

RSF residents to be assessed SRA fees beginning this month

In early 2011, The California Legislature adopted legislation that required the California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (BOF) to develop and implement a program to assess a fire prevention fee on homeowners within State Responsibility Areas (SRA).

In November 2011, the BOF voted to adopt regulations to implement the fee mandated by the Legislature. The annual fee of \$150 for the first structure, \$25 for each additional structure, will go to help fund prevention activities on SRA lands. A \$35 credit will be given to those who live on SRA lands but pay for fire protection from a second agency, such as the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District (RSFFPD). There have been and are ongoing attempts to overturn it; however, the fee is currently scheduled to start being assessed beginning in August.

The SRA bill, which will be separate from residents' property tax bill, will be invoiced by the California Board of Equalization to be used for fire prevention services and programs provided by the state. According to Cal Fire's website, this may include "brush clearance, defensible space inspections, fire breaks and public education programs. A portion of the fee may also be used to fund the extraordinary efforts taken by CAL FIRE to prevent the expansion of wild-

land fires during emergency situations."

Most of the communities covered by the RSFFPD, including The Covenant, Fairbanks Ranch, Cielo, The Crosby, The Lakes, and The Bridges, are on SRA lands, while most of 4S Ranch is not on SRA lands. The BOF has a tool on its website to help residents determine whether or not their home is on SRA lands. The tool can be found at www.bof.fire.ca.gov/sra_viewer.

The decision to assess the SRA fee was not an immediate one. In 2004, SB 1049, was enacted and imposed an annual fee, to be collected on the county level to fund fire prevention activities, on all parcels of land located within SRAs. However, before any money was collected, the fee was repealed by SB 1112. The fee was revisited during the 2007-2008 budget process at the suggestion of the Legislative Analyst Office (LAO) as a means of recovering costs for services provided to private beneficiaries and the BOF voted in favor of the fee during their November 2011 meeting.

CAL FIRE has developed a web site with information about the SRA fee. The site includes a number of helpful links, as well as the phone number to the SRA Fee Implementation Center. The web site can be accessed at www.firepreventionfee.org.

— Submitted press release

RSF residents named to Dean's List

• RSF resident Kyle Cameron was named to the Dean's List for the spring 2012 semester at Washington University in St. Louis. Cameron is enrolled in the university's College of Arts & Sciences.

To qualify for the Dean's List in the

College of Arts & Sciences, students must earn a semester grade point average of 3.6 or above and be enrolled in at least 14 graded units.

• RSF resident Edward Repko was named to the Dean's List at Villanova Uni-

Release of STAR test scores delayed

BY KATHY DAY

Because of "security breaches" — or as Rick Schmitt, the assistant superintendent for educational services put it, "creative use of social media" — STAR test scores for the San Dieguito Union High School District students will be about a month late.

Schmitt told school trustees on July 26 that while the problems that included students using smart phones to share questions from the standardized tests did not occur in the local district, a number of districts will have their scores invalidated.

However, he added that San Dieguito officials "self-reported" a couple of cases where students took pictures of the exam cover.

"ETS (the Educational Testing Service) is taking extra time to investigate," Schmitt said.

Parents were set to receive notification this week that the results — usually due in late July or early August — will not get them until "around the last week of August."

Candidate filing deadline approaching for schools, special districts

Candidates have begun to pull papers to run for local school district elections in November. The deadline for candidates to file is Aug. 10.

In the Rancho Santa Fe School District, three seats are up for election, those currently held by Jim Depolo, Richard Burdge and Tyler Seltzer. As of presstime, Seltzer and Burdge have pulled papers and Burdge has already filed.

In the Solana Beach School District, the seats up for grabs belong to Arthur Palkowitz and Richard Leib; Leib is the only one to pull papers so far.

