

RSF's Tali Rappaport earns Girl Scouting's highest honor

Tali Rappaport of Rancho Santa Fe is among the 56 local Girl Scouts who earned the prestigious Girl Scout Gold Award during 2010. Just 5.4 percent of Girl Scouts nationwide achieve this honor, the culmination of their Girl Scout Leadership Experience.



Tali Rappaport

Each Girl Scout Gold Award recipient spends two to three years completing a seven-step process that includes exploring career interests, colleges, internships and jobs. It culminates when the girl plans, executes and evaluates a major service project based on a personal passion that addresses the needs of a specific community.

Rappaport created a memorial library for the Jenna Druck Foundation, a non-profit organization that supports families that have lost a child. After raising nearly \$3,000, she purchased over 200 new books and created memorial book plates featuring her original painting.

Rappaport, a third-generation Girl Scout, belonged to Troop 1037, led by Diane Bock. During 12 years of Girl Scouting, she

was a delegate to the national Girl Scout convention, a member of the councilwide Teen Advisory Board, and a counselor at a Missouri Girl Scout camp serving girls living with disabilities.

"I feel proud to have followed the progression of leadership in Girl Scouts from Brownies all the way to the Ambassador level," Rappaport said. "It helped me gain confidence in myself and my organizational and leadership abilities."

The recent Canyon Crest Academy High School graduate will enroll at the University of Puget Sound in the fall. She plans to major in psychology, then attend graduate school and become an occupational therapist.

Mark and Lori Rappaport are Tali's parents. Lori serves on the Girl Scouts, San Diego-Imperial Council board of directors and leads Troop 1109.

Tali received her Gold Award during a ceremony at the Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center in University City. Former Girl Scout Beth Burns, San Diego State University's women's basketball coach, delivered the keynote address and met privately with the Gold Awardees to exchange ideas about leadership and perseverance. SDSU hosts Girl Scout nights at home games, and Coach Burns and her team volunteer at Girl Scouts' New Day 5K and other council events. Visit www.sdgirlscouts.org

RSF Fire District reminds residents to leave the fireworks to professionals

With the 4th of July just around the corner, the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District reminds everyone that fireworks, an exciting and traditional part of Independence Day celebrations, are best left to the experts. Legal firework displays done by professional pyrotechnicians can be viewed throughout San Diego County. However, aside from those professionally done shows, all fireworks are illegal in San Diego County. This includes, but is not limited to, firecrackers, torpedoes, sky-rockets, Roman candles, sparklers, snap caps, and poppers.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, thousands of people, including children and teens, are injured every year while using consumer fireworks. Even something as "harmless" as a sparkler, which burns at over 1,200 degrees Fahrenheit, can cause critical injuries and pose a serious fire hazard. Due to the high risk of injury and fire presented by these items, possessing fireworks is a misdemeanor and is punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000, imprisonment of up to one year, or both.

—Submitted by the RSF Fire District

Harvest mouse found locally tests positive for hantavirus

A harvest mouse trapped during routine monitoring in the RSF/Carmel Valley area tested positive for hantavirus, the San Diego County Department of Environmental Health announced recently.

"We want to remind people to be aware that hantavirus is here in the county," said Jack Miller, director of the DEH. "It is important to keep mice out of houses, garages and sheds to prevent infection."

"People contract hantavirus by inhaling the virus, often when they are cleaning

up rodent droppings and nesting materials," he said. "Wet cleaning methods should be used to prevent inhaling the virus."

County Vector Control officials randomly sample wild mice to look for hantavirus.

Hantavirus is carried by wild rodents, primarily deer and harvest mice.

The virus is found in rodent droppings and urine and can be inhaled by humans when it becomes airborne, according to the DEH. — City News Service

Fire crews contain area blaze

On Tuesday, June 29, at 11:18 a.m., firefighters from the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District (RSFFPD) responded to a reported vegetation fire in the 7900 block of Artesian Road. The 2.2 acre fire was quickly contained. While there are residential structures in the area, none were immediately threatened. Crews remained on the scene for several hours to make sure there were no hot spots or flare-ups. The cause is still under investigation.

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Ronald Reagan Presidential Library acquires painting by RSF's Connie McCoy

The Ronald Reagan Presidential Library recently acquired an 18" x 24", enhanced giclee of the image of Reagan's funeral procession. Local artist and RSF resident Connie McCoy painted the image in 2004 while actually listening to the funeral on the radio.

McCoy says, "At the time of President Reagan's death, I was at a ranch in the Sierra Foothills, where President Reagan would frequently visit and ride horses. There was no television at the ranch house, so when the funeral started to be broadcast over the radio, we sat down to listen to it. As the cadence of the drum rolls continued I picked up the Fresno Bee newspaper and noted there was a fuzzy photo on the front page of President Reagan's casket being pulled on a cart by horses with many people walking beside it. I grabbed a canvas and immediately started painting the image and continued to paint during the entire funeral service. It was my catharsis or way of working out the grief and emotion from our nation losing this wonderful man and leader. Of course, I changed the image quite a bit and edited out traffic, street signs, and photographers to make the image more poignant."

The original 9" x 12", oil painting named "Reagan" sold immediately, so McCoy had a limited edition of giclees (high resolution, color prints on canvas) made to support additional interest. Because of the upcoming Centennial Celebration at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Library, McCoy was motivated to donate the framed, enhanced giclee.

The registrar, Jennifer Torres, at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library, explained that the permanent galleries are being renovated so they are closed to the public and won't be open until February. They are now in the process of determining



Connie McCoy with her painting of Reagan's Funeral Procession.

which artifacts will be displayed in the new museum and are delighted to have the piece as part of their collection.

McCoy is a long-time member of the Rancho Santa Fe Art Guild and has exhibited locally for years. She is a member of Oil Painters of America and presently is studying with Jeff Watts at the Watts Atelier. A limited edition of giclees are available in the original 9" x 12" size and the enhanced 18" x 24" size. For more information, call the Rancho Santa Fe Art Gallery at 858-759-3545.

RSF Fire District to break ground for new fire station

On Thursday, July 1, at 4 p.m., the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District (RSFFPD) will break ground at 6424 El Apajo, the site of the new Fairbanks Ranch Fire Station. On hand at the groundbreaking will be the Fire District Board of Directors James Ashcraft, Thomas Hickerson, Nancy Hillgren, Randall Malin, and John C. Tanner, as well as the District Fire Chief Nicholas Pavone. Representatives from Fairbanks Ranch Communities, Jeff Katz Architecture, Ledor Construction, Inc., and Shapouri Civil Engineering will also participate in the groundbreaking.

The RSFFPD first opened the Fairbanks Ranch Fire Station, commonly referred to as Station 3, in 1984 in the community of Fairbanks Ranch, located across the road from the Helen Woodward Animal Hospital. In February of this year, this station was torn down to make way for a new fire station. Since then, firefighters have occupied temporary facilities, located behind Horizon Christian Fellowship Church, comprised of a doublewide trailer, which serves as their living quarters, and a portable shelter enclosure, which houses firefighting apparatus and equipment.

Unlike the old fire station, the new building is designed to the State's Essential Services Facilities Standard, which requires construction to withstand a significant seismic event. The new fire station will be located on a 0.86 acre site and consist of a two-story, 10,928-square foot building with a two-bay (double stacked) drive-through apparatus room, workshop, laundry, clean room and captain's office located on the first floor. The second floor living quarters include 6 firefighter dorms, a day room, a kitchen and dining area, a study, and a fitness room. Three firefighters will be assigned to this station on a daily basis with one fire engine and one brush engine.

Home sales, prices up in San Diego County in May

By City News Service

Home sales in San Diego County rose 19.6 percent in May, compared to the same month a year ago, while prices increased 15.3 percent during the same period, a real estate information service reported recently.

A total of 3,879 homes changed hands locally last month, compared to 3,242 in May 2009, according to La Jolla-based MDA DataQuick. The median price of a home in San Diego County in May was \$340,000, compared to \$295,000 in the same month a year ago.

A total of 22,270 new and resale houses and condos sold in the six-county Southern California region — Los

Angeles, Riverside, San Diego, Ventura, San Bernardino and Orange counties — in May, according to DataQuick.

