

SPORTS
Tennis
CHAMPIONS!
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SCRIPPS RANCH NEWS

Volume 4 Issue 12 • November 2021



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The annual Scripps Ranch Girl Scout Tree Lighting will be at Jerabek Park on Dec. 5, 3-5 p.m. (Girl Scouts photo)

Girl Scouts bring back the annual holiday event for Scripps Ranch

By Kaila Mellos

he 39th annual Scripps Ranch Girl Scouts tree lighting event is back for in-person events and a toy drive benefiting Toys for Tots at Jerabek Park on Sunday, Dec. 5 from 3 to 5 p.m.

A different Girl Scout troop from Scripps Ranch hosts the event each year. Fifth grade Troop 3958 – with troop leader Marisa Fleizach – will be initiating the festivities this holiday season.

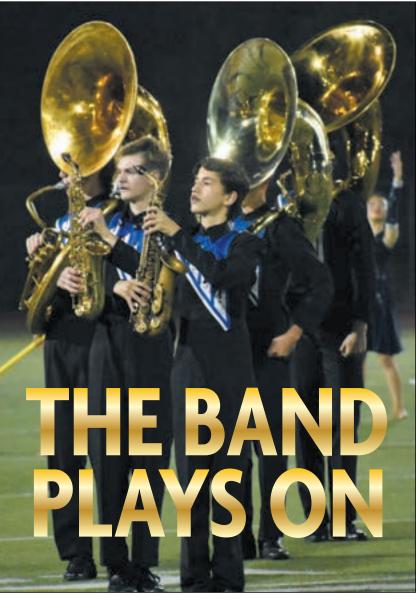
Santa will be there, and holiday inclusive songs will be sung.

These Scouts will also be completing their Girl Scouts Bronze Award by hosting the event

"[The Bronze Award] takes 20 hours to earn," Fleizach said. "That started with choosing what we were going to do for our Bronze Award and all the pre-planning so far for this event. It also counts the day of the event with

See **TREE LIGHTING**, Page 12





SRHS marching band strives for perfection

By Ashley Shah

he Scripps Ranch High School (SRHS) Marching Band and Color Guard came back strong from a year online.

On Nov. 13, the team went to the California State Band Championships (CSBC) semi-finals in Irvine and placed third out of 11 Division 5A bands. The team was headed to the CSBC Division 5A Championships in Huntington Beach on Nov. 20.

"We are currently second overall in our division, which puts us in a really good place going into the semi-finals because only the top six schools in the division of

11 schools make it into finals," said music director Russell Shedd before the Nov. 13 competition.

The band had three competitions in the regular season prior to the semi-finals.

It placed first overall in the first, which was held at Valhalla

See MARCHING BAND, Page 15



(Clockwise from top left) SRT 2022 directors Claire Simba, Charles Peters, Marti Gobel and Phil Johnson

Scripps Ranch Theatre is back

cripps Ranch Theatre (SRT) announced its reopening and will present a Welcome Back Celebration featuring musical and theatrical performances by some of its favorite performers on Dec. 4, 7:30 p.m. on the campus of Alliant International University, 9783 Avenue of

In addition, SRT announced its new season which will start in January 2022.

"We are delighted to invite our patrons back into the theatre with our Welcome Back Celebration on Dec. 4. A night of live songs and performances is a perfect way to celebrate our reopening with our community ... and pave the way for our compelling 42nd season which starts in January," SRT Artistic Director Jill Drexler said. "We are excited about the stories we have to share in 2022, and the voices that will share them."

The Welcome Back Celebration will feature performances by Kenny Bordieri, Jim Chovick, Susan Clausen, Jill Drexler, Melissa Fernandez, Yolanda Franklin, Marti Gobel, Jackie Ritz and Tara Sampson. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased online at scrippsranchtheatre.org/showtickets.

Scripps Ranch Theatre Season 2022

"Heisenberg," Jan. 14-30; written by Simon Stephens and directed by Charles Peters. Amidst the bustle of a crowded London train station, Georgie spots Alex, a much older man, and plants a kiss on his neck. This electric encounter thrusts these two strangers into a fascinating and life-changing game.

"Love Song," Feb. 25-Mar. 13; written by John Kolvenbach and directed Claire Simba. Beane, an emotionless, extreme introvert is burglarized by the pixie-ish Molly;

See **SR THEATRE**, Page 6

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SCRIPPS RANCH FIRE SAFE COUNCIL

Keep your guard up during holidays

rist of all, we would like to thank our generous sponsors for their donations to our only annual fundraiser. In particular, The Glen at Scripps Ranch, Filippi's Pizza Grotto Mira Mesa and Valley View Casino, as well as many others for their generous donations. And thanks to all our golfers for their participation.

Congratulations to our first place winners: Don Mc-Cormick, Larry Adams and Rick Israel.

With the holidays coming up, remember to keep your guard up, pay attention and remember if you have candles burning, is your fireplace safe from spreading embers? Sometimes when we get caught up in what is going on we forget to be vigilant.

Understand how an ember environment can spread a wildfire to structures. Maintain your structure's exterior and what the 0-5 foot zone is, and why it is important.

Wake up Scripps Ranch residents! You can make a difference if you get prepared now!

Wishing everyone safe and



happy holidays and Happy New Year.

For more information about the Scripps Ranch

Fire Safe Council, visit srfiresafe.org, email srfiresafecouncil@gmail.com or call (858) 201-3711.

PUBLIC MESSAGE

Holiday Concert

Hi to everyone who's involved with and who enjoys our Scripps Ranch Symphony in the Park.

We appreciate your support and how you make our concerts so much fun.

We had hoped to be able to resume the series with the Holiday Concert and our annual visit from Santa aboard Fire House 37's ladder truck – but COVID is still too great a risk.

Please accept our apologies and best wishes for a wonderful holiday season to all of you.

Plan to join us next June when we return to Hoyt Park for a gala kick-off to the 2022 Symphony in the Park summer concerts!

We can't wait, either!!!

