



## Interpretive Center has new naturalist, hours, program

By **ERIKA PRESLEY**  
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Riverside-Corona Resource Conservation District



What is the **Sycamore Creek Interpretive Center (SCIC)**? This is a question we are frequently asked.

The simple answer is we are very similar to a nature center. We use displays, information and diverse programming to interpret the natural history and ecology of the Temescal Valley so we can help people understand, appreciate and protect our natural resources.

SCIC offers adult and family-friendly programming, scouting programs and school field trips. The interpretive center is open Thursdays, Friday and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The center is proud to introduce a new part-time naturalist who is available to answer questions, provide information and help develop and implement programming.

**Michele Felix-Derbarmdiker** (pictured above), was born and raised in Riverside where she attended UCR. Michele graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Biological Science with a concentration in conservation biology.

During college, she worked for UCR's Center for Conservation Biology. Over the years, she has worked as a conservation biologist for several non-profit organizations, environmental consulting groups and the County of Riverside.

As a mother of two, the education of children holds a special place in her heart. Michele wants to help grow the Sycamore Creek Interpretive Center and foster awareness, appreciation and stewardship of the natural resources in Temescal Valley.

The center is happy to announce its new **Days of Wonder program**. Starting in June the center will be holding these free, family-friendly events every third Saturday of the month from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The program will be fun-filled days offering nature-based activities, crafts and information on a variety of natural history and ecology topics. Please Join us starting in June.

The center is at 11875 Indian Truck Trail, at the intersection of Campbell Ranch Road. For more information about the center or our programs, please contact SCIC at: **951-277-0219** or [SCIC@rcrd.org](mailto:SCIC@rcrd.org)



**ROAD IMPROVEMENTS:** Residents speaking at the Planning Commission hearing requested a stop sign at the Hunt/Lawson curve, the primary entrance to the 54-home project. Transportation planners said the stop sign was unnecessary and would impede the flow of traffic.

## Planners give OK to road changes for 54 new homes

The **Riverside County Planning Commission**, following an April 19 public hearing, voted to recommend to the Board of Supervisors the approval of a 54-home development in the Hunt/Lawson neighborhood.

The homes were approved in 2009, but the change in location for the project's secondary road required additional county approval.

According to Project Planner **Russell Brady**, seven letters of opposition and a petition with more than 130 signatures were received prior to the hearing. Five Temescal Valley residents spoke at the hearing, citing unsafe road conditions on Hunt and Lawson roads, which are narrow, winding and unlighted, and subject to flooding during heavy rains.

The Planning Commissioners, in voting to recommend approval of the development, imposed two additional conditions on the applicants -- **James Rapp** and **Ron Waleki**. Drainage concerns of the two property owners closest to the main entrance to the project on Lawson Road must be addressed, possibly with the addition of basins. The applicants also must pay \$325,000 toward signage and/or a blinking light at the intersection of Hunt and Lawson, and toward a traffic signal at the intersection of Lawson and Temescal Canyon roads, if the signal is deemed necessary by the county's Transportation Department. It is estimated that the 54 homes will generate an additional 500 daily vehicle trips in the area.

The development still must receive approval by the **Board of Supervisors** at a public hearing yet-to-be scheduled. Residents again will have an opportunity to comment on the project prior to and at the hearing.

# Wildfire Awareness Week is May 7 - 13

## 2 blazes in Temescal Valley signal bad start for fire season

At the April MAC meeting, Fire Station 64 **Capt. Jim Brown** predicted a brutal fire season. He told those in attendance that all the lush-green vegetation produced by the winter's rain soon will be an overabundance of dried, dead weeds. He said now is the time to start clearing around our homes to provide defensible space.

Twelve days later, residents in the Temescal Valley neighborhood of **Dawson Canyon** witnessed his prediction as a brush fire erupted in the hills above the canyon community. It was quickly extinguished by firefighters, but a fire captain told a resident, "If it were August, 100 acres would have burned before you knew it." That fire was started by someone launching model rockets.

Hours later, a small brush fire near a flood control channel in **Wildrose Ranch** was quickly doused by a resident with a garden hose, but not before he saw the kids who started it flee the area.

A week later – Sunday, April 30, a wildfire broke out in the brush area bordering the communities of **Wildrose Ranch** and **Montecito Ranch**. Within minutes the **Jameson fire** became an inferno, threatening homes in the Wildrose neighborhood. Seventy-eight firefighters, 17 engine companies, two air tankers and helicopters responded, containing the blaze at 12.5 acres with no homes lost. This fire, too, was started by juveniles – their parents may have to pay for the cost of fighting it.

