

RSF Fire District names Dave McQuead 'Firefighter of the Year'

The Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District (RSFFPD) has named engineer Dave McQuead as the recipient of the 2008 David B. Dewey Firefighter of the Year Award. McQuead was announced as the recipient of the award by his peers at the annual Rancho Santa Fe Appreciation Dinner hosted by the Rancho Santa Fe Rotary Club and The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe on May 8.

McQuead, who has been referred to by his colleagues as ADD for "All Day Dave," is an extremely hard worker who is involved in training groups, developing hazard materials and structure response scenarios for drills. He also recently volunteered to direct the Community Emergency Response Team for the Fire District. In addition, McQuead serves as the secretary for the Rancho Santa Fe Professional Firefighters Association.

"There is no greater acknowledgement than recognition by your peers," said Fire Chief Nick Pavone. "Dave is very deserving of the award, and provides dedicated service to the communities we serve."

Battalion Chief Mike Gibbs has also praised

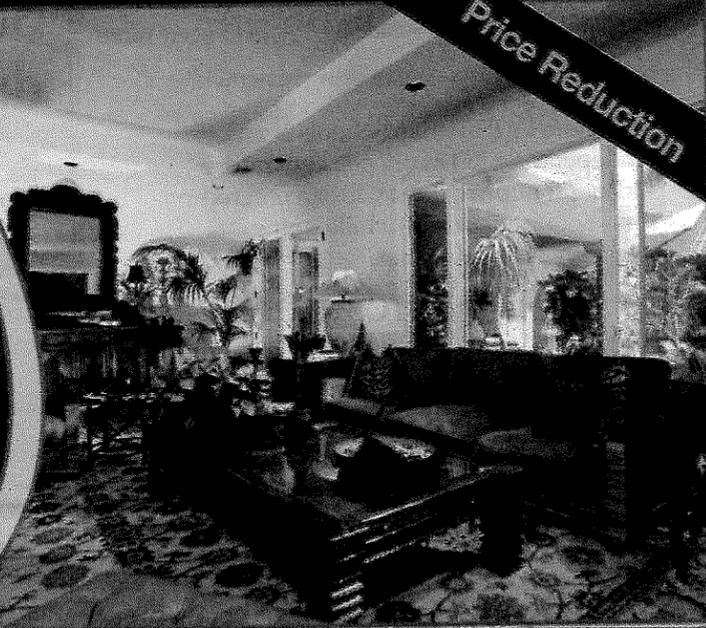
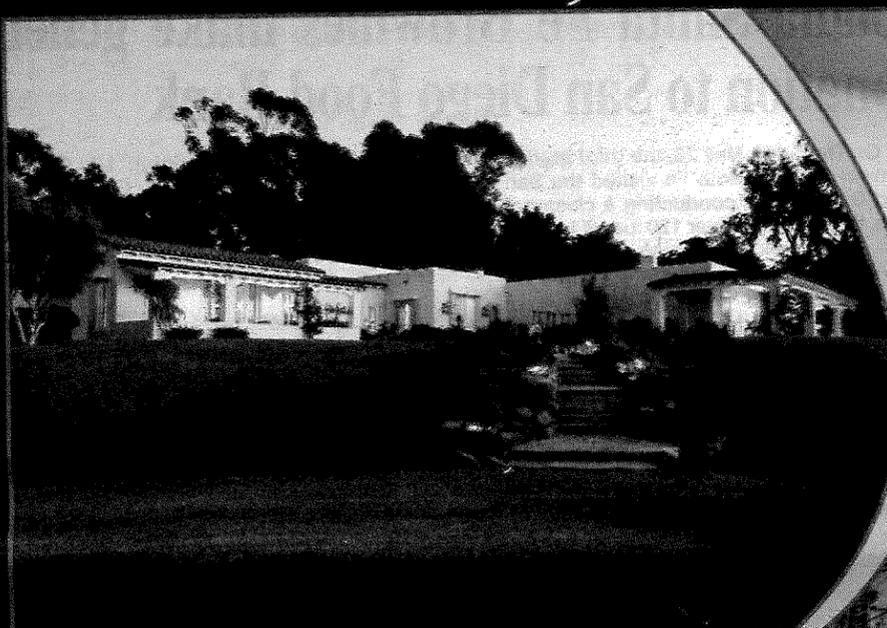


Firefighter of the Year, Dave McQuead and his wife, Mara.

McQuead's efforts. "Dave is an excellent example of an individual who truly loves the fire service and takes great pride in making our district excel as an organization. He always has a positive attitude towards his day and his job, and is always willing to put forth the extra effort in his duties."

In addition to the Firefighter of the Year, awards were given for years of service. Also participating in the event were the North County Dispatch Joint Powers Authority and Rancho Santa Fe Patrol. Each agency presented awards for their own agencies. The mission of the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District is "To protect life, property, and environment through prevention, preparedness, education and emergency response." Formed in 1946, the Fire District now spans approximately 42-square miles and protects over 29,000 citizens. The Fire District currently operates out of four full-time fire stations and serves the communities within and surrounding Rancho Santa Fe and 4S-Ranch.

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Torrey Pines reserve eyed in cuts

Park supporters stay optimistic

BY LAURA PETERSEN
Staff Writer

Torrey Pines State Beach and Natural Reserve could be closed if Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's proposal to cut funding to state parks is approved by the state legislature.

To reduce the state's \$24 billion budget deficit, the governor proposed closing 220 of the state's 279 parks to save \$143 million over the next two fiscal years.

While taking the proposal seriously, park advocates said they are also waiting for the budget process to play out a little longer in the legislature.

"We understand cuts need to be made," said Peter Jensen, president of the Torrey Pines Association, the nonprofit organization that supports the reserve. "We're looking forward to creative and possibly exciting solutions for how all state parks can remain open."

Superintendent Brian Ketterer, who manages the state

parks in north San Diego County, said he doesn't see the draconian proposal happening.

"But it's on the table," Ketterer said.

Ketterer said he and his staff are working on their budget to see if they can keep the popular reserve open for the more than 2 million visitors who use the park each year, even if state funding is cut.

"We're going through a number of budget exercises finding ways to become self-sustaining to make this work to the benefit of the public and parks," Ketterer said.

Jensen said his association and the volunteer docent association are also willing to do anything they can to help keep the park open.

If forced to closed, Ketterer said the parking lots, gates, public restrooms and museum would likely be locked, and no rangers and lifeguards would be on site to assist the public and patrol the reserve. The reserve's educational program, which teaches thousands of students every year, would also be discontinued.



Petitions were available for visitors to sign at the reserve Sunday asking the state's legislators to keep the park open. HALIE JOHNSON

While it could be considered trespassing, hikers would still likely be able to use the trails, Ketterer said.

However, with no rangers

and only one caretaker on site, the park would be vulnerable to homeless encampments, increased fire risks and degradation of sensitive habitat if hikers went off the trails, Ketterer said.

Torrey Pines was targeted for closure last year, when the governor proposed closing parks to save money. Like last time, the Torrey Pines Association is encouraging the public to voice their opposition to the proposed closure by contacting their elected representatives and filling out petitions, Jensen said.

The state budget conference committee was expected to take public testimony on the proposal June 2.

"We don't know exactly what actions have to be taken for a few more weeks," said Senator Christine Kehoe. "We're still working through the process cutting the size of the deficit."

Alternatives, such as raising access fees, have also been proposed to help keep the parks open, Kehoe said.

For more information, go to torreypines.org.

Fire season DVDs coming

The San Diego County Office of Emergency Services, the San Diego County Fire Chiefs Association and Farmers Insurance Group have joined forces in a public/private partnership to launch a regional wildfire prevention and preparedness effort: "Before The Threat 2009."

They plan to deliver 400,000 "Before the Threat" DVDs in a door-to-door campaign throughout the region's high-fire risk areas, according to a press release. The campaign will begin in mid-July.

"During the 2007 fires, we saw that defensible space works," said Ron Lane Director of the County Office of Emergency Services. "The homes that were still standing in the fire perimeter area all had defensible space. The 1,700 homes that burned had a flaw in their defensible space and that's what we are hoping to address with our campaign."

Representatives from 65 fire agencies and Teams of First Responders from 65 fire agencies will be joined by at least 3,000 volunteers to distribute the information.

This effort is made possible through a \$200,000 grant from the Farmers Insurance Group. Volunteer San Diego helping to organize the massive number of volunteers.

Correction

In a story published in the May 29 edition of the newspaper, an obituary on Herbert York omitted the name of one of his children. His survivors include daughter Rachel York. We apologize.

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DM to contract with RSF for fire management

BY LAURA PETERSEN
Staff Writer

After many years of studying the best way to provide fire protection services, Del Mar is working to maintain its fire department, but contracting the top management positions such as fire chief from the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District.

The City Council authorized City Manager Karen Brust to negotiate a contract with the neighboring fire district to provide a fire chief, deputy chief, fire marshal, three battalion chiefs and a training officer for Del Mar's fire department.