—Scripps Ranch Symphony in the Park Committee



Service Hours: Monday-Friday 7:00am - 5:30pm • Saturday 8:00am - 5:00pm • Sunday Closed



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SR Farmer's Market: Try Luna's LUNpias

By Terry L. Wilson

he Scripps Ranch Farmers Market offers tasty treats from around the globe, and Luna and Rex Mortenson are among the market's newest vendors, offering delicious delights from the Philippines in the form of lumpias and more.

"I grew up in a Filipino kitchen alongside my dad as he created savory delicacies while I was learning my mom's baking secrets," Luna said. "My husband, Rex, and I are now sharing those tasty treats with everyone."

Lumpias are a crowd favorite, basically a Filipino eggroll filled with pork, veggies and seasoning, directly from Luna's mom's secret family recipes.

"We have a variety of lumpias. There is a modern twist on the traditional lumpias – adding beef, turkey, vegan, a surf and turf, along with dessert lumpias that are filled with a brown sugar glazed banana," Luna said. "Another popular one is a twist on a churro. It has a

banana that's rolled in cinnamon and sugar. So, we have the savory and the sweet."

The Mortenson's ended up at the Scripps Ranch Farmers Market by accident. A casual drive turned out to be a stroke of good luck for the couple, and perfect timing for their growing business.

"We were looking for a Farmers Market. We wanted to move out of the commercial kitchen and expand our business," Luna said. "We saw the market and stopped. As luck would have it, they were looking for a new Filipino food vendor, and we jumped at the opportunity."

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Mortensons had careers outside of the kitchen. Rex was in solar; Luna was in applied behavioral analysis. But the events of 2020 changed the course of their lives forever.

"I could have never predicted how my passion for Filipino cooking and COVID-weary families that were desperate to add variety to their home cooking would collide," Luna said.

INVISALIGN

PROVIDER

2021



Churons are a banana lumpia rolled in cinnamon sugar. (courtesy photo)

Luna began a home-based business selling a few of her favorite foods to friends and neighbors. The word got out and soon she and Rex were side-by-side in the kitchen cooking up a storm till the wee hours, just to fill the growing numbers of orders.

"Luna was staying up to 4 a.m. preparing orders that kept getting larger every day," Rex said. "So, I told her, 'Teach me your recipes and I'm going to help you.' Before that, the most I'd ever cooked was maybe Top Ramen."

Rex turned out to be a fast learner and an excellent cook, so he manned the stove while Luna focused on marketing the business.

"To keep up with demand, I worked to streamline my processes, source the freshest ingredients and create innovative new menu items like my incredibly popular pancit LUNpia cake, gorgeous ube treats and specialty dessert lumpias. And that's how Luna's LUNpias was born," Luna said.

"I'm amazed and grateful for the support and love of my family and community, whom I credit for the continued success of Luna's LUNpias," she said. "Food is truly the great connector, and I'm blessed to meet and reconnect with so many wonderful people from near and far doing something I love."

Luna and Rex quit their pre-COVID jobs, putting all their efforts into Luna's LUNpias. For orders or information, visit facebook.com/Lunas-LUNpias.

Discover Luna's LUNpias at the Scripps Ranch Farmer's Market from 3 to 7 p.m. each Thursday at 10045 Carroll Canyon Road (next to Newtopia Cyder). There is plenty of parking across the street at the National University parking lot.

DAVID S. GILMORE, DDS, MSD



HAPPY WINNER: Giada Mirabella enjoys one of the dozen cupcakes from Sweet Treats By Jess Bakery, which was the prize for winning the 2021 Scripps Ranch News Lemonade Stand Contest. (photo by Giada's mom)

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Coming Soon: Hunters of Hendrix

Rick Moreno announced the upcoming opening of Hunters of Hendrix – described as Scripps Ranch's first craft coffee shoppe and independent marketplace.

Moreno and Ryan Kinnerup, the founders of Newtopia Cyder, spun off the new venture which will be located at 10045 Carroll Canyon Road. Paying homage to Scripps Ranch, the new establishment is named after Burt Elmer Hendrix, the foreman of the ranch of E.W. Scripps.

Moreno will partner with local suppliers that were established in San Diego to shape the culture within the Scripps Ranch community and to provide a venue to improve the well-being of residents through social engagement and art, according to the announcement.

Dark Horse Coffee, a local coffee bean roaster located in the heart of North Park, will supply an array of single origin coffee varietals for coffee connoisseurs to enjoy as an alternative to mainstream macro coffee.

Mutual Friend, a local vegan ice-cream creamery, will



provide made-by-hand cold concoctions for customers. Favorites include the velvet cake, cookies and cream, and hocus potion.

Skinny Donuts, a local vegan donut baker, will supply made-by-hand donuts to pair perfectly with different coffee styles. Spe-

cialties include the matcha and strawberry sprinkles donuts.

Pardytime, a clothing designer based in Seal Beach, will showcase a variety of its original fashion style clothing line for those backyard barbecues or date nights out on the town.

In addition, Hunters of Hendrix is intended to be a venue to host events with local independent musicians, poets, photographers, non-profits and town-hall meetings.

Jan. 1 is the target date for all aspects of the new venture to be fully open, although some will be open sooner.

Betty Hock's art takes first place

Scripps Ranch artist Betty Hock won first place in the highly competitive November Members Show on display in the San Diego Watercolor Society gallery, 2825 Dewey Road in Liberty Station.

Hock's painting titled "Somewhere in Time" was selected by nationally known juror Barbara Tapp out of nearly 300 entries for this honor.



"Somewhere in Time" by Betty Hock (courtesy of San Diego Watercolor Society)

"I have a love for the chaos and abstractness in this painting. Although that takes a tremendous amount of calculation, the work is so free. The light source comes in from two directions, which is very pleasing. There is a motion between colors," Tapp said of the painting. "This is a true abstract without being obvious that it is so intentionally done, but with unintentional aspects that create a dynamic and exciting painting."

Hock is a native of New York City and a graduate of The City University of New York. After a teaching career at the community college level, she resumed the art education she had started years earlier. Her work has since been accepted into many juried exhibitions and has won numerous awards. Her paintings are in private collections throughout the U.S. and other countries. They explore mood and mystery inspired by the natural world. The images come from reality, but it's mostly imagination that fuels their creation. Working between realistic expression and abstraction, she often focuses on light to define the mood – to reflect a stillness, to capture a moment.