Almost all 21 Temescal Valley communities border the Cleveland National Forest or wildland. The **We Are Temescal Valley Public Safety Committee** is seeking cooperation from all residents to do the following:

1. **Defensible space** – just do it! Download this 12-page booklet published by Cal Fire – "Ready, Set, Go!" and learn how with this wildfire action plan. <http://www.wearetv.org/blog/fire/ready.pdf>
2. Report all overgrown areas. If there's a structure on it – call Fire Station 64, **951-277-1182**. If it's vacant land, call county fire's Hazard Reduction number, **951-943-0640**.
3. If your HOA has common area property that is overgrown, demand that the board have the landscapers clear it.
4. Encourage absentee landowners to post "No Trespassing" signs and to file a 602 form with the sheriff. The person designated on the form has the authority by the landowner to report trespassers (yes, even kids), on the property.
5. Notorious 4<sup>th</sup> of July parties with illegal fireworks? Put the firebugs on notice – let them know you and your neighbors will not tolerate fireworks this year.
6. WeAreTV will be working with the **Riverside-Corona Resource Conservation District** and **Cal Fire** to create a **Temescal Valley California Fire Safe Council**. The goals of the councils are to promote fire protection and prevention by recruiting volunteer support for fire-hazard reduction projects, encouraging fire-safety education, and developing communitywide fire management plans. FSCs also provide a forum for communities to discuss, analyze and solve fire-related issues before they become a crisis. The councils also can apply for grant funding for fire-reduction projects. If you would like to be involved in this project, email Public Safety Chairman **John Watson**, [jfwatson5@aol.com](mailto:jfwatson5@aol.com)



**AIR SUPPORT:** A helicopter dumps a load of fire retardant to deter the spread of the Jameson blaze. Other helicopters used water from The Retreat Golf Club pond to extinguish the flames.  
**Photo courtesy of CAL FIRE/Riverside County Fire Department**



**TOO CLOSE:** The only barrier between the fire and this back yard is Clay Canyon Drive. This photo was taken within the first 15 minutes of the blaze -- moments later the winds shifted, showering these back yards with embers that quickly ignited trees and shrubs that melted vinyl fences and set fire to wooden ones. Homeowners extinguished the flare-ups with garden hoses. Damage also was reported to patio covers.

## CORRECTION . . .

Incorrect information was reported in the April newsletter regarding the 140,000-square-foot industrial building to be built at the northwest corner of Knabe Road and Bedford Motorway. Trucks patronizing the business will be allowed to turn left on to Knabe when exiting the building from a new driveway. This paragraph has been modified to include the correct information:

Trucks will only enter and exit the project by a driveway from Knabe Road to be built at the north end of the property. Only employees will use Bedford Motorway. Restriping is planned for Knabe Road to facilitate this project, as well as the Riverside Medical Clinic project proposed for the southwest corner of Knabe Road and Retreat Parkway.

## APRIL PHOTO WINNERS

Congratulations to our April winners. Don't miss the Faire contest on May 13. Faire-goers will choose "Best of show."



**FIRST PLACE:** "Past Reflections" – Rob Mucha, The Retreat



**SECOND PLACE:** "Dawson Canyon - Vision of the Past" -- Shelley Tanner, Trilogy



**THIRD PLACE:** "Morning Hike" -- Mark Tanner, Trilogy

## CALENDAR

### EVENTS

- **Science Night:** Sponsored by Luiseno PTSA, 5 to 8 p.m., **Friday, May 12.** \$10: Tom's Farms Pizza Dinner, Mad Science Show.
- **Trilogy Garage Sale:** Throughout the community, 7 a.m. to noon, **Saturday, May 13.**
- **Santiago Bumper Bash:** Car and Bike showcase, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., **Saturday, May 13,** free general admission.
- **17th Annual Temescal Valley Community Faire:** Games, prizes, jumpers, rock wall, obstacle course, petting zoo, train rides, arts and crafts, live local entertainment, free all-you-can-eat watermelon and 50-cent hot dogs, cotton candy, snow cones, popcorn and sodas. Pet Show and Photo contest, 1 a.m. to 4 p.m., **Saturday, May 13,** Deleo Regional Sports Park.
- **Todd Academy 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration:** At the school, 4:30 to 6 p.m., **Friday, May 19.**
- **Terramor Grand Opening:** Unveiling of the new housing development, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., **Saturday, May 20.**
- **Luiseno 8th Grade Graduation:** 6 to 7:30 p.m., **Thursday, May 25,** in the gym. **El Cerrito Middle School Graduation:** 1:30 p.m., **Friday, June 2,** at Centennial High School.
- **Memorial Day:** Let's take a moment to remember our troops who made the ultimate sacrifice, **Monday, May 29.**
- **High School Graduations:** **Temescal Canyon,** 3 to 5 p.m., **Wednesday, May 31,** The Diamond; **Santiago,** 6:30 to 8 p.m., p.m., **Thursday, June 1,** Santiago Stadium; **Centennial,** 7 to 8:30 p.m., **Thursday, June 1,** Centennial Stadium.
- **Last Day of School:** Luiseno — **Thursday, June 1;** Temescal Valley Elementary, Todd Academy and El Cerrito Middle School, **Friday, June 2.**
- **Temescal Valley Run/Walk Group:** 9 a.m. every **Wednesday** and **Friday.** Meet at Wildrose Ranch Community Park, corner of Clay Canyon Drive and Knabe Road.
- **El Cerrito County Library:** 7581 Rudell Road, behind El Cerrito Middle School. Many fun activities for the kids! 951-270-5012 or check out the May activities on Facebook.
- **County Bookmobile:** 2 to 4 p.m., **every Monday,** Tom's Farms; 9 to 11 a.m., **every Tuesday,** Deleo Regional Sports Park.
- **Tom's Farms:** Every weekend — **Craft Faire,** 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; **Magic Show,** noon and 2 p.m.; **live music,** 1 to 4 p.m.

