

## 9/11 anniversary/remembrance events

### Horizon Church to hold 9-11 anniversary service 'A Night of Hope'

On the 10th anniversary of 9-11 at 5 p.m., Horizon Church welcomes you to "A Night of Hope," a hometown tribute in the center of Rancho Santa Fe. The event will be held at Horizon Christian Fellowship (6365 El Apajo Rd., RSF). Bring your family, neighbors and friends to this special outdoor candlelight service as "we recognize their heroic efforts of local fire and law enforcement, honor members of the NYFD, and look to our gracious God as the ultimate Hope and Healer of our Nation." The event will include special musical guests Drystal Lewis, The Katinas, and The Mike Clark Band; a message from Pastor Bob Botsford.

For more information, visit [Horizon.org](http://Horizon.org).

### Community invited to Cathedral Catholic High School 9/11 tribute event

Cathedral Catholic High School is paying homage to 9/11 with an event at campus. The entire community is invited to pay tribute to the heroes and victims of 9/11. The tribute, which will be held on Sept. 11, begins with a Color Guard presentation and the National Anthem. An optional prayer service for 9/11 victims will be held at 3 p.m. This patriotic event will also feature the "American Ride" car show with an exhibit of American "classic" and "muscle" cars dating pre 1970. There will be live music, remote control car racing, golf simulator, opportunity drawing, a parade of gourmet food trucks, and vendor booths. Event time is 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Cathedral Catholic High School campus (5555 Del Mar Heights Road, San Diego, 92130). More car exhibitors are also needed. For more information, contact Eileen Clifton Benjamin at 858-523-4000, ext. 1114 or [ecbenjamin@cathedralcatholic.org](mailto:ecbenjamin@cathedralcatholic.org); Visit [www.cathedralcatholic.org](http://www.cathedralcatholic.org).

### A 'Silent Tribute' to be held in Powerhouse Park

A "Silent Tribute" will be held on Sept. 11 at Powerhouse Park, starting at 8 a.m. Everyone is invited to attend. Flags are planted in memory of each victim of 9/11. Once planted, observance continues throughout the day. The mayor will speak and taps will be played at 6:30 p.m. This day holds historic or personal significance for all. Volunteers are needed to "plant" the small flags. Everyone is welcome to participate. With 2,973 flags planted, 300 rows long, the impact is memorable. Powerhouse Park is located at 1700 Coast Blvd., Del Mar.

### 9/11 Memorial Service to be held at USS Midway

The FDNY Retirees of California, along with the USS Midway Aircraft Carrier Museum and Firehouse Museum of San Diego, are planning a grand event to commemorate the 10th anniversary of 9/11.

The event will be held on Sunday, Sept. 11, at 2:30 p.m. at Flight deck, USS Midway, Navy Pier, 910 North Harbor Drive. (Free admission only on 9/11 starting at 1 p.m.)

Following the Memorial Service, family and friends are invited to a free dinner reception on the flight deck, hosted by the FDNY retirees.

Music by Fandango. Flyover by US Navy Jets • Presentation of Colors by Honor Guards • Pipes and Drums • National Anthem • Reading of First Responder Names and Tolling of Bells • Helicopter Flyover - Taps • Harbor Police - Fireboat Display • Twenty-one Gun Salute.

### St. Peter's in Del Mar invites the community to remember

St. Peter's Church invites members of the community to mark the 10th anniversary of Sept. 11, 2001, this coming weekend. Services at the regularly scheduled times will be held at 5 p.m. on Saturday and at 7:45 a.m., 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sunday. All services will include special times of prayer, music and preaching as together we remember, and look ahead in hope. All are welcome.

St. Peter's Episcopal Church is located at 334 14th St in Del Mar village, one block east of the 101. For more information, call 858/755-1616 or see [www.stpetersdelmar.net](http://www.stpetersdelmar.net).



