

Torrance Tribune

The Weekly Newspaper of Torrance

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Chevron Refinery Drums Roll Through South Bay Streets



To clear the path for the refinery drums, Southern California Edison (SCE) crews turned the mast arms and street lights along Sepulveda Boulevard and on Rosecrans Avenue in Manhattan Beach, in preparation for the move of the first pair of drums, that were staged on SCE's lot at PCH and Herondo Street in Redondo Beach. Photo courtesy of Southern California Edison.

City Council Honors Newest Hometown Heroes with Banners

By Dylan Little

Another group of class military personnel were awarded banners as part of Torrance's Hometown Heroes program. These 11 active duty, veteran or deceased service members will have their banners displayed for three months, which include during the City's long-running Armed Forces Day Parade.

The new group of honorees includes actively serving members David Uyematsu and Brandon Matson of the Army, Damien Ramirez-Wojcik of the Navy and Marine Brett Glesko. The City also recognized veterans David Pierson, Douglas McLellan and Louis Zamperini and deceased service members Eugene Markwell, Harry Cohen, Matthew Ferrara and Micah Gifford.

Steve Glesko, father of Brett Glesko, was appreciative for the chance to honor not only his son, but all the men and women who put themselves at risk in military service. "I just would like to thank the City Council and City of Torrance for allowing us this opportunity to express our appreciation and to show how proud we are of our son serving and everyone in the military serving," said Glesko.

The support that families give to their loved ones serving abroad can mean a lot. Uyematsu compared the support of his family and friends to the tactical support soldiers receive in combat. "In the Army, they say that for every front line soldier there are nine or 10 that are behind, and for deployed soldiers [like me], I have my family, coworkers and the City of Torrance," said Uyematsu. "Thank you for taking the time and thank you to my family."

Gary Cohen, son of Harry Cohen, was joined by four generations of Cohens to represent his father. Gary Cohen said he was thankful for the opportunity to express his gratitude to his father for service to the

country and to share his memory. "This gives us a chance to keep my dad's memory alive," said Cohen. "He was one of the nicest people on the planet if you knew him. Thank you."

Typically, the banners are paid for by families or service groups. However, Zamperini's banner was paid for by 19-year-old Tyler Gobble, who sold mistletoe to raise the \$220 fee. Gobble's father said his son has been inspired by Zamperini's story

and when the young man found out that Zamperini had not been honored with a banner immediately sought to raise money to get one for the WWII veteran. While Zamperini couldn't attend the meeting due to scheduling conflicts, Torrance Historical Society Vice President Debbie Hays said he was especially happy with the honor. "Louis was thrilled to know that Tyler raised the

See City Council, page 11

Nixle Connects Police Department, Community

By Cristian Vasquez

For more than a year, the Torrance Police Department has been sharing real-time information with local residents through Nixle, an information-dissemination system.

"Nixle is basically an e-mail and text message service. What it does is that it gives us the tools and the ability to let the community know what is going on through text message and e-mail," Torrance Police Officer Kelli McCarthy said. "They can go to the Nixle website and sign up so that they can either receive text messages or e-mails regarding what any information we put out. It can be a press release or a notice if there is an incident at a location where we need people to stay out of the area. People can pretty much get real-time updates."

The information distributed by law enforcement agencies through Nixle can range from emergency situations such as an on-going search for suspected criminals

to less dangerous scenarios such as street closures.

"We feel that it is important that our community knows what is going on and this helps us communicate with the community. We have such a big community here in Torrance and with their help, it definitely facilitates things for us in doing our job better," McCarthy said. "If people are aware of certain crime trends and they are aware that they should stay out of a certain area, then that definitely helps us. If we put out a recurring crime trend, for example burglaries occurring at a certain location, we can let people know that they should maybe be on the alert. They can keep an eye out and if they see anything suspicious, they can call us, which in turn helps us do our job."

Nixle is only used by the police department to send out notifications to the public and does not allow residents to respond or directly communicate

See Nixle, page 3

Weekend Forecast

Friday
Sunny
79°/55°



Saturday
Partly
Cloudy
79°/59°



Sunday
Mostly
Cloudy
66°/52°



Community Briefs

Staybridge Suites Celebrates Renovation



Staybridge Suites Torrance/Redondo Beach celebrated its \$4 million renovation with a grand ribbon-cutting ceremony and festivities attended by city dignitaries and members of the Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce. The renovation project started in March of 2012 and was completed in December and included all public space, the building exterior and all the guestroom suites. "We look forward to offering our guests an enhanced stay experience while we continue to offer a comfortable home-like environment with outstanding customer service" said Jaime Kimzey, General Manager. Staybridge Suites is located at 19901 Prairie Avenue in Torrance, 310-371-8525, StaybridgeSuites.com/torrance-la. Seen here: U.S. Congresswoman Maxine Waters is flanked by Torrance Mayor Frank Scotto and Staybridge Suites Director of Sales Todd Trinneer at the festivities celebrating the \$4 Million renovation. Photo by Charlene Nishimura.

Center for Learning Unlimited Celebrates 10th Anniversary



Board members and business owners from the Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce (TACC) along with several city dignitaries celebrated The Center for Learning Unlimited's (CLU) TACC membership and 10th anniversary as a nonpublic school with a grand ribbon cutting ceremony on Friday, Jan. 18. The Center for Learning Unlimited (CLU) is a nonpublic, WASC accredited day school located in Torrance that serves both publicly and privately sponsored students with unique, complex learning challenges. Warren Myers from The Office of Senator Ted Lieu and Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Donna Duperron presented special congratulatory certificates commemorating CLU's accomplishments. CLU is located at 2785 Pacific Coast Highway, Suite G in Torrance, 310-997-1900, www.cflu.org. Photo courtesy of the Center for Learning Unlimited.

South Bay Bar Association Recognizes Outstanding Members

Attorney Tony Molino getting the award for a job well done as the 2012 South Bay Bar Association President from Attorney Bary Gore, the 2013 South Bay Bar Association President.



Honorable Stuart M. Rice received the MacFaden award from Honorable Douglas Carnahan. The South Bay Bar Association



confers the Judge William E. MacFaden Award upon a member of the bench or bar who has made a distinguished, ongoing contribution to the legal community of the South Bay, whether in the field of administration of justice, the practice of law, legal education, or community service. The award is named in honor of Judge William E. MacFaden, a widely respected South Bay lawyer and

judge who served as the first president of the South Bay Bar Association.

