

## Buzz: Strong response to survey

By **President Tom Lang**



By the March 7 deadline, the Association had received 781 responses to the survey questionnaires representing just over 45 percent of the surveys that were mailed out. As anyone who deals with surveys will

**Tom Lang**

tell you, that is a very high response rate. Based on the results, the Long Range Planning Committee will be putting together a list of recommendations and suggestions to help the board establish goals and objectives for the future. It is the same proven process that was undertaken in 1990 and again in 2000. It is interesting to note, in 2000 the then Long Range Planning Committee made a list of recommendations based on their survey results and out of the top 10 recommendations, nine of them were ultimately implemented to some degree. The number one concern in 2000 was traffic and the first recommendation was to explore ways to address traffic on Del Dios Highway.

As a result, the Association focused a great amount of effort to help reduce traffic and the impact to our community by encouraging the development of roads outside of our community that would provide us relief. Specifically, the improvements to Interstate 15 over Lake Hodges, the construction of the S6 freeway and the opening of San Dieguito Road to Rancho Bernardo all provided immediate and long term relief by offering alternatives to the Del Dios Highway. The traffic counts on Del Dios are actually lower today than they were in 2003 when we first began to monitor traffic flows.

The other recommendations from 2000 that were implemented included: increase political involvement, reaffirm the Open Space Policy, complete the natural gas pipeline to the Village area, develop a Village Restoration Plan, continue to support the trail system and enhance and develop landscaped median strips on heavily trafficked roads.

It will take several weeks to compile the results of the survey and we will release them as soon as they are available. The Long Range Committee will then develop a list of recommendations and their report should be completed by June of this year.

## Village Church Community Theater to hold auditions

The Village Church Community Theater announces auditions for "A Little Princess" on Monday, March 14, and Tuesday, March 15, from 5 - 8 p.m. at the Village Church, 6225 Paseo Delicias, Rancho Santa Fe. Roles available for five women, ages teen and adult, seven girls ages 8 - young teen and three men. Performances are May 13-15 and May 20-22. For audition information and appointment, contact Margie at [villagechurchcommunitytheater@gmail.com](mailto:villagechurchcommunitytheater@gmail.com) or [villagechurchcommunitytheater.org](http://villagechurchcommunitytheater.org).

## RSF Fire District to open new office March 29

The Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District (RSFFPD), announced recently that it will begin conducting business from its new offices beginning March 29. The new location, just off Del Dios Highway at 18027 Calle Ambiente in Rancho Santa Fe, will house both administrative and fire prevention personnel.

Business will be conducted as usual at the Fire District's current office location on El Fuego in Rancho Santa Fe through March 28. Beginning March 29, customers seeking assistance with plan submissions, plan checks, car seat installations, accounts payable, and other administrative or prevention matters will need to go to the new office on Calle Ambiente. Emergency

response personnel assigned to Station 1, also located on El Fuego, will remain at the current site.

"We are excited to be making this move," said Fire Chief Tony Michel. "The new location will allow us to maintain a high level of service for our customers and accommodate the growing needs of our district. While we anticipate a smooth transition, we appreciate the community's understanding should there be a bump or two along the way."

The Fire District currently operates out of four full-time fire stations and serves the communities within and surrounding Rancho Santa Fe, Fairbanks Ranch, and 4S-Ranch.

## Del Mar seeking labor council's support of fairgrounds purchase

By **Marlena Chavira-Medford**  
*Staff Writer*

Del Mar is in talks with the San Diego and Imperial Counties Labor Council in hopes of gaining its support for the potential purchase of the fairgrounds and racetrack.

Councilman Mark Filanc, who is a member of the subcommittee dealing with the fairgrounds negotiations, said gaining public support from the labor council could carry a lot of critical weight at the capitol. "[The labor council is]

willing to step out and help us, and this is a big support going forward in this project because they definitely have the ear of the governor and over half of the legislature up in Sacramento," he told Del Mar City Council during its March 7

See **FAIRGROUNDS**, page 26

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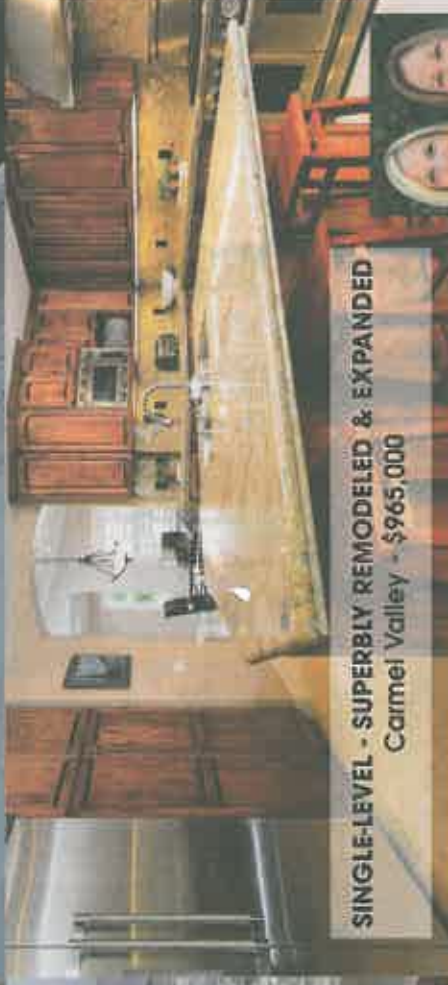
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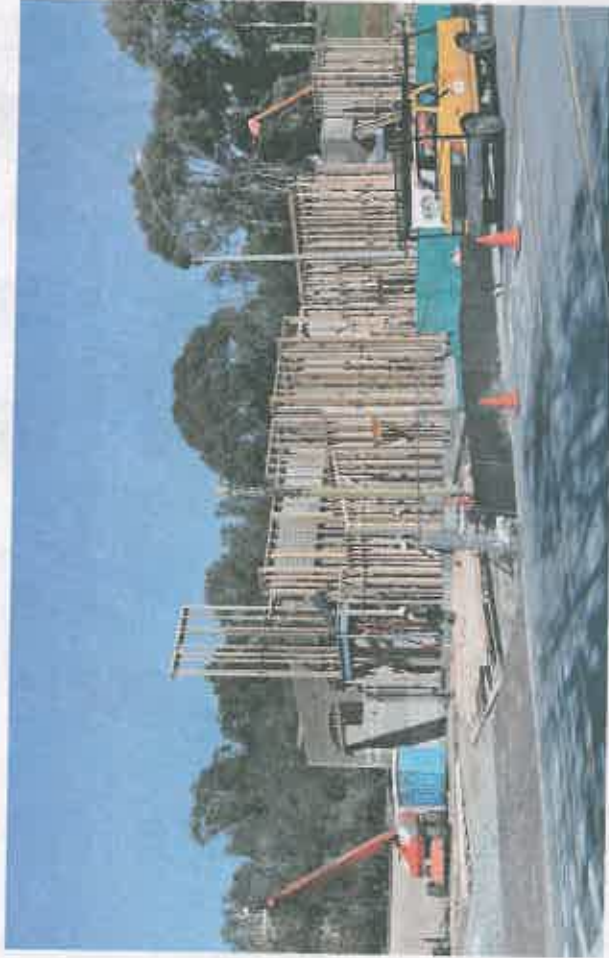
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## Three candidates to run for two RSF Association board seats

