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For community photos,
see pages 1-32,
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VOLUME XXVIII / NUMBER 52 • Sept. 3, 2009

Local medical experts speak out on health care

By Joe Tash

The issue of health care in the United States has suddenly moved from the offices of policy wonks to the front burner of public consciousness.

In recent weeks, the airwaves have been full of the images of angry Americans venting their frustrations, from those who believe the health care system is broken, to those who are generally satisfied with their health care and are more afraid of changes proposed by President Obama and Congress.

Many people argue change is absolutely necessary. That viewpoint is buttressed by a report from the World Health Organization, which concluded in 2000 that the United States spends a higher percentage of its gross domestic product on health care than any other country, but ranks 37th out of 191 nations in the performance of its health care system.

The non-partisan National Coalition on Health Care reports on its Web site that in 2009, U.S. spending on health care will top \$2.5 trillion, a whopping 17.6 percent of GDP.

On the other side of the debate, many Americans are resistant to calls for dramatic change, afraid the cure of health care reform might be worse than the disease of rapidly escalating costs and a lack of access to health care for tens of millions of people.

To frame the debate as Congress prepares to return from its summer recess and take up health care reform legislation, the *Rancho Santa Fe Review* asked local doctors and health care administrators their thoughts on the subject. Following is what they had to say:

Chris Van Gorder, President and CEO, Scripps Health

The main goal of health care reform, said Van Gorder, should be coverage for all Americans. The question, he said, is how to achieve that goal.

Van Gorder, who runs a health care organization with four acute-care hospitals and 2,600 doctors serving a half-million patients annually, believes the national debate on health care reform is on the wrong track.

Rather than a "big bang" approach in which one massive piece of legislation is designed to fix all of the nation's health care woes, elected

See HEALTH, page 28



SO LONG SUMMER, HELLO BOOKS— Bidding a fond farewell to summer, Solana Santa Fe students returned to school for the 2009/2010 year on Aug. 31. RSF School students start Sept. 3. (Above) Solana Santa Fe family Shawn, Tatum, Sheridan, Lisa and Landis O'Coynne. See page 22 for more photos. Photos/Jon Clark

Filming almost complete on Korean War documentary commissioned by RSF businessman

•RSF filmmaker takes
memorable trip to China

By Joe Tash

Filming is nearly completed for a documentary on the final months of the Korean War commissioned by Rancho Santa Fe businessman Bob Baker, and plans are moving forward to unveil the film in time for the 60th anniversary of the start of the war next June.

The documentary focuses on the battle for Outpost Harry, a strategic hill north of Seoul, South Korea, where U.S. and allied soldiers held off a furious eight-day assault by Chinese and North Korean troops in June 1953.

Baker, 77, took part in the battle as a young Army corporal assigned to an intelligence and reconnaissance platoon with the 15th Regiment, Third Infantry Division.

He decided to underwrite the
See DOCUMENTARY, page 26



Glenn Palmedo-Smith (right) interviewing Oliver North, a Fox Network commentator, ex-Marine officer and figure from the Iran-Contra affair.

RSF firefighters help battle Los Angeles blaze

By Matt Liebowitz

The Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District has sent seven firefighters to help battle the Station fire near Los Angeles, reported Fire Chief Nick Pavone.

The fire, which began on Aug. 28 in Angeles National Forest north of Los Angeles, has burned more than 122,000 acres, and is only officially at 5 percent containment, according to a *Los Angeles Times* report. The fire has burned more than 50 structures and killed two firefighters.

Rancho Santa Fe sent two engines to the Los Angeles fire, said Pavone. The first unit, a brush engine with three firefighters, was sent up at 3:24 a.m., on Aug. 28, and is working the night shift battling the Station fire.

The second engine was sent out on the afternoon of Aug. 29 with four firefighters aboard. Working the day shift, this engine is stationed in the Wrightwood area.

Though there is no estimated time for the firefighters to be released and return, Pavone said he has remained in contact with the dispatched firefighters.

"There's quite a lot of activity," he said. "They're doing OK."

NORTH COUNTY TIMES | THE CALIFORNIAN

REGION: 9 North County fire crews still fighting L.A. fire

the North County Times | Posted: Wednesday, September 2, 2009 5:35 pm

Five North County fire engine crews have returned from working the Station Fire outside Los Angeles, though nine engine crews are still battling the blaze, according to North County Fire Communications dispatchers.

The returning crews are from fire departments in Oceanside, Camp Pendleton and Deer Springs. They had been providing structure protection, dispatchers said.

Seven of the nine engines still out are brush engines, which are typically shorter than their urban counterparts, have four-wheel drive, rugged suspension and higher wheel clearance for off-road maneuverability.

Those seven are from fire departments or districts in Fallbrook, Rancho Santa Fe, Vista, San Marcos and Escondido, dispatchers said. The other two are regular or urban engines from Rancho Santa Fe and Fallbrook.

Numerous engines and personnel from Riverside County have been sent to battle the Station Fire and another wildfire in San Bernardino County, said Capt. Fernando Herrera, spokesman for the Riverside County Fire Department.

The Murrieta Fire Department sent two fire engines and several personnel to the same fires a week ago, said Stephanie Smith, spokeswoman for that department.

10News.com

Deputy: Son Who Choked Mom Shot By Dad With Shotgun

Related To Story

POSTED: 7:53 am PDT September 8, 2009

UPDATED: 12:31 pm PDT September 8, 2009

RANCHO SANTA FE -- A Rancho Santa Fe resident fatally shot his adult son after the younger man broke into his parents' home on Labor Day and choked his mother, authorities said Tuesday.

The domestic shooting in the 17000 block of Via Recanto was reported about 6:30 p.m. Monday, sheriff's Lt. Julie Sutton said.

Medics took the homeowners' son to a trauma center, where he was pronounced dead from shotgun wounds, a sheriff's spokeswoman said. His name was not immediately available.

Homicide detectives were at the shooting scene Tuesday afternoon, questioning witnesses and documenting evidence.



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Father Shot Son in RSF Mansion: Deputies

By [R. STICKNEY](#)

Updated 2:46 PM PDT, Tue, Sep 8, 2009



An elderly millionaire killed his 40-year-old son in apparent self defense after the son, armed with two gallons of gasoline, attacked his mother, authorities said.

The son was airlifted from his parents' sprawling estate at 17380 Via Recanto yesterday after being shot in the leg with a shotgun, San Diego County Sheriff's Deputies said. He died today at Scripps Hospital, La Jolla.

Deputies originally identified the son as James A. Blackmore but corrected that information as of 2 p.m. Tuesday, after the San Diego county medical examiner identified the son as Thomas Blackmore.

Thomas Blackmore showed up at his parents' Rancho Santa Fe estate yesterday afternoon and attacked his elderly mother, Sheriff's Lieutenant Dennis Brugos said. She fought him off, and the younger Blackmore attacked his father, who had armed himself with a shotgun. The father, identified as Allen Blackmore, shot his son once in the leg.



[LOOK](#)

Rancho Santa Fe Mansion Shooting

The Thomas Blackmore had a history of mental illness and alcohol addiction, Brugos said. He was detained last Friday by sheriff's detectives after he threatened to kill himself in text messages to family and friends. Brugos says Blackmore was sent to a psychiatric ward, where he was held for 72 hours.

Blackmore parked two blocks from his parents' estate, and carried a two-gallon container of gasoline to the house. Deputies do not know what prompted the attack.

Homicide investigators were at the Blackmore's mansion Tuesday morning.

First Published: Sep 8, 2009 11:22 AM PDT

Find this article at:

<http://www.nbcsandiego.com/news/local-beat/Man-Shot-Inside-Rancho-Sante-Fe-Home.html>

Check the box to include the list of links referenced in the article.

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RANCHO SANTA FE: Man allegedly shot by father dies

SARAH GORDON - sgordon@nctimes.com | Posted: Tuesday, September 8, 2009 2:20 pm

RANCHO SANTA FE ---- A 40-year-old man who died Tuesday after being shot by his elderly father the day before recently had been released from psychiatric hospitalization when he allegedly went to his parents' home in a violent rage, attacking his mother and charging his father, a sheriff's homicide lieutenant said.

James Blackmore, a married San Diego resident with children, died early Tuesday morning at Scripps Memorial Hospital, La Jolla, Lt. Denis Brugos said. Blackmore was rushed to the hospital on Labor Day after his father, Allen Blackmore, shot him once in the leg with a rifle at the elder Blackmore's sprawling estate in Rancho Santa Fe, Brugos said.

The younger Blackmore had struggled with alcoholism and depression for years, and had been hospitalized for psychiatric observation over the weekend after threatening suicide in Encinitas on Friday, Brugos said.

On Monday, about 6:30 p.m., Blackmore parked a quarter-mile from his parents' home on Via Recanto, an exclusive private road not far from the Rancho Santa Fe Golf Course, and walked to the house, carrying a 2-gallon can of gasoline, Brugos said. The lieutenant said it was not clear what Blackmore planned.

When his elderly mother answered the door, Blackmore immediately grabbed and assaulted her, Brugos said. She managed to break away, and in the meantime, Allen Blackmore went to get a shotgun, the lieutenant said.

When the elder Blackmore returned with the gun, his son quickly charged him, Brugos said. The father fired once, striking Blackmore in the femoral artery, he said.

Allen Blackmore immediately administered first aid; his wife called 911. Brugos did not immediately know Mrs. Blackmore's first name. She was not injured in the attack, he said.

Homicide detectives were at the home investigating Tuesday morning. Brugos said the Blackmores, their adult daughter and a priest were also at the house.

The lieutenant he did not expect to make any arrests, because he said the investigation so far shows that Allen Blackmore feared for his own and his wife's lives when he shot his son.

However, the District Attorney's office will review the case and determine whether charges are appropriate, he said.

Call staff writer Sarah Gordon at 760-740-3517.



Father fatally shoots son who attacked mother

By [Debbi Baker](#)

Union-Tribune Staff Writer

1:09 p.m. September 8, 2009

RANCHO SANTA FE – A father fatally shot his son to death Monday after the son broke into his parents' home and began to choke his mother, authorities said.

Deputies were called to the home on Via Recanto off San Elijo Avenue at 6:30 p.m. after reports of some kind of family disturbance, sheriff's Lt. Julie Sutton said.

When they arrived they found the son suffering from a gunshot wound. He was taken to a hospital where he later died, Sutton said.

Homicide detectives are investigating. No further details have been released.

[Debbi Baker: \(619\) 293-1710;](#)

Find this article at:

<http://www3.signonsandiego.com/stories/2009/sep/08/bn08sonshot-father-shoots-son>

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Father shoots son to save wife from attack in Rancho Santa Fe

Posted: Sep 08, 2009 4:51 PM PDT

Updated: Sep 09, 2009 12:48 AM PDT



A man shot his adult son with a shotgun after the son broke into his parents' Rancho Santa Fe home and choked his mother, a sheriff's deputy said today.

Deputies were called to a home in the 17000 block of Via Recanto around 6:30 p.m. Monday, San Diego County sheriff's Lt. Julie Sutton said.

Detectives say Tom Blackmore had only been out of the County's Mental Health facility a few hours - when he showed up at his parents Rancho Santa Fe home.

"He was here unannounced, his mother opened the door, he assaulted her and there was a struggle that ensued. The father got a gun and shot his son," San Diego Sheriff's Homicide Division Lt. Dennis Brugos said.

Allen Blackmore immediately administered first aid to his son while his wife called 911. Tom Blackmore was flown to Scripps La Jolla, where he died early Tuesday morning.

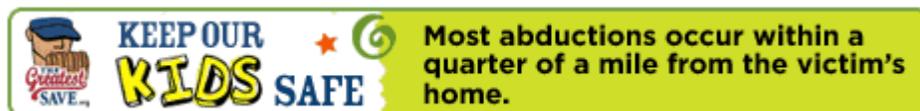
"Apparently there's been a strained relationship with Mr. Blackmore and his parents, probably due in part because within the last week Mr. Blackmore was hospitalized concerning mental stability," Lt. Brugos said.

