



November 2023



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The PONY EXPRESS

Nellie Gail Ranch

Community Newsletter



The Godfrey Group

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25091 Woolwich St, Laguna Hills

Enjoy the Start of the Season with these Local Events:

Swedish Christmas Fair • Sunday, November 19

Welcome to SWEA OC's traditional and wonderful Christmas Fair.

We have two sessions. Preorder is \$5.00 per person or \$10.00 at the door.

Old World Village 7561 Center Avenue #49 Huntington Beach

Hikari – Festival of Lights • November 24 - December 29

Santa will be at Hikari every night from 4:30pm to close (but he does need to take a break from time to time.) Entry Gates open at 4:30pm. Entry Gates close at 8pm. The Produce Market Stand and Gift Shop will be open 9am to 9pm on the days Hikari is open, and 9am-5pm on all other days.

Tanaka Farms 5380 3/4 University Dr., Irvine, Ca 92612 949.653.2100

Fashion Island Holidays • November 18 - January 2

Fashion Island helps you celebrate the holidays. The 90-foot live holiday tree will be up for photo ops, as will holiday photo stations around the Neiman Marcus – Bloomingdale's Courtyard. Also, don't miss the Augmented Reality photo experiences with Santa & Friends throughout Fashion Island. Want to visit with Santa one on one? Schedule a virtual visit! In the Atrium Garden Courtyard, celebrate Hanukkah with the Menorah Lighting Display.

401 Newport Center Drive, Newport Beach

Laguna Hills Breakfast with Santa • December 2023 | 9:00 – 11:00am

Santa will host a special celebration complete with a scrumptious breakfast, photos with Santa, and holiday crafts.

Laguna Hills Community Center 25555 Alicia Pkwy, Laguna Hills



ANNIKA GODFREY

949.683.1809

Annika@AnnikaGodfrey.com

www.AnnikaGodfrey.com

CalRE# 01322358



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BANKER
REALTY



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WATERING HOLE
WHERE NEIGHBORS GATHER

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Save The Date

12/10

CHRISTMAS PARTY with
Santa and Mrs. Claus at
The Watering Hole
(4:00-6:30pm)



2/13 to 12/14

HOLIDAY HOME
DECORATING CONTEST



3/30/24

EASTER EGG HUNT at
Gallup Park



Community Contacts



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Nikki Garcia | Equestrian Center Manager
equestrian@nelliegailranch.org

Equestrian Center EMERGENCY: (949) 371-1595

Board of Directors

Mark Fisk	PRESIDENT
Loree Blough	VICE PRESIDENT
John Park	SECRETARY
Joyce Taylor	CO-TREASURER
Holly Permeah	CO-TREASURER

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The *Pony Express* publishes articles that are relevant to the community or are directly related to property maintenance and community activities in NGROA and are in support of the Association's purpose to preserve property values within the community. The Editor reserves the right to refuse, edit or modify any submitted material and the editor's decision is final. Submissions selected for publication by the Editor may be edited according to the space limitations of each specific issue. Publisher cannot be held responsible for copyright breaches arising from any materials supplied by a third party. NGROA Board of Directors and employees are not responsible for any errors, inaccuracies or claims in articles or advertisements printed herein. Any opinions stated herein are solely those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of NGROA or its representatives.

NOTE: When community events take place, photographers may be present to take photos that may be used in this publication.

Renovation
Studio 6 Architects will find
your dream a home.
New Construction

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Architecture + Planning
949.388.5300
studio6architects.com

Important Numbers

(949) 425-1477	Association Office
(949) 831-6660	Nellie Gail Ranch Tennis and Swim Club
(949) 371-1595	Nellie Gail Ranch Equestrian Center
(949) 533-0241	Equestrian Center (Emergency)
(800) 696-0678	Sunset Landscape (Irrigation Leaks)
(877) 728-0446	CR&R (Trash Pickup)
(949) 831-2500	Moulton Niguel Water District
(800) 411-7343	SDG&E
(800) 427-2200	Southern California Gas Company
(949) 470-3045	Animal Control (Mission Viejo Shelter)

County of Orange

911	Emergencies
211	County Service Information
(949) 770-6011	Sheriff's Dispatch - Non Emergency
(949) 707-2600	City of Laguna Hills
(949) 707-2650	Laguna Hills City - Weed Abatement
(800) 611-7343	SDG&E Emergencies/Outages
(714) 573-6000	Fire Authority
(714) 971-2421	Vector Control

Assessment Remittance Address

Please remit all assessments to:
P.O. Box, 30354, Tampa, FL 33630-3354
or drop off at the Association Office.



Mission Statement

To take all reasonable and necessary steps to preserve and improve the unique value of living in Nellie Gail Ranch and to enhance the overall sense of community.

Board of Directors Meetings

The next Open Session Board Meeting and Open Homeowner Forum is scheduled for **November 14, 2023** and will be held at the Association Clubhouse.

Executive Session starts at - 6:00 pm and Open Session - 7:30 pm

The agenda will be posted in the Association Office and on the NGR website on the Friday prior to the meeting, or you may contact the Association Office to obtain agenda information. All homeowners are welcomed and encouraged to attend the meetings.

Architectural Review Committee

Architectural Review Committee meetings are generally held the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm. Completed applications must be submitted to the Association Office at least 10 business days prior to the ARC meeting. Please check the calendar in each issue of the Pony Express for exact submittal deadlines and ARC meeting dates.

Association Committees

The Nellie Gail Ranch Owners Association has several committees comprised of Homeowners that provide support to the Board of Directors on selected Community topics. For more information or to join any of our Committees, please contact the Association Office at (949) 425-1477.

- Architectural Review Committee
- Emergency Preparedness Committee
- Equestrian Committee
- Events Committee
- Landscape Committee
- Security Committee
- Trails and Safety Committee
- Committee to Evaluate Feasibility of Gating

MANAGERS MESSAGE

NOVEMBER IS A MONTH OF TRANSITIONS

By Brian Mitchell



The Watering Hole closed the month of September to revamp the service model and reopened October 23rd with a fantastic new team. We have received an incredible response to the new menu and service! The food offerings can be described as an International Cuisine with flavors from around the world. Hours of operation will be:

Monday through Friday

10:30 am to 9:00 pm

Saturday

9:00 am to 9:00 pm

Sunday

9:00 am to 4:00 pm

The following is a brief introduction to our wonderful team of restaurateur's working on your behalf to serve a quality culinary experience to the Nellie Gail Ranch community :



CHEF

Luis Mena

Owner of
IL SOLE CUCINA

Raised in Mexico City Chef Luis had a dream of coming to America to live the American dream. But first he

had the opportunity to travel through Italy where he enjoyed the food and wine, but most important, he experienced the culinary art from the north of Italy all of the way down to the amazing cities of the southern Sicily. Luis Mena and his wonderful wife Claudia followed their dreams to Rancho Santa Margarita

where they and their partner Edgar Estrada opened "IL SOLE CUCINA". Their restaurant has received recognition from 2022/2023 ECCELLENZE ITALIANE as one of the best Italian cucina's in America.