Attorney George F. Bird received the



Lawyer of the Year Award from Honorable James M. Brandlin

California Museum of Fine Art Opens March 8

The California Museum of Fine Art, at 1421 Marcelina Avenue in the heart of historic Old Torrance, will be celebrating their Opening Exhibition on Friday, March 8. The festivities will commence with a Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce ribbon-cutting at 4 p.m. followed by a 5 p.m. ribbon-cutting hosted by the Palos Verdes Chamber of Commerce. A reception will take place until 9 p.m. with coffee and desserts, wine and light appetizers. The museum will serve as a South Bay venue for international artists to exhibit and sell their art, provide educational workshops and lectures and conduct hands-on demonstrations of their individual styles and techniques. The opening exhibition on March 8 will include the works of artists John Asaro, Millie Greene, Dali Higa, Dan McCaw, Danny McCaw, John McCaw and Max Turner. Following the exhibition, the museum will be open to the public for two weeks with special lecture by Dan McCaw on Saturday, March 23 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., special \$10 volunteer donation with all proceeds to the Children's Hospital Los Angeles - South Bay. •

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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 16

Vandalism: 5000 BLOCK MINDORA DR Suspect(s) breaks victim's lawn light.

Burglary Auto: 23800 BLOCK PENNSYLVANIA AVE Suspect(s) enters unlocked vehicle and takes property/purse.

Vandalism: 2600 BLOCK EL DORADO ST Suspect(s) squirts mustard on two parked vehicles.

Burglary Auto: 4500 BLOCK 182ND ST Suspect(s) smashes window for entry, ransacks and takes property/remote, cosmetics.

Auto Theft-All: 3800 BLOCK REDONDO BEACH BLVD Stolen vehicle: '05 Chevrolet Tahoe.

FEBRUARY 15

Burglary-Auto: 5000 BLOCK JACQUES ST Suspect(s) enters two unlocked vehicles, ransacks and takes property/GPS, cash.

Burglary Commercial: 3900 BLOCK 171ST ST Suspect(s) forces open rollup door for entry, unplugs alarm, ransacks and takes property/TV, PS3 console, controllers, games, laptop, cordless impact gun, barcode scanner, car stereos, amplifiers.

Auto Theft-All: 4100 BLOCK REDONDO BEACH BLVD Stolen vehicle: '89 Chevrolet Astrovan.

Burglary-Auto: 5100 BLOCK JACQUES ST Suspect(s) enters unlocked vehicle, ransacks and takes property/laptop.

Burglary-Auto: 4600 BLOCK CATHANN ST Suspect(s) enters vehicle by unknown means.

Burglary-Auto: 5100 BLOCK LAURETTE ST Suspect(s) enters vehicle by unknown means, ransacks and takes property/laptop.

Burglary-Auto: 19000 BLOCK WESTERN AVE Suspect(s) enters vehicle by unknown means and takes property/navigation/stereo unit.

Theft: 19300 BLOCK GRAMERCY PL Suspect(s) takes property off of victim's workplace desk during working hours/laptop.

Battery-Simple: 23700 BLOCK CAMINO DEL SOL Suspect grabs victim's ankles, pulls her out of bed and kicks her in the leg.

FEBRUARY 14

Burglary-Auto: 1200 BLOCK SARTORI AVE Suspect(s) takes unattended property from dressing room/purse, tablet, cell phone.

Theft: 1200 BLOCK SARTORI AVE Suspect(s) takes unattended property from dressing room/purse, tablet, cell phone.

Theft: 3500 BLOCK CARSON ST Suspects order food and beverages for a large party and flee without paying.

FEBRUARY 13

Vandalism: 2400 BLOCK 169TH PL Suspect(s) damages fence by pulling it away from its posts.

Burglary-Auto: 1400 BLOCK CRAVENS AVE Suspect(s) accesses vehicle via open window and takes property/purse.

Burglary-Auto: 3500 BLOCK CARSON ST Suspect(s) punches door lock for entry and takes property/stereo, iPod, wallet.

Theft: 19300 BLOCK HAWTHORNE BLVD Suspect(s) selects merchandise, switches price tags and pays much less than the merchandise is worth.

Theft: 22000 BLOCK LADEENE AVE Suspect(s) takes unsecured property from

front of location/bicycle.

Auto Theft-All: 17100 BLOCK ARDATH AVE Stolen vehicle: '90 Nissan P/U.

Burglary-Residential: 16100 BLOCK VAN NESS AVE Suspect(s) smashes window for entry, forces open interior door, ransacks and takes property/jewelry, clocks, rolled coins.

FEBRUARY 12

Battery-Weapon/Agg: 3600 BLOCK TORRANCE BLVD Suspect cuts victim with a broken bottle.

Vandalism: 20700 BLOCK ANZA AVE Suspect(s) scratches victim's vehicle's paint.

Theft: 3000 BLOCK SEPULVEDA BLVD Suspect(s) takes unattended property from register counter/wallet.

Burglary-Residential: 18300 BLOCK PRAIRIE AVE Suspect(s) enters unlocked residence and takes property/laptops.

Burglary-Residential: 24200 BLOCK WALNUT ST Suspect removes window screen and is in the process of pushing open window when confronted by victim who is inside residence/no loss.

Battery Simple: 2200 BLOCK 190TH ST Suspect strikes victim in the head with a full beverage cup.

Burglary-Residential: 3700 BLOCK MICHELLE DR Suspect(s) enters residence by unknown means and takes property/case, camera, lenses, knives, axes.

Burglary-Residential: 400 BLOCK CAMINO DE LAS COLINAS Suspect(s) kicks in door for entry, ransacks and takes property/laptop, watches, jewelry.

Burglary-Auto: 16700 BLOCK YUKON AVE Suspect(s) removes window for entry, ransacks and takes property/laptop.

Auto Theft-All: 21000 BLOCK TOMLEE AVE Stolen vehicle: '03 Mitsubishi Montero.

FEBRUARY 11

Burglary-Commercial: 1300 BLOCK CABRILLO AVE Suspect(s) forces open storage room door by unknown means and takes property/surfboard, bicycle, snowboards.

