Mountain C.A.R.E. President’s Message
George Forgues

I always have employed what I call “a reasonable person’s theory.” My test is to ask what a reasonable person would do in any particular situation.

When I stand outside the El Mex or the Gift Shop and someone speeds by at 50 miles per hour, that just does not seem reasonable to me. There are people moving and crossing the street and getting in and out of cars. I have actually seen cars speed up going through downtown!

Nor does it seem reasonable to me to shoot small bears in a residential neighborhoods. Like most of us up here, I love that we are able to coexist with wildlife, including our bears — and for the bears’ own good, it is important that we keep them wild. But they will be drawn to human food, especially when it is easily accessible garbage in the back of a pickup truck. And aside from the senseless taking of a bear’s life, to discharge a firearm in a residential neighborhood endangers other people.

Because of some rule changes at the post office I now have to hand deliver the Bear Facts to Mountain Home Village. Good exercise I thought to myself and I could walk my two dogs while I deliver. I encountered 4 large dogs, 2 that wanted me and my dogs for breakfast. It seems that someone should be able to walk their leashed dogs safely in our three communities.

I don’t mean to present a negative message but I hear about these things all the time and am asked why I do not mention them in the paper. So here they are, all in one issue.

I also want to observe that our economy continues to be in a slump, affecting everyone in one way or another. I know people who went without heat this winter because they could not afford propane. I know people whose leach field is fouled but can not afford a new system so they have their tanks pumped and used their toilets as little as they can. Some of our local business are struggling to keep their doors open. The post office needs our support. Foreclosures are up.

Fortunately, people in our communities support each other. I want to acknowledge the support we give each other by, for example, using local vendors and handymen; shopping the advertisers in this paper; buying gifts from the local gift shops and galleries; supporting the Elkhorn, The Oaks, and The El Mex; and renting, the Community Center for events.

We are a community and community matters. This was so evident during Canyon Clean Up and Gail Cox Day. Thank you to everyone who participated. What a great day it was.

To Bean, or Not to Bean….
Debi Welch

It’s that time of year again! Forest Falls 14th Annual Chili Cook-Off. Sunday July 3rd, tasting begins at 11:00 am and the town photo wraps it up around 3pm. As always the proceeds from this fundraiser will be going to worthy causes within our community, including Fallsvale School updating their playground equipment and the VFGC @ Big Falls Lodge, our Community Center where many of you already enjoy Souper Thursday’s!

We need chili cookers! This year local business’s will sponsor many of the cookers, covering the $20 entry fee. Don’t delay or there may not be a sponsor left. Applications are available at the Elkhorn General Store.

Activities will include the ever popular dunk tank, bouncer, Kid and Pet Parade, live band and of course everyone’s favorite, the raffle where fun and wonderful prizes can be had for the nominal sum of one dollar.

If you would like to volunteer and be a part of this wonderful event contact: Debi Welch @ Gillmore Real Estate 794.2518, or Gail Forgues @ The Elkhorn General Store 794.1212.
Considering Books…..

Katherine Thomerson

Finally spring blooms here on the mountain – tulips, lilac bushes, daffodils, lupin, Indian paintbrush – flowers flourishing dramatically, staging nature’s most elegant colors and mellifluous aromas. I am reminded how very lucky – we are to live here. Finally…warmer days have allowed me to sit in my rocking chair on the front porch or curl up in the “North Carolina” chair (a gift from my mother) in the spring house and lose myself in mountain air and a good book. Here are a few reviews that might motivate readers to do the same.

Educating Waverly (by Laura Kalpakian): A while ago I reviewed Kalpakian’s American Cookery and thought I might bring her around again for her writing always remains in my heart and head. She is a good story teller and has been compared to Faulkner in bringing characters to life that a reader never forgets.

The book begins when a young girl – Waverly Scott – arrives on Isadora Island in 1939. She is to attend the Temple School, banished for her writing always remains in my heart and head. She is a good story teller and has been compared to Faulkner in bringing characters to life that a reader never forgets.