Detectives say Blackmore recently tried to commit suicide, but was saved by sheriff's deputies. As for why he showed up at his parents' house Monday night, detectives aren't sure but they say the evidence points to trouble.

"They also found a two-gallon container of gasoline by the door and the car was a quarter mile from here, so he hiked in with the two-gallon container of gasoline," Lt. Brugos said.

Detectives say Tom Blackmore had a history of alcohol abuse and had been in and out rehab multiple times. The 40-year-old was also a successful commercial real estate agent, husband and father.

His mom Maureen was not seriously injured in the assault. It was uncertain if Allen Blackmore would face charges.



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Fall Home and Garden

Find great fall Home & Garden ideas in special section, pages 34-39.



PHOTOS

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VOLUME XXVIII / NUMBER 1 • Sept. 10, 2009

Adult son shot and killed after launching attack in RSF home

By Matt Liebowitz

A 40-year old man was shot and killed the evening of Sept. 7 after breaking into his parents' RSF home and choking his mother, reported Lt. Dennis Brugos with the San Diego County Sheriff's homicide division.

At 6:30 p.m., Sheriff's deputies arrived at the Via Recanto home of Allen Blackmore and his wife, Maureen, after receiving a report of a gunshot wound.

The investigation, according to Brugos, revealed that Blackmore's son, Thomas Allen Blackmore, had shown up at his parents' home and began choking his mother when she answered the door. The mother was able to free herself from her son and was not hurt. The son then approached his father and was shot. Immediately after, the father, Allen, began administering first aid to Thomas while Allen's wife called the police.

Thomas Blackmore was airlifted to Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla, where he was reported dead around 5 a.m. on Sept. 8. Allen Blackmore has not been charged with a crime, said Brugos.

According to Brugos, Thomas Blackmore had a "strained relationship" with his parents, as well as a history of "mental instability" and alcoholism. Brugos reported that, on Sept. 4, deputies from the Encinitas Sheriff's station committed Thomas to a hospital on a 72-hour suicide watch after a separate incident. He was released from the hospital after 72 hours. The homicide investigation after the Sept. 7 attack revealed that a two-gallon container of gasoline was found by the door of Allen Blackmore's RSF home, and that Thomas had parked his car a quarter-of-a-mile away. Thomas Blackmore was a resident of San Diego, and had a wife and two children, Brugos reported.

The incident is still under review by the Homicide Department. Once finished, it will be turned over to the district attorney for review.

Allen and Maureen Blackmore are noted philanthropists who friends describe as "the nicest people you'd ever want to meet."

Community meeting regarding proposed Village Park set for Sept. 22 at RSF Garden Club

By Matt Liebowitz

A community-wide meeting to discuss the proposals for the Village Park in Rancho Santa Fe (in front of The Inn) has been set for Tuesday, Sept. 22, at 5 p.m. at the RSF Garden Club.

At the meeting, the public will get a chance to see graphic presentations of the three proposed designs.

The first with a total park area (excluding hardscape) of 55,841 square feet, calls for minimal changes from what currently exists.

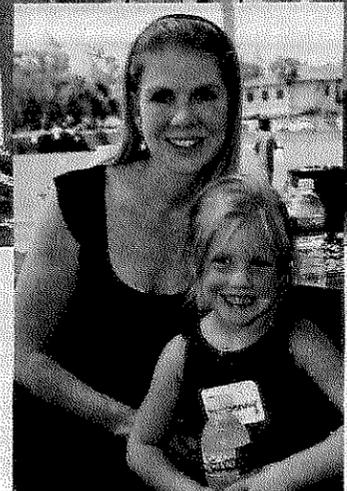
The second design includes a total park area (excluding hardscape) of 44,562 square feet, with minor street realignment to remove the triangular island at Linea del Cielo/El Tordo, textured crosswalks with popouts at pedestrian access points, and minor street realignment to provide 17 additional parking spaces on street frontage between The Inn and the parks.

The third design, with a total park area of 76,710 square feet, calls for more extensive amenities, including major street realignment and closures to segments of Linea del Cielo and La Gracia in front of The Inn to create a single large park, interior paved off-street parking lots on the north and south sides of the park, perimeter sidewalks surround the park, a lawn amphitheater, and new trees and plantings.

Following the community-wide meeting, it is expected the Association, at its Sept. 17 meeting, will make a recommendation for preferred final design alternative based on public comments.



RSF SCHOOL WELCOMES NEW YEAR — Above: An official groundbreaking ceremony was held Sept. 4 for the RSF School \$32 million-plus renovation project, which is scheduled to be finished by end of summer next year: (L-R) John Stiker, Kathy Stumm, Carlie Headapohl, Jim Cimino, Richard Burdge, Jim Depolo, Scot Cheatham, Ty Miller, Lindy Delaney. (Right) Angela and Jenny McMillen at the Rancho Santa Fe Education Foundation's annual Newcomer's Welcome BBQ held Sept. 2 to help introduce all new families to the school. See page 26 for more photos. Photo/Jon Clark



Forest Health Task Force to publish suggested tree list

By Matt Liebowitz

The Forest Health Task Force is working steadily to provide residents with options for replacing dead or diseased eucalyptus trees in the Ranch.

At the Sept. 3 meeting of the Rancho Santa Fe Association Board of Directors, planning director Ivan Holler explained that the Task Force, which was reestablished on July 16 to devise a forest management plan to help fight the detrimental impacts of the lerp psyllid on RSF's eucalyptus trees, has drafted a list of trees that could be used to replace the eucalyptus and promote a healthy, diverse forest.

The list is broken down into groups based on size, from tall skyline trees such as Canary Island Pine, Silk Oak, and Cedar, to canopy trees (Sycamore, Black Locust, Oak), vertical growing trees (Paperbark, Brisbane Box), ornamental trees, and low-multi branching trees such as the Bronze Loquat

and Pink Melaleuca.

The list, Holler reported, should be posted on the Task Force website, www.rsfforesthealth.org following the RSF Art Jury meeting on Sept. 14.

RSF Association President Bill Beckman said he feels the list is a solid start towards creating a healthier forest.

"This is the first endeavor into what will be a very long-term project of changing the forest in the Ranch, and moving away from a monoculture," he said.

Looking toward the future, Beckman and the board brainstormed a plan for an arboretum of specimen trees complete with detailed descriptions for residents to examine. Beckman also brought up the possibility of buying approved trees in bulk from a nursery and then selling them to the community.

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VOLUME 29 NUMBER 1 Providing The Ranch with Three Decades of Quality Journalism

SEPT. 10, 2009

Forest Health Task Force stresses importance of education and simple maintenance of 'iconic' eucalyptus trees

By Matt Liebowitz

At its Sept. 14 meeting, the newly reconstituted Forest Health Task Force (FHTF) stressed the importance of educating the community about its options to keep Rancho Santa Fe's tree population, most notably its eucalyptus trees, healthy.

Created to devise a forest management plan to help fight the detrimental impacts of the lerp psyllid on RSF's eucalyptus trees, the FHTF, at its Sept. 3 meeting, introduced a suggested tree list for publication on its website, www.rsf-foresthealth.org.

The list, broken down into groups based on size, from tall skyline trees to vertical growing trees, ornamental trees, and low-multi branching trees, was devised to provide residents with options for replacing dead or diseased trees and for creating a healthy, more diverse tree population in RSF.

Rancho Santa Fe Association Planning Director Ivan Holler explained that before it is put on the website, the tree list will be modified to include a section that specifically outlines several different varieties of eucalyptus tree, which FHTF Chair Christy Wilson called the "iconic" tree of RSF.

See TREES, page 32

Sentencing delayed on federal drug trafficking charges for former RSF resident

By Joe Tash

The sentencing of former Rancho Santa Fe resident Richard King on federal drug trafficking charges has been postponed until late November or early December.

In June, King was convicted by a jury in federal district court in Phoenix of taking part in a drug ring responsible for distributing some 150 kilograms of cocaine worth more than \$2 million, according to federal prosecutors.

At a hearing Sept. 14, U.S. District Judge Susan R. Bolton agreed to King's request to postpone the sentencing hearing, and also granted his motion to dismiss his court-appointed attorney and represent himself in the proceedings. A sentencing date will be set later this week.

King faces a potential sentence of 10 years to life, and according to documents filed with the court by King's attorney, a federal probation officer who conducted a pre-sentencing review of the case has recommended a life sentence. King remains in federal custody in the Phoenix area while awaiting sentencing.

King became well-known in Rancho Santa Fe because of a legal battle between his family and the Rancho Santa Fe Association, over a fence erected on their property without

See DRUG, page 32



BUSY FALL!

RSF is hopping with a variety of creative and philanthropic activities this fall. (Clockwise from left) Helen Woodward Animal Center, Friends of San Pasqual Academy, Teen Volunteers in Action, the RSF Art Guild and the RSF Community Center are just a few of the organizations that recently held events. For those and more, see inside this issue. Photos/Jon Clark

Management services contract between RSF Fire District and Del Mar, Solana Beach, and Encinitas Fire Departments likely to start Oct. 15

By Matt Liebowitz

At the Sept. 9 meeting of the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District, Fire Chief Nick Pavone reported that negotiations are still underway for a management services contract between Rancho Santa Fe and the fire departments in Solana Beach, Del Mar, and Encinitas.

In the terms of the two-year contract, RSF Fire Protection District would provide a fire marshal, deputy chief, fire chief, training officer, and three battalion shift chiefs for each city's fire department.

Pavone reported that he met on Sept. 8 with the city managers from Del Mar and Solana Beach, and that "Everything seems to be very positive, there are no red flags with any of the agencies."

The contract will be brought to the board at the RSF Fire Protection District's meeting on Oct. 14. Pending approval from all the agencies, Pavone said the contract would begin Oct. 15.

New Fairbanks Ranch fire station to go before county for final approval in October

By Matt Liebowitz

The new Fairbanks Ranch Fire Station is expected to receive final approval from the County Department of Planning and Land Use (DPLU) in October, reported Nick Pavone, fire chief with the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District.

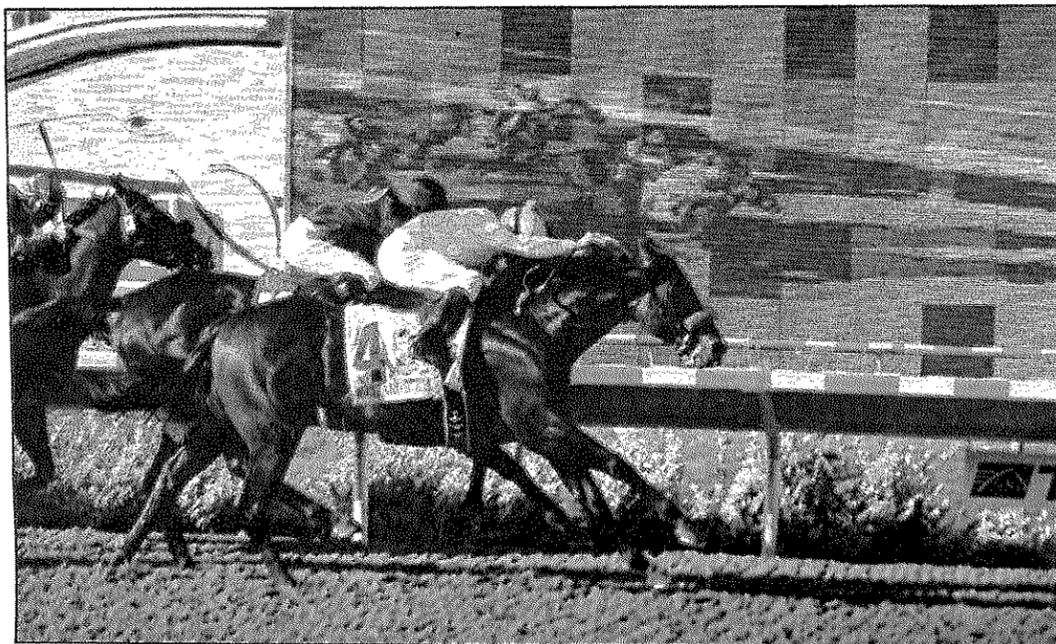
The new 10,500-square-foot station, which will replace the current Fairbanks Ranch Station, on El Apajo Road, was prelim-

inarily approved by the DPLU during the week of Aug. 31; the project will go before the Board of Supervisors on Sept. 23, said Pavone, and then before the DPLU for final approval at a meeting in October. The RSF Fire Protection District has estimated the project would be completed in 18-24 months from the date of approval. Pavone said he expects the project to be approved on the Planning Commission's consent agenda.