Here's a look at how the candidate list is shaping up so far:

San Dieguito Union High School District (vote for two)

Beth Hergesheimer, incumbent
Joyce Dalessandro, incumbent
Rancho Santa Fe School District (vote for three)

Lorraine Brovick-Kent
Richard Burdge (incumbent)
Tyler Seltzer (incumbent)

Solana Beach School District (vote for two)

Richard Leib (incumbent)
James Summers
Julie Union

Aug. 10 is also the candidate filing period for special districts (fire, water, community planning, etc.) For more information on candidate filing deadlines and procedures, visit www.sdcounty.ca.gov

versity for the spring 2012 semester. Repko is pursuing a bachelor's degree in the Villanova School of Business. To qualify, one must be a matriculated full-time student

and earn a semester grade point average of at least 3.5. The College of Nursing requires students to earn at least a 3.5 for the academic year.

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Art Jury Corner

'Nobody will ever see it'

"Nobody will ever see it." The Art Jury sometimes hears this statement from applicants and their designers. They are suggesting that if a project isn't visible from off the property, the Art Jury shouldn't care what it looks like. As explained below, there are many reasons why the Art Jury cares about an entire project. Applicants often believe that a project (or portion thereof) will not be visible to other residents, both near and far. Art Jury members have seen many projects from the earliest design stages through completion. From this experience over many years the Art Jury knows that, once built, developments can often be much more visible than generally expected. In fact, the Art Jury began requiring story poles a few years ago as an additional tool to allow the Art Jury and the community to determine the visual prominence of projects while still in the design stage.

The Art Jury is responsible for upholding the Protective Covenant. Paragraph 46 of the Covenant states in part that the Art Jury is to "...insure a uniform and reasonably high standard of artistic result and attractiveness, in exterior and physical appearance..." The Covenant makes no exceptions for areas that are not currently visible from the street or neighbors. The Art Jury therefore looks at the entire project for artistic result and thus creates a fair and uniform review process that serves the entire community and maintains a uniform high standard of design throughout the Covenant.

Designers often suggest that "nobody will ever see it" because the existing or proposed landscaping will screen views from neighbors and the road. This may or may not be true, but it may not be. Firstly, landscaping takes time to mature, and the growth rate varies from project to project depending on the level of care given.

Some landscape installations have not performed well due to root-bound nursery stock or unanticipated soil conditions. Furthermore,

even mature landscape screening can decline with age; the infestation of the eucalyptus trees is a perfect example. The eucalyptus trees have been the foundation for much of the landscape screening in the Ranch since its inception, but the decline of the trees caused by the infestation has made some structures more prominent than they used to be. Additionally, twenty years of landscape growth can be eliminated in one weekend by a landscape crew. Furthermore, Fire Department regulations now require additional widespread vegetation clearing (even on neighboring properties). Due to all of the above, the Art Jury judges projects on the merits of the site planning and architecture alone. Landscaping is seen as an added benefit to a project, not a solution to visual prominence.

Even when a project is not currently visible from neighbors, that visibility can change over time. New views of the property can be created by the construction of new homes or additions on neighboring lots. Visibility notwithstanding, the Art Jury must always be cautious not to set a precedent for inappropriate construction regardless of its visibility; when friends visit a home they may see a feature that they wish to construct on their property, but in a more prominent location. If the Art Jury does not approve the request to replicate the inappropriate feature, the Art Jury is accused of being inconsistent. Allowing something that the Art Jury does not feel is appropriate because "nobody will ever see it" could create a precedent for allowing the same thing on other lots where it will be seen by neighbors or the community.

The Art Jury's review of entire projects, regardless of current visibility, creates a fair process that serves the entire membership and results in the preservation of the community character that we all want to maintain and enhance. — *RSF Art Jury*

RSF Fire Protection District seeks volunteers to join emergency response team

The Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District (RSFFPD) is looking for residents interested in becoming part of its Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). Applications are now being accepted for the 2012 fall session, which begins Oct. 2 in 4S Ranch.

CERT is a nationally-recognized program designed to train members of neighborhoods, community organizations, and workplaces in basic disaster response skills. During natural or man-made disasters emergency personnel are often stretched thin and may be unable to help residents in a timely manner. If a disastrous event overwhelms or delays the community's professional emergency crews, CERT members may be called on to assist their own families as well as their neighbors by applying their skills learned in training.