Three candidates will vie for two seats in this year's RSF Association board election. Ann Boon, Ann Mercer and Larry Spitaufsky are the candidates who are seeking the two seats being vacated by outgoing board members Tom Lang and Deb Plummer.

The Association's Annual Meeting will be held on May 12 at the RSF Garden Club and candidate election ballots will be mailed out to all registered Association members that day. Ballots must be returned to the RSF Association offices by June 13 at 5 p.m., according to RSF Association Manager Pete Smith.



### New fire station construction continues

The Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District's Fairbanks Ranch Fire Station is making visible progress on El Apajo Road. Construction on the two-story, 10,000-square-foot facility is expected to be complete by May.

## Validity of fairgrounds survey questioned

BY JOE TASH

Critics are questioning the validity of a survey conducted by 74th District Assemblyman Martin Garrick, which found that 71 percent of respondents were against the proposed sale of the state-owned Del Mar fairgrounds to the city of Del Mar.

Garrick, R-Solana Beach, reported the results of the survey on his website, and the report was also included as an informational item on last week's agenda of the Del Mar fair board, whose members oppose the sale.

According to Garrick, his office received 4,497 responses to the survey, with 71 percent opposing the sale, 81 percent saying they should be allowed to weigh in on the sale, and a majority in favor of the state continuing to operate the fairgrounds through the 22nd District Agricultural Association and its appointed board.

Bud Emerson, one of the editors of the Sandpiper, a community journal published in Del Mar for the past decade, said he believes the survey is invalid because of the way the questions were framed, and because it was not administered to a random sample of the population.

"This is not an honest survey," said Emerson, who supports the proposed sale of the fairgrounds to Del Mar. "He (Garrick) ought to be ashamed of himself. And to submit this as a relevant piece of information in a decision-making process is disreputable."

But Mike Zimmerman, Garrick's chief of staff, dismissed the complaints of Emerson and others, and insisted the survey accurately portrays the feelings of those who live in the 74th District, which includes Del Mar, Solana Beach, Escondido, Encinitas and portions of

See SURVEY, page 26

## Issues raised at fairgrounds workshop

BY JOE TASH

Attendees at a city council workshop Wednesday, March 9, had plenty of questions and suggestions about Del Mar's proposed \$120 million purchase of the state-owned Del Mar Fairgrounds.

The questions included whether gun shows

could be prohibited from the fairgrounds if the sale goes through, and why Del Mar would have only one representative on the nine-member board that would oversee fairground operations.

The meeting in council chambers was held in an informal style, with mem-

See WORKSHOP, page 26

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Donna Ferrier, Lindy Delaney, Christy Wilson, Jan Clark, Sharon McDonald and Judy Oliphant at the check presentation. Photos/Ion Clark

## Community Concerts of RSF presents check

Community Concerts of Rancho Santa Fe presented a check March 10 in the amount of \$8,000, to the Rancho Santa Fe Foundation, on behalf of the Performing Arts Center at Rancho Santa Fe's "324 Club." The funds included all proceeds from the Billy Dean Benefit Concert, held Oct. 20, 2010, sponsored by Community Concerts, an event held in conjunction with the official dedication of the R. Roger Rowe School.

The "324 Club" was formed to promote the sales of theater seats for the PAC. The eight seats purchased by Community Concerts, at \$1,000 per seat, will be specifically designated in the concert hall and have a plaque that specifies Community Concerts as the donor. The seats will be red and comfortably constructed with plush material, padded cushions and dark wood arms.

Community Concerts spearheaded the efforts for upgrading the multi-use room, proposed by the school board, to a state-of-the-art facility. Members of the CC board proposed the \$2 million fundraising effort and helped organize the Performing Arts Center Committee, which is led currently by Carol Warren. More than half of the needed funds have been raised to date, thanks to the generosity of the Rancho Santa Fe community. Still available are naming rights for the PAC at \$1 million and several individual items needed to complete the facility.

When the PAC is not in use by the school, it will be available for programs from the community at large. Presently, the PAC scheduling is being done by the Rancho Santa Fe School District staff.

Recently, Orchestra Nova (previously the San Diego Chamber Orchestra) returned to Rancho Santa Fe for a performance at the new PAC. The entertainment included music, dance and an opera aria, showcasing the superior acoustics and lighting capabilities of the hall.

"Community Concerts of Rancho Santa Fe is delighted to contribute to the Performing Arts Center at Rancho Santa Fe. It is expected that the students and the community will benefit greatly from an expansion of the arts in our neighborhood," said Sharon McDonald, president of Community Concerts of Rancho Santa Fe.