CHEF

Alejandro Cuellar

Owner of Balvina's
Mexican Kitchen



Chef Alejandro grew up in Puebla, Mexico in an atmosphere of flavors, colors, and history. Fascinated with the use of local ingredients by his mother and her expert ability to make complex mixtures of herbs and spices, he was inspired to open Balvina's Mexican Kitchen in Laguna Hills.

Edgar Estrada

President of Sol Agave

Edgar is one of the founders of Sol Agave. The dream began inside a 17-foot food truck with a burning desire to serve quality food with healthy ingredients and complex, modern, enjoyable flavors. Sol Agave has been in business for over 8 years with 6 current locations. Sol Agave has been nominated the best restaurant in San Juan Capistrano for the past 3 years.



Indulge in a journey of culinary excellence at The Watering Hole, where our esteemed restaurateurs delight in presenting their finest creations.

NELLIE GAIL S.M.A.R.T

NGROA RESERVE FUNDS AT WORK

As of the September 30, 2023 fiscal year-end Nellie Gail Ranch Owners Association has \$3,302,392 set aside for amenity replacement and ongoing maintenance.

Each Cost Center has its own reserve account:

Association Cost Center \$1,554,170

(Funded by Assessments)

Equestrian Cost Center \$926,029

(Funded by Boarding and Trainer Fees)

Swim Cost Center \$531,361

(Funded by Assessments (60%) and Membership Fees (40%))

Tennis Cost Center \$274,799

(Funded by Membership and Tennis Pro Fees)

Food & Beverage \$16,033

(Funded by Membership Fees)

and fencing. Funds are also set aside for maintenance such as painting the Gallup Park gazebo, replacing lights on entry monuments and special trail grading projects. Each year we retain a reserve consultant to prepare a schedule of remaining life for our amenities and we schedule projects throughout the year to keep Nellie Gail Ranch common areas in working order for your use and enjoyment.

As of the writing of this article the basketball courts at Gallup Park, Hidden Trail Park and Dapple Grey Park are being resurfaced. Work includes the following scope:

- Pressure washing and diamond grind entire court surface.
- Patch all cracks and surface pop-outs.
- Apply one acrylic resurfacer base coat with 60 silica sand followed by one acrylic color coating.
- Paint play lines white per CIF measurement requirements.

Association cost center funds are set aside for replacement of physical items like playground play equipment, irrigation controllers, parking lot asphalt

Next time you play on these courts take a moment to enjoy the look and feel of the freshly resurfaced play surface.

Saffron BAKERY

949-505-5510

SaffronBakeryOc.com

23411 Aliso Viejo Pkwy, Suite C Aliso Viejo, CA 92656



Open Website

FREE Complimentary Pastry
with this Ad



THE WATERING HOLE

WHERE NEIGHBORS GATHER

LUNCH MENU

APPETIZERS

GAME WINGS

12

Chicken wings tossed in a buffalo NY sauce, served with celery, carrots. Choice of butter milk dressing or honey soy garlic sauce.

BUTTERNUT SQUASH RAVIOLI

13

Home-made butternut squash ravioli, brown butter sage sauce, amaretto cookie crumbs.

TROPICAL CEVICHE MAYA

18

Wild meaty fresh halibut marinated and tossed with fresh lime, mango, jicama, onion, cilantro, jalapeno and creamy avocado.

POTATO TAQUITOS

11

Manchego cheese rolled in corn tortillas and served crispy over shredded greens and topped with sour cream, guacamole and salsa.

LOADED NACHOS

Home-made chips, jack cheese, refried black beans, pico, salsa verde, sour cream & guacamole. No Meat 13 / Carnitas 15/ NY Steak 17 / Chicken 14

CHIPS & DIP

5

Chips, salsa and beans.



SALADS

CAESAR SALAD

6/10

Choice of a half or full sized Caesar salad.

CAPRESE SALAD

14

Roma tomato, fresh mozzarella, basil, EVOO, kalamata olives and Genovese sauce.

APPLE AND PEAR SALAD

9

mixed greens, apples, pears, cranberries, candied walnuts, feta cheese, and pomegranate vinaigrette

SALMON SALAD

18

grilled pacific center cut salmon, baby organic arugula, bruschetta tomato, lemon vinaigrette.

CLUB SALAD

4/8

Baby organic mix, mushrooms, cherry tomatoes, red onions, carrots, shaved Parmigiano, balsamic vinaigrette.

SOUP OF THE DAY

6/10

Please ask your server for what CHEF had prepared for you today.



SANDWICHES & BURGERS

TUNA MELT

12

Albacore tuna, mayo, celery, pepper, American cheese press.

TURKEY

12

Turkey, Roma tomato, mayo, lettuce, American cheese.

MEATBALL PANINI

12

Focaccia bread, Home-made meatballs, mozzarella and Parmigian cheese.

VEGETARIAN

12

Arugula, Chef seasonal vegetables, and Genovese mayo.

BLTA

10

Focaccia bread, bacon, lettuce, tomato, avocado.

KALI SMASHED CHEESE BURGER

17

Angus 80/20 Chuk ground beef, lettuce tomato, pickles, onions smoked chipotle aioli and fries.

AVOCADO TOAST

11

Focaccia bread, fresh avocado, arugula, cherry tomato, red onion, shaved Parmigiano.

CRISPY CHICKEN SANDWICH

16

parmesan fried chicken, havarti cheese, tomato, organic baby spinach, honey mustard, herb mayonnaise, brioche bun



CLUB FAVORITES

RACKET QUESADILLA

Flour tortilla, jack cheese, avocado, sour cream, salsa.
Choice of Cheese 9, chicken 13, NY steak 16

SPAGHETTI MEATBALL

17

Spaghetti pasta, Home-made meatballs, ragu sauce.

POLLO PARMIGIANA

21

Chicken breast lightly breaded, marinara sauce, mozzarella cheese, basil and penne pomodoro sauce.

CLUB CARNITAS

19

crispy, slow roasted pork, served with salsa quemada, red rice, refried beans, guacamole, pico de Gallo and tortillas.

TACOS & MORE

CHIPS & DIP

Salsa fresca & beans.

3

SOFT TACOS

Choice of

CARNITAS

ASADA

AL PASTOR

CHICKEN

MUSHROOMS

BIRRIA

3

QUESABIRRIA TACO

4

CRISPY TACOS

POTATO

CARNITAS

3.5

MARGARITAS & CERVEZA

BEER

CORONA

MODELO ESPECIAL

PACIFICO

5

CLUB MARGARITAS AND MOJITOS

6



**TACO
TUESDAY**
WHERE NEIGHBORS GATHER

JOIN US EVERY
TUESDAY AT THE
WATERING HOLE FROM
4PM TO 8PM

EAT + DRINK + PLAY

CRAFTED COCKTAILS

HOUSE MARGARITA 9

Luna Azul blanco, agave mix, salted rim 11

PALOMA HERMOSA 13

Luna azul Tequila, Fresh Lime Juice, Hibiscus Infused Simple Syrup, Aperol, Pink Grapefruit

