

## The thrill of the game: RSF's Randy Podolsky finishes in top 10 at World Series of Poker tournament

BY KATHY DAY

Playing in neighborhood poker games in Rancho Santa Fe got Randy Podolsky going and now he's competing in tournaments.

The Coldwell Banker real estate agent says the key to improving is that "the more hands you play, the better you get."

Noting that he's "always a student," he plays nightly online, although since the U.S. game was shut down, he plays tournaments with play money, and also watches "some fantastic videos on YouTube," he said.

He's heading for Las Vegas again soon - "I go as often as I can."

And he had a good run at the World Series of Poker's Harrah's Rincon St. Patrick's Day Tournament where he placed 10th out of 487 players. In the WSOP competition prior to that one, he placed 85th out of 331 players.

At the end of the first day he was down to about 1,500 chips after 11 hours of games, moving from table to table and facing different groups of eight or nine players all day. Down that low, he said, he was concerned as he entered Day 2 with a short stack.

But he played on. The day started at noon with 80 players and he played until 11 p.m., when he went out as the 10th player. The final round didn't end until 9 a.m. the next day with the winner's take \$30,182; Podolsky took home \$2,259.

"The adrenalin keeps you going," he said, "that and a lot of coffee."

He calls poker "a game of patience and outwitting the opponent ... If you treat every hand the same way they'll figure you out."

Podolsky, 47, has been among the top three agents in Rancho Santa Fe's Coldwell Banker office since he joined the company eight years ago.



Randy Podolsky at the World Series of Poker's Harrah's Rincon St. Patrick's Day Tournament.

"I've been an entrepreneur and salesman all my life," he said.

He also says he loves taking a risk. Playing cards is one risk. He also buys homes site unseen at auctions on the courthouse steps, he said. "You never know when you walk in what you'll find."

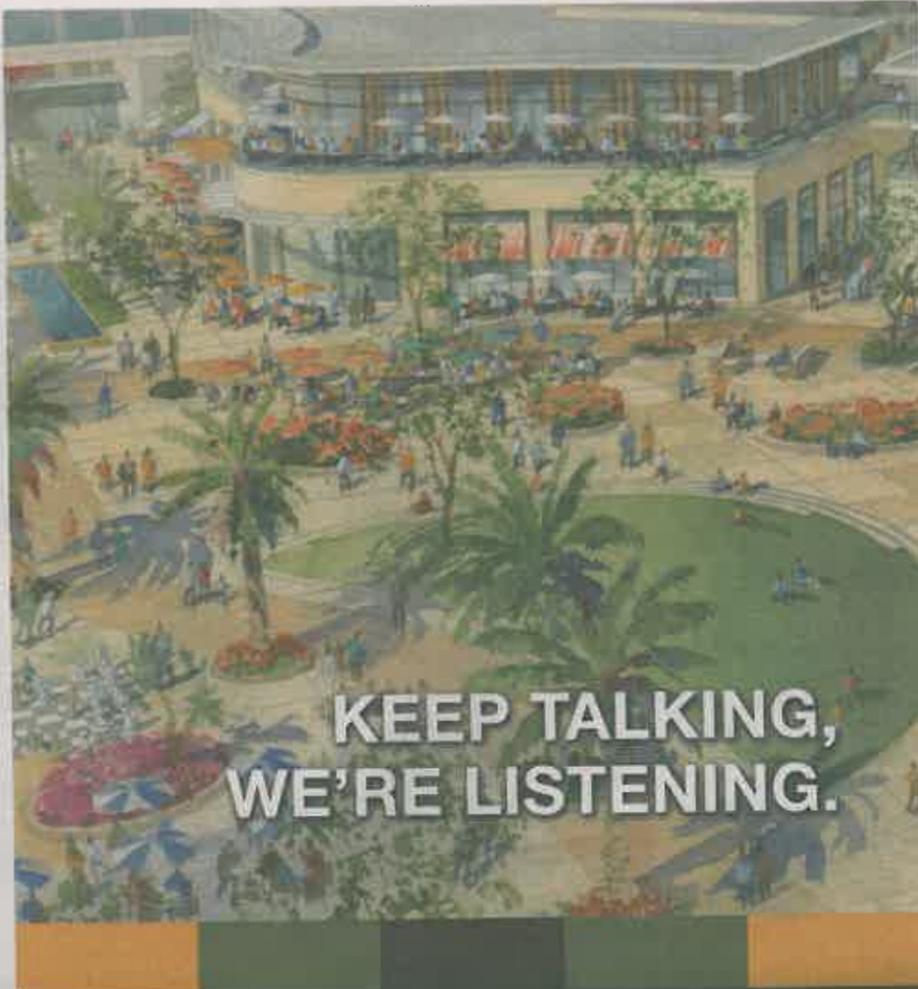
Before moving to the area, he had sold two companies in the Seattle area. One was a retail computer store with about 50 employees.

