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Wright Named South Bay Chamber Legislator of the Year



Senator Roderick D. Wright (D-South Los Angeles) was named Legislator of the Year earlier this month by the South Bay Association of Chambers of Commerce, for his record of authoring and supporting pro-business and job-creating legislation. At the SBACC Annual Installation Luncheon, Senator Ted Lieu (D-Torrance) presented Wright with the Shaun Lumachi Legislator of the Year Award. Wright is the second recipient of this annual memorial award, named for the budding young community leader who was tragically killed in a car accident in December of 2011 at the age of 33. As explained to attendees by Supervisor Don Knabe, the Shaun Lumachi Award is given to someone who has taken a leadership role in representing the interests of the business community in the South Bay. Photo courtesy of the office of Sen. Roderick D. Wright.

Chevron Ready to Roll in New Drum Set

By Brian Simon

If you happen to be out and about in the South Bay after 10 p.m. the next three Wednesdays and find a good viewing spot, you might have an opportunity to witness an event that may not come around again until the late 2050s or so. While it might not attract the same crowds the Space Shuttle Endeavour did last fall, it will be quite the undertaking and a memorable sight when Chevron transports six giant steel drums from King Harbor in Redondo Beach to the company's El Segundo refinery.

Used to manufacture petroleum products such as gasoline, diesel and jet fuel, the 100-foot-long, 28-foot-in-diameter coke drums each weigh about a half a million pounds. They will replace Chevron's existing 45-yearold coke drums that have reached the end of their useful life cycles. The new coke drums will be nested in a tall derrick structure that is a unique feature of the refinery landscape. In addition to replacing the old drums--which will be cleaned, cut up on site and recycled--Chevron will also execute additional safety and seismic stability upgrades on the derrick structure. The project itself will bring between 2,000 and 3,000 short-term jobs to the area and be completed in 2014. Built in Spain (the United States has no steel fabrication shops with the manufacturing capabilities for this job), the drums arrived late last month at the Port of Los Angeles via a specially designed cargo ship after a month-long, 7,330-nautical mile journey to the West Coast. Over the next three Monday nights, the drums will move two at a time from the Port of LA to King Harbor. After two days in a staging area, they will make the 4.5-mile trek to Gate 21 at Chevron's Rosecrans Avenue entrance where they will be put in place by one of the world's largest cranes. To navigate through city streets, crews will tote the drums on three consecutive Wednesday nights beginning February 20 between 10 p.m. and 5 p.m. at the not-so-breakneck speed of one to three miles per hour. But with a million pounds of cargo in one load, a Toyota Tundra (the truck that towed the svelte-in-comparison, 300,000-pound Space Shuttle and transport vehicle) won't quite do the trick.

To get the job done, the refinery will instead use a custom-designed, Caltrans-approved, 432-ton vehicle that boasts 32 axles, 128 wheels, 80-yard dollies, and a truck in front and in back for traction and braking. The sheer size and height of the load will also require infrastructure improvements and other preparatory work by Southern California Edison crews beginning this Monday, as well as other mitigations from Chevron. These will include raising power lines, replacing power poles, trimming trees to clear the pathway, and removing and replacing portions of the median.

To minimize traffic impacts, Caltrans worked with Chevron to develop a temporary road closure plan. The first is set for Monday, February 18 between 10 p.m. and 12:30 See Chevron, page 3

Local Environmental Education Effort Turns Global

By Cristian Vasquez

nonprofit and take all of our resources, our

Sunny 74°/54°



Saturday AM Clouds/ PM Sun 75°/54°



Almost six years ago, a small volunteer group in Manhattan Beach got together with parents interested in making the city's schools a little greener. Little did they know the dedication of a few volunteers would turn into an international example of environmental education called Grades of Green.

"The program rapidly grew to most of the schools within Manhattan Beach in the first year and from there it kind of spread to Hermosa Beach," Grades of Green cofounder Kim Lewand Martin said. "We began winning a couple of awards and we weren't even a nonprofit yet, so that was pretty cool. We even won an award from the EPA and we were also highlighted on national magazines, so we began receiving a little bit of press. Those two things in particular started prompting people from across the country to contact us and inquire how they could replicate our work. The idea was born at that point to create a knowhow, along with the trial and error that we had already done in figuring out these activities at a school, so that others could do the same to make it a healthier and greener place."

Grades of Green has been working with schools across the country and as far as Australia. For two-and-a-half years, the Grades of Green website has been reaching more than 160 schools and over 100,000 students through its wide range of programs and 40 activities that include how-to steps in order to make the process as easy as possible for schools interested.

"We are an environmental education nonprofit and our mission is to inspire and empower students and entire school communities to care for the environment," Program and Outreach Coordinator Allie Bussjaeger said. "There are two sides to the program. One is our grant-supported program, which is what I work on mostly, **See Environmental, page 4**

People

CONGRATULATIONS

Amit Kamboj, of Torrance, received a Master of Business Administration from the Goizueta Business School of Emory University

usiness **TORRANCE MEMORIAL CONTINUES REDUCED-COST LUNG CANCER** SCREENING

Amid updated guidelines released by the American Cancer Society (ACS) concluding sufficient evidence for lung cancer screening with low-dose computed tomography (LDCT) in certain high-risk individuals, Torrance Memorial Medical Center's Thoracic Oncology Program continues to offer its reduced-cost CT Lung Screening Program. The program was launched in 2011 to enhance early detection and treatment of lung cancer. The cost of the non-contrast CT screening exam is \$350 and is the responsibility of the patient since proactive CT screening is not a covered benefit. Ordinarily CT scans cost thousands of dollars, which is usually covered by private insurance when ordered after an adverse event is suspected. Under the program, the screenings are suggested for asymptomatic individuals ages 50 to 74 who have a significant smoking history. A physician referral is required. For more information on Torrance Memorial's program, persons interested may call 310-517-4665.

INSURANCE AGENT TANIA RICHARDSON CELEBRATES 6-MONTH MARK

Tania Richardson recently celebrated the six-month mark since the opening of her State Farm office located at 17715 Crenshaw Blvd. which officially opened on September 1, 2012. Before becoming a State Farm Agent, Tania proudly served in the United States Army for three years and was a veteran of Desert Storm by the age of nineteen. Tania was also a television personality and featured in the hit Bravo reality show "The Real Housewives of Atlanta!" and opened "Beauty Fetish Apothecary and Salon" in Atlanta, Georgia which grew into a thriving business. In addition, she worked in restaurant management for Bone's Restaurant, one of the nation's best known and highest rated steakhouses. Tania is fully licensed which means she can provide auto, homeowners and in Atlanta, Ga., on Dec. 22, 2012.

Mona Khalifeh, of Torrance, was announced as a Distinguished Scholar at Rockford College. •

life insurance in addition to retirement planning. Her multi-cultural team is equally dedicated to providing first-rate customer service. For additional information, her website is: www. insurewitht.com.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON'S INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS PAVE WAY FOR MOVE OF **REFINERY DRUMS**

Infrastructure improvements and other prework by Southern California Edison (SCE) crews in the South Bay are being completed in preparation for the transportation of six Chevron refinery drums down public streets in the beach communities beginning Feb. 20. Chevron is funding the project. No fees will be incurred by SCE customers. In anticipation of this large project, SCE crews have been raising and replacing power poles, and rerouting high-voltage circuits to clear the 4.5 mile route to minimize public impact and service interruption. In addition, street lights will be moved on the night of each transport by SCE crews during the transportation of each drum set to assure safety to the public and electrical grid reliability. The drums each measure 100 feet long and 28 feet wide. The six large drums are scheduled to be moved in pairs on Feb. 20 and during the week of Feb. 25 and the week of March 4, weather permitting.

SCE pre-work and infrastructure improvements include the following:

• Replacing 10 permanent power poles and three temporary power poles.

• Raising or removing 20 wires that impact the route. Sixteen overhead wires will be raised, removed or elevated to 40 feet or higher above Pacific Coast Highway (PCH).

• Six street lights will be removed and SCE will turn the mast arms and lights at 90 degrees for 50 lights so they will be parallel to the curb, allowing the drums to pass.