Solana Beach is also considering a similar arrangement with Rancho Santa Fe because David Ott, who has served as fire chief for both Solana Beach and Del Mar for many years, is transitioning solely into his role as Solana Beach city manager.

"It's a way to try to create a richer, more quality deliv-



Carlsbad Fire Station Capt. Vince Maniscalco lays on top of an instructor in training during an entrapment scenario in a building slated for demolition at the Santa Fe Irrigation District on May 9. WILL PARSON

ery model for all our agencies," Brust said.

Del Mar Deputy Mayor Richard Earnest and Councilman Mark Filanc served on the subcommittee working on this issue and both said contracting with Rancho Santa Fe was the best option at this time because it was affordable and short-term.

The contract, if approved, would only be for two years, giving the city time to further investigate other options, such as hiring its own fire chief and deputy fire chief; consolidating with the Solana Beach Fire Department; or establishing a

SEE FIRE, PAGE A10

Community calendar

Friday, June 19

- Summer Reading Program's Fabulous Friday: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Rancho Santa Fe Library. An "American Idol" game will begin at 11 a.m.; pizza will be served from 1 to 2 p.m.

Sunday, June 21

- Chabad Jewish Center of Rancho Santa Fe's Communal Torah Scroll celebration: 6 p.m. at the Shillman home. Participants will help assist expert scribe Rabbi Moshe Klein in completing the final letters of the scroll. For more information, call 756-7571.

Monday, June 22

- Rancho Santa Fe Rotary meets: Noon at the Inn at Rancho Santa Fe. This will be President Jill King's last Rotary program.

- Summer Reading Program's Movie Monday: 1 p.m. Rancho Santa Fe Library.

Wednesday, June 24

- Mom and Me Yoga: 10:30 a.m. Rancho Santa Fe Library.

Thursday, June 25

- Summer Reading Program's Craft Thursday: 3:30 p.m. Rancho Santa Fe Library. Children can make their own candles.

Friday, June 26

- Summer Reading Program's Fabulous Friday: 11 to 2 p.m. Rancho Santa Fe Library. Play "America's Next Top Dance Crew" and enjoy pizza from 1 to 2 p.m.

CRIME REPORT

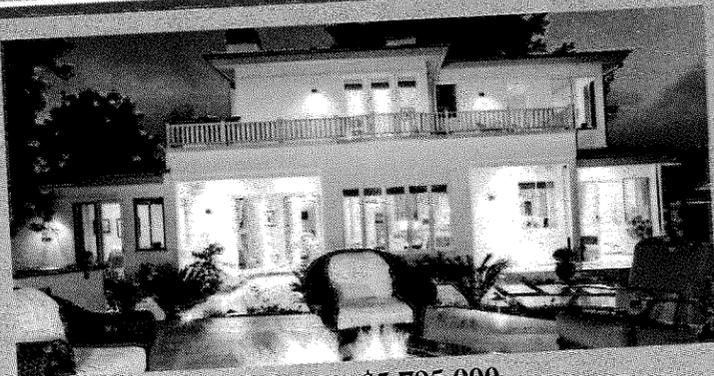
June 7

- Commercial burglary, 6200 block of Paseo Delicias, 1:30 a.m.

June 10

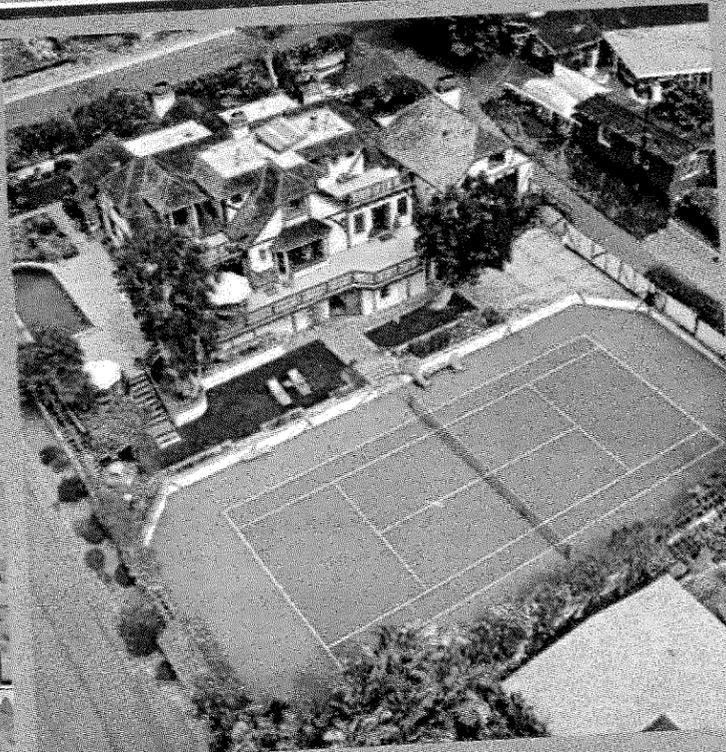
- Malicious mischief/vandalism, 16700 block of Zumaque, 3 p.m.

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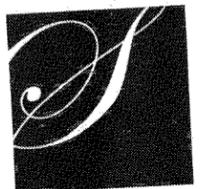
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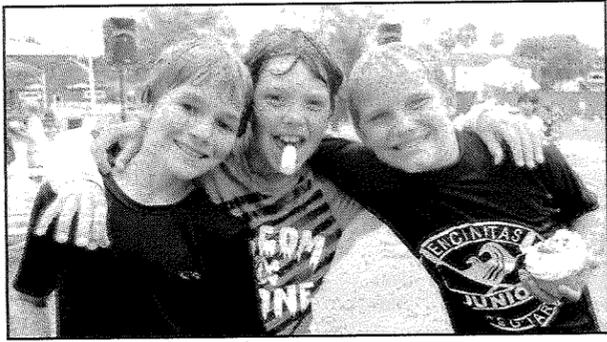
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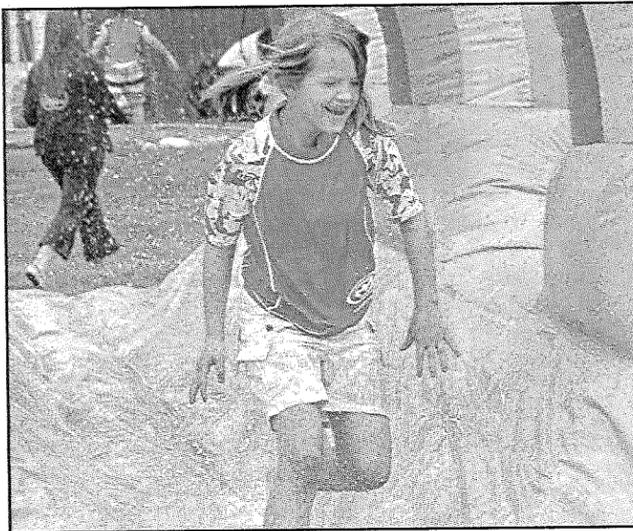


Outgoing fourth-graders Beau Morgans, Brandon Bay and Jackson Baere are ready for summer.

Horizon Prep celebrated the start of summer with a water-filled Field Day last Wednesday.

Preppers came in their bathing suits to play on water slides, soak fellow stu-

dents in the dunk tank and race in potato sacks. The cupcake walk was also very popular, with the winners getting to pick from a tasty looking spread of cupcakes of all kinds.

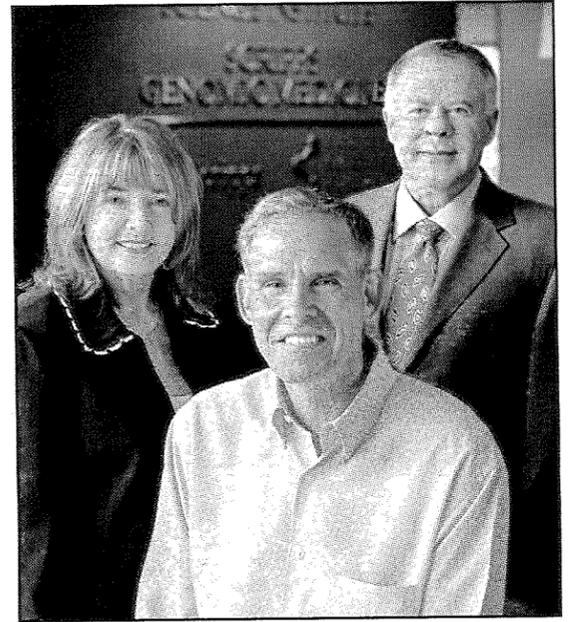


Sydney Sparks races through the water slide.

PHOTOS BY KAREN BILLING

MORE ONLINE
www.rsrecord.com

Supporting innovation



Mary and Gary West of Rancho Santa Fe, standing, recently made a \$5 million endowment to Scripps Health to establish the Gary and Mary West Chair of Innovative Medicine. Eric J. Topol, M.D., center, has been named the inaugural chairman to support the advancement of wireless health and was appointed to the board of the new West Wireless Health Institute, the organization fully dedicated to advancing health and well-being through the use of wireless technologies. Scripps Health is the founding health care affiliate, with Qualcomm as a founding sponsor. COURTESY

FIRE, FROM PAGE A2

joint powers authority (JPA) with Rancho Santa Fe and Solana Beach.