FROZEN COCO 14

Astral blanco, homemade coconut puree, agave mix, roasted coconut

VIOLET 14

Tanqueray Gin, Creme de Violette, Fresh Lemon Juice, Cava

PEPINO 13

Astral Tequila, agave mix, cucumber, Tajín

STRABERRY KIWI SMASH 16

Ketel one Vodka, st'germain, fresh muddled strawberries, Housemade Kiwi Syrup, fresh lemon Juice

BOURBON PINEAPPLE SMASH 16

Woodinville bourbon whiskey, agave nectar, pineapple juice, fresh lemon juice

LADY IN BLUE 15

Astral tequila, Coconut Syrup, pineapple juice, Blue Curacao, fresh Lime Juice, Grated Nutmeg, Strawberry

CLASSIC COCKTAILS

MIMOSA. 8

BLOODY MARY. 12

OLD FASHIONED . 12

MARTINI. 12

GIMLET. 12

MOJITO. 10

MANHATTAN. 12



WINE

ask your server for our private wine collection

POEMA G 9 B 32

sparkling cava brut, Barcelona Spain

THE BEACH G 9 B 32

rose by whispering angel

ANGELINE G 8 B 30

chardonnay, California

SONOMA-CUTRER G 12 B 44

Chardonnay, Sonoma Coast

GIGI G 10 B 36

Sauvignon Blanc, Valle de Guadalupe Mexico

MATUA G 12 B 44

sauvignon blanc, New Zealand

SANTA MARGHERITA G 16 B 58

Pinot Grigio, Italy

DIERBERG W 14 B 52

pinot noir, Santa Rita Hills

MEIOMI 12 44

pinot noir, California

ANGELINE 9 32

cabernet, California

AUSTIN HOPE 22 84

cabernet, Paso Robles

EL CAPORAL 2017 14 52

red blend, Valle De Guadalupe

BEER 7

MICHELOB ULTRA

HOUSE BLONDE

HOUSE IPA

MODELO ESPECIAL

NEGRA MODELO

PACIFICO

CORONA

STELLA ARTOIS

MANGO CART

LAGUNITAS IPA

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M-F 8am-5pm

Proudly servicing the Nellie Gail Community



MINUTES & ARCHITECTURAL REVIEWS

SEPTEMBER 19, 2023 MINUTES AND OCTOBER ARCHITECTURAL REVIEWS AVAILABLE ON-LINE

As part of our ongoing efforts to enhance convenience and save space, the Minutes and Architectural Review results will be accessible online for your convenience. You can easily view them by scanning the QR codes provided below:

The Minutes QR Code



Architectural Review QR Code



By utilizing these QR codes, you can conveniently access the information and view both reports online. Thank you for embracing this digital initiative, and we hope that it contributes to a more efficient and eco-friendly way of accessing important information. Should you have any questions or encounter any issues while using the QR codes, please feel free to reach out to us.

To receive your 2023-2024 budget and other important information by e-mail instead of printed mailed copy please complete this authorization via the QR Code below...



Honoring Our Senior Horses & Celebrating Nellie Gail Ranch's Equestrian History

When: Sunday, December 10th at 2pm
Where: Nellie Gail Ranch Equestrian Center
Who: All Residents & Community Members
Welcome! Bring your Senior Horses!!

All senior horses age 20 or older are invited to come to the NGR Equestrian Center for a professional photo celebrating the senior horses in our community! Each senior horse in attendance will receive a goodie bag.

Please RSVP to caseybuller@hotmail.com by Dec 1 to confirm participation

evolution
Racing Club



Year-round *Swim Team*

Evolution Racing Club is the official swim club of Evolution Swim Academy. We offers swim groups for swimmers that have a working knowledge of the four major swim strokes.

Price includes:

- Swim practice at Nellie Gail Ranch
- Workouts Monday - Thursday
- 60 minute practice
- Swim cap & Team t-shirt

REGISTER TODAY!



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(949)831-6660

25281 Empty Saddle Drive, Laguna Hills, CA 92653

MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP FEES

Tennis - Swim - Pickleball

(Fees effective October 1, 2023)

Nellie Gail Ranch's facilities include 10 lighted tennis courts, 8 lighted pickleball courts (open play only), junior Olympic heated lap pool, zero-depth wading pool with water feature, large in-ground spa, and use of the clubhouse amenities, patio seating, and shower facilities. The club offers (for additional fees) private lessons by certified tennis and pickleball professionals and swim instructors, ball machine rental, racket repairs, restringing services, and camps/clinics.

Members enjoy special member-only events and tournaments as well as daily access to the association clubhouse and The Watering Hole bar and restaurant with free Wi-Fi service.

For more information about the facilities, go to www.nelliegailranch.org or call 949-831-6660.

CLUB HOURS:	MON-FRI	SAT-SUN
Tennis Courts	6am - 10pm	6am - 6pm
Swimming Pool	6am - 10pm	6am - 6pm
Pickleball Courts	9am - 8pm	9am - 6pm

NOTE: Recreation amenities close at dusk (6pm) on weekends.

Nellie Gail Ranch Membership	HOMEOWNER Monthly Fees	NON-OWNER Monthly Fees
Family Tennis	\$127	\$158
Single Tennis	\$107	\$130
Junior Tennis	\$58	\$65
Family Swim	FREE	\$75
Single Swim	FREE	\$55
Family - Tennis & Swim	n/a	\$190
Single - Tennis & Swim	n/a	\$166
Swim Member Guest Fee*	\$3	\$3
Tennis Member Guest Fee*	\$10	\$10
Family Pickleball**	\$70	\$100
Couples Pickleball**	\$50	\$75
Single Pickleball**	\$35	\$50
Pickleball Member Guest Fee*	\$10	\$10

* Member must be present with Guest.

NOTE: Tennis Club Membership includes use of Pickleball Courts.

** Tennis and Pickleball courts are available to Nellie Gail Ranch homeowners from 11:30am to 3pm with no additional club membership.



(949)831-6660

25281 Empty Saddle Drive, Laguna Hills, CA 92653

OPERATION HOURS - FALL 2023

Tennis - Swim - Pickleball

UPDATE

CLUB HOURS:	MON-FRI	SAT-SUN
Tennis Courts	6am - 10pm	6am - 6pm
Swimming Pool	6am - 10pm	6am - 6pm
Pickleball Courts	9am - 8pm	9am - 6pm

NOTE: Recreation amenities close at dusk (6pm) on weekends.

For more information about the facilities, go to nelliegailranch.org or call 949-831-6660.

COMPETITION NEWS

The Temecula Valley National Fall Series saw some remarkable performances from our talented riders. Lane Clarke and Venom clinched the 1st position in the \$75,000 Grand Prix and achieved a commendable 2nd place in the \$25,000 1.40m Speed event, showcasing their equestrian prowess.



Cody and Natalie Banis demonstrated their excellence in the 3'3 performance hunters, securing both 1st and 2nd place, while Mayfield, another steed partnered with Natalie Banis, dominated the 3'3 performance hunter category, achieving the same 1st and 2nd place rankings.



Adding to the roster of successes, Mayfield, ridden by Stella Saunders, landed a well-deserved 3rd place in the 2'6 hunter Derby.