This CERT class, a 24-hour program broken up into four sessions, is designed to be convenient for the resident with a busy schedule. One introduction to CERT night is offered, followed by three Saturday Skill Days. This class also has sections that are web-based and can be completed at home with a Q&A session at the following Saturday Skill Day. Topics include disaster preparedness, disaster medical operations, fire safety and extinguishment, CERT organization, terrorism, disaster psychology and light search and rescue.

The complete schedule is as follows:

Tuesday, Oct. 2, 6 – 9 p.m., Introduction, and Disaster Preparedness

Saturday, Oct. 6, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., Disaster Medical Preparedness Part I & Part II

Saturday, Oct. 13, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., Fire Safety and Light Search & Rescue Operations

Saturday, Oct. 20, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m., Final Drill and Graduation

All sessions will be held at RSFFPD Station No. 2 located at 16930 Four Gee Rd, San Diego, CA 92127.

The CERT program is absolutely FREE; however, you must be over the age of 16 to participate and live or work within the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District. To enroll in CERT Training, please download an application from, www.rsffire.org, and mail or fax the completed form to Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District, ATTN: Captain Dave McQuead, P.O. Box 410, Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92067 or FAX: 858-756-4799

Village Church Community Theater to hold auditions for new production

The Village Church Community Theater will hold auditions on Monday, Aug. 20, and Tuesday, Aug. 21, from 6-8 p.m. for "Mandate for Murder, Taking a Stab at Politics."

This comedy mystery by Pat Cook spoofs the election process. Roles for four males, six females. For more information and audition appointment: villagechurchcommunity-theater.org.

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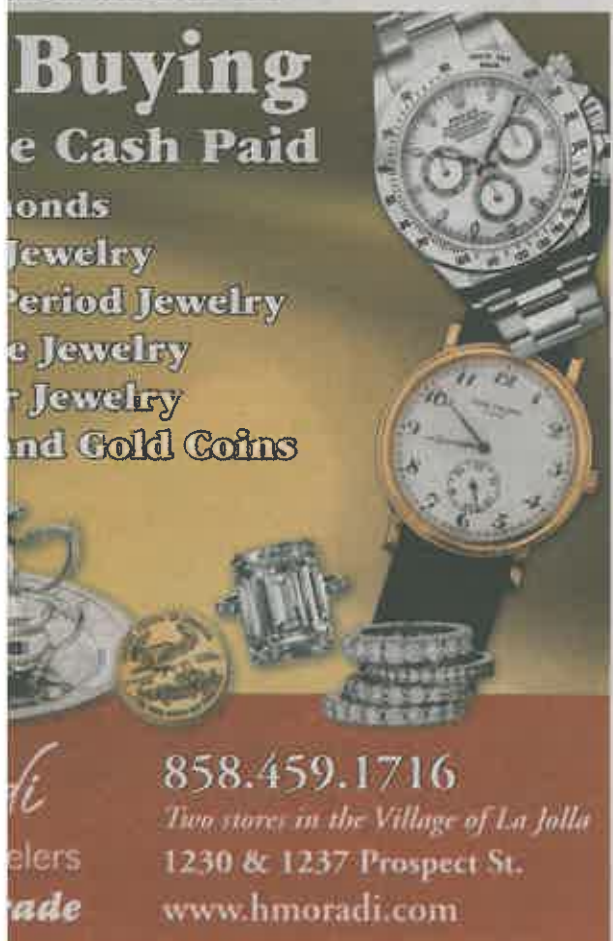
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Day to be held Sept. 22-23
 e Bay, taking place Sept. 22-23 at the Waterfront Park at
 l bring more than 150 artists and thousands of spec-
 go. During the festival, art enthusiasts will have the
 e thousands of paintings, sculpture, photographs and
 njoying a spectacular grassy setting along the waterfront.
 o, the festival is known for its picturesque venue, located
 ayfront, with views that look out to Coronado Island
 iling and yachting community.
 Coast's largest fine art festival held in the spring, Mission
 ay provides an intimate setting which allows art lovers
 one with the artists, discover the inspiration behind their
 ns that enrich one's spirit and decor. Artists come from
 howcase their work. A special event feature, "Artes de
 rks of art created by Mexico-based artists. A full lineup of
 on the Bay Café" and a host of gourmet food and drink
 popularity.
 San Diego Bayfront is located behind the San Diego
 e Big Bay) at 1 Park Boulevard, San Diego, CA, 92101.
 -site. Cost: Free to attend.
 visit www.artwalkonthebay.org or call 619-615-1090. For
 San Diego, visit www.artsmonthsd.com.

