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Crews Knock Down Solana Beach Condo Fire

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Fire Broke Out At Condo Complex On Ida Avenue, Dispatchers Say

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SOLANA BEACH, Calif. -- Crews knocked down a two-alarm fire that broke out at a Solana Beach condominium complex Thursday morning.

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The fire was reported shortly before 9:30 a.m. at the complex in the 800 block of Ida Avenue, according to fire dispatchers.

It was reported the fire was burning into the attic area, and as crews pulled up to the scene, smoke could be seen coming from the top of the complex.

Rancho Santa Fe Fire Department Battalion Chief Mike Gibbs told 10News' media partner U-T San Diego that the fire broke out in the chimney of one of the condo units. Gibbs said two people in that condo unit escaped without injury, and other complex residents were evacuated, the U-T reported.

No injuries were reported.

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RANCHO SANTA FE: Pickup collides with utility pole, blocks traffic, officials say

By MORGAN COOK mcook@nctimes.com | Posted: Wednesday, February 8, 2012 5:31 pm

RANCHO SANTA FE ---- A pickup slammed into a utility pole Wednesday, blocking all but one lane of traffic around the wreck for hours, officials said.

The California Highway Patrol responded at 3:48 p.m. to a report of a wreck at 6327 El Camino Del Norte, according to the CHP website.

A passenger in the pickup complained of pain and was taken to a hospital for treatment, Officer Jim Bettencourt said. The driver of the pickup was not hurt.

Authorities called for San Diego Gas & Electric workers to stabilize the pole so they could move the pickup, officials said.

All but one lane of the road was blocked in the area at 8 p.m., according to the CHP website.

 The North County Times - Californian

RANCHO SANTA FE: Three people hospitalized after rollover crash

By EDWARD SIFUENTES esifuentes@nctimes.com | Posted: Friday, February 10, 2012 8:12 pm

RANCHO SANTA FE ---- Three people were hospitalized Friday afternoon after a crash that occurred near Rancho Santa Fe, authorities said.

A vehicle with four people inside went off the road on Via de la Valle near Las Planideras about 4:42 p.m., said Julie Taber, a spokeswoman for the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District.

The vehicle rolled over but landed on its wheels, according to the California Highway Patrol.

Three of the occupants were able to get out of the vehicle on their own but a fourth person had to be removed by emergency personnel, Taber said.

One of the individuals was taken by helicopter to Scripps Hospital in La Jolla, she said. Two other people were taken to the hospital by ambulance.

One of the occupants declined treatment, Taber said.

Via de la Valle was closed in both directions for a short time, Taber said. The CHP is investigating the crash.

No other information was immediately available.

Rancho Santa Fe community shares memories of beloved icon Roger Rowe



Roger Rowe celebrates his 80th birthday in 2009.

By Karen Billing

“Take a look around today and say hello and thank you and be a special friend to each person you meet.”

Those were the words of Dr. R. Roger Rowe, celebrating his 80th birthday in 2009 on the campus of the village school named after him. A special friend to Rancho Santa Fe and everyone who met him, Rowe, who was also a devoted husband and father, passed away on Feb. 4 at the age of 82.

While Rowe’s impact is spread throughout Rancho Santa Fe, his legacy is most seen at the school that bears his name, where he spent 43 years as a teacher, principal and superintendent.

“Dr. Rowe’s lauds and accolades spanned more than a 50-year career but it is the numerous generations of students inspired by their time with him that was most precious,” said RSF School District Superintendent Lindy Delaney. “Dr. Rowe’s legendary high standards for his teachers, administrators and students have cemented a legacy that will continue as long as there is a love for learning and teaching.”

Rowe grew up in a small town called Lee’s Summit in Missouri. He received a Navy scholarship to college, enabling him to complete his studies after a short tour of duty. His formal education included degrees in elementary education, education administration, and leadership and human behavior.

His first class he taught included 45 seventh graders whose ages ranged from 13 to 17.