Hock's work can be found at bettyhockfineart.com.

The gallery exhibit will run through November and may also be viewed at sdws.org..



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Welcome Club sets festivities

By Denise Stewart

The Scripps Ranch Welcome Club has a long tradition of festivities for every season. This December, the ladies will be gathering at an Escondido tea parlor to celebrate the Christmas holiday.

Pam Savelsberg, who chairs the Gadabouts group, has made arrangements for a high tea with all the proper tastes and traditions of this special time. Seating is limited, so members need to contact Pam in advance to secure their place at the tea table for Dec. 8.

Another Welcome Club Christmas tradition is the annual support of the Toys for Tots charity. Members will be contributing toys or cash donations, so the children of our local military families have a merry celebration this holiday season.

In January, Scripps Ranch Theatre will be performing again after the lengthy hiatus demanded by the COVID restrictions and the Welcome Club will be there to applaud the actors' return to the stage. Going to the local theater performances and enjoying cocktails and canapes beforehand has become another Welcome Club event that draws a festive crowd.

Coffee Klatches are another draw for members to gather and enjoy the company of friends. The delicious brunch dishes and baked goods always contribute to a very enjoyable morning. Diane Rider hosted this event in November as Welcome Clubbers launched their holiday season.

The Welcome Club has been a part of Scripps Ranch's social scene for more than 40 years. However, new members are greeted warmly and soon become part of this circle of friends. If you would like to learn more about the club and get contact information, check out the website at scrippsranchwelcomeclub.com.

Laugh and learn with Richard Lederer

Language columnist Richard Lederer will make an appearance at the Scripps Miramar Ranch Library Center on Saturday, Dec. 4, at 11 a.m. for holiday fun.

Lederer will regale the audience with poems, puns and little known fun facts from his new holiday book "A Treasury of Christmas Humor."

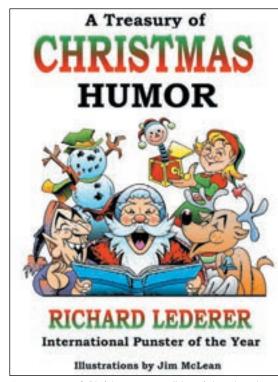
He'll also welcome questions on all matters linguistic – from puns to punctuation, from pronouns to pronunciation, from phrase origins to phraseology. This entertaining and educational program should appeal to adults as well as children ages 10 and up.

Founding co-host of "A Way with Words" on KPBS Public Radio, and an entertaining speaker, Lederer has been named International Punster of the Year and Toastmasters International's Golden Gavel winner.

He is the author of more than 50 books about language, history and humor, including his best-selling "Anguished English" series and his current titles, "A Treasury of Halloween Humor," "A Treasury of Christmas Humor," "Literary Trivia" and "A Pleasury of Word & Phrase Origins."

He will sign books from his large bibliography. Lederer will donate all profits from the sale of his holiday books during his appearance for the benefit of the Scripps Miramar Ranch Library.

Shoppers may also get a head start on holiday shopping while supporting the library



"A Treasury of Christmas Humor" by Richard Lederer

by ordering "A Treasury of Christmas Humor" through Dec. 31 online: www.srfol.org.

Scripps Miramar Ranch Library Center is located at 10301 Scripps Lake Drive across from Miramar Lake. Overflow parking is available on Meanley Drive off Scripps Ranch Boulevard. Call (858) 538-8158 or visit srfol. org for more information.









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Artistic Director Jill Drexler

SR THEATRE

Continued from Page 1

and he falls in love. His high-powered sister and her husband, Beane's self-appointed caretakers, are suspicious. But Beane's newfound joy is contagious. In the end, Beane is transformed and transforms those around him.

"The Taming," April 8-24; written by Lauren Gunderson and directed by Marti Gobel. In this hilarious, raucous, all-female "power-play" inspired by Shakespeare's "Shrew," contestant Katherine has political aspirations to match her beauty pageant ambitions. All she needs to revolutionize the American government is the help of one ultra-conservative senator's aide on the cusp of a career breakthrough, and one bleeding-heart liberal blogger who will do anything for her cause. Well, that and a semi-historically-accurate ether trip.

"I Hate Hamlet," May 20-June 5; written by Paul Rudnick and directed by Phil Johnson. Andrew Rally is a TV actor with a failing series and a chance to play the dream role of Hamlet. When the ghost of the famous Shakespearean actor John Barrymore appears for the sole purpose of convincing Rally to accept the role, he has to choose between Shakespeare and a new TV deal worth millions. Enter a beautiful girlfriend clinging steadfastly to her chastity and a glamorous agent.

Out On A Limb: New Play Festival, July 2022. The Season concludes with the Out On A Limb New Play Festival featuring brand new original short plays chosen from submissions and fully produced over two weekends in July.

SRT vaccination policy: All patrons, including children, attending SRT performances must either show proof of full vaccination against COVID-19 or proof of a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken in the prior 72-hours. All patrons must wear masks while inside the venue.

Visit www.scrippsranchtheatre.org

Enter the 2021 Photo Showcase

exciting photo you took in Scripps Ranch this year?

If so, now is your chance to show it off in the 2021 Scripps Ranch News Photo Showcase.

Submitted photos will be published in the special December Holiday Issue of Scripps Ranch News and also posted on Scripps-

Do you have a colorful or RanchNews.com. There is no charge to participate.

> It's easy to enter: Email a photo you took in Scripps Ranch in 2021 to info@ scrippsranchnews.com. Photos must be high-resolution, at least 300 dpi. Include the name and address of the photographer. Include the date and location the photo was taken.

Rules: All photos must have been taken in the 92131 Zip Code area of Scripps Ranch.

No Photoshop or other alterations allowed.

Only amateur photographers are allowed to enter their photos. No professional photographers.