Not only did Team Hayden Clarke deliver fantastic riding performances, but they also injected a dose of fun and creativity into the show. They participated in the \$10,000 Hunter Jumper Team Costume Contest, finishing in a respectable 4th place. Their costume theme was a crowd-pleaser, with each team member embodying a different era from Taylor Swift's Albums, aptly titled the "Taylor Swift Eras Tour." Their creative spirit added a touch of entertainment to the event, making it a memorable experience for everyone.



With these remarkable achievements and a touch of fun, Team Hayden Clarke truly showcased their dedication and passion for equestrian sports. We look forward to more exciting performances and creative twists in the future!





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NELLIE GAIL EQUESTRIAN CENTER ~ UPPER BARN



Adopt-A-Family

Nellie Gail Ranch Owners Association in coordination with Family Assistance Ministries (FAM) in San Clemente, invite Nellie Gail Ranch residents to adopt a family for Christmas. A list of families in need for the Christmas holidays has been provided by FAM.

*"Remember that the happiest people are not those getting more, but those giving more."
— H. Jackson Brown Jr.*



Please help support a family in need this holiday season:

- Stop by the Association Clubhouse after December 1st to select a family from the Christmas Tree and commit to give.
- Purchase gift(s) and wrapping items for your selected family.
- Place unwrapped items in bags and label with family information.
- Deliver items to Association Clubhouse by Sunday, December 10, 2023.
- FAM distributes the gifts to selected families via their drive-thru program.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WWW.NELLIEGAILRANCH.ORG
OR CALL THE ASSOCIATION OFFICE AT (949) 425-1477



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Rancho Mission Viejo \$1,295,000



Laguna Hills \$1,314,000



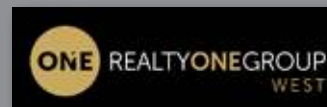
Nellie Gail Ranch \$3,238,000

THERE IS A CHANGE IN THE AIR !!! IS IT TIME TO SELL ???

If you have been considering selling your home, now may be the best time in many years. And it may be the best time for several years to come. The inventory of homes for sale is exceptionally low, and buyer demand remains high. Despite the doubling of interest rates, prices are holding strong for now. Please give me a call to discuss the details of moving up to a new home, or downsizing if the time is right for that lifestyle change.



Marty Samuel
(949) 643-1321



DRE #00452321

**Want to stay updated on all Nellie Gail listing & sales activity?
Email me for a free personalized MLS Portal: marty@martysamuel.com**

Nellie Gail sales based on MLS data since Oct 1989

NELLIE GAIL RESIDENT AND YOUR LOCAL PERSONAL INJURY ATTORNEY, **MELODY PARMAN**

melody@avreklaw.com
949-997-0593



Melody Parman is the managing attorney at one of the largest female-owned personal injury law firms in California, Arizona, and Nevada. Since 2010, Melody has advocated for injury victims. We've asked her to share her accolades with us throughout her career as she is presently noted as one of the top trial lawyers in California under the age of 40.

- 2014 Awards:** National Trial Lawyers Top 40 under 40.
Dewitt, Algorri and Algorri Trial Lawyer of the Year.
- 2015 Awards:** Southern California Rising Stars.
Top Woman Attorneys in Southern California.
National Academy of Personal Injury Attorneys Top 10 under 40.
- 2016 Awards:** Super Lawyers Rising Star.
Top Woman Attorneys in Southern California.
- 2017 Awards:** National Woman Trial Lawyers top 25 Woman Trial Attorneys- California.
Super Lawyers Rising Star.
- 2018 Awards:** Southern California Rising Stars.
National Trial Lawyers Top 100 Trial Attorneys.
Super Lawyers Rising Star.
- 2019 Awards:** National Trial Lawyers Top 100 Trial Attorneys.
Super Lawyers Rising Star.
- 2020 Awards:** America's Most Honored Lawyers.
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The junior tennis scene is buzzing with excitement as our young athletes continue to make waves, demonstrating their dedication, teamwork, and incredible talent. This season, USTA Junior Team Tennis has proven to be a big success, with our teams competing in various age categories, from U10 to U18. Let's dive into some of the highlights and personal achievements that have made this season one to remember.

USTA Junior Team Tennis Triumphs

In the world of junior tennis, team spirit and individual growth go hand in hand. This season, our young players have excelled across various age categories in USTA Junior Team Tennis, showing that they're not only strong individually but also as a united force on the court.

In U10, U12, U14, and U18 categories, our teams have represented us with pride and determination. Their commitment to the game and relentless pursuit of excellence have been truly inspiring.

Personal Triumphs on the Court

It's not just about the teams; our young talents have been setting the courts ablaze with their personal victories. Grant Novak, Matteo Johnson, Theo Wells, and Milly Wu have displayed their tennis prowess in USTA Tournaments, clinching impressive wins and adding medals to their collections. These young athletes are a testament to the dedication and hard work that goes into honing their skills and competing at the highest level.

As we celebrate these personal successes, it's important to remember that these achievements are not just about winning matches. They represent the countless hours of practice, the resilience to overcome challenges, and the support of coaches, families, and teammates.

PACSun Teams on Fire

Our PACSun Teams are not to be overshadowed, as they too have been on a winning streak. In particular, our D3 Team has risen to the top of the League and stands undefeated. Their commitment to excellence and their remarkable teamwork have made them formidable competitors in the league.

A Promising Future

These successes in junior tennis not only reflect the present but also hint at a promising future. Our young athletes are setting the bar high, showcasing their potential and dedication to the sport. With a nurturing environment, guidance from experienced coaches, and unwavering family support, they are well on their way to achieving even greater heights in the world of tennis.

As the season continues and competitions heat up, we eagerly await more victories, incredible displays of sportsmanship, and moments that remind us all why we love this sport. The future of tennis is undoubtedly bright, thanks to the dedication and talent of our junior players. Congratulations to all the young athletes and teams for their outstanding achievements, and here's to more successes in the seasons to come!





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EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

HOME SECURITY: PREPARING FOR PROTECTION

Written by Dr. Kenneth S. Cheng

Before we start on the topic of Home Security, it is important to note the recent discovery of a new single earthquake fault stretching from the coast of Dana Point to the cliffs of Palos Verdes. Previously believed to be an "aggregate fault" (composed of multiple different faults), Harvard scientists recently released a study identifying the single Palos Verdes Fault that is capable of a 7.8 earthquake (45 times larger than the 1994 Northridge quake). This is significant news as all of Orange County is in the middle of two parallel fault zones (San Andreas Fault, capable of an 8.3 earthquake and now, the Palos Verdes Fault). We have just doubled the need to be prepared.

Home security is of paramount importance, both in disaster and non-disaster scenarios. Those who have experienced property loss know the feeling of intrusion and violation. Our idyllic Nellie Gail Ranch has also been the target of several attempted and successful burglaries, including teams posing as housekeepers, gardeners, utility employees or other workers. These teams would walk up to homes with minimal cleaning supplies or trade tools in hand, and in official looking uniforms, enter through an unlocked door and ransack the home in 15-20 minutes before moving on to other homes. Fortunately, some of these teams were recently apprehended by local law enforcement, but other teams likely exist.