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Richard's Kid wins \$1 million race by a neck



Richard's Kid edges past Einstein to win Sunday's Grade I \$1 million Pacific Classic. KELLEY CARLSON

A Classic upset

This year's biggest race of the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club season ended with an upset.

Richard's Kid, sent off at odds of 24-1, shocked racing fans in the Grade I \$1 million Pacific Classic on Sunday. Owned by Arnold Zetcher and piloted by Mike Smith, Richard's Kid rallied entering the stretch to beat Einstein, the 4-1 third choice jockeyed by Julian Leparoux, by a neck.

After Einstein was Rail Trip, the 5-2 favorite, followed by

Parading. Colonel John, a close second choice who was also 5-2, was fifth in the field of a dozen horses.

Richard's Kid was trainer Bob Baffert's second Pacific Classic success. Baffert won with General Challenge in 1999. This was also Smith's second win in the Pacific Classic. He was victorious in 2002 atop 3-year-old Came Home.

Richard's Kid's earnings increased \$600,000, to \$759,370, with a guaranteed spot in the

Breeders' Cup Classic this November at Santa Anita.

In Monday's featured race, another Baffert horse, Lookin at Lucky, ridden by two-time Eclipse Award-winner Garrett Gomez, rallied between horses in the upper stretch to win the Grade I \$300,000 Del Mar Futurity event for 2-year-olds.

Before a Labor Day crowd of more than 11,300, Lookin at Lucky scored by a length over

SEE CLASSIC, PAGE A11

From special ed to Harvard med

BY KAREN BILLING
Staff Writer

When Ryan Dosumu-Johnson was a student at Torrey Pines High School he didn't see the point in homework. His lack of motivation landed him in special education classes and in the end he barely made it through to graduate on time.

But with the help of some mentors at the community college level, Johnson excelled, eventually going to UCLA where he achieved a

biology degree.

Now he is starting his fall semester at Harvard Medical School on a full-ride fellowship from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute.

"I'm completely amazed that I'm here," Ryan, 24, said. "No matter where you are, if you focus at any point in your academic career, you can do whatever you want."

Overwhelmingly proud mom Nancy Johnson said she never doubted Ryan's

SEE HARVARD, PAGE A13



Torrey Pines graduate Ryan Dosumu-Johnson is starting Harvard Medical School this fall.

COURTESY

Lerps let up; goal now to restore health

Forest Health Task Force looks to future tree mix

BY KAREN BILLING
Staff Writer

The red-gum lerp psyllid appears to have loosened its grip on Rancho Santa Fe's trees, but that doesn't mean work is done for the Rancho Santa Fe Forest Health Task Force.

Ivan Holler, Covenant administrator, said the important task now is creating a new healthy forest, replacing the red gum eucalyptus that have died or been removed with different varieties of trees.

"This is the very long-term project of changing the makeup of the trees in the Ranch and moving away from a monoculture," Holler said.

The task force will next meet at 9 a.m. on Sept. 14 at the association office.

Calls into the association office regarding tree infestations have been fewer since the launch of the task force Web site, rsfforesthealth.org and due to the trees regaining their strength.

SEE HEALTH, PAGE A10

Falcons squander late lead in 22-21 season opener

BY HECTOR TRUJILLO
Contributor

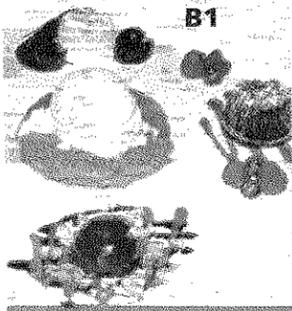
Torrey Pines High School could not have asked for a better start to their season opener, taking a 7-0 lead thanks to a 90-yard kickoff return for a touchdown by running back Bassim El Sabawi.

Then it was the Falcons' defense, which stood out by stopping Sunnyside High School on a fourth and four inside the Falcons' 10-yard line despite having controlled the ball for more than seven minutes. Torrey Pines (0-1) blew a chance to extend the lead on their ensuing drive after fumbling the ball on the visitor's nine-yard line.

It was a sign of things to come for the Falcons, who ended up with a one-point

SEE FALCONS, PAGE A9

■ Critic looks back at local eateries; Story on page B1



■ Newcomers welcomed to school; Story on page A10



■ Death reported in home invasion; Story on page A3

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Newcomers welcomed to school

R. Roger Rowe School hosted a Newcomer's Welcome Barbecue on Sept. 3, greeting new faces before the first day of school. The Rancho Santa Fe Education Foundation served up a spread from Joe's Smokin' BBQ on the blacktop. To carry on a Western theme, tables were decorated with bandanas and cowboy boots stuffed with fresh flowers.

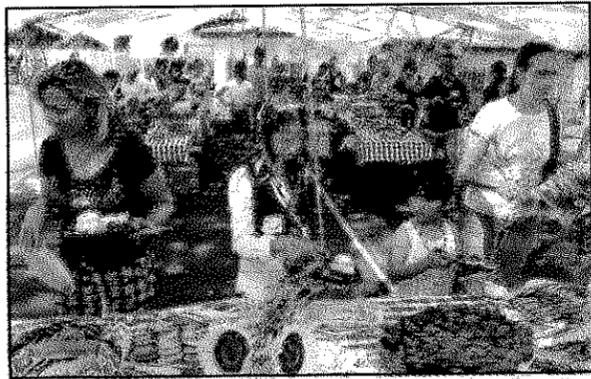
School started for Rowe on Sept. 4 with a welcome back coffee for parents. At that morning's Rancho Santa Fe Association meeting, Rancho Santa Fe Patrol Chief Matt Wellhouser said that the traffic flow on the first day of school at the campus, which is under construction, went better than they expected.

Bill Beckman, association president, said he was thankful that for what he considers an "enormous" project for the village, the school construction has so far had a minimal impact on the surrounding community.

— Karen Billing



R. Roger Rowe kindergarten twins Natalie and Alexandra Nichols at the Newcomer's Welcome Barbecue. PHOTOS BY KAREN BILLING



Newcomers enjoyed the barbecue on the blacktop.

Park meeting upcoming

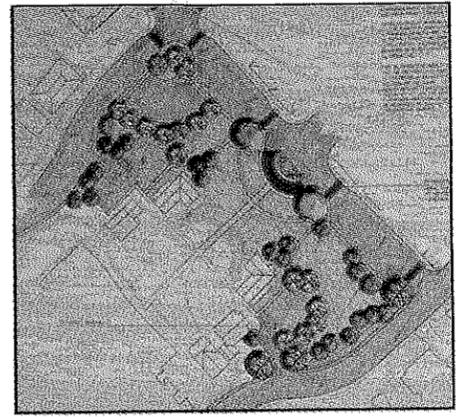
The Rancho Santa Fe Association will hold a meeting to discuss designs to improve the village parks at 5 p.m. on Sept. 22 at the Garden Club.

The association is looking at three possible designs for the two triangular parks located in front of the Inn at Rancho Santa Fe.

Alternative 1 makes the least amount of changes to the parks. The design adds sidewalks at the intersections to make it more pedestrian friendly but there are no pop-outs like the ones done last year in front of the pharmacy.

The plan calls for no additional concrete features within the park and no additional parking. More vegetation would be added.

Alternative 2 includes a realignment of the intersection of Linea del Cielo and El Tordo to route the majority of traffic eastbound onto El Tordo and would add 13 park-



An architectural rendering of one of the proposals for a park, which will go in front of the Inn at Rancho Santa Fe.

COURTESY

ing spaces along Avenida de Acacias.

The plan includes new crosswalks and pop-outs at all intersections, an amphitheater in the northern park and a full-scale chessboard in the southern.

The most aggressive plan, Alternative 3, would close La Gracia, the curved road in front of the inn and reclaim it for parkland; the two parks would join in the middle.

The plan includes crosswalks and pop-outs and would add nine parking spaces on El Tordo and two off-street parking lots with 28 parking spaces. An amphitheater in the northern park is also included in this alternative.

All three park plans are available for view at the association office and online at rsfrecord.com.

— Karen Billing

HEALTH, FROM PAGE A1

"The forest is a lot healthier now," said associate planner Arnold Keane.

Bill Beckman, association president, said he'd be interested to know the number of trees that were lost in the latest infestation.

"We were scared to death because everything was so bare a few months ago but someone of them have come back," Beckman said.

But Beckman said just because trees have come back to health, the association still should push reforestation.

The task force is working on a suggested tree list for new plantings. While the list still needs to be approved by

the Art Jury and the committee, the task force has come up with a list of several varieties of trees that provide different effects.

Tall skyline trees, which provide dramatic silhouettes against the skyline at 40- to 70-foot tall, include white alders, ash, Torrey pines, sycamores and western cottonwoods.

Canopy trees, good 25- to 30-foot accent trees with broad spreading forms include jacarandas, Chinese flame trees, pepper trees and African tulip trees.

Vertical growing trees, known for their upright character include bottle trees, sweet shades and paperbacks. Ornamental trees

are also included like strawberry trees, redbud, Australian willows and olive trees, and low-multi branching trees for undergrowth like guava and Victorian bottle trees.

The committee also will suggest different species of eucalyptus trees, less susceptible to insects than the regum.

"We would want to maintain the eucalyptus as our signature tree," said vice president Tim Sullivan.

The board discussed options of using association funds to buy trees in bulk and also developing an arboretum to help show homeowners what certain trees would look like.

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Man shoots son after confrontation in RSF

BY CITY NEWS SERVICE

A Rancho Santa Fe resident fatally shot his mentally unstable son after the younger man showed up at his parents' home with a can of gasoline on Labor Day and attacked his mother, authorities said Tuesday.

Thomas Allen Blackmore, 40, parked his car about a quarter-mile from his parents' Via Recanto house and walked to the large Spanish-style residence on Monday evening, arriving about 6:30 p.m., sheriff's homicide Lt. Dennis Brugos said.

When his mother answered the door, Blackmore began assaulting her,

according to Brugos. Blackmore's father responded by retrieving a shotgun and shooting his son. The older man then rendered first aid as his wife called 9-1-1.

Medics took Blackmore to Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla, where he died early Tuesday morning.

Relations between Blackmore, a San Diego resident who was hospitalized about a week ago due to mental illness, and his parents had been "somewhat strained" recently, Brugos said.

The son's reason for bringing a two-gallon container of gasoline to the couple's home was unclear.

CRIME REPORT

Sept. 2
• Narcotics, 4600 block of El Nido, 8:54 p.m.

Sept. 4
• Vehicle theft, 6000 block of Paseo Delicias, 6:30 p.m.

Community calendar

Friday, Sept. 11

• 9/11 remembrance gathering: 8:15 a.m. R. Roger Rowe's upper fields.

• Rancho Santa Fe Library Book Club meets: 2 p.m. Rancho Santa Fe Library. This month's book is "Embers" by Sandor Marai.

• Back to School Bash: 3-5 p.m. Rancho Santa Fe Community Center. A special carnival celebrates going back to school.