"In 1993, I opened an account for a guy who was working in his garage, starting a company," Podolsky said. "When he told me the name, I thought it was kind of funny - Amazon.com."

So that guy was Jeff Bezos, founder of the online retail giant, who for years bought all of his computers from Podolsky.

When he got to the Ranch, he started playing cards with neighbors and now he's a regular player at Oceanside's OceansEleven card room where he can be found two to three nights a week.

"It's an addicting game," he conceded, but it's OK "as long as everything's in moderation."



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## Complementing the Community

One Paseo will complete the Carmel Valley Master Plan with a truly walkable town center with human-scale streets, while complementing - not competing against - existing retail uses.

The project has been planned so that adjacent land uses are mirrored and brought together into a central hub.



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## Solana Santa Fe student wins RSF Fire District coloring contest

Fourth grade student Riley Sullivan recently won the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District's coloring contest at Solana Santa Fe. Every year the fire district holds a coloring contest for the fourth grade students at each school they visit. All employees of the fire district are given the opportunity to vote on which entries they like best and the entry with the most votes wins a pizza party for their classroom.

Riley Sullivan was congratulated by members of the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District for winning their annual coloring contest for fourth graders.

(Above) From left to right: Engineer Paul Lorenzo, Captain Jim Tenger, Riley Sullivan and Firefighter/Paramedic Joe Carter. (Inset) Riley Sullivan. Photo/Lisa Sullivan

## USET Foundation to host benefit Fiesta at Del Mar National Horse Show

The United States Equestrian Team Foundation recently announced that it will be hosting a benefit in support of the United States Equestrian Olympic Team during the 2012 Del Mar National Horse Show. On Friday, May 4, guests are invited to join the Foundation for Margaritas, Fiesta Food, and Lively Music at Barn W of the Del Mar Fairgrounds. The event will get underway at 6:30 p.m. following the Olympic Show Jumping Observation Event.

Robin Parsky, USET Foundation trustee and co-chair of the Development Committee, will be chairing the event with her husband Gerry Parsky.

"We often host USET Foundation Fundraisers in California, so we were looking for this opportunity to support the team, and this is perfect timing," she explained. "We will be inviting the exhibitors, horse owners, and USET Gold Medal Members from the West Coast. The Del Mar National is the largest and most prestigious show in California, so this is a great opportunity for us to get together and help raise money for the team."

"It's the weekend of Cinco de Mayo, and we are close to the border, so we decided to make it a really fun event with margaritas and taco stations," continued Parsky. "It will be held in a great barn close to the jumping arena. There will be a DJ and it will all be decorated in fiesta style."

In addition to the Parskys, the organizing committee includes Pam and Bob Buie,



Cathy and Dave Colmar, Signe Ostby and Scott Cook, Penny and Jim Coulter, George and Kelly Davis, Gail Gregson, Pat and Michael Hayward, Jami and Klaus Heidegger, Sarah and Jon Kelly, Shari and Herb Lurie, Gwendolyn and Jay Meyer, George H. Morris, Linda Starkman and Pam Theodosakis.