Auto Theft-All: 18200 BLOCK CRENSHAW BLVD Stolen vehicle: '03 Toyota Camry.

Burglary-Auto: 1300 BLOCK CABRILLO AVE Suspect(s) punctures/peels plastic window for entry, ransacks and takes property/flashlight, screwdriver set, manual, remote.

Burglary-Auto: 16700 BLOCK YUKON AVE Suspect(s) smashes window for entry, attempts to remove stereo and takes property/remote.

Burglary-Residential: 1900 BLOCK 235TH PL Suspect(s) removes screen, enters open window, ransacks and takes property/jewelry.

Battery-Simple: 22500 BLOCK MAPLE AVE Suspect slaps victim's face.

Theft: 3500 BLOCK CARSON ST Suspect(s) takes property from victim's purse as she shops/wallet.

Theft: 3500 BLOCK CARSON ST Suspect(s) takes property from victim's purse as she shops/wallet, cell phone.

Burglary-Auto: 2600 BLOCK PACIFIC COAST HWY Suspect(s) enters vehicle by unknown means, ransacks and takes property/wallet.

FEBRUARY 10

Battery-Weapon/Agg: 24600 BLOCK CRENSHAW BLVD Suspect punches one victim in the mouth and while fleeing, runs over a second victim's foot.

Burglary-Residential: 3600 BLOCK 226TH ST Suspect(s) attempts to pry open garage door, pries open residence door for entry, unknown property loss at time of report.

Theft: 2700 BLOCK 232ND ST Suspect(s) enters open garage and takes property/laptop.

Burglary-Residential: 2000 BLOCK 235TH ST Suspect(s) enters residence by unknown means, ransacks and takes unknown property at time of report.

Theft: M 3400 BLOCK 171ST ST Suspect(s) takes property from porch/delivered parcel. •

Obituaries

Katie Knighten

Katie Knighten, age 95, of Monticello, Arkansas passed away Thursday, February 14, 2013, at the Drew Memorial Hospital in Monticello.

Survivors include three sons, James Knighten of Waldron, Arkansas, Robert Knighten of Booneville, Arkansas and David Knighten of Alexander, Arkansas; two daughters, Nancy Watson of Soldatna, Alaska and Rebecca North of Monticello; a sister, Helen Moses of McGehee, Arkansas; seven grandchildren; fourteen great-grandchildren and other relatives.

Funeral service was held 11:00 a.m. Wednesday, February 20 at Stephenson-Dearman Chapel, burial in Union Ridge Cemetery. Memorials may be given to First Baptist Church-Building Fund, 413 North Main, Monticello, Arkansas 71655; Arkansas Children's Hospital, 800 Marshall St., Slot 661, Little Rock, Arkansas, 722202 or Arkansas Heart Hospital, 1701 S. Shackelford Rd, Little Rock, Arkansas 72211. Arrangements by Stephenson-Dearman Funeral Home. Online guestbook www.stephensondearman.com.

Nixle

with police. In addition, signing up for the notifications and messages is free.

"People don't actually respond to Nixle. However, when I put out an Nixle alert, the majority of the time I also post it on our Facebook page," McCarthy said. "Through our Facebook page residents can make comments, ask questions and stay updated as well. If you go to our Facebook page, you will notice that most of our status updates are Nixle-related alerts so that we can target people who use both programs. Through Facebook, communication is more interactive because they [residents] can ask questions and maybe add a little bit to the issue at hand."

The use of social media and technology like Nixle is still in its infancy in terms of policing practices. However, the Torrance Police Department and many of the surrounding police agencies in the South Bay have adapted quickly to these new tools to obtain the most benefit out of them.

"I think social media helps greatly--it keeps the community aware of what is going on with the police department in our city," McCarthy said. "It keeps people up on current crime trends, it keeps them thinking like us and it keeps them informed most importantly. With the public being informed, they in turn can call

from front page

us with information that may help us solve a crime. If they see something suspicious that relates to something they read on Nixle, they can call us and it can possibly lead to arrests."

Getting the community involved and keeping residents engaged with local law enforcement has always been a goal for the Torrance Police Department and it is believed that without the residents' help it would be much more difficult for officers to do their job.

"I think the police department is only as good as its community and we have a great community that helps us out," McCarthy said. "They call in suspicious activities which help us--and by keeping them in the loop of what is going on, I think it creates a better relationship. Our doors are never closed and that keeps us having a good relationship. With the community always helping us, it certainly facilitates our job and it is easier to capture criminals that way. People here aren't afraid to call the police. They know that if they call, someone will come out and check it out."

Persons interested in Nixle can visit the Torrance Police Department website at: <https://www.torranceca.gov/97.htm>. The Nixle link is at the bottom, left-hand corner of the page. Or they can also visit the Nixle website at: http://www.nixle.com/nixle_connect.html. •



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Computer Ninja

When, How to Upgrade Your Computer's Memory

By Alex Bryan

Everybody knows the feeling of waiting a long time for something that's supposed to be quick. Whether you're making coffee, waiting for food at a restaurant, or waiting on a download, there's something particularly aggravating about things taking longer than usual. For many of us, this tingly, wonderful feeling is experienced every time we use our computers. It's what makes us fantasize about throwing them out the window while grandiosely disregarding the safety of nearby pedestrians.

Before we get started, I'd like to introduce you to two terms: *hard drive* and *memory*. When you save a document on your computer, it's stored on the *hard drive*. *Hard drives*



the computer has been forced to write memory data to the hard drive. If your memory graph doesn't say "Page File Usage" and you've got a couple extra hundred megabytes of memory, you probably don't need to add more. *Page File* is a way of saying "data being written to the hard drive instead of memory".

Before you run out and buy more memory, be sure that you actually need to add it. You can avoid buying more by simply reducing the amount of memory you use. Ways to do this include removing viruses/malware and removing items from the system startup/taskbar.