That was up 9.7 percent from 20,299 in April, and up 7.2 percent from 20,775 in May 2009.

May sales throughout Southern California were the highest for that month since 2006.

According to DataQuick, the combination of tax incentives and low mortgage rates helped stoke sales in mid- to high-end areas, where distress has increased over the last year and sellers have become more motivated and realistic.

"The important thing to remember, though, is that what we saw in May was partly driven by government stim-

ulus," said John Walsh, MDA DataQuick's president.

"In the second half of the year the market will have to stand on its own again, barring new forms of government involvement," he said. "Prices will be tested if there's any sudden move by lenders to release a flood of distressed properties."

The median price for a Southern California home was \$305,000 last month, up 7 percent from \$285,000 in April, and up 22.5 percent from \$249,000 in May 2009, according to DataQuick.

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RANCHO SANTA FE

Ceremony marks groundbreaking for \$4.5 million fire station project

By Union-Tribune

Originally published July 3, 2010 at 10 p.m., updated July 4, 2010 at 12:03 a.m.

RANCHO SANTA FE — Firefighters stationed in double-wide trailers are now closer to getting into a more permanent residence after a groundbreaking ceremony for a new fire station Thursday.

The new Station 3, which is one of four stations in the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District, will cost about \$4.5 million and will be completed in May 2011, Fire Chief Nick Pavone said.

The firefighters moved to the trailers after the demolition of the old station, which was built in 1984 and did not meet earthquake standards. "The older (fire) engine barely fit in the station anymore," Pavone said.

Plans call for the new building, at 6424 El Apajo, to be two stories and nearly 11,000 square feet.

It will be equipped with one fire engine, one brush engine and three firefighters daily.

The majority of the project will be paid for through a tax on new development.

Find this article at:

<http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/2010/jul/03/ceremony-marks-groundbreaking-for-45-million-fire>

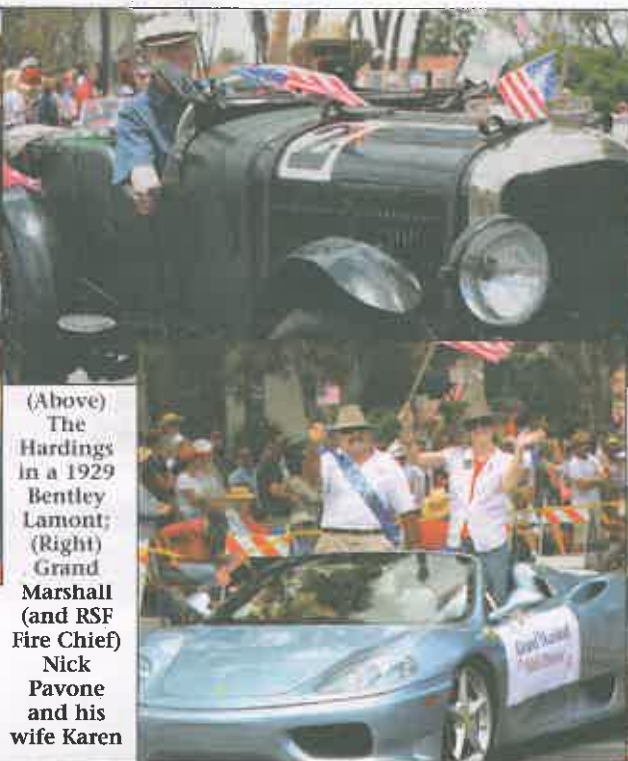
Check the box to include the list of links referenced in the article.



Grayson Gaither, Kenneth Aboussie
Photos/Jon Clark



State Assemblyman
Martin Garrick



(Above)
The
Hardings
in a 1929
Bentley
Lamont;
(Right)
Grand
Marshall
(and RSF
Fire Chief)
Nick
Pavone
and his
wife Karen



A mother and her daughter wave from atop a tractor bucket.



(Above) A 1940 Super Delux Convertible was one of many old cars in the parade; (Right) Jody Bray, Col. William Schlosser (USAF Retired), Bette Cope

**RSF July 4
Parade
continued**



Rotarian of the Year Heather Manion



RSF Parade Princess Nicole Kim, a student at Canyon Crest Academy



Ally Wise drove the RSF Business Roundtable car



Mel Anderson
Rosemary Nauert



Bruce Henderson



Parade participant



(Above) Jack Dorsee on his 1946 Case Tractor; (Left) Celebrants blow bubbles into the crowd

ASSOCIATION BUZZ

Looking forward to serving the community

By Tom Lang, RSF Association president



Tom Lang
Santa Fe Association.

I am honored to serve as president of the Rancho Santa Fe Association. I would like to welcome our new board members Anne Feighner, Roxana Foxx, and Jack Dorsee. I would also like to personally acknowledge and thank the recently retired directors Kim Higgins, Bill Beckman and Tim Sullivan. It has been a pleasure working with them over the last few years and it is my desire to continue the positive and productive environment that has been established on our board and in our community. It is my intent as presi-

dent to work with the board of directors and the Association staff in executing what I term "the basics." The basics include interpreting and enforcing our protective covenant and bylaws, maintaining the Association's high level of service to its members, and planning for the future by exploring new ideas that may benefit the Association membership. In the current uncertain economic environment it is imperative that we accomplish these basics in a fiscally prudent manner—in other words, without taking on any new debt on behalf of the Association.

In order to formulate our plans for this year the board has planned its annual two-day retreat. The retreat has been set for Sept. 2 and Sept. 3. As soon as the location is established we

will post the information in the *Review* and on the bulletin boards.

At the retreat the board will review all projects currently in the works and any new potential projects. At the conclusion of the meeting the board will prioritize all of the projects. The result will be a plan that will address the short- and long-term needs of the community.

Prior to the retreat the Association board continues to actively work on multiple projects. These include working on a new home for the Patrol, park renovation, and the ongoing under grounding project.

I am looking forward to serving the community as president. My wife, Linda, and I and have lived in Rancho Santa Fe for 11 years. We love the community and its quality of life.



The 2010-2011 RSF Association Board of Directors: (Back row, l-r) Deb Plummer, Jack Queen, Tom Lang, Roxana Foxx; (Front row, l-r) Anne Feighner, Dick Doughty, Jack Dorsee. Photo/Jon Clark

The Covenant has survived for over 80 years. I know the current board will do its best to preserve and enhance our community for the coming

year.

I will continue to inform the community via "The Buzz" articles. However, please feel free to

provide me, any board member or Association staff member with questions or input.



A rendering of the planned new station.

RSF Fire District breaks ground on new station

On July 1, the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District (RSFFPD) broke ground at 6424 El Apajo, the site of the new Fairbanks Ranch Fire Station. On hand at the groundbreaking were: Unlike the old fire station, the new building is designed to the State's Essential Services Facilities Standard, which requires construction to withstand a significant seismic event. (Left, l-r) Jeff Katz, Russell Hamilton, John Tanner, Jim Ashcraft, Nancy Hillgren, Randy Malin, Fire Chief Nick Pavone. Photos/Jon Clark



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Profile

Tonya Mantooth

RSF resident makes her mark producing award-winning commercials, documentaries and soon a feature film in San Diego

By Arthur Lightbourn

Eight-time Emmy Award winner Tonya Mantooth is carving an impressive niche for herself in the film and video world, just down the road a bit from Hollywood, in San Diego.

Mantooth, whose father was a Seminole Native American, is the owner and executive producer of Mantooth Productions, a film and video production company which she launched in 2007, culminating 15 years in the business.

Show biz definitely runs in the family.

Her two brothers, Randy and Don, were contract actors with Universal Studios. Older brother Randy starred in the hit 1970s TV series, "Emergency" and, most recently, in the feature film "Bold Native."

We interviewed the producer in her home in Rancho Santa Fe where she lives with her entrepreneur

husband of five years Dale Strack, and her daughter, Stephanie, 19, and her son, Alex, 9.

Mantooth was born in El Campo, Texas. Her father was a pipeline construction worker in the '50s and '60s, so she and her two brothers and sister were "born all across the country—and I was the last one, born in Texas," she said.