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CONTINUED FROM A4

himself as cell phones weren't widely used yet. Thinking on his feet, he grabbed his uncle's cell phone and turned it on. He had just given me that number for the first time two days prior!

I gave my mom that number to keep trying and she got him as soon as it turned on. He jumped back into his pickup and flew back to the airport.

I walked up to the baggage carousel as I had been instructed, and the first bag I saw was mine. I got it and went to the curb. I was alone except for one man about 30 feet away. A few cabs were parked and an occasional car drove by. Within 20 minutes, I had to fight for room on the curb and traffic was so thick that a cop was standing out in the road yelling at cars not to stop and people not to step off the curb.

I was worried that Russ wouldn't be able to stop for me; it was tricky, but I managed to haul that 70-pound suitcase into the bed of the pickup and zoom in.

My heart just sank. All those thousands of people who had just died! I could see the cloud of smoke where the tower had stood only minutes before. As we circled the airport lot to exit, we looked again and the second tower had just fallen, leaving a huge mushroom of taupe-colored smoke in its wake. It was unspeakably devastating.

But as we circled around to exit the airport, I'll never be able to convey in words, the deep, crushing anguish I felt with the realization that the tower that was hit was no longer there. I knew that the one wasn't behind the other. I can't relate the feeling of seeing with the naked eye, the place where there had just been a colossal building full of people, and now it was gone!

We continued circling along the ramp to exit the airport. As we left, again facing the New York skyline, my heart sank! The other tower was now gone as well! All that remained was a huge low-lying mushroom of taupe smoke in its spot. It's burned into my mind's eye and it'll always be there. I can't describe how my body bore the grief of colossal loss of human life that had just happened, and I had seen those buildings, with human beings in them, with my own eyes in only moments before, and just two days before, up close from a Cessna.

We made it back to Bethany and Russ' in very good time, and when we arrived, I saw Beth in her nurse's uniform running toward our truck. She hugged me as if to squeeze the life out of me and burst into tears. Only then did I realize she thought I could be dead.

In the days that followed, we got busy. The one remaining airing TV station was on 24/7, and if we weren't watching updates, we were working on our self-assigned task of assembling a fundraising and item collection endeavor.

We wrote down all of the

# City comes to agreement on budget

By Bianca Kaplanek

City Council unanimously adopted a balanced budget at the Aug. 24 meeting, nearly two months into the fiscal year, which began July 1.

At a special meeting May 25, interim City Manager David Ott presented a proposed budget with projected expenditures of \$14,412,200, but only \$13,719,700 in revenues.

Not wanting to adopt a budget with an estimated \$700,000 deficit, council members directed Ott to return in August with recommendations to close the gap. One area they asked him to look at was \$380,000 in overtime and workers compensation in the Fire Department.

Ott managed to find \$816,000 in cost savings without any layoffs, major changes to service or adjustments in fire department overtime.

With revenues remaining the same and new expenditures of \$13,595,600, the adopted budget reflects about a \$124,000 surplus, but that is already needed for additional known expenses since the fiscal year began.

The biggest savings came by reducing the scope of the state-mandated general plan update by \$265,000.

The city had budgeted \$490,000 for the project that

is expected to ultimately cost more than \$1 million.

Ott said he would complete the housing element, some portions of land use and maybe traffic circulation to show progress and compliance on the update.

Community Development Director Tina Christiansen retired as of June 30 and by not replacing her, the city will see a \$194,600 savings.

Some responsibilities will be shifted to other staff members, including Ott, but Wende Protzman, the deputy city manager, will assume most of them.

"That's no easy task," Ott said. "That is a very, very busy department with a lot of interaction with the public — very critical interaction with the public, especially in land use."

Also not being replaced is Dennis Coleman, the former finance director who resigned June 17.

Marie Berkuti, the finance manager, will assume those responsibilities. She and an administrative assistant will receive salary adjustments for an overall savings of \$99,700.