If you really do need more memory, you can save some serious money by buying and

"The problem is that when your memory is full, your computer has to write data normally destined for the memory to the hard drive meaning things you expect to be fast can actually take several times longer."

provide large amounts of long-term storage but can't be accessed very quickly. When you open a word document from your *hard drive*, that document will be temporarily copied into *RAM (Random Access Memory)*. Your computer's memory is thousands of times faster than a hard drive. What this means is that when you skip to a different page in the document, you instantly see that page instead of waiting for that data to be retrieved from the hard drive. The problem is that when your memory is full, your computer has to write data normally destined for the memory to the hard drive meaning things you expect to be fast can actually take several times longer. When you multiply this effect across your system, it will run slowly, halt, or freeze.

To see whether you need more memory, hit the *Control+Alt+Delete* keys at the same time to pull up the *Task Manager*. Look at the second graph under the *Performance* tab. If your graph says "Page File Usage" above it, that means you're running out of memory and

installing it yourself. As far as computer repairs go, this is one of the easiest. I suggest going to crucial.com and using their free "Memory Advisor" tool. It will scan your system and give you a list of possible upgrades.

Let's say you currently have 1 gigabyte/GB of memory (there are one thousand megabytes in a gigabyte) and your "Page File Usage" graph showed you were using 512 megabytes/MB of page file. You would need to add an additional 512MB of memory to your computer to put that page file data back into memory where it belongs. I always suggest having some extra memory (in this case, installing a total of 2GB) so that you won't have to upgrade for a while. Crucial has an excellent guide for installing memory, but just remember that you do so at your own risk! <http://www.crucial.com/install/dimm.aspx#ground>

Thanks for reading and look for me in the next issue •

Calendar

SATURDAY, MARCH 2

- Ukrainian Easter Eggs, 10-11:30 a.m., Henderson Library, 4805 Emerald St. For more information call (310) 371-2075. Free, registration is required.
- South Bay Orchid Society Show and Sale, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. (also 3/3), Torrance Cultural Arts Center, 3330 Civic Center Drive.
- Bravo! The Classical & Contemporary Dance Experience, 7 p.m., James Armstrong Theatre, 3330 Civic Center Drive. For more information call (310) 781-7171.

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.
- City Council Meeting, 7-10 p.m., City Hall, Council Chamber, 3031 Torrance Blvd. For more information call (310) 618-2870.

THURSDAY, MARCH 7

- "Stories In Art" (ages 7-11), 4- 6 p.m., Torrance Art Museum, 3320 Civic Center Drive. For more information call (310) 618-2326. Space is limited and registration is required.

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.
- Arbor Day, 8:30 a.m.-Noon, Madrona Marsh Nature Center and Preserve, 3201 Plaza Del Amo. For more information call (310) 782-3989.
- Cherry Blossom Cultural Festival, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Columbia Park, 18861 Prairie Ave. For more information call (310) 618-2376.

SATURDAY, MARCH 16


- 14th Annual Craftsmen's Spring Arts and Crafts Fair, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Ken Miller Auditorium, 3341 Torrance Blvd. For more information call (310) 376-7488.
- Dancing with the South Bay Stars II, 8 p.m., James Armstrong Theatre, 3330 Civic Center Drive. For more information call (310) 781-7171.
- Free Superhero Mask Making Workshop (youth 8-14), 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Torrance Art Museum, 3320 Civic Center Drive. For reservations call (310) 618-6342.

ONGOING

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



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Pediatric Therapy Network is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit early child development and therapy center committed to providing high quality services for children with special needs and for those at risk for developmental issues.

Politically Speaking

One Man's Opinion

By Gerry Chong

With a stretch and a yawn, Rip Van winked at the sun and slowly got to his feet. He had been sleeping for four years and was a little hungry, so he slowly ambled down the hill to the tiny village below. On his walk, he stared in wonder at the new highways and bridges, with air and water as clear as the days of Adam and Eve. The only things missing were people! At the village, he encountered a very old man and asked what had happened since he fell asleep in early 2013.

"Not only that, but remember those 46 million people living beneath the poverty line? They don't exist anymore. The poverty line is now so low, no one could snake beneath it."

"Well," said the oldster, "after the collapse of the Republican Party, President Obama gained everything he had asked for. So today, we are all financially equal."

"Wow," said Rip, "how did he do that?" Replied the oldster, "He did it logically. He started with the average family income of \$50,000 and directed the tax code and IRS to play Whack-a-Mole with anyone earning more than the average. Then working from the other end of the financial spectrum, the President raised the minimum wage up to \$9 an hour, since he decided that's what we need to live on. So by slapping down the wealthy and lifting up the poor, he brought us all to \$9, making us all equal. Not only that, but remember those 46 million people living beneath the poverty line? They don't exist anymore. The poverty line is now so low, no one could snake beneath it."

Amazed, Rip inquired further, "The roads

and bridges are beautiful, but no one is driving on them. Where are the cars?" Said the old man, "Energy Secretary Chu revealed the Obama goal was to bring gas to \$10 per gallon, which he did. Now since we earn \$9 and gas is \$10 a gallon, do the math. No one can afford to drive, so the air is pristine and the roads never need maintenance, shrinking our budgetary deficit."

Shaking his head, Rip went on. "What has that done to our relations with the rest of the world?" The old man replied, "Well, Canada

is now a province of China. When we rejected the Keystone pipeline, China bought all their oil and the land over it. Since that included all of Canada...well, you get the picture.

"As to the Middle East, Defense Secretary Hagel dismantled our military, as required by sequestration, so our foreign policy consisted of a full-scale retreat. Despite our trying to buy friends with foreign aid, Arab countries banned oil sales to us, so we've been reduced to wind and solar--but that's a challenge too, since the Chinese control all solar panel technology.

"Nevertheless, we who voted for the most transformative President in history proudly rejoice because his objectives have been met. The rich now pay their fair share, we are all financially equal, we have eliminated 46 million in poverty, our air and water are clean, and our highways and bridges meet 21st Century standards.

"What more could we ask?" •

Another Man's Opinion

National Security: More than Using Weapons

By Cristian Vasquez

Since 9/11, the Republican Party has been very efficient at portraying the Democrats as weak on national security and quick to cut military spending. The political landscape that was born after the terrorist attacks was one that labeled anyone who questioned military spending as unpatriotic and a risk to the safety of our nation. Since 2008 when the Democrats took over the White House, attempts to label the party a risk to national security have remained constant. However, the truth is that President Obama's administration is not taking a soft-sided approach to defense spending.