"This gives us the flexibility we desire at this time," Filanc said.

"I think a JPA is certainly worth looking at."

Since Del Mar eliminated

its fire chief position six years ago, it has been contracting fire management services from Solana Beach. The two cities and Rancho Santa Fe have been studying how they might better coordinate their fire departments for the past three years.

Ott agreed that the ultimate goal is to form a JPA,

which would give the cities and agencies access to better service than they could afford on their own and also would save money by eliminating redundancy.

"Most importantly, if you're a member of a JPA, you do have a seat at the table to be a part of the decision-making process," Ott

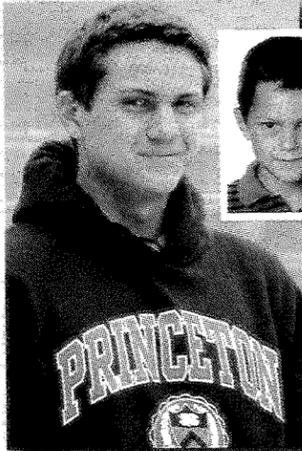
said.

Del Mar's contract with Rancho Santa Fe is dependent on Solana Beach going through with their contract. Ott said he is ironing out a few more details and hopes to bring the contract to the Solana Beach City Council for consideration next month.

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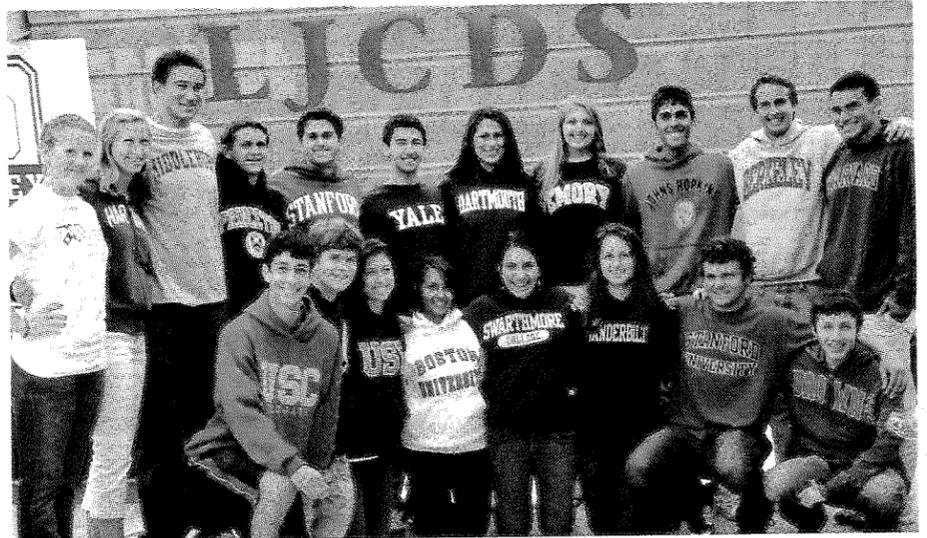
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Son of police capt. charged in assault

By Randy Kalp

FALLBROOK — An Oceanside police captain's son was charged May 28 in connection to a near fatal assault on his mother that ended with the officer shooting the young man in their Fallbrook home over Memorial Day weekend.

At Reginald Grigsby Jr.'s brief arraignment hearing, San Diego Superior Court Judge Marshall Hockett set the young man's bail at \$1 million. Hockett said he believed Grigsby, 25, was a danger to the community.

Wearing a blue county jail jumpsuit with shackles around his waist, the former San Diego State football player, who stood before the judge behind a Plexiglas holding cell, scanned the Vista courtroom for his family members, who were just out of his sight in the back corner.

Through his court appointed attorney, Grigsby entered a not guilty plea to a single count each of attempted murder and assault causing great bodily injury.

An additional allegation that Grigsby's mother, Desirah, incurred significant injuries is attached to the charges.

Deputy District Attorney Brenda Daly told the judge that during the "violent" attack, Grigsby punched his mother twice in the face breaking her nose and then choked her to a state of unconsciousness.

Outside the courtroom, Daly said the attack occurred in the Grigsbys' home during the morning of May 23.

The prosecutor said it's still not known what prompted Grigsby to attack his mother.

Grigsby did not live with his parents at the time.

His family reported that Grigsby has a history

TURN TO SON ON 23

Local lawyers leave law behind for a new career

By Promise Yee

OCEANSIDE — A down housing market proved no detour for Sean Barry and William Reiter, who recently made the career leap from corporate lawyers to mortgage loan officers.

"Working as an attorney was both fantastic and horrific," Barry said. "It was stable and challenging, but also extremely stressful and wearing."

"As a corporate attorney, you spend your entire day in the office behind the desk, 65 hours a week," Reiter said. "Being a mortgage loan officer is a lot more fun, as crazy as this sounds. As a mortgage broker you get a lot more opportunity

to interact on an in-person basis."

Barry and Reiter worked together as attorneys at Procopio, Cory, Hargreaves & Savitch for several years when they both found themselves ready for a change.

What Barry and Reiter see in their career as mortgage loan officers is an opportunity to work in a more people-oriented business and truly help clients.

"For many, (a mortgage

loan) it's one of the most important decisions they will make in their lives," Barry said. "Our legal backgrounds definitely help provide more depth and understanding with many of the issues that arise."

The pair works as mortgage loan officers for Bank of America and provides mortgage consultation services for complex, often high-dollar, transactions in North County.

"The attorney background is especially invaluable," Reiter said. "A background in corporate law gives a good basis to handle complex finances."

In addition to the ability to handle complex financial situations, attorney training has also

instilled a sense of duty to ethically represent the client's interest.

"We try to be an ongoing financial resource for our clients," Barry said.

"The last year, 2008, was incredibly challenging," Reiter said. Yet Reiter and Barry weathered through. "I think there are going to be better and better opportunities," Reiter said.

"Bank of America has provided us with the most aggres-

sive range of Jumbo Loan programs and rates available in the industry," Barry said.

The new job fits. Barry was recognized by Mortgage Originator magazine as one of the top U.S. loan officer for the past three years.

Reiter said their intention is to bring their knowledge, experience and passion to the job and leave their clients feeling it was a good experience.

Contact Bill Reiter, senior loan officer with Bank of America Home Loans at (858) 847-6369 or William.Reiter@BankofAmerica.com. Contact Sean Barry, senior loan officer and sales manager, at (858) 847-6319 or sean.barry@bankofamerica.com.



WILLIAM REITER



SEAN BARRY

Former Rancho Santa Fe students, teachers say goodbye

RANCHO SANTA FE — Alumni of all ages, former teachers and administrators are invited to gather by the front office flagpole at 11 a.m. June 6 to say goodbye to their beloved school. The

Rancho Santa Fe School (recently renamed the R. Roger Rowe School) is set to be completely demolished in a matter of days, to make room for a new, larger school campus intended to accom-

modate the growing population of students in the Rancho Santa Fe area. From kindergarten to eighth grade, many a generation has been raised on these beloved school grounds.

"This school has always been the heartbeat of the community and it is bittersweet to say goodbye to the institution that provided us with not only a stellar education but a lifetime of cher-

ished, childhood memories," Bibbi Herrmann Conner, a 1978 graduate of the Rancho Santa Fe School, said.

This event will include

TURN TO GOODBYE ON 21

Ranch fire district names its Firefighter of the Year

RANCHO SANTA FE — The Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District has named Engineer Dave McQuead as the recipient of the 2008 David B. Dewey Firefighter of the Year Award.

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effort in his duties." In addition to the Firefighter of the Year, awards were given for years of service. Also participating in the event were the North County Dispatch Joint Powers Authority and Rancho Santa Fe Patrol.

Youth symphony opens auditions to under-26ers in June

SAN DIEGO — Registration is now open for the San Diego Youth Symphony and Conservatory 2009-2010 season. Annual auditions will take place June 11, June 13 and June 14.

Students between the ages of 7 and 25, interested in furthering their music education and performing with other talented young San Diego musicians in orchestral, wind and small

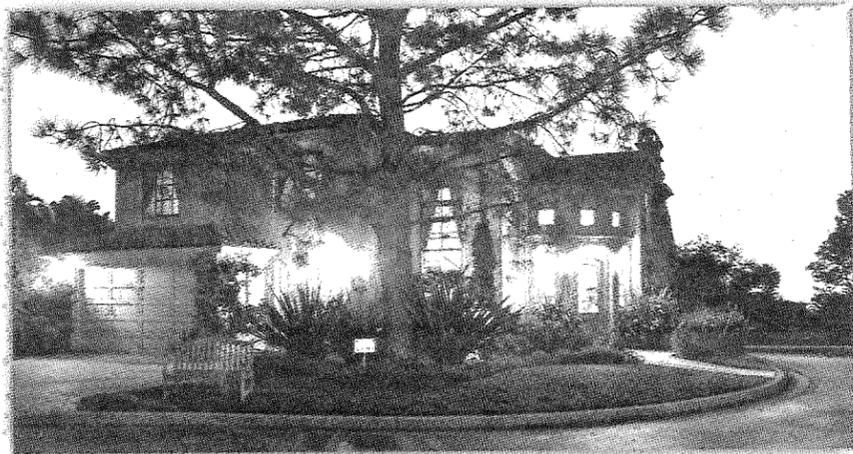
ensembles are invited to download the registration packet at www.sdys.org.