"My oldest brother, by the time he went into high school, lived in, I think, 42 states."

The family eventually moved to Santa Barbara, where her mother decided that was the place she wanted to stay — Mantooth's parents subsequently divorced.

"But I was lucky and got to grow up in Santa Barbara and just be in one house. Even though it was far from Los Angeles, there was a lot of acting families there and both my brothers were in local and regional theater and I was too."

She was also drawn to

music.

"My mom had a piano in the house and somebody needed to play it and everybody voted that would be me and I was the one who stayed with the lessons.

At San Diego State University, in 1981, she earned a B.A. in business administration and music.

Music, understandable, but why business?

"That's an interesting question," she said. "Actually my best friend's father, a very successful businessman, was a big influence of mine because [from age 3] I had grown up without a father. He encouraged me and spent a lot of time working me through career goals."

Asked what was the best advice he gave her, she said, "It was to treat others the way you want not only to be treated, but want to be remembered. That would definitely be one of my philosophies. I always try to keep that in mind when I hire people and people work for me."

After college, she sang and played professionally on the road for three years, then settling back in San Diego, she continued her singing and piano gigs while entering the business world via film and video as marketing manager for Learning Forum, where she oversaw the development and launch of an educational series for teenagers.

Finding her stride, she moved to CRM Films where she used her business savvy to manage the direct marketing of the company's inventory of 200 business films and to executive produce new corporate films.

In the mid-'90s, after serving as a producer with 4Square Productions, she co-founded The Dakota Group with partners, producing commercials, public service announcements, documentaries and corporate videos, followed by a stint with Aviatech, an Internet advertising agency in La Jolla.



Tonya Mantooth
Photos/Jon Clark

Through the early 2000s, Mantooth collected Emmys for several public service spots she produced for United Way and YWCA, a TV spot for Red Cross, and an aviation documentary.

Mantooth and New Jersey-born Dale Strack met when she was assigned to produce commercials and marketing videos for his 'Help You Sell Real Estate' franchise company.

He was impressed her professionalism and integrity.

"She was fun to work with and we laughed a lot," he said, "and I could trust her when she gave me advice."

"We worked together for about four months," he recalled, "and as soon as that job was over I asked her to marry me."

"And he did," Mantooth laughed. "On our first date."

Strack is currently writing a motivational book titled *Thought Sculpting* about "creating in life what-

imagery (CGI) projects, a television spot for the Port of San Diego, and a film short on the dangers of chemical exposure to firefighters produced for the Orange County-based medical technology company Masimo Corporation.

She is currently in pre-production for a psychological thriller feature film called "Killer Holiday," to be shot along historic Route 66.

She also has been busy collecting new Emmys for car commercials and a documentary on the history and heritage of San Diego Bay.

"I love bringing a fresh approach to things visually, but bringing it together with music really ties it together. The music is as big a part as the visuals."

She maintains a production studio and editing suite with a staff of four in the Golden Triangle.

"San Diego can be challenging for a filmmaker," she acknowledged, "because LA is such a hub for the



Tonya Mantooth and her brother, Randolph Mantooth, filming "A Silent Killer" in RSF. The video project presents the dangers of carbon monoxide and cyanide exposure to firefighters.

ever you want using your thoughts to do it." The book initially will be marketed via the Internet.

In 2006, Mantooth formed her own company, Mantooth Productions, producing national and regional commercials and documentaries for ad agencies and corporations.

Most recently, she produced two large-scale animated computer-generated

industry."

So when she is specifically working on film projects, she spends time in LA where she works with her network of colleagues.

"The benefit of being in San Diego is you're so close to the industry hub in LA, you can easily tap into it when necessary."

Quick Facts

Name: Tonya Mantooth

Distinction: Eight-time Emmy award-winner Tonya Mantooth is the owner and executive producer of Mantooth Productions, a San Diego film and video production company specializing in corporate and public service films, documentaries, commercials and soon a feature film.

Resident of: Rancho Santa Fe

Born: El Campo, Texas

Education: B.A. in business administration and music, San Diego State University, 1981.

Family: She and her entrepreneur husband Dale Strack have been married five years. Two children: Stephanie, 19, a business major at Sonoma State University, and son, Alex, 9, a student at Solana Santa Fe School. Family pet: Mister Schatzy, a miniature schnauzer.

Interests: Playing piano and long conversations with her husband.

Favorite Film: "When Harry Met Sally," 1989 comedy written by Nora Ephron and directed by Rob Reiner.

Philosophy: "Humor can pretty much soften most of the blows of life and if you can find a way to laugh, you can pretty much survive anything."

Fairgrounds greenway bill fails in Assembly committee

Jonathan Horn
 Sen. Christine Kehoe's push for a fairgrounds greenway got a red light from the State Assembly's Agricultural Committee at its June meeting.
 That means for now that the Del Mar greenway will not have to construct a 100-foot-wide environmental buffer west of Jimmy Karte Boulevard once it decides to implement its master plan. The bill had passed the Senate earlier this year, and then the Assembly's natural resources committee June 28 a 6-3 vote. However, a motion made to approve the greenway plan at the agricultural committee meeting was not seconded, effectively killing the bill.
 "We're very disappointed," Kehoe said. "We still think the greenway is an important public improvement that we would like to see implemented, but clearly we need to take another approach and we're going to figure out how to do that."
 The 22nd District Agricultural Association, which manages the fairgrounds, had been primarily campaigning against the greenway, arguing it would financially cripple operations. Tim Fennell said the Assembly agricultural committee's concerns were more in line with those of the fairgrounds, which is likely why the measure didn't move forward.
 Kehoe, who adjusted many aspects of the bill to accommodate concerns, was aiming to create a space dedicated to natural habitat with pedestrian access. She said this was especially important given the fairgrounds' proposed expansion as well as Gov. Arnold

Schwarzenegger's office being open to the idea of selling the property.
 The fairgrounds master plan, which calls for a hotel and three new exhibit halls large enough for rooftop soccer fields, proposes a greenway of its own, but with stretches ranging from 105 feet in width down to 30 feet, according to a district-supplied map.
 Kehoe said that version, which she said is really a 10-foot sidewalk with "bland screening vegetation," is inadequate.
 Fennell has long maintained that the 22nd DAA is committed to environmental stewardship.
 "We still share the senator's passion for the greenway and the environment and we're going to continue working with her in those efforts," he said. "We do take the environment and greenway very seriously and we look forward to working with the senator in future."
 Kehoe said a 100-foot-wide buffer is standard for many projects in sensitive areas, but not always required. If the greenway of 100 feet in uniform width had passed, the fairgrounds would have had to adjust some of its proposed expansion's blueprints to accommodate the larger setback.
 "We still have an issue with that," Fennell said last month when asked if the adjustments were adequate. "It still impacts our ability to operate and put in the facilities that need to be put in."
 The original version of the greenway bill mandated the fairgrounds have the 100-foot greenway completed by 2014 to coincide with

See BILL, page 26

Sprinkler system keeps fire damage to minimum at Fairbanks Ranch Country Club


On Monday, July 5, at 10:21 p.m., firefighters from the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District (RSFFPD), as part of a mutual aid response with San Diego Fire, responded to a reported structure fire in the 14000 block of San Dieguito Road. After forcing entry into the cart barn at the Fairbanks Ranch Country Club and Golf Course, fire fighters discovered that the fire was being held to two golf carts by the fire sprinkler system. Firefighters were able to

quickly extinguish the flames. Damage was estimated to be approximately \$25,000. San Diego Fire is investigating the cause of the incident.
 "This incident clearly demonstrates the importance of properly working fire sprinkler systems," said Rancho Santa Fe Fire Chief Nick Pavone. "If not for the sprinkler system activating, the fire would have been much worse and the building could have been a total loss."