Another common tactic involves young adults/

youths who are selling magazines and later ask to use your bathroom. The magazines you may order often never arrive with the scammer now having your credit card or checking account information, and worse, if you have let them in, they will have important information about the interior of your home, such as the general layout, occupants, and the presence of alarm monitors.

During disasters or civil unrest, looting is commonplace. In studying the psychology of looting, John Pitts, a prominent criminologist, notes, "looting makes powerless people feel powerful." This power is "contagious" causing a cascade of others to desire that same power. The recent images of the local looting during demonstrations in Santa Monica and Los Angeles, and the devastations from natural disasters such as Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Sandy are all too vivid. Of particular interest was a discovery by local law enforcement that tweets by some of the looters were suggesting to "stop looting from your own. Go to the 'rich' areas." It is well known by criminals in this county that areas such as Nellie Gail Ranch, Coto De Caza and Newport Coast are some of these "rich" areas. Nellie Gail Ranch is commonly a preferred target due to its close proximity to the freeway.

Whether it be mass looters, organized but unsophisticated crime rings, or the lone individual who has selected your home for home invasion or burglary, the examples highlighted above should serve as a reminder of the importance of security and protection, not only of our property but also for our families. The recommendations in this article will focus on general security in non-disaster situations, but these recommendations may also be applicable to situations of civil unrest or natural disasters.

Security Patrol. For several years, Nellie Gail Ranch has implemented a 24-hour private security patrol. Although this can be helpful in deterring crime, it is critically important that residents understand that

our **security patrol does not replace your diligence and responsibility in crime prevention or reporting.** Criminals may be deterred by such patrols, but they also know that patrols have no law enforcement authority. Specifically, the Nellie Gail Security Patrol cannot arrest, apprehend, or detain individuals, nor can they investigate or determine if criminal activity has occurred. They will not be able to guard or protect you or your property; residents should have no expectation that these things will occur with security patrol. Instead, one can expect the patrols to act as an extra set of eyes and ears; they can call the sheriff's department if they observe suspicious activity or behavior.

Social media posts (Nextdoor, Facebook, Ring, etc.) often describe or question observed suspicious activity, and occasionally these posts seek the phone number to our private security patrol. Posting suspicious activity can be helpful at informing the community, but should be done after contacting the sheriff's department. Additionally, calling the home owners association office or the private security patrol to report suspicious activity only serves to delay law enforcement involvement and decreases the likelihood of successful investigation or apprehension of criminals.

Situational Awareness. Most important is for residents to maintain a level of situational awareness. This is where you take on a greater level of attentiveness to your surroundings. It is often helpful to think like a burglar or home invasion robber. Are you aware of the areas that make good hiding places on your property? Do you notice when unfamiliar vehicles are parked on your street? Have you noticed if someone has followed you home from the market or mall? These questions are not meant to cause fear but to alert you to inattentiveness. It is not uncommon for criminals to sit in their cars to get a feel for the activity on one's street; it is not uncommon for criminals to follow individuals home and enter your garage just after you pull in your car. Greater awareness of your surroundings is the first step to prevention of being a victim of criminal activity.

Locking Your Car. With the passage of Proposition 47 in 2014 and Proposition 57 in 2016, there has been a spike in theft of personal property. The propositions decreased the punishment for simple

theft crimes. More recently, the Covid Pandemic and the subsequent inflationary economy has caused dramatic spikes in crime. One such crime is "car phishing", where an individual walks down a street, checking all car doors to see if any are unlocked. An unlocked car door usually results in the perpetrator getting wallets, purses, phones, computers, iPads, and even recently purchased merchandise. Additionally, they may also now have access to your garage (and home) via the remote garage door opener. Very simply, remove all valuables from sight (including your garage door opener) and lock all the doors of your car.

Catalytic Converter Thefts. Theft of catalytic converters takes only a few minutes and has exponentially increased over the past several years. These can be worth several hundred dollars to thieves, and cost as much as \$3,000 to replace. The most common car models for catalytic converter theft is the Toyota Prius. Other common vehicles include Ford trucks, Honda Element, and Jeep Cherokees. In addition to parking your car in the garage, other steps to prevent catalytic converter theft includes: purchasing and installing a catalytic converter cage or cable, turning on your car alarm so that jacking up the car sets off the alarm, having motion-activated cameras and lights on your driveway, and even backing your vehicle as close to the garage door or wall as possible to limit the ability of a thief to jacking up your car.

Locking Doors and Windows. Although this sounds overly simplistic, according to FBI statistics, 22% of burglaries occur when the perpetrator enters through ground floor window. Additionally, 30% of home burglaries occur through an unlocked door. Even when your door is locked, most doors can be easily breached by kicking in the door. These doors can be reinforced and made 17-fold stronger for less than a dollar; strike plate screws (normally $\frac{3}{4}$ inches) should be replaced 3 inch screws (89¢ at Home Depot) that penetrate the door jamb and the adjacent stud (the strike plate is the metal plate in the door jamb that allows the door to latch and stay closed.) This simple, do-it-yourself fix will increase the strength of the door and make it less penetrable to forced entry. Another common entry point is an open garage door. Make it a habit to close your garage door anytime you are not in the garage. Lastly, most burglars don't bring

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

tools with them when breaking into your home. Don't leave your tools around the exterior that can help a burglar enter your home. This would include ladders, crow bars, gardening tools, sledgehammers, etc.

Lighting. A well-lit house lessens the chance of a burglar selecting your home to invade. Having your neighbors do the same exponentially lowers that risk. Exterior lights can be placed on inexpensive timers where the wall switch is replaced with a timer/switch (also available at Home Depot). These timers can be set to turn on and off at specific times, in addition to functioning as a regular light switch. Installation takes 10 minutes and can easily be done with basic home repair knowledge.

Shrubs. Our landscaping is often a source of pride for us. However, it is important to keep shrubs low so that criminals can't hide behind them while making entry through a window. Additionally, shrubs with thorns (roses, bougainvillea, etc.) make excellent shrubbery near windows as they serve as a deterrent as a hiding place. Lastly, keep in mind that shrubs or trees used to provide you privacy from your neighbors can also provide criminals sufficient privacy from your neighbors to enter your home.

Home Alarms. Many of the homeowners in Nellie Gail have home alarm systems. Not surprisingly, however, is that only 19% of homeowners actually set the alarm when not at home according to a national home alarm association. Unfortunately, criminals are also aware of this statistic. Certainly alarm company signs may provide some deterrence, but criminals often "test" to see if you have even set your alarm by jiggling doors or otherwise disrupting the door or window contacts. A common excuse for not setting the alarm is due to pets in the home. Fortunately, all reputable alarm manufacturers have adjustable motion or infrared detectors that can discern between a large dog and a human being. Inquire with your alarm company if this is one of your reasons for not setting the alarm.