Deadline: Dec. 3, 2021. Email to: info@scrippsranchnews.com

SUSTAINABLE SCRIPPS RANCH

Induction cooktops reduce GHG emissions

By Larry Peranich Sustainable Scripps Ranch

he COP26 climate conference in Glasgow, Scotland, has been in the news, with many countries pledging to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 2050. California has an even more ambitious target of net-ze-

The California Air Resources Board states that

residential and commercial buildings accounted for 10.5 percent of GHG emissions in the state in 2019. These GHGs are mainly due to use of natural gas and other fuels

ro by 2045.

for heating, cooking and water heating. (The GHGs from the electricity used by these buildings is tracked separately.) While significantly less than the 40 percent of emissions is due to transportation, emissions from buildings will need to be decreased dramatically to meet the 2045 target.

There are two ways to reduce future emissions from buildings: (1) require new buildings to be energy efficient and use only electricity, and (2) retrofit existing buildings with better insulation and electric appliances.

Requiring new, electriconly buildings will prevent an increase in GHG emissions. However, it does nothing to reduce the emissions from the much larger number of existing buildings that use natural gas. We need to figure out how to retrofit the existing residential and commercial buildings over

> inate their emissions. New, electrical induction cooktops will help overcome one of the main impediments to electrification; many people

Sustainable

the next 30 years to elim-

really like their gas stoves. Induction stoves have the advantage of gas stoves, quick temperature response when a user changes a setting, without the disadvantages of indoor air pollution and GHG emissions. (Studies have shown that children who live in homes with gas stoves are more likely to have asthma and/or wheezing than children who live in homes with electric stoves.)

You can try an induction

free by contacting the Electric Home Cooktop Program at https://www.ehomecooktops.com/. My wife and I did this, and we really enjoyed cooking with it. I particularly liked that it allows you to select a cooking temperature instead of a power level.

The San Diego Building **Electrification Coalition** was recently formed to help homeowners and owners of commercial buildings determine the most cost-effective and convenient way to gradually reduce natural gas usage. They have information on induction stoves, highefficiency heat-pump water heaters, heat pumps for heating and air conditioning, as well as how to save money on electrical wiring. For more information on the San Diego Building Electrification Coalition, go to https://sdbec.org/

Sustainable Scripps Ranch is looking for new committee members and suggestions for lectures/speakers.

For more information about Sustainable Scripps Ranch, visit our website at scrippsranch.org/ssr or email Sustainable SR@scrippsranch.





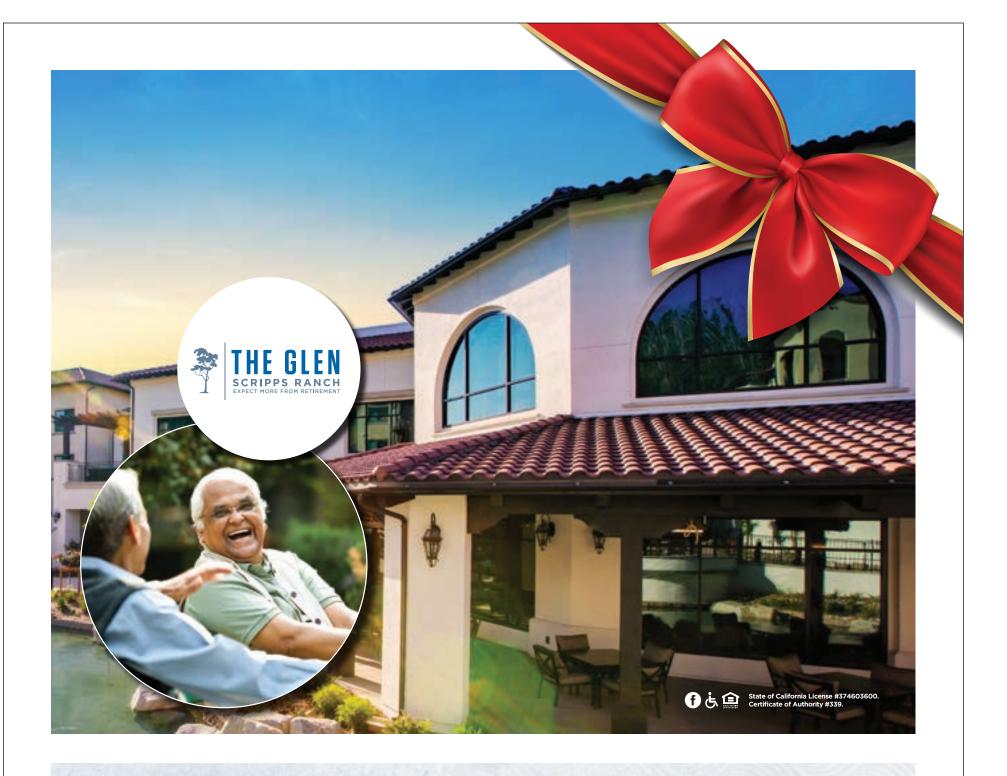






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*Must be 60 or older and complete a tour with a Residency Counselor to redeem. While supplies last. Offer expires 01/31/2022. For the well-being of residents, The Glen strives to follow CDC guidance and comply with recommendations from state and local health officials. Offerings depicted are subject to change.









(courtesy of Scripps Ranch Farmer's Market)

TRICK OR TREAT DAY

Happy children in costumes, parents and pets enjoyed a sunny, warm afternoon and evening as the Scripps Ranch Farmer's Market held its special "Trick or Treat Day" on Oct. 28. The Farmer's Market is held from 3 to 7 p.m. each Thursday at 10045 Carroll Canyon Road.



(photo by John Gregory)



(photo by John Gregory)



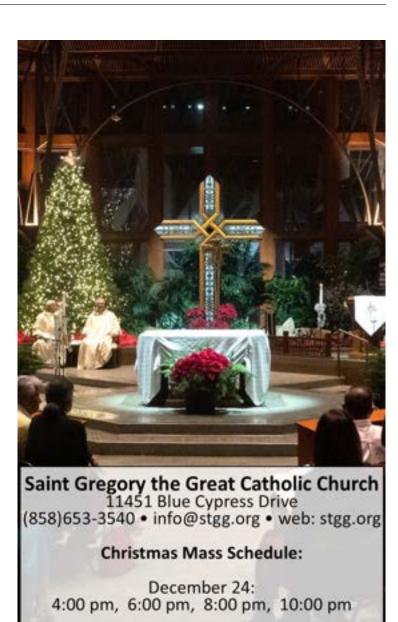
(photo by John Gregory)



(courtesy of Scripps Ranch Farmer's Market)



(photo by John Gregory)



Give your home the protection it deserves.