To purchase tickets or for more information, please contact Nancy Little by calling 908-234-1251 or emailing [nlittle@uset.org](mailto:nlittle@uset.org).

The United States Equestrian Team Foundation ([www.uset.org](http://www.uset.org)) is a nonprofit organization that supports the competition, training, coaching, travel and educational needs of America's elite and developing international, high-performance athletes and horses in partnership with the United States Equestrian Federation.

For more information about the USET Foundation or to make a donation, please call (908) 234-1251 or visit the USET Foundation website at [www.uset.org](http://www.uset.org).



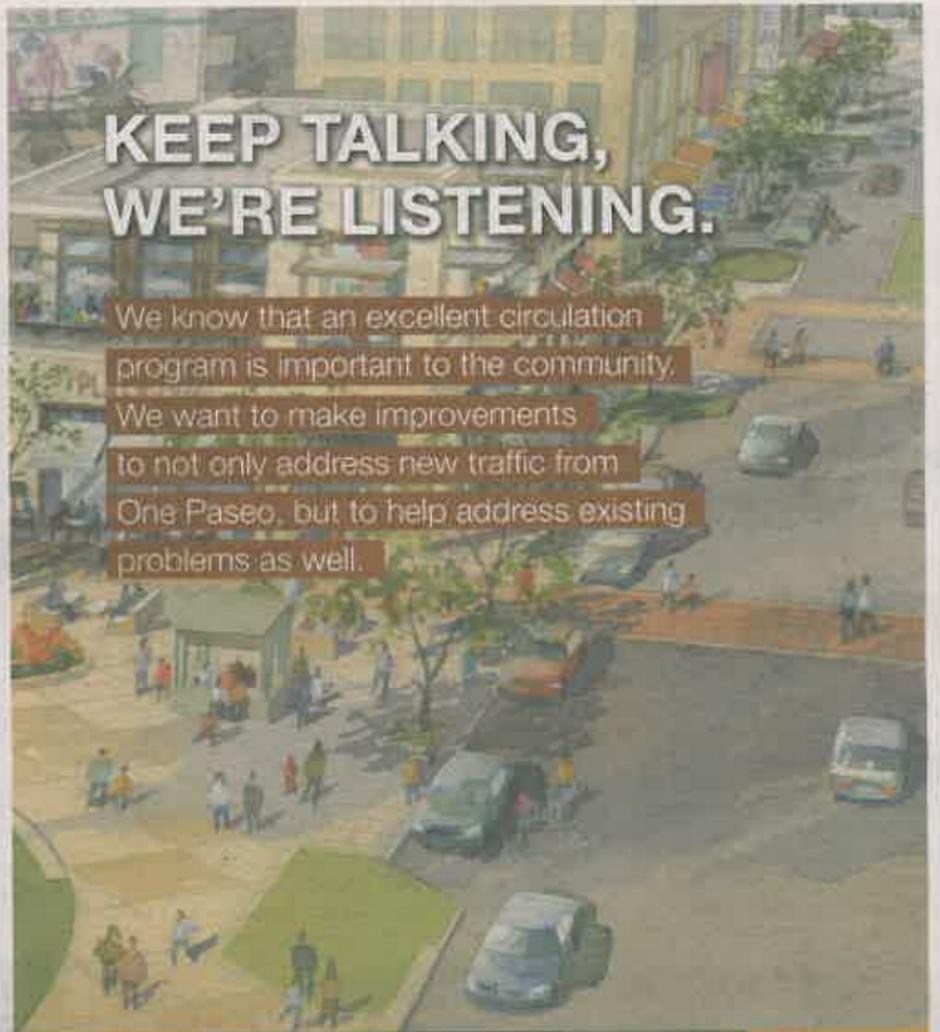
### RSF Fire District holding Grand Re-Opening of Fairbanks Ranch station

The Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District is holding a celebration for the grand re-opening of Station 3 in Fairbanks Ranch (in photo above) on Thursday, April 26, from 3:30 – 5:30 p.m., with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 4 p.m. (Look for photos of the event in next week's RSF Review (May 3 issue).