Self Protection. Even within your home, one must always be prepared, as personal protection doesn't end at the front door. This can include learning self defense/martial arts (available and effective for all ages), having a "safe room" built into your home (using an interior walk-in closet with a solid core door and a deadbolt lock), understanding how to use common, everyday home items for self defense (fire extinguisher, tools, etc.), use of commercially available pepper spray, Electronic Control Devices (commonly known as "Tasers") or if properly trained, having a home protection firearm. The author acknowledges that controversy may exist with the concept of having a firearm in the home. The purpose of this article is to neither advocate nor dissuade various forms of self-protection, but to implore that all of the tools mentioned above, including firearms, can be excellent tools in your self-protection arsenal as long as you are properly trained and maintain proficiency in the use of these tools. An alarm system serves no purpose if you don't know how to use it properly. The same can be said of martial arts, pepper spray, firearms, or any other form of self-defense. Regardless of the form or forms of self-protection selected, one must also practice in order for self-protection to be effective. Learning karate 20 years ago with no practice in the meantime is of limited value.

About the Author: *Dr. Kenneth Cheng is a 24-year resident of Nellie Gail Ranch and a member of the Nellie Gail Emergency Preparedness Committee (EPC). He is also a volunteer deputy sheriff with the Sheriff's Department. Within the Sheriff's Department, he is a member of the SWAT team as a tactical physician, and he is a member of the Search and Rescue team as a High Angle Rope Rescue Technician. The opinions expressed by the author are his alone and do not represent the Nellie Gail Homeowner's Association, the EPC, or any specific law enforcement agency.*

Additionally, the contents of this article are for informational purposes only and should not be construed to be complete or comprehensive for the reader's individual security and protection needs.



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If you have a child, teenager, or emerging adult who is struggling with hurt, grief, anxiety, or any other burden that appears heavy on their heart, I am here to help. It is my desire to create a space for clients to feel safe and heard within the counseling room. I believe that deep healing and

change occur through a genuine and honest relationship with a caring counselor. You are warmly welcomed here. Grant is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist who specializes in working with teens and young adults. He's lived in Nellie Gail for the last six years and also serves as the Young Life Area Director for South Orange County. He'd love the opportunity to work with you and your family. Please call (714) 276-8957 for a free 15-minute consultation or visit www.grant-waggoner.clientsecure.me to schedule an appointment. Office is located in Dana Point. License: California / 125452

HEALTH

Qigong Energy Sessions

Energy medicine is a method of healing, self-transformation and energy optimization. I offer qigong energy sessions at my local residence in Nellie Gail. I have over 7 years of experience with many happy clients. For more information, please visit c2energymedicine.com. Rates, how to schedule a session and what to expect is explained on my website.

DOG TRAINING

Whether you have a puppy, rescue, or senior dog - we can help. Using the confidence method we build up your dog and your relationship. Free online consultations available. Nopawslkehome.com (949) 297-6848

HEALTH / PAIN MANAGEMENT / HUMAN & EQUINE.

How can Micro/Pico Current Technology help? Besides being painless and drug free, the procedure increases ATP, removes/reduces inflammation and impedance and helps promote the body's self-healing. When can someone/equine benefit from Micro/Pico Current Therapy? Micro/Pico Current Therapy is beneficial during the recovery time after surgery or injury, like sprains. It will reduce inflammation of back pain. It also helps the body detox, and there are many more health protocols. For professional testimonials, please visit these two sites: Michelle Killebrew RPT, 40 years of experience as a professional license physical therapist <https://youtu.be/RHAQIQ-DDz4> Video 3 minutes; and Dr. Sinatra, Athletes, Equestrian Trainer <https://youtu.be/QpNdyX2TY4M> Video 5 minutes. A demonstration by a Certified EQUINE Technician can be scheduled. For further information on the device, please contact Certified Human Technician at Diane@HealthnCookies.com

MATH / PHYSICS TUTOR

Currently a High School math/science teacher, I have 30 years of experience and it comes right to your door!!! I instruct/tutor in both Honors and Standard classes for all areas of math and physics including: Algebra I/II, Geometry, PreCalculus, AP Calculus AB/BC, and Physics A/B. AP/SAT test prep also available. For more details please call 714-296-2544 or email dkrutcik@gmail.com, ask for Dave.

SPRAY TANNING – MOBILE!

EverTan is based in Orange County CA servicing Laguna Hills and surrounding OC cities. Our services are provided throughout these areas at your home, office, or anywhere else that suits your needs. Our rates are competitive and we deliver with professionalism and care, which will be evident in your flawless tan. Your qualified technician has a specific technique that gives you the most natural and even tan every time. We use top of the line Organic formulas with many product options. Our rapid solution allows you to rinse in as little as two hours! We also offer additional enriching treatments you can integrate in your custom spray tanning session. No need to worry about a mess at your location of preference, our technicians provide a mobile tanning booth and use all of the precautions to protect your space. Our custom tans only take 20-30 minutes,

saving you the wasted time and many trips to the tanning salon. Not to mention, our spray tans last up to 2 weeks if properly cared for! Call/text Kaydance: 951-355-8044 Email: myevertan@gmail.com Website: www.myevertan.com

MEDICALLY TRAINED EVENT CAREGIVER

Physical therapist with over 20 years experience in senior care available for hire hourly for private events. Do you have a loved one who wants to attend a wedding, party, or celebration of life but needs assistance? Fully insured, active PT license and CPR. Hourly fee, 3 hour minimum. Able to assist getting ready and accompany from place of residence to event and back. My favorite "client" is my 94 year-old grandmother and Nellie Gail resident. Call, text, or email: Michele Cherow, Doctor of Physical Therapy (949)439-0261. JoyfulCelebrationsLLC@yahoo.com

DOG WALKING

Are you looking for a Nellie Gail resident who is loving, trustworthy, reliable, flexible, and responsible to walk your dog? Well, you found the right person! My name is April, and I would love to help you! Please call me at 949-310-4996 for a meet and greet! Thank you!

FLOWER POWER

"Vine + Dandy is a floral design studio based in Nellie Gail. From same-day delivery arrangements, to weddings + events, let us create fun and unique designs for you! We also offer a 'Bloom Bar' set up - the perfect ice breaker for your next social gathering! Check us out on IG: @vinedandy or online at www.vinedandy.com. You can also contact Michelle directly at 714-756-0412

CHRISTMAS/HOLIDAY LIGHTS

We are an experienced Christmas/Holiday lights installation company who has been in business more than 15 years and servicing the area and your needs. Please reach out to Brandon for any questions and for a free quote at 951-818-2770. We're looking forward to making the holiday season a bright and joyful time for you and your family! Thank you.

FOR SALE

CLOTHING FOR SALE

200 pieces of men, women and children clothing for \$200.00 must buy all pieces. Contact Sudy at 949-294-9892

SWEETS DOODLES

Sweets Doodles is a Supreme Goldendoodle breeder in South Orange County. Breeding standard size goldendoodles, they range from 50-75 lbs (size is similar to a golden retriever). Our puppies are born at home with us and loved on by our family right from the beginning. They spend the first few weeks in their whelping box, monitored 24 hours a day. They experience a variety of stimuli, from classical music to exposure to other noise and tactile experiences. At four weeks they transition to the "romper room" style play pen and are handled by our family, start the training processes and explore their outside pen. Sweets Doodles puppies are professionally puppy trained from week 4-8 with a two year health warranty and lifetime support. To learn more about our breeding program go to www.sweetsdoodles.com. Call Mark at 949 228-4606 for more information. PUPPIES AVAILABLE THIS SPRING AND FALL!