The book begins when a young girl – Waverly Scott – arrives on Isadora Island in 1939. She is to attend the Temple School, banished for secret reasons shared later in the book. Miss Sophia Westervelt – the headmistress of the school – has a mysterious past. She has a passion for educating young women, motivating them to become equal or superior to men in a time when women, socially, could not. Waverly has never known communal/familial surroundings and Isadora Island opens new worlds of friendship and new definitions of love for her.

Then in Europe, war cries out and even this isolated island is greatly affected; change becomes a challenge. The Temple School must struggle to maintain its structure and Waverly’s new life is torn apart. Below is one of many favorite passages from the book:

Avril waited until the footsteps had died away altogether and even then she did not move. She waited to cry. She thought she might cry at last. Wanted to. She should have been able to. Only old women have used up their allotment of tears. Only very old women are left tearless in the face of tragedy. That’s what her grandmother always told her: Save your tears. One day you will need them and you will have used them all up if you weep over petty trifles. So shut up.

The New Yorker described this book as “a rich, beautifully rendered novel of discovery and change from an award-winning writer – so entertaining it takes you a while to realize how smart she is.” I’m a fan of Laura’s and have read all her books including…

The Deliquent Virgin (by Laura Kalpakian): This book is such an entertaining collection of short stories! In the first story – a plaster Virgin, conventionally set in a church Nativity scene, goes missing night after night with very strange community consequences – surprising consequences. Character Emmert Wells narrates a story of sex and violence – with no sex and violence. And many of these stories are linked together with and in the fictional desert town of St. Elmo, California best described as “east LA and west of the rest of the world.”

The Wall Street Journal stated of this collection, “Whatever happened to old-fashioned stories, with fleshed-out characters, well-crafted plots, strong themes and palpable atmosphere? Laura Kalpakian, for one, still is writing them.” All readers have to do to become a collector of Kalpakian’s writing is read the first paragraph of any story. For any one who asks me….I will share the story about Laura’s meeting each of her fictional characters; it is one that will make you gasp!

The Lacuna (by Barbara Kingsolver): I enjoy reading Kingsolver’s books – some have disappointed me – others have enlightened me. This, her newest book, gave me more than I ever expected.

Lacuna means ‘empty space’ or a cavity or depression. The main character as a young boy – Harrison Shepherd – finds solace in the sea (“in deep water you can soar”) and in the cave that “lay under the water,” sometimes “too far below the surface to find.” He is born in the U.S. but is taken to Mexico by his Mexican mother to be raised away from his American father. Harrison describes his new country:

Mexico admits you through an arched stone orifice into the tree-filled Courtyard of its heart, where a dog pisses against a wall and a waiter Hustles through a curtain of jasmine to bring a bowl of tortilla soup, Steaming with cilantro and lime.

Through a clever structure of letters, journal entries, magazine and newspaper articles and Harrison Shepherd’s own diaries, the reader follows Harrison’s life journey from a young boy in Mexico, a young man in Mexico and a grown man and published writer in Asheville, North Carolina. On his journey, Harrison becomes a plaster assistant to artist, Diego Rivera and a cook and informal secretary to artist, Frida Kahlo. In the book, Harrison describes Kahlo:

Señora Frida is a confusion of terms: sometimes like a stern little man then suddenly a woman or a child, but in every form demanding that you remain in love with her.

Life for Harrison is history in progress as he works for Diego, writes and interprets for Kahlo, meets and writes for Trotsky who is in protective asylum with Diego, and inadvertently casts his lot with art and revolution. When Harrison ends up back in America and becomes a published writer, he is targeted by the MacArthur era – and World War II.

This book is told through Shepherd’s diaries, which were rescued by both Frida Kahlo and later Mrs. Brown – a faithful secretary to Harrison Shepherd. The story takes place in the 1930’s and 1940’s depicting in great detail the Hoover and Roosevelt political history of the time. This book weaves fiction with political, historical fact: It took Kingsolver seven years to finish the book. When asked about including real newspaper and magazine articles in the book she said, “Shocking things that happen in history may be proved in fiction.”