Benefit young girl fighting cancer
 or Daisy on Sept. 1 at 9 a.m. at Moonlight Beach in En-
 The Strand, for an organized paddle-a-thon to help raise
 ricken granddaughter of world-renowned professional
 gone six surgeries for a recurring Wilms' Tumor, 22
 courses of radiation.
 o cost \$500,000 and is not covered by insurance, accord-
 ude a possible stem cell transplant. Her family is pursu-
 ve treatments in both America and Israel.
 o text "Daisy" to 56512 and donate \$10.
 , which is not a race or a long distance paddle.
 list of other beaches hosting the paddle-a-thon, go to
 rganizers may add a beach break to the event.

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San Diego's Cotillion teaches children ballroom dancing and the art of etiquette

Being in its 58th years of serving the youth of San Diego County, the San Dieguito Cotillion teaches not only dancing, etiquette and manners, but addresses many social skills and subjects in this forever changing world.
 Etiquette is a staple of society and good manners are the hallmark of civility. The San Dieguito Cotillion is the stepping stone to achieve them.
 The Cotillion's mission is to develop well-groomed, respectful and poised young ladies and gentlemen who not only understand the importance of social graces, but also know how to dance. The goal is to send the children out into the world well equipped to succeed.
 Having good manners and being able to properly present oneself is no longer a luxury, but a necessity in today's increasingly competitive society and business climate.
 The San Dieguito Cotillion stands as a model in educating the young ladies and gentlemen to enjoy, appreciate and respect their role in society.
 Requests for invitations for the 2012-2013 season is now in full swing.
 Children are being accepted from 5th through 12th grade.
 Dances taught are waltz, foxtrot, tango, Latin dances, swing and polka.
 Parents may visit <http://www.sandieguitocotillion.com>. Click on the "Contact Us" button and fill out the required information in order to receive an invitation and registration.
 The website shows the dates of the dances and a wide variety of pictures and videos for parents to peruse.

Unique art exhibits offered in Del Mar, Solana Beach

• Not since Yves Klein (1928-1962) has an artist so boldly harnessed fire as a medium to construct a human portrait. The seven-foot tall anthropometry "Carol-Ann on Fire," by San Diego artist Robert Glick, is an abstract expose of the female spirit. The model appears to climb to new heights, poised in a delicate balance between uncharted boarders.
 Glick's work has been shown at prestigious locations such as the Oceanside Museum of Art and Amsterdam Whitney Gallery in New York city. When asked about his fire paintings, he responded: "when flames leap headlong into the void they leave behind an unsullied imprint, a shining moment — pure energy incarnate," an applicable description of his latest piece set in a salon-style show at the Del Mar Art Center.
 "Carol-Ann on Fire" is the giant of the exhibit, both in size and creativity, and revitalizes abstract portraiture in a way not seen in years. Don't miss this gem of the collection at the artists' reception Saturday, Sept. 8, from 6-9 p.m. at the Del Mar Art Center Gallery, Del Mar Plaza, 1555 Camino Del Mar, Suite 122; www.dmacgallery.com.
 • Re-Gallery will have a solo exhibition featuring the work of Rodrigo McCoubrey beginning Aug. 18 and running until Sept. 30. There is a reception for the artist on Saturday, Aug. 25 from 6-9 p.m.
 McCoubrey has been creating sustainable fine art using treasures discovered around his Southern California home since 1954.
 Re-Gallery is located at 348 Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach; www.regallery.org.
 • David Bardwick, owner of the David Alan Collection in Solana Beach, recently held an opening celebration of the show: "Treasures of Tibet," showcasing the artifacts of Tibet. The guests had the opportunity to discover the fascinating region and view artifacts and incredible photographs of a region few have seen. Bardwick's 18-day traditional Himalayan trek which reached the elevation of over 15,000 feet on horseback. The artifacts, stories, and photography gave the guests an opportunity to share the beauty and magic of this seldom explored region.
 The David Alan Collection is located in the heart of Solana Beach in the Cedros Design District at 241 South Cedros Avenue in Solana Beach. For more information, call (858) 481-8044 or visit their web site at: www.TheDavidAlanCollection.com. Please visit David's blog for writing and photos of all David travels at thedavidalancollection.com/dacman

EXPERT ADVICE

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San Diego luxury homes spark sales, opportunities for move-up buyers

John R. Leffordink



What is liposculpture surgery? Exploring the latest liposuction alternatives.