Another staffing shift following the retirement of an administrative assistant resulted in \$46,700 in savings.

The county agreed to pay

\$11,400 for the 800-megahertz cost for sheriff radios, and \$45,000 in Americans with Disabilities Act projects will be shifted to the Coast Highway 101 improvement project and be paid with Department of Transportation money.

Additional \$153,700 in savings was found in various departments that include everything from turning off lights and decreasing the frequency of lawn maintenance to reducing private security patrol.

"You've done very good work in turning over every rock and looking at everything as we had requested you to do to find a way to be able to adopt a budget that's balanced," Mayor Lesa Heebner said.

In concluding his report, Ott said staff identified an additional \$412,000 in salary and benefit savings if additional cuts are needed, but that would mean employee layoffs and changes to service.

"I hope I never have to see that," he said.

The scheduled one-hour meeting took twice as long as expected because the Solana Beach Firefighters Association accused Ott, on their website a week earlier, of proposing to reduce staffing.

The posting, which came out the day after firefighters ratified this year's agreement, urged residents to attend the meeting.

Many did and representatives from the association and management each gave presentations.

Residents lauded the firefighters for their service, and council members said they had nothing but respect for the department.

"I think it really takes a unique individual to want to be a firefighter and charge into a burning building and rescue people," Councilman Dave Roberts said.

"We really do honor our firefighters and what they do for us."

The new budget reflects virtually no change in staffing in the department, but Councilman Mike Nichols said overtime and workers compensation still need to be looked at.

"We shouldn't just let this go at the end of tonight," he said, noting that it will continue to be an issue during the next budget cycle.

In adopting the budget, council directed its ad hoc Fiscal Sustainability Committee to continue to look at that and other alternatives if future cuts are needed.

# CERT program looking for trainees

RANCHO SANTA FE — The Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District (RSFFPD) is looking for residents interested in becoming part of our Community Emergency Response Team (CERT).

Applications are now being accepted for the 2011 fall session, beginning Sept. 27 at Rancho Santa Fe Fire Station No. 2 at 16930 Four Gee Rd.

CERT is a nationally recognized program designed to train members of neighborhoods, community organizations and workplaces in basic disaster response skills. During natural or man-made disasters emergency personnel are often stretched thin and may be unable to help residents in a timely manner.

If a disastrous event overwhelms or delays the community's professional emergency crews, CERT members may be called on to assist their own families as well as others by applying their skills learned in training.

This CERT class, a 24-hour program broken up into four sessions, is designed to be convenient for the resident with a busy schedule. It offers one Introduction to CERT night followed by three Saturday Skill Days. This class also has sections that are web-based and can be completed at home with a Q&A session at the following Saturday Skill Day.

Topics include disaster preparedness, disaster medical operations, fire safety and extinguishment, CERT organization, terrorism, disaster psychology and light search and rescue.

The CERT program is free to attend, but applicants must be over the age of 16 to participate and live or work within the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District. To enroll in CERT Training, visit [rsf-fire.org](http://rsf-fire.org).

# Coastal cleanup registration now open

Registration is now open for San Diego County's largest environmental volunteer event, Coastal Cleanup Day. San Diego coordinators, I Love a Clean San Diego and San

Diego Coastkeeper are expecting about 10,000 volunteers to participate in the 27th annual California Coastal Cleanup Day in San Diego County Sept. 17.

Coordinators will host more than 85 inland and coastal cleanup sites and ask volunteers to bring their own buckets, work gloves and reusable water bottles to help reduce the amount of trash created during the event.

According to a survey conducted by the California Coastal Commission, Coastal Cleanup Day effectively improves volunteers' knowledge of the environmental problems caused by marine debris. The survey data, taken by participants of the 2010 event in San Diego County, reflect a 23 percent increase in knowledge regarding the causes of marine debris.

After the event, more than 82 percent of San Diego respondents consider themselves either "knowledgeable" or "very knowledgeable" about the causes of marine debris, as opposed to only 59 percent before the event.