Community Concerts is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization providing four musical concerts each year at the Village Church Fellowship Hall. For more information, e-mail rsfcommunityconcerts@hotmail.com. The website is [www.communityconcertsofranchosantafe.com](http://www.communityconcertsofranchosantafe.com) or call 858 922-4440.

For more information on the Performing Arts Center at Rancho Santa Fe, contact Sandi Lubenow, assistant to the superintendent, Rancho Santa Fe School District, 858 756-1141 or [slubenow@rsf.k12.ca.us](mailto:slubenow@rsf.k12.ca.us).

## Rancho Santa Fe resident a finalist in the SDIVSL Winter Debate Tournament

Rancho Santa Fe resident Daniel King, a junior at Canyon Crest Academy High School, advanced to the finals in the category of impromptu speech in the San Diego Imperial Valley Speech League Winter IE Tournament. Daniel was the first CCA student to ever make it to the finals. The newly formed CCA Speech and Debate team is now competing at the local and state level.



Daniel King is a graduate of the R. Roger Rowe School where he was awarded the 'Best Public Speaker' award upon graduation. He has had a long interest in public speaking and has, in fact, taken his passion to a new level and created his own nonprofit 501(c)3 public charity called 'Speaking Out for Others.'

The first event of "Speaking Out for Others" are a constant threat for those of us living in Southern California, especially within wildland-urban interface areas like Rancho Santa Fe and its surrounding communities. The Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District (RSFFPD) employs a hazard abatement inspector who surveys properties for fire hazards and mails violation notices to property owners not in compliance with District Ordinance 2004-02 and 2011-01, which can be found on the district's website at [www.rsffire.org](http://www.rsffire.org).

Residents within the RSFFPD service area should have recently received a letter reminding them of the local hazard abatement requirements. Here are some ways you can safeguard not only your home, but your entire community. These requirements can also be found in their entirety on the district's web site.

## Wildfire: Are you prepared?

Defensible space can be created by removing combustible vegetation and flammable materials and replanting with drought-tolerant, fire resistant trees, shrubs and plants. Keep vegetation well-maintained and remove any dead foliage throughout the year. Weeds and grasses must be cut below six-inches in height. Trees and native vegetation should not come into direct contact with structures or parts thereof. Tree limbs and foliage must be trimmed 10 feet

See WILDFIRE, page 20

Defensible space is a term used to describe a 100-foot "buffer zone" around all structures on your property and 30-foot zone along either side of roadways and driveways in which dead and dying vegetation is removed and excess growth is thinned. Defensible space will not only give firefighters a safe place to make a stand against threatening flames, but it has been proven to save homes and minimize property damage.

Defensible space can be created by removing combustible vegetation and flammable materials and replanting with drought-tolerant, fire resistant trees, shrubs and plants. Keep vegetation well-maintained and remove any dead foliage throughout the year. Weeds and grasses must be cut below six-inches in height. Trees and native vegetation should not come into direct contact with structures or parts thereof. Tree limbs and foliage must be trimmed 10 feet

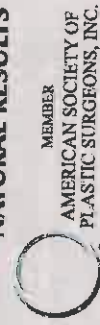
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# Canyon Crest Academy students launch filmmaking company

BY KAREN BILLING  
STAFF WRITER

Canyon Crest Academy juniors Jason Segal, Kush Rawal and Hunter Peterson have started their own business, Cinema 595, putting their talents and knowledge of filmmaking to work. The Carmel Valley teens can film any event, from horseback riding shows to weddings, edit together old media and create music videos or help with original films.

"We're very flexible with what our clients need us to do," Jason said.

"We all bring a broad variety of skills to the table," added Kush.

While all are busy with full Advanced Placement course loads, they will always make time for filmmaking. They already have Cinema 595 jobs lined up this month and are looking forward to the opportunity and experience to work and create.

"We have a deep passion for filmmaking, we just all really love making films so it's not a job for us,"



Canyon Crest Academy students Jason Segal, Hunter Peterson and Kush Rawal started a new business called Cinema 595.

PHOTO: KAREN BILLING

Jason said.

The new company comes on the heels of Jason and Kush's successful computer-help business Equarius Consulting, started last summer. Equarius has kept their weekends busy for the last seven months, sometimes working double

and triple jobs.

While Jason said the workload was "crazy," it was also a great working experience and helped them raise enough money to buy new camera equipment.

Although they are only 17 years old, all are students in the film con-

## WILDFIRE

continued from page 4

from rooftops, chimneys, and outdoor barbecues. Mature trees must be pruned back at least four to six feet from structures and branches trimmed six feet off the ground.

**Roofs and Rooftops**  
Most homes with wood-shake roofs do not survive wildfires. During a fire storm, these homes burn from the outside-in. If you own a wood roof, there is no more time to delay: retro-fit your home with a roof made of non-combustible materials.

Many such roofing materials are now made to look like wood-shake so homeowners can experience the aesthetic qualities they desire while making their home a defensible one. For all homeowners, a non-combustible roof can become a combustible roof quite easily if leaf litter and debris accumulate on your roof. To safeguard your roof, regularly maintain your

or an every-day emergency, firefighters need to be able to read your address. Your address number should be visible from the street, with numerals at least 4-inches in height, mounted on a contrasting background.

- If you own a private gate, it must be equipped with an approved fire district gate access switch and/or strobe sensor to allow firefighters to access your property during emergencies. Additionally, during wildfires, many firefighters arrive from out of the area and won't be able to access your gated property. During a wildfire, disconnect the manual override motor on your electric gate, or if you have a manual gate, leave the gate open. Otherwise, firefighters may have to use blunt force on your gate, causing significant damage.

If you have questions regarding vegetation management, please contact the Fire Prevention Bureau at 858-756-5971. More wildfire prevention tips are available on the district's web site at [www.rsfc-fire.org](http://www.rsfc-fire.org). — RSF Fire District

servatory program at Canyon Crest, earning a very valuable education in the art. They've learned filming, editing, audio-work, and color correction "from the pros," Jason said, as the conservatory brings working professionals into the classroom as guest artists to teach the students.