• Solana Santa Fe Back to School Barbecue: 5:30 p.m. Solana Santa Fe.

Sunday, Sept. 13

• Rancho Santa Fe Art Guild's A Finer Art Affaire: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Village parks. Event features artists' booths, music, children's art and art demonstrations.

Monday, Sept. 14

• Rancho Santa Fe Forest Health Task Force meets: 9 a.m. Association office.

• Free landscape workshop: 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Rancho Santa Fe Garden Club. Santa Fe Irrigation District presents the workshop on conserva-

tion strategies and water smart plants, taught by Don Schultz, a faculty member of the Cuyamaca College Horticulture Department. Reserve a spot by calling 756-5672.

• Rancho Santa Fe Rotary meets: Noon Inn at Rancho Santa Fe. The club will get an update on their Water for Sudan project.

Tuesday, Sept. 15

• Pre-school story time: 12:30 p.m. Rancho Santa Fe Library. The theme is Aloha and Mexican Independence.

Thursday, Sept. 17

• Santa Fe Irrigation District board of directors meets: 8:30 a.m. Irrigation district office.

• Rancho Santa Fe Associa-

tion board of directors meets: 9 a.m. Association office.

• Rancho Santa Fe Business Leader Sun Downer: 6-7 p.m. Rancho Santa Fe Community Center. Event features networking and a short program as well as wine and light refreshments. \$10 for business associates, \$20 general admission. Admission includes one drink ticket. For more information, call 756-2461.

Friday, Sept. 18

• Chabad Jewish Center of Rancho Santa Fe Rosh Hashanah service: 6:30 p.m. Morgan Run Resort. Morning service will also be held on Sept. 19 and 20 at 10 a.m. Shofar sounding at 12 p.m. on Sept. 20.

Correction

A figure in the story "Water use down with drought warning," published Aug. 28, incorrectly stated the cost of a Rancho Santa Fe Golf Club sprinkler system retrofit. The cost of that project is actually estimated at \$750,000. We regret the error.

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VOL. 5, NO. 19 MAKING A DIFFERENCE SEPT. 11, 2009

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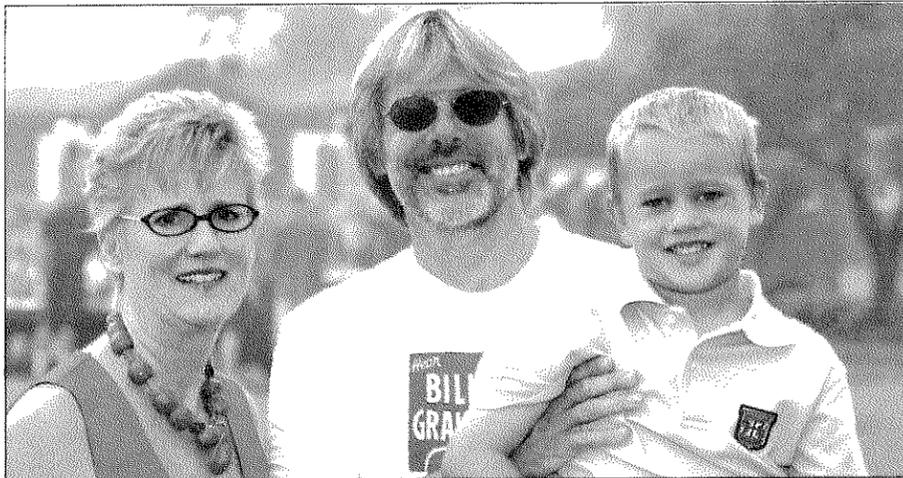
PROUD PARENT
 Carlsbad resident Sharon Brown chats with some friends after all the kids went to class. Photo by Daniel Knighton

School gets started with a 'Bolt'

By David Wiemers

RANCHO SANTA FE — The new school year got off to an animated start at Horizon Prep with a viewing of Disney's "Bolt," starring the voices of John Travolta and Miley Cyrus. On Sept. 6, students gathered on the lawn behind the school and picnicked with fellow students, friends and family members to celebrate Labor Day. The school provided drinks, popcorn, games and, of course, the hit movie.

The movie screening was the perfect cap on a week that brought students together for the new school year. With



TURN TO SCHOOL ON 8 **FAMILY AFFAIR** Solana Beach residents Laurie, Andy, and Jacob Albrecht after dropping off Jacob's sister Emma. Photo by Daniel Knighton

'Magnum, P.I.' star wins lawsuit over showhorse

By Randy Kalp

DEL MAR — A San Diego Superior Court jury on Sept. 3 awarded actor Tom Selleck more than \$187,000 after finding he and his wife were hoodwinked when they were sold a horse with an undisclosed medical condition.

Selleck and his wife, Jillie Mack-Selleck, accused Del Mar equestrian Delores Cuenca of portraying Zorro, a 10-year-old show horse that suffered from lameness, as fit for competition.

Lameness can be caused by something as simple as a rock in the hoof or be as serious as a broken bone in the horse's hoof, leg or hip. In this case, Zorro had a broken hoof bone, but because he'd been treated with steroids before the pre-purchase examina-

tion, his lameness wasn't revealed, court documents state.

The bulk of the Sellecks' monetary award goes to their purchase of Zorro, which cost them more than \$120,000, and the rest was awarded for other miscellaneous costs relating to the horse, including boarding and medical expenses.

A second phase of the case to determine punitive damages was scheduled for Sept. 7.

The Sellecks' attorney, George Knopfler, told jurors in his closing argument that his clients relied on Cuenca's agent, Lynn Obligado and her husband Guillermo Obligado, who deceived the Sellecks about the condition of Zorro by not informing them about the horse's lameness or the

steroid injections he received a few days before the pre-purchase examination. Further, Knopfler accused Guillermo Obligado, an Olympic equestrian, of delaying the examination to prepare Zorro.

Knopfler called the defendant's move a "pump and dump," and reminded the jury that a veterinarian testified Zorro's injury could have been fatal for a rider.

Attorney Robert Scapa accused Tom Selleck, who admitted when he testified he didn't know a lot about horses, of attending the nearly two-week hearing to "persuade the jury with his star power."

Selleck starred in the CBS network television series "Magnum, P.I." from 1982 to 1988. His acting credits include more than 75 films

and television shows dating back to 1969.

In his closing argument, Scapa said a veterinarian testified Guillermo Obligado was right in delaying the pre-purchase examination to allow the horse to recover from a recent competition and the accompanying medications Zorro was given.

Despite the plaintiff's belief that this was a conspiracy case, Scapa told jurors that the Sellecks relied solely on their agent's advice and should have checked the horse's medical records, especially since Lynn Obligado left a box concerning Zorro's past veterinarian treatments blank on the pre-purchase examination form.

"One cannot profit from their own wrong," Scapa said in his closing argument.

Tree tips offered by task force

By David Wiemers

RANCHO SANTA FE — The Association has re-established a Forest Task Force to address residents' concerns about removing trees and saving infected trees and to address its role in the process.

At the board of directors meeting July 16, Vice President Kim Higgins made a motion to form a task force to include representatives from the Association, the Rancho Santa Fe Foundation, the Fire Safety Council and other individuals or agencies to develop educational materials and programs to address acute issues regarding the health of an infected tree.

Since the re-establishment of the Forest Task Force, two meetings have been held.

As a result of the meetings, a Rancho Santa Fe Forest Health Web site has been set up at RSFForestHealth.org.

The site includes a Frequently Asked Questions section, which addresses concerns as well as provides links to more information on insect infestations that pose the biggest threats to the trees.

The site also provides contact information for experienced local tree companies that can provide solutions.

A list of trees recommended for people to replace those that have been removed will be uploaded to the site as soon as it has been approved by the Art Jury.

The list includes tall skyline trees; canopy trees; vertical growing trees; ornamental trees; and low-multi-branching trees.

"We need to place an emphasis on replanting," Dick Doughty, who serves as a board director and is also a member of the Forest Task Force, said. "We've been removing a lot of trees, but we need to replant."

Association President Bill Beckman agreed. "We need to take action now," he said. "The trees we plant now will be around for generations to come. It's part of a rebeautification process."

Suggestions from the newly re-established Forest

TURN TO TASK FORCE ON 29

HEALTHY LIVING

CONTINUED FROM 21

wheat bread, pasta or crackers. When in doubt, check the label. Look for the word "whole" on the package, and make sure whole grains appear among the first items in the ingredient list.

Immunity-enhancing supplements

— **Acidophilus:** The friendly bacteria that inhibits harmful bacteria growth, promotes good digestion, boosts immune function, and increases resistance to infections. New research, published in the journal *Pediatrics*, showed children 3 to 5 years old who took probiotics got 72 percent fewer fevers, 62 percent fewer coughs, and 59 percent fewer runny noses than children who didn't take probiotics.

— **Echinacea:** Increases the production and activity of infection-fighting white blood cells.

— **Elderberry:** A powerful antioxidant and anti-inflammatory that protects cells against damage.

— **Children's multivitamin with minerals:** B- and C-vitamins are great immune boosters and minerals help protect and support the immune system.

Physical activity

Exercise can help support your child's immune system by increasing the circulation of antibodies and white blood cell. These cells defend the immune system. The temporary elevation of body temperature during aerobic activity may inhibit bacterial growth, allowing the body to effectively fight infections.

In addition to physical activity, make sure your child gets plenty of sleep. Sleep and a healthy diet are important in helping your child fight off infections and to stay healthy.

Janet Little is the nutritionist for Henry's Farmers Market. She has more than 20 years of experience in the health food industry.

TASK FORCE

CONTINUED FROM 1

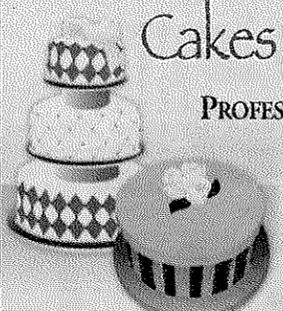
Task Force include creating an arboretum to display different types of trees, giving residents a preview of what options they have for their properties.

Beckman also suggested that trees be ranked according to drought tolerance.

"This is important in the decision-making process," he said.

The next Forest Task Force meeting is scheduled for 9 a.m. Sept. 14. The meeting will focus on ways to further educate the community about these issues.

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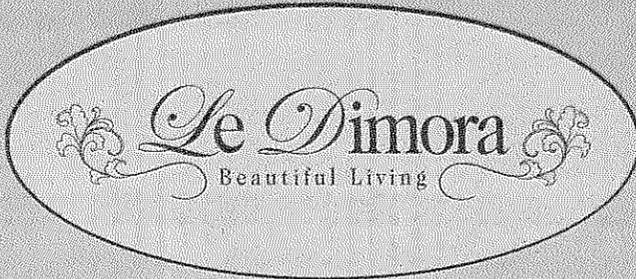
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VOLUME 29 NUMBER 3 *Providing The Ranch with Three Decades of Quality Journalism*

SEPT. 24, 2009

Four design options for RSF Parks Improvement Project presented at public meeting

By Matt Liebowitz

The Rancho Santa Fe Association board held a community-wide meeting Sept. 22 at the Rancho Santa Fe Garden Club to present the four conceptual designs for improvements to the Village Park in front of The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe.

After an introduction by Association Planning Committee Chair Jerry Block, Ivan Holler, Association planning director, took the audience of about 50 through a brief presentation detailing the specifications of each conceptual design. First, he explained the background of the project.

Improving the parks, explained Holler, has been identified by the RSF Association as its top priority. Improvements, whichever are made, would be consistent with the Village Master Plan, said Holler.

Existing challenges to the park, Holler said, include eucalyptus trees damaged by the lerp psyllid, a lack of sidewalks that inhibit access to and through the parks, sloping, uneven surfaces which are not ideal for special events, and the five-way intersection in front of the park which is not pedestrian-friendly.