• Temporary lines have been installed at Ardmore Boulevard and 21st Street in Hermosa Beach to reroute a power circuit and will be removed after the drums are transported. •

<u> Community</u> Briefs

CENTERPIECE DESIGN CONTEST FOR CELEBRATE EDUCATION DINNER ENDS FRIDAY

The Torrance Education Foundation, TEF, is hosting a student art contest. The art contest requires students to design artwork that can be mounted on a canvas to be displayed at the annual TEF Celebrate Education dinner on Friday, March 29, at the Torrance Marriott Hotel. TEF has extended the deadline for the contest and submissions must be received by Friday, Feb. 15. The art contest is open to all students and the only criteria is creativity! The young talented budding artist in the District are encouraged to submit art pieces that will be shared with the Torrance community at the annual dinner. This is a great opportunity for students to display their artistic talents and imagination. Artwork should be submitted as a 2D (flat, no 3D) rendering on an 8 1/2 by 11 sheet of paper. Please mail artwork to TEF P.O. Box 1397, Torrance, CA, 90505 or scan and email to torranceeducationfoundation@ hotmail.com

while cultivating the work of the region's top choreographers fused with emerging talent. Visiting artists include Ballet Yuma's celebrated director and choreographer, Jon Cristofori; as well as Santa Cruz Ballet Theatre's artistic director and award-winning choreographer, Robert Kelley. This season's BRAVO! will also feature guest company, Santa Barbara Festival Ballet, along with a showcase piece of emerging choreography from Benjamin

Police Reports

The crimes listed are crimes where a report was taken by law enforcement agency and submitted for investigation. The outcome of the investigation or any criminal court proceeding are not considered when reporting crimes. The crimes are listed as follows: arson, simple assault, aggravated assault-weapon, auto theft, auto burglary, commercial burglary, residential burglary, homicide, strong-arm robbery, robbery with a weapon, theft and vandalism. The City of Torrance, or its employees or agents, shall assume no liability for: 1. Any errors, omissions, or inaccuracies in the information provided regardless of how caused; or 2. Any decision made or action taken or not taken by reader in reliance upon any information or data furnished hereunder.

FEBRUARY 2

Auto Theft-All: TORRANCE BLVD & **REYNOLDS DR Stolen vehicle: '12 Nissan** Altima.

Auto Theft-All: 17700 BLOCK WESTERN AVE Stolen vehicle: '12 Honda Accord.

Vandalism: 21200 BLOCK HAWTHORNE BLVD Suspect(s) scratches victim's vehicle's paint.

Vandalism: 4300 BLOCK REDONDO **BEACH BLVD Suspect enters open business** and intentionally smashes numerous bottles of liquor.

Burglary-Residential: 300 BLOCK PALOS VERDES BLVD Suspect(s) attempts to force open sliding glass door while victim is inside residence sleeping/no entry, no loss.

Burglary Auto: 1500 BLOCK POST AVE Suspect(s) enters vehicle by unknown means, ransacks and takes property/wallet.

Battery-Weapon/Agg: 3300 BLOCK LOMITA BLVD Suspect accelerates his vehicle toward victim almost striking him.

Battery-Simple: 2100 BLOCK 235TH ST Suspect grabs victim's hair from behind, causing victim to fall backward to the floor, suspect then shoves her hand in victim's throat, causing the victim to lose consciousness.

Theft: 178TH ST & HAWTHORNE BLVD Suspect(s) enters cell tower enclosure, cuts cabinet latch and takes property/copper wire. **FEBRUARY 1**

Auto Theft-All: 4500 BLOCK SEPULVEDA BLVD Stolen vehicle: '03 Tovota Corolla.

Burglary Commercial: 24000 BLOCK GARNIER ST Suspect(s) uses security code for entry and takes property/laptops, backpack, hard drive, work ID.

Burglary-Auto: 2700 BLOCK 182ND ST Suspect(s) enters unlocked vehicle and takes property/wallet.

Burglary-Residential: 4600 BLOCK HIGHGROVE AVE Suspect(s) enters unlocked door and takes property/guitar.

JANUARY 31

Auto Theft-All: 20600 BLOCK GRAMERCY PL Stolen vehicle: '11 Trailer.

Auto Theft-All: 300 BLOCK PASEO DE LA PLAYA Stolen vehicle: '99 Land Rover Range Rover.

takes property off of victim's vehicle/spare tire. Burglary-Auto: 1700 BLOCK PLAZA DEL AMO Suspect(s) forces door lock for entry and takes property/cash.

Theft: 3600 BLOCK ARTESIA BLVD Suspect(s) takes property off of victim's vehicle/spare tire.

Vandalism: 22400 BLOCK ELLINWOOD DR Suspect(s) cuts wires to victim's surveillance camera.

Theft: 5100 BLOCK GARNET ST Suspect poses as victim's grandson, claiming to have been incarcerated and convinces her to wire him funds.

Burglary-Commercial: 22000 BLOCK WESTERN AVE Suspect(s) cuts lock on storage container for entry and takes property/ text books, sports jerseys.

Burglary-Auto: 24400 BLOCK CRENSHAW BLVD Suspect(s) punches door lock/no entry, no loss.

JANUARY 29

Burglary-Auto: 1800 BLOCK MARTINA AVE Suspect(s) enters vehicle by unknown means and takes property/golf bag, laptop, ping pong equipment.

Battery Simple: 1600 BLOCK CABRILLO AVE Suspect pushes victim, causing him to fall backward on his bed.

Burglary-Auto: 2400 BLOCK ANDREO AVE Suspect(s) enters unsecured vehicle and takes property/iTouch, camera, GPS, jump starter.

Burglary-Residential: 2300 BLOCK 169TH PL Suspect(s) cuts screen, unlatches sunroom door, slides open window to enter residence and takes property while victim sleeps/purse.

JANUARY 28

Burglary-Auto: 22500 BLOCK WESTERN AVE Suspect(s) enters unlocked vehicle and takes property/golf clubs, shoes.

Burglary-Auto: 17800 BLOCK CRENSHAW BLVD Suspect(s) enters possibly unlocked vehicle and takes property/ third row seat.

Burglary-Residential: 5500 BLOCK SARA DR Suspect kicks in door for entry, but flees when confronted by victim inside residence/no loss.

Theft: 2300 BLOCK JEFFERSON ST Suspect(s) takes secured property from parking structure/bicycle.

Burglary-Residential: 17100 BLOCK PATRONELLA AVE Suspect(s) smashes window for entry, ransacks and takes property/ jewelry.

Burglary-Auto: 2700 BLOCK GRAMERCY AVE Suspect(s) smashes window for entry and takes property/backpack, textbooks, cleats.

JANUARY 27

Robbery-Strong Arm: 231ST ST & DANA CT Suspect flags down victim, asks for directions, punches victim in the face and takes his property/M/C, cash.

Burglary-Auto: 1900 BLOCK 237TH PL

SOUTH BAY BALLET **PRESENTS BRAVO!**

South Bay Ballet's 33rd season continues on Saturday, March 2 at 7 p.m. and on Sunday, March 3 at 2 p.m. with its annual dance concert BRAVO! at the James R. Armstrong Theater, located at 3330 Civic Center Drive in Torrance. The Classical & Contemporary Ballet Experience, bringing world-class classical and contemporary ballet to the Southland Simoens. For more information, interested persons may visit www.southbayballet.org

ESSAY CONTEST OPENS FOR **STUDENTS & GOVERNMENT DAY**

The City of Torrance announces the new topic for its 2013 Students & Government Day, a program to encourage youth participation in community affairs. Selected students will participate in Students & Government Day, which will take place on Tuesday, May 7. The City of Torrance encourages all eighth graders to apply for participation by submitting a 100-150 word essay on the prompt: "The United States Congress is responsible for creating laws at the Federal level, while Torrance City Council is responsible for creating laws at the City level. Describe one law that you think Torrance City Council should create and how it would improve the City of Torrance and benefit citizens who live here." Information and forms are available at local schools and online at www.TorranceCA.Gov/Students. htm. Deadline for application is Tuesday, See Community Briefs, page 14

Auto Theft-All: 3600 BLOCK EMERALD ST Stolen vehicle: '07 Yamaha M/C.

Burglary-Commercial: 2300 BLOCK JEFFERSON ST Suspect(s) cuts off lock on storage shed and takes property/golf bag, golf clubs.

Theft: 1900 BLOCK TORRANCE BLVD Suspect(s) takes property off of employees' desks/cell phones.

Burglary-Auto: 23600 BLOCK ARLINGTON AVE Suspect(s) enters two unlocked vehicles, ransacks and takes property/ Veh1: unknown loss at time of report Veh2: GPS, iPod.

JANUARY 30 Theft: 4200 BLOCK 172ND ST Suspect(s) Suspect(s) enters unlocked vehicle and takes property/wallet, GPS, iPod.

Auto Theft-All: 16900 BLOCK CASIMIR AVE Stolen vehicle: '95 Honda Civic.

Burglary-Auto: 21900 BLOCK WESTERN AVE Suspect(s) pries door handle for entry and takes property/third row seat.