Visit www.sdys.org to learn more about our different levels of ensembles. Musicians are encouraged to participate in their school or university music programs, as well.

For more information, visit www.sdys.org or call the orchestra coordinator at (619) 233-3232, ext. 111.

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Del Mar to contract with the Ranch for fire services

by Bianca Kaplanek

06.09.09 - 01:07 pm

DEL MAR — The Del Mar City Council authorized its city manager at the June 8 meeting to negotiate a contract for fire management services with the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District.

When Del Mar's fire chief retired in 2004, the city eliminated the position and contracted with neighboring Solana Beach for administrative and emergency services. That arrangement remains in place, however, Rancho Santa Fe also began providing emergency response services to Del Mar, which was paying a discounted rate of \$62,000 to Solana Beach and \$8,800 to Rancho Santa Fe.

All contracts expired in December 2008, and the agreement is not an option for renewal at this point because Solana Beach will no longer be providing services. David Ott, who had been working as fire chief for both cities as well as city manager for Solana Beach, has transitioned into the full-time city manager position.

Del Mar City Manager Karen Brust presented her council with three alternatives, including hiring full-time fire and battalion chiefs at an estimated cost of \$384,000, plus support equipment. The proposed budget for the next two fiscal years includes \$240,000 annually for fire services.

"It's not just a matter of what are the options," Brust said. "It's what the city can afford."

Another potential solution was to dissolve the Del Mar Fire Department and consolidate it with another agency, which could impact local control. The city would maintain all its department assets, such as fire engines and stations, but personnel would be contracted out and managed by the new agency. Costs, which were developed for consolidation with Solana Beach, were estimated at \$232,315.

Council members opted for the final alternative, which was to contract with another agency for administrative and emergency fire management services.

This will allow the current Fire Department to remain intact. Although it limits upward mobility, department personnel supported this option, which offers a budget savings and uninterrupted emergency response, according to the staff report.

Del Mar received proposals for this option from Rancho Santa Fe and Encinitas. Although the cost estimate from Encinitas was lower -- \$155,919 compared to Rancho Santa Fe's \$222,052 -- Brust said there were differences in the proposals. "They're not really apples to apples," she said. Both were subject to negotiation.

A comprehensive review of the alternatives indicated negotiating services with Rancho Santa Fe appeared to be the optimal solution based on the city's needs,

according to the staff report.

Under the agreement, Rancho Santa Fe will provide Del Mar with a fire chief, deputy chief, fire marshal, three shift battalion chiefs and a training officer. The cost is based on a two-year contract and contingent on Solana Beach procuring services as well.

Brust said the Solana Beach City Council is expected to discuss the item at its June 24 or July 15 meeting. Councilman Richard Earnest, who worked on the council subcommittee, said there is a sense Solana Beach is “inclined ... to be involved in this.” Ultimately, he said, the desire is to form a joint powers authority but that is at least two years in the making.

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RSF Association approves 2009-2010 operating and capital budgets

Assessment rate stays the same; Golf Club fees up slightly

By Matt Liebowitz

The board of the Rancho Santa Fe Association, at its June 4 meeting, approved the operating and capital budgets and schedule of fees for fiscal year 2009-2010.

Reviewed and approved by the Finance Committee on April 22, the budget, explained Association Chief Financial Officer Steve Comstock, keeps the revenue assessment rate at 14 cents per \$100 of assessed property value, including the Open Space Funds portion at 3 cents.

The total general services revenue, which includes revenue from assessments, permits and fees, and Community Services District (CSD) contracts, comes in at \$5,294,032. Operating expenses, including administration, parks and recreation, patrol, Covenant administration, and building administration, is \$4,921,103, creating a general services operating surplus of \$372,929 for 2009-2010.

Revenue for the Tennis Club in the 2009-2010 budget (including enrollment, annual, and guest fees) was marked at \$335,806, a decrease from the 2008-2009 income of \$337,063. With expenses next year proposed at \$295,202, the budget indicates the Tennis Club will see a surplus of \$40,604. No raise in fees is scheduled.

The 2009-2010 budget for the Golf Club lists revenue at \$7,925,544, down from last year's total of \$8,008,595. When expenses such as business and property taxes, insurance, and debt service are factored in, total expenses (not including depreciation) are \$7,374,803, leaving a cash surplus of \$550,741.

When \$1.2 million of depreciation is factored in, the Golf Club's total expenses are \$8,547,803, which would lead to a Golf Club deficit of \$649,258, explained Association Manager Pete Smith.

Fees at the Golf Club will increase by approximately 3 percent, explained Comstock. Regular and Resident Associate annual dues will go up from \$6,300 to \$6,500; single and Resident Associate Single dues will increase from \$4,725 to \$4,875. Non-Resident Associate dues will increase from \$6,930 to \$7,150. Green fees and cart fees will remain the same. Annual charges for limited playing privileges will also stay the same.

RSF School recognizes students with perfect attendance

By Matt Liebowitz

At its June 3 meeting, the board of trustees of the Rancho Santa Fe School District recognized the students who showed up to school every day of the year, with no tardies or absences.

Recognized were: from kindergarten, Michael Kenyon; first graders Tessa Catledge and Benjamin Fitzpatrick; second graders Brenda Bazaldua, Ariana DeMaria, and Casey Thatcher; third graders Daniel Brewster Burns and Jasmine Jaffe; fourth grader Grant Bailey; sixth graders Sophia Clark and Jonathan Luck; seventh graders Erika Graham, David Pan, and Julia Skyhar; and from eighth grade: Jasmine Luck and Sean Mojaver.

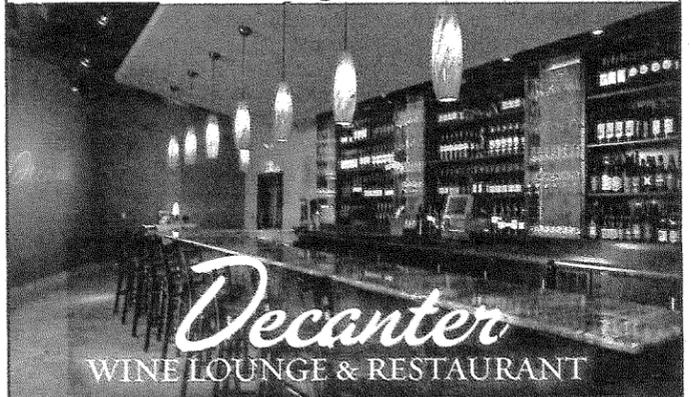
Receiving honorable mention for no absences and less than three tardies were: from kindergarten: Kelly Slosar; first grader Aaron Lustig; second graders Porter Hollen and Angela Suastegui; third graders Blake Fuller, Cameron Klein, Hana Lustig, and Nicholas McVay; fourth graders Adam Lustig, Jose Ramirez, and Taylor Scornavacco; sixth graders Kristin Butler, Kate Swanson, and Michael Kim; seventh graders Zoe Kennedy, and Renzo Vajda; and eighth graders Erika Garcia and Matthew Schulzki.

Injured bicyclist flown to hospital

At 11:26 a.m. on June 5, firefighters from the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District responded to a report of a bicycle accident on El Camino del Norte at Las Montanas. Based on the information provided to dispatch by an off-duty San Diego Fire Captain who was on scene, it was determined that

Mercy Air should be called to transport the victim. Upon arrival on scene, firefighters found a male in his 60s on the ground and in an altered state of consciousness. Paramedics treated him until he was transported by Mercy Air to Scripps Memorial Hospital in La Jolla in critical condition.