Holler then explained the four proposals. The first—each was displayed on a separate poster—has a total park area of 55,841 square feet, and calls for minimal changes from what

See **PARK**, page 38

RSF Patrol, Association address afternoon traffic congestion at RSF School

By Matt Liebowitz

Amidst construction, efforts are being made to reduce traffic congestion in the during morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up at Rancho Santa Fe School, reported Rancho Santa Fe Patrol Chief Matt Wellhouser and Rancho Santa Fe Association Planning Director Ivan Holler.

In a report Holler presented to the RSF Association at its Sept. 17 meeting, he explained that since the beginning of the school year on Sept. 3, traffic in the afternoons has increased as parents have been arriving 30 minutes prior to their children being released from school at 3 p.m.

"This has led to significant queuing both on the school property and on El Fuego and La Granada," the report read.

Wellhouser, who confirmed "The first three or four days [of school] were kind of [difficult]," reported that his Patrol staff has had several meetings with school superintendent Lindy Delaney and assistant superintendent Cindy Schaub to

See **TRAFFIC**, page 39

Accomplished RSF veteran Joe McMillen throws first Padres pitch

By Diane Y. Welch

On Sunday, Sept. 13, Rancho Santa Fe resident Joe McMillen had the rare privilege of throwing the first pitch for the Padres.

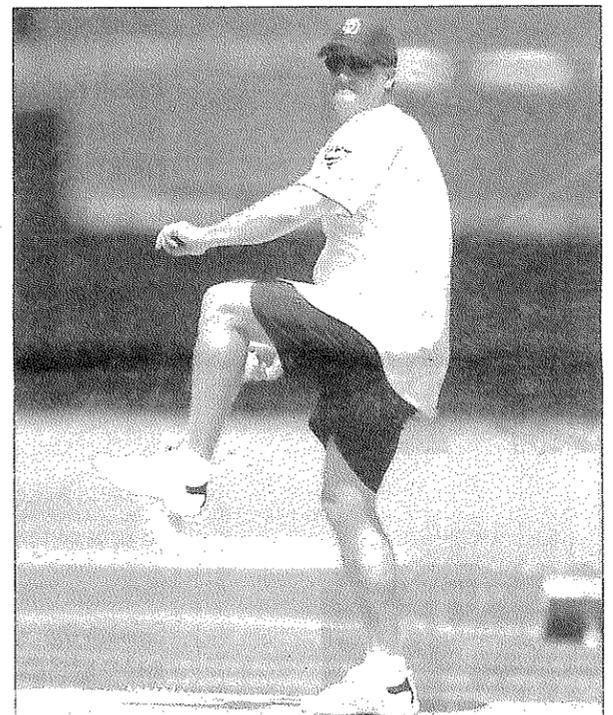
"It was a weekend that honored our nation's veterans and also broke the Rockies winning streak," said McMillen in a recent interview. The Padres had chosen that day to recognize the bravery and service of those in the military.

The honor came about when McMillen's past service in the U. S. Army during the Gulf War of 1990-1991 came to the attention of one of the baseball park sponsors who wished to recognize his bravery. McMillen, a West Point graduate, had served as the platoon leader of an Apache Attack Helicopter unit, and his work during Operation Desert Storm helped defend Kuwait against the Iraqi attacks.

Later military assignments found McMillen moving around the country, but ultimately he settled down, with his wife Angie and three young children, in Solana Beach in the late 1990s. "In our first five years at Solana Beach, we had three more children. As our family expanded, we developed roots in Rancho Santa Fe, an ideal setting to provide a healthy, stable, and balanced lifestyle for our children," McMillen said.

McMillen's own family roots read like an adventure novel. "My father was an adventurer who loved to work with people and be of service wherever possible. At one

See **PITCH**, page 39



RSF's Joe McMillen throwing the first pitch for the Padres. Photo/Courtesy San Diego Padres

RSF School campus neighbors object to property purchase plans

By Joe Tash

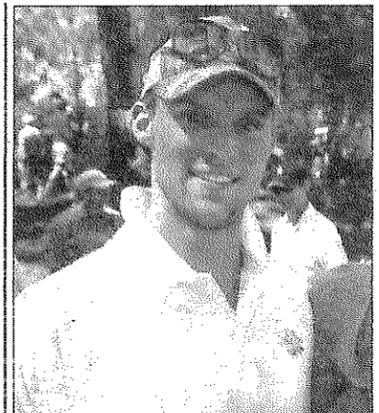
Neighbors of the R. Roger Rowe campus in the Rancho Santa Fe Village object to plans by the school to purchase nearby property for use as parking lots and playing fields.

The neighbors, who live on Mimosa Place and El Fuego, sent a letter to the county Planning Commission, asking it to delay action on the plan, which comes up for review at Friday's (Sept. 25) Planning Commission meeting. County staff have recommended that the commission approve the plan.

"Overall, the families want to make sure the school district is doing their due diligence. They want to make sure taxpayer money is not being wasted, that local ordinances are being followed, that local wetlands are not destroyed and that the neighborhood is preserved," said Robin Swanson, a spokeswoman for the six couples and individuals who signed the letter.

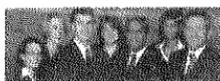
Superintendent Lindy Delaney of the Rancho Santa Fe School District said the district wants to use two properties that it

See **NEIGHBORS**, page 38



'HOUSE' BREAK — See what TV's "House" actor Jesse Spencer was doing at The Bridges on pages 30 and 31. Photo/Jon Clark

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PARK

continued from page 1

currently exists. This option calls for pedestrian crosswalks without popouts would be installed at pedestrian access points, as would perimeter sidewalks at the Pasco Delicias intersection and along El Tordo.

The first design calls for new trees and plantings, and limited grading. This design includes 16 parking spaces along Avenida de Acacias and nine along El Tordo.

"It's a minimal approach," said Holler of the first proposal.

The second design, with a total area of 44,562 square feet (excluding hardscape), includes minor street realignment to remove the triangular island at Linea del Cielo/El Tordo, and textured crosswalks with popouts at pedestrian access points.

Alternative two outlines interior pathways and a lawn amphitheater in a sloping lawn area in the northern section of the park, pathways and a large-scale patio chessboard in the Southern park,

and new trees and plantings. The second proposal includes approximately 13 spaces on Avenida de Acacias and nine on El Tordo adjacent to the park.

The third design, with what Holler called "much more substantive and significant changes," includes a total park area of 76,710 square feet, major street realignment and closures to segments of Linea del Cielo and La Gracia in front of the Inn to single one large park.

Option three includes interior paved off-street parking lots of the north and south sides of the park, perimeter sidewalks surround the park, a lawn amphitheater, new trees and plantings, and grading to create parking lots and reduce existing slopes.

Option three, which would require a traffic study, includes 19 parking spaces on Avenida de Acacias, nine on El Tordo, and two off-street lots containing 28 spots.

Holler estimated the cost of option one at roughly \$400,000, option two at \$750,000, and option three at \$1.5 million.

Holler then presented a fourth alternative, presented by the RSF Art Jury. This alternative included minimal park improvements, no interior park amenities, and crosswalks with some popouts at pedestrian access points, and decorative paving incorporated into the five-way intersection. To allow for parallel parking, La Gracia headed northeast would become a one-way street, a change that would require a traffic study.

Option four, which Holler estimated at \$550,000, would yield a net gain of six parking spots over what currently exists.

Holler explained that the next step is for the Association to receive public comment and report back to the Planning Committee: the four proposals will then go before a joint meeting of the Association and Art Jury in the future.

Provided at the meeting was a comment form, which briefly sketched out each proposal, and asked for input as to which project improvement—popouts, additional sidewalks, new trees, flatter areas, more parking, benches, a small amphitheater—was of most importance in the project.

The Association board of directors has made no formal decision on which proposal it approves, but will do so in the future, said Holler.

COMPOSER

continued from page 16

bands, where he began writing and arranging music, as well as serving as band leader.

Later, he moved to Los Angeles, where he found great success as a composer and arranger for well-known musical artists, and worked on many television shows and movies. He and his first wife, Marge, had three sons, and the couple enjoyed a marriage of 50 years before her death in 1994. He has two grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

Among his many collaborations was a long-time professional relationship with Count Basie, the legendary band-leader, with whom he made 10 albums, Nestico said.

Nestico likened arranging for a big band or orchestra to a painter's use of the palette.

"The arranger paints the picture," he said, using the various instruments, rhythms and melodies as his tints and hues.

Nestico gets up around 5 a.m. each day, and sits down early in front of his computer. "That's when I write my best music," he said.

When he's not composing or arranging, Nestico takes walks around his neigh-

borhood, and enjoys watching football on Sundays. Years ago, when he opted to work as a musical composer, he stopped playing the trombone. Recently, he said, he thought about giving his trombone to the Museum of Making Music in Carlsbad, but his wife stopped him.

"She said that's precious, give it to the grandkids," he said with a laugh.

Changes in the music business — such as the advent of technology that allows a synthesizer to replace a full band or orchestra — have made it harder to earn a living as a professional musician, he said, although it's still possible. But he encouraged all students to learn to play an instrument, even if they don't dream of a musical career.

"If you are in a band at school, it's the ultimate team sport," he said. "You have been exposed to good music and it stays with you for the rest of your life."

Tickets may be purchased in advance by calling Kris Sims at 760-436-6137 or Buck Abell at 858-793-8258.

More information about the CCCBand, the subject of an Emmy Award-winning documentary film, may be found on the band's Web site: www.cccb.com.

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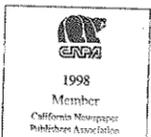
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NEIGHBORS

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now owns, and several others that it may acquire, for staff parking and playing fields. The project would be conducted in two phases.

The district is seeking a mitigated negative declaration for the project, meaning that it believes any environmental impacts are minimal, and do not require completion of a full environmental impact report. As part of that environmental process, the district must have its plan approved by the county Planning Commission.

The district also plans to apply for reimbursement of more than \$1 million from the state for a portion of the purchase price of two of the properties.

"The whole idea is we are providing for the future of the district," Delaney said.

Currently, a \$32 million renovation of the Rowe campus is underway, which includes replacing the school's one-story classroom buildings with two-story buildings; constructing a new performing arts building; providing a new technology center, science lab and music

rooms; and renovating other buildings on campus.

School board president Carlie Headapohl said she had not seen the neighbors' letter and could not respond to their allegations.

The letter to the planning commission is signed by Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Bamberger; Mr. Fred Cary; Mr. and Mrs. Paul Heckman; Mr. and Mrs. Richard Marr; Mrs. Victor Mature; and Mr. Dale Nelson. Some of the neighbors plan to speak at Friday's Planning Commission hearing, said Swanson.

According to a report by county planning staff, "the proposed acquisition of the project site for the purpose of constructing additional staff parking is in conformance with the adopted General Plan regarding the location, purpose and extent of such acquisition..." and staff recommended the approval of the district's plan.

However, in their letter, the neighbors dispute the report's findings.

"We would argue that this is anything but 'compatible with the residential uses' that exist in our neighborhood today," the letter said.

The neighbors' letter

also contends that the proposed parking lots "would result in costs that are staggering and would be five to seven times comparable projects."

Another allegation is that the district is in violation of county zoning ordinances because it has allowed the Rancho Santa Fe Patrol to work from portable offices on one of its parcels, without obtaining a major use permit.

"The School District is asking the Planning Commission to rubber stamp a plan and use for property that the School District does not own; does not have the financial resources for a project that does not meet even the minimal CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act) standards; by its own admission, does not need; and, all for an applicant that is in violation of current County zoning requirements for the property... We would urge the Planning Commission to take these matters into consideration and to defer any action until such time as these issues have been properly addressed," the letter concluded.