Burglary-Auto: 2200 BLOCK 180TH PL Attempt stolen vehicle: '07 GMC Yukon. Burglary-Auto: 2700 BLOCK CABRILLO AVE Suspect(s) smashes windows of three vehicles for entry, ransacks and takes property/ GPSs, carrying case, tablet, e-reader. Burglary-Auto: 20500 BLOCK ANZA AVE Suspect(s) smashes window for entry and takes property/GPS, sunglasses. •

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Page 3

from front page

From the Source Political Q & A

By Gerry Chong

Welcome! Herald Publications, whose newspapers inform and entertain the entire South Bay, has initiated a new Q & A column, seeking opinions from our various governmental leaders on the issues that affect us all. We will be asking Congressmembers Maxine Waters and Henry Waxman, State Senators Rod Wright and Ted Lieu, Assemblymembers Steve Bradford and Al Muratsuchi, and County Supervisors Mark Ridley-Thomas and Don Knabe their thoughts, and will publish their responses without editorial comment.

The initial question for this column is: "It's a New Year, and we look forward with optimism. Can you tell us the single most optimistic thing we can look forward to?"

Congresswoman Waters responded: "I am extremely optimistic about 2013 for the South Bay communities and our entire nation. economy can give you and your family a positive outlook on this year."

Senator Lieu responded: "The single most optimistic thing I'm looking forward to in 2013 is a balanced budget this year with a projected surplus for next year. Our fiscal situation has significantly improved thanks in large part to voters, fiscal discipline by the legislature the last several years, and the leadership of Gov. Jerry Brown. California created more jobs last year than any other state, and at a higher rate. Our credit rating went from a negative to a stable positive. California is turning the corner."

Assemblyman Bradford responded: "California kept an important New Year's resolution this year by balancing the state budget, after years of making tough choices, many of which hurt our most vulnerable citizens. This means we can look forward

"We will be asking Congressmembers Maxine Waters and Henry Waxman, State Senators Rod Wright and Ted Lieu, Assemblymembers Steve Bradford and Al Muratsuchi, and County Supervisors Mark Ridley-Thomas and Don Knabe their thoughts."

We have faced an economic downturn, but the recovery of the U.S. housing market is reason to look forward with optimism. Home prices in November 2012 rose 5.5 percent relative to a year ago. This is the biggest increase in home values since the peak of the housing boom in 2006. As the recovery continues to gain strength, rising home values will help spur economic growth. Many economists anticipate that home prices will continue rising well into 2013 due to low interest rates and a small inventory of homes available for sale. My hope is that rising home values, leading to an improved

to halting the devastating cuts to vital state services like education, workforce training and healthcare. These are programs that everyday Californians rely on, and make our state a land of opportunity. Now with the state's balance sheets in order, we can move forward in a more sustainable manner. Fiscal stability will encourage economic growth, investment, and jobs in California, and that is worth being optimistic."

Herald Publications also encourages readers to submit questions you would like to have answered, so please submit your suggestions to gchong@chongco.com. See you next week! •



a.m. at Herondo/190th. The same area will also close during those hours the following two Mondays. Sepulveda/PCH and Rosecrans

Chevron

will have closures each of the next three Wednesdays, as the cargo rides up PCH and Sepulveda through Hermosa Beach and Manhattan Beach on the way to El Segundo. On those nights, the road closure will begin at 10 p.m. in Redondo Beach with the rotation of streetlights. At 11:15, the first drum will roll north onto PCH, with the second to follow 15 minutes later. The cargo will then likely reach Aviation Boulevard by midnight service clubs with folks looking forward to seeing these drums head to the refinery. It's not quite the Space Shuttle or 'The Rock,' but amazing nonetheless."

Unlike the Space Shuttle, citizens will get more than one shot to catch the move in progress. Those wishing to view the transport can follow the instructions of the California Highway Patrol and local police departments on site to identify the safest areas along the route to catch a glimpse. While Chevron's equipment won't drum up as much enthusiasm as Endeavour, they

"The coke drums are a very important component of the Chevron refinery, which supplies over 20 percent of the motor vehicle fuels used in Southern California and 40 percent of the jet fuel at LAX."

and Manhattan Beach Boulevard by 1 a.m. before turning west onto Rosecrans at 2 a.m. The first drum will enter the refinery at 2:45, followed by the second at 3:15. The same process will repeat on February 27 and March 6.

"The Chevron El Segundo Refinery team has been working with local city governments, businesses and the public to ensure that everyone is informed about the move in order to minimize temporary impacts," said Lily Craig, External Affairs Manager for Chevron. "We've received a lot of enthusiasm about the project from local Chambers and

are critical to the refinery's operations. "The coke drums are a very important component of the Chevron refinery, which supplies over 20 percent of the motor vehicle fuels used in Southern California and 40 percent of the jet fuel at LAX," said Craig. "We appreciate the cooperation of local businesses and residents to help make this project a success so that the refinery can continue providing these much-needed resources throughout the area."

For more information about the coke drum project, log onto www.cokedrumproject.com, or all 310-615-5298. •



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The Metro Board of Directors approved spending \$302 million to purchase 550 new 40-foot transit buses fueled by compressed natural gas. The new buses will replace vehicles that are past 12 years of age and 500,000 miles over the next three years.

Ramp Work Expected For I-405

As part of the I-405 Improvements Project between the I-10 and U.S. 101 freeways, construction work is anticipated in the near future for the on-and off-ramps along the 1-405. Please check metro.net/405 for the latest project information, including upcoming work, closure and detour information.

Metro Installing EV Charge Stations

Metro is the first transit agency in the nation to introduce electric vehicle (EV) charge stations at rail station parking lots. five Metro Rail stations will have them: Union Station, Sierra Madre Villa, Universal City, El Segundo and Willow. Riders with EVs can charge their cars while using the Metro system. More at metro.net/ev.

Metro, LAX Working On Connector

Three proposed Metro Rail station sites at LAX have been identified as part of the ongoing Airport Metro Connector project. Metro and LAX have been working together on the project to connect the airport to the Metro Rail system. Alternatives being considered include bus rapid transit, light rail and a people mover.



If you'd like to know more, visit metro.net.

from front page

<u>Calendar</u>

Saturday, February 16

• Baskets Full of Quilts and More, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. (also Feb 17), Torrance Cultural Arts Center, 3330 Civic Center Drive.

• "Male Intellect, An Oxymoron?", 8 p.m., James Armstrong Theatre, 3330 Civic Center Drive. For more information call (310) 781-7171.

Sunday, February 17

• Erth's Dinosaur Petting Zoo, 2 p.m., James Armstrong Theatre, 3330 Civic Center Drive. For more information call (310) 781-7171.

Monday, February 18

• Torrance Democratic Club Regular Monthly Meeting, 7 p.m., Arjay Plaza, 23211 Hawthorne Blvd. For more information call (310) 538-0245.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

• South Bay Cities Genealogical Society General Meeting, 7 p.m., Katy Geissert Civic Center Library, 3301 Torrance Blvd.

Thursday, February 21

• Downtown Torrance Marketplace, 3 p.m.-8 p.m., on El Prado Street, from Sartori to the Buffalo Fire Department. SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Torrance Certified Farmers' Market, 8
a.m.-1 p.m., in the parking lot of Wilson Park,
2200 Crosshere Pland Farmers information

2200 Crenshaw Blvd. For more information call (310) 618-2930.Learning To Cope With Stress, 9:30-

11:30 a.m., Torrance Airport Community Room, 3301 Airport Drive. For more information call (310) 534-1122.

Wednesday, February 27

• Torrance Antique Street Faire, 8 a.m.-3 p.m., 1317 Sartori Ave. For more information call (310) 328-6107.

Tuesday, March 5

• Artful Days: Part II Learning the Language of Art, 12:10-1 p.m., George Nakano Theatre, 3330 Civic Center Drive. For more information call (310) 618-2326. FRIDAY, MARCH 8

• Opening Exhibition, 4-9 p.m., California Museum of Fine Art, 1421 Marcelina. For more information call (424) 262-0189. SATURDAY, MARCH 9

• Torrance Firefighters Association's 41st Annual Spaghetti Dinner, 4:30-8 p.m., Ken Miller Auditorium, 3341 Torrance Blvd. For more information call (310) 781-7000. **ONGOING**

• Story Time, Sundays, 2-2:30 p.m., Poppies Bookstore, 3614 PCH. For more information call (310) 373-5553.

• Paradox Maintenance Technicians-A comprehensive manual to contemporary painting from Los Angeles and beyond, Jan. 22-Mar 9,The Torrance Art Museum, 3320 Civic Center Drive. For more information call (310) 618-3846.

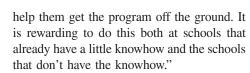
• Senior Days (age 50 or older) for February, Mon- Fri, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Palos Verdes Bowl, 24600 Crenshaw Blvd. Register at http://pvbowl.com/seniordays or in person. For more information contact Charlotte Melsh at charlotte@pvbowl.com or (310) 326-5120. •

Environmental

and that is where we are sponsored to go into a school district to provide support to the school in environmental programs. The other side of it is our website and any school can join Grades of Green for free on our website. They can register their school and once they register, they are able to access all of our lesson plans, our flyers, our parent education documents. There are just a ton of free resources on the website and they can access it all for free."