When asked about her writing Kingsolver said this:

If you want a slice of life, look out the window. An artist has to look out that window, isolate one or two suggestive things, and embroider them together with poetry and fabrication to create a relation. If we can’t, as artists, improve on real life, we should put down our pencils and go bake bread.

The Lacuna is a book that follows Kingsolver’s philosophy – bringing art, history, politics, and truth to a new meaning via a novel. I often tell my college students – fiction is a lie that tells the truth. King-solver has proved this statement – read The Lacuna.
The Life of the Canyon
Strange True Tales of the Canyon
Shannon Wray

In the early 20th century, a horse-drawn stagecoach brought vacationers from as far away as Los Angeles to the Forest Home resort. The Stagecoach Inn building at Forest Home still has a porch built at a height to easily disembark from the coach.

In 1912, the body of the stagecoach was mounted on a Packard truck and motored visitors up the canyon. The first automobile to make the trip on the dirt road was in 1907 and caused quite a stir. “It cost a complete set of tires and did more damage to the car than a transcontinental tour.” The Burris Cup, a well-known road race from Redlands to the marble quarries at the end of the canyon was run in a record 57 minutes and 30 seconds. “The climb for the Burris trophy is one of the most dangerous and difficult feats an automobile can attempt. There are 1,012 turns in the short 20 mile climb.”

Another famous automobile road race was run in 1914 from Los Angeles to Forest Home. The winner was a Mr. Metz who was shown in his triumphant speedster inside one of the fireplaces at the resort. That summer, an article featuring a photograph of two Victorian ladies in full dress and hats riding donkeys, sums up Forest Home resort. “A Forest Home vacation is one big house party – every guest is welcomed and bid good-by [sic] a friend.”

By 1926 the paved road was finally completed. “The last discomfort of mountain travel, dust, has been abolished by paving the reaches well above Forest Home, and makes the pines and waterfalls of the beautiful upper reaches of Mill Creek as easily and comfortably reached as you tour through the valley.”

In 1925 N.L. Levering of Redlands purchased 640 acres from the Southern Pacific railroad, which he named Valley of the Falls Tract. In 1929 Levering subdivided the land into 800 lots and sold them. This opened the way for new resorts such as Torrey’s Home resort, San Gorgonio Lodge, Elkhorn Inn, and Big Falls Lodge.

In 1919, a real mountain feud erupted into a sensational murder trial. Kate Harvey, was the owner the Harvey Skinner Ranch in Mountain Home canyon. Harvey’s brother, Robert Powell, shot her husband in the face and Ms. Harvey was caught in the arm by the ricocheting bullet. The punch line to the story is that six years prior, Powell had shot and killed the brother of Kate Harvey’s first husband. During that trial in 1910, Powell calmly said, “I killed John Harvey, my brother-in-law, purposely, deliberately and he was the one of two brothers I was after, and I’ll swear it though I get my neck cracked.” Curiously, he was acquitted.

In 1926 the paved road was finally completed. “The last discomfort of mountain travel, dust, has been abolished by paving the reaches well above Forest Home, and makes the pines and waterfalls of the beautiful upper reaches of Mill Creek as easily and comfortably reached as you tour through the valley.”

In the first selling season, half of the 800 lots that he subdivided were sold. This opened the way for new resorts such as Torrey’s Camp, San Gorgonio Lodge, Elkhorn Inn, and Big Falls Lodge.

In my next installment, the 1930s will transform the canyon in surprising ways, both entertaining and disastrous. Stay tuned!
Flashovers
Tom McIntosh, Fire Capt.

County Fire Chipper Program Expanded: For several years we have worked together to reduce our fire threat by removing ladder fuels and increasing the space between small trees and flammable shrubs. These efforts are being supported with free chipper service from our County Fire Department. This program is expanding effective June 1st and in addition to a Spring and Fall chipper event we will have the ability to call the Chipper Hot Line when you need chipper service for medium to large piles of slash/brush that does not coincide with the Spring/Falls events.

