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Rancho Santa Fe

REVIEW

**National Award-
Winning
Newspaper**

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Construction on the new station began in June 2010, and district officials expect to open the new station in December or January. Photo/Jon Clark

Safety features highlight new fire station in Fairbanks Ranch

BY JOE TASH

A new fire station under construction in Fairbanks Ranch will be one of the safest buildings in the community due to strict earthquake standards imposed by the state.

The new station at 6424 El Apajo will replace the Rancho Santa Fe Fire District's former Station No. 3, which was demolished last year. During construction, the area is being served from a temporary station housed in trailers across the street.

Construction on the new station began in June 2010, and district officials expect to open the new station in December or January.

The new, nearly 11,000-square-foot station replaces a 3,000-square-foot facility built in 1983. In 1986, California adopted the Essential Services Buildings Seismic Safety Act, which requires that public safety buildings such as fire stations be built 125 percent stronger than non-safety buildings, said Rancho Santa Fe fire Capt. Chris Galindo, project manager for the new fire station.

Because the new station is in a flood zone, construction crews had to put in 192 columns made of compressed rock, three feet each in diameter and 40 feet tall, to stabilize the

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Rancho Valencia to undergo major renovation: See page 3



Halloween fun in RSF

A variety of creatures, princesses, robots and more had a great time at the RSF School's annual Halloween Parade and Carnival held Oct. 28.

(Above left) Parade participants; (Above right) Brandon and Dylan Powell; (Right) Casey Thatcher and Malia Rivere. See page 20 for more. Photos/Jon Clark



Dia Del Sol

The Beach & Country Guild's spectacular 2011 Dia Del Sol event, held Oct. 26 at The Grand Del Mar, helped raise funds for United Cerebral Palsy of San Diego. (Above) Kimberly Hunt, Andrene Dziubinski, and Colleen Clayton, 2011 Beach and Country Guild president. (Right) Beautiful models in the children's fashion show. See pages 22 and 23 for more. Photos/Jon Clark



RSF Review adds readers' photos, real estate features to Web site

Two new features for local photos and real estate have enhanced ranchosantafereview.com, the Review's daily online edition. The new Reader Photo Gallery showcases favorite photos shot by our readers. The upgraded and expanded real estate section has nifty new features in addition to the ever-popular open home directory.

Local residents and businesses can submit photos to be published online, whether it's a weekend event or a private social gathering or just any fun time in Rancho Santa Fe. Share your pictures of youth sports, surfers, weddings, graduation or prom. Show off your best view of Rancho Santa Fe or your favorite travel photo. Pictures of

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STATION

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ground beneath the building, said Galindo.

"You definitely want that in time of emergency to make sure our apparatus can get out (of the building)," said Rancho Santa Fe Fire Chief Tony Michel.

The new station also includes an emergency generator and diesel fuel tanks, to ensure that the station and its fire trucks can function in an earthquake or other disaster, Michel said.

Jim Ashcraft, president of the fire district's board of directors, estimated that with all contingencies included, the total cost of the new station will be about \$4.7 million.

Michel and Ashcraft said 75 percent of the money for the station will come from fees charged to developers for projects within the district, while the remaining 25 percent will come from the district's general fund, generated primarily from property tax revenue.

The building was designed to fit in with the surrounding community, said Michel, and includes cut stone on its outer façade, along with ornamentation that appears to be made of painted wood but is in fact lightweight foam.

While he has heard some comments about the size of the building, Michel



Julie Taber, Chief Tony Michel, and Captain Chris Galindo. Photo/Jon Clark

said the new station was designed as a two-story structure so that fire trucks and ambulances can exit and enter safely and efficiently.

Because the old station had only one driveway for entry and exit, firefighters had to stop traffic on El Apajo and back the fire trucks into the station each time they returned from a call. The new building has two driveways, so trucks can pull into the building and out again, without having to shift into reverse.

Living quarters, a kitchen, dining room and a workout area were built on the second floor, above the apparatus bay where the rigs are kept. The new station will have one old-fashioned component—a brass fire pole will be installed, so firefighters can quickly drop down from their living quarters to

the equipment bay when they get an emergency call.

"Everything's about response time. In the case of a stroke, every second is important," Ashcraft said.

In order to expand the footprint of the old station, the district purchased a half-acre of land from a next-door neighbor to bring the entire parcel to .83 of an acre, said Galindo.

The old fire station was not only built before the current state earthquake standards were enacted, but it had numerous problems such as dry rot and termite infestation, officials said, which made it more cost-effective to tear it down and build a new station.

Initially, the station will house a three-person engine company, which includes three three-person crews. The station has room to bring in an additional truck, or possibly an ambulance, Michel said.

With the new station online, the district will have four fire stations in operation to cover its 38-square-mile territory, which includes Rancho Santa Fe, Fairbanks Ranch, 4S Ranch, The Crosby, Cielo and other communities.

With the completion of the new station, the district now has all of its physical structures in place to serve its population of 28,000 residents for the next 50 to 60 years, and the district won't face any new capital costs for "a long time," Ashcraft said.

Local rider helps raise funds for Cystic Fibrosis Foundation's Cycle for Life

BY KAREN BILLING

The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation San Diego Chapter's Aptalis CF Cycle for Life took place on Saturday, Oct. 29, starting at Mira Costa College, with the routes taking participants through Fairbanks Ranch and Rancho Santa Fe.

Maria Olson, the foundation's executive director said participation has grown significantly from last year. Last year the ride had just 60 participants, this year there were nearly 300 riders.

Olson said the fundraising ride was especially exciting this year as there are two drugs in development that could potentially cure cystic fibrosis, a chronic disease that affects the lungs and digestive system of about 30,000 children and adults in the U.S.

Jim Van Evera, a UPS driver covering Fairbanks Ranch for the last 28 years, was one of the fundraising event's riders.

Van Evera became aware of CF from the challenges faced by his children's friends Sharlie and Lexi Ross. Both girls were diagnosed with CF and Lexi passed away at age 14 from the disease. Sharlie is now 32 and married with a young son, but is awaiting a double lung transplant and a heart transplant.

Knowing first hand what CF patients endure, Van Evera and his family began the quest of raising money for the foundation from lemonade stands to Van Evera's signing up for the ride with a target goal of \$1,000.

"My friends and family are very generous," said Van Evera of their donations. "I had to reset my goal a couple of times because people were so generous."

His new goal was \$3,500, which he was set to meet as long as he crossed the finish line. He rides about 25 miles every weekend so he was not worried about the 32-mile race—riders could also opt to race a 62- or 70-mile course.

With all the cyclists in the area, Van Evera encourages people to start thinking about next year.

"It's such a good event and it raises a lot of money for the cause. I was just really excited to do it," Van Evera said. To learn more about the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation and upcoming events, visit cff.org/Chapters/sandiego.



Riders in Oct. 29's Cystic Fibrosis Foundation's Cycle for Life.

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