For the Grades of Green founders, Suzanne Kretschmer, Shaya Kirkpatrick, Lisa Coppedge and Martin, their efforts were never focused on simply making a school more environmentally friendly. Grades of Green has always been about education. "The most important aspect of our program is not that the school will actually become greener. What we think is even more important is that the kids learn these environmental values and take them into their adulthood," Martin said. "Even though some of the schools may have already been recycling or have been engaged in any other type of great activities, our values are expected to add and bring focus to hands-on activities so that the kids aren't just being taught through a classroom setting. They are doing things through action and we believe that by doing these types of activities, everything becomes much more interesting to them and they are thinking at a much deeper level."

Reaching schools and communities that aren't as engaged in environmental education as the schools in the South Bay is also an important part of the outreach conducted by the Grades of Green staff. "That has been a very vibrant part of our program. We have received grants from corporations and foundations that are utilized to bring our actual Grades of Green staff to schools and help them get a green team going," Martin said. "We will conduct waste audits at the school to see where they can improve and what they can do that would make sense for that school. Then we



For the staff at Grades of Green and its founders, reaching kids and getting them engaged is of the utmost importance in order to have a long-lasting impact through their work. "Kids are the ones that inspire us at Grades of Green. They are the ones that come up with all these fabulous ideas--they innately have a curiosity about the environment and they want to take care of it and we feel very strongly that students can make a huge impact," Bussjaeger said. "I have been able to work with a variety of students that have gone up to their city councils, such as the students in El Segundo did, to try to ask for permanent change. Manhattan Beach had a group of students that went to City Council and they had plastic bags banned in 2008--that was student-led. Hermosa Beach banned Styrofoam in 2012 and that too was student-led. Just recently students in El Segundo went to the City Council and requested more recycling containers for residents to use throughout city walkways."

Martin added, "Our mission is to make environmental protection second nature in young minds--that is the whole goal. We know it is a lofty goal, but it is worthy. It is not just important to us to green the actual school. That is fabulous, but what we think is much more important is that these kids keep these values when they are teenagers and adults. What we hope is that the attitude of our society turns around from a wasteful society to one that lives sustainably. We think the best way to solve the problems facing the earth is to really change the mindset of teachers and children. It's not either/or. You don't have to just have corporate profit or protect the environment. They go hand-in-hand. And we hope to have these values and take them into any career they choose." •





Valentine's Day Specials for the ones you love

See page 16

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One Man's Opinion

By Gerry Chong

Paul Harvey, the irrepressible late raconteur, stole the Super Bowl ads war with his story called "And God Created the Farmer." Harvey's former radio program had included a segment entitled "The Rest of the Story," in which he told a story the way it was presented by conventional media, but would give us the rest of the story as a follow-up. If he were alive today, the rest of the story would look like this:

Newsflash: "The economy created 157,000 jobs in January, but unemployment rose from 7.8 to 7.9 percent."

And now the rest of the story: "169,000 people dropped out of the workforce, so unemployment rose."

Newsflash: "The economy grew by 2.2 percent in 2012."

And now, the rest of the story: "Our national debt grew during the same period by eight percent, so our debt grew 3.6 times faster than our growth in productivity."

Newsflash: "Senator Feinstein, testifying before the Senate Judiciary Committee while proposing a wide-ranging limitation on the to try to take me out, I was going to take them with me."

Newsflash: "The FBI announced that 11,493 people were killed by firearms in the U.S."

And now the rest of the story: "Non-firearm homicides totaled 16,799 and the most popular weapon of choice was the baseball bat." Maybe Senator Feinstein should refocus the Senate on banning that mass killer.

Newsflash: "The LAEDC reported that personal income grew in December by a striking 2.6 percent."

And now the rest of the story: "The primary reason personal income grew in December was that more than 600 firms paid extra dividends to avoid the tax increases coming in January. If the dividend payment had been made one month later, taxes on those dividends would have risen from 15 to 20 percent and investors would have had to pay the 3.8 percent Medicare tax due in 2013 on dividend income. Of those 600 firms, half were in the S&P 500 and paid out a staggering \$14.4 billion. Of that amount, \$1.3 billion went to officers, directors and large investors, saving them 37 percent in taxes."

"169,000 people dropped out of the workforce, so unemployment rose."

right to bear arms, said, 'We can't have a totally armed society."

And now the rest of the story: "On April 27, 1995, Senator Feinstein said, 'I know the sense of helplessness that people feel. I know the urge to arm yourself because that is what I did. I was trained in firearms. I'd walk to the hospital when my husband was sick. I carried a concealed weapon. I made the determination that if somebody was going

There are two lessons to learn from this story: First, the wealthy will find every legal means to avoid payment of taxes. Second, this one \$14.4 billion tax avoidance maneuver alone illustrates the shaky footing on which Obama has predicated an annual \$62 billion revenue increase from taxing the rich. Ain't gonna happen, folks. They're successful because they're smarter than the average bear. And that's the rest of the story. •



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Another Man's Opinion

Gun Control in California

By Cristian Vasquez

Given the horrible mass shootings that have made national headlines, it is no surprise that leaders in Washington and Sacramento are giving the issue of gun control a new look. It is unfortunate that so many people had to die in order for our leaders to take some kind of steps to prevent similar acts

yell, "Fire!" just because I have freedom of speech. Gun ownership is no different. We already don't allow ex-felons to own guns and most people would agree that is a reasonable restriction. So why are people so angry about the proposed stricter background checks? These background checks would look for a history of psychological issues, thus

"The recent push in California for gun control is focusing on stricter background checks and ammunition control and is based on Senator Diane Feinstein's efforts in Washington."

of senseless violence. The recent push in California for gun control is focusing on stricter background checks and ammunition control and is based on Senator Diane Feinstein's efforts in Washington.

As expected and rightfully so, there are many Americans opposed to gun regulations. Every American is entitled to own a gun and has legally been able to do so since the signing of the Constitution. However, the opposition to the proposed legislation is vilifying the leaders looking to set in new laws that can prevent guns from falling in the hands of people like Adam Lanza and James Homes. Unfortunately, some opponents want absolutely no regulation while others are not comfortable with the nation's leaders imposing further regulations on top of existing gun laws. Opposition has also been voiced by some local law enforcement leaders such as Riverside County Sherriff Stan Sniff, who in a letter to Sen. Feinstein stated that new legislation would be overreaching Americans' Second Amendment rights.

What people need to realize is that while all law-abiding Americans have a right to own guns, no right is absolute. All of the rights that we enjoy as an American come with restrictions--they always have and they always will. As a reporter, it would be great for freedom of speech and press to be absolute, but it is not and it has never been. I can't walk into a crowded room and

restricting guns to individuals who might pose a risk to themselves or others if they had access to a gun.

Furthermore, the controversy over the proposed restrictions on ammunition is more a reaction based on political rhetoric and an unwillingness to address a serious issue. Again, I agree that all law-abiding Americans should be able to own, possess and use their guns. However, why does a law-abiding citizen need to have unlimited magazines holding up to 30 rounds? Why do average, hardworking-Americans need military assault rifles or gangster-style tommy guns, which in certain parts of the United States are attainable?

These types of weapons, fueled by their high-capacity magazines, serve no purpose other than to take away human lives. While California already has some of the nation's strictest gun laws, it is comforting to know that steps are being taken to prevent potentially dangerous individuals from owning these high-powered weapons. Nothing in life is absolute and everything comes with restrictions. We already restrict access to guns to individuals with a violent past or criminal record. Preventing someone with mental health problems from owning a firearm is not only reasonable, but necessary. The great thing is that these safety measures will not impede law-abiding citizens from enjoying their Second Amendment rights. •



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No Gold in San Francisco

By Adam Serrao

Now that football season is over and that empty feeling has sunk in for all of us, it is the perfect time to reflect back on a season past that has been, all in all, very successful for the team from the San Francisco Bay. A loss in the Super Bowl is clearly never easy to handle, so fans of the 49ers may be feeling just a tad bit more empty than most of us right about now. But those same fans of the team can look back and say that the Niners at least made the game respectable. From the looks of things early on, it was as if the team had no business even being there--kind of like Raiders vs. the Buccaneers in the 2002 Super Bowl. But these Niners are nothing at all like those Raiders. Instead of fading off into oblivion, San Francisco, coach Jim Harbaugh and quarterback Colin Kaepernick should have no problem returning to the grand stage very soon.