The toll free Chipping Hot Line Number, for areas outside the Big Bear Valley, as of June 1st is 855-MTN-CHIP (855-686-2447). Please note that the plan is to continue with scheduled neighborhood chipping, picking up all the piles in an area without a call as they have done in the past. This will include Code enforcement curbside chipping after a Demonstration House (No call necessary).

If you call once a neighborhood chipping event is scheduled your call will most probably be deferred as the plan will be to pick up all piles available during any scheduled event.

FIREFIGHTERS WANTED! In the next couple of months there will be 1 or 2 positions open for Paid Call Firefighter at the Forest Falls Station. Now is the time to start thinking about how you might enrich your life by becoming a part of the fire service. Contrary to some beliefs, the fire department is not a social club and not just for young people. A balanced fire department is made up of those young and buff, tempered by others, mature and wise. Male or female, if you are already a trained firefighter or ready to be trained and can commit to Tuesday night drills plus responding to emergencies when called, stop by either Gillmore Real Estate or the firehouse and obtain an application. You can also download an application at our Department website, www.sfefire.org however the application needs to be turned in at the local firehouse to start the process.

Fire Rescue Explorer Post 128 continues to show pride and initiative as an active group within the community. Thanks to all of them for their great work at the recent Spring Thaw Firefighters Breakfast at Big Falls Lodge and for their great work as aids in the recent CERT class which graduated another fine group of folks who are now trained to help others in a disaster. The Fire Explorer Academy is nearing an end after several months of long weekend training. Congratulations to Josh Barsugli, Andrew Clark, Kara Meager and Kevin Meager for hanging in there, working hard as a team and completing this prestigious task.

Congratulations to Firefighter Ania Parciak who has completed the Technical Rescue course series consisting of 3, week long classes; Rescue Systems 1, Rescue Systems 2 and Confined Space Rescue plus a two day course in Trench Rescue. Congrats to Firefighters Misha Boiarski, Kristin Sherwood, Lloyd Sherman, Terry Uldricks and Thom Wellman for completing the 64 hour refresher course, Emergency Medical Responder (EMR), to Firefighter Jonathan Ranabauer for completing the initial certification EMR course and to Firefighter Brandon Barsugli who completed the Low Angle Rope Rescue Operational (LARRO) course and the Red Card series for Basic Wildland Firefighter (Fire Weather, Tools&Tactics and Command).

C.E.R.T. Training
Paul Tetrault

Devastating images of Japan are still fresh in our minds, Haiti still has not recovered from their disastrous earthquake of January 2010. Professional responders, as savvy and well trained as they are, will not be able to assist all those in need during a large scale disaster.

Our mountain community lifestyle offers many benefits that those living “down the hill” will never completely understand. But we also have very special concerns when it comes to natural dangers and disasters. Therefore, the benefits we experience have a price, which is a certain level of preparedness and self-sufficiency. Angelus Oaks and Forest Falls each have their own Community Emergency Response Team or C.E.R.T. and residents of Mountain Home Village are welcome to be a part of either team. All of us working together in conjunction with the San Bernardino County Fire Department and FEMA on a national level, can create that level of preparedness within our communities so that when resources becomes stretched and professional assistance may be delayed that we can find the talent and courage within ourselves and our neighbors.

Be a part of the solution; get trained; and be prepared. The free training classes cover a lot of ground, fire suppression including the use of extinguishers, emergency medical, search and rescue techniques as well as cribbing and lifting practices to remove victims from trapped environments.

The Forest Falls team has just completed a round of training and is getting ready to schedule another. Angeles Oaks Fire Fighter, Randy Ridge's is getting ready to schedule training for AO residents and Hwy 38 camp’s staff getting ready for summer. Mountain C.A.R.E. and the staff of the Bear Facts would like to congratulate recent C.E.R.T. graduates: Barbara Griffin, Bernadette Griffin, Andrew Reno, Michael Reno, Ed & Judy Warne, and Jeff Hendricks. Thanks for becoming part of the team.