Similarly, after the event, 72 percent of San Diego survey participants considered themselves "knowledgeable" or "very knowledgeable" about the negative environmental impacts caused by marine debris, as opposed to 53 percent before the event.

Last year in San Diego County, volunteer involvement rose to approximately 9,000 participants, with another 3,000 volunteers lending their support across the border in the U.S./Mexico-shared Tijuana Watershed. Volunteers removed close to 100 tons of debris from more than 80 cleanup sites along the coastline and in canyons, creek beds, lagoons, estuaries and open spaces.

Volunteers can now reg-

ister for Coastal Cleanup Day, the largest volunteer event in the state, on the official San Diego County Coastal Cleanup Day website, [cleanupday.org](http://cleanupday.org). The website includes an interactive Google Map with all cleanup sites in the region, including a handful of Green "in need" sites. Event coordinators encourage volunteers to register for a Green "in need" location, as trends in the data show that volunteers recover more trash at select inland sites, thus increasing the need for volunteers there.

Through a partnership with California Coastal Commission and Ocean Conservancy, volunteers track types of debris found to compile and learn the sources of marine debris worldwide.

I Love A Clean San Diego and San Diego Coastkeeper co-ordinate the event.

More details may be found online at [cleansd.org](http://cleansd.org) and [sdcoastkeeper.org](http://sdcoastkeeper.org).



**PITCHING IN** Volunteers help to keep the coastlines clean by participating in the Coastal Cleanup Day, like this one in 2009. It's the largest environmental volunteer event in San Diego County. Photo courtesy of San Diego Coastkeeper

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# Toddler Falls From Window

A 1-year-old boy fell from a second story height

By [Sarah Grieco](#)

| Friday, Sep 9, 2011 | Updated 5:34 PM PDT



A helicopter flew the boy to Rady Children's Hospital.

A 1-year-old boy fell from a second story window Friday afternoon and hit the ground below, according to Rancho Santa Fe Fire Department.

Firefighters responded to the incident at the 9000 block of Deer Trail Drive in 4S Ranch. When they arrived on the scene, the firefighters found the 20-month-old boy and began administering aid. T

The fire department called for a Mercy Air helicopter, which transported the boy to Rady Children's Hospital in San Diego. The boy was reportedly in fair condition.

There is no word about the boy's injuries.

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**Find this article at:**

<http://www.nbcsandiego.com/news/local/Toddler-Falls-From-Window-129565478.html>



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## Child falls from second-story window in 4S Ranch

A 20-month-old boy was flown to Rady Children’s Hospital after reportedly falling to the ground from a second-story window in 4S Ranch.

The incident occurred in the 9000 block of Deer Trail Drive and was reported at 1:49 p.m. Friday, according to the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District. Paramedics began administering aid and called for a Mercy Air helicopter, which transported the boy, who was later reported in fair condition at the San Diego hospital.

No other details were available Saturday afternoon.

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# Wildfire Season Here Again



by SUZY-BETH SARVER

## What Residents Need to Know To Protect Property and Family

On a busy stretch of West Bernardo Drive amid the towering pine trees is a plaque that bears a simple message: "Thank you San Diego Fire Fighters 2007." This is a daily reminder to many who travel this road on what was lost and how much was saved.

Unless you were hiding under a rock in San Diego County, you remember exactly where you were on Oct. 21, 2007. It was a day that began like many other Sundays in San Diego County. But as the winds picked up a smell of burning timber permeated the air. A serious situation was unfolding in the East County, and it had a name — the Witch Creek Fire.

"I remember we were out by the pool enjoying a beautiful Sunday afternoon and by 2 p.m. the ash started to fall," recalled 4S Ranch resident Janice Karr. "By 9 p.m. that evening, it looked like a snowstorm outside with continual ash falling -- and in the wee hours of the night, less than 12 hours later -- I was banging on doors and alerting residents to evacuate."