Guest artists this year are Tom O'Hara, who owns his own business filming weddings, and Destin Cretton, who won a Jury Prize at the Sundance Film Festival last year for his short film "Short Term 12."

Hunter, who has been making films since he was a sixth grader, said they recently spoke to a CCA graduate who told them how well-prepared she was for film school at Emerson from what she learned in conservatory.

"This program puts us ahead of all of the other students to the point where when we go to film school, we'll blow everyone of the water with what we have learned and what we've made," Hunter said.

"The teachers really encourage us to make our own films," Kush said. "They know the best way to learn is through involvement, by actually doing it."

The three became close in conservatory classes and worked together on Hunter's film. The trio also puts together the weekly school TV show CCA TV, equating the Friday show to a real job for how much work they put into it.

Jason said teacher Mark Raines, a documentary filmmaker, has taught them one of the most important lessons of filmmaking: how to work well with others.

"He teaches us how the real world works and that you have to be a cohesive unit," Jason said.

The friends and now business partners agree that working well together is just one more filmmaking skill they've mastered.

For more information, visit [cinema595.com](http://cinema595.com) or call (858) 334-5577

## Ranch Clubhouse place to be on St. Patrick's Day

St. Patrick's Day is Thursday, March 17. The Ranch Clubhouse will be the place to be for Corned Beef and Cabbage or Fish & Chips dinner specials for only \$9.95 for adults and children. There will be a limited menu of clubhouse favorites, as well. This is a great social event for the entire family. The clubhouse will open a half hour earlier at 5 p.m. There will be seating in the Osuna Grille, La Bodega and 1929 rooms. Green draft beer will be on tap to celebrate the day when "everyone is Irish" along with Guinness Draught from Dublin. Not so Irish, but a clubhouse favorite is Margaritas.

The days are warming up and the Sunday a la carte brunches on the patio are becoming very popular. Umbrellas offer protection from the sun while still offering that wonderful outdoor feeling. The a la carte breakfast starts at 9 a.m. and is served until 2:30 p.m. Lunch menu items are served from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The children's menu, including Mickey Mouse pancakes and other specialties, are favorites.

Osuna Grille hours are 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. for lunch on the patio and Grille and 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. for dinner Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Sunday. The Osuna Grille is closed Monday. Lunch is served Tuesday through Sunday. Take-out is available for all menu items. Reservations are highly recommended for St. Patrick's Day, as well as for all meal service throughout the week. For reservations call 756-1182.

The Ranch Clubhouse dining and special events rooms are available for graduations, birthday, anniversaries and weddings and are exclusive to Association members and their guests.

If you like to be put on the clubhouse's email program offering information on social activities, dinner specials and upcoming events please call 858-756-1182 or email [bferraro@rsfcg.com](mailto:bferraro@rsfcg.com).

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## REGION: Fire damages Rancho Santa Fe home

By LYNDSEY WINKLEY - lwinkley@nctimes.com | Posted: Saturday, March 19, 2011 7:01 pm

RANCHO SANTA FE ---- A fire caused an estimated \$1 million in damage to a 10,000-square-foot home Saturday morning in Rancho Santa Fe, fire authorities said.

Firefighters responded to the report at 6:20 a.m. of a residential fire in the 14000 block of Rancho Santa Fe Lakes Drive, Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District public information officer Julie Taber stated in a news release.

When they arrived, a converted garage was engulfed in flames and the fire was beginning to spread toward the home.

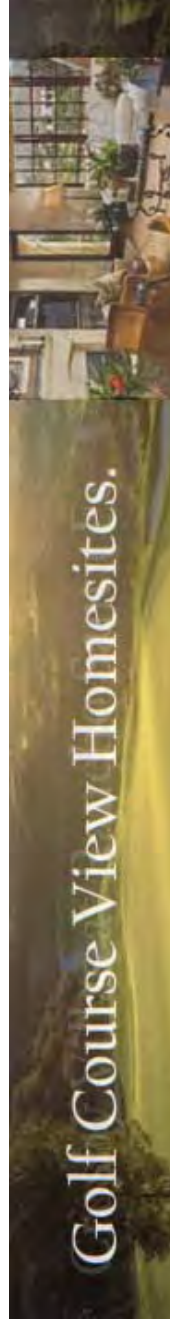
Firefighters from the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District and San Diego Fire-Rescue Department had the blaze under control by 6:49 a.m., Taber said.

Smoke alarms alerted the home's residents of the fire and no injuries were reported.

Five fire engines, one ladder truck, a medical unit and a battalion chief responded to the incident, Taber said.

The home is currently inhabitable.

Call staff writer Lyndsay Winkley at 760-740-5444



## \$1 million fire to Rancho Santa Fe home

BY PAULINE REPARD  
SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 2011 AT 9:38 P.M.

**RANCHO SANTA FE** — Fire investigators are trying to determine the cause of a \$1 million fire at a 10,000-square-foot home whose residents escaped safely early Saturday.

Smoke alarms going off about 6:20 a.m. alerted residents at the home on Rancho Santa Fe Lakes Drive. A converted garage was engulfed in flames that were spreading into the house when firefighters got there, officials said.

It took firefighters from the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District and the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department about 25 minutes to get the blaze under control, Rancho fire spokeswoman Julie Taber said.

Taber said the home was not inhabitable and the Red Cross was assisting the residents.

*pauline.repard@uniontrib.com • (619) 293-1865*

**Find this article at:**

<http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/2011/mar/19/1-million-fire-rancho-santa-fe-home>

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A vertical advertisement for Budget. It features a blue background. On the left, the text "Book now and get" is in white, and "MORE CARGO SPACE" is in large, bold, orange letters. In the center is a silver SUV. On the right, the Budget logo is in white and orange, with a yellow button that says "GET THIS DEAL" in white. Below the button, in small white text, it says "TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY".