The truth is that under the current administration, military spending has gone up. In November 2012, military spending went up by at least 10 percent even as troops were being withdrawn from Iraq. If anything, defense spending has continued to steadily rise--\$287 billion in 2001 compared to \$530 billion in 2013, and that does not account

Office [CBO], based on current tax rates and spending, military spending is going up over the next 10 years. The President's \$480 billion in military spending "cuts" in reality mean that he is reducing the proposed spending on the military for the next 10 years rather than actually taking money from the current military budget. Current spending will remain unaffected. Future expenditures will be better balanced and more efficient. So what's the problem?

The opposition is really angry that military spending will continue but at a slower rate. For a group that preaches fiscal responsibility, it would seem that they would appreciate an approach that reined in wasteful spending, even from within our national defense budget. The argument that this budget will weaken our military is nothing more than a childish temper tantrum by representatives such as Howard P. McKeon (R-CA) who labeled the alleged cuts dangerous and irresponsible.

"The truth is what is dangerous and irresponsible is the idea that in order to protect our country, the nation's leaders must indiscriminately spend money on the military, even if there is no proof that the money is necessary."

for both the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. However, under President Obama there is a significant change that does not jeopardize the ability our military to protect the nation. The President and his administration are simply not spending at the same accelerated rate that the previous administrations fueled.

Military spending will increase during the next seven years, at least. Yet, those opposed to the President and the Democratic Party in general have been clever in disguising this reduced rate of spending as a cut in military spending. A cut in military spending would consist of discontinued programs due to lack of funding and that is not happening.

According to the Congressional Budget

The truth is what is dangerous and irresponsible is the idea that in order to protect our country, the nation's leaders must indiscriminately spend money on the military, even if there is no proof that the money is necessary. The President's budget for the next 10 years will ensure that current military spending remains intact, despite the many areas of wasteful spending that should be addressed, while ensuring that future spending doesn't take bankrupt taxpayers in the name of national security. The sad thing is that for some people, fiscal responsibility only applies when trying to help the poor but it flies out the window when it involves weapons of mass destruction. •

From the Source

Political Q & A

By Gerry Chong

This week, we asked State Senator Roderick "Rod" Wright and Assemblyman Al Muratsuchi their views on the question of the week:

Each year the California Legislature passes more than 1,000 bills--the vast majority of which are signed into law. Is there such a thing as too many laws? If so, how should we control their volume?

Assemblyman Muratsuchi responded: "California needs more common sense and less laws. Obviously we need laws to live and work with. However, not every problem needs another law. For example, as Chair of the Assembly Committee on the Aerospace Industry, I will be conducting public hearings to get state policymakers and industry leaders to focus on how to improve the state's business climate so that we can attract and retain good jobs."

Senator Wright said: "I don't know that you can determine in advance what number of bills should be allowed in a given year. There are legitimate state issues which must be addressed. In some years there are many. In others, few.

"As it stands, we do have a cap on how many bills each legislator can introduce in

a two-year legislative session, and that cap has been reduced in recent years.

"You would hope that people elect representatives who will set out to do good for their community through this office. Those representatives should have the ability to introduce a bill when they have identified a real problem and a legitimate way of dealing with that problem.

"In the same vein, those representatives should be ready and willing to vote 'no' when a bill is unnecessary or poorly written. Even a well-intentioned bill on an important issue may be written in such a way that it does not get to the root of the problem. There is often strong public opinion supporting bills of this nature, which have been described as some great panacea, but leadership requires those who have read the fine print and found the proposed 'solutions' lacking to vote accordingly. It is easier to send the bill's author back to the drawing board, or back into negotiations, than it is to unwind Constitutional gridlock caused by unnecessary laws."

Herald Publications thanks both gentlemen for their contributions to our understanding of the important issues of the day affecting South Bay residents. •

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Sports

Up and Adam

West Warriors' Season Ends

By Adam Serrao

When the West High Warriors finally got things going this season, it was the big man in the middle who got them on the right track. Before their last two-game stretch against Leuzinger and Palos Verdes Peninsula, Terrell Carter wasn't the focus of the offense and the Warriors wound up losing five out of seven games. In the next two games before the playoffs, however, Carter went 6-6 from the field, scoring 12 points and grabbing 19 rebounds in a win against Leuzinger and then

Nitake knew that if the Warriors wanted to have success, they would have to fight back against the big center. "I hoped he wasn't as good as he looked on tape," Nitake said. "Unfortunately, he was." Woods tallied a team-high 16 points for the Highlanders while remaining the stronghold of a defense that limited the Warriors to their lowest scoring output since the middle of December. Carter was no slouch himself, though, keeping the game close for West throughout while also putting up 18 points on the night, grabbing

"The free throws that Carter spoke of played a huge part in the outcome of the game with just seconds remaining."

went 9-for-9 from the floor, scoring 19 points and grabbing 12 rebounds in a win against Peninsula. Head coach Paul Nitake quickly found out that running the offense through Carter was a successful tactic for the team and in the next two playoff games against both Colton and Hart, Carter took over and led the Warriors to consecutive victories. Enter Royal. At 23-7 on the season, Royal finished second in the Marmonte league standings this year and features a powerful center of its own. At 6-foot-9, Scott Woods was the big man taking up space for Highlanders and it was he who sent the Warriors to a 42-38 loss last Tuesday night in the CIF Southern Section Division 3-AAA quarterfinals.

Woods was effective all night long for Royal and attempted to cancel out the ability of West's big man, Carter. Going into the game,

11 rebounds of his own and blocking three shots on defense. At 6-foot-8, just one inch shorter than Woods, it was a battle of centers all night long. Unfortunately for the Warriors, Carter found himself in foul trouble throughout the night while battling with Woods down low, and fouled out at a critical point in the game with just over two minutes remaining. "We had some mental lapses tonight," Carter said. "We had a lot of dumb fouls we could have avoided, especially me. That hurt the team and gave them a lot of free throws."