LOOKING FOR A LOVING COMPANION FOR THE HOLIDAYS?

Party Doodles Puppies are sweet, smart, gentle and loving,

and all are Spotted Why our Doodles? They are well mannered coming from and going to good homes. ALL are Black & White with varying Spots & patterns. ONE EVEN HAS A HEART SHAPED SPOT. Spotted Doodles are raised here at my home one litter at a time, with a house full of kids, in South Orange County. Our Puppies start interacting with children early, often, and are raised with loving children who are devoted to their care and initial training These Pyre-Doodles - were bred for their Intelligence, calmness, unique color patterns, affection and hypoallergenic & non-shedding tendencies For more Doodle information, pictures, and selection visits - call or text me at 949 661-1111 Don't Be Shy - Common By! PARTY DOODLE PUPPIES 949-661-1111

MINI F1B BERNEDOODLE PUPPY FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

FAITH had 8 puppies Aug 26, and they will be ready for their new homes in November. I am happy to hold your puppy until Christmas if needed. Puppies will be completely hypoallergenic and not shed. They will weigh ~35 lbs. when they have grown and will have the perfect balance of mellow and athletic. You may now meet the puppies right here in Nellie Gail. See reviews on Google. You can reserve your pick of the litter today at BernedoodlesByFaith.com. Please call if you have any questions 925-389-6363.

GOLDEN RETRIEVER PUPPY FOR SALE.

AKC Champion dog and is a female and born May 19, 2023. The sister has been adopted by a Nellie Gail homeowner, and the Breeder would like to keep the sister dogs together. Paperwork is available. If interested please call Floyd at 562-884-4566. The puppy is a kind and gentledog.

PRECOR EFX546 ELLIPTICAL

In great condition, recently fully serviced to maintain top condition. Heavy-duty machine. Has 8 programs and 20 resistance levels. Takes up minimal floor space. Specs: cross ramp 13-40 degrees (adjustable) dimensions: 80"x 30x 62 inches \$425. obo 949-716-5150

HEALTH

CROSS TRAIN FOR TOTAL BODY WELLNESS

Cross train in your home at your convenience. Get in shape, inspired, encouraged and enjoy it!! Combo ballet barre (no experience needed), Pilates and stretch. Tone, lengthen and improve flexibility. Call or text Debra at 949-350-5411, email mcm623@cox.net or follow @debra.dance on Instagram.

NUTRITIONIST & PERSONAL TRAINER

Master your mind and body in the comfort of your own home. Functional weight training geared towards helping individuals achieve weight loss/muscle gain. Contact for more information! Iden Shahir at (949)633-5410 www.livefitwithiden.com Instagram: @livefitwithiden

SWIMMING LESSONS

Its never too early or late to learn how to swim or just to improve your skills. CPR and first aid certified, 2+ years of coaching experience and 12+ years of swim team and competitive water polo experience. Text or call Donnie at 949-771-4044.

KURE IT WOMEN'S GUILD

Funding Cancer Research and Saving Lives! When thinking of supporting a non-profit organization, most struggle with how to get started and who to support. The **KURE IT WOMEN'S**

GUILD is a group (or "Hive") of like-minded, philanthropic ladies tackling one of life's most pressing issues . . . finding a cure for cancer. We support Kure It, an Orange County-based non-profit, which grants "seed money" to Comprehensive Cancer Centers for cutting-edge research. Kure It relies on the Women's Guild for fundraising, outreach, awareness, and setting the perfect environment to collaborate. We host several activities throughout the year, such as a succulent arrangement design class, charcuterie workshops, wine tasting, coffee pour-over lessons with a professional coffee roaster, and intimate meet and greet events. Cancer has touched the lives of many; the Kure It Women's Guild is creating fun opportunities to build new relationships, enjoy time together, and fund cancer research. For more information, please contact Women's Guild president, Kerri Hatfield at kckhatfield@gmail.com

GET FITT WITH BRITT

Come train with me at my private home gym right here in NGR. Certified personal trainer, corrective exercise specialist, nutrition coach and NGR resident. I will help you set and keep your health goals, while making it fun! All fitness levels, teens and adults, welcome. 1:1 personal training, small group training sessions, and strength cross training for youth athletes, all provided in private gym. Call, text or email to set up a free initial consultation: 949-257-2123 or hello@fittwithbritt.com website: www.fittwithbritt.com

PRIVATE YOGA LESSONS

Looking to expand your knowledge in yoga and would love to learn some yogic breathing techniques? I can help! With a 200hr Yoga Teacher Training certificate & 10+ years of experience I can help guide you through your yoga journey. After all, it's a lifestyle! \$80 per person for an hour long session. Contact me for more information! Brittney Trujillo at 714.234.7627

PRIVATE SPEECH-LANGUAGE THERAPY

Speech-language therapy without the hassle and waitlist. At Speakeasy Speech Therapy, we specialize in improving receptive-expressive language, speech production (articulation), fluency, and cognitive skills in the comfort of your own home or at our clinic located off of Crown Valley Parkway. Contact us at (949) 287-8385 or rachel@speakeasy-speech.com.

RENTALS

CARIBBEAN ISLAND VACATION RENTALS

On the beautiful Island of Roatan we have two incredible properties. Roatan is very safe, English speaking, easy to get to (approximately 6 hours of flight time and you can fly directly into Roatan). Flights range from \$475 to \$850 round trip. The water is turquoise crystal clear and warm all year round. The scuba diving and snorkeling is first class. The two properties are 15 and 30 minutes from the airport. One property is a 3 bedroom, 3 bath, two story, 2500 square foot Villa right on the sand located on the BEST beach on the Island, West Bay Beach. It sleeps 8 comfortably. The second property is a beautiful 3 bedroom, 3 bath Casa (sleeps 6) with a Casita (large studio apartment that sleeps 2), pool and 400 foot dock on 1.5 acres of green lush landscape. It is not right on the water but you can see the water and it is only a 3 minute walk to our 400 foot two story dock that you can swim, snorkel, scuba, fish or just sit and watch the sunsets. You can rent one or both, Casa or Casita, depending on your group size. Please check out our

website at www.roatanislandvacationrentals.com for more information, pictures, and pricing or call Debbie at 714-801-4257. Discount given to our Nellie Gail neighbors.

MISCELLANEOUS

HOST FAMILY - FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENT

Open your heart and home to a French, Italian or Spanish exchange student this summer for just 3 weeks. Dear neighbors of Nellie Gail Ranch. We are looking for short-term Host Families from June 25th to July 16th and from July 17th till August the 7th. We have students from 13 to 17 years old, they are carefully screened and selected based on their motivation, maturity, and passion to learn about American culture, they come with their own pocket money for personal expenses and medical and liability insurance. By hosting a student, you will fulfill a young kid dream of coming to the USA and show the best of our culture with them. Stipend is available! Will this be the summer you host an exchange student? Contact me at alex@oui-connect.com 415-395-6160.

HOUSE / PET SITTING

Looking for a local resident in Nellie Gail, who does House/Pet sitting. We need someone who is loving, reliable, flexible and has availability. We have an active life style and unexpected travel dates. We would appreciate someone who is able to stay home with our furbabies from time to time, and can also be flexible enough for a quick visit. Please give us a call at 808 714-6153. Thank you in advance.

