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MERIT
P O BOX 665
CAMPO, CA 91906

SPONSOR GROUP MEETING
Monday 28 August 7pm

Volcano
Activity
In
Campo???

POSTAL PATRON
CAMPO, CA 91906

MERIT

Mountain Empire Resources Information Taskforce
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Newsletter #4 - 23 August 2000

In keeping with our purpose to inform the community regarding newsworthy events, MERIT would like to remind our readers that the monthly meeting of the Volunteer Fire Department (Campo Fire and Rescue) will be held *this* month on Tuesday, August 29th at 7:30PM at the Fire House (across the street from the Post Office). Important issues are to be discussed and there will be an election of Directors. Your vote is important. Also ***important*** is the

Campo Fire & Rescue - Important Election
Meeting Tuesday August 29

Campo/Lake Morena Sponsor Group meeting on Monday, August 28th at 7:00PM in the Community Building. On the agenda are a SOFAR proposal "...establishing a building moratorium ...during the General Plan 2020" update, a vote on a vacant Sponsor Group seat, riding and biking trails, and the continuing discussion of GP 2020 issues including parks and recreational facilities, commercial property

designations, and unique policies dealing with drought.

Campo Seniors serve a delicious, low-cost breakfast on the second and fourth Saturday of each month at the Senior Center on Sheridan Road (just past the Community Center and the Sheriff sub-station). Next breakfast is August 26th. Also there will be a gala “Casino Night” on September 16th on the Mountain Health Center grounds. It is a fund raiser for the Community Center and Campo youth programs. Big tents and a catered dinner. Watch your mail for more information.

In our first newsletter, we wrote of several potential projects in Campo, one being the “Campo Hills”, a Section 3.8 rated, two hundred-twenty-two (222) space “trailer park”. There can be many descriptive terms used; trailer versus mobile home, and sometimes modular and manufactured homes. Each term conjures up some kind of “image”. Campo resident Roger Challberg set us straight. According to the blue prints the proposed Campo Hill project is a “Senior Mobile Home Park”. Another project is the La Posta Ranch development of 38 homes on 340 acres. According to developer David Rabie the project is undergoing some of the required impact studies. Mr. Rabie said the project could take as long as 15 years to actually complete.

According to Fr. Bill Metzdorf during the July Sponsor Group meeting, the proposed St. Vincent de Paul Management, Inc. “ice skating” rink is not really an ice skating rink as shown on the original concept plans presented in March. It is an in-line skating rink. Fr. Metzdorf, thank you for clearing that up. We appreciate being given real facts regarding the proposed development.

MERIT’s concept of “country or rural living” means dirt roads, horses, agriculture/gardens, dark and starry nights, xeriscape landscaping, 4H projects and even wildlife corridors. It does not mean CEO retreats, giant paved parking lots, multiple sports fields and other high-water use projects. Campo developments should be constructed to conform to residential area zoning in order to protect our water. No high water use projects in a well-dependent community. Do you have a different point of view? Let us hear from you.

Some local residents have noticed a change in wildlife activity and native plants that most likely is due to a lack of water. The quail population is down and many have observed some of our plants are stressed. For those wild-life oriented people, try putting out water for our animal friends and extra watering for plants. Monitor your wells for signs of change. If you need help with this, please write or call us at 478-9549.

Oh, yes. Volcanic eruptions. Pretty recent, too. There are some great books available in Campo’s museum. Sam Cameron’s Diary speaks of the erupting volcano Sam could see from Signal Mountain (March 1892). And in Ella McCain’s book Memories, she writes of the severe earthquakes that seemed to center in Imperial Valley (in 1892). They “looked to see if a mountain had erupted somewhere”. Take a gander at our museum stuff some day. You might find a volcano...or who knows what?