## Firefighters Raising Funds for Burn Victims

22 March 2011 [View Comments](#)



[Rancho Santa Fe](#) Fire Protection District firefighters are taking to the streets again this year to help raise money for burn survivors.

The annual Burn Institute Boot Drive, which raises money to fund burn survivor support services such as Camp Beyond the Scars, will take place on Wednesday, April 6. Firefighters will be standing at major intersections throughout the district – including [4S Ranch](#) – during the morning and afternoon commute, collecting monetary donations of any amount in empty fire boots.

“We look forward to this event every year,” said Engineer Tim Wood, who is coordinating RSFFPD’s efforts this year. “It’s a great chance for us to interact with members of the community and raise funds for a very important cause. It also creates a friendly competition among participating fire agencies to see who can raise the most money.”

The Burn Institute is a non-profit agency dedicated to burn prevention and support for burn injury survivors and their families. For more information on the Boot Drive and the Burn Institute, visit [www.burninstitute.org](http://www.burninstitute.org).

Formed in 1946, the Fire District now spans approximately 38-square miles and protects over 29,000 citizens. The Fire District currently operates out of four full-time fire stations and serves the communities within and surrounding Rancho Santa Fe, Fairbanks Ranch, and 4S-Ranch.

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## Bird dies after alerting Rancho Bernardo family to fire

BY **DEBBI BAKER** AND **JONATHAN HORN**  
TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 2011 AT 12:06 P.M.

**RANCHO BERNARDO** — A woman and her baby escaped a fire at their Rancho Bernardo townhome Tuesday morning after the squawks of the family's pet bird alerted her to danger.

The bird, a two-year-old Goffin Cockatoo named Dexter, died in the blaze.

The mother was at her two-story home on Fairlie Road near Bernardo Center Road about 10 a.m when she heard the bird screeching in the laundry room, San Diego Fire-Rescue spokesman Maurice Luque said.

She ran downstairs and saw flames coming from the room and the bird's cage, Luque said.

The woman tried to put out the fire with an extinguisher but was unsuccessful. She then grabbed her 3-month-old son and ran outside, Luque said.

It took about an hour for firefighters to put out the stubborn flames that spread to the roof and also damaged an adjacent town home in the four-unit complex, Luque said.

The woman, who lives at the home with her husband, said she was devastated at the loss of her pet.

"She said the bird saved her life," Luque said.

The cause of the fire is under investigation. A damage estimate has not been released. The home was equipped with smoke alarms but firefighters do not know if they went off and if so, the woman did not hear them, Luque said.

[debbi.baker@uniontrib.com](mailto:debbi.baker@uniontrib.com) • (619) 293-1710 • [Twitter @debbi\\_baker](https://twitter.com/debbi_baker)

### Find this article at:

<http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/2011/mar/22/bird-alerts-rancho-bernardo-family-fire>

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Jonathan Horn  
Firefighters cut holes in the roof of a Rancho Bernardo townhome to battle a stubborn blaze.



5 Foods to never eat :  
Cut down a bit of stomach fat every  
day by never eating these 5 foods.



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# 2011 SUMMER CAMPS



## Horizon Prep student honored by firefighters

Miss Davidson's 4th grade class at Horizon Prep enjoyed a pizza lunch, courtesy of the Rancho Santa Fe firefighters. Classmate Sydney Sparks won lunch for the class by entering her artwork in a contest held by the fire department.

Front row (L-R): Sydney Sparks, Corey Davidson (4th grade teacher), Julie Taber. Second row (L-R): Dave McQuead, Trevor Krueger, Craig McVey.

## Childhelp to host 'Meet the Authors' event

The San Diego Chapter of Childhelp will host a Meet the Authors event on Sunday, April 17, at the La Costa Resort & Spa in Carlsbad California. The event sponsors local Southern California authors.

The doors open at 1 p.m. with light refreshments and will provide an opportunity to mix and mingle with the authors and other guests; at 2 p.m. we will begin a two-hour session to meet the authors with a question and answer forum; at 4 p.m. guests will have the opportunity to purchase featured, signed books by the authors; and the event will conclude with a raffle for a Kindle.

For tickets/ further information, contact Jeanette Arthur @ 619-889-0556. Ticket price is \$30.

## St. James Academy 8th grade student earns Character Award

St. James Academy in Solana Beach recently announced that for the second year in a row, one of its students has won the University of San Diego Character Matters Essay Contest. Rex Hammock, an eighth grade student at the academy, took first prize in the middle school division. Last year an academy student, Patrice Nguyen, won the elementary division. The Character Matters Essay Contest provides a platform for insightful classroom discussion and students' personal reflections on their experiences that foster one or more of USD's Character Develop-



Rex Hammock

ment Center's 10 Badges of Character—respect, responsibility, compassion, courage, perseverance, trust, honesty, gratitude, self-discipline, and citizenship. This essay contest offers students an opportunity for conscious reflection and writing about these character traits. Rex was the recipient of a \$125 check and a plaque for his winning essay.

St. James Academy is a K-8 elementary school serving the North County communities of Solana Beach, Del Mar, Carmel Valley, Rancho Santa Fe, Encinitas, Carlsbad and San Marcos. St. James Academy is part of the St. James Catholic Community, which includes St. James Church and St. Leo's Mission. For more information, go to [www.saintjamesacademy.com](http://www.saintjamesacademy.com) or call 858-755-1777.

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## Buzz: Alumni, Patrol

By **President Tom Lang**

Last week the Association hosted the annual alumni dinner. The dinner was started nine years ago to show our appreciation to members that had served our community and to provide a forum for the ongoing exchange of ideas. The dinner is open to anyone that is serving or has served on either the Association board or the Art Jury. There are currently 78 people that are eligible to attend and this year over 40 were at the dinner. Tom Lawton held the record for longest time since his tour of duty on the Art Jury dating back to 1992. The record for a past board member was Jack Mullins whose term dates back to 1980.

Every year the program includes a look back — 10 and sometimes 20 years — to look at the issues facing the community and see how they were addressed.