Rowe came to Rancho Santa Fe in the late 1950s and reflecting in 2009, Rowe said, “Life in a small town is very rewarding.”

He was part of the Ranch when it was at its very smallest — when he started at the school in 1959, he had said that all the residents of Rancho Santa Fe could fit on a single sheet of paper.

“Rancho Santa Fe was still a young developing community when Roger first joined us,” said Jim Ashcraft, RSF Fire District board president. “His fingerprints are all over the good things that happened while he was here.”

At the Rancho Santa Fe School, Rowe started out as a fifth grade teacher and left as its superintendent. The school was named R. Roger Rowe in 2001, an honor that Rowe once remarked “isn’t that neat?”

“He was my fifth grade teacher in 1959,” recalled Sheryl Fellows. “He would often buy us treats out of his own pocket to enjoy in the classroom. He remembered all his former students by name.”

When he started at the school there were just seven classrooms and 17 teachers. Every morning Rowe would raise the American flag on the flagpole in the middle of the school campus.

Former student Bryan McDonald said during his time at the school, Dr. Rowe was an “inspiration of strength, dignity, integrity and solid character.”

Words like inspiration and impact come easily for former students remembering Rowe.

“In reflecting on my youth, only my father had a greater impact on me than Roger Rowe,” said former student Tom Cleary. “He was so instrumental in shaping thousands of young minds. We were certainly blessed to have his leadership and inspiration.”

Even in his retirement, Rowe could be seen supporting his former students’ children and grandchildren on athletic fields and basketball courts, and he was often a part of weddings, christenings and graduation ceremonies.

“The overwhelming legacy he leaves behind is a testament to the power education has, not only to inform, but also to connect each of us in a way that is truly permanent,” Delaney said.

In addition to his work with education on the Ranch, Rowe was also a devoted Rotarian, a member of the group since 1962. At the Monday, Feb. 6 Rotary meeting, members recalled Rowe as a “task master” with a very good handshake.

*A self-described "civic junkie," Rowe was also on the Rancho Santa Fe Foundation board and very involved in the beginnings of the Rancho Santa Fe Historical Society—past president Pat Cologne recalled his "unwavering support."
"His efforts were deeply appreciated then and will be remembered now," Cologne said.*

A common saying of Roger Rowe was that the best gift in life is to be remembered. Here, some of his friends present Roger with one last gift:

From Jim Ashcraft, president of the Rancho Santa Fe Fire District board:

"Roger Rowe was a Giant in Rancho Santa Fe. He arrived in the community as a teacher and left as a Legend. His dedication to the children of the community over the years was incredibly personal and far reaching. The respect he showed the young people at school was genuine and helped them begin the transition from childhood to an adult. He knew each student by name and would often attend sporting events years after the student athlete had left Rancho Santa Fe School.

"On a personal level, Roger helped Alyce and I decide how to start our boys' introduction to education. A friend of ours in his 40s told me recently how Roger invited him into his office as a new student and that special visit changed him from a "C" student to an "A" student. Another student in his 20s today told me how he was feeling he had no friends and was lost at school when Roger walked up, called him by name, put his arm on the boy's shoulder and walked him to some students in the class. He was suddenly a part of the whole school and Roger was his Hero."

From Pete Smith, RSF Association manager

"When I first came to work in Rancho Santa Fe over 20 years ago everyone spoke so highly and fondly of Roger that when they referred to R. Roger Rowe for years I thought they were describing him as "our" Roger Rowe. I didn't know at the time that his first initial was "R." I think that is how I will always think of him, as our Roger Rowe, he was a key part of all of our lives in this community and a friend to everyone."

From Anne Feighner, Association board member and former school board member

"No person ever did more for children, families, friends and the community of Rancho Santa Fe than Roger Rowe. First, last and always Dr. Rowe was a role model for his students and others. His sense of fairplay, good citizenship and pursuit of excellence in academics and all extra curricular opportunities guided our district for many years.