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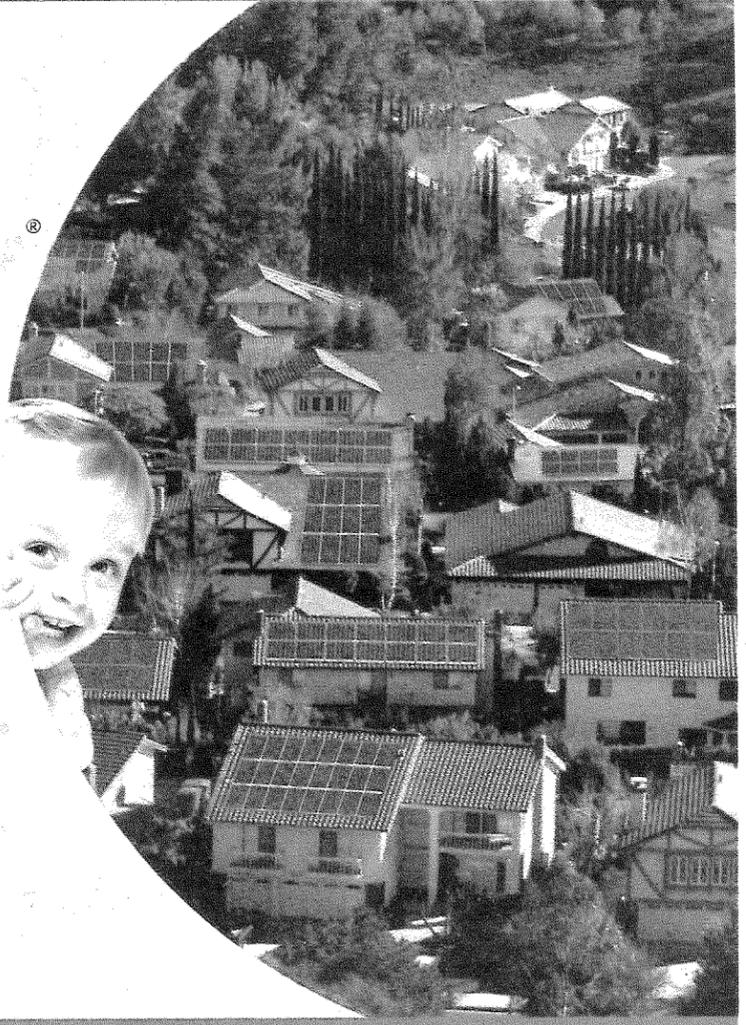
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DEL MAR TIMES

Lerps return, trees suffer

Thursday, June 11, 2009

By Karen Billing

The red gum lerp psyllid has made its unwelcome return to Rancho Santa Fe, wreaking havoc on Ranch trees. The tiny insects appear every spring, said Pete Smith, Rancho Santa Fe Association manager.

"Every year their cycle seems to have a greater and greater impact," Smith said.

The association plans to get an update at the June 18 meeting regarding the seriousness of this year's problem.

The insect's full name may be a mouthful, but they are actually very small insects native to Australia that suck sap from leaves of trees such as eucalyptus.

The insects cause leaf damage, heavy leaf litter and stress trees to make them susceptible to fatal attack by other insects. They also produce a sticky substance called honeydew, which residents may be noticing on the sidewalk or on their cars.

Rancho Santa Fe had a major problem with the insects in 2001, when the lerps feasted on trees on the west side of the Ranch. Director Bill Beckman said the west side is under attack again.

Beckman said a "shower" of leaves have been falling, leaving trees so stripped that it looks as though a fire came through.

"I'm really concerned we've got a huge problem here," Beckman said.

Encyrtid parasitoid wasps are a predator for the lerps. The United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service approved the release of the wasps at 13 Southern California sites in 2000. By 2003, the managed release of the wasps was discontinued, as the wasps were believed to have outnumbered the psyllid populations.

Pesticides are another option, but county entomologists have advised against their use in the past.

The damage to Ranch trees has more than just a negative aesthetic effect - dead and drying trees also pose a serious fire risk.

In a release, the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District said that they've seen an increase in tree mortality attributed to the insects, drought conditions and in some cases lack of maintenance. As a result the district is focusing on working with homeowners to remove hazardous trees.

"We are absolutely not looking to remove all of the trees in the area," Fire Marshal Cliff Hunter said in the release. "Rather, we are targeting only those trees that are clearly dead or dying. This will help minimize the fire hazard in the community and beautify the landscape."



The gum lerp psyllid attacks eucalyptus leaves, killing them and leaving behind a sticky substance called 'honeydew.'
Photo by: Kathy Day

The district will be conducting an investigation of local trees and homeowners will be notified via mail if their infected trees need to be removed. Property owners with trees that have a lot of debris such as peeling bark or hanging limbs will also receive notices to clean them up.

The fire district will provide homeowners with potential tree removal companies or replacement tree suggestions.

Karen Billing

Karen is a writer for the Del Mar Times, Carmel Valley Leader, Rancho Santa Fe Record and Solona Beach Sun. Karen can be reached by [e-mail](#).

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■ Fiesta del Sol
draws thousands,
Story on
page A9



■ Weeks of
non-stop fair fun
starts, Story on
page B1



■ Rowe students
learn the art of
mosaics, Story
on page A3

Students leave campus for last time

Buildings will be
demolished to
make room for new

BY KAREN BILLING
Staff Writer

Last Friday marked the beginning of summer for R. Roger Rowe students and the start of one busy summer for the construction of the new Rowe campus. After students cleared out on the last day of school, teachers were busy cleaning out their classrooms, preparing for a move into the portables of the interim campus.

The school will be housed in the portable classrooms until fall of 2010 when the new school is set to open to students.

SEE CAMPUS, PAGE A10



Teacher Andrea Judge sits in her packed up classroom. KAREN BILLING

Lerps return, trees suffer

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Staff Writer

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SEE LERPS, PAGE A10

Area braces for impact of the fair

BY LAURA PETERSEN
Staff Writer

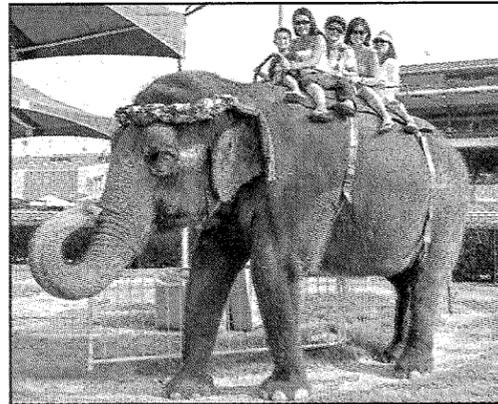
With more than 1 million visitors expected to attend the San Diego County Fair in the next three weeks, Solana Beach and Del Mar are gearing up for both the positive and the negative impacts that come with hosting the

region's largest annual event.

Crime spikes during the fair, particularly vehicle break-ins and drug activity, said David Ott, city manager of Solana Beach.

"It's something we always watch for and have the

SEE FAIR, PAGE A10



Visitors ride an elephant at last year's San Diego County Fair. COURTESY

Groups come together to oppose fairgrounds' sale

BY LAURA PETERSEN
Staff Writer

Upwards of 200 people stood in solidarity to show their opposition to Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's proposal to sell the Del Mar Fairgrounds at the 22nd District Agricultural Association's board of direc-

tors' June 9 meeting.

Many were fairgrounds and Del Mar Thoroughbred Club employees, but also in the room were elected officials, businessmen and women who run shows at the fairgrounds, and residents from the surrounding communities.

Del Mar resident Bob Lewis said locals have disagreed with the fairgrounds many times, especially on master plan to develop the site.

"But suddenly we're in love with you," Lewis said. "You are a part of us, a part of our fabric, our culture,

our community."

More than 30 individuals spoke during public comment — every one opposed to the sale of the fairgrounds, which the governor proposed last month as a way to help close the state's \$21 billion budget deficit.

There was the food service worker who loves her job.

There was the Bridal Bazaar organizer who explained how devastating it would be to the 500 small businesses that sell at the

SEE SALE, PAGE A12

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FAIR, FROM PAGE A1

sheriff's patrol," he said.

While residents living nearest the fairgrounds also are bothered by the noise and light from the nightly concerts and carnival, Tim Fennell, the Del Mar Fairgrounds chief executive, said the fair benefits surrounding communities in many ways, including providing hundreds of summer jobs for local youth.

"The positives far outweigh any negatives," he said.

But Ott said, "Even though the fairgrounds is in the city of Del Mar, a lot of the impacts — noise, light — all affect Solana Beach because everything faces Solana Beach."

And while many Del Mar and Solana Beach residents say traffic is their biggest concern, others say it's not that bad or they are not bothered by it. But those who are annoyed by the heavy traffic during the fair's 22-day run have developed strategies to avoid backups along Via de la Valle, Camino del Mar and even Lomas Santa Fe Drive.

"I find if I have any important errand to run I do it on the days the fair is closed," said Stella Bolog, a Solana Beach resident. "Otherwise it takes twice as long."

Traffic, while a nuisance to residents, can have more serious consequences for Del Mar businesses. Carole Carden owned Esmeralda Books in the Plaza shopping center for 13 years before closing it in 2005. She said business would drop during the fair because customers avoided the Village for fear of traffic jams.

Carden, who now owns SoLo on South Cedros Avenue, said the fair does not negatively impact business there. But it doesn't help either.

"People go to the fair for the day, they eat all the junk food and shop there," Carden said. "I love the fair, but I don't look forward to the fair for business."

Del Mar sees a significant amount of sales tax revenue from transactions at the fair because the fairgrounds fall within the city's boundaries.

"If they have a really bang up sales year, we'll get better sales tax revenue," said Mark Delin, assistant city manager of Del Mar.