Participants of recent rounds of training who were not able to attend all scheduled sessions of training can make up those missing hours by participating in any of the upcoming classes as long as they attend the same topic sessions they missed.

No matter your size, or age or gender there is a role to play in the event of a disaster. Maybe you’re good with radios, maybe you’re the one who helps set up temporary shelter or maybe you’re the one who gives the stranded child a hug and a blanket. We can all do something. For more information and upcoming schedules check www.mtnfire.org and www.vfcci.org or call Thom Wellman at 794-2063.

Possible After School Daycare and a Preschool

Do you have children in 6th grade or below? We are looking into opening a before and afterschool daycare, as well as a preschool at Fallsvale Elementary. If you would be interested in any of these options (and are not already on our list), please contact us. Please let us know the age and name of your child.

You can reach us at 909-794-8630 or feel free to e-mail us at molly_anderson@bearvalleyusd.org. Thank you!
Vivian Creek Trail, Lemon Lilies, and Mountain Juniper
Jim McCune

I am sure most of you know of the Vivian Creek Trail near the end of our canyon. To hike it, you start at the trailhead parking lot, heading up the dirt road past the Falls Tract cabins. About six tenths of a mile up, a sign points across Mill Creek to the start of the trail (see picture to the left). A mile up from there you will pass the second sign (see picture) that marks the beginning of the wilderness area (note: a hiking permit is required beyond this sign). Shortly after that sign, you come to the beautiful Vivian Valley. It has a designated camping area called - guess what? - Vivian Creek Camp. Backpacker Magazine noted few years back that the Lemon Lilies that bloom there in late July are a must-see.

The trail goes many places past that valley: the top of San Gorgonio Mountain, but also Dollar Lake, Dry Lake, the Tarn, Dragons Head, Hell For Sure Canyon - and many other wonderful hikes we can talk about another day.

Today I will tell you of a hike that starts at the Vivian Creek Trailhead: Two and a half miles in on the trail, you will come to Halfway Camp, a camping area in a small valley just off the main trail. Many people believe that because the trail goes to the top of San Gorgonio Mountain, the camp's name is announcing you are halfway there. Sorry, it's not!

You drop into the valley from the trail. On the south side of the valley is a ridge that is a couple hundred feet high. Climbing to the top of the ridge, you can look down into our own canyon. You will see evidence of animals that use the ridge as a travel route: Bighorn sheep, coyotes, and bears, to name a few. Walking along the ridge a few hundred feet west, depending on where you reached the top, you can scramble down the north side about 30 feet (a little easier with a short -- ~50 feet -- piece of rope). Once down, you can travel in several directions. With a little searching of approximately a 500 foot perimeter, you will discover several beautiful old Western Juniper trees (Juniperus Occidentalis) clinging to the rocky crags above our canyon floor. The trees are estimated to be between 1700 and 2200 years old. The gorgeous old trees are the only junipers I have found close to our canyon.

Good hiking my friends!

Many Forest Falls residents were able to observe the first that was named the "Momyer Fire" — after the name of the nearby trail — when it began May 9. It began in an area with many trees that had died as a result of drought and bark beetle and that had not burned in decades and so had a great deal of undergrowth.

It was brought under control a week later. In the meantime, Forest Falls residents watched continuous runs of a water-dropping helicopter (see picture).
The early 1770s was a period of escalating tensions in Boston, between the colonists and Great Britain. A series of events culminated in the 1775 battles of Lexington and Concord and then war with Britain. A year later, colonists asserted their independence from Britain in the Declaration of Independence; a document prepared by a Committee of Five, with Thomas Jefferson as its principal author. The new Congress debated and revised the Declaration, finally approving it on July 4, 1776 with 56 signatories.

In 1778 General George Washington marked July 4 with a double ration of rum for his soldiers and an artillery salute. On the same day, across the Atlantic Ocean, ambassadors Benjamin Franklin and John Adams held a dinner for their fellow Americans in Paris.