The Witch Creek Fire developed rapidly that Sunday night, and by Monday morning it had engulfed portions of North Poway and Rancho Bernardo as it jumped west through Lake Hodges and across I-15. A wall of fire headed toward the Westwood neighborhood and took little mercy as it raged through brush and surrounded homes in a matter of minutes.

"One minute I was in bed sleeping, the next I was trying to get my wife and daughter into the car and find my keys," recalled Frank Smith of Rancho Bernardo. "It happened so fast, I went to bed around 11 p.m. watching the story on the news; I never thought it would affect our neighborhood."

Families fled, some with little more than the clothes on their backs. Local streets soon became congested and other areas completely shut down. By Monday morning almost the entire I-15 and SR-56 Corridor had been evacuated. Qualcomm

opened up as a makeshift shelter. Thousands of residents were displaced.

With such a back story, residents should consider a number of tips and suggestions on how to prepare for the threat of wildfire prepared by the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District, the Poway Fire Department, and the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department (after all, October is Wild Fire Awareness Month):

### How to Prepare Your Home

- Keep gutters, roofs and eaves free of any dead branches, leaves, pine needles or other debris.



- Create 100 feet of defensible space surrounding your home. Plant fire-resistive trees and plants around the first 50 feet of the structure.
- Keep all branches and any native vegetation at least 10 feet from rooftops, chimneys and outdoor barbecues.
- Firewood should be kept at least 30 feet from any structure.
- Thin out overgrown vegetation by at least 50 percent and all dead plant material should be removed.

### How to Prepare Your Family

- Prepare an evacuation checklist. In the event of an evacuation, what items would

you need to take? Consider medications, important paperwork, cash, contact phone numbers, precious keepsakes, photos and any jewelry or other valuables.

- Have a family plan. If you have to evacuate and members of the family are not at home, where is the family to meet?
- Keep a full tank of gas for your vehicle.
- Have cash on hand.
- Listen to local radio reports on where to find shelter for yourself and your pets.
- Pack a first aid kit.
- Keep enough food and water for three days per person.
- Remember your pets. Bring their food, water, medication and supplies

### How to Prepare for Your Safety

- Wild fires are unpredictable. They can jump two homes or five homes. A wild fire can travel blocks at a time.
- Do not wait until the last minute to evacuate.
- Follow instructions given by your local police and fire department.
- Have an alternative route planned in the event your plan is impassable.
- If you are caught in a firestorm, do not panic; find a swimming pool or body of water and remain. ■

### For more wildfire information:

**92127** (4S Ranch and other areas):  
Rancho Santa Fe Fire Dept.  
[www.rsffire.org](http://www.rsffire.org)

**92064**: Poway Fire department  
[www.poway.org](http://www.poway.org)

**92127 (portions), 92128, 92129, 92131**:  
San Diego Fire-Rescue Dept.  
[www.sandiego.gov/fireandems](http://www.sandiego.gov/fireandems)

# 'A Night of Hope' at Horizon Church

On the 10th anniversary of 9-11, Horizon Church welcomed the community to "A Night of Hope," a hometown tribute in the center of Rancho Santa Fe. The special outdoor candlelight service aimed to "recognize the heroic efforts of local fire and law enforcement, honor members of the FDNY." Visit [Horizon.org](http://Horizon.org).

PHOTOS: GREG SIMMONS



Mike Shore, Mary Murphy, Bret Davidson



Dee Valderrama



Alexa, Eva, Grant



Former NFL Quarterback Jeff Garcia with his wife, Carmella, son Jax and daughter Presley



SDPD Officer R. Reichner



Ellie Robert



Mary Murphy, Mike Shore



Juliet Holleran



Top row, left to right: Cameron James; Cindy Leonard; Karen Ventura; Maureen Sage; Kim King; Ally Wise; Shaunna Kahn; Bottom row, left to right: Gabrielle Oratz; Sandra Den Uijl; Gisele Chalhoub; Gloria Mori; Lesa Thode; Not pictured: Alex Coe; Beth McCain; Catherine Fox; Kristen Spector; Lena Evans; Nancy Cetel Weiss; Gabriella Stratton; Lisa Marie Arnesson; Tiffany Cattledge.