Information wanted from victims of phony rental scheme

Dolores Woodson advertised a room for rent in a La Jolla home and required deposits from would-be-renters. The problem was she was a tenant, not the owner of the house, and she took multiple deposits without ever renting the room.
 Woodson, also known as Dee Woodson, age 56, now stands convicted of grand theft following her recent guilty plea in San Diego Superior Court. Pursuant to a plea agreement, Woodson made full refunds of the deposits to the four known victims totaling \$2,735, and was ordered to pay a fine of \$1,000. Woodson was also placed on three years' probation.
 The San Diego City Attorney's Office filed charges against Woodson in 2009 following an investigation by the City

Attorney's Consumer and Environmental Protection Unit. The investigation revealed that Woodson advertised the room for rent on craigslist.org in late 2008. The victims claimed Woodson took their deposits and then gave excuses as to why they could not move into the home. "We will continue to prosecute all those involved in the phony rental scam business," said Deputy City Attorney Mike Rivo, who prosecuted the case.
 The City Attorney's Office believes there still may be victims of Woodson's rental scam. Anyone who may be a victim or who has information about potential victims should contact the City Attorney's Consumer Help Line at (619) 533-5600.



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— Belle Marie Winery in Escondido has its summer pre-release party from 2 to 4 p.m. July 17 in the Barrel Room. Favorite new wines are being served at no charge. Open house format so stay as long as you can. No food served. Try the newest and the best. Call (760) 796-7557 for more information.

— Meritage Wine Market in Encinitas presents a Napa Valley Vintners Tasting from 6 to 8:30 p.m. July 17. Food from nearby Bentley's. Wine names like Lail, Elyse, Frank Family and many more top quality wineries are expected to pour. Cost is \$40 per person. Call (760) 479-2500 for more information.

— Wilson Creek Winery in Temecula brings Hollywood U2, the best U2 Tribute Band, to its stage from 7 to 10 p.m. July 17. Cost is \$49 each, \$44 for club members. Make contact at www.wilsoncreekwinery.com.

— Mille Fleurs in the heart of Rancho Santa Fe is hosting an elegant dinner with award-winning Fritz Wines of Napa Valley on July 20. Meet winemaker Clay Fritz. Five-course dinner cost is \$95. Call (619) 221-8024 for more information.

— Soro's Mediterranean Grill in Old Town Temecula has a fun-filled night at its first Fedora Hat Night at 6 p.m. July 21. Classic Mediterranean flavors will be paired with wines, with live music to perfect the atmosphere of Fedora hats and 1930s-style outfits. RSVP at (951) 587-8082.

— Carlsbad Wine Merchants has their Wine, Music and New Menu rockin' on Friday nights. Small bite food offerings are heavy on luscious salads. First music set starts at 6 p.m. Call (760) 804-9994 for this week's lineup.

— Canapes in San Marcos has outdoor entertainment in the patio with a Frank Sinatra Review from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. July 24. Enjoy unique dining selections, smart wine list and great music at James Allyn's Canapes. RSVP at a table at (760) 510-2088.

Frank Mangio is a renowned wine connoisseur certified by Wine Spectator. His library can be viewed at www.tasteofwinetv.com. (Average Google certified 900 visits per day) He is one of the top five wine commentators on the Web. Reach him at mangiomp@aol.com.

New Rancho Santa Fe fire station breaks ground

RANCHO SANTA FE — The Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District broke ground at 6424 El Apajo, the site of the new Fairbanks Ranch Fire Station, on July 1. On hand at the groundbreaking were Fire District board of directors James Ashcraft, Thomas Hickerson, Nancy Hillgren, Randall Malin, and John C. Tanner, as well as the District Fire Chief Nicholas Pavone. Representatives from Fairbanks Ranch Communities, Jeff Katz Architecture, Leducor Construction, Inc., and Shapouri Civil Engineering.

The RSFFPD first opened the Fairbanks Ranch Fire Station, commonly referred to as Station 3, in 1984 in the community of Fairbanks Ranch, located across the road from the Helen Woodward Animal Hospital. In February of this year, this station was torn down to make way for a new fire station. Since then, firefighters have occupied temporary facilities, located behind Horizon Christian



MAKE IT HAPPEN From left, Jeff Katz of Jeff Katz Architecture, Russell Hamilton of Leducor Construction, Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District Board of Directors John Tanner, James Ashcraft, Nancy Hillgren, Randy Malin, and Fire Chief Nick Pavone gather to officially break ground on Rancho Santa Fe's newest new Fairbanks Ranch fire station July 1. *Courtesy photo*

Fellowship Church, comprised of a doublewide trailer, which serves as their living quarters, and a portable shelter enclosure, which houses firefighting apparatus and equipment.

Unlike the old fire sta-

tion, the new building is designed to the state's Essential Services Facilities Standard, which requires construction to withstand a significant seismic event. The new fire station will be built on a 0.86-acre site and con-

sist of a two-story, 10,928-square-foot building with a two-bay drive-through apparatus room, workshop, laundry, clean room and captain's office on the first floor. The second floor living quarters include six firefight-

er dorms, a day room, a kitchen and dining area, a study and a fitness room.

Three firefighters will be assigned to this station on a daily basis with one fire engine and one brush engine.

SEA NOTES

CONTINUED FROM B12

list:

1. Some sort of wetsuit. For me, it goes directly from a two-thirds fullsuit in winter to a top with sleeves and trunks once the water passes the mid 60s.

2. While I carry my boards inside of my car, that doesn't always work, so some kind of hard or soft surf rack, or, more commonly used these days, a strap and a towel, will get the boards onto the roof.

3. Backpack.

4. Sunscreen and hat.

5. Ear plugs. Known as "surfer's ear," most surfers who surf in moderate and cold climates to Southern California most of the year, will have bony growth in their ears after about five years. When this gets bad enough, an operation is necessary. Apparently, it's not the water, but the cold wind moving over the surface of the ear that can eventually seal off the canal. This can be slowed by the use of any number of earplugs — the best being those custom ones from the ear doctor. I personally like Doc Scott's Pro Plugs, which allow you to hear while keeping the ears warm. Since I tend to lose those, however, I usually buy silicone, waterproof plugs, found in the medical isles of most any drug store.

6: Hat and sunscreen: With vitamin D deficiency a big



SURF ESSENTIALS Some items (other than a surfboard) to get you there. *Photo by Chris Ahrens*

topic these days, there is some talk about not using as much sunscreen as we once thought necessary. However, if you are a mad dog or an Englishman, or simply insist on going into the mid-day sun, please cover up. The rubber visor in the photo cost a dollar at Michael's in Encinitas. It is waterproof, floats and does the trick.

7. Sunglasses.

8. Towel. You can do without it.

9. Board bag. I am usually in a hurry to go surfing, so don't often use a board bag, but transporting my boards to the surf has cost me more dings than actually riding waves. A must for travel.

10. Bodyboard and fins. It's humbling walking to the beach with a bodyboard, but when the surf is choppy or closed out, bodyboards are a great tool to get you out there. Also, bodyboarders tend to be far less territorial and don't take riding

waves so darned seriously.

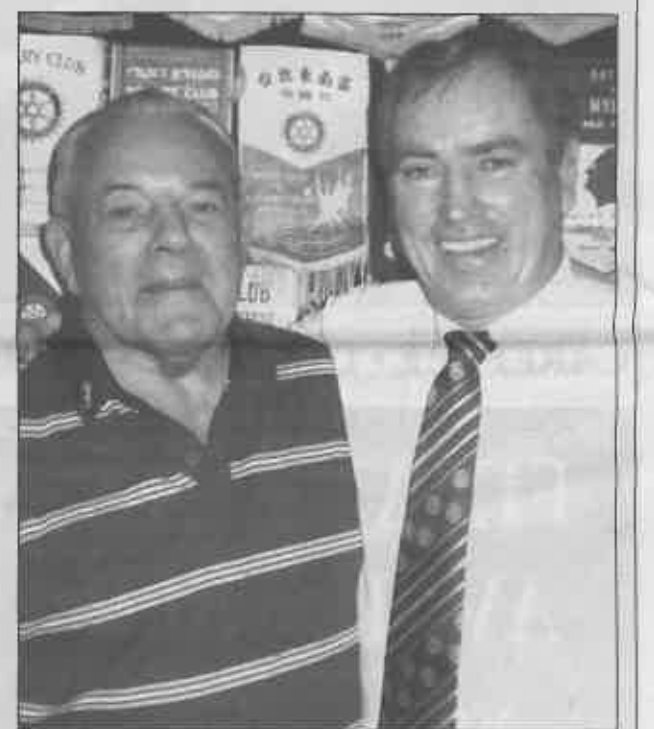
11. Bessell Ear Saver. Helps dry water in ears.