In a remarkable coincidence, both John Adams and Thomas Jefferson -- the only signers of the Declaration of Independence later to serve as US Presidents -- died on the same day, July 4, 1826: the 50th anniversary of the Declaration. Although not a signer of the Declaration of Independence, James Monroe, the Fifth President of the United States, died on July 4, 1831. Calvin Coolidge, the 30th President, was born on July 4, 1872; the only President to have been born on Independence Day.

Composting

Hillary Strobel

When I think of compost, I think of my box of worms, squiggly little friends who eat my vegetable scraps and coffee grounds, my egg shells and yesterday's newspaper. In digesting those things, they produce a rich, earthy, turbo-charged fertilizer. Composting contributes to the ability of the earth to regenerate itself. It diverts waste from trash dumps and is fun to do with children and neighbors. Here are simple steps for composting at home:

Compost production of any kind requires four things: (1) oxygen to spur the decomposition of materials, (2) moisture to maintain the optimum decomposition speed (which prevents mold and rot), (3) carbon from carbohydrates, and (4) nitrogen from proteins. In fact, all living things need these four elements! Carbon is typically provided in a compost pile through the introduction of newspaper, sawdust, cardboard, straw, and leaves. Nitrogen comes from grass clippings, alfalfa meal, blood meal, and manure. Most kitchen scraps, such as fruit and vegetable peels, coffee grounds, and tea leaves, already have an ideal balance of carbon and nitrogen. Egg shells, ground into a rough powder aids in worm digestion.

Dairy and meat products are never recommended for a compost pile, because they carry pathogens and do not rapidly decompose. Pet waste presents the same problem as they typically eat a meat-based diet. Bread, grease, and weeds should also be kept out of the compost pile. A good rule of thumb when thinking of your compost pile is to remember that it is vegetarian. Also, it should get a balanced diet with equal amounts of carbon and nitrogen materials by volume; for example, an inch thick layer of manure covered by an inch thick layer of sawdust, or a bucket full of cut grass mixed with a bucket full of fallen leaves.

Many organisms participate in the breakdown of raw materials into compost. The kings of the pile, bacteria, are joined by actinomycetes (higher-form bacteria that work deep below the soil surface), protozoa, and fungi. These do the actual decomposing, while earthworms, mites, millipedes, beetles, and centipedes bites and chew raw materials into smaller pieces to make the job easier. A compost pile is its own small-bar.
TRI-COMMUNITIES
EVENT CALENDAR

Spring/Summer 2011

Cub Scouts
Meet every Thursday at 6:30 pm, Valley of the Falls Community Church

Boy Scouts
Meet every Tuesday at 6:30 pm, Valley of the Falls Community Church

CERT Training
Starting again in March. Watch for announcements

Girl Scouts
Meet every other Monday at 6:30 pm, Valley of the Falls Community Church. Call Kristi Ranabauer 794-5131 for more information

Explorer Post 128
Currently meets every Monday at 6:00 pm, Forest Falls Fire Station. New explorers welcome. Call 794-4413 to leave your information.

Frozen Green Thumb Garden Club
Meets 3rd Monday every month. Call Dee 794-0885 for location.

Forest Falls
Meet every Tuesday at 6:30 pm, Forest Fire Department

Angeles Oaks
Meets periodically. Dates are announced on the A.O. FSC bulletin Board in the Angeles Oaks Post Office

Mill Creek Canyon
Fire Safe Council
Meets 1st Thursday every month at 6:30 pm, Forest Falls Fire Station

Valley of the Falls
Search & Rescue
Meets 2nd Monday every month at 7:00 pm, Forest Falls Sheriff Station 389-2435

Valley of the Falls Community Church
Youth Group
Meet every W @ 6:00 to 8:00 pm

Mark your calendars

- July 3, Chili Cook-off. See story on page 1
- July 15, submission deadline for Bear Facts. Submit to bearfactseditor@gmail.com

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Contact shirley@forestfalls.com
Residents of our three mountain communities have access to the recycling bin the Burrtec Waste Industries makes available to us from Thursday morning through Saturday morning.