"He was warm, personal and had a great sense of humor. He knew every child by name and followed the progress of his students as they went to college, got married and had children of their own. Roger Rowe positively affected the lives of everyone who came in contact with him and his integrity and passion for education was an example to us all.

"It is not enough to say Roger Rowe will be missed. He made the world a better place and there will never be another like him. It was my privilege to have known this wonderful man."

From Marie Addario, former school board member

"If the day you die has anything to do with the life you've lived, than Feb. 4, 2012, the day Roger passed, was a spectacularly clear and warm, invigorating, and inspiring day. He was found in his garden filling his days, as usual, with whatever needed his attention. We all remember the first time we met Roger. I was registering my daughter for kindergarten that July 1981, Wednesday, and this broad-shouldered, handsome man with an enormous smile, who was both principal and superintendent at the time, stepped out of his office with as much enthusiasm as I had ever seen in one person, and welcomed us into the school family. The first day of school each year, orchestrated by Roger, was not only a jubilant welcoming back of students, parents and teachers, but a grand celebration of our very American right to free education.

"Roger was a genuine patriot. Over the 12 years I worked with him on the school board, I never saw him misstep or mis-speak or do anything but what would be expected of an effective and loved leader. He nudged and challenged his board, his teachers, his students and his parents as would a great ship captain or a master conductor who understands that every person, every instrument, every section was as important to the success of the whole. His support of those he led was fathomless. The commensurate teacher, Roger had much to teach us all about respect of self and others, about commitment and work, and especially about loyalty and friendship. His was a life well-lived. Dom, Laura, Dominick and I will miss him terribly, but will keep the lessons he taught us along with his beautiful memory, close to our hearts."

From Matt Wellhouser, RSF Patrol chief and fellow Rotarian

"Roger was such a great man. He was a true gentlemen. He is and always will be an example to follow. I met him 31 years ago and was impressed at the first meeting. He would always be there to help out. He always had the right answer to your problem, no matter how tough. He was so good with the children ("youngsters" as he called them). He was just a great person to be associated with. He was so special for the community, the school and as a friend. Godspeed Roger."

From Deb Plummer, former RSF School board member

"Rancho Santa Fe won't be the same without Roger Rowe. I met Dr. Rowe 27 years ago with a 1 and 4 year old in tow when I was searching for the perfect school. A year later he greeted my daughter, by name, on her first day of kindergarten. Roger had an extraordinary gift of making students feel like part of his family and as a doting father, he loved following their lives. He had the unique ability to instill not only a sense of accomplishment, but to encourage them to reach a little higher. Students often returned to campus to share their experiences and successes.

"The Rancho Santa Fe School excelled under his watchful eye because he set a high bar for himself and the school. If you had the privilege of working with him you soon realized that in every situation, good or bad, he saw an opportunity.

"On one especially trying day, he told me that gratitude was one the shortest-lived emotions. Dr. Rowe, we are the fortunate beneficiaries of all that you did on behalf of the community, the school and it's children. Thank you for serving so well, so unselfishly and so effectively. We are grateful you were in our lives.

"I can still hear Roger's booming voice on the field yelling, "Way to go Eagles" and I say, "Way to go Dr. Rowe."

From Christy Wilson, executive director, RSF Foundation

"Roger Rowe was a Director of the Rancho Santa Fe Foundation for nearly nine years. During his term on the Board, he served as a member of the Grants & Projects Committee, and he gave the same effort to his committee role as he did to every aspect of his life. He was a man of high principles, absolute integrity, and he set a standard for himself that others aspired to. He was a man of great faith, compassion and vision. And he always maintained his quick wit and sense of humor. We will miss him; however, his legacy lives on through the students he taught and the school which bears his name. Our community is better for his having lived and worked here."