Dario Moscoso, Pacific Cielo Surgery Center



North County coastal real estate news: California foreclosure listings on the decline

Patricia Kramer & Patricia Martin, Kramer & Martin Real Estate



San Diego short sales vs. foreclosures: a look at local real estate market trends

Vicki Johnson, Real Estate

Who's NEWS?

Business news and special achievements for North San Diego County. Send information via email to community@coastnewsgroup.com.

A page-turner

The Rancho Santa Fe Library staff reported a "wonderfully, successful Summer Reading Program. So many kids, so many fun programs so many pages read."

Statistics showed 26 babies logged 36 hours of reading (or being read to); 150 youngsters read 497 hours; 110 tweens read 812 hours and our 87 teens read 883 hours.

A total of 2,228 hours was logged here at the branch. A huge thanks was given to all the parents who toted young readers back and forth and encouraged them to read, all the wonderful volunteers that made the summer so exciting and all the people and businesses throughout the community that helped to support the event.

Spice things up

North County residents, Jason and Stephanie Birn, proprietors of Savory Spice Shop, plan to open a new location at the end of August at 337 S. Coast Highway 101, Suite C-110 in The Lumberyard Shopping Center in Encinitas. Follow its progress at facebook.com/SavorySpiceShopEncinitas.

Good medicine

Thrive Physical Medicine, 741 Vista Way, Oceanside, is having an Grand Opening and Red Cross Blood Drive, Sept. 6 joined by the Wounded Warfighters Foundation and the Oceanside Chamber of Commerce. The day will include a Red Cross Blood Drive, free massages, tours of the facilities, food, refreshments, raffles and games.

Home Ska

Oceanside ska band, the Fab Rudies, opened the red carpet event for the world premiere of "Music High" Aug. 16 at the Crest Theater, 102-108 Seaman St., Oceanside.

Radio revival

After a two-month absence, Brunch With Bob and Friends radio show will return on Sundays in a new, commercial-free setting 9 a.m. to noon Aug. 19. The show will air on WPA Rez Radio 91.3, a public radio station owned and operated by the Palamares of Mission Indians in San Diego's inland North County.

Summer's end

Hilton Carlsbad Seasidefront Resort & Spa offers Labor Day beach packages and a Hilton Garden Inn Carlsbad package for

between Aug. 26 and Sept. 9. For more information, call (760) 602-0800 or visit hiltoncarlsbad.com.

New album

Tate Music Group announces the nationwide release of "Lift It Up," the newest album from Carlsbad's Christian rock group, Genes in the Pool.

Opening event

Aaron Chang Ocean Art Gallery Grand Reopening, exclusively featuring Chang's work, from 7 to 9 p.m. Aug. 25 to celebrate its second anniversary and new location at 415 S. Cedros Ave. Suite 110, Solana Beach.

Anti-bag legislation

The San Diego Surfrider Foundation, Assemblyman Nathan Fletcher, and a coalition of environmental organizations announced their support Aug. 14 for AB 298 - legislation to ban the use of plastic bags statewide by 2015. The bill would require retailers to provide reusable bags for sale and charge a fee for recycled paper bags as an incentive for customers to use reusable bags.

La Costa apartments

Construction has begun on the upscale apartment homes at Costa Pointe at 7600 Sitio Del Mar in La Costa community. The 58 three-story apartments feature three to four bedrooms with up to three baths ranging from 1,326 to 2,042 square feet. Costa Pointe is slated to open December 2012.

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RSF Fire Dept. has position open

RANCHO SANTA FE —The Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District is currently accepting applications for the following position of Fire Prevention Specialist II / Forester.