The free throws that Carter spoke of played a huge part in the outcome of the game with just seconds remaining. Royal made four of six shots from the stripe with under 20 seconds to go to keep the Warriors at bay as Nitake's team attempted to fight back and

See Sports, page 12

Losing a Legend

By Adam Serrao

The team and the city simply would not have been the same without him. Jerry Buss, the longtime owner of the Los Angeles Lakers, reached deep down inside of himself last Monday morning and took his last breath at the age of 80. It was a breath that came from a man who embodied accomplishment and worked until he was his own self-made success story. He was a man who had a vision and built a franchise and watched as that franchise went on to become one of the most successful franchises in sports history. Jerry Buss didn't just build a basketball team. He built an entertainment scene on the basketball court and made it center stage. Showtime transfixed Los Angeles and turned the city into the entertainment capital of the world. Jerry Buss was simply the director of this show and without even knowing it, the man became a legend—a legend whose prodigy will live on forever.

Jerry Buss was born in Salt Lake City, Utah and came from a broken home. When he was only nine years of age, he left with his divorced mother and moved to the great city of Los Angeles. It wasn't long before Buss' travels would take him to Wyoming where he began to earn success in academia at the University of Wyoming. Once you've been to Los Angeles, however, you simply can't stay away, so Buss moved back and earned an M.S. and Ph.D. in physical chemistry from the University of Southern California at the ripe young age of 24. Buss was always ahead of his time, however, as he continued to earn successes throughout his entire life before he bought the Los Angeles Lakers in 1979. Perhaps the best decision of his life, Buss immediately saw himself go from rags to riches. The poverty that he experienced alongside his single mother in Wyoming soon faded. Ten NBA championships later, Buss was on top of the world looking down at the masterpiece that he created. From the Showtime era to the years of Shaq and Kobe and beyond, Buss was the architect. He became beloved in this town by fans and players alike and created an incredible winning streak of his own until his unfortunate passing just over a week ago.

It is safe to say that the NBA will never experience another owner like Jerry Buss. Not only did he create a championship empire from nothing, but he did it with style. "I really tried to create a Laker image, a distinct identity," Buss said. "I mean, the Lakers are pretty damn Hollywood." About as Hollywood as Magic Johnson's smile—a smile that saw five of the 10 championship trophies accrued by Buss throughout his lifetime. "He was a visionary, he was a trailblazer," Johnson said of Buss in an interview on ESPN's *SportsCenter*. "He did things that were, at that time, people

thought wasn't cool, wasn't proper. He was a man who walked the walk and talked the talk. He produced championships because he was the most competitive owner you could ever meet in your life." The competitive fire that Johnson spoke of saw Buss' Lakers reach the NBA finals 16 times during his 34 years in charge of the team, winning 10 titles over that span. Buss clearly not only took over the Lakers—he took over the NBA. Since his arrival, the Lakers have been the winningest franchise in the league.

The Lakers will now largely be run by Jim and Jeanie Buss, two of Jerry's six children. "It was our father's often-stated desire and expectation that the Lakers remain in the Buss family. The Lakers have been our lives as well and we will honor his wish and do everything in our power to continue his unparalleled legacy," the Buss family said in a statement issued by the Lakers. So far, Jim has been doing his best with the basketball decisions he has made for the team in Jerry's absence. Any other owner in the league would have jumped at the chance to bring in Dwight Howard and Steve Nash, though the experiment hasn't quite worked up to expectations just yet. No matter what star power Jim chooses to bring to the team, however, it is highly unlikely that he will live up to the fame and fortune of his father. For that reason, Laker fans everywhere should prepare themselves for a change, especially once the Kobe Bryant era at last comes to an end. "Think about the impact that he's had on the game and the decisions he's made, and the brand of basketball he brought here with Showtime and the impact that he had on the sport as a whole," Bryant said. "Those vibrations were felt to a kid all the way in Italy who was six years old, before basketball was even global." Certainly, Kobe wasn't the only one on whom Buss made an impression.

Dr. Jerry Buss will certainly live on to be known as the face of the Los Angeles Lakers franchise, but the man was so much more. A scholar, a renaissance man and a downright cool guy in the public eye, he had it all and he wouldn't have had it any other way. From always appearing in public with an attractive (and much younger) woman on his arm to attending USC football games, boxing matches and poker tournaments, Buss was envied by all but hated by none. Even still, he deflected credit. "I am blessed with a wonderful family who have helped me and guided me every step of the way," Buss said at his Hall of Fame induction ceremony in 2010. "This support is the best anybody could ever have." Gracious till the end. That is how Jerry Buss will always be remembered. Truly, the support that one man has given to the city of Los Angeles is the best that anybody ever could have had. •

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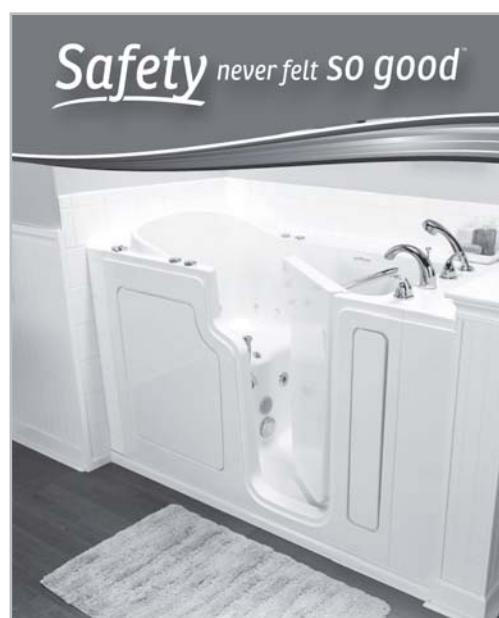


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Sports

North Girls End Season with Loss to Top Seeded Gahr

Photos by Shelley Kemp

The North Torrance Girls basketball team (16-11) was defeated by the number one seeded Gahr 66-48 last Tuesday in it's quarterfinal round of CIF playoffs. Early on, Gahr gained an 11-0 lead using superior height and 3-point game. Though Saxons battled back valiantly a few times the Lady Saxons still found themselves unable to close the gap enough to threaten the lead at any point in the game. For more Photos please visit www.ShelleyKempPhotography.com



Tiara Scott tries to get by Gahr's 6'0" Senior Guard Jewelyn Sawyer to shoot. Scott tallied 10 points the Saxons.