Woodward Center Pet of the Week

"Jade" is a 1-and-a-half-year-old, spayed, female, divinely domestic short haired feline. "Jade" is full of unique symbolic energy and adores laps! She would be best in a home with no other kitties as this gem wants to be your very own precious jewel! "Jade" enjoys the fun of fluffy toys and lots of attention! Come adopt "Jade", your very own gemstone at Helen Woodward Animal Center!



Adopt your jewel. "Jade," just \$65.

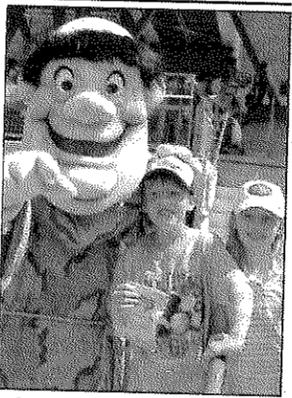
All pets adopted from Helen Woodward Animal Center have been spayed or neutered, have up-to-date vaccinations and microchip identification.

Helen Woodward Animal Center kennels are open every day from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. (applications accepted until 5:45 p.m.) at 6461 El Apajo Road in Rancho Santa Fe.

For more information, call 858-756-4117, option #1 or log on to www.animalcenter.org.

PITCH

continued from page 1



Connor, 9, and Victoria, 7, McMillen with the Padres mascot.

point he found himself in Papua New Guinea as the principal of a missionary school with his wife and three children. I was the fourth and last, born on that Pacific island in 1967," McMillen recollected. "I'm told that I spent the first four years of my life befriending the local villagers (fortunately not of the head-hunting tribes), and learning what bugs were edible and which weren't."

Those years would serve as an early test for the jungle training missionary camp that his parents subsequently attended in the remote mountains of Chiapas, Mexico in the 1970s, McMillen said. "This training prepared my parents, and us four children, who were naturally along for the ride, for a permanent stay in Las Pacayas, Guatemala, a place inhabited by Mayan descendants who had scrapped together a community without roads, medicine, or education. Running water literally was two feet, two arms, and two pails of water being carried from the stream to our makeshift home," he quipped.

The subsequent civil war in Guatemala, however, tore apart the idyllic, rustic lifestyle when the village was ground zero for violence.

"One early morning during the summer of 1979, my family woke-up staring at the muzzles of sawed off shotguns and pistols, wielded by young, mostly scared, foot soldiers of the communist guerrilla movement launched in the remote villages of Guatemala. They were led by a couple of efficient, trained foreign commanders barking orders to take us outside and burn our house down. With that accomplished, they gathered the villagers, and presented a death list of those they intended to kill. This first person named was already dead, and our family was second on the list!"

The guerrillas, however, had made a grave mistake. "The villagers truly knew my parents lived solely to be of service to the villagers, and the house they just burned down also contained the clinic that provided them medicines for the first time in their lives — medicines that had stopped babies from dying from dysentery and worms."

This horrific incident

left an indelible mark on McMillen's psyche, yet it also fueled his passion for patriotism. "This is when I learned that people can choose good over evil, and that freedom truly is not free, and not merely a cliché. Freedom must be defended, and the villagers did just that for us. They turned on the oppressors, stood between them and us, and chased them out of their villages."

McMillen's parents remained lifelong missionaries, and service to others remained deeply integrated into his family's daily routines. Their service and sacrifice were returned years later after the strife subsided when the villagers built a new house, a new clinic, and invited them to return to their village and continue their work.

These early influences have colored McMillen's own sense of giving back. He recently traveled to Kumasi, Ghana, to deliver a graduation speech to the graduates of the John Williams Montessori School for underprivileged school children and actively supports the program by sponsoring scholarships for orphans to attend the school. With his family he also supports various local causes and charities like the Rancho Santa Fe Education Foundation, Promise2Kids, Miracle League Network and the Firefighters Union.

Retired from the military, McMillen's management skills were honed at some of the nation's largest, most respected companies: Avaya (Lucent Business Systems), Accenture, and Pfizer. Early in his civilian career he helped define future broadband infrastructure requirements for SBC (Pacific Bell)—a network that is now in place. Then in 1996, he launched the Internet's first commercial couponing application.

This success was followed by pioneering Lucent Technology's Internet-based enterprise and network voice switching platforms. He

received the VON Pioneer Award (Voice Over Internet Protocol) and special recognition from the chairman of the FCC for his early efforts to help transform global communications networks to packet based technologies.

Joe and Angela McMillen have six children, ranging in ages from 5 to 19; four of them attend R. Roger Rowe School in the Ranch. Angela McMillen is very active on various school committees, assisting where possible to make the school a close-knit community, and recently served on the board of Teen Volunteers of Action.

That first pitch during the Padres Military Appreciation Day will be added to Joe McMillen's rich memories, he said. "But the happiest person that day was my youngest son, Connor, 9, whose only previous baseball experience was his participation in the Miracle League. He was overjoyed to be watching his first professional baseball game, and particularly to see his daddy throwing out the first pitch."

TRAFFIC

continued from page 1

figure out how to best improve traffic flow, especially during afternoon pick-up. (Morning drop-off, he said, was going "very well.")

The Patrol, Wellhouser said, is working with the Association, California Highway Patrol, and the San Diego County Sheriff to address traffic issues caused by, as Wellhouser put it, "lots of cars wanting to go to the same place at the same time."

The Association has provided an additional pick up area in its parking lot to lessen congestion on the school property and adjacent roads. Wellhouser said school staff members are working on a formal carpool system that will help mitigate the problem.

"All these things should come together as everyone settles down and gets into a routine."

Wellhouser suggested parents show up around 3:15 p.m. to pick up their children, rather than backing up traffic by waiting at the curb prior to school letting out.

LIBRARY

continued from page 4

tance given the new construction to the RSF School, said Vivien U, RSF Library Guild president.

Calling the budget cuts a "mini-crisis," U explained that during the school construction—expected to finish in Fall 2010—the RSF Library will function as the school library. Donating to the Guild, she explained, will help the library offset the added need put on by the students, and keep it running effectively.

"I would encourage all the parents whose children

attend the school to become Guild members," U wrote in a column in this paper. A donation to the Guild, U wrote, will allow the library to defray the costs of budget cuts, added "wear and tear," and "costs of purchasing books and programs specifically for the RSF school curriculum."

"The children are all using the public library as the school library until the school gets finished," said U. With a family membership of \$50, U said, "It would really be helpful if parents were members of the Guild, so we could use these extra funds to help maintain the library. If we had the support of the community, we can maintain this

facility up to the standards people are used to."

But with a Library Guild membership that has decreased by more than half in recent years, U added, "We can't do it if we don't get any members."

The current budget situation, in U's view, is unsteady—"it may get worse before it gets better" she said—but can be managed and worked through with a cooperative effort of the community.

About the "crisis," she wrote, "it does not mean disaster as many have come to associate with this word, but rather a trigger for change."

FIREFIIGHTERS

continued from page 4

the region this fiscal year, compared to \$190.44 in Orange County and \$219.77 in Los Angeles County.

"The San Diego region has experienced two of the worst wildfires in California history," in 2003 and 2007, said the institute's president Erik Bruvold. "It is surprising that policymakers have not found a way to significantly increase fire protection spending. There have been a myriad of meetings, reports and calls to action. That hasn't, unfortunately, resulted in the kind of investments one finds in other California counties facing a similar danger."

The report also shows that staffing at the five largest fire departments in San Diego County declined by 8.5 firefighters each, while the three largest fire departments in Orange County increased staffing by 98 positions and those in Los Angeles County increased staffing by 233, according to the institute.

While politics comes into play inside government, it is less of a factor at individual stations. San Diego fire fighters are doing all they can with the funding they have to ensure their residents are safe.

Earlier this year, members of the San Diego City Firefighters Local 145 accepted a 6 percent salary cut along with other city employees and union-members.

"With the financial challenges, I was really proud of our firefighters," Jarman said. "They recognized their neighbors are suffering, everybody's suffering from the financial crisis not just the city. They realized it, stepped up and did their part."

"It's a passion"

Capt. John Wood of the city's downtown station said the funding is important when it comes to resources but for actual employees, funding isn't as important as another trait.

Tips from fire chief Tracy Jarman:

We asked Jarman to give San Diegans tips on how to prepare for the wildfires.

1. Make sure you have 100 feet of defensible space — meaning, make sure the 100 feet of area surrounding your house reduces the risk of fire. Lose the vegetation and trim down those hedges.

2. Update your attic vents. Jarman said you can now purchase 8-inch screens for those vents to stop the possibility of embers entering your home. She said many houses suffered because attic vents weren't updated.

3. Store water, food, prescriptions, clothing, shoes and other necessities in your car or somewhere other than your home. Jarman said many people were in such a hurry to leave their residences they failed to take with them important belongings.

"Not many people would go to the office and say, 'I'll die today for this job'," Wood said. "You're never going to rich off this job, but it's a passion for everyone who's in it."

Wood said the fire department already runs in the most efficient manner too. Although many are not aware of it, San Diego's fire department serves as a "multi-jurisdictional department" with firefighters cross-trained in different areas. The city's bomb squad is part of the agency, compared to many other cities where it is independent or part of the police department. (Wood is the commander.) The department also shares resources with FBI and ATF members. In addition, most

firefighters are medically trained to respond to a variety of calls.

The training for firefighters is intense. Wood said firefighters are required to attend the local academy for 14 weeks and attend numerous trainings after joining a station. In addition, each firefighter trains for two hours daily on a variety of skills.

Life safety and wild-fires

After the catastrophe of the 2003 California wildfires, San Diego enlisted the services of veteran firefighter J.P. Harris, who offers pro bono free wildfire training to multiple jurisdictions in the county.

"We did a lot of that training before the 2007 fires at the fire chief and battalion level. After that, we trained the entire department and opened it up to other departments," Jarman said. "When you don't have a lot of resources it's important to deploy those resources as effectively as you can."

As a result, the department didn't have any fatal or serious injuries in the 2007 wildfires.

"The number one thing is life safety," Jarman said. "I can replace a house. I can't replace a person."

San Diego fire Web sites:

Fire Safe Council of San Diego County: www.fire-safesdcounty.org

Wildfire Zone: www.wildfirezone.org

City News Service and Associated Press contributed to this report. Hoa Quach is the SDNN political editor. SDNN is a media partner of the Rancho Santa Fe Review, Carmel Valley News, Del Mar Village Voice.