### RSF Unit of Rady Children's Hospital begins new fundraising year

The Rancho Santa Fe Unit of Rady Children's Hospital held their Board Retreat at the home of Rancho Santa Fe resident Cindy Leonard last week to kick off the 2011/2012 fundraising year. The new board discussed the Unit's prospective new member lunch, the holiday luncheon and boutique, and the Unit's primary fundraising event, Stand Up for Rady Children's Peckham Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders. The 16th annual gala will be held at the Grand

Del Mar on March 3.

The Unit has 46 active members, whose mission is to work in partnership with Rady Children's to advocate for the health and well-being of children, increase community awareness and raise needed funds for the hospital. Since its inception in 1960, the Rancho Santa Fe Unit has raised over \$8.5 million for the hospital.

The Unit's first general meeting will be held Thursday, Sept. 15, at 11:30 a.m. at the Fairbanks Country Club. To attend the Rancho Santa Fe Unit of Rady Children's Hospital Auxiliary prospective new member lunch or learn more about the Auxiliary, contact Unit Chair Cindy Leonard at rcha.ranchosantafe@gmail.com.

### RSF Library Guild to present Fall Author Talk Series

The RSF Library Guild will hold its Fall Author Talk Series at a private residence.

The events include author presentation, question and answer session, cocktails and hors d'oeuvres.

The first event will be held on Friday, Sept. 23, at 6 p.m. with author Shilpi Somaya Gowda, who will present her #1 bestseller "Secret Daughter."

The second event will be held on Friday, Oct. 14, at 6 p.m. with writer and producer David Prybil, who will present his novel "Golden State."

\$25 donation includes signed copy of the author's book.

To make a reservation (and receive the event address), contact the guild office at 858-756-4780 or email: rsflibraryguild@gmail.com.

## In Memoriam

### F.J. (Jack) Mullins June 1, 1918-Sept. 3, 2011



Jack Mullins

Jack Mullins died peacefully at his home in Rancho Santa Fe, in the early morning hours of Saturday, Sept. 3, 2011, after a brief illness following a fall. At his death, Jack was cared for by Hospice by the Sea, and surrounded by family and friends.

Frederic John Mullins was born in Salem, Ohio, on June 1, 1918, to Arthur and Marguerite Barckhoff Mullins. Jack was the middle of three children. Older sister Marianne pre-deceased him. His younger sister Priscilla (Sidi) currently lives in the Los Angeles area, near her children.

Jack developed his signature qualities of integrity and diligence while still a boy. He worked from elementary school onwards: shining shoes, shoveling coal into neighbors' furnaces before school, and sweeping the tennis courts and caddying at the local country club. Jack attended Salem High School, Class of 1935. He was a "three-letter man": football, basketball, and track.

Jack was recruited by the University of Chicago, which offered the 5'9" athlete a basketball scholarship. He majored in business, and also worked full-time as a night reservation agent for American Airlines. Jack was offered a daytime supervisory position, and left college after three years. He retired from American Airlines in 1972, as company Vice Chairman.

During his career, Jack managed operations at various airports (Washington, D.C., Detroit), and opened the American Airlines route to Mexico City, where the family lived for seven years. He was Director of Operations for the Southwest Region, based in Los Angeles, and including San Diego's Lindbergh Field. In 1960, Jack became Director of Marketing, based in the New York City headquarters, retiring as Vice Chairman.

Jack and Jane moved to San Diego in the early 1980s, initially to Coronado. They bought land in Rancho Santa Fe and, soon thereafter, began to design their house. Jim

Lippitt, a young contractor, did the construction. Jack was tremendously impressed with Jim's work, and the two of them partnered in building houses in this part of the County for the next 30 years, until the end of Jack's life.