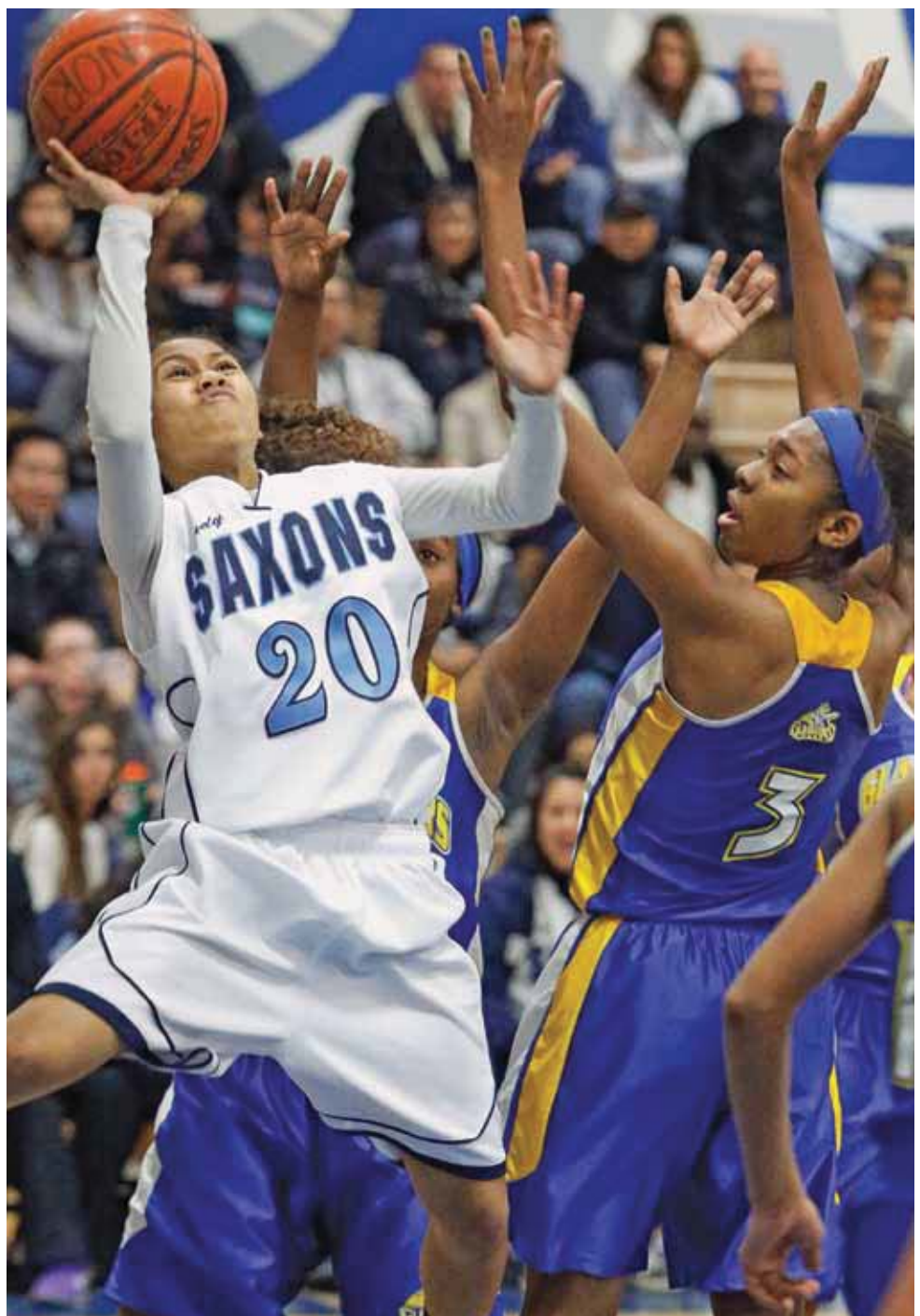
Sophomore Kylie Oshiro looks dazed as North's CIF run ends.



Kareena Paxton lays up through the arms of Jewelyn Sawyer of Gahr.



Tiara Scott drives the baseline but is hindered by Gahr defender.



Kira Jolly gets by Gahr for a shot. Jolly contributed 4 points to North.

Sports

Spartan Girls Soccer Advances In CIF

Photos by Shelley Kemp

Artesia could not hold back the Spartan Girls Soccer team in its quest for a CIF Division 4 title. Host South shut out the Pioneers 5-0 in a CIF quarterfinal playoff game last Thursday. Goals scored by Kyla Diekmann (3) and Jessica Nakae (2). A win in Tuesday's Semifinal against host Quartz Hill decides the advancement to the Final on March 1st or 2nd. For more photos please visit www.ShelleyKempPhotography.com



Senior Midfielder Jessica Nakae heads the ball back towards Spartan territory. Nakae scored two goals for her team.



Senior Charlie Tavormina clears the ball away from South's goal.



Artesia Goalkeeper Cyndi Trejo falls to ground as she watches a South goal fly by.



Senior Forward Kyla Diekmann makes a flying kick to send the ball downfield. Diekmann tallied three goals for the Spartans.



Junior Midfielder Noelle Ly kicks the ball away from the South goal just in the nick of time averting the Artesia threat.

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7his week's trivia question deals with our recipe for the week:

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GOOD LUCK! *The Chef*



POTS N' PANS
 and how to bang them
 by Chef Shafer




Amber Ale Steamed Mussels and Garlic Tomatoes

- 2 pounds cleaned fresh mussels (make sure you pull the breads off of them or ask the fish market to do it for you)
- 1/2 cup diced onions
- 3 smashed garlic cloves
- 1/8 cup olive oil
- 2 cups diced tomatoes fresh
- 1 bottle of amber ale
- 1 cup broth or water
- Salt and pepper
- 3 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 5 leaves fresh basil chopped roughly

In a hot saucepan sauté the onions and garlic in the olive oil till lightly brown. Add the tomatoes and stir for 1 minute. Add the beer and broth and bring to a boil. Add the mussels and cover the pot so they can steam about 1 to 2 minutes or till they all open up. Season with salt and pepper. Add the butter and basil. Serve with a crusty loaf of bread.

