



Rancho Santa Fe resident becomes newest member of Research Institute Board



Rancho Santa Fe resident Mark Fischer, a successful local business leader and strong community supporter, was recently elected to the La Jolla Institute for Allergy & Immunology's Board of Directors.

Fischer is the president and owner of San Diego-based Sullivan Moving and Storage Company (Sullivan), the largest United Van Lines agent in San Diego County. Sullivan is also a shareholder in UniGroup, Inc. a \$2 billion holding company that is ranked as one of the largest privately held companies in the United States. UniGroup owns United Van Lines and Mayflower Van Lines and is owned exclusively by its operating agents.

"Mr. Fischer is a "can do" kind of individual who has built his company into one of the leaders in its field," said Mitchell Kronenberg, Ph.D., the La Jolla Institute's president and chief scientific officer. "This attitude, coupled with his personal passion for fighting immune-based diseases, will make him a real asset on our Board of Directors."

Fischer said he joined the La Jolla Institute Board for two primary reasons. One was his desire to become more directly involved in public service activities, as a Board member for a nonprofit organization. The second reason was more personal. "I have experienced first hand over the past 24 years how an immune system disease can impact both the individuals who have them and their families," he said. "My wife of 31 years, Carol, was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis 24 years ago.

There is no known cure yet for this very debilitating disease. The work being done at the La Jolla Institute focuses on understanding the immune system in order to develop better treatments and cures for many diseases that are immune system driven, including MS."

Multiple sclerosis (MS) belongs to a group of disorders known as autoimmune diseases, which occur when the immune system mistakenly attacks the body's own healthy tissue. In MS, the immune system targets the myelin sheath that normally surrounds and protects nerve cells.

Fischer and his wife recently held the Institute's "Autumn Sunset over Del Mar" friend-raising event at their Rancho Santa Fe home. The event was designed to educate guests about the Institute's critical disease-fighting focus. The La Jolla Institute is the only research institute in San Diego and one of the few in the world focused on finding causes and new treatments for diseases based on better understanding of the immune system. Its research impacts a broad spectrum of diseases including multiple sclerosis, type 1 diabetes, Crohn's disease and numerous other autoimmune diseases. The Institute also focuses on infectious diseases, such as dengue virus, influenza and tuberculosis, along with asthma, allergies, cancer and heart disease, and has the potential to help millions of people around the world.

"In touring the Institute's labs, I have met a number of world-class scientists whose dedication and desire to find cures overwhelms me," Fischer said. "I am pleased to have an opportunity to sit on the Institute's Board and support these vitally important efforts to combat disease."

In addition to his work with the Institute, Mr. Fischer and his company, Sullivan, have been involved with numerous functions for Rady Children's Hospital for the last 15 years. Sullivan is listed as a Miracle Maker and a Friend of the Hospital and is a major sponsor every year for their Celebration of Champions.

Sullivan also has been an advocate and supporter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society in San Diego for the past 20 years, providing trucking and

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SULLIVAN SOCIETY in San Diego for the past 20 years, providing trucking and warehousing services for their annual walk, bay-to-bay bike tour, and dinner charity auction. Sullivan was recently nominated as the Corporate Partner Volunteer of the Year for 2010 by the Pacific South Coast Chapter of the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Fischer joined Sullivan Moving and Storage in June of 1978 as its Controller. In 1982, he was named general manager of Sullivan and in 1987 became the President and sole owner. Sullivan currently has three full service locations in San Diego, Vista, and Phoenix, AZ as well as a military only agency and two special product distribution centers.

For more information, go to www.liai.org

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- Carmel Valley photographer publishes book featuring unique images from Antarctica January 18, 2011
Few people can say they've been surrounded by a sea of penguins. Carmel Valley resident Steve Gould can and has amazing photographs as proof. Gould recently published a book of photography from his memorable trip to Antarctica, called "To the End of the Earth, A Journey to the Southern Ocean" [...]
- Del Mar: Friends of the Powerhouse's casino night to help raise money for new Beach Safety Center and Lifeguard Headquarters January 18, 2011
The Friends of the Powerhouse members are gearing for their annual casino night fundraiser Saturday, Feb. 5, which aims to raise money for the new Beach Safety Center and Lifeguard Headquarters. The Del Mar's lifeguard station was built in 1964, and with it falling deeper into disrepair, raising money for a new facility has become a front-burner mission. T [...]
- Solana Beach Art Association calls out for artists and poets who 'Feel The Love' January 18, 2011
The Solana Beach Art Association is seeking local fine artists and adult poets who would like to take part in "Feel The Love," a combined Valentine-themed poetry reading and fine art event at The Book Works store and the Heather Roddy Art Gallery on the second level in Flower Hill Promenade in Del Mar [...]

[LA JOLLA NEWS](#)

- Jewish Federation celebrates 75 years of philanthropy
The Hilton San Diego Bayfront hosted "75 Years of Impact" on Jan. 15. The anniversary gala doubled as a benefit for Jewish Federation programs. Guests enjoyed cocktails, dinner, music by Anthology, exhibits, and a program that honored past Federation presidents and past presidents of the Women's Division. [...]
- Jeff & Jer coming back to radio?
Jeff Detrow and Jerry Cesak, the San Diego morning radio show duo known as "Jeff and Jer," are reportedly returning to the airwaves on KXYX-FM. Cesak posted a message on his blog Tuesday that said to return at 7:15 a.m. Wednesday for an announcement on their new radio station gig. [...]
- Breakfast at UCSD features talks on Kyoto Prize Laureates
Qualcomm founder Irwin Jacobs led a discussion about the 2010 Kyoto Prize Laureates — Dr. Shinya Yamanaka, Dr. Laszlo Lovasz and William Kentridge — during a breakfast on Tuesday hosted by the Kyoto Symposium Organization. [...]