12. Power Balance Bracelet. I think it really works, offering better balance, strength and flexibility. (When was Shaq ever wrong about anything?)

That's about all I can think of for now, and even that's a lot more than when I was a sand eating gremmie with nothing but a pair of trunks and a thumb to get me to the water. Beach chairs, hibachis, binoculars, chrome coffee cups, coolers, umbrellas, motorized vehicles, paddle gloves, booties, floppy hats and paddles are accessories that, like fancy handbags, do nothing for me, but slow down the daily migration to the sand.

Keep it simple and surf.

Chris Ahrens is a surfer and author of four books on surfing. E-mail him at cahrens@coastnewsgroup.com.



GALVIN HEADS ROTARY

Above, Roger Rowe is pictured with Patrick Galvin, who was elected as president of the 51-year-old Rancho Santa Fe Rotary organization at the July 12 meeting. Rowe was there to pay his respects to Galvin, who he initially asked to become a member of the Rotary two decades ago. Galvin, who works in real estate, is a 20-year-resident of Rancho Santa Fe. The club's annual fundraising golf tournament, Swing For Kids, will be held Sept. 3 at the Del Mar Country Club and will benefit Kids Korps, San Pasqual Academy, Camp Pendleton Armed Services and the ProKids Golf Academy. Rancho Santa Fe Rotary meets Mondays at noon at The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe, 5951 Linea Del Cielo. For more information, visit ranchosantaferotary.org. *Photo by Machel Penn Shull*

FRUGAL

CONTINUED FROM B7

maybe get an extra couple of days before it goes bad.

Dear Sara: Any ideas on using up corn tortillas? I have a few packages of corn tortillas that have been given to me. I have used them to make enchiladas. Any other ideas on what I can do with them besides fry them up and make corn chips? — Imagine, Pennsylvania

Dear Imagine: You can

freeze them until you're ready to use them. You can make huevos rancheros, taquitos, fajitas, tacos, cut into strips and add it to chicken soup, enjoy them with chili or in a tortilla casserole.

Tortilla Casserole

— 1 pound ground beef, drained
— 1/2 cup onion, chopped
— 1 (15-ounce) can kernel corn, drained
— 1 (15-ounce) can black beans, rinsed and drained

— 2 cups fresh tomatoes, chopped (or 15 ounces can diced canned tomatoes)

— 1/4 cup canned jalapeno slices, chopped

— 1 (1-1/4 ounce) package taco seasoning mix

— 8 corn tortillas

— 3/4 cup sour cream

— 1/3 cup Mexican cheese blend, shredded

Topping options: chopped lettuce, tomatoes, salsa, black olives, etc. Preheat oven to 350 F. Spray 12-by-8-inch (2-quart) baking dish with nonstick cooking spray. Brown ground beef and chopped onions in

large skillet until ground beef is no longer pink. Drain grease. Return to skillet. Add corn, black beans, tomatoes, jalapenos and taco seasoning mix; mix well. Reduce heat; simmer 5 minutes. Cut each tortilla in half; place 8 halves in bottom of sprayed baking dish, overlapping slightly. Spoon half of beef mixture evenly over tortillas. Spoon sour cream over beef mixture; spread evenly. Top with remaining 8 tortilla halves and remaining beef mixture. Bake for 25 minutes. Remove from oven; sprinkle

with cheese. Cover; let stand 5 minutes or until cheese is melted. Serve with fresh chopped lettuce, tomatoes, salsa, black olives, etc.

Optional: Use lean ground beef and low fat sour cream and cheese.

Makes 6 servings.

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

Cart barn fire at Fairbanks Ranch

RANCHO SANTA FE — Firefighters from the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District were called to a structure fire July 5 at 10:21 p.m., in the 14000 block of San Dieguito Road.

After forcing entry into the golf cart storage facility at the Fairbanks Ranch Country Club and Golf Course, firefighters discovered that the fire had damaged two golf carts, but was kept in check by the fire sprinkler system.

Firefighters were able to quickly extinguish the flames. Damage was estimated to be approximately \$25,000. San Diego Fire is investigating the cause of the incident.

"This incident clearly demonstrates the importance of properly working fire sprinkler systems," said Rancho Santa Fe Fire Chief Nick Pavone. "If not for the sprinkler system activating, the fire would have been much worse and the building could have been a total loss."

Toastmasters achieves Distinguished Club status

RANCHO SANTA FE — Rancho Santa Fe Toastmasters District 5 was honored with the title "Distinguished Club." This was accomplished by having two members complete their Competent Communicator manual of 10 speeches, have all officers complete required training, recruit our new members and have 20 members in the club.

Because the club earned recognition as a Distinguished, Toastmasters World Headquarters will send club President Laura Akers a ribbon for display on the club banner and a congratulatory letter. The club's officers also will be invited to attend the Club Leadership Luncheon held during the International Convention on August 1, where they will be recognized for the club's achievement.

Dave Carroll, Toastmasters District 5 governor, and Woodrow Wilson, Northern Division governor, were among the Toastmaster dignitaries attending a celebratory meeting at the Rancho Santa Fe Community Center on June 29 to recognize this achievement. Toastmaster meetings are Tuesdays from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Rancho Santa Fe Community Center. Contact Laura Akers at (858) 876-0666 or lakersrsf@mail.com.



BREAK IT DOWN Two-year-old Sebastian Gonzales and Kayla Fritsvold, 4, attempt a new form of team break dancing. Photo by Bianca Kaplanek



FAMILY FUN Del Mar residents Ivan Bajdarvanov and his 4-year-old twins, Vanessa, left, and Mia, enjoy some family time as The Smart Brothers entertain the crowd during a July 8 Concerts at the Cove performance at Fletcher Cove Park. Photo by Bianca Kaplanek

Solana Beach Thursday concert series continues

By Bianca Kaplanek

SOLANA BEACH — Despite overcast skies and a chilly breeze, music fans young and old filled Fletcher Cove Park on July 8 to listen

to the acoustic sounds of The Smart Brothers.

The Carlsbad band was the fifth of 11 performances scheduled for the third annual Concerts at the Cove series,

a free, community-oriented event sponsored by Belly Up Tavern, the Solana Beach Community Foundation and the city.

Concerts will be held

Thursdays through Aug. 19 from 6 to 7:45 p.m. Remaining performers this month are Alyssa Jacey on July 22 and Josh Damigo on July 29.

Scheduled to appear in

August are Joanie Mendenhall, Jasmine Commerce and Alex Woodard on Aug. 5, Aug. 12 and Aug. 19,

TURN TO **CONCERT ON A18**

Rescued black bear cub makes Julian his home

ALPINE — For seven years, Lions, Tigers & Bears, the animal sanctuary located in Alpine, has rescued injured, abandoned and abused wild game, mostly big cats, but they have never had a bear — until now. That fact changed over the holiday weekend when founder Bobbi Brink received an urgent call from California Fish & Game, asking for her help.

The yearling black bear, weighing 60 pounds and named "Liberty" by the children of Fish & Game Field Agent Kevin Brennan who rescued the animal, was brought to Lions, Tigers & Bears on July 4 to help save the young bear's life.

Every year, as yearlings leave their mothers, many wander into campgrounds where severely threatens their chances of survival. Brennan, who captured



OH MY! Lions, Tigers & Bears, the big-animal sanctuary in Alpine, is seeking \$100,000 in donations within the next few weeks to build an expanded enclosure for Liberty, the young black bear rescued from the Mt. Baldy area. For more information or to make a donation, visit the Lions, Tigers & Bears website at www.lionstigersandbears.org. Courtesy photo

Liberty at the Mankar campground in the Mt. Baldy area, said visitors who think it's a good idea to feed these young animals don't realize they're signing a death warrant for the animal.