Jack's Rancho Santa Fe involvements were numerous, including Los Ancianos, the Boys and Girls Club, and the Fire District Board, to which he won election for several terms. He was part of PIC, a local public interest group. He and Jane were among the original members of the "Pickwits," a group of 12 couples who met monthly. A different member every month made a presentation on a topic of his or her interest.

Jack was vibrant and active. Until his late 80s, he skied black diamond runs in Park City, Utah. He loved his three-times-a-week golf games. On non-golfing days, he walked 3 miles.

Jack is survived by his beloved wife of 70 years, Jane Anderson Mullins; his daughter Judy Anderson Mullins and spouse Morgan Stewart of Woodside, California; daughter-in-law Leslee Mullins of Encinitas; three grandchildren: Mary Jane Mullins of Encinitas, Amanda Troche and spouse Ray Troche of New Haven, Connecticut, and Jason Mullins, now a sophomore at San Jose State University; and one great-grandchild: Shyla Mullins, 7 months, Mary Jane's daughter. Also surviving Jack is his sister Priscilla (Sidi) Keitel. Jack also leaves more than 30 loving nieces and nephews. He is also survived by his many dear friends.

Jack was pre-deceased by his son, David Arthur Mullins, who died of cancer in 1995 while on active duty in the U.S. Navy.

Jack Mullins was a loyal and generous man, unassuming despite his many successes, straightforward, and kind. He was a complete gentleman, who will be missed so much by so many.

A memorial gathering will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers: Hospice by the Sea, 312 South Cedros, Suite 250, Solana Beach, California 92075. www.hospicebythesea.org

## Join Kids Korps/Teen Korps, Rancho Santa Fe for informative coffee

Kids Korps/Teen Korps, Rancho Santa Fe will hold an informative coffee on Monday, Sept. 26, at 8:15 a.m. in the Performing Arts Center at Rancho Santa Fe School.

Since 1995, Kids Korps' & Teen Korps' mission has been to instill in youth the spirit of giving while providing valuable education in leadership and responsibility.

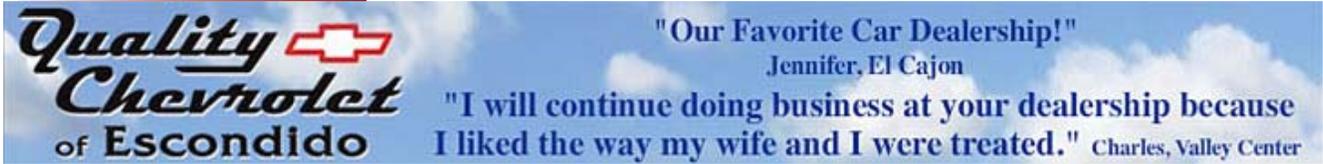
Kids Korps provides children 5 through 12, and teens 13 through 18 with the training, support, guidance and access to more than 1,300 unique projects serving the needs of more than 350 non-profit organizations throughout San Diego.

Kids Korps works in all areas of community service from helping to preserve the environment, supporting senior citizens, honoring the military, homeless shelters, animal shelters, the underprivileged, and the community.

Best of all, it's fun and rewarding! Questions? Contact Dana Knees, RSF chapter president, 858-832-1702, knees1@cox.net info@www.KidsKorps.org.



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# Preparedness training offered to 4S Ranch residents

By Elizabeth Marie Himchak

Those 16 and older who live or work in 4S Ranch or other parts of the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District can get free training in emergency preparation and response.

The fire district is offering the fall Community Emergency Response Team academy at Fire Station No. 2, 16930 Four Gee Road just west of 4S Ranch. A similar academy is offered in the spring at a coastal site. Both are combined efforts by the Rancho Santa Fe, Del Mar, Encinitas and Solana Beach fire departments.