Tom Lang

Many of the positive outcomes, such as the significant reduction in traffic on Del Dios, that have protected the rural character of our community are often taken for granted. These positive results are in reality the end result of a lot of forward planning and a great deal of work by members of the alumni of Rancho Santa Fe.

The Association is currently working with the Rancho Santa Fe District in finalizing our lease for the Rancho Santa Fe Patrol. This lease will be for 10 years with two 10-year options. The Patrol should be in their space by June of this year. We look forward to the Patrol vacating their trailer and having a permanent home adjacent to the Rancho Santa Fe School.

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## High school district personnel changes made

San Dieguito Union High School District Superintendent Ken Noah announced recently that "after considerable thought relative to needs district-wide and at individual sites, he is pleased to announce changes in administrative assignments for the 2011-12 school year."

"We were faced with the need to make reductions in administrative personnel and fill vacancies created through retirements," he said.

The following changes will take place, effective July 1, 2011:

- Anna Pedroza, principal at Earl Warren Middle School, will move to Oak Crest Middle School, replacing Terry Calen, who has announced his retirement.

- Mary Anne Nuskin, principal at Diegueño Middle School, will move to Earl Warren Middle School.

- Bryan Marcus, assistant principal at Diegueño Middle School, will be promoted to principal. The assistant principal position will be filled through a selection process.

- Jeff Copeland, assistant principal at Carmel Valley Middle School, will be promoted to assistant principal at

## Fire causes major damage to home in RSF

At 6:23 a.m. on March 19, firefighters from the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District and San Diego Fire Department responded to a reported residential structure fire in the 14000 block of Rancho Santa Fe Lakes Drive in Rancho Santa Fe.

Upon arrival they found a converted garage completely engulfed in flames, with the fire starting to spread into the home. Firefighters quickly began attacking the fire and had it under control by 6:49 a.m. The occupants of the home were alerted to fire by the

smoke alarms and able to safely exit the house. No injuries were reported.

Five fire engines, one ladder truck, one medical unit, and one battalion chief responded to the incident. The cause is under investigation. Damage to the approximately 10,000 square-foot home is estimated to be \$1 million.

The house was not inhabitable at the time of this report. The Red Cross assisted the residents.

— RSF Fire District report

## Firefighters to participate in annual Boot Drive

Rancho Santa Fe firefighters will be taking to the streets again this year to help raise money for burn survivors. The annual Burn Institute Boot Drive, which raises money to fund burn survivor support services such as Camp Beyond the Scars, will take place on Wednesday, April 6.

Firefighters will be standing at major intersections throughout the district

during the morning and afternoon commute, collecting monetary donations of any amount in empty fire boots.

"We look forward to this event every year," said Engineer Tim Wood, who is coordinating RSFPD's efforts this year. "It's a great chance for us to interact with members of the community and raise funds for a very important cause. It also

creates a friendly competition among participating fire agencies to see who can raise the most money." The Burn Institute is a non-profit agency dedicated to burn prevention and support for burn injury survivors and their families. For more information on the Boot Drive and the Burn Institute, please visit their website, [www.burninstitute.org](http://www.burninstitute.org).

Canyon Crest Academy. Assistant principal, Barbara Stroud, has announced her retirement.

- The assistant principal position at Carmel Valley Middle School vacated by Jeff Copeland's transfer will not be filled, thereby reducing an administrative position in the district.

- The athletic director responsibilities at both academies will be absorbed by the assistant

principal in charge of athletics, resulting in the net loss of an administrative position.

"These changes result in a net reduction of two administrative positions district-wide. Though the reductions are challenging and require fewer people to take on more responsibility, we appreciate the quality of our team, and

look forward to continued success," Noah said.

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# RANCH PROFILES

Do you know of a Ranch resident or organization that would make an interesting Ranch Profile? E-mail suggestions to editor@coastnewsgroup.com and use Ranch Profile as the subject.

## A closer look at Rowe school's science program

By **Patty McCormac**

RANCHO SANTA FE — Before Kelly Stine became a science teacher at R. Roger Rowe School, she worked at Birch Aquarium where students from all over the county came on field trips.

When students visited from Rowe, she said the aquarium educators routinely kicked up their curriculum at least one grade level and sometimes higher.

"We knew these kids knew their stuff," she said.

Stine has been teaching science at Rowe now for eight years and is very passionate about the program.

"There is a lot of value placed on science here," she said. "Our kids take science from kindergarten on. It is a big part of the school."

On a recent day, Stine's seventh grade Life Science class was examining owl pellets, regurgitated fur and bones, which are indigestible by owls.

"It's a little gross, but is kind of cool to see how an animal digests its food," said Sandra Sandra as she and her lab partner Melissa De Luca picked through the pellets with tweezers recovering teeth and bones.

Next door, teacher David Warner teaches physics and math. He also runs the Tech 21 Lab that helps students learn how science applies to everyday life.

The Tech 21 Lab was developed as an elective course for students interested in rocketry, robotics, car



**EXAMINING PELLETS** Shawn Mackinnon and Travis Headapohl examine owl pellets during a recent class.

design, CAD and other technology-related science courses. Students have the ability to explore science through technology. This class is offered to students in grades five through eight.

"Just fantastic options and we have quality, quality teachers," Stine said.

Lindy Delaney, superintendent of the school district, said that such emphasis is put on science because it is an integral part of life and a student's educational experience.

"Science incorporates all of the other disciplines and allows students the opportunity to explore the world around them. We hope

to provide many different experiences for our students — science being an important element of their education," Delaney said.

Elena Colvin, who teaches science to fourth and fifth grades, said her classes are currently studying the three basic types of volcanoes — shield, strato and cinder cone. Her class was building a few volcanoes and preparing them to erupt.

