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Fallbrook Revitalization Advisory Council

Inaugurates Monthly Newsletter

Starting March 2009, the Fallbrook Revitalization Advisory Council will publish a monthly newsletter, on a trial basis to inform leaders of community organizations and residents about important issues that are showcased in the Council's monthly meetings.

"This newsletter provides an opportunity for our Council to share the information from our featured programs and discussions presented at our monthly meetings," said Vince Ross, chairman of the Revitalization Council. "We look forward to your response and participation."

If you wish to receive a copy please send don@parallaxcommunications.com a note requesting to be put on the distribution list.

FEBRUARY'S FEATURED PROGRAM:

County regulation of special events

Fallbrook clearly has gained national recognition as a bona fide arts community. But to get Fallbrook to the next level, studies recommend that it needs more festivals and special events to attract the tourists needed to better support an arts-based community. At its meeting on Feb. 19, the Fallbrook Revitalization Advisory Council attempted to demystify the permitting process that non-profit groups in Fallbrook need to go through in order to put on special fund-raising events. On hand were representatives from the state Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, San Diego County Environmental Health, Sheriff's and Public Works departments. They are three of about 10 agencies that regulate special events and are key in the permitting process. The good news is that non-profit groups in unincorporated areas of San Diego, i.e. Fallbrook, typically need only apply for what is called a

Temporary Community Events Permit (TCEP for short) to put on an event. While the permit covers events no longer than four hours a day over a four-day period and is 30 pages long, it is less paperwork than non-profits in incorporated area have to go through. Nevertheless, county representatives said going through the permitting gauntlet for the first time can be “daunting.” However, there is a reason for all the hoop-jumping, said San Diego Sheriff’s Lt. Alex Dominguez. “There are laws in place,” he told the audience gathered in the board room of the Fallbrook Public Utilities District office. “Their job is to make sure that they are followed.” The lead agency in the permitting process is the Department of Environmental Health. DEH recommends that it receive the TCEP at least 45 days prior to the event. The extra lead time is needed for review, to get feedback from other county agencies and to give the applicant a chance to fix any shortcomings. Applications are available online (go to: www.sdcounty.ca.gov/deh/food/cep/html) and can be filled out electronically – all you need is Adobe Acrobat Reader, which can be downloaded for free from a variety of online sites. DEH officials suggest that applicants fill out the TCEP completely. That includes adding two or more contacts with cell numbers and email and recognizing that if more than 2,000 people are involved in the event, a recycling plan is required. Non-profit applicants must be registered with the state Attorney General’s Office – not just the feds -- must have general liability insurance and if liquor is being served, liquor liability insurance. No insurance, no event! A trash pickup plan must be included in the TCEP along with a map that shows where everything takes place – the county prefers computer-generated maps when possible. If public address and musical speakers are going to be used, their direction and amperage also must be indicated. If food is served, handlers must take a 3-hour food handling class or be supervised by someone who is certified as a food handling manager. If a promoter is putting on the event for the non-profit, they must be registered with the state Attorney General’s office as well. Another key player in the process is the Sheriff’s Department, which requires a number of permits for outdoor gatherings where the public is invited and involves 500 people or more. Other key considerations include security, traffic and crowd control and whether or not alcohol will be served. If liquor and /or beer and wine are involved, organizations should contact the local office of the Alcoholic Beverage Control and the Sheriff’s departments. For large events of 100 people or more, the ABC requires that it receive a permit application at least 10 days prior to the event. The ABC is cracking down on procrastinators and is loathe to fulfill last-minute requests. Nothing in this permitting process is written in black and white. As such, it is strongly recommended that non-profits planning events at least contact these three agencies to make sure the process is a smooth one:

San Diego County Department of Environmental Health

Bao-An Huynh

(619) 338-2968

Bao.huynh@sdcounty.ca.gov

San Diego County Sheriff’s Department

Blanco Pelowitz

License Division

(858) 974-2822

Blanca.pelowitz@sdsheriff.org

California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control

Robin Van Dyke

OTHER REPORTS:

Water rationing coming this summer

Despite the recent rains, Keith Lewinger, general manager of the Fallbrook Public Utilities District, says we are headed toward mandatory water rationing this summer. "We keep getting further and further behind," he told about 35 business and community leaders who attended the FRAC meeting. Lewinger, who was just named the Fallbrook representative on the Metropolitan Water District board, expects rationing to arrive on July 1. Rates will be going up and people will be required to conserve. Agricultural users could be hard hit, with some cutbacks climbing to as much as 50 to 75 percent depending on the extent of the shortage. Keep an eye on your mailbox for a 20-page National Geographic insert sent out by FPUD talking about water issues and conservation. "Every single home in our service area will get it," Lewinger explained.

St. Patrick's Day

Judee Smith from the Fallbrook Area Visitors Bureau extended an invitation to celebrate March 17 at a St. Patrick's Day Hooley Party & Golf Tournament at Fallbrook Golf Club. The event is a fundraiser for the FAVB, which promotes tourism in Fallbrook, Bonsall and Rainbow. Kick off the Celtic celebration in true Mulligan style with a nine-hole shotgun golf tournament that starts at 2 p.m. Celebrate into the not-so-wee hours with a drink and all-you-can-eat Irish buffet that runs from 6 to 8 p.m. Golf and party (72 max.): \$70 in advance; \$75 at the door. Party-only tickets: includes favors, one drink ticket, all you can eat Irish buffet and entertainment. Cost: \$35 in advance; \$40 at the door. All tickets will be held in will call. Order tickets online or by calling (877) 451-3282.

Here and there... Linda Kissam with the **Fallbrook Area Visitors Bureau** said two ads about Fallbrook ran in Sunset Magazine and a new brochure to be out soon... **Connie Frees** (FLC/Coldwell Banker/Friends of Los Jilgueros Preserve) said the annual Dog Walk fundraiser is scheduled for March 14. Corporate sponsorships now being solicited... **Jamie Bricker** (Fallbrook Gem & Mineral Society) reported on a successful show in Tucson, AZ.... **Eileen Delaney** (Foundation for Senior Care/Legacy) is currently soliciting sponsorships for Paws in the Park dog show... **Jerri Patchett** (Friends of Fallbrook

Library/Fallbrook Beautification Alliance) said construction on the new library will begin this summer. She also said the FBA also will hold the only fireworks show in North County on July 4 at the Grand Tradition... **Sid Morel** (NCFPD) said administrative/fire prevention/operations have moved to 330 S. Main Street where there is more room for volunteer program and clerical duties.

THIS MONTH'S FEATURED PROGRAM:

HOW GREAT ARE OUR SCHOOLS? Presented by Dr. Connie Fish, former assistant superintendant of the Fallbrook Union Elementary School District., on March 19 at 11 a.m.

The Fallbrook Revitalization Advisory Council was formed by San Diego County 20 years ago to serve as a forum of community organizations where information about important Fallbrook issues could be exchanged. The networking group, which is made up key members of the municipal, private, non-profit and for-profit organizations, serves as an advisory body to the San Diego County Board of Supervisors.

The Fallbrook Revitalization Advisory Council meets on the third Thursday of every month at the Fallbrook Public Utilities District office at 990 E. Mission Road. Meetings are open to the public.

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