Losing was an unfamiliar feeling for many 49ers' fans, players and coaches alike. After losing only four games all season long, San Francisco also lost in the Super Bowl-something they hadn't done in their five previous appearances in the big game. Most fans will point to the guys wearing black and white and blame them for their team's misfortune on the night. Flags have been thrown all year long down the field at less contact than what Michael Crabtree was hit with on that pivotal play in the final stages of the fourth quarter on Super Bowl Sunday. But when you dig yourself as deep of a hole as the 49ers did in that game, it would really be unfair to try and extract what would have been a game-winning call from the referees. From the very first play of the game, the 49ers were not ready to play.

A first down and a 20-yard reception erased because of an illegal formation on a play that should have been practiced continuously over the two weeks that the team had off made it clear to see that big brother John Harbaugh and his Ravens were simply more prepared for the glitz and glamour of one of the world's biggest stages.

No team has ever come back from more than 10 points down to win the Super Bowl. In just his 10th start ever, though, Kaepernick almost made that happen. With three straight chances from the five yard line, Kaepernick threw three straight incomplete passes, all intended for Michael Crabtree. It was almost as if the coaches of the Niners had a pool in Vegas with Crabtree scoring the go-ahead touchdown to ultimately win the game for their team. A quarterback with the legs and speed of Kaepernick and a running back who had just previously galloped for a 33-yard run to get the team to the seven and they throw three passes instead of using the run-option that has been so successful for them all season long. Instead of blaming the refs for the game, 49er fans should blame coaching and play-calling like that. Hindsight is 20-20, however.

When it comes down to it, it is pretty obvious that the 49ers will be competing for additional Super Bowl titles for many years to come in the NFC. Jim Harbaugh isn't going anywhere, Kaepernick isn't going anywhere and now they have all the experience that is necessary to come out strong next year. "This will all be motivation," said San Francisco offensive lineman Joe Staley. Motivation is, indeed, what is needed. The Ravens had it because of Ray See Sports, page 14



table includes free snacks and beverages along with a meal served at halftime. The winner will also receive (4) D-Fenders fan packs. FIRST PRIZE:

Up and Adam Tartars Looking Toward Next Season

By Adam Serrao

No one ever said that it was going to be easy for Andru Vaughan. The first-year head coach of the Torrance Tartars who is taking over a team previously led by George Tachibana certainly didn't think that it was going to be this tough, though. Tachibana led the Tartars to a third place finish and a CIF semifinals appearance just last year, in what he knew was going to be his final season with the club. One year certainly did change a lot, however, and whether it was student turnover or adjusting to the voice of a new head coach, the road has been a rocky one for the Tartars this year, to say the least. A key league victory at El Segundo two weeks ago may have been the lone bright spot for a team that showed tremendous heart the entire year, but a 49-27 loss at Centennial and a 68-55 setback to North High at home last week to end the season showed just how much work Vaughan will have to put into this offseason in order to get his club prepared for next year.

The Tartars' game against Centennial was perhaps a microcosm of their entire season. With only 15 first half points, Torrance started slowly and watched as the Apaches jumped out to an early lead. The low-scoring affair only got worse for the Tartars in the second half when the team posted its lowest scoring quarter maybe all season with only two baskets in the fourth accounting for four points as part of a 12-point second half output and 22-point loss on the night. The next game and season finale against North was somewhat better, but still a disappointing finish to an otherwise substandard season for Torrance. A 13-point loss in the final game of the year at home is not how Vaughan envisioned his team's season ending. Brett Akahiji fought until the end for the Tartars, leading his team with 14 points on the night and fending off multiple injuries to end his time with the Tartars in the best way possible.

The North High Saxons have had quite the opposite season. The only team that has given the Saxons fits this year has been the Lawndale Cardinal. Then again, that's nothing new for any of the teams in the Pioneer League as Lawndale has finished the year undefeated (10-0) in league play. The Saxons were able to rebound from their tough loss against Lawndale two weeks ago, however, and hung on for a thrilling 60-59 victory on the road against El Segundo. The Saxons capped their season off with another road win against the Tartars to end their season on a high note. The victory saw Zack Kimura hit six three-pointers to lead his team and all scorers with 28 points on the night. The victory for North (14-11, 7-3) solidified second place in the Pioneer League

secured a solid spot for the Saxons entering the playoffs. Another first-year head coach, Luke Duperron, has his team playing its best basketball of the year to end the regular season. The year has already been a success, but Kimura, Devante Jenkins, Koh Flippen and company are looking for added success this postseason in order to keep their smiles beaming from ear to ear.

SOUTH HIGH

Last season, South head coach Leo Klemm and company lost four games in a row before winning their last game of the season against El Segundo. The Spartans eventually took what little momentum they gained from that game and rode it all the way to the CIF Southern Section Finals against Calabasas. This year, the Spartans lost three games in a row and it began to look like their season was fading into oblivion. Once again, however, South was up against El Segundo in the season finale and behind Jake Ly's game-high 15 points, it once again ended the year on a winning note. Ly also contributed nine rebounds and four steals to the winning cause while Kenichi Hackman added 14 points, seven rebounds and two steals to wrangle in the 62-50 victory.

Now 1-3 in their last four games, the Spartans find themselves in third place in the Pioneer League standings. In the perfect position for an at-large bid, the only question that remains is if the Spartans have what it takes to make another run similar to last year. The only difference is that last year, South finished in fourth place in the Pioneer League. Consider it an advantage for the Spartans. Maybe this year the team will follow Klemm not only to another spectacular playoff run, but also to a CIF championship trophy. Time will soon tell. WEST HIGH

The West High Warriors have come to life at precisely the right time. With their loss to Redondo Union two weeks ago, it looked as if all hope was lost for these Warriors, who were sitting at the bottom of the Bay League standings. Since then, the Warriors not only won in their season finale against Palos Verdes Peninsula, but also knocked off the Leuzinger Olympians, one of the best teams in the league all season long. Xavier Basso came through with 16 points for West, while Terrell Carter added 12 points and 19 rebounds to not only beat Leuzinger, but also knock them out of first place in the Bay League standings. Their win against Peninsula two days later was the third in four games for the Warriors and put them up to fourth place in the standings. It is still possible for the Warriors to attain an at-large bid into the playoffs. Head coach Paul Nitake is certainly hoping it is not too little, too late

PALDING

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standings for the team to end the season and for his team at this point.



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South Boys Basketball Advances to CIF

By Kelly Kemp

The South High Boys Basketball team finished their final two games in the Pioneer League this past week, completing the regular season 16-9 (6-4 in League, earning Third Place and a CIF Playoff berth).

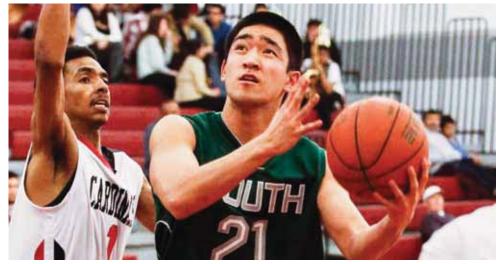
High scorer at Lawndale this past Tuesday was Jake Ly with 23 points, unfortunately in a losing effort 55-64. The strong team then "rebounded" against a weaker El Segundo team, 62-50 to capture the Third. Rounding out the Spartan scoring top-three against the Eagles were Ly, with 15 points and 9 rebounds, Kenichi Hackman, with 14 points and 7 rebounds, and Amjad Aryan, with 6 points and 8 rebounds. Photos by Shelley Kemp. For more photos, please visit www.shelleykempphotograpy.com



Senior Amjad Aryan goes up for a shot but is blocked by 6'9" Sophomore Chimezie Metu.



Senior Kenichi Hackman drives the baseline and then makes a shot attempt.



Junior Jamison Han lays up in an attempt to score.



Junior Ryan Higashi goes up for a basket.

Torrance Girls Water Polo Team Puts Up Good Fight

By Kelly Kemp

The Torrance Tartars ended their regular season with an Ocean League record of 5-5, good enough for a Third Place Tie, then completed a bonus "one-game tie-breaker playoff" with the El Segundo Eagles, in an attempt to earn the League's final CIF Playoff berth.

To get to the playoff, Torrance had to rebound from a losing 3-5 position in their final two games versus Marlboro and El Segundo. In an 8-4 win over Marlboro early in the week, four Tartars scored: Lily Kim (3), Alison Cordova and Lauren Gottschalk (2 each), and Rebecca Chong (1). That set the stage for a must-win game to extend their season.

The final regular season game against the Eagles was a great comeback. Although falling behind 1-3 by halftime, with the lone goal by Cordova, the tougher Torrance Team bounced back to lead 4-3 after three quarters, then polished off El Segundo with great goaltending and tough defense, winning 7-5. Other scorers included Gottschalk (3), Kim (2) and Lauren Cervantes (1). Nice job, Tartars! Photos by Shelley Kemp. For more photos, please visit www.shelleykempphotography.com





Kim scores a shot against El Segundo.