A memorial fund has been set up at the Rancho Santa Fe Foundation in memory of Dr. R. Roger Rowe. Memorial contributions may be sent to the Rancho Santa Fe Foundation. Please make checks payable to Rancho Santa Fe Foundation and in the memo line please note Rowe Memorial

*Fund. All donors will receive an acknowledgement and the family will be notified that a gift has been made in Roger's memory. The Rancho Santa Fe Foundation's mailing address is PO Box 811, Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92067; 858-756-6557; www.rsffoundation.org
Information on services for Dr. Rowe were not available at press time. Look for more information on services for Dr. Rowe at www.rsreview.com or in upcoming issues of the RSF Review.*



Three injured in Rancho Santa Fe accident

By Susan Shroder

Friday, February 10, 2012

RANCHO SANTA FE — Three people were injured Friday in a solo-vehicle accident on Via de la Valle near Las Planideras in Rancho Santa Fe, a fire official said.

Firefighters from the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District responded to the accident about 4:40 p.m., said district spokeswoman Julie Taber. They found a vehicle off the road.

Three people were able to get out of the vehicle on their own. Two were transported to Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla by ambulance and one declined treatment. Another occupant had to be extricated and was flown by medical helicopter to the hospital.

The road was closed in both directions for a short time as the accident was investigated by the California Highway Patrol.

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 The North County Times - Californian

RANCHO SANTA FE: Electrical fire in dishwasher extinguished, officials say

By MORGAN COOK mcook@nctimes.com | Posted: Tuesday, February 14, 2012 6:50 pm

RANCHO SANTA FE ---- A fire alarm sounding in an unoccupied home Tuesday alerted authorities to a small electrical fire, which firefighters quickly doused, fire officials said.

Firefighters with the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District responded at 10:08 a.m. to a report of a fire alarm on Camino Del Pajaro in the community of Fairbanks Ranch, said Julie Taber, a spokeswoman for the fire district.

A security guard saw smoke through the kitchen windows and firefighters went inside to extinguish what turned out to be a small electrical fire in the dishwasher, Taber said.

A fire official said the blaze was small, but it could have caused much more damage if the home's "fire protection system" hadn't triggered the alarm, with a quick response by firefighters.

School district bus service in limbo

BY MARSHA SUTTON

Governor Jerry Brown's signature Feb. 10 on a fast-tracked bill to restore \$248 million in this year's funding for home-to-school transportation was welcome news for the San Dieguito Union High School District, which transports about 900 middle and high school students on buses daily.

Because the \$248 million mid-year trigger cut, which became effective Jan. 1, hurt school districts, particularly rural districts, disproportionately, Senate Bill 81, to restore the funding, quickly passed both the state Assembly and Senate Feb. 2 with bipartisan support.

Home-to-school trans-

portation remains in jeopardy for the 2012-2013 school year though, with possible state cuts to the program of nearly \$500 million.

For SDUHSD families considering high school and middle school selections for the fall, principals are being asked to explain that busing may no longer be offered.

The district is informing parents of the busing uncertainty for the next school year, Eric Dill told school board members at their Feb. 2 general meeting. This may include the shuttle service between Carmel Valley and Earl Warren Middle School, said Dill, SDUHSD's associate superintendent of business services.

About 800 middle

school students and about 100 high school students ride district buses to and from school, he said. Of the 800 middle school students, 337 attend Diegueno and Oak Crest middle schools in the northern portion of the district, and 474 are Carmel Valley or Earl Warren middle school students.

Dill said 268 students ride a bus to Carmel Valley Middle School, most coming from areas south of State Route 56, and 206 ride a bus to Earl Warren Middle School, 30 of those from the Carmel Valley area.

Without bus service, Earl Warren, which has less than half the enrollment of CVMS, could see its enroll-

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Former RSF resident sentenced in fraud scheme case

BY PAUL ANDERSON, CITY NEWS SERVICE

A 55-year-old former RSF resident who helped a disgraced Newport Beach attorney orchestrate an investment fraud scheme that cost their victims millions of dollars was sentenced Feb. 13 to 15 months in federal prison.