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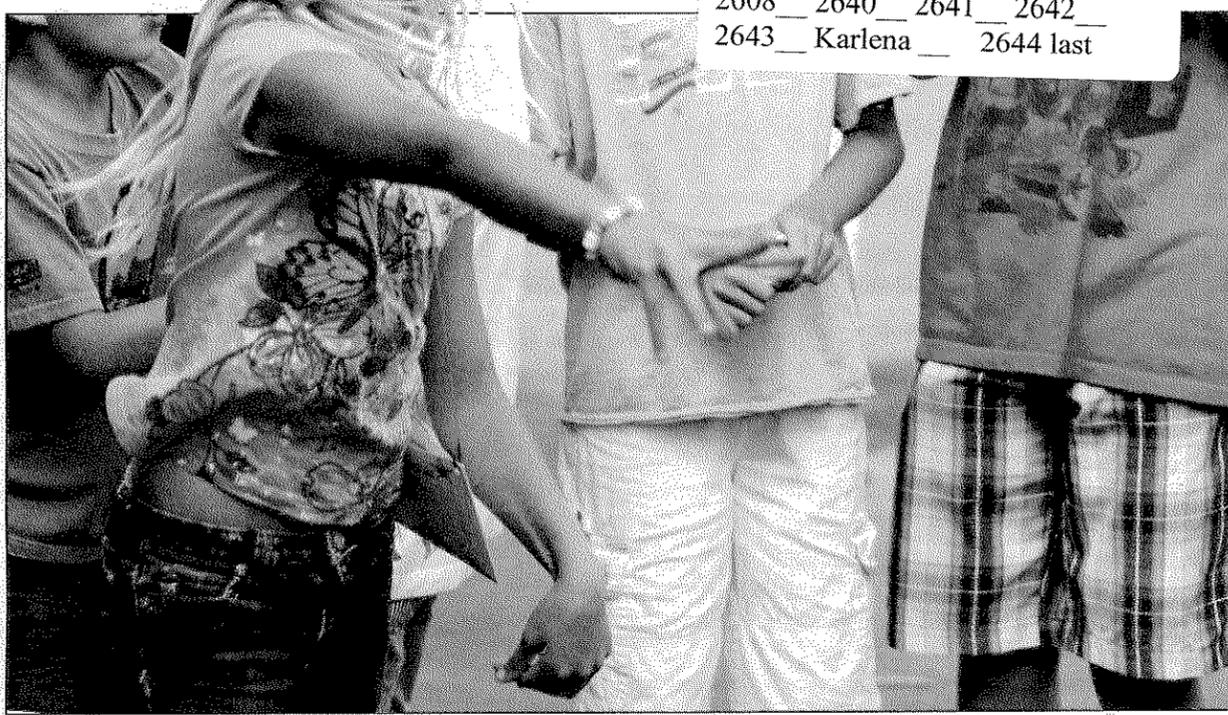
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School traffic causes trouble

By David Wiemers

RANCHO SANTA FE — Community leaders are working together to solve the pick-up/drop-off challenges that are causing traffic congestion near the R. Roger Rowe school. Chief Patrol Officer Matt Wellhouser gave a report to the Association board of directors at their Sept. 17 meeting, outlining the problems that occur as parents drop their children off at school and later in the afternoon when they arrive to pick them up.

"The first three or four days of the new school year were a nightmare," Wellhouser said. "Meetings were held with the superintendent, Lindy Delaney, and her assistant superintendent, Cindy Schaub, to solve the parking problems; to look for choke points." Since then, traffic improved, according to Wellhouser, and there is less congestion. "Drop-off is going well," he said. "The challenge is the afternoon pick-up."

During the afternoon pick-up, parents often arrive

TURN TO TRAFFIC ON 22



BACK TO SCHOOL BASH

Above, Rancho Santa Fe resident Sydney Stratton throws a baseball at the dunking booth during the Rancho Santa Fe Community Center's Back to School Bash on Sept. 11. Left, Rancho Santa Fe resident Katie Dove, or Dovey to her friends, enjoys an ice cream sundae while recovering from her fake "shark attack" wound. Below, San Diego resident Carmen "Free Spirit" Campbell paints a flower on the face of Rancho Santa Fe resident Channing Magee.

Photos by Daniel Knighton



Local author pens book about Ranch architect

By Lillian Cox

RANCHO SANTA FE — In the spring, author Diane Y. Welch will fulfill what's become an intimate personal calling with the release of "Lilian J. Rice: Architect of Rancho Santa Fe, California" by Schiffer Publishing.

It's been a long road for the English-born writer that began in 2005 when she researched a local history story for the San Diego Union-Tribune about the San Dieguito Academy.

"I noticed the architect was Lilian J. Rice and wanted to know why a lady in 1936 was designing high schools," she said. "I couldn't find a single book in the public library. I thought, 'Someone needs to write a book; this is significant.'"

On June 12, Welch wrote a journal entry vowing to write that book.

"I found out later it was Lilian's birthday," she said. "I got goose bumps and my

hair stood up on my arm. It was serendipitous and sparked me in to action."

Welch began by traveling to National City, where Rice was born and raised, pouring over newspaper archives at the library. She also relied on the archives of the Rancho Santa Fe Historical Society.

Her biggest break came when she discovered research donated to the UCLA library by historian Harriet Rochlin for an article written in the 1970s about female architects in California.

A thesis titled "Lilian J. Rice, The Lady as Architect" written by USD student Lucinda Eddy in the 1980s provided additional insight to Rice's body of work.

"No one wrote anything until 1970," Welch said. "How odd that no one thought to interview Lilian J. Rice while she was alive. There was this exceptional woman and no one sat down to get her story."

Rice is credited with designing the



DIANE Y. WELCH



MAKING HISTORY Lilian Rice is pictured above at the materials site for the Santa Fe Land Improvement Company in Rancho Santa Fe in May 1923. She served as both architect and project supervisor. Photo courtesy of the Diane Welch Collection

TURN TO BOOK ON 24

Prep for Fandango heats up

By David Wiemers

RANCHO SANTA FE — The Rancho Santa Fe Historical Society, which is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year, is preparing for its best Fandango ever. The Historical Society board met on Sept. 15 to make final preparations for the big event, which will take place between 4 and 8 p.m. Oct. 16. Part of Rancho Days, the Fandango will celebrate the Ranch's history and heritage with good food, music, dancing and a Chili Cook-off.

Chef Rex Havick, author of the cookbook, "Rock 'n' Roll Recipes," will serve as Master of Ceremonies and oversee the Chili Cook-off. Anyone who lives or works in Rancho Santa Fe is invited to participate in the Chili Cook-off. "If you have a favorite chili you've developed over the years, now is your opportunity to show it off," Chef

TURN TO FANDANGO ON 22

HEALTHY LIVING

CONTINUED FROM 20

high-caloric punch. There are other healthier, more natural alternatives that are low in calories and just as sweet.

Artificial sweeteners to avoid:

— Aspartame (NutraSweet/Equal)
— Saccharin (Sweet'N Low)

Artificial sweeteners to use with caution:

— Sucralose (Splenda) — chlorinated sucralose is 600 times sweeter than sugar on average and has no calories
— Acesulfame K (Sweet One or Sunnette)

Switching to natural sweeteners:

Replacing artificially

processed sugars with natural sweeteners is the best solution, so consider adding one or more of the below to your diet:

— Stevia: extracted from a plant grown in South America

— Does not raise blood sugar levels

— Non-caloric
— 10 to 15 times sweeter than sugar

— In cooking: 1 packet Stevia = one packet sugar, or 1/4 tsp. liquid Stevia = 2 tsp. sugar

— Agave nectar: juice is extracted from the core of the agave plant

— Has minimal effects on blood sugar and insulin release

— Contains calories

— In cooking: 1/3 cup of agave syrup = 1 cup of sugar

— Honey: produced by honeybees

— Contains a number of

nutrients which include sugars, such as fructose, glucose, sucrose, maltose, lactose and other disaccharides and trisaccharides

— Raises blood sugar levels

— Honey may contain minute quantities of clostridium botulinum spores and should not be fed to children under one year of age

— Raw: may contain bits of wax, insect parts and other small detritus

— Filtered: This is raw honey that has been warmed to make it easier to filter out small particles and impurities. Other than being somewhat cleaner than raw honey, it is essentially the same. Most of the trace amounts of nutrients remain intact.

— Sucanat: organically grown, freshly-squeezed sugar cane juice, evaporated by a special Swiss process

— In its natural state, it is highly nutritious, since the molasses has not been removed

— Raises blood sugar levels

— Use in place of brown sugar for an extraordinary flavor

— Cane Sugar: produced from the sugar cane plant

— Cane sugar does not go through the same refinery process as sugar, so it maintains it retains more of the nutrients.

Natural sweetener to avoid:

— All natural sweeteners are not created equal and all though they are technically considered "natural," they should be avoided.

— High fructose corn syrup. The intake of soft drinks containing high-fruc-

tose corn syrup or sucrose has risen in parallel with the epidemic of obesity. "In 2000, the intake of added sugars for the average American was two and a half times that recommended by the Dietary Guidelines, and nearly half of the added sugars came from high fructose corn syrup," according to the American Dietetic Association. These excess calories lead to obesity.

— Table sugar (Sucrose). White table sugar is empty of all vitamins, minerals, fiber, amino acids and trace elements during the refining process. While all of us are in the need of something sweet once in awhile, the best suggestion is reaching for Mother Nature's sweet bounty in the form of an apple, orange, peach, watermelon or any of the other tasty colorful fruit selections available.

FRUGAL

CONTINUED FROM 21

newspaper coupon inserts.

Dear Sara: I have tons of packages of pepperoni and need ways to use them up. I have at least 20 bags full. I got it all free with coupons. Any ideas? Thanks. — Jolene, New York

Dear Jolene: You can freeze it so you don't have to go on a mad pepperoni-cooking marathon. In addition to the obvious homemade pizza and served with crackers and cheese, you can add it to pasta salad, lasagna, meat-loaf, macaroni and cheese, calzones and on top of burgers or subs. Or try pepperoni bread or pepperoni dip.

Pepperoni Bread

1 (1 pound) loaf frozen or homemade bread or pizza dough, thawed

1 egg, beaten
sliced pepperoni
1 cup shredded mozzarella cheese

1/4 cup grated Parmesan cheese

1 teaspoon Italian seasoning

Preheat oven to 375 F. Grease a baking pan. Roll dough out into a rectangle. Brush dough with egg. Place pepperoni evenly over the dough. Sprinkle on cheeses and the Italian seasoning. Roll up dough like a jellyroll, pinch seam to seal, and place seam side down on the baking pan. Bake for 40 minutes. — Ellise, e-mail

Pepperoni Dip

1/2 pound pepperoni sausage, diced

1 (10.75-ounce) can of condensed mushroom or cream-of-celery soup

1 (8-ounce) package cream cheese, softened

Preheat oven to 350 F. In a medium baking dish, combine the ingredients or use your food processor. Bake uncovered 15 minutes or microwave for 2 minutes. Serve with crackers.

Sara Noel is the owner of Frugal Village (www.frugalvillage.com), a Web site that offers practical, money-saving strategies for everyday living. To send tips, comments or questions, write to Sara Noel, c/o United Media, 200 Madison Ave., 4th Floor, New York, NY 10016, or e-mail sara@frugalvillage.com.

MISSION

CONTINUED FROM 21

entertainment and refreshments as well as the San Diego Black Storytellers, African drummers and dancers. There will also be a presentation from the 25 students of The Bishop's School in La Jolla who recently returned from their community service project in Namibia. Ticket prices range from \$6 and \$40 per person and all entertainment has been donated.

The celebration fundraiser is an International Community Service Project for the members of the Black Student Union. Del Mar founder of Mission Namibia Alison Royle will be in attendance.

For additional information on An Afternoon With Mission Namibia, contact Sherryl Parks at (858) 756-2614. Tickets will be available for purchase online at the UCSD box office.

FANDANGO

CONTINUED FROM 1

Rex said. "We're looking for terrific red chilis, green chilis, vegetarian chilis ... just bring us your best efforts." The competition will be from 5 to 7 p.m. and the winner will be announced at 7:30 p.m.

There are rules and regulations that each participant must meet for the Chili

Cook-off. Cooks will be expected to bring at least two quarts of chili and will be required to bring their own crockpot or heating device to keep the chili at a consistent temperature. All participants must fill out an application and will be given the rules and regulations.

"We're trying to make this a fair competition for everyone involved," Chef Rex said. For an application and a set of

rules and regulations, contact Chef Rex Havick at Chef.Rex@cox.net. All applications must be in by Oct. 12.

In addition to the Chili Cook-off, Mexican food will once again be offered for \$10 per adult and \$5 for children under 12. Traffic will be prohibited through Via de Santa Fe between La Flecha and Paseo Delicias as the Fandango hits the street. The band Prairie Fire featuring

Mark Windrum will entertain the crowd and dancing in the streets is encouraged.

After the Fandango in October, the Rancho Santa Fe Historical Society will set its sights on celebrating its silver anniversary with a celebration planned Dec. 6. Founding members will be honored in a small ceremony that will held at the La Flecha house, the first home built in the Ranch by archi-

tect Lilian Rice and now home to the Rancho Santa Fe Historical Society.