Lauren Gottschauk fires the the ball at El Segundo net.

Torrance goalie makes a save.

and how to bang them

by Chef Shafer

13 Cooking Tips for 2013, final tips:

11. When trying to cook Italian food use dried oregano and basil for the tomato sauce. This will give you a more earthy sauce.

12. Always chop on a clean stable surface for safety. I never cut myself using the correct tool for the right job.

13. And the final tip, call your favorite restaurant early to make reservations. $\ensuremath{\mathsf{LOL}}$

It's trivia time. We are starting a weekly trivia contest. Every week I will post a new trivia question and the first five people to come into Buffalo Fire Department for dinner will win a cheeseburger and drink. You must be 18 to win and must submit it in writing at the hostess stand before you order. This offer is only good Monday thru Saturday after 5:00 pm at the Buffalo Fire Department. You can only win one time per month, but you can still come into BFD!

So here is this week's question:

What three characters were featured on Howard Johnson restaurant signs, menus and china patterns for about 5 decades? See you at BFD.

The weather is getting better so clean off the BBQ and grab a cold one. Here is a great salsa to go with grilled chicken, fish, or, meat.

The Chef



Cucumber Citrus Salsa

DOTS N'

P

cup diced onion
cup diced cucumber
cup diced radish
to 4 finely chopped jalapeños
bunch chopped cilantro
zest and juice from two lemons
zest and juice from two oranges
teaspoon salt
teaspoon black pepper
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City Recognizes Local Services Organizations at 4th Annual Luncheon

Photos by Curtis Jones Jr.

Torrance Mayor Frank Scotto recognized numerous local service organizations and nonprofits at the 4th annual Torrance Celebration of Community luncheon which was hosted by the Kiwanis Club of Torrance at the DoubleTree Hilton by Torrance — South Bay on February 7th.

"Community is really what brings us all together," states Torrance Kiwanis President Jennifer Frew who also served as the mistress of ceremonies for the luncheon. Mayor Scotto personally presented formal certificates to the many South Bay organizations which work together to answer the needs that challenge the community including: A Community's Child, Cheers For Children, Counseling4Kids, Green Hills Memorial Park, H.E.L.P., Kiwanis Club of Torrance, Meals On Wheels, Pediatric Therapy Network, Providence Trinity Hospice Association, Social Vocational Services, South Bay Bar Association, South Bay Family Health Care, Switzer Learning Center, Torrance Air Force Association, Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce, Torrance Centennial Committee, Torrance Commission of Aging, Torrance Police Officers Association, Torrance Women's Club and the Volunteer Center South Bay-Harbor-Long Beach.

Luncheon sponsors included Enterprise Rent-A-Car, Green Hills Memorial Park, Torrance Police Officers Association, Malaga Bank, Vermont Care Center and Milestone Hospice Inc.



Special guests enjoy the celebration luncheon.



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Torrance Air Force Association.

Torrance Centennial Committee.



Torrance Police Officers Association.



Torrance Kiwanis President Jennifer Frew.

TerriAnn in Torrance History-Making in Torrance

By TerriAnn Ferren

February is Black History Month and the City of Torrance is not only home to a large banquet presented by the Chamber of Commerce to mark the event, but this year the play *Lady Patriot*, written and directed by Ted Lange and produced by Mary Lange, will be presented on Saturday, February 23 in the George Nakano Theatre at the Torrance Cultural Arts Center.

The reading/play Lady Patriot is based on carefully researched U.S. historical events that took place during the Civil War. The plot revolves around a spy leaking information only President Jefferson Davis and his inner circle would know. Who is the Union spy? The play also reveals an intimate look into the lives of three Civil War women--Varina Davis, Elizabeth Van Lew, and Mary Bowser. This play sounded so intriguing to me that I decided to see if I could meet with the author. My search began with the South Bay Conservatory Board of Directors member Linda Dryer. She told me a little bit about Lady Patriot coming to Torrance and I was excited about it from the beginning. The Shakespeare Award for Poetry will be

Last week, I had the honor of spending some time with director, author and actor Ted Lange. Waiting for Mr. Lange in a local coffee house, I was struggling with my packet of honey to pour into my steaming mint tea. I recognized him the moment he opened the door of the shop and his broad smile and welcoming, friendly demeanor greeted me. After getting Lange some coffee, we sat down at the small round table to chat. Right away, he handed me the flyer for the play on the 23rd of February and told me about the cast. Lou Beatty, Jr., Gordon Goodman, Bernie Kopell, Connie Ventress, Anne Johnstonbrown, Paul Messinger, Chrystee Pharris, and Tico Wells are all coming to Torrance. Lange began, "I love this city. My wife teaches art at West High. Mary is her name. Mary Lange." At this point, Lange told me a very intricate tale about how his play (which prior to this has only been presented at The Hudson Theatre in Hollywood) came to Torrance. Let's just say a local bowling alley at the mall was the site of the connection for a meeting that would in the end bring an important play to Torrance. A connection was made between Lange and Linda Dryer (who is connected



Scene from the production of Lady Patriot. Photo by Mary Lange.

presented to Wanda Coleman prior to the play and certainly no one exemplifies a Renaissance man better than Ted Lange. Most of us know him from his 10-year tenure with *The Love Boat* as Isaac Washington, which earned him global recognition. Lange is a graduate of London's Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts and has written 23 plays. He has performed his one-man show, *Behind the Mask – An Evening with Paul Laurence Dunbar*, appeared on countless television shows and made his Broadway acting debut in *Hair*. Lange has appeared in over 50 plays and was named an adjunct associate professor at USC where he taught a weekly course in film directing. with *The South Bay Conservatory* and the *Torrance Performing Arts Consortium*). Those two organizations have joined with the Mercury Stage and Theatre Company to present the staged reading of *Lady Patriot*. "Diana came with her mom [Linda Dryer] and they saw the play [at the Hudson Theatre in September] and they said, 'We should do this in Torrance,' and I said, 'Good idea-let's do that,' and that's how the ball started rolling--family...my brother-in-law's wife and Linda's daughter and we all went bowling. We went bowling on my sister-in-law's birthday

I regret not asking him about those stories. Next time. "Michael Butler who produced *Hair* came and saw this play," Lange said to me with a smile. He told me that Ben

an actor. I know how to write characters, so you're going to see the character of Jefferson Davis, you're going to see the character of his wife, you are going to see all the people



The George Nakano Theatre at the Torrance Cultural Arts Center. Photo by TerriAnn Ferren.

Vereen came opening night also, adding that he and Vereen were in *Hair* together. "We ran together in New York when we were in our 20s. Me, Ben and Philip Michael Thomasyou remember him in *Miami Vice--*the three of us were buds in New York," Lange said. He went on to share with me stories about his young days in New York hoping to make it big.

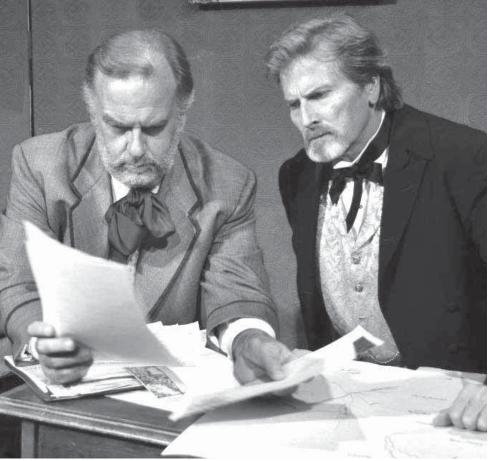
As far as Lady Patriot, we (the Torrance community) are very blessed to have Ted Lange presenting his play in his--and our-hometown. These days Lange is very busy with writing, directing two sitcoms (Mr. Box Office and First Family) and editing. When I met with him the other day, he was coming back home to Torrance after editing First Family (KCAL-Channel 9). I asked Lange how he came to write this particular historical play and he told me it began when a writer and friend, Jack Kaplan (a writer for Laugh-In who was also Jimmie Carter's speech writer), gave him a book to read about this fascinating story about a Union spy in the south. "Also in the play there is a Jewish character, Judah P. Benjamin, who was one of the brains behind the Southern Confederacy. He was Jeff Davis' right-hand man. Nobody knows this," said Lange with excitement. Honestly, at this point I wanted to see the play right then! This story has it all--comedy, drama, action and history.

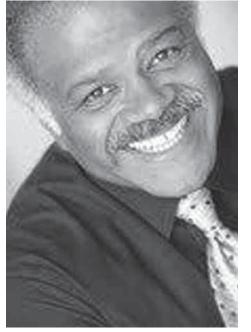
"You are going to learn something you never knew about the Civil War, but it is not going to be a history lesson," explained Lange. "It is going to be entertainment because I am that were in their world. And as you watch the play, they are going to uncover the history of what was going on at the time but it is in an entertaining way."