December 25:

7:30 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am

Come home for Christmas, ALL are welcome!

Your home is where you make some of your best memories, and that's worth protecting. We're here to help.

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Daddy Qiang Qi is a basketball player, mother Dolly Zhu is a thief, big brother Austin Qi is the knight, and little brother Lucas Qi is the Transformer Bubble Bee.



Celine Esme Nguyen as Beetlejuice and Oliver Jude Nguyen as Spider-Man (photo by Créer Atelier)



The Fiero Family as Despicable Me – Minions are Jackson, Sawyer and Darlene with Arturo as Vector (photo by Francia Caalaman)



Samih Najdi is ready to monkey around on Halloween. (photo by Raya Fakih)

ANOTHER SPOOKY HALLOWEEN

Scripps Ranch came alive with spooky ghosts, goblins, superheroes and other spectacular characters on Halloween as trick-or-treaters roamed their neighborhoods once again. Thanks go out to all Scripps Ranch News readers who sent in these colorful photos!



James and Talia Saucedo took "The Pumpkin Brothers" trick-or-treating for the first time and they had a blast! (photos by Caroline Nalezny, left, and Talia



Jacob, Natalie, Will and Stephanie Hoffman went all out with a Jurassic Park theme.



Valerie Ramachandran is excited about Halloween. (photo by Elena Garcia – mother)



Malie Stephens looks angelic for the Halloween festivities! (photo by Laura Stephens)



Colin as Link from "Zelda: Breath of the Wild" (photo by mom Jennifer Ryan)



Riley as Uma from Disney's "Descendants" (photo by mom Jennifer Ryan)



Teddy dressed up as a Scripps Ranch construction worker (photo by mom)



EVENTS

'THE NUTCRACKER'

Dec. 4, 5 at 2 p.m.

The Scripps Ballet Theatre and Scripps Performing Arts Academy proudly present their 33rd annual all-youth production of the full length ballet "The Nutcracker," featuring dancers ages 3 to 19. Based on the timeless Holiday tale by E.T.A. Hoffmann, this classic tells the story of a young girl named Marie and her magical adventure one holiday evening. See in person at Creative Performing Media Arts, 5050 Conrad Ave. This beloved holiday tradition will also be livestreamed. Tickets: scrippsballet.com/academy.

'SHE'S AT THE LIBRARY'

Through Dec. 5

Scripps Ranch resident Carly Salway stars in the new holiday play "She's at the Library" by Dori Salois. The play offers a different look at the Christmas Classic "It's A Wonderful Life." What was Mary's life without George and what happens when he shows up?

See **HOLIDAY EVENTS**, Page 12

HOLIDAY Becky's Gift toy drive is underway

he 12th Annual Becky's Gift Toy Drive to help families fighting cancer during the holiday season is underway.

Thanks to the Scripps Ranch community, this nonprofit effort has surpassed all its goals each year and successfully delivered loads of toys to five local cancer centers in San Diego: UCSD Moores Cancer Center, UCSD Koman Breast Cancer Infusion Center, Oncology Associates of San Diego, South County Hematology Oncology Center, and the Kevin H. Cook Infusion and Oncology Center.

Those going through treatment of cancer during the holidays face an emotionally, physically and financially difficult time. Becky's Gift allows families affected by cancer to choose a toy for their children or grandchildren during the holidays while undergoing treatment. This way, cancer patients may focus on their treatment and health, and will not have to worry about the pressures of the season. They will know their child or grandchild will have a gift.

Anyone wishing to donate



Christie Jackson (left) and Becky Walton (second from left) deliver toys to Moores Cancer Center with the help of UCSD nurses. (courtesy of Becky's Gift)

a present will help Becky's Gift surpass the goal of 1,000 toys this year.

Becky's Gift volunteers hope to start delivering toys Thanksgiving week. Those wishing to help may donate new, unwrapped toys for children ages 1-16 years old. Monetary donations and gift cards are also accepted.

Toys can be dropped off at Scripps Rock Dental, 12112 Scripps Summit Drive, Suite C; or St. Gregory the Great Catholic School, 15315 Stonebridge Parkway; or contact Christie Jackson at christie@jacksonlane.com or Becky Walton at beckywalton@san.rr.conm to arrange a gift pick up.

Toy collection will continue until Dec. 17.

Visit the Facebook page www.facebook.com/Beckys-Gift or the website www. beckysgifts.org.





Home for the Holidays lighting contest

Winners will get fantastic local prizes and a year of bragging rights!!!

2021 Categories

Norman Rockwell Award

Elegant displays that accentuate and coordinate with the beauty and elegance of the home

The Clark Griswold Award

The most over the top lights with lighting displays and motion

The Nostalgia Award

Reminds me of my childhood

Misfit Toy Award

Best use of inflatables

Grandma Got Run Over Award

The Sparkle Award

Twinkliest lights

"Lights - It Takes A Village!"

Best decorated group of homes, gather the neighbors!

"To The Beat Of Your Own Little Drummer Boy" Unique and WOW!

Look out for a complete map of where to see the lights this holiday season in the December issue of **Scripps Ranch News!**









Enter the Home Lighting Contest

Realty-Scripps Ranch News Home Lighting Contest has opened for the 2021 holiday season.

Twenty Four Seven Realty is again sponsoring this lighting contest that provides a joyous experience for local residents and a warm holiday tradition for all of Scripps Ranch.

The Home Lighting Contest not only gives entrants a way to showcase their outdoor light decorating skills, it also provides a convenient opportunity for those who appreciate holiday light decorations to tour the outdoor home displays. Scripps Ranch News will publish a map of entry locations in the December edition of the newspaper – and will provide updates online.

within Scripps Ranch and ranchholidaylights..com

The Twenty Four Seven decorates the outside of their home with holiday lights this season is eligible to enter the contest. Prizes – provided by Twenty Four Seven Realty – will be awarded to the top entrants.