This position supervises the Districts Vegetation Management Program and is responsible for Plan Review and Inspection Services. These duties include review of plans submitted for landscaping and fuel modification requirements and management of the Weed Abatement Program.

The position also includes typical inspection duties such as: inspection of buildings and fire protec-

tion systems, review of plans to insure compliance with laws ordinances and regulations pertaining to the prevention and control of fires and other hazardous situations.

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree from an accredited four-year college or university with a major in forestry, horticulture or a related field.
- Certification as an Arborist or a background in arboriculture.
- Completion of Fire Prevention 1A and 1B.
- Two years experience in the direction and supervision of a vegetation and fire management program involving a

wildland/urban interface environment with a public agency.

How to Apply for an Open Position

The Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District only accepts applications for current job openings.

If you are unable to download the application materials online at rsf-fire.org, applications and supplemental questionnaires are available at our Administrative Offices, at Calle Ambiente, Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92067.

Questions regarding employment can be directed to Karlana Rannals, Administrative Manager at (858) 756-6014.

Get ready for annual Oktoberfest

You can be part of the upcoming 17th annual Encinitas Chamber of Commerce Oktoberfest from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sept. 23.

Join more than 200 vendors, be a sponsor or just come to enjoy the event that stretches along a

six-block marketplace on Mountain Vista Drive at El Camino Real. As always, it will feature Bavarian dancers and live music from a variety of bands, artisans with unusual arts and craft items, a family food and refreshment tent serving authentic German food and

beer and a ceremonial parade.

There will be a family fun zone with children's games, family-oriented activities and more.

For vendor pricing or general information, call (760) 753-6041 or visit EncinitasOktoberfest.com.

CHEF

CONTINUED FROM B1

ever-popular Royce Salad, which will stay on the menu.

"It is a historical tradition," he said.

One of the changes he made right away was switching to strictly organic eggs and he is looking into making all the dairy products used in his kitchen organic. And he plans to take this organic attitude to a whole new level. He plans to turn the citrus orchard behind the Inn into a garden where he will be able to give guests more of a farm-to-table experience.

When it can't be grown on site, Allison said he plans

to support local farmers as much as possible.

Allison said his menus will reflect the seasons of the year and he can hardly wait to start harvesting from the garden he and his staff will work year-round.

The Inn was sold by the Royce family after more than 50 years of ownership to JMI Realty. The new owners, who pledge to be mindful of the history and tradition associated with it, plan a \$12 million renovation project which is set to begin right after the Labor Day holiday. The plan includes refurbishing the guest rooms, sprucing up the

pool area and enlarging and updating the spa. The current Garden Room will become the new dining room and the kitchen will be enlarged and updated. A part of the plan was to hire a new, dynamic, forward-thinking chef. The chef that was chosen for this project was Allison.

He began his culinary career when he was 15 as a dishwasher at Chez Loma in Coronado for pocket money and to finance his surfing trips to Mexico.

Through the years he began cooking and at the age of 21 decided to make cooking his lifelong career.

IPADS

CONTINUED FROM B1

is well under way. Enrollment is expected to be at 670 and the administration is looking at some combination classes for second and third grade.

The staffing is complete except for a drama teacher. "I have six strong candidates," Delaney said.

She said she would like to get a dance program up and running this year for grades five through eight.

It was announced that the hours of the Halloween carnival will change, ending this year at 3:30 p.m. The younger grades will still have their annual parade through the village.

Delaney said she would like to put more emphasis on community service in the coming year, calling it Community Service Learning.

Each grade level will have its own project, whether it is working with seniors or needy children. Those who excel will be declared Community Service Learning Super Stars and will be given special recognition.

In other school news, report cards for the sixth grade will be changed so that they will give parents more detail of their child's progress.

"It just excited me. I don't mind spending 12 hours in a hot kitchen sweating," he said.

In addition to attending culinary school, he trained with celebrity chefs James Boyce and Michael Mina. He worked his way up and became the executive chef at Bollinger's in Santa Barbara, Hilton Checkers in Los Angeles and Anthony's in San Diego.

Now at age 34, he is ready to tackle the kitchen in Rancho Santa Fe.

"It's going to be fun," he said.

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