A special edition 2010 calendar will be offered by the Historical Society featuring pictures and events from the Ranch's 80-year history will also be available in October. Early next year the new Arcadia book, "Rancho Santa Fe: The Town the Railroad Built" will be published.

TRAFFIC

CONTINUED FROM 1

early and park their cars along El Fuego and La Granada, causing traffic to choke and queues to form. Fire Marshal Cliff Hunter expressed concerns because the fire department needs access to El Fuego in the event of a fire or emergency.

"What advice would you offer to the parents regarding picking up their children?"

Association President Bill Beckman asked Wellhouser. "What will solve the problem?"

"My best advice? Don't come early!" Wellhouser said. "Coming early only backs up traffic. Have a plan with your children to come later rather than come early."

Tom Parry, a retired attorney and county traffic engineer who is helping the Association with these matters, agreed. "The major prob-

lem is pick-up," he said. "Everyone wants to wait at the same time. It doesn't work."

Wellhouser said that the school is working with parents to get carpools in place that will help ease the congestion.

In other Association news, the Forest Health Task Force met recently and expanded their tree list to include a section of eucalyptus trees that are not susceptible to lerp psyllid infestations.

The list will soon be presented to the Art Jury for their consideration.

A community meeting regarding the proposed Village Park was held at the Garden Club on Sept. 22. Residents of Rancho Santa Fe were given the opportunity to view different design proposals for the Village Park in front of the Inn and along Avenida de Acacias. Public comments were encouraged.

Association President

Bill Beckman also wanted the community to be aware that we are entering fire season.

"We need to be prepared for the fire season," he said at the recent Association meeting. Beckman stressed the urgency for all residents to work with the fire department to make sure events like the Witch Creek Fire don't reoccur.

The next association meeting is scheduled for 9 a.m. Oct. 1.

MACHEL'S RANCH

CONTINUED FROM 14

knew just what he was doing and was strategically vying for the next "Bachelor"? After watching and reading many message boards it seems certain Kiptyn didn't have any ulterior motives. Although he sure maneuvered perfectly to the very end to place him in an excellent position of winning one of television's most sought-after "reality roles." How thrilling for San Diego residents if the next "Bachelor" turned out to be Kiptyn Locke. There have even been rumors of women from Arizona flocking to our neighborhoods just to catch a glimpse of the man on the surfboard paddling out with Jillian on the final episode. Maybe it was that water shot of his abs that drove the women crazy. Will ABC choose San Diego's Kiptyn

Locke? Stay tuned to "Machel's Ranch" for more details.

On Sept. 11, the Rancho Santa Fe Community Center hosted the Back to School Bash at the center. The carnival drew a large number of Rancho Santa Fe students and their family members. There was also an ice cream truck on the premises, which seemed to be a hit with all ages. Thank you to the Community Center for sharing these photos from that day. I was also informed that there will be an opportunity for families to drop of their children on Saturday between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. at Drop-In Saturday. Parents if you need to run errands and your kids need to play, this is a perfect opportunity that benefits everyone. Also, movie night is coming! On Sept. 25, don't miss out at The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe. Imagine, children running



FANCY FACE Facepainter with Morgan MacBaisey at the Back to School bash. Courtesy photo

around playing, hot dogs and hamburgers and every parent in the Ranch there with their blankets and lawn chairs. Snuggle in for this fun family night. For more information on other events coming up at the Community Center, check out www.rsf.org.

Save the date

Coming up on Oct. 8, Delicias Restaurant is inviting you to bring your personal cellar

choice to enjoy with your dinner at Open that Bottle Night. This is a perfect opportunity to bring your friends and family to enjoy a special evening. Executive Chef Knowles' menu consists of California fresh cuisine. With a wide variety of selections complement your wine, this evening will be a night to remember.

To book a reservation now, call (858) 756-8000. Don't be late to reserve this special date!

On Sept. 29, Mille Fleurs is hosting the DJ Tapas Tuesday night from 7:30 p.m. to midnight. Enjoy half-off prices and fabulous tapas with your friends and family. This may be the last hot summer night of the season. This is my favorite Tuesday of the month. Call (858) 756-3085 for a reservation for this event.

If you have a fun event you would like Machel Penn to cover, contact her at mpenn@coastnewsgroup.com.

ESTATE

CONTINUED FROM 19

The pool is enclosed by a solid stucco wall to provide maximum privacy. Gently sloping down the rear of the home sits a tennis court framed with a wooden trellis. In all, there is 3.3 acres of land with a long curve driveway up a hill to

the entrance of the home. The property is secured by a gated entrance and security system with cameras throughout the house and the outside grounds.

The estate currently lists at \$6,290,000. For more information, call (858) 342-6810 or e-mail mark@kisspropertiesinc.com.

GIFTS & TRIBUTES 5

Barona Boot Drive Rallies, Despite Tough Times

In its tenth year, tough economic times threatened to derail the steady growth of the Burn Institute's annual Boot Drive. In fact, topping last year's grand total of \$216,000 was something organizers had only hoped for. But thanks to the generous support of the Barona Band of Mission Indians, the hard work of hundreds of firefighters and the generosity of individuals countywide – the April 16 event left old totals in the dust. Including the Barona sponsorship, nearly \$230,000 was raised.



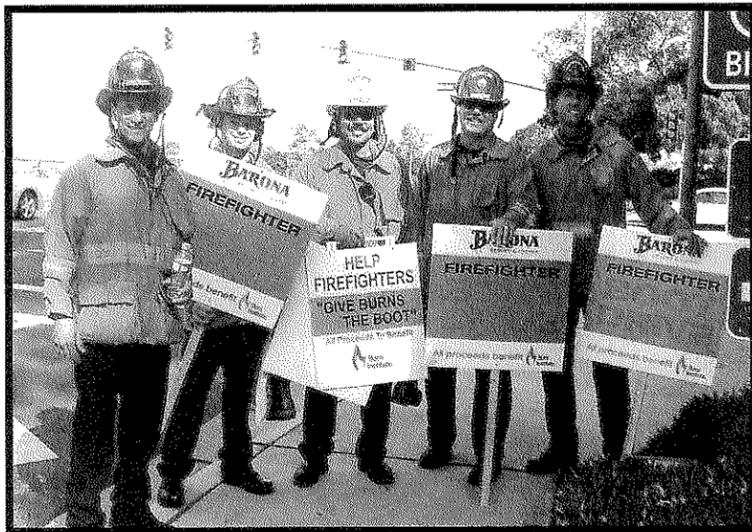
Sponsored by Barona and backed by the San Diego – Imperial County Fire Fighters Advisory Council to the Burn Institute and the San Diego County Fire Chiefs' Association, firefighters from all over the county participated in the Barona Firefighter Boot Drive. Hundreds of uniformed firefighters representing more than 30 area fire departments participated, joining at intersections during morning and evening commutes, to raise funds for fire and burn prevention and burn and survivor support programs including *Camp Beyond The Scars* for burn-injured children. The event is the agency's largest one-day fundraiser.

"We were both pleased and amazed at what the firefighters were able to raise for us this year," said James Floros, Burn Institute Executive Director/CEO. The addition of Barona as event sponsor (for the first year ever) greatly added to this year's success. "No question that the support from Barona really put us over the top this year," Floros said.

Commuters dug deep, generously dropping paper currency and coinage, (even a few \$100 bills), into firefighters' boots. Because the Burn Institute is a local non-profit, all of the funds raised through the boot drive will stay in San Diego County.

Floros pointed out that the success of the annual drive would not be possible without valuable support from local fire service and the close partnership the two share. "The participation of so many fire service volunteers is a testament to the terrific partnership we have been able to maintain over the years," he said.

The top fundraising fire departments are winners of the coveted Bronze Boot Trophy for regional excellence. They are: Rancho Santa Fe (North); Chula Vista (South); CAL FIRE/San Diego Rural (East), and for the San Diego City region, Station #9-A Division. Chief Scott Walker of the Bonita Fire Protection District is the winner of the 01 Challenge as the Fire Chief who personally raised the most money. Congratulations and thank you to all of this year's participants and donors! ♣



(Left) Chula Vista firefighters (L-R) David Acosta, Brian Ziomek, Bobby Ziomek, Captain Angelo Cappos and Jeremy Czapinski hit the streets during morning and evening commutes at three locations around their city; (Above) From the El Cajon Fire Department, Engineer Joe Howarth.

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Alpine | \$ 8,192 |
| Barona | \$ 7,283 |
| Bonita | \$ 5,123 |
| Borrego Springs | \$ 1,760 |
| CAL FIRE/San Diego Rural | \$ 19,062 |
| Carlsbad | \$ 6,494 |
| Chula Vista | \$ 6,212 |
| Coronado | \$ 4,335 |
| Del Mar | \$ 3,163 |
| Deer Springs | \$ 2,018 |
| El Cajon | \$ 8,632 |
| Escondido | \$ 11,397 |
| Federal | \$ 5,576 |
| Imperial Beach | \$ 2,877 |
| Julian | \$ 1,023 |
| Lakeside | \$ 8,080 |
| Lemon Grove | \$ 2,947 |
| Miramar | \$ 3,531 |
| National City | \$ 1,054 |
| North County Fire | \$ 4,832 |
| Oceanside | \$ 2,435 |
| Pala | \$ 5,326 |
| Pine Valley | \$ 817 |
| Poway | \$ 7,579 |
| Ramona/CAL FIRE/Intermountain | \$ 7,228 |
| Rancho Santa Fe | \$ 19,217 |
| San Diego Fire | \$ 22,861 |
| San Miguel | \$ 4,050 |
| San Pasqual Volunteer | \$ 5,209 |
| Santee | \$ 4,773 |
| Solana Beach | \$ 4,203 |
| Valley Center | \$ 2,130 |
| Viejas | \$ 5,299 |
| Vista | \$ 10,150 |
| GRAND TOTAL: | \$ 214,868 |

President's Circle Members

as of July 2009

President's Circle members are individual donors who support the Burn Institute with an annual gift of \$1,000 or more. This annual gift can be made in the form of cash, check, credit card or appreciated stock. You can become a member for only \$83 a month. To learn about all the exciting annual benefits you will receive as a President's Circle member contact Diane Sutherland at 858.541.2277 Ext. 19 or dsutherland@burninstitute.org.

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| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
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| Mr. Steve Hoffman | Mr. Toby Wiik |
| Mr. Ron Houston | Chief Erwin Willis |

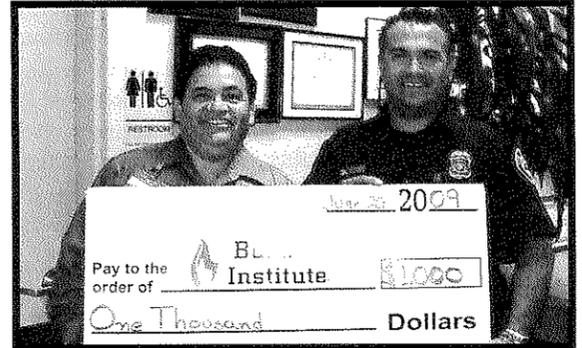
Check Presentations



The Alpine Outlaws and organizer Will Thaxton (far right), presented a check to the Burn Institute in May. Founded in 1985, The Alpine Outlaws are a dedicated group of tradesmen who re-create the Old West, raising funds for various groups including "victims of tragic fires and accidents."



Tilted Kilt Pub & Grill owner, Bill Reynolds (second from left), presents a check to Burn Institute Executive Director/CEO, James Floros. On March 9, 2009, the Kilt hosted a Firefighter Kick-Off Party. In April, the eatery held a Boot Drive before Firefighter Night at the Padres, and a Casino Night event the following week. Proceeds benefit fire and burn prevention and burn survivor support programs such as Camp Beyond The Scars.



Chula Vista Wal-Mart Store Manager, Joe Aguilar, (left) presents a check for the Barona Firefighter Boot Drive to Fernando Felix, Fire Inspector with the Chula Vista Fire Department.