There will be four fall sessions, with the first set for 6-9 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 27, which will include a program introduction and disaster preparedness. The other three sessions will be on Saturdays. The 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. class on Oct. 1 will cover fire safety and light search and rescue operations, the 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Oct. 8 class cover disaster medical preparedness, and the final drill and graduation ceremony will be 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Oct. 15.

Throughout the academy, participants will also be expected to complete online portions at home since the sessions are “very hands on, personal instruction,” said Fire Captain Dave McQuead, who coordinates the CERT program.

“They’ll learn how to do heavy lifting of 400 to 500 pounds of concrete and (basic) first aid,” McQuead said, adding though the CERT program does not provide first aid certification, graduates will have later opportunities to get additional CPR and first aid training through the American Red Cross.

McQuead said unlike the City of San Diego’s CERT that forms neighborhood-based teams throughout the city, the Rancho Santa Fe CERT program is designed so individuals can help their families and perhaps immediate neighborhoods.

The RSF program took this format because its initial academy graduates were from Rancho Santa Fe and in many cases did not know their neighbors because homes are a considerable distance from one another, sometimes five acres apart, McQuead said.

However, if enough 4S Ranch residents become CERT trained, he said that community could form a team similar to those in City of San Diego neighborhoods like Rancho Bernardo.

“4S Ranch is completely different (from Rancho Santa Fe),” McQuead said. “(Homes are) 10 feet apart, so you have to know your neighbor.”

If a 4S Ranch team could form, he said after members take care of their homes and families, they could help their neighbors, do a triage assessment of each neighborhood and get things organized if there is a delay in emergency officials reaching the community.

“They’ll be able to take care of their community and neighborhood until emergency services can get to them,” he said.

McQuead said this is especially true if the region experiences a severe earthquake. While trained for fire situations, the CERT academy emphasizes being prepared for a quick evacuation during wildfires.

Those interested are encouraged to enroll by Monday, Sept. 26, though walk-in registrations will be accepted at the first session.

To enroll, download the application at [www.rsf-fire.org](http://www.rsf-fire.org) and mail it to Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District, Attn: Captain Dave McQuead, P.O. Box 410, Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92067. Applications can also be faxed to 858-756-4799.

Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District covers 38-square miles. Its communities include 4S Ranch, Rancho Santa Fe and Fairbanks Ranch.

Related posts:

# Lightning Causes Small Fire in Rancho Santa Fe

By [Joe Young](#)

| Saturday, Sep 24, 2011 | Updated 8:26 AM PDT



Getty Images

Lightning caused a small vegetation fire inside a vacant lot in Rancho Santa Fe, Friday afternoon, according to fire officials.

Officials with the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District reported the 20 by 20 foot fire in a lot near Paseo Delicias and the 7000 block of La Palma at about 4 p.m.

No homes were damaged or threatened by the flames and the fire was put out shortly after it began, officials said.

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**Find this article at:**

<http://www.nbcsandiego.com/news/local/Lighting-Causes-Small-Fire-in-Rancho-Santa-Fe-1304783731.html>

 The North County Times - Californian

## **RANCHO SANTA FE: Lightning strike reportedly sparks small brush fire**

**By MORGAN COOK [mcook@nctimes.com](mailto:mcook@nctimes.com) | Posted: Saturday, September 24, 2011 3:30 pm**

RANCHO SANTA FE ---- A lightning strike during Friday's thundershowers caused a small brush fire near the intersection of Paseo Delicias and La Palma, authorities said Saturday.

Firefighters with the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District responded at 3:43 p.m. to the small fire, which measured about 20 feet by 20 feet, district spokeswoman Julie Taber said.

Firefighters were able to stop the fire from spreading and extinguish it, thanks in part to proper weed abatement, fire Chief Tony Michel. If the brush had not been cut back, the fire could have spread quickly and caused a more dangerous situation, he said.