Gregory De Lavalette,

who pleaded guilty in February 2010 to one count of wire fraud, played a lesser role in the scheme than co-defendant and former attorney Gerald M. Shaw, 63, of Covina, who was sentenced to 70 months in federal prison in December.

De Lavalette was held responsible for ripping off four victims who collective-

ly lost \$415,000. He received a fraction of that money, with the rest going to Shaw, according to prosecutors.

Deputy Federal Public Defender Anne Hwang asked U.S. District Judge Cormac Carney to consider community service or

See SCHEME, page 20

Grand Opening event to be held for Animal Center Companion Animal Hospital

Helen Woodward Animal Center invites the public to a sneak-peak of its brand new, state-of-the-art Companion Animal Hospital on Saturday, Feb. 25, between 1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. The high-tech facility funded entirely by local donors, including one prominent San Diego family who has dedicated the new facility to St. Francis of Assisi, Patron Saint of the Animals, is finally ready to open its doors to pet owners seeking the most modern advances in veterinary care.

The Grand Opening Event will take place at the Helen Woodward Animal Center Companion Animal Hospital, located on Helen Woodward Way in Rancho



Dr. Patricia Carter

Santa Fe. The official first day of business is Monday, March 5.

The elegant, new hospital with space available for lease to local veterinarians,

is a "small animal" facility, open to all cats, dogs and exotic animals. The 10,000 square-foot hospital has much to boast, including nine exam rooms; a dental ward; surgery rooms with observation windows for teaching purposes; isolation areas for infectious cases; a natural healing center; and even a comfort/grief area for those who have lost beloved pets. Future plans include 24-hour emergency care service.

The Companion Animal Hospital will be run by Chief of Staff Dr. Patricia Carter, who graduated from the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine in 1990 and was inducted into the

See CENTER, page 20

Three injured in RSF traffic collision

On Feb. 10, at 4:42 p.m., RSF Firefighters responded to the report of a traffic collision on Via de la Valle near Las Planideras.

Upon arrival they found a single vehicle had gone off the road.

Three of the occupants were able to exit the vehicle on their own but the fourth had to be extricated. That patient was flown by Mercy Air via helicopter to Scripps La Jolla.

Two of the other occupants were transported to the same hospital by San Diego Medical Services via ambulance. The fourth refused treatment.

The California Highway Patrol and Rancho Santa Fe Patrol assisted with traffic control as the road had to be closed in both directions for a short time. The cause of the collision is under investigation by the California Highway Patrol.

Mortgage Rates Continue Trend of Record-Breaking Lows



806 N Rios Avenue · Solana Beach

5BD/6BA plus gym/office & huge bonus room, 4700 sq. ft. 1/3 acre, built 1999, pool/spa, BBQ, fire pit, large master suite, private orchard, walk to beach. SOLD \$1,710,000



304 Pacific Avenue, Solana Beach

3 BD/3 BA 2500 sq. ft. Live just steps to the beach with ocean views to the west & sunrise views to the east, high end finishes throughout, outdoor kitchen & fireplace. Asking Price \$1,595,000



12740 Via Felino · Del Mar

3BR/3.5BA European inspired, spectacular ocean view, walk to beach, new kitchen & bathrooms, approx. 4000 SF double lot & lovely manicured grounds. SOLD \$1,425,000



205 S. Helix #63 · Solana Beach

2BD/2.5BA, oceanfront town home, 1800 sq. ft., Surf Song, recently updated in & out, dual MBR suites, 2 private decks, storage, rec area- pool & tennis courts. Asking Price \$1,295,000.



623 Seabright Lane · Solana Beach

4BD/3BA 2800 sq. ft. plus office, includes 1 bedroom attached accessory unit, large flat lot, walk to beach, train/Coaster & Cedros Design District. \$1,095,000 VRM.



421 Santa Dominga · Solana Beach

Amazing ocean, sunset & lagoon views! 5BD/3BA plus huge bonus room, 3053 sq. ft. beautifully landscaped, one bedroom down. First time on market! Asking Price \$1,095,000



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