But Ott said Solana Beach does not see a similar increase from its retail stores during the fair, although there is a slight bump from the restaurants immediately adjacent to the fairgrounds.

However, those at some other restaurants, including Wild Note Café and The Brigantine, said they do not see an increase in business from fairgoers.

"Our impression is everyone gets filled up on food at the fair," said Tyler Martin, general manager at The Brigantine.

And while Pam Devaney of L'Auberge said high-end hotels like theirs don't get a bump from the fair because most fair visitors are from the region and don't stay overnight, the owner of Holiday Inn Express in Solana Beach said he gets business from vendors working the fair as well as musicians who perform there.

Sharad Khandwala said he was impressed room reservations generated by the fair this year are on par with last year.

Horizon Prep wins awards



Horizon math Olympians included, first row: Daniel Bailey, Ashlyn Mossy, Natalie Paxton, Daniel Fan and Justin Song. Second row: Chase Paisley-Sparlin, Calvin Borchers, Brittany Webb and Brandon Bay.

Horizon Prep Academy recently won several awards at the Association of Christian Schools International's regional competitions in math, writing and speech.

At the regional Math Olympics, nine students placed in the top 10. In the ACSI's regional writing festival, 10 students received superior rankings for their work. Lastly, 14 students came home with ribbons at a regional speech meet.



Speech contest representatives were, first row: Connor Mead, Jacob Castrejon and Faith Hillard. Second row: Anastasia Armendariz, Lucy Ferrari and Lauren Foster. COURTESY PHOTOS

MOSAICS, FROM PAGE A3

made into mosaics were picked for them to work on in groups.

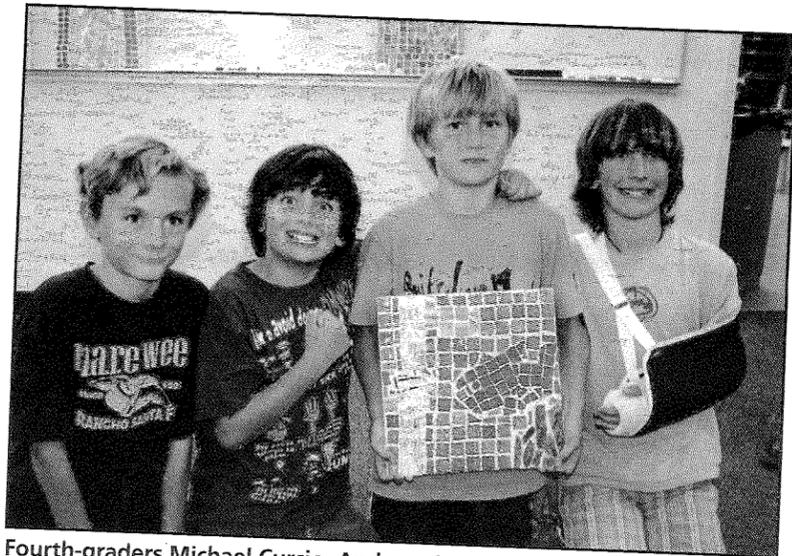
Lueker brought in the materials, and children made pelicans, seahorses and fish. The art guild helped fill them in with grout.

"I'm always impressed with the way kids look at things," Lueker said. "Their creativity is so refreshing."

Lueker said he was especially impressed when the children flipped the tiles upside down to use their more textured bottoms for things such as turtle shells and treasure chests.

"That's something only a kid would think of," Lueker said.

Lueker said he is working out the details, but the tiles could end up being raffled off at the art guild's Sept. 13 Art Affaire.



Fourth-graders Michael Curcio, Andrew Conley, Max Van Ruexleben and Max Macaluso show off their mosaic. KAREN BILLING

LERPS, FROM PAGE A1

the west side of the Ranch. Director Bill Beckman said the west side is under attack again.

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The fire district will provide homeowners with potential tree removal companies or replacement tree suggestions.

CAMPUS, FROM PAGE A1

The demolition process at Rowe is expected to begin next week, but concrete was already being dug up on Friday. Alumni had already started searching the soil for a time capsule buried years ago.

Some rooms were all packed up, including the library. Other teachers were still hard at work. First-grade teacher Frances Migita worked with her radio blasting Friday.

A rainbow of construction paper circled kindergarten teacher Erin Stevens as she packed up supplies.

"I am excited," Stevens said. "It's going to be an amazing school when it's all done."

Speech pathologist Andrea Judge's desk was still completely set up in the back of her "speech cave," behind rows of boxes. She still had a couple appointments left that Monday.

Judge said they call the room a cave as it was a converted storage area, a very narrow space. She said she's excited to have a new room in the only existing building that the school is not tearing down.

Teachers will return to school to set up their portables on Aug. 19 and will be ready to welcome students back on Sept. 3. The school will hold an official groundbreaking ceremony on Sept. 4.



The gum lerp psyllid attacks eucalyptus leaves, killing them and leaving behind a sticky substance called 'honeydew.'

KATHY DAY

**Community Essay | Scripps Ranch**

Don't cut don't Scripps Ranch eucalyptuses

By Phoebe Carroll

2:00 a.m. June 14, 2009

I have lived in Scripps Ranch since 1977. In that time there have been many changes. I have seen the area grow, with supermarkets added and new schools built. At every turn, the community was involved. The community suffered through the Cedar Fire, and the community helped rebuild. We are a caring, active bunch. Oh, and we love our trees.

The eucalyptus groves of Scripps Ranch date back 100 years. The elegant flow of leaves, limbs and flower are the symbol of the community. Little did Chauncey Jerabek know that he was planting a tradition with every sapling he put in the ground for E.B. Scripps.

Today, the city of San Diego wants to remove hundreds of those iconic trees in the name of fire safety. Indeed, the city has begun cutting down mature, healthy eucalyptus trees at three Scripps Ranch sites. If you drive west on Scripps Ranch Boulevard from Pomerado Road, the grove of trees that used to stand to your right has been reduced to stumps. Ironically, dying, pest-infested trees still stand.

Historically, the people of Scripps Ranch have taken an active role in protecting and preserving our open spaces. Yet, in planning to use a Federal Emergency Management Agency grant and matching funds to pay for tree removal, the city has not spoken to the community.

I have read the opinion of Fire Chief Tracy Jarman about our trees and fire safety. Respectfully, the chief is misinformed (at best). During the Cedar Fire (there was no fire in Scripps in 2007 despite the evacuation), the undergrowth burned hot and furiously. In hundreds of photos on the Scripps Ranch Civic Association Web site, www.scrippsranch.org, the eucalyptus trees stand tall, waving as the backdrop to utter decimation. The trees did not burn. This is a fact. It is not an opinion. Every photo shows intact trees next to the burned-out shells of house after house. The trees did not burn.

One constant during my 30 years in this community has been the willingness of the city of San Diego to work with caring, competent, dedicated community volunteers to keep our open spaces beautiful and usable – and, yes, even safe. I am saddened that in this instance, the city seems deaf not only to the truth, but also to the reasoned voice of the community. Why, in this single case, will the city not listen to the people? I urge the mayor and City Council to open their hearts, their minds and their eyes to the facts behind the devastation of the Cedar Fire. I encourage them to reconsider the inconsistency of leaving diseased trees stranding and deadfall lying about while cutting down healthy stand after healthy stand of

stately trees. I invite them to open their eyes to the contribution the trees make to Scripps Ranch and weigh their value as watershed, air cleaner and community treasure against the price of misinformation and hyperbole. Weigh their contribution to the well-being of a planet against a mistake it will take decades to correct.

Neither of the homes I have owned in Scripps Ranch back up to a grove of eucalyptus, but the trees play an important part in my life. I have hiked the paths. I have picnicked in the shade. I have watched birds dart in and out, and deer hide shyly behind yard-wide trunks. The trees are a symbol and a promise. The trees are an essential part of this community.

All we ask is that the mayor, his staff and our councilman work with us, talk with us. We will help with the research and together come to a well-thought-out conclusion. We are willing, and we care. We are educated and reasonable. The people of Scripps Ranch are a resource, just as the trees are. Give us the opportunity to defend our woodlands.

Carroll is a long-time resident of Scripps Ranch.

In the Union-Tribune on Page F3

Find this article at:

<http://www3.signonsandiego.com/stories/2009/jun/14/lz1e14carroll204712-dont-cut-dont-scripps-ranch-eu/?uniontrib>

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THE CALIFORNIAN

Last modified Saturday, June 20, 2009 10:30 PM PDT



Firefighter Scott Sandland of the Viejas Fire Department participates in an obstacle race Saturday at the San Diego County Fair. The annual exposition is California's largest firefighting event.

(Photo by Jamie Scott Lytle - Staff Photographer)

DEL MAR: Firefighters impress visitors at county fair

By ELENA CRISTIANO - For the North County Times

DEL MAR ---- Visitors to the San Diego County Fair got to see a new and exciting sight Saturday afternoon as nearly 100 fire engines from all over the county gathered for the Burn Institute's 19th annual Viejas Fire Expo and Firefighter Combat Challenge.

