close proximity in a medical emergency, and an ISO rating of 4 for our homeowner's insurance. Without them our rating could double, making it likely that we will be without affordable insurance. Individuals and businesses have expressed the desire to contribute to the operating costs of the Crest Fire Station.

Our goal is to meet the current budgetary shortfall of \$150,000 by June 15, 2007.

We need your help!

We are asking each household to donate \$200+ or whatever you can afford.

- Friends of Crest (FOC) will acknowledge receipt of all contributions. – Friends of Crest is a 501C (3) non-profit organization. All contributions are welcome and tax deductible.(Federal Tax ID# 33-0660248)
- 100% of the donated money will go toward the Crest Fire Station Fund.

Friends of Crest – Who We Are

FRIENDS OF CREST (FOC) is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting the Crest community

FRIENDS OF CREST was established in 1988 to help Crest Elementary School acquire a multipurpose room. In 1995, the organization received 501(c) (3) non-profit status. In 1999 the multi-purpose room was completed and now serves the school and the larger community.

FOC has also lent its support to the preservation of open space in and around the Crest area for habitat preservation, gentle community use, and maintenance of the rural character of the community.

E-Mail: friendsofcrest@hotmail.com

*FOC will not sell or give your contact information to any other entity and will use it only to keep you informed about the current campaign.

In October 2003, wildfires ravaged the community of Crest, destroying over 280 homes. **FRIENDS OF CREST** responded to community needs by establishing a fund to receive and distribute financial contributions for fire relief and recovery efforts.

Crest is currently facing another fire related crisis. We are in danger of losing our fire station, and our ability to retain homeowner's insurance.

Please contact Gloria Harpenau at 619-447-2060 if you would like to host a fundraising event at your home. We are counting on you to make this campaign a success!

If you will help:

Friends of Crest will gratefully receive contributions for the **Crest Fire Station Fund.**

Please send your contribution with this completed form to:

Friends of Crest, 120 N. Park Ave Crest, CA 92021-4094

Name:	Phone:
Address:	Email:
City/State/Zip:	

Please indicate: Contribution Amount \$ _____

In-kind contribution (describe) _____

This is an opportunity to make a tax-deductible donation to protect your home, your life and keep insurance rates from skyrocketing. Friends of Crest has no interest in financial gain and will not use donations for 'overhead' or 'administrative' expenses.

East County Fire Protection District

A note from the Interim Deputy Fire Chief

Well let me first introduce myself. My name is Jack Grogger and I'm currently the Interim Deputy Fire Chief of the East County Fire Protection District. I was appointed to this position August 1, 2006 after long term Fire Chief Darrel Jobes took a Fire Chief job with the Alpine Fire Protection District. As I sit here and look back over the past 8 months of my position, I realize that it takes so much more than just one person to lead a fire agency. Though one person may wear the title, it takes all fire personnel, board members, administrators and the citizens we serve.

Many of you are now aware to some degree of the situation we are facing as a Fire District, we are pursuing every avenue to maintain our current level of service to the fine citizens we serve. We have accomplished some great things in these past 8 months, with the purchase of a new rescue that will allow us to better serve our citizens. This rescue will carry our jaws of life and all other specialty equipment to better serve the Crest grade, we also have seen some final completions to residents from the fire rebuild.

We look forward to the day that every resident has completed their rebuild and has moved back into this great community. I'm very proud to have the opportunity to lead our agency into the future as we began to make some major changes in the way we deliver our business to you the citizens we serve.

Deputy Chief
Jack Grogger

Hello from your New Fire Board President!

I would like to take this time to both educate and inform the community of the current status of our

Fire District. The East County Fire Protection District (ECFPD) includes both the Crest and Bostonia stations and serves approximately 15,000 residents.

As you may know, only property tax and benefit fees fund our district. The taxpayers who pay these fees own the Fire District and elect the Fire Board who governs the district. The County Board of Supervisors offers no funding or input into the districts policies. The burden of operation falls squarely upon the citizens of the district.

Our district is severely under funded with our current tax revenue and benefit fee and has been for quite some time. We now find ourselves at a crossroads. In an attempt to keep our same level of service, the current board has been making some drastic cuts from this budget as well as securing a \$161,000 gift from the county to cover some of this year's shortfall. The cuts and grant bring the current budgetary shortfall to \$150,000 through July 2007.

In order for the ECFPD to continue its level of service, keep our current ISO ratings and homeowners insurance cost down and available, reasonable response times for all 911 service we must immediately meet the current budget shortfall. The Friends Of Crest our local 501c3 has agreed to assist the community with fund raising and taking in tax deductible donations. Flyers are available at the library and stores. Please check your mail, community chalkboards and calendars for fund raising events.

The Board continues to meet the first Tuesday of every month at 7:30 at the Crest station. Many plans are being are being explored to generate additional dollars to meet the ongoing shortfall the District faces every year. We welcome your input.

Dawn Hubert
Board President
East County Fire Protection District