COMPUTER SCIENCE AND PROGRAMMING TUTOR

AP Computer Science and programming tutor available. I got my Bachelor of Science from UC Berkeley in electrical engineering and computer science and I have been working as a software engineer for 6+ years. I am available for in-person and remote tutoring. Please text Elaine at 949 300 8985 or email occstutoring@gmail.com for more information.

CEMETERY PROPERTY

Save money - get peace of mind - in Pacific View Memorial Park Newport Beach - 2 side by side crypts; Magnolia Court lower level in the Ocean View Cemetery. \$15000 each; Brand new never used original owners please call 949-215-2728

DISCLAIMER: The classified advertisements contained within the Nellie Gail Ranch Pony Express magazine are not endorsed or recommended by the Nellie Gail Ranch Owners Association. NGROA, the Board of Directors, and employees may not be held liable or responsible for business practices, actions, or products of persons who place advertisements in the Classified section.

Nellie Gail Garden Group

By Tina Corso

In Southern California, being mindful of the types of plants in your environment is crucial, as some can pose serious health risks or even be fatal if mishandled or ingested. This article explores the various poisonous plants found in the region, including mushrooms, flowers, and other common flora.



Deadly Mushrooms:

Southern California is home to several toxic mushroom varieties, with the most infamous being the Death Cap mushroom. These mushrooms, native to Europe, are considered the most toxic in the world. Over the last decade, they have claimed the lives of at least five Californians and sickened

more than 50 people in the state. The danger they pose makes it essential to be cautious when foraging for mushrooms in the region. <https://www.npr.org/sections/thesalt/2016/03/20/470825175/in-california-poisonous-death-cap-mushrooms-are-the-foragers-bane>

Toxic Mushrooms of California:

Besides the Death Cap, California hosts a variety of other toxic mushrooms. Some of the mushrooms to watch out for include the Magpie Fungus, Jack-O-Lantern, Boletus pulcherrimus, Deadly Pholiotina, Deadly Galerina, Smith's Amanita, Fly Agaric, and Yellow-latex milky. Knowing these mushrooms and avoiding them is crucial for safety. <https://calpoison.org/plants-and-mushrooms>

Poisonous Flowers:

Poisonous flowers can also be found in the region. Angel's Trumpet, for instance, is a plant that can cause harm through inhalation, skin contact, or ingestion, and it can even be fatal in severe poisoning cases. Other toxic plants to be aware of include Dumbcane, Oleander, Poison Hemlock, Poison Oak, and Stinging Nettle. Being informed about these plants is essential, especially if you have them in your garden or come across them in the wild. <https://bouqs.com/blog/poisonous-flowers-plants/>
<https://a-z-animals.com/blog/dangerous-plants-found-in-california-you-should-never-touch/>

Tobacco Plant:

The tobacco plant, while not native to California, can also pose health risks. It contains harmful chemicals, including highly addictive nicotine, as well as toxic substances like cadmium and lead. These toxins can impact not only those who use tobacco but also the environment where it is cultivated. [Source: A-Z Animals]

Wintering Christmas Plants:

During the holiday season, some popular plants are



associated with Christmas decorations. These can include Amaryllis, Christmas Cedar tree branches, Christmas cacti, Fir tree branches, Holly berries, Red Poinsettias, Mistletoe, Firethorn, and Rosary Pea. While these plants serve festive purposes, it's important to be aware of their potential toxicity, especially when children or pets are around.

Southern California and taking necessary precautions when dealing with them is vital for the safety of individuals, pets, and the environment. By staying informed and practicing responsible gardening and foraging, we can enjoy the natural beauty of the region while minimizing risks associated with toxic flora.

Safety Tips:

When dealing with plants, particularly those with toxic properties, safety measures are crucial. Never handle or touch these plants without proper protection. Always wear gloves and sunglasses when gardening to prevent exposure to harmful substances. This is particularly important when handling plants like Stinging Nettle, which can be useful for other purposes if used safely. Additionally, never burn plants like Oleander, as doing so can release toxic fumes. It's also essential to ensure that your pets, such as horses, do not have access to these toxic plants. <https://extension.psu.edu/plants-toxic-to-horses>



Conclusion:

Being aware of the presence of poisonous plants in

THE PUZZLE PADDOCK

WORD SEARCH

THANKSGIVING

DAY

A P P L E S H W G R U A A U P Y
N H O L I D A Y E F B T A V P Y
P O E M U U E W D A L H D A T P
T I K R Q T O U F M E A N G U O
R P L X U L Z I M I S N N I R Q
A P Q G F P N J F L S K G Z K E
D L X Y R R A Z Y Y I F B Z E R
I G A K O I X R D Q N U T H Y J
T M M C W Y M X A L G L G V N I
I P T A F E A S T D S N O X O H
O K Q F D Z B F S Q E O R V V A
N F G U C O R N U C O P I A E R
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P O T A T O E S X B E N M P B E
J B W Z V D D I N N E R F I E S
V P L X T R G J Q S I S N E R T



THANKFUL	TURKEY	CORN	PUMPKIN	DINNER
NOVEMBER	POTATOES	PIE	HAT	CORNUCOPIA
FAMILY	HOLIDAY	MAYFLOWER	BLESSINGS	PILGRIMS
APPLES	TRADITION	HARVEST	FEAST	PARADE

RANCH RECIPE



THANKSGIVING PECAN PIE



INGREDIENTS:

1. 1 WHOLE UNBAKED PIE CRUST (I USE THE PERFECT
2. PIE CRUST RECIPE)
3. 1 C. GRANULATED SUGAR
4. 3 TBSP. BROWN SUGAR
5. 1/2 TSP. SALT
6. 1 C. LIGHT CORN SYRUP
7. 1/3 C. MELTED BUTTER (SALTED)
8. 3 WHOLE EGGS, BEATEN
9. 3/4 TSP. VANILLA
10. 1 C. (HEAPING) CHOPPED PECANS

PREPARATION:

1. PREPARE A 9-INCH PIE PAN WITH CRUST.
2. PREHEAT THE OVEN TO 350°F (175°C).
3. MIX SUGARS, SALT, CORN SYRUP, MELTED BUTTER, EGGS, AND VANILLA IN A BOWL.
4. SPREAD PECANS IN THE CRUST AND POUR THE SYRUP MIXTURE OVER THEM.
5. BAKE FOR 30 MINUTES WITH FOIL, THEN 20 MINUTES WITHOUT. ENSURE THE PIE ISN'T TOO JIGGLY WHEN DONE; BAKE LONGER IF NEEDED.
6. COOL FOR A FEW HOURS OR OVERNIGHT BEFORE SLICING AND SERVING IN THIN SLIVERS.

November 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5 The End of Daylight Savings	6	7	8	9	10	11 Veterans Day 
12	13	14 Board Meeting 7:30pm @ Clubhouse ARC Meeting at 6:00pm @ The Association Office	15 Wine & Design at 12:00pm @ The Clubhouse	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 Business Office Closed 	24 Business Office Closed	25
26	27	28 ARC Submittal Deadline for December 12th Meeting	29	30		



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