"The parade was great," said Jackson Gilman of Murrieta, who clearly was thrilled to wave at the long procession of fire trucks, and not just red ones but "green and white and orange!"

[More San Diego County Fair coverage](#)

The 7-year-old student of E. Hale Curran Elementary School was there to cheer on his father, Mark Gilman of Murrieta Fire Station 25, who was competing in the Combat Challenge with 38 other individuals, 10 teams of three to five members and 12 tandem teams of two members each. The competitors must wear full firefighting gear and breathing apparatus, which together can weigh up to 50 pounds, as they perform five consecutive firefighting tasks.

Viejas Fire Department division Capt. Bob Pfohl said he was there as a fierce competitor and a proud board member of the Burn Institute. He added that he was very happy the competition moved to the fairgrounds this year.

"It brings in more people and exposes them to the wonderful things the Burn Institute does for burn prevention and victim support," said Pfohl.

"Nothing is more near and dear to firefighters' hearts, and all the money raised goes to burn camp, burn prevention and survivor support."

Previously, the fire expo was held at Qualcomm stadium in July.

This year many fairgoers stopped by to check out the live demonstrations.

"We are glad to know where our tax dollars are going," said Lori Goodale of Escondido.

"Where are our marshmallows?" joked her husband, John Goodale, as the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Department ignited an older model sedan using a tray of gasoline. Heat from the flames could be felt from 150 feet away as the firefighters rushed in, extinguishing the flames in less than two minutes.

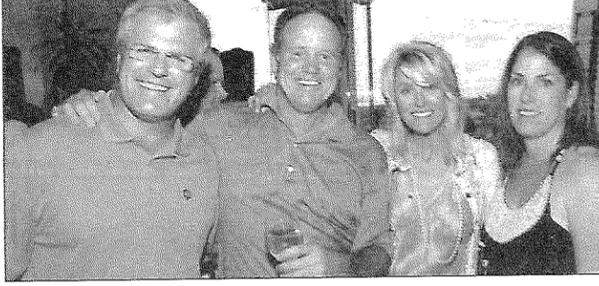
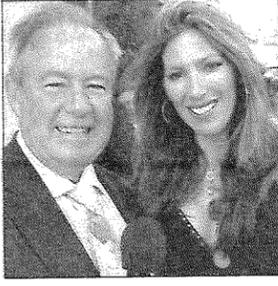
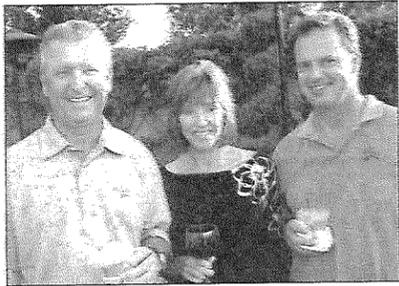
While only a handful of departments were selected to do the demonstrations, hundreds of firefighters proudly took part in the expo.

Ruby Zwicker and Liz Scott, firefighter/emergency medical technicians for the San Pasqual Reservation Fire Department, said the expo gives firefighters from around the county an opportunity to bond with each other each year, and it lets the public know the departments are "available and ready to help."

In addition to the live demonstrations, several departments offered educational booths. At one, firefighters gave away hundreds of free smoke alarms to senior citizens and coupon-holders.

The nonprofit Burn Institute's goal is to reduce the number of burn injuries and deaths in San Diego, Imperial, Riverside and San Bernardino counties. It was founded in 1972 and helped establish the UCSD Regional Burn Center.

"We are so grateful to the San Diego County Fair, Viejas and Sempra for sponsoring this great event," said James Floros, executive director/CEO of the institute. "The burn expo is about a lot of things but the No. 1 thing is to raise money for the Burn Institute."



PHOTOS

For community photos,
see pages 1-36,
B1-B16

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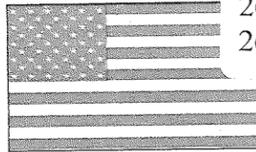
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VOLUME XXVIII / NUMBER 42 • June 25, 2009

Public encouraged to review design alternatives for Village Park project

By Matt Liebowitz

In advance of a September joint meeting with the Art Jury, the Rancho Santa Fe Association is making available at its office the three proposed designs for improvements to the Village Park in front of the Inn.

Initially presented by Association Planning Director Ivan Holler at the Association's March 19 meeting, the first design, with a total park area

(excluding hardscape) of 55,841 square feet, called for minimal changes from what currently exists. Textured crosswalks without popouts would be installed at pedestrian access points, as would perimeter sidewalks at the Paseo Delicias intersection and along El Tordo. The first design also called for new trees and plantings.

See PROJECT, page 32

RSF Association hears presentation on proposed Rancho Del Mar retirement community

By Matt Liebowitz

At the June 18 meeting of the Rancho Santa Fe Association, board members heard a presentation on the Rancho Del Mar Continuing Care Retirement Community (RDMCCRC).

Proposed for a site on the southeast corner of El Camino Real and Via de la Valle in the city of San Diego, RDMCCRC would consist of 224 assisted care units, approximately 300 underground parking spaces, and a 30,000 square-foot wellness center, explained Ali Shapouri, of Ali Shapouri & Associates, the project's consultant.

Currently, the space is used for special events parking for the San Diego Polo Grounds.

RDMCCRC will offer care for seniors primarily suffering from Alzheimer's and dementia.

See PRESENTATION, page 32

Jury convicts former RSF resident on drug charges

By Joe Tash

Former Rancho Santa Fe resident Richard King will be sentenced Sept. 14 in federal court following his conviction last week in Phoenix on conspiracy, drug possession and money laundering charges.

The jury reached its verdict on Wednesday, June 17, following a two-week trial and less than a full day of deliberation.

King lived in Rancho Santa Fe with his wife and family between 1996 and 2004. During that time, the couple battled the Rancho Santa Fe Association in court over a wrought-iron fence they built on their property without Art Jury or Association approval. The Association ultimately prevailed, winning judgments of more than \$800,000 for legal fees and court costs against the Kings.

The criminal charges stemmed from King's arrest in January 2008 in Hauppauge, New York, where authorities said he accepted suitcases containing 38 kilograms of sham cocaine in a sting operation conducted by undercover agents.

King was convicted on one count of conspiracy to possess with

See CHARGES, page 32

RSF golfer to compete in U.S. Women's Open

By Matt Liebowitz

Home in Rancho Santa Fe for the summer after her freshman year at Pepperdine University, Kaitlin Drolson won't be relaxing for long.

From July 9-12, Drolson, 19, will be competing as an amateur in the U.S. Women's Open Golf Championship at Saucon Valley Country Club in Bethlehem, Penn.

Qualifying at Pasatiempo Golf Club in Santa Cruz on June 15—she tied for fourth place—Drolson is spending the next few weeks hitting the links at her home course, Del Mar County Club, in preparation for the national tournament, which she said is "as big as it gets."

"I'm trying not to get overwhelmed," said Drolson. "I'm excited, and I'm going to try to keep it steady, and have some fun, since it's my first time out there. It's going to be a great experience for me."

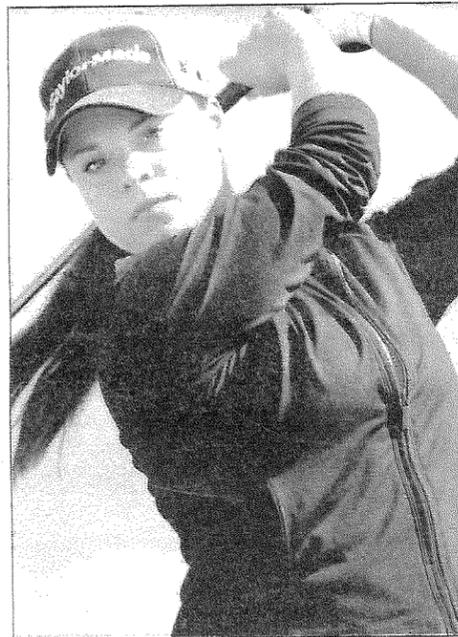
She added that she may get nervous closer to the date, but right now, "it hasn't hit me."

Drolson's participation in the U.S. Women's Open will add to her already astonishing list of athletic accomplishments.

A 2008 graduate of Torrey Pines High School, Drolson was the golf team captain for her junior and senior years. As a sophomore, the year after she helped lead the team to a State Championship. Drolson set the high school record for scoring a 30 on nine holes, at Rancho Bernardo Inn Golf Resort.

In 2006, she was a member of the U.S. team at the Taiwan Amateur Championship; the same year she was named San Diego Junior Golfer Association's Player of the Year.

Drolson attends Pepperdine on a golf



Kaitlin Drolson
Photo/Jon Clark

scholarship; she made the All-WCC first team her freshman year.

With the tournament quickly approaching,

See GOLFER, page 32

RSF Fire Protection District in negotiations to provide management services to Del Mar, Solana Beach and Encinitas Fire Departments

By Matt Liebowitz

The Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District is currently negotiating a management services contract with the cities of Del Mar, Solana Beach and Encinitas, reported RSF Fire Chief Nick Pavone.