The George Nakano Theatre is the second venue to feature *Lady Patriot* and what better time than during Black History Month? "I like the community and like being involved theatrically in the community, and this particular play is the third play in the American history trilogy," said Lange. "So the first one is about the American Revolution, the second one is a play that precedes the Civil War, and this play is about the Civil War. So maybe another time, I will get to do another."

After saying goodbye to Mr. Ted Lange, I left the coffee shop excited about *Lady Patriot* and the upcoming performance. A bit of history is coming alive on stage in Torrance and I have the 'hardly waits.'

Lange lives in Torrance with his wife Mary and both of them keep very busy. There is talent all over town just waiting to be discovered. How wonderful that Lange is sharing his play in his hometown in association with the *South Bay Conservatory* and the *Torrance Performing Arts Consortium*. Circle the date and don't miss *Lady Patriot* at the George Nakano Theatre, 3330 Civic Center Drive, at 7:30 p.m. to celebrate Black History Month. There will be a question and answer period after the performance. For \$20 tickets, call 310-467-0941 or access tpactix@gmail.com. See you at the theatre! •





Ted Lange. Photo by Keven Major Howard.

is what it was," explained Lange.

The openness with which Lange explained how one of history's untold stories made its way to Torrance was exciting. "You never know where—see...that is show business. You never know where it's going to go, what it's going to lead to," he added.

I asked Lange how he got interested in theatre and he shared, "Well, it [theatre] was the only thing I was good at...and they did a play and the teacher gave me an A. We did the *Christmas Carol* and I played Ebenezer Scrooge. Big roll, ninth grade. They gave me an A. Never had an A... This is a little hint here, maybe I should stick with this. Then the prettiest girl in the school noticed me after that. That doesn't hurt when the prettiest girl in the whole school says, 'Hi, how're doing?'''

Those of you old enough will remember the musical *Hair*. Lange was in the original production--the first national tour that ended up on Broadway. Wow. "I told my wife all these stories about *Hair*," said Lange. At this point

Scene from Lady Patriot. Photo by Mary Lange.

Finance

A Recipe for Security

(ARA) - Have you ever tried making a new dish without the benefit of having the recipe? Knowing the ingredients in their right proportions makes creating a delicious, satisfying meal so much easier. Without the ingredient list and directions, preparing a new food can be hit or miss.

Life can be like that, too. Having a recipe for objectives like losing weight or improving your finances can make those goals easier to achieve.

When it comes to your financial wellbeing, you need multiple ingredients to make the feast possible. Leave out even one element like identity theft protection - and the whole effort can end in disaster. If improving your money management skills is on your to-do list this summer, try this helpful recipe for financial success:

Ingredients:

1 budget, carefully calculated and strictly followed

1 credit report, reviewed regularly

1 emergency fund

1 retirement savings account (or more, depending on your taste)

Debt reduction steps, as needed 1 batch of identity theft protection measures Directions:

1. Prepare a budget. Gather a month's worth of pay stubs (so you have an exact figure of your disposable income) and all the bills you must pay every month. Don't forget to include bills that are paid less frequently, such as car or renter's insurance. And, be sure to include a deposit to your savings account in the "must-pay" stack of bills. You can find budget worksheets online through sites like www.nfcc.org.

2. Review your credit report and learn your credit score. Check your report for errors, and to better understand what credit management practices are working for you, and where you may be able to improve.

3. Create an emergency fund. Whether it's a significant car repair, dental work not covered by your insurance, or the need for last-minute travel to care for a sick parent or child, emergency expenses happen. Traditional advice was to set aside enough cash to cover three to six months worth of expenses, but given the economy and continued high unemployment, it may make sense for you to set aside enough for six to nine months.

4. Create and contribute to a retirement fund. Take advantage of employer-sponsored options like a 401(k). Depending on your income level and tax bracket, you can research other opportunities like an individual retirement account (IRA) or a Roth IRA. Remember, don't rely on Social Security alone to support you through retirement. The website MyMoney.gov offers advice on saving for retirement.

5. Take steps to reduce debt. Pay down high-interest debts, like credit cards, first. High debt not only hinders your ability to meet your financial commitments and set aside savings, it can adversely affect your credit score, too.

6. Take steps to protect your identity. The Bureau of Justice Statistics reports that about 8.6 million households had at least one person 12 or older who experienced identity theft in 2010, the most recent year for which figures were available. Protecting your personal identifying and financial information from misuse by criminals is a key ingredient in your recipe for financial success. Products like ProtectyMyID offer comprehensive identity theft detection, protection and resolution, and can help you catch and resolve instances of identity theft. Don't just rely on a product, however. Practice smart identity theft prevention tactics, including creating strong passwords for all your financial accounts and changing them frequently, shredding documents that contain

identifying information before disposal, and using a credit card, rather than a debit card, for online shopping. You can find comprehensive identity theft prevention information at www. idtheftcenter.org, the website of the Identity Theft Resource Center. •



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Ask the DMV

Expert Answers to Common DMV Questions

Do you have questions about general driving related requirements like registration and insurance? Are you unclear about laws and restrictions related to driving? The California Department of Motor Vehicles has answers. Save Time. Go Online at www.DMV.ca.gov.

Q. I was thinking of that the DMV should offer a breast cancer license plate as one of the special interest license plates. Is this something the DMV would consider?

A. That is a great idea! However, the DMV does not have the power to decide which plates can be established. An organization must first get a state agency sponsorship of the proposed license plate. The plate design must contain a message that publicizes or promotes a state agency or the official policy, mission, or work of a state agency. At least 7,500 pre-ordered applications for that special interest plate must be received by the department before a new special license plate can be created.

Q. I went to get a smog check for my car and it passed, but the DMV contacted me saying they never received a certificate. Now what do I do? A. You can ask the smog shop to resend the certificate to the DMV, but be sure that they have all the correct vehicle information. You can also take the smog test results document into the DMV yourself (appointment suggested). **Q. Can I take the driving test before I take my written exam?** A. No. It is required that you pass your written exam before you can take the driving test. This is to ensure that you know the rules of the road before you get behind the wheel. For more information on the driving test, visit http://www.DMV.ca.gov/pubs/brochures/ fast_facts/ffdl22.htm.

The DMV is a department under the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, which is under the direction of Acting Undersecretary Brian Kelly. The DMV licenses drivers, maintains driving records, registers and tracks official ownership of vehicles and vessels, investigates auto and identity-related fraud, and licenses car dealers, driving schools, and traffic violator schools. For more information about the DMV, visit www.DMV.ca.gov.

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Seniors

Boomers and Beyond: A 5-Step Action Plan for Keeping Your Heart Healthy

(BPT) - More baby boomers and older adults are taking a proactive approach to heart health. Living a heart-healthy lifestyle in your golden years and dealing with any type of diagnosis head-on is the smart way to keep your heart pumping strong for many years to come. Following these five easy steps can help you take control.

1. Exercise your heart by staying active.

Increasing your heart rate through daily exercise can help keep your heart healthy and help you live longer. Good heart-healthy activities include walking, swimming and bicycling. Stay motivated by exercising with a friend.

2. Eat heart-healthy foods.

Fresh fruits and vegetables are fantastic for heart health - make it your goal to eat a variety of colors every day. Whole grains and fish rich in omega-3 fatty acids are good choices also.

3. Consult your doctor about heart-healthy supplements.

As we age, sometimes our bodies can't absorb vitamins and minerals as well as when we were younger. Many people take vitamin D and a low-dose aspirin daily once they hit their 50s or 60s. Ask your doctor for recommendations. 4. Schedule your annual physical.

4. Schedule your annual physical.

An annual physical is the cornerstone of preventative care. At your appointment, make sure you get your blood pressure and cholesterol checked. Have your doctor explain what those numbers mean for you.

5. Don't be afraid to ask questions.

No matter what, when it comes to the health of your heart, ask questions. If you are diagnosed with a slow heartbeat and need a pacemaker, talk with your doctor about your options and determine if a pacemaker that is approved for use in an MRI may be right for you.

Marilyn Rose of Richardson, Texas, ate healthy, exercised regularly and scheduled yearly physicals, but at age 80 she frequently felt tired and short of breath. Rose was scheduled for an echocardiogram, a heart test that allows the doctor to see the movement of the heart, and it was then that she learned she had a condition called bradycardia, or a slow heartbeat. Rose needed a pacemaker to help her live a full life, but she learned that historically, pacemakers have not been approved in the U.S. for use with MRIs. She was concerned - she knew at her age the likelihood that she might need an MRI at some point was high.