"A fed bear is a dead bear," said Brennan, urging the public to use restraint. "Enjoy seeing the bears, take a picture, but please don't interact with them or feed them."

Once dependent on humans for food, these bears continue to frequent the campgrounds and become a danger to campers. At this point, Fish & Game is called in, but the bears cannot be relocated or rehabilitated, and the only solution is euthanasia — with numbers reaching anywhere from six to 12 young bears euthanized

TURN TO **BEAR ON A18**

Local skater heads cross-country on his board for charity

By Alyx Sarlol

RANCHO SANTA FE — While most college students spend their summer break relaxing by the pool or hanging out with friends, a group of skateboarders are making the most of their vacation — all in the name of a good cause.

Armed with their trusty skateboards, 20-year-old Ari Mannis and four others officially embarked July 12 on their highly anticipated Skate Across the USA, which is taking place to raise money for charity.

The group has two sponsors, Subsonic Skateboard Company and GFH Boards, and they're asking for individual donations to help them reach their goal.

They will be longboarding relay-style from coast to coast — nearly 3,000 miles total — in support of San

Diego Youth Services and ClubXcite, both of which benefit at-risk youth.

"The donations will be used to provide children with consistent and positive mentoring services by ClubXcite mentors," said Mannis, who mentors with the program that is run by his close friend, Stefan Hochfilzer.

The team's goal is to raise \$20,000 through the trip that will take them on a pre-planned route from Newport, Ore., to New York. The group hopes to cover 100 to 150 miles each day and will sleep in tents at RV parks and campgrounds along the way.

"Each one of us will be skating 30 miles a day on a specialty board from Subsonic that's made for long distance

riding," Mannis said. "I've skated well over 50 miles in a day before, but never back to back. It should be interesting."



ARI MANNIS

Skate Across the USA riders will be filmed as they travel across the country to create a documentary once the trip is completed. During the course of the trip, the team will also be blogging to keep people updated on their whereabouts and how they're doing.

"We're going to try and post as many updates as we can," Mannis said. "Not just for people who want to follow the trip, but for us too, so we can always remember it."

Although Mannis' Skate Across the USA concept was not originally planned as a

trip for charity, he jumped at the chance to proceed in the name of a good cause when it was suggested he do so by Hochfilzer.

Through their experience mentoring at-risk youth in San Diego, Mannis and Hochfilzer arranged for proceeds to support ClubXcite mentors at San Diego Youth Services, which is a nonprofit organization.

"Hopefully we'll start a trend and people will follow in our footsteps by doing something they love and supporting good causes at the same time," Mannis said.

Follow along with Mannis and his team of skaters online at www.skateacrossusa.com. Donations can also be made on the site and will go directly to San Diego Youth Services.

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JULY 16, 2010

THISWEEK

FUNDAMENTAL
 The Library is reporting good news in hard times, as the economic downturn leads more children than ever to sign up for summer reading programs **A3**

WELCOME!
 New leaders take their seats on the Rancho Santa Fe Association's board of directors **B1**

FOURTH FUN
 People around the Ranch area celebrated Independence Day with a parade, picnics and patriotic shows **B3**

INSIDE
 TWO SECTIONS, 44 PAGES

- Calendar B4
- Classifieds B15
- Comics B17
- Consumer Reports B8
- Crossword B17
- Crime A10
- Eye on the Coast A4
- Frugal Living B7
- Hit the Road A8
- Horoscope B17
- Lick the Plate B6
- Machef's Ranch A16
- Odd Files A3
- Opinion A4
- Pot of the Week A18
- Second Opinion A19
- Small Talk B4
- Taste of Wine B7
- Who's News? B6

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VOICE FOR THE CAUSE Rancho Santa Fe resident Susan Foster, MSW, is a medical social worker, writer and firefighter advocate. In 2004 she was honored as "Firefighter for Life" by the San Diego Fire Department for her efforts to advocate for the health and safety of firefighters in the wake of an increasing number of cell towers being placed on fire stations by local government. Today, Foster challenges Congress to repeal the 1996 Telecommunications Act Sec. 704, which she says violates freedom of speech by forbidding the public to complain about health effects relating to cell tower radiation. *Photo by Lillian Cox*

Ranch woman fights wireless industry to reduce health risks

Local activist works to keep keep cell towers off fire stations, claiming danger from radiation

By Lillian Cox

RANCHO SANTA FE — As peers marched for women's rights and against the Vietnam War in Washington, D.C., in 1972, Susan Foster quietly accepted a position as a legislative aide in the office of Congressman William J. Keating, R-Ohio. She was 21. "I was told that I would be the first female legislative aide to a Republican member of the House of Representatives," she recalls with pride. "My first week will always be remembered as one that was exciting and memorable to this day."

A highlight was the weekly legislative meeting in the offices of House Speaker Gerald R. Ford. That is, until Foster learned that despite passage of the Civil Rights Bill eight years earlier, Ford barred women from attending the meeting.

With support of male aides in Keating's office, Foster decided to go anyway.

"The first thing I remember is how plush the carpet felt beneath my feet as we entered through heavy wooden doors that were wide open to accom-

modate the hundreds of aides filing in," she said. "Then two well-dressed guards moved together in one synchronized side step, blocking the doorway. 'No secretaries allowed,' I was informed." Foster explained that she was a legislative aide,

"I walked out and swore to myself that I would never again be kept from any place or any mission that I was entitled to be a part of," she said.

It is that memory that today fuels Foster's resolve to stand up to the wireless indus-

"If this were benign, why has a wireless executive living in Rancho Santa Fe sheathed his entire house in copper?"

— Susan Foster
 ACTIVIST

not a secretary, and wanted to join her colleagues.

"The arms that were folded across their chests spoke volumes, but there was one quiet sentence uttered with a heavy emphasis on each word: 'Don't. Come. Back.'"

Foster said she turned, holding her head high and squaring her shoulders.

try. She credits her strength to her late grandfather, Joe Foster Sr., a labor negotiations attorney for Walgreens in Chicago who once stood up to Jimmy Hoffa.

"You speak for those who have no voice," he told me. "That's the highest calling in life and that's what he expected of me."

Foster first learned about the dangers of cell phone towers in 1999 when a neighbor approached her while she was walking her dog.

"She asked if it was true that I was a medical social worker," Foster recalls. "Then she asked if I knew about a cell tower planned for the neighborhood."

"What's a cell tower?" I replied.

The woman explained that her husband worked for the wireless industry and would lose his job if his employer knew she was meddling in the installation of a new cell tower.

For six months, unmarked manila envelopes containing cell phone studies mysteriously found their way beneath Foster's doormat.

The information prompted her to launch a campaign against placement of the cell towers.

"We won by educating the neighborhood and getting a permit to picket at the Morgan Run Golf Club during a celebrity tournament," she said. "But we were prohibited

TURN TO **CELL** ON **A21**

Board cracks down on late dues

By Patty McCormac

RANCHO SANTA FE — Rancho Santa Fe residents who are behind in their homeowners association dues will now be subject to suspension of their membership privileges and liens on their property.

"Despite several letters requesting payment of the outstanding Association assessments and warnings of the consequences of non-payment, these property owners have failed to bring their assessments current," said Steve Comstock, chief financial officer for the Association.

Comstock said at the July 1 meeting of the Association that 50 property owners were in jeopardy. They had until July 8 at 5 p.m. to either pay up or make other arrangements with the Association.

Comstock called it "an unfortunate, but necessary step," in the effort to collect delinquent assessments for the 2009-2010 fiscal year. The amounts reflect the unpaid second and first installments and include penalties.

A list of the names of those who have not paid were given to the Associations members.

The total amount outstanding is \$72,000 he said.

The first steps in the collection process are sending letters and calling the members.

"We don't call them collection calls, we call them courtesy calls," Comstock said.

But that is not the end of collection attempts.

"We find that the squeaky wheel works," he said. "We will go away after the amount has been collected."

Director Jack Queen asked how many of the properties were occupied.