Colvin said science is important for children in everyday life as they develop their critical thinking and problem solving skills. It also

TURN TO **SCIENCE** ON B15



**EXPLORING LIFE** Sandra Sandra and Melissa De Luca pick through owl pellets with tweezers in a recent class. Photos by Patty McCormac



**FOCUS ON SCIENCE** Sophia Balderas and Isabella Gauvreau examine owl pellets during a recent class.



**KICKED UP CURRICULUM** Teacher Dave Warner in his Tech 21 Lab in which he teaches math and physics and how they apply to everyday life.



### ART WINS LUNCH

From left, front, contest winner Sydney Sparks, enjoy a pizza lunch with her Horizon Prep fourth-grade teacher Corey Davidson and Julie Taber, along with Rancho Santa Fe firefighters, from left, back, Dave McQuead, Trevor Krueger and Craig McVey, courtesy of the firefighters. Sparks won lunch for the class by entering her artwork in a contest held by the fire department.

Courtesy photo

## Auditions open to experienced singers

LA JOLLA — The La Jolla Symphony & Chorus will hold spring auditions for its chorus at 8:30 p.m. March 28 in the Conrad Prebys Music Center, 9500 Gilman Drive, on the UCSD campus.

The chorus welcomes trained singers (community and university) of all voice types who possess excellent music reading skills and a serious commitment to choral singing. Appointments are not

required. Auditions will be conducted on a first-come, first-served basis. Further information about the audition process is available at [lajollasympphony.com](http://lajollasympphony.com).

The La Jolla Symphony & Chorus performs masterworks of both classical and contemporary composers in Mandeville Auditorium at UCSD in a six-concert subscription series. Choral repertoire during the balance of

## 'Five Wishes' workshop aids all ages

RANCHO SANTA FE — The Elizabeth Hospice Center for Compassionate Care offers a Five Wishes free workshop from 2 to 3 p.m. April 15 at the Rancho Santa Fe Seniors, Inc., 16780 La Gracia.

Five Wishes is a document that helps express how you want to be treated if you become seriously ill and

unable to express your own nationalhealthcaredecisions day.org.

The Elizabeth Hospice's Center for Compassionate Care has been created to centralize programs and services offered to children and families coping with the diagnosis of a serious illness or adjusting to the death of a loved one of any age. For more information, call (760) 737-2050.

To learn more about Healthcare Decisions Day and get free information visit

## Ranch youth soccer ready for sign-ups

RANCHO SANTA FE — Rancho Santa Fe Youth Soccer is ready to begin registration for its fall season from 9 a.m. to noon April 2 at Solana Santa Fe School, 6570 El Apajito.

New players to the program must bring a copy of their birth certificate or passport to verify their age. The registration fee is \$300 and is inclusive of uniforms, insurance equipment, referee fees, team/individual photos, and field rental. The fee for the Pee Wee program is \$200.

Online registration forms are available for those who would like the convenience of completing the paperwork at home. If you choose to register your player online, you can pay by credit

card or e-check. Log on to [soccer.com](http://soccer.com) and click on Academy to begin the process. Players can also sign up for the spring break and summer camps at that time. For more information on the camps, click on Camps & Clinics. Be sure to print out the paper work and bring it to the April 2 walk-in registration. This will also be the only day the organization will accept coach and team requests.

Rancho Santa Fe Youth Soccer is a nonprofit volunteer run organization and each year it relies on volunteers to donate time as a coach, assistant coach or sponsor to keep the league running. This season, it is creating age group coordinator

information about sponsorships is on the website at [soccer.com](http://soccer.com) under Sponsors. For more information on the Academy Program or about volunteering or sponsoring a team, go online to [rfsoccer.com](http://rfsoccer.com) or call the office at (760) 479-1500.

Sponsors are also being sought for the league's programs. Academy Sponsorship packages start at \$450 and include the sponsor's name on the team jerseys and a listing on the website. More information about sponsorships is on the website at [soccer.com](http://soccer.com) under Sponsors. For more information on the Academy Program or about volunteering or sponsoring a team, go online to [rfsoccer.com](http://rfsoccer.com) or call the office at (760) 479-1500.



### Woodward Center celebrates miracle twin foals first birthday

The Helen Woodward Animal Center (HWAC) recently celebrated the first birthday of world-famous twin foals "Sunny and Angel" (left to right in photos above).

"Two tiny, fragile packages arrived at HWAC on Sunday, March 28, 2010," says spokesman John Van Zante. "Earlier that morning these extremely rare twin foals had been born near Fallbrook. Nobody at our hospital had ever seen twin foals that survived. Along with their mother, Lena, Sunny and Angel went into our intensive care stall where they remained under constant observation for the next four months."

Live streaming video of the twins is also being broadcast worldwide through HWAC's website at <http://www.animalcenter.org/foals>. Photos/Jon Clark

### Firefighters to participate in Boot Drive April 6

Rancho Santa Fe firefighters will be taking to the streets again this year to help raise money for burn survivors. The annual Burn Institute Boot Drive, which raises money to fund burn survivor support services such as Camp Beyond the Scars, will take place on Wednesday, April 6. Firefighters will be standing at major intersections throughout the district during the morning and afternoon commute, collecting monetary donations of any amount in empty fire boots.

### Del Mar Hot Rod & Custom Car show at Fairgrounds April 1-3

The Goodguys 111th Meguiar's Del Mar Hot Rod & Custom Car Nationals indoor and outdoor show will take place at the Del Mar Fairgrounds April 1-3, featuring more than 2,000 hot rods, customs, classics, muscle cars and trick trucks through '72. For more event info.: [www.delmar-nats.com](http://www.delmar-nats.com).

### Elijah will be there, will you? Celebrate Passover at the RSF communal Seder

This Passover, don't stay home alone! Make your mother proud and come celebrate the holiday together with friends and family in a warm and friendly environment. Your Seder experience will include a delicious dinner, hand-baked shmurah matzah, plenty of wine and fascinating insights into the festival of freedom. Celebrate this Passover on April 18 at the RSF communal Seder at Morgan Run Resort in Rancho Santa Fe. To make a reservation please call Chabad Jewish Center of RSF at 858.756.7571 or visit [www.jewishRSF.com](http://www.jewishRSF.com)

Feel free to contact us for all your Passover needs.