Judges will drive to the properties in the contest to view the lighted displays. All entry displays must be accessible to the public for street viewing.

The winners of the contest will be announced on ScrippsRanchNews.com on the morning of Jan. 1, New Year's Day. Photos of the winning displays will be published in the January issue of Scripps Ranch News.

Deadline to enter is Dec. 13, 2021. Contest rules and other specifics are provided in the online entry form. Those wishing to enter may Anyone whose home is fill in the form at scripps-

HOLIDAY EVENTS

Continued from Page 11

This fun feminist take on Mary's life depicts a woman's point of view. Which life will she



Carly Salway choose? Salway plays Mary (the Donna Reed role in the film). This Point Loma Playhouse production runs now through Dec. 5 at the historic Point Loma Assembly, 3035 Talbot St. in Pont Loma. Tickets: pointlomaplayhouse.com.

'MIXED NUTS'

Dec. 11, 12

The Lynch Dance Institute presents "Mixed Nuts," a holiday multi-dance genre performance. Enjoy this bold twist on the holiday classic an unabridged, somewhat unhinged version of "The Nutcracker." Includes many dancers from Scripps Ranch. Shows are Saturday, Dec. 11 at 2 p.m. with the "Mingle Jingle" inaugural fundraiser following the show; and Sunday, Dec. 12 at 2 p.m. in the Joan B. Kroc Performing Arts Center, 6611 University Ave. Tickets: mixednuts.bpt.me.

TREE LIGHTING

Continued from Page 1

hosting it. It is also tradition to tell the next troop who hosts it what goes into it and tips. We have a whole binder that we update on what we did, the budgeting and stuff like that. So, they have a hand in the whole process of the planning and executing

This year, Troop 3958 has planned the toy drive, a bake sale, an appearance by Santa, arts and crafts, and singing around the tree by individual troops. The bake sale will benefit the S.H.A.R.E program, which helps girls who want to become Girl Scouts with the financial aspects of joining.

"It's just really fun and it's a free event for Scouts to get together, hang out and spread some holiday cheer," Fleizach said. "Since last year we weren't able to have the event in-person, everyone's very excited to have it this year."

The goal for the toy drive is to bring in 100 new and unwrapped toys that will be donated to Toys for Tots. Anyone can donate these gifts. Girl Scouts or Boy Scouts who donate can receive a special personalized tree lighting patch.

Since COVID precautions are still in place, those attending the event will be required to wear masks if they are within six feet of others.

This event is also dedicated to the late Bob and Gaye Dingeman. Bob was known as "Mr. Scripps Ranch" for his dedicated work as a volunteer and leader for this community. Gaye was always supportive, helpful and encouraging to many in Scripps Ranch.

"They were always a big part of the event and obviously can't be here this year, but they always loved to be a part of it," Fleizach said.

The Marshall Middle School advanced symphony orchestra and band during class. (courtesy of Cameron Brown)

Marshall Middle School music returns

By Ashley Shah

fter spending a year in virtual learning, the Marshall Middle School (MMS) music program is back and ready to perform.

The upcoming winter concert was set for Dec. 9, however, this year the student musicians will present a recorded performance.

"There's a lot of restrictions at the moment for holding an in-person event. We would have to have the concert outside, and to get



Mutual Aid Drive set for December

The Scripps Ranch Social Justice Club at Scripps Ranch High School (SRHS) will host its second Mutual Aid Drive from Dec. 6 to 17. Last year, the online Mutual Aid Fundraiser raised \$1,600, which was donated to five San Diego organizations, ranging from Free Soup San Diego to the San Diego Fridge Projects.

This year, as the drive transitions to an in-person setting, the group will collect canned and non-perishable goods. All collected goods will be donated to the San Diego Food Bank and San Diego Fridge Projects.

The group plans to place collection baskets in SRHS classrooms, along with locations accessible to other Scripps Ranch residents such as the Scripps-Miramar Ranch Library. Scripps Ranch residents are encouraged to get involved.

For the latest updates, follow @socialjusticescrippsranch on Instagram.

Chabra among Most Remarkable

Scripps Ranch High School student Rhea Chabra was among students honored by city and county leaders in San Diego County's 25 Most Remarkable Teens program, led by the San Diego County Public Defender's Office. Members of the Public Defender Youth Council selected the honorees from among the nominations sent to the program. Those selected were honored during a ceremony held at the San Diego Central Library on Nov. 10. Chabra, 17, was selected in the Most Enterprising category.

the lighting, sound and other logistics down would be very difficult," said Cameron Brown, MMS director of instrumental music.

The band will record the performance during the week of Dec. 6, and it will be published before winter break.

Besides the winter concert, the music program will also have a "pre-festival" performance around late February or early March.

"Festival is like our evaluation event where we play for a panel of judges, and they rate the quality of the performance. I like to have a pre-festival concert so that the students can get out their jitters and get a chance

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'My overall goal each year is just to have as many kids move onto the next level because they end up loving it.'

—Cameron Brown

to perform before the actual event," Brown said.

The last concert of the season will be in either late May or early June.

"I always like to have an end of the year concert where we play popular music from

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TV shows or video games. It's just a nice way to end the year," Brown said.

The logistics for the next two performances has not been determined due to the ever-changing climate of the pandemic. Brown described the challenges the program is facing.

"All of the students are wearing masks. The wind players have to wear playing masks that only allow for their mouthpiece to be used. Percussionists occasionally have to share mallets, so they sanitize before and after using things that are shared. There is a lot of effort going into keeping each

See MMS MUSIC, Page 14





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MMS MUSIC

Continued from Page 13

other safe," Brown said. "I also did not hold a fall concert this year, even though I usually do with my intermediate and advanced kids. I just wanted to keep things simple and roll back into the habits comfortably without a concert on the horizon."

Brown had to make some changes in the structure of the classes offered. Despite the changes, the Marshall music program is still up in its number of members.

"Across all of my four classes, there are about 130 students, which is less than the usual, but it is still pretty good ... overall our numbers are still high," Brown said.

As the music program bounces back from the year online, Brown explained his process, as well as his goals.