**News from Valley of the Falls Community Center, Inc.**

(www.VFCCI.org)

**Board Member Debi Welch resigns.** It was with great reservation that the board accepted the resignation of Debi Welch, the representative of the Booster Club at Fallsvale School, at our last quarterly meeting in April. A handful of folks in our community go above and beyond, working not from a full plate but an overflowing platter and Debi is one of them. We are glad Debi will continue to co-chair the annual Forest Falls Chili Cookoff, the primary fundraiser for VFCCI. The Booster Club will nominate a replacement for this open position.

**What's the Plan?** The original concept was to have “members” pay an annual dues that would support the day to day operations of Big Falls Lodge. But after the first year we heard from many in the communities who disliked that idea so we did away with paid membership and made it free to those who live or own property in Forest Falls, Mountain Home Village or Angelus Oaks.

VFCCI, just like you, has had to cut back in most every area we can to reduce expenses, the latest being shutting down Big Falls Lodge during the winter months, only opening the building as needed. It still costs about $850 per month to operate that site (insurance, utilities, maintenance, etc.) and that does not include unanticipated repairs or the few improvements we feel are essential for both your comfort and to further reduce expenses such as replacing the 80 gallon commercial hot water heater with an efficient “tankless, on demand water heater” and upgrading the older garage style overhead heater with an quiet, energy efficient forced air unit that will provide “central heat.”

As well, there is the need to purchase the vacant lot next door to Big Falls Lodge for parking plus the start up costs to maintain and insure the old Fallsvale School while it undergoes rehab for a Day Care and Latch Key site for our kids… VFCCI continues to need your support.

Accepting that we can’t move ahead with the current income stream, many, including some VFCCI board members, community groups and individuals, are stepping up and doing what they can, donating $150 a year or more. Please see our full page insert in this Bear Facts for ways you can support YOUR community organization as any donation, no matter how small, is appreciated. Soon you will receive an email outlining a new monthly fund raiser through Heska’s Sugar Shack in Mentine. Every little bit helps.

**Got and Idea or Suggestion?** Send it via email to events@vfcci or info@vfcci. For those who do not use email we are planning a suggestion box at Big Falls Lodge.

"Please do not dump garbage or refuse: Those who do probably are unaware that picking up that garbage or refuse then falls to volunteers from our communities."

---

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Think Big Falls Lodge for your event... Weddings, Birthdays, Family and Class Reunions, Anniversaries, Memorials, Graduations, Meetings, Classes...

- Do you receive periodic emails of community events and items of Interest? Not on our email list? Send your email address to info@vfcci.org (put “Add to Email List” on subject line). We do not share our email list with others.

- Referral Fee$ Paid. Refer a non-member who books an event and earn a 10% referral fee, up to $226 on a full day rental... more for multi-day events. (some conditions apply, if in doubt, contact us)

- Become a Summit Sponsor or Fallsvale Friend. VFCCI is a charitable, non-profit organization and your donations should be tax deductible. While we appreciate your donation in any amount, those who meet $2500 are designated a “Summit Sponsor” and those who wish to earmark their gift for the restoration of the old Fallsvale School to a Day Care/Latch Key site and reach $1000 in donations will be designated as a Fallsvale Friend. Summit Sponsor’s and Fallsvale Friends are recognized with bronze plaques. Payment plans available, Visa-Mastercard accepted.

- Casual Donations gratefully accepted. Payment programs, Visa and Master Card accepted for all plans supporting VFCCI.

- Consider a donation of your estate or marketable asset. The Gail D. Cox Community Center at Big Falls Lodge was made possible this way and your donation can help make the old Fallsvale School Day Care/Latch Key program a reality as well as enhance our community goals.