"I believe all of them

TURN TO **DUES** ON **A22**



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CELL CONTINUED FROM A1

from discussing health concerns at a public hearing because of Sec. 704 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, which states that local authorities cannot reject a request for wireless facilities based on health concerns if the facilities met the FCC's regulations concerning radiofrequency (RF) emissions.

"In short, federal law trumps local law."

Capt. Marvin Currier at Fire Station 24 in Carmel Valley saw Foster on the television and contacted her regarding his concerns about 24 antennas that were scheduled to be installed on his fire station roof.

Foster said that fire stations were targeted for cell tower placement because cities collected thousands of dollars for leasing them to wireless companies, which would seek out the locations because they are almost always built near roads with high traffic volume, thus the signals serve commuters who are frequent cell phones users.

Currier explained he had no funds for an attorney, and asked Foster if she would consider writing an appeal.

"Again, because of Sec. 704 of the Telecommunications Act, I had to write an appeal based on a safety issue and couldn't touch the health issue," she said.

"One of the wireless companies gave up, so only four antennas were placed on the station."

She added that when she advised the other wireless company that she was going to conduct a health study of firefighters, they changed the configuration of the antennas to avoid directly impacting the firefighters.

Foster's advocacy for Station 24 resulted in being inundated with e-mails from around the world from firefighters living and working beneath cell towers who complained of depression, confusion and disorientation.

In 2003, Foster began collecting lists of symptoms and stories from firefighters in Carpinteria, Calif., who had suffered since the installation of a very large cell tower beaming across their living and sleeping quarters five years earlier. Foster became so concerned she contacted Gunnar Heuser, M.D., PhD of Los Angeles, a world-renowned expert in the field of neurotoxicology. Heuser designed a study of objective neurological exams including SPECT scans of the Carpinteria firefighters' brains.

"In addition to showing brain abnormalities on the SPECT scans, the firefighters were shown to have slowed reaction time and difficulty making decisions," Foster explained. "This is the last thing you want from your first responders."

In August, Foster traveled to Boston for the International Association of Firefighters convention. There she wrote and helped introduce Resolution 15, which called for a moratorium on the placement of cell towers on fire stations. The

measure passed with support from a coalition of firefighters from the United States and Canada.

"We got the spirit of a moratorium on placing cell towers on fire stations across the U.S. and Canada, but we could not undo what was already done, and the cities continue to rent out their fire stations for revenue," Foster said. "The ideal situation in this harsh economy is to place cell towers so they are not beaming directly across the living quarters of the firefighters who eat, sleep and work at the stations for up to 72 hours at a time.

As for the fire station in Carpinteria, Nextel removed the mega tower and put in two smaller towers — one beaming north and one beaming south to cover eight lanes of traffic, Foster said. "This way the firefighters were no longer subjected to the intense RF radiation exposure, and they appear to be recovering much of their sharpness that was lost to them for years," she added.

Today, Foster is concerned with the proliferation of cell towers being placed on government buildings such as offices, animal shelters and schools as well as privately owned buildings.

The mother of three, and grandmother of two, is challenging the public to demand that Congress repeal Sec. 704 of the Telecommunications Act, which she says violates freedom of speech provided in the First Amendment.

"These are tough economic times," she said. "Landlords are compensated for allowing cell towers on their buildings but they don't have to live or work there themselves."

She adds, "If this were benign, why has a wireless executive living in Rancho Santa Fe sheathed his entire house in copper? Copper and lead are the only two metals through which RF radiation does not penetrate."

Foster cautions that prior to developing a tumor, most victims present neurological symptoms.

"The immune and central nervous system overlap more than any two systems in the body," she said. "It's a cumulative effect and depends what the dose is and the period of time exposed."

Foster recalls a three-way friendship that developed several years ago between herself and two purported victims of cell phone radiation, Mark Hart and Gibb Brower.

"Mark was the head of an international company that manufactured cell phones," she said. "He was given a prototype with a huge antenna. He had nocturnal seizures within six months and a glioma within nine months. He died a week before Gibb."

Foster says Brower lived at the base of Mt. Soledad and used a cell phone continuously for 10 years in his work as a landscaper.

"The last time I talked with Gibb was six days before his death in March 2003," she recalls. "He said, 'Hey, kid. You know what you have to do. You have to carry on the fight. I'll be watching over you.'"

HONORS

CONTINUED FROM A7

work ethic of their peers, Delaney said.

"In this scenario nothing would change for current honors students, in that all classes would be taught at the level of our current honors courses," Schaub said.

In the ELA course, each student will be taught at their independent reading level and the same with math, but the difference is the lower performing students will get intense tutoring.

"In math, we will continue to offer an accelerated, above-grade-level course for students who meet all of the criteria," Schaub said. "This course of study is very rigorous and only suitable for a small percentage of students. We use several assessment measures to determine eligibility for

these courses."

She said all the other students will be enrolled in a rigorous grade level course of study that ensures they are well-prepared for high school and will be on track to meet all the requirements for entrance into college.

"We will also continue to offer a math support class for those students needing support and intervention to ensure success," she said.

Schaub said the district teachers agree that the new project should be win/win for everyone in that students who currently do not have the honors status do not push themselves and work to their potential and the new program will further the opportunity for leadership for those "honor students."

"Also, lower performing students can have unique and creative ways of

approaching a topic than a typical honors students might not," she said.

Currently, because of the small size of the school, students who are placed in one honors course, tend to stay with the same group for the rest of the day, in a way segregating them from the rest of the students, Delaney said.

Board member Jim Depolo asked how it would work if all the students in one class are reading different books at their own level, and wondered how a student could have a meaningful and intellectual conversation with their peers.

Schaub explained that many of the conversations would be the result of shared text read aloud.

Depolo said great care should be taken that the accelerated students don't end up teaching the slower children.

"By raising the expect-

tations in all classes and better supporting the students who are not yet proficient, we have raise the bar for all students, not just a select few," Schaub said.

In other school board news, Delaney announced that in addition to her current responsibilities, she would also take over duties at middle school principal as a money-saving tactic.

"I like middle school and I am looking forward to the opportunity," Delaney said.

Due to deep budget cuts by the state, expenses and staff had to be reduced for the upcoming school year.

Depolo too liked the idea: "It's a good fix and it will help with our budget as well."

Tim Ireland, project manager of the construction of the Rowe facilities, said that finishing the new school is on schedule.

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Dog saves lives in suspected arson fire

by Wehtahnah Tucker

5 hrs ago | 152 views | 0 | 3 | |



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ENCINITAS — The canine has long been considered “man’s best friend,” but one dog raised the standards on what that description really means.

Thanks to Zed, a 7-year-old golden retriever, at least two people escaped harm during an early morning fire July 26 in the 900 block of Regal Road. “ He just kept barking and causing commotion telling me to ‘get up,’” said Zed’s owner James Booth.

When Booth went outside to investigate at his dog’s urgings he saw a woman setting fire to one of the automobiles in the nearby carport of his duplex that houses two units. “It’s a good thing Zed woke me up because he saved some lives,” Booth said. “He’s the hero in this story.”

However, Booth deserves some credit despite his modesty. The native Australian who moved into the unit just three months ago apprehended the suspected arsonist who was standing near the flames watching the fire reek havoc on the structure.

According to reports from witnesses who do not wish to be identified, a woman was seen pouring a liquid on one of the vehicles at the scene and setting it aflame. Booth was able to hold the woman until the Sherriff’s Department arrived and arrested the suspect who was reportedly intoxicated.

Nancy Lee Ellis, 64, is being held at the Las Colinas Detention Facility on charges of arson on a \$75,000 bail. While no official motive was given as to why the petite woman would allegedly turn to arson, someone close to the situation who did not wish to be identified suspected jealousy and anger. “We all get mad at people but we don’t torch people’s cars,” the person said.

In fact, the longtime owners of the property, Robert Small and Mike Ikeda, said they were mystified as to what would motivate someone to allegedly endanger so many lives. The modest duplex is separated only by a driveway from other duplexes and could have easily spread without the quick actions of Zed and his owner Booth.

“The sad part of this is that it’s so unnecessary,” Small said as he looked at the charred remains of the structure he has owned for 25 years. “For something so patently evil to occur is incomprehensible.” The North County resident shook his head in disbelief. “I’ll be OK, but my tenants have to now go stay with friends and try to carry on with their lives.”