"We're taking it a little easier this year, but only because I want them to build a great foundation, rather than trying to focus on harder music," he said. "I just want to get them back to playing, and learning to love it. My overall goal each year is just to have as many kids move onto the next level because they end up loving it."

For more information, visit mmsim.org.

Curtain rises again for Falcon Playhouse

By Ashley Shah

atrick Garcia, the technical theatre teacher for the Scripps Ranch High School (SRHS) Falcon Playhouse of eight years, has been planning the comeback of the Falcon Playhouse.

"The curtain has risen. I want to relaunch the passion for live theatre. The students need it," Garcia said.

The theatre program was not able to hold performances in-person throughout most of last year due to the COVID-19 school shutdown.

"We held performances over Zoom throughout the year. We did 'Almost Maine' in the fall, which involved mostly two people per scene. So, it was easier to pull off something like that on Zoom. We also did 'Ten Two,' which follows the same format as 'Almost Maine," Garcia said. "We had to work through many challenges with the Zoom format. For the backgrounds, we used the same virtual backgrounds, so it looked like they were in the same place. We had to work through sound difficulties and things of that nature as



Students perform on the Falcon Playhouse set of "Working." (courtesy of Falcon Playhouse)

well.

At the very end of year, the Playhouse was able to do one performance that was inperson.

"When we were able to return back at the very end of the year, we performed outside, and then broadcasted the live outdoor performance," Garcia said.

During September, Falcon Playhouse held its first show of the season with Marshall Middle School.

"The performance was done outside, similar to our play in the spring of this year," Garcia said.

The next performance,

the "Good Doctor," will be performed outdoors in the amphitheater outside the engineering building from Dec. 2 to 4.

"Everyone has been casted, and we have already started rehearsals," Garcia said. "Doing everything outdoors has posed a lot of challenges, such as making everything secure, the lighting and constructing things outside in an uncontrolled environment."

Garcia explained the challenges they have had to face due to the restrictions from the pandemic.

"In class, we have been

distancing ourselves when we rehearse. We always wear masks. We discussed using clear masks to see their facial expressions, but decided against it. After each set changes, we wipe everything down. We can no longer share costumes," Garcia said.

The performance of "Good Doctor" will be available for anyone to watch live.

"This will be the first time in over a year where the audience will be able to enjoy a performance in its entirety, and the students will finally have a live audience that they can see," Garcia said.

The Playhouse's third performance, the musical "Beauty and the Beast," will be in March 2022. The final performance of the season, "Radium Girls," will be in June 2022.

"We are going to test out how this show goes, and how the policies regarding COVID go to decide whether the performances will be able to be viewed live like this one, or whether they will be streamed," Garcia said.

In addition to their performances, in January and

See **CURTAIN RISES**, Page 15



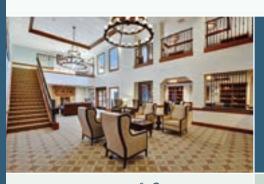
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For the well-being of residents, Ridgeview Health Center strives to follow CDC guidance and comply with recommendations from state and local health officials. Offerings depicted are subject to change.





The Scripps Ranch High Marching Band and Color Guard is known for its quality sound and precise performances. (photo by John Gregory)

MARCHING BAND

Continued from Page 1

High School on Oct. 16. On Oct. 30, it competed in a competition the band hosted at SRHS, and placed second overall, and first in its division. Their last competition of the regular season was Nov. 6 at Great Oak High School in Temecula. The team placed fourth overall, and second in its division.

"We have had two great runs this season. We have won two out of three competitions for our division, so we're hoping to win some more," Shedd said.

"My main goal this year was to be successful and make it to finals. We have made state finals the past five years," he said.

Due to the switch to in-person after a year of virtual learning, Shedd has made some adjustments.

The team's show this year is called "City of Lights."

"The theme kind of centers around Paris in the '40s," Shedd said.

"We have definitely simplified our show this year. It is shortened, and some of the material we are playing is stuff we have seen before, but I just wanted to keep things simple since we are just coming back from on-



SRHS music director Russell Shedd addresses the Marching Band and Color Guard following a victorious performance at the Scripps Ranch Field Tournament. (photo by John Gregory)

line learning," Shedd said.

The marching band and color guard teams combined this year make up about 100 students.

"That's a little lower than in years past. I think it's going to take a couple years for us to bounce back from COVID," Shedd said.

After the competition season is over, the music department will prepare for its winter concert set for Dec. 15 and 16. The concert will be held outdoors.

"We have had many performances outdoors, so having it outdoors this year won't be too much of a difficulty since we are familiar with that type of performance," Shedd said. "I like to make the winter concert like a festival, so we will have food trucks and sort of like a photo booth."

The SRHS music program is self-sustained financially.

"The district gives us very little, so we fundraise all of the time. We do dinner nights and sell iced tea. The concerts are also fundraisers. We are always in need of donations," Shedd said.

For more information, visit srhsmusic.com.

CURTAIN RISES

Continued from Page 14

April of 2022, the Playhouse will hold improv shows.

"One of my goals is to do an improv show with all of SDUSD," Garcia said.

Currently, the program has a stable group of members.

"The pool has gone down, just a bit, but I have a really strong core group. We will have just over 40 students for the 'Good Doctor,' which is really great," Garcia said.

The Falcon Playhouse relies on ticket sales and fundraising to keep the program afloat.

"We are currently running a SnapRaise fundraiser. The fundraiser helps pay for the materials we use to build. I am also trying to replace our sound system because it is really old," Gar-

For more information, visit falconplayhouse.com.

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BOYS BASKETBALL

SRHS coach optimistic as new season begins

By Hector Trujillo

he Scripps Ranch High School boys varsity basketball team, which kicked off its home opener against Santana High School on Nov. 17, looks to bounce back from its lackluster performance from last year as the league found itself gripped in the height of the COVID pandemic.

"This season is shaping up to be an amazing year," said head coach Brock Flint. "It's one of the deepest teams we've had in a decade. Once the team gels, it will be a heck of a squad. We have high goals, as we expect to compete for the league title and also make a deep run in the playoffs."

The Falcons have eight returning players from last season along with several new talented additions to the team.

I love these young men and who they are becoming.'