The fire station is located at 6424 El Apajo in Rancho Santa Fe. In addition, there will be an open house in the near future during which the community will be able to not only tour the station but learn about the services provided by the Fire District as well. Photo/Jon Clark

### Clarification

In a story that appeared in last week's Review, it was stated that RSF resident Robert Wood is planning to hike across the Grand Canyon in one day, rim to rim. He is making the trek on May 17 in honor of his 14th wedding anniversary to his wife Mary L. Wood. Their wedding anniversary is May 16. Wood will also carry Norwegian flags for his three children (from a previous marriage) who are half Norwegian.



## Addressing Traffic Flow in Carmel Valley

Above and beyond what will be required by the City of San Diego, the plan for One Paseo includes adopting a traffic light synchronization system along Del Mar Heights Road, starting at High Bluff Drive and continuing east all the way to Carmel Valley Road.

We anticipate that almost a dozen areas of improvements throughout the transportation system will be provided, at a cost of millions to One Paseo.

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## [System linking fire dispatch centers launches](#)

By [Christina Macone-Greene](#)

Apr 19, 2012 • 38 views • [1 comments](#)

COAST CITIES — The North County Communications Center Joint Powers of Authority (JPA) has officially gone live with its new dispatch center interoperability. The system, tested for well over a year, allows different fire dispatch centers to now technologically communicate with each other by sending out units more swiftly and efficiently. Whatever fire unit is available and closest to a call rolls out first.

“We are very excited about this,” Carlsbad Fire Chief Kevin Crawford said. “The thing we benefit most from the dispatch center interoperability are emergencies that are on the borders.”

The North County Communications Center JPA, which rents a top floor of Rancho Santa Fe Fire Station No. 1, has several cities it dispatches for with fire service. These cities include Carlsbad, Oceanside, Vista, North County Fire Protection District, San Marcos, Encinitas, Solana Beach, Del Mar, Elfin Forest Volunteer Department, Rancho Santa Fe and its newest member, Pala Indian Reservation.

“We are all dispatched out of that fire dispatch center,” he said, noting that the city of Escondido still has its own communications system.

Crawford said that for Carlsbad, the new technological systems wouldn’t benefit the city as much as it would for Del Mar.

“San Diego City has its own dispatch center and Del Mar is a part of JPA,” Crawford said. “So if there is an incident in Del Mar and it took the resources in Del Mar away, and let’s say a second incident occurred in Del Mar, rather than dispatching units farther up in our zone here, our dispatch center could actually dispatch a San Diego City unit to that call.”

Still, Crawford said he has great enthusiasm for the dispatch center interoperability, because with it, the region gets smaller. And when that happens, communication gets enhanced and that’s always a good thing.

“Particularly in the fire service, we are one closed loop so what affects one agency in one part of the county will eventually trickle down to another agency, especially if it’s a large incident,” he said.

Before the dispatch center interoperability, Crawford said, in past years much of dispatcher communications was done by landline phones. This caused huge delays. Now, a computerized dispatch center can communicate with another dispatch center's technology.

"We shaved a lot of call taking and call transferring time down so we can get our units on the road faster," he said.

Aside from working out the technical kinks, another challenge that was overcome was fine-tuning the language between dispatch centers. An example of this was using the same wording for procedure descriptions.

Crawford pointed out that the police department in the city of Carlsbad dispatches itself and also takes its own 911 calls. The fire department, however, is on a separate dispatch system. It has to be.

"Law enforcement has a completely different language than the fire department," Crawford said. "Both are different businesses."

The monies used for the dispatch center interoperability came from a federal grant years ago.

Crawford said he's delighted that the system is up and running and they are 100 percent live.



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1.  *John MacFall* says:  
[April 19, 2012 at 12:08 pm](#)

I think the kudos for this system go all the way back to Chief Fox of the Rancho Santa Fe F.D., who advocated and implemented the forefather of this system decades ago, in addition to his many other innovations and ideas.

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