Check wwwVFCCI.org calendar for events, classes, changes & updates

Have a class or event to put on? Let us know!
Call or email your suggestions to events@vfcci.org

BFL rental rates & policy
www.VFCCI.org

Event Coordinator
Marcie Green-Whitney
909.794.2870 or
909.794-2518 or
events@VFCCI.org

Event Staffers
Dee Konzal
Bernadette Griffith

Caretaker/Custodian
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The mountains are calling and I must go.

- John Muir

Climb the mountains and get their good tidings. Nature’s peace will flow into you as sunshine flows into trees. The winds will blow their own freshness into you, and the storms their energy, while cares will drop away from you like the leaves of Autumn.

— John Muir

Dog Tails
Ann Klingbeil

Some people have been concerned about West Nile Virus infecting their dogs. The threat of West Nile Virus to dogs is small, but not improbable.

The virus is spread by mosquitoes and causes a swelling of the brain. Symptoms in dogs include decrease in appetite, difficulty walking and holding head normally, circling and tremors. Dogs also may show no symptoms after infection. There is no specific treatment and there is no documented evidence of dog-to-human transmission of the disease.

No vaccine exists against the virus. The only prevention is avoidance of mosquito bites. Never use DEET-based products on your dog, as it can make him/her ill. Ask your vet for a recommendation.

Spay/neuter vouchers are available for San Bernardino County by calling 1(888) 767-2550.

*Be sure your dog is on a heart-worm preventative year round.* The American Heartworm Society is accessible on the internet at www.heartwormsociety.org, if you want more information on this disease.
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Compositions Created for the Film

- **A Hard Day's Night** (1964) - the Beatles first film. What can I say? It's funny, it's irreverent, it's cheeky and the music is the best!

- **The Sound of Music** (1965) – this soundtrack has been a part of all our lives and won Best picture and best music Oscars in 1966.

- **Star Wars** (1977) – This was my first soundtrack purchase, it was a double LP of neo classical compositions by legendary conductor John Williams and I was only in 8th grade.

- **The Good, The Bad and The Ugly** (1966) – Clint Eastwood, Lee Van Cleef and Eli Wallach redefine the Western genre under the immortal themes penned by Ennio Morricone.

- **The Sting** (1973) – a period romp played out to Marvin Hamlisch's treatment of Scott Joplin's ragtime stylings is the rarest of buddy pics starring the dynamic duo of Newman & Redford.

- **O Brother Where Art Thou** (2000) - a Cohen Brothers classic twist on Homer's Odessy with a run through the garden of old school Americana. No, Clooney's not really singing.


- **The Wizard of Oz** (1939) - Some of Hollywood's most loved tunes including Somewhere over the Rainbow before Iz got a hold of it.

- **Grease** (1978) – Olivia Newton-John and John Travolta sing through a list of neo classics in a pseudo 50's gang fairy tale. Frankie Avalon and other funny cameos make for a good time.

- **Quadrophenia** (1979) – Sting as an actor, angst a plenty, songs by the Who at their headiest. Youth War, Mods vs Rockers, a cool slice of history some of us know very little about.

Soundtracks Based on Existing Music

- **High Fidelity** (2000) with John Cusack and Jack Black featuring “must-listen-to” music (e.g., Beta Band and 13th Floor Elevators)

- **Pulp Fiction** (1994) - Quentin Tarantino's breakthrough film and quirky music fest. Travolta, Uma Thurman, Samuel Jackson, Bruce Willis and cameo by Christopher Walken.

- **American Graffiti** (1973) – 50's classics including Wolfman Jack and many current stars in early roles.


- **Dirty Dancing** (1987) – 50's Steamy Summer Camp classics

- **The Wedding Singer** (1998) – 80's hits and Adam Sandler getting all sweet on Drew Barrymore, what’s not to like.

- **Almost Famous** (2000) – A “too-young” writer gets hired by Rolling Stone to road –trip with an up and coming rock band. Kate Hudson steals the picture.

- **The Big Chill** (1983) – Marvin Gaye, Procol Harem and an ensemble cast you don’t want to miss.

Please check out these picks and this time turn it up as you Kick Back and Pop it in!