No one will be turned away due to lack of funds.

New this year! The RSF Kids Seder led by Rabbi Simchal An entertaining Seder to remember...

### DAR De Anza Chapter to hear doctor speak on women's health

The De Anza Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) will host Diana Hoppe, MD, OB/GYN, at its 77th chapter birthday meeting on Saturday, May 7, at 11 a.m. Her talk, "Aging: Embracing The Change and Maintaining a Healthy Life," will discuss women's health issues as they progress through life. Dr. Hoppe is co-founder of the Pacific Coast Women's Health Medical Group in Encinitas and is a published author. For more information on Dr. Hoppe, visit <http://drdiana-hoppe.com>. The cost is \$32. For location and more information, call Bettybob Williams (858) 344-6233.

The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution was founded in 1890 to promote historic preservation, education and patriotism. The De Anza Chapter was founded in 1934 and is named for Juan Bautista de Anza, an early explorer of California. Members live in Rancho Santa Fe, the San Diego coastal communities and other nearby areas. A woman over 18 years is eligible for membership who can prove direct lineage from a patriot who gave service during the American Revolution.

For more information visit: <http://www.deanzadar.org>.



Dr. Diana Hoppe



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### Beach & Country Guild Rummage Sale is April 16

On Saturday, April 16, from 7 a.m.-noon, the Beach & Country Guild, in partnership with Windmere Exclusive Properties, will present a day of fabulous bargains, food, and a few fun surprises. Proceeds will benefit individuals with disabilities through United Cerebral Palsy of San Diego.

Taking place at Fairbanks Village Plaza, the Rummage Sale will feature clothing, household items, electronics, small appliances, and indoor/outdoor furniture. Those interested in contributing items can pre-arrange for a pick up on Wed., April 13 (call 888-827-0771), or items can also be dropped off on Thursday, April 14, an Friday, April 15.

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## Ranch School's Science Discovery Day sponsored by Frank Financial Services

The 19th annual Science Discovery Day will be held all day on Friday, April 8, at the R. Roger Rowe School. The event is hosted by the RSF Education Foundation and this year is generously sponsored by Frank Financial Services. It is a unique day of science that covers many areas from live animals to anatomy to high tech and robotics. Its goal is to expose students to the many aspects of science and allow them to discover their own passion within the field. The Reuben H. Fleet Science Center is working with the school this year to bring the school several noteworthy events including:

- The 1st graders will be exploring the science behind "Weather Watching." Students take on the role of meteorologists to discover what makes the weather. They'll explore why weather changes and then create instruments to measure it.
- The 3rd graders will be participating in a workshop called "Diving Into Density" in which they discover how objects behave when placed in water. They will be exploring what sinks and floats as well as how to change the chemistry of water to make something that sinks then rise. Students will also be using a Cartesian Diver, a classic science experiment, named for René Descartes, which demonstrates the principle of buoyancy and the ideal gas law, to explore more complex concepts of density.
- The 5th graders will be working on DNA, to gain a more detailed understanding of what DNA is, and why it is a very important area of science today. Students learn how DNA makes us unique and how it can be used to solve crimes, simulating the process of DNA fingerprinting. Students get to experience science in a totally different way than they normally do at school. The programs are very hands on and real world connected.

## Guided nature hike to be held April 10

Join the San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy on Sunday, April 10, from 1-4 p.m., on a guided wildflower hike at Clevenger Canyon South, with sweeping views of the surrounding canyons and mountains. This 4.5-mile round-trip hike has an elevation gain of 1000' and is strenuous for intermediate hikers. Please bring water and be prepared for changing weather. FREE. Reservations required - contact hikes@drvc.org or (858) 674-2275 x12 for directions and to reserve a space.



# Frank

## FINANCIAL SERVICES



## Free disaster training for residents and employees of RSF

Firestorm 2007 and numerous recent earthquakes are a wake-up call for all of us. Del Mar, Encinitas, Rancho Santa Fe and Solana Beach residents and employees are invited to participate in free Community Emergency Response Team training to become disaster service volunteers. CERT training is designed to prepare you to help yourself, your family and your neighbors in the event of a catastrophic disaster. Because emergency services personnel will not be able to help everyone immediately, you can make a difference by using CERT training to save lives and protect property.

CERT volunteers learn to extinguish small fires, turn off natural gas to damaged homes, perform light search and rescue, and render basic medical treatment. Trained volunteers can also assist in non-hazardous functions such as shelter support, crowd control and evacuation.

The next CERT Training begins May 3 at 6 p.m. at the Solana Beach Fire Station. For more information and to sign-up, please contact Lori Cannon, Solana Beach Fire Department, 858-720-4412 or Patrick O'Neil, Del Mar Fire Department at 858-755-1522.

## SeaWorld announces essay contest for kids

In an effort to foster greater understanding of the marine world, SeaWorld San Diego is inviting third and fourth grade students in Southern California elementary schools to participate in its Sea Turtle Essay Contest. The essay must convey the importance of sea turtles both in their habitat and to humans, and ways that students can help save sea turtles. SeaWorld San Diego will open Turtle Reef this summer. The new attraction will highlight up to 60 threatened or endangered sea turtle and will inform guests on how trash and pollution can affect the species. Students and guests will be able to track sea turtles in the wild as part of the attraction's Turtelink interactive touch-screen map.

Each class can submit an essay which will be judged on content, accuracy, originality, and enthusiasm. The winning classroom will receive a VIP student experience at SeaWorld San Diego and other prizes. The VIP experience will include a behind the scenes look at the park's animal care area and the animal rescue program. Runner-up classrooms will receive a SeaWorld educational assembly at their school. The SeaWorld Sea Turtle Essay Contest is now open and ends on May 3, 2011. All entries must be postmarked by May 3. For more details visit [www.SeaWorldTurtleEssay.com](http://www.SeaWorldTurtleEssay.com).

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