The two-year contract would provide a fire marshal, deputy chief, fire chief, training officer, and three battalion shift chiefs for each city's fire department.

Pavone said costs were still being discussed at a June 23 meeting (after press time for this paper) and that the contract could start in August or September.

The contract would increase each city's efficiency, said Pavone, who added that while RSF would be providing the top management positions to each city's fire department, the RSF Fire Protection District staff would not be stretched thin.

"It [the management services contract] has the potential to reduce redundancy among positions."

Del Mar and Solana Beach entered a management services contract in October 2003 with each other. Pavone said, shortly after the 2003 retirement of Del Mar fire chief Jack Gosney.

Celebrate July 4 with RSF's Parade & Picnic

Help celebrate Independence Day at Rancho Santa Fe's popular annual Parade and Picnic on Friday, July 4. The parade will feature parade princesses, family floats, decorated bicycles and golf carts, clowns, fire trucks, classic cars, Boy and Girl Scouts, and more.

This year's events are sponsored by the Rancho Santa Fe Polo Club and Rancho Santa Fe Association. The parade forms at 12:15 p.m. at the Rancho Santa Fe Association and RSF Community Center parking lot

and starts at 1 p.m. There will be a community picnic and concert on the green featuring the Coastal Communities Concert Band at 1:30 p.m. The RSF Community Center and RSF Golf Club will co-host a fabulous barbecue with all-American favorite-hamburgers, hot dogs and refreshments (or bring your own).

For more information, call Chaco Clotfelter at 858-342-3050.

RSF Fire Protection District partners with Fire Safe Council to remove dead trees and prevent wildfires

By Matt Liebowitz

The Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District has partnered with the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Safe Council in an effort to remove dead and diseased trees and prevent wildfires, reported Fire Marshal Cliff Hunter.

The campaign began June 2 with a focus on notifying property owners within the district of dead or dying trees on their land that could become a fire hazard. Following inspections, property owners with dead or dying trees will be notified via mail that the trees should be removed. Notices will also be sent out to property owners with debris such as peeling bark or dead limbs on their land.

"We are absolutely not looking to remove all of the trees in the area," wrote Hunter in a Fire Protection District press release. "Rather, we are tar-

geting only those trees that are clearly dead or dying. This will help minimize the fire hazard in the community and beautify the landscape."

The partnership is already working, explained Hunter; from June 3 - June 17, 121 property owners had been notified of dead eucalyptus trees. On both Via del Alba and Rambla De Las Flores, 18 properties received notices; 19 notifications were sent to property owners on Linea Del Cielo, and 16 to residents on El Acebo.

While the campaign is focused on eucalyptus trees right now, Hunter said the Fire Protection District would also look for other types of dying or diseased trees, including pine and palm trees.

New Santa Fe Irrigation District water use rules kick in July 1

As approved by the Santa Fe Irrigation District Board of Directors at its May 21 meeting (and previously reported in this newspaper), new water-use rules on customers will begin July 1. The rules include limits on when and for how long residents can water their yards, and fines of up to \$500 for those who don't comply.

The district has set a target of reducing water consumption by 6 percent in the coming fiscal year, which begins July 1, the same date when the new rules take effect.

The new rules also prohibit the use of ornamental fountains for customers of the district - which serves 20,900 residents in Rancho Santa Fe, Solana Beach and Fairbanks Ranch - unless recycled water is used.

The district's action came in the wake of a decision recently by Southern California's wholesale water supplier, the Metropolitan Water District, to reduce deliveries to its customers such as the San Diego County Water Authority by 13 percent. The water authority followed suit by announcing an 8 percent cut to its own customers, including the Santa Fe Irrigation District.

Prompting the cuts is an ongoing drought in the state, along with

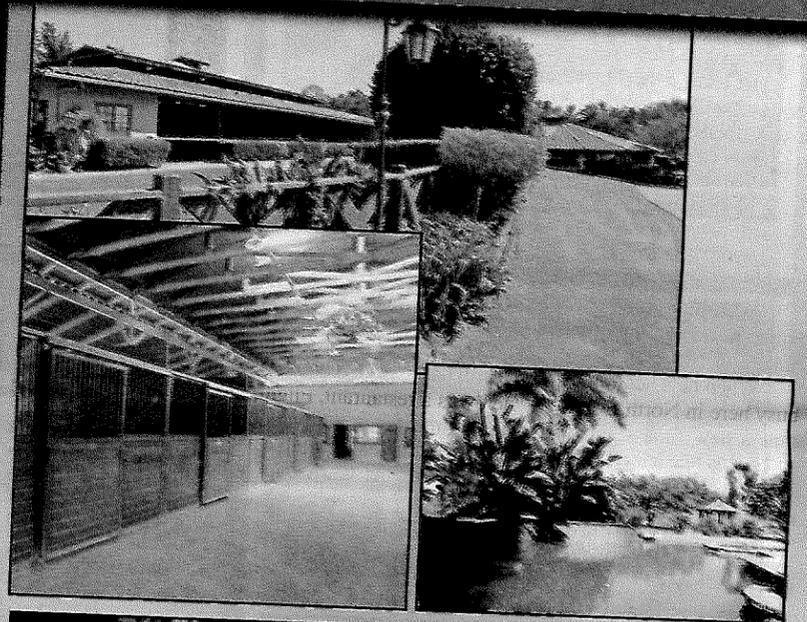
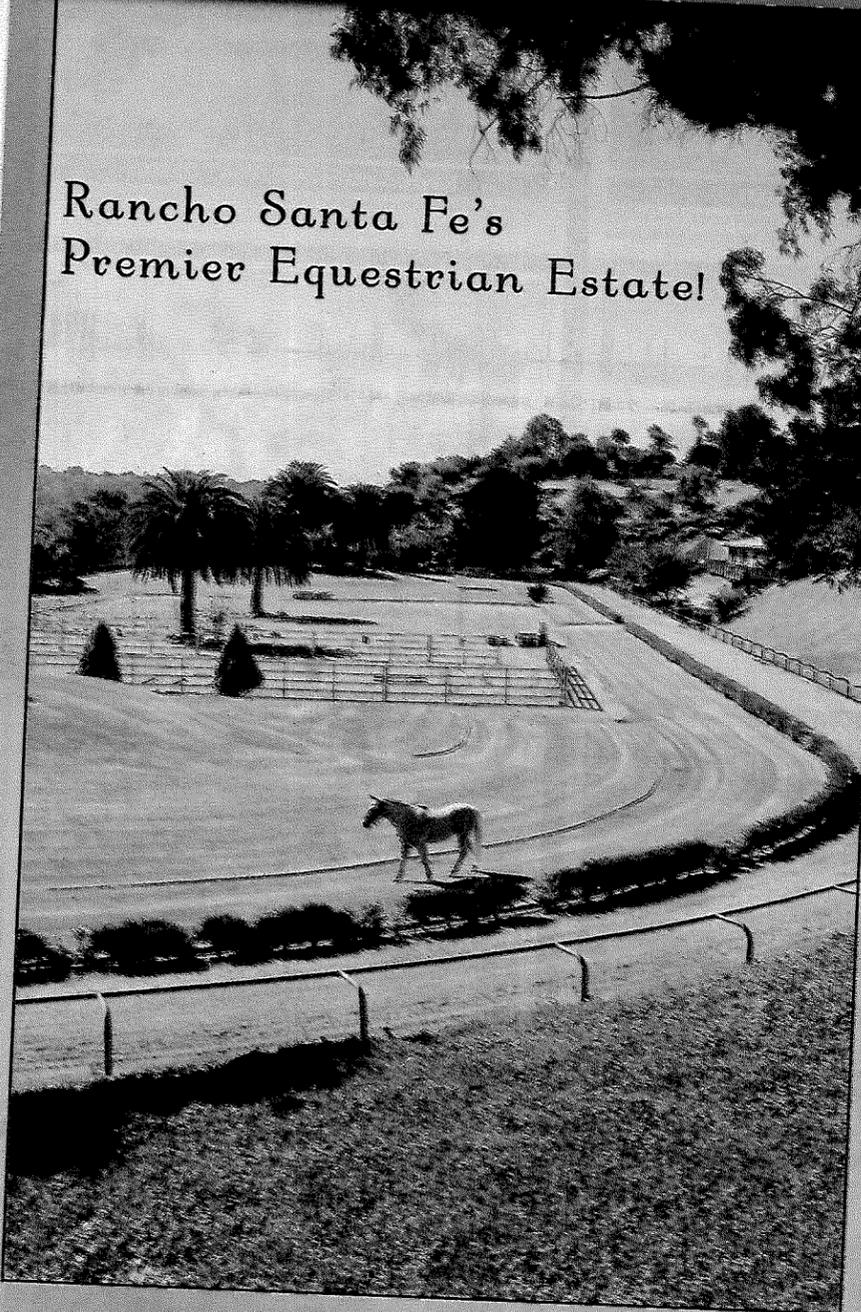
See RULES, page 33

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