—Brock Flint

The full schedule this year includes several Division 1 and 2 opponents including Mission Hills and Cathedral Catholic, with the team facing off against rival Mira Mesa High

> School twice; first on Dec. 13 and then at home on Dec. 23.

"Last season was a big challenge for us. It was the first season for

our new coaching staff, who were all hired just a few short weeks prior to the season starting. We were implementing an entirely new system," Flint said.

The other complicating factor was that the COVID pandemic forced sports to overlap and limited practice times, which caused players to miss the season.

Among the players who will be a key to the team's success are senior Caden Flint and junior Jaiden Schube, who are not only good at scoring baskets, but also play tough defense. Other noteworthy players are senior guards Jared Balaoing and Chase Weber, with center Jax Leatherwood being a tough matchup for opponents along with newcomer Lamont Wilker-

"Scripps Ranch boys basketball hasn't been a force to be reckoned with in quite some time, but we are working hard to change that," Flint said. "Cultures don't change overnight or even in a season, but these young men, our amazing coaching staff and several key contributors in the community are working relentlessly to make sure we build something to be proud of for years to come."

Flint studied sports and coaching in college along with playing competitively for many years.

"I love these young men and who they are becoming. And coaching is a platform that you can use to teach them how to grow and take life on." Flint said.



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(photo by Jim Wick)

CHAMPIONS!

Tennis team wins CIF-SDS

By Hector Trujillo

he Scripps Ranch High School girls varsity tennis team won its first ever CIF-SDS Girls Tennis Team Division 1 Championship in the 28year history of the school after dominating Vincent Memorial Catholic High School 13-5 in the final held on Oct. 29 at Barnes Tennis Center in Ocean Beach.

"We just started the season strong. I have a strong line of singles that worked really hard and have been on the team before," said head coach Karyn McCartney.

The team played a total of 13 matches, finishing with a record of 10-3, which earned them the third overall seed in the championship tournament and a first round match-up with Valhalla High School which they won handily 18-0, earning them a quarterfinal round matchup with La Jolla Country Day. This turned out to be much more competitive than the first round for the Falcons, but the players still managed to get through with an 11-7 victory.

"I tried really hard to encourage them that they were okay and to do the best they can and give it their all.' McCartney said.

Then, Scripps Ranch played Cathedral Catholic High School in the semifinals facing that team for the third time this season – coming out with the 11-7 win, which was the same score from their previous two matches against the Dons.

The championship match against top ranked Vincent Memorial from Calexico saw the team play some of its best tennis since the first round blowout victory, winning the title 13-5.

Among the most notewor-

thy performers this season for the 12-player team were Tess Gunatilake, Shreya Bharath and Shivanshi Sharma. The doubles were more of a team effort which included the pairings of Rachana Raghavendra and Lorena Ford along with Emily York and Lauren Gaddis. Gunatilake and Sharma were teamed up for the CIF doubles tournament but were bounced out in the quarterfinals with Bharath suffering the same finish in the singles.

"I knew some of the girls prior, but it was great to see the girls at the beginning of the season ... getting to know them, getting to know their skill level, their personality and things they need to work on," McCartney said.

McCartney played all four years at Tustin High School prior to moving on to Orange Coast College where she earned the number 1 ranking in the state.



(photo by Jim Wick)



(photo by Jim Wick)



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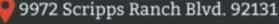


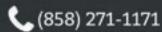
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Photos will be published in the December issue of Scripps Ranch News and also posted on ScrippsRanchNews.com.

- Email a high-resolution photo taken within the 92131 Zip Code area of Scripps Ranch in 2021 to info@scrippsranchnews.com.
- Open to amateur photographers only.
- Include the name and address of the photographer.
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FALL BALL: Scripps Ranch Softball Association teams celebrated the final weekend of the fall ball season with a friendly tournament on their home field on Nov. 7, followed by a celebration with players and families. (photo by Lisa Shadburn)



(photo by Jim Wick)

SRHS CROSS COUNTRY: The Scripps Ranch High School cross country team competed in the Western League Championships at Morley Field on Nov. 10. The mens varsity team placed second. junior Ken Belt (third), senior Samuel Stevens (eighth) and sophomore Oliver Cannon (ninth) were in the league's top 15 male finishers. The SHRS womens varsity team placed third. Michaela Martin (sixth) and senior Samantha Nauman (12th) were among the league's top 15 female finishers. The CIF-SDS Championships were set for Nov. 20 at Morley Field.





POP WARNER CHEER: The Pee Wee Cheer team from the Scripps Ranch Pop Warner Football and Cheer Association performs precise halftime routines, rouses the crowd at games and forms a lane for the players to pass through afterward. (photos by John Gregory)









Pop Warner team goes to title game

The Scripps Ranch Pop Warner 12u football team won a thrilling 32-28 semi-final contest against Rancho Hills on Nov. 13 (top left). The Falcons fought back to take the lead in a nail-biter. On Nov. 6, Scripps Ranch defeated Murrieta 21-0 in a quarterfinal game (above and bottom left). At press time, Scripps Ranch was set to host the Coronado Islanders in the Nov. 20 championship. (photos by John Gregory)

SPORTS UPDATES

Little League registration

Registration for the 2022 Spring Little League baseball season is open. Assessments will be held in mid- to late-January. Games will commence in early February. Check the website for additional information: scrippsranchll.org.

Softball registration

Registration for the Scripps Ranch Softball Association spring season is now open. Discounted early registration prices are available now through Dec. 6. The Scripps Ranch fastpitch recreational league is for all skill levels and is an opportunity for girls to improve their softball skills, make new friends, develop team building skills and have fun. Visit srsoftball.org.

Field hockey championships

The Scripps Ranch High School varsity field hockey team is in the 2021 CIF-SDS Field Hockey Open Division Championships. The team opened with an 8-2 first round victory vs. Cathedral Catholic on Nov. 16 and was set to host Canyon Crest in the semi final round on Nov. 18 as of press time.

Glossner wins match play

Scripps Ranch High School (SRHS) varsity golfer Kiana Glossner, a junior, won the San Diego City Conference Match Play Golf Championships at Torrey Pines Golf Course. SRHS senior Isabella Ranches finished in fourth place.

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