Marianne LaPiedra has lived in one of the duplex units for nearly 20 years. Her BMW was the first car to be set on fire. Booth’s unit, situated closest to the carport, sustained fire and smoke damage as well.

The blaze was reported at approximately 1:45 a.m. and was extinguished some 30 minutes later according to Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District Battalion Chief Jim Sturtevant.

When firefighters arrived at the duplex, LaPiedra's BMW, Booth's pickup truck and the entire carport they were parked under were engulfed in flames he said.

The fire was also beginning to spread to the front of the home and the roof.

Approximately 25 firefighters from Encinitas, Carlsbad, Solana Beach and Rancho Santa Fe battled the fire.

But in the end, Zed is the one who comes out as the "true hero." Taking his charred doggie toy from a pile of rubble, he bounced back into the house the day after the fire as if everything were normal. "We're just going to keep going and be glad Zed was there to save us," Booth said.

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Arson Suspect Arrested After Car Set On Fire

No One Injured In Fire On Regal Road In Encinitas

POSTED: 6:52 am PDT July 26, 2010
UPDATED: 12:19 pm PDT July 26, 2010

ENCINITAS, Calif. -- Fire was set to a vehicle inside a carport attached to an home in Encinitas early Monday and the suspected arsonist was arrested, authorities said.

The non-injury fire in the 900 block of Regal Road was reported at 1:37 a.m., a North County Fire Protection District dispatcher said. A damage estimate is pending.

A woman believed to have started the blaze was arrested a short time later in the area, according to Lt. Mike Munsey of the San Diego County Sheriff's Department.


No other details were immediately released.

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Video: Woman Arrested In Connection To Arson Fire

 The North County Times - Californian

ENCINITAS: Woman arrested following carport fire

North County Times wire services | Posted: Monday, July 26, 2010 9:33 am

Fire was set to a vehicle inside a carport attached to an home in Encinitas early Monday and the suspected arsonist was arrested, authorities said.

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No other details were immediately released.



Vehicles destroyed in Encinitas arson fire

By [Debbi Baker](#), UNION-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER

Monday, July 26, 2010 at 6:57 a.m.

ENCINITAS — Sheriff's deputies took a woman into custody after an arson fire destroyed two vehicles and a carport early Monday morning. The two-alarm blaze at the home on Regal Road near Briggs Avenue was reported about 1:40 a.m. and was out about 2:10 a.m., Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District Battalion Chief Jim Sturtevant said.

When firefighters arrived at the duplex a BMW, a pickup truck and the carport they were parked under were fully involved in flames, Sturtevant said.

The fire was also beginning to spread to the front of the home.

Some 25 firefighters from Encinitas, Carlsbad, Solana Beach and Rancho Santa Fe attacked the fire and kept it from spreading.

Hot smoke charred the attic of the home and a Mercedes-Benz parked in the driveway was slightly damaged, Sturtevant said.

Investigators said the Mercedes appears to belong to a woman, believed to be in her late 50s to 60s, who was detained for questioning. Neighbors told investigators they saw her place some type of accelerant on the hood of the BMW seconds before the fire began, Sturtevant said.

No injuries were reported and no other homes were scorched. A damage estimate is still being determined.

The name of the woman in custody has not been released. A motive for the arson has not been disclosed.

Debbi Baker: (619) 293-1710; debbi.baker@uniontrib.com

Find this article at:

<http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/2010/jul/26/vehicles-destroyed-encinitas-arson-fire>

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Fourth graders at The Cambridge School assume Michelangelo's perspective

Fourth graders at The Cambridge School are used to working on top of their desks, but this time they were instructed to work under them. To help her students relive Michelangelo's experience painting the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel, Naomi Ching asked them to paint the "Creation of Adam," a small central section of the enormous fresco. After tracing a projection of the painting on the wall, the students taped a section to the underside of their desks and painted it while lying face up on the floor.

Ching wanted the students to get a sense of the huge scale of Michelangelo's work, which is difficult to understand just by looking at it in a book. She also wanted them to better appreciate Michelangelo's skill and artistry. They were impressed that even just tracing the painting was incredibly difficult, and they couldn't help but notice how their final work paled in beauty compared to Michelangelo's. Another objective was to give the students a memorable experience that made what they had been learning about the Renaissance period in their textbooks come to life.

Head of School Jean Kim summarizes how this project (and many others like it in all of the school's classrooms) fit in well with the Cambridge's overarching goals:

"Our aim is to instill in our students a love

of learning and an appreciation for all that is true, good and beautiful. When our students work on projects that bring history, science and art 'to life,' we nurture a love of learning and engage our students in the great ideas of our civilization—all to the end of cultivating wise and virtuous leadership in the next generation."

To learn more about the classical and Christian education offered at The Cambridge School, visit www.cambridgeclassical.org.

The Cambridge School, founded in 2006, is a Classical Christian school that promotes high academic standards in the context of a Christian worldview. The Cambridge School cultivates skills necessary to become life-long learners, thinkers, and virtuous leaders. Teaching students how to think, order their thoughts, and communicate clearly and persuasively is a fundamental goal of classical education. Additionally, all Cambridge students learn Latin and Mandarin. The Cambridge School offers instruction from pre-kindergarten to fifth-grade, with grades being added each year until the twelfth grade. The Cambridge School is located at 10075 Azuaga Street, San Diego, CA 92129. For more information, visit www.cambridgeclassical.org or call 858-484-3488.

Kaiser Permanente Hospice needs volunteers

Kaiser Permanente Hospice needs volunteers to serve neighbors nearest your own home. The next training class begins Monday, Aug. 2. No hands-on care is necessary. You will receive 25 cents per mile reimbursement, and the satisfaction of knowing that you were able to make the world a better place today. Please call 619-641-4669 for more information.

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The battle against breast cancer: RSF's Lili Myers' story continues

How can we thank our firefighters?

By Lili Myers

Let me take you back to Oct. 21, 2007. Do you remember the smells that



Lili Myers

night? I remember a heavy smell of smoke. We kept our windows

closed and the air conditioning running through the night. I was still aware of the smoke smell all night long. I was awakened that Monday, Oct. 22, 2007, by a telephone call from a friend of our daughter, calling us from Washington D.C., telling us that if we needed to evacuate, we could stay with his mom in La Jolla. Evacuate? Why would we have to evacuate? I suddenly was wide awake.

Did you receive the reverse 911 call? The one warning you that you indeed needed to evacuate promptly? What thoughts went through your head at that time? How did you spend the next half hour? What things did you pack first? How did you spend that week? Were you glued to the television watching footage of the fires, watching the firefighters work never ending hours, and were you trying to catch a glimpse of your house still standing unharmed by the fire?

We had heard that a



Captain Troy Elliott, Engineer Ray Ligtenberg, Firefighter/medic Trever Krueger.

house on our street had burned down to the ground and wondering if it was ours; after all, there were only three houses on our street. I remember waking up in a hotel room at 3 a.m. and turning the television on, hoping to get an update of the fire, watching some footage from a helicopter, and recognizing our home. The relief of knowing that for the time being our home was still there, and the sadness wondering which one of our two neighbors had not been so lucky.

All of us, as a community, were very appreciative and grateful for everything our firefighters did during those very uncertain days. We wanted to do something special, something that would show them how their hard work had positively affected our lives. There was not a whole lot we were allowed to do to express our appreciation.

Well, that is one of the reasons I am writing this today. All of us who live in this area can now give a little back, and we can say "Thank You" to our firefighters. The young wife of one of those young men who protected our homes, one of our firefighters, is doing the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer 3-Day Walk. She has agreed to raise \$3,000 in donations. So I need your help. Would you please consider making a donation and help her? You may support her and donate online by going to <http://www.the3day.org>, click on 'donate to a Participant', type in "Julee Elliott". It will take you to her page where you can click on Donate. Your donation is tax deductible. No amount is too small.

RSF resident Lili Myers will continue to write a series of columns on her experiences involving her fight against breast cancer.

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