### TEMESCAL VALLEY MEETINGS

- **We Are Temescal Valley Education Committee:** 6:30 p.m., **Thursday, May 18.** Senor Tom's restaurant.
- **We Are Temescal Valley Public Safety Committee:** 6:30 p.m., **Tuesday May 23,** Trilogy Blue Water Sports Club, Center for Well-Being room, 24491 Trilogy Parkway.
- **Temescal Valley Water District Board Meeting:** 8:30 a.m., **Tuesday, May 23,** 22646 Temescal Canyon Road.
- **We Are Temescal Valley Identity and Beautification Committees:** 6 and 7 p.m., **Thursday, June 8,** Senor Tom's.
- **We Are Temescal Valley citizens' group:** 8:30 a.m., **Saturday, June 10,** Trilogy Lodge, Temescal Room, 24503 Trilogy Parkway. This meeting is open to the public — find out what's happening in Temescal Valley!
- **Temescal Valley Municipal Advisory Council:** 7 p.m., **Wednesday, June 14,** Trilogy Lodge, 24503 Trilogy Parkway.

### MEETINGS THAT AFFECT US

- **Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District Board Meeting:** 4 p.m., **Thursday, May 11 and May 25,** 31315 Chaney St., Lake Elsinore.
- **Lake Elsinore Unified School District:** 6 p.m., **Thursday, May 11,** 545 Chaney St., Lake Elsinore.
- **Corona-Norco Unified School District:** 6 p.m., **Tuesday, May 16,** and 7 p.m., **Tuesday, June 6,** 2820 Clark Ave., Norco.

# 17th Annual



TEMESCAL VALLEY  
COMMUNITY FAIRE

AND  
WATERMELON  
FESTIVAL



LEARN



ABOUT  
THE MILKWEED TO MONARCH PROJECT  
AND HOW YOU CAN HELP  
MAKE TEMESCAL VALLEY  
"THE HOME OF THE MONARCHS"



50¢



HOT DOGS, POPCORN, SODAS,  
SNOW CONES & COTTON CANDY

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



TERRAMOR



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## FREE ADMISSION

SATURDAY

May 13, 2017

11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

DELEO REGIONAL  
SPORTS PARK

25655 Santiago Canyon Rd.  
Temescal Valley, CA 92883

LIVE MUSIC

Classic Rock by NIGHTSHIFT

GAMES & CRAFTS

For All Ages

DOOR PRIZES!

Donated by your Local Businesses!

FREE!

Entertainment, Bouncers, Rock Wall,  
Obstacle Course, Petting Zoo,  
Face Painting, Train Rides,  
Cool, Sweet Watermelon,  
and much more!

PLUS!

Pet Show and Photo Contest  
Open to all Temescal Valley Residents

THERE'S SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!

[www.WeAreTV.org/Faire](http://www.WeAreTV.org/Faire)

"Like" the Faire on Facebook: <http://goo.gl/M6Ema>

Be a part of your community and  
volunteer at the faire!

[temescalfaire@yahoo.com](mailto:temescalfaire@yahoo.com)

# 17th Annual



## TEMESCAL VALLEY COMMUNITY FAIRE

**Saturday  
May 13th  
11 a.m. - 4 p.m.**



**Free  
Admission  
for Everyone**

### GROWING WITH PRIDE

Come and learn more about Temescal Valley's heritage, history and future, the Temescal Heritage Foundation and the We Are Temescal Valley citizens group.



Petting Zoo



Free Crafts for the kids



Volunteers Always Needed



Nightshift performs Classic Rock



The Car Show and Miniature Train are always a hit!

### GET INFORMATION

The Faire is a great opportunity to talk to local officials, businesses and developers, see what future amenities are planned for the community and get informed on services and benefits available in your neighborhood.

### MEET WITH



Riverside County 1st District  
Supervisor Kevin Jeffries

Supervisor Kevin Jeffries  
State Assembly and  
Senate Representatives  
Local Service Providers  
Local Businesses  
Local Developers  
Temescal Heritage Foundation  
Temescal Valley MAC  
We Are Temescal Valley

### VOLUNTEERS ARE SPECIAL PEOPLE

Meet Gena Osborne, one of those special people! Gena has lived in Temescal Valley since 1987 and was an original Faire Committee member in 2000. She currently serves on the Temescal Heritage Foundation Board of Directors. Under her nonprofit rescue, Gena's Friends for Felines, she has found homes for over 1,800 kitties! Thank you, Gena.



Gena Osborne