After talking with her doctor and asking plenty of questions, Rose learned that the FDA had approved the first pacemaker that was fit for use in the MRI environment. Today, after getting her pacemaker, she's feeling great and is back to her regular life, swimming, knitting and playing with her five grandkids. Her friends



call her the "Energizer bunny," and with her pacemaker she says she feels better than she did before. For Rose, asking the right questions made a life-changing difference.

Rose's story is just one example of how the decisions you make today can impact your health tomorrow. She is now part of an educational campaign called "Join the Pace Makers," because she wants to share her experience and help inform others about heart health and their options when it comes to choosing a pacemaker.

Whether you want to take on your golden years with a heart-healthy outlook, or you are a child of aging parents and you want them to live a long, full life, these tips can help you reach your goals. If you know someone who needs a pacemaker, you have an opportunity to make a difference. Learn more and become a Pace Maker at www.JoinThePaceMakers.com.



Classifieds

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of storage, laundry on site. 628 W. Imperial Ave, \$2250/mo. \$1000 deposit. No Pets! Call Alex (310) 383-3753.

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from page 2

vintage furniture, tables and cabinets.

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Feb. 19. Selected students will engage in various activities including shadowing the mayor, council members and executive staff in their jobs, then act in those roles they shadowed. Participants will open a

Community Briefs

Sports

Lewis. Now the 49ers will look to gain it all summer long because of the endless visions that they will have of Lewis falling to the ground and crying into microphones as they remained five yards short of winning the game.

Jim Harbaugh did a poor job of play-calling towards the end of the biggest game of his NFL career. We tend to forget, he is still a relatively new NFL head coach. Likewise, Kaepernick is a brand new NFL quarterback. It was obvious to predict that he would come out with butterflies on the biggest stage of his career in only his 10th start ever. The thing that makes Kaepernick different than any other run-option quarterback is that he is just as

regularly-scheduled City Council meeting live on cable television later that night at 7 p.m. and conduct some official business for the City. For more information, please contact the City Manager's Office at 310-618-5880. •

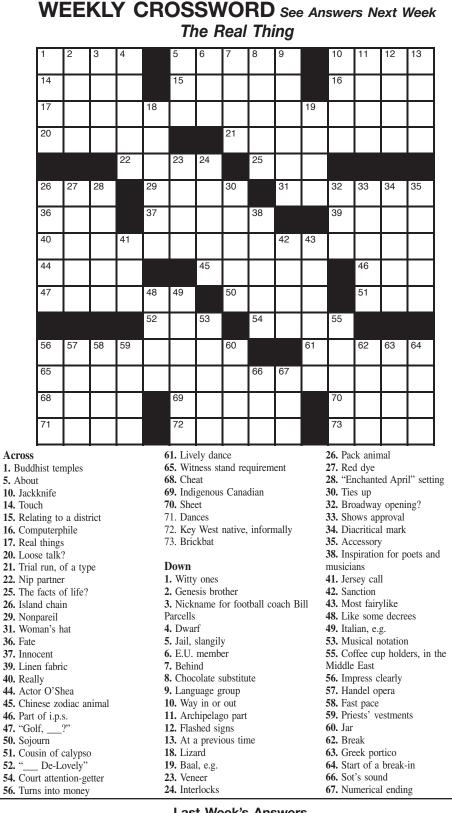
from page 6

good in the pocket as he is running the ball. He doesn't often make mistakes, though in the Super Bowl his nerves got to him and he and the coaching staff made plenty of them. Should the 49ers make it back to the Super Bowl next year, or in any of the next five to seven years, their fans can expect to see a different a team--a team that doesn't give the opposition a free 30 minutes of football and a team that learns from the mistakes it made in the final minutes of the game. With that maturity, the 49ers would have indeed won this Super Bowl and will indeed win the next one in which they are fortunate enough to play. •

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Last Week's Answers

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Each Sudoku puzzle consists of a 9X9 grid that has been subdivided into nine smaller grids of 3X3 squares. To solve the puzzle each row, column and box must contain each of the numbers 1 to 9.

Page 15

<u>Rea</u> Estate

Shrug Off That Winter Chill With Smart Home Improvement Projects

(BPT) - Spring is drawing nearer and, for homeowners, now is the time to shrug off the winter chill and think about home improvement plans. Building industry experts say that it's an ideal time to carefully consider and prioritize your plans - both cosmetic and structural.

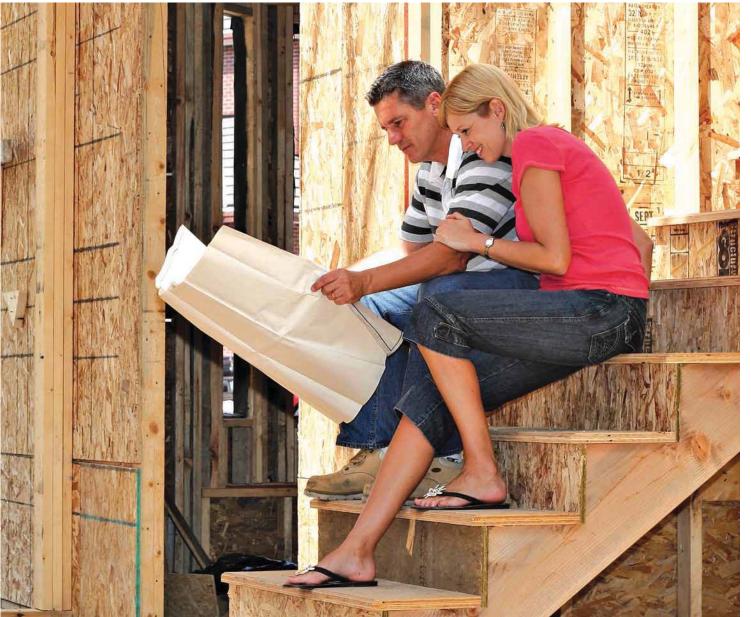
Understanding what is an essential home improvement and what is purely cosmetic is fundamental for those looking to make a smart investment in their homes. The foundation, for example, is a key investment area during a renovation project. Hiring an energy rater, inspector or appraiser to examine the home will give a better sense of the required work and avoid any subsequent costly headaches.

If you're thinking of going green, small changes such as using compact fluorescent light bulbs can contribute to reducing your home's carbon footprint. Fluorescent light bulbs typically have a longer life and use less energy thereby reducing excessive energy waste as well as monthly energy bills.

Investing in energy-efficient appliances is another effective way to live green and add value to your home. Many modern air conditioners use 30 to 50 percent less energy to produce the same amount of cool air as air conditioners from the 1970s, according to the U.S. Department of Energy. Homeowners with an old central air system can consider having a new, more energy efficient HVAC system installed. While these may come with an expensive up-front cost, the savings on energy bills over the long term will prove to be a wise investment. Additionally, the inclusion of other energy efficient appliances such as refrigerators, washing machines and dryers will contribute to lower energy bills.

Another significant way to reduce energy consumption is to adequately seal the home to stop air leaks by opting for a smart insulation material. Insulation experts say that homeowners should survey their house from top to bottom, and assess any trouble spots such as drafty areas or cold zones which could be caused by air leakage. Air leakage can limit the effectiveness of heating systems and leave you with higher energy bills. According to InsulationSmart.com, floors, walls and ceilings can account for up to 31 percent of air leakage in a home. Spray foam insulation, which can help combat air leakage, is growing in popularity amongst homeowners since it is an energy-efficient material that delivers year-round benefits. Spray foam insulation, like that available from Icynene, works well in all types of homes across the country, regardless of climate.

Updating your home with cost- and earthconscious improvements will provide a multitude of benefits. Not only will your home be more comfortable, but you'll be saving money and doing right by the environment. •









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Happy Valentine's Day

Dear Brian,

Thanks for being my special valentine. You are my heart's desire! You always have been, and always will be.

> Love forever, Carrie PLP

Dear Robert, Paola and Noe,

I love you 365 days of the year and thank you for being my Valentines today, and every day.

Hugs, Your wife and mom, Martha

To My Beautiful Bride,

Thank you for 25 years of unconditional love and happiness and four wonderful children. I love you so much and never stop thanking God for bringing you into my life. **PLP**

Happy Valentine's Day,

To my dear Grandchildren, Mikey & Jayden and to Jenna this will be your 1st Valentine's. You are so loved by us all.

> Love you, Grandma D.



Andrea & Baby Ella, Happy Valentine's Day to my beautiful wife and baby girl!

I love you both so much. Much Love & Aloha, Mikey (Dad)

Dana,

one love, one heart, growing together

> always yours, Matt

To our little spring bundle of joy,

You are so small, yet so loved and such a blessing to us all. We eagerly count the days when we can hold you in our arms. Sweet child, You are our pride and joy. We are forever grateful for you, our amazing little boy.

We love you more than words could ever express, Mom & Dad Sainz



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