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TerriAnn in Torrance

Falling Snow in Torrance

By TerriAnn Ferren

It happened again. All over town, the stunning Trinity Flowering Pear (Pyrus Calleryana Trinity) trees are in full bloom. Every year I look forward to this bursting not only for the sheer beauty of the tree, but for the message that spring is right around the corner. Almost overnight, these magnificent trees burst open with their stunning single white flowers. Because lately we have had

that we have so many in our area. I am very happy looking at them. They make me smile. In fact, where I live [in Torrance], right behind my house there is one and I got my 91-year-old mother up and took her to the window to show her the beautiful tree--and she was, 'Aaah...' Just gasped how gorgeous it was and how she was enjoying it so much and thanked me for pointing that out to her." Jamie Carretta told me, "I have been very

"It's like being back when we used to live in Washington, D.C. and you had the cherry blossoms. Exact same thing. Just gorgeous."

warm weather, these special trees are blooming now in Torrance. Now is the time. Near Torrance City Hall along Madrona Avenue, the trees behind the James Armstrong Theatre are stuffed with white blooms. And the trees right in front of the entrance to the Torrance Police Department welcome those who enter the building. The full-blossomed trees are also dotted along parkways and front yards displaying their beauty for all to see.

While at a concert the other night, I asked some local people what they thought about the flowering pear trees all over town. "They are just so beautiful and they are in full blossom right now," said Donna Gervais. "I look forward to them and am so happy

impressed with them [the flowering pear trees] and think they are beautiful and want one in my yard. They make me very happy. They're beautiful!" Bob Gervais added, "Lori next door has one. It is gorgeous--an absolutely beautiful tree. I just noticed it today. I went on the deck and there it was and I said, 'Oh my gosh, look at that! It's gorgeous.' It's like being back when we used to live in Washington, D.C. and you had the cherry blossoms. Exact same thing. Just gorgeous."

The next day, I took a drive all over Torrance looking for the flowering pear trees in all the corners of the city. I saw a particularly beautiful tree in the middle of the grass in the front yard of a resident in downtown



Christine's tree in her front yard.

Torrance and stopped to check it out. I asked the owner if she knew what kind of tree she had in her front yard. "My husband thought it was a cherry blossom [tree], but I knew it wasn't a cherry blossom. This is the second year...it is pretty," said Christine. There are trees that line Sepulveda just south of the mall ablaze with white. Then, I headed south on Maple Avenue and the entire parkway in front of New Horizons is planted with the beautiful trees. It looked so beautiful!

snow. And somehow I think Dave is smiling from heaven as he sees his tree growing and flowering still.

Don't miss the show of the delicate white flowers falling all over town on the grass and the sidewalks, making their way somehow into my garage and on our city streets. This snow show will not come again until next year when all of a sudden out of our cold snap, the warmth of the sun will coax the soft white petals open once again. •



Flowering pear tree by the koi pond in the Pine Wind Japanese Garden.



Bob Gervais.



Donna Gervais.

Inside the Pine Wind Japanese Garden, there is a large flowering pear tree by the koi pond. This tree gives a soothing, calming feeling and beckons you to sit and rest a bit. Soon the petals will begin to fall and the sprinkling of white "snow" will begin.

Outside my kitchen window, a large Trinity Flowering Pear tree is blooming. This particular tree was planted for me long ago on Valentine's Day by my husband Dave. Each year when the white blossoms fill the tree with fluffy color, I am reminded of that day. At the time we thought about planting a lemon tree instead, but Dave decided to plant the flowering pear. Not only is the tree beautiful when it is full of white flowers, but when the flowers begin to fall it reminds me of snow. Light, cascading flakes of flowers gently dance down to the ground and remind me of warm snow--the gentle reminder that spring and summer are near. What surprises me every year is how fast the flowers fall. You have to make sure you notice them from the time they bloom until they begin to



Jamie Carretta. Photos by TerriAnn Ferren.

A Student's Perspective Looking Up

"Burning Out" and Being Overloaded in High School.

By Glen Abalayan,
Torrance High School Student

It has been 23 weeks since the first day of school and I have finally burned out. Attempting to balance a schedule loaded with classwork, homework, tutoring, meetings and writing has left my cranium roasted. Every student has experienced this during their lives and I am no exception. But this experience is life's way of challenging someone on what their priorities are. Being burned out is a reality every student will one day face and a lesson from which to learn.

The amount of activities a high school student can hold can be quite extreme and there can only be so much one person can

student. There are more important factors students can control to prevent them from reaching the dreaded exhaustion point. Such a factor is mastery of the time they have been allotted.

The management of time a student is given is an important life skill that schools teach to their students. If there is one lesson a student will learn after leaving high school it is to properly exercise time management to perfection. The periods of exhaustion many students face regularly can be relieved if they would manage their time more effectively. The practice of managing one's time also teaches people how to set their priorities straight. In order to make a day more efficient, they must excuse themselves from less important

"I know of some students in my school who take all AP classes, volunteer on the weekends, are presidents of a club, and still have enough time to study for the SAT. This plan is destined for burnout."

hold before they reach their breaking point. I know of some students in my school who take all AP classes, volunteer on the weekends, are presidents of a club, and still have enough time to study for the SAT. This plan is destined for burnout. I still can also remember seeing the very friends who took such a difficult schedule become completely exhausted during finals week. Although high school should be challenging, it should not make students' lives miserable. My parents have always warned me of biting off more than I can chew and I believe spending a day overloaded with activities is too much for anyone to handle.

Being completely exhausted from life's rigors is a completely normal reality every student will face. Every day will always be different with various amounts of homework loads and the presence of a new project can easily break the delicate balance between extracurricular and school activities. Things such as these cannot be controlled by the

duties. According to a recent Nielsen report, the average American spends over 34 hours a week watching television alone. So much for the typical teenage excuse of "not having enough time to do homework." If only we could someday learn to harness the extraneous hours spent doing worthless activities.

Everyone has their own limit that will be challenged during burnouts. Exhaustion is merely a way of the body telling someone that they have surpassed the limit. But as the body grows stronger after every workout, so does the mind after every burnout. High school students are the most prone to such periods, as they do not yet know what their true boundaries are and will load themselves with rigorous courses to the point of extremity. Every moment in life is a lesson and the regular periods of burnout are not an exception. Poor time management and an overly ambitious schedule are the main causes of such moments and should be learned from to prevent more intense burnouts from happening. •

City Council

from front page

money with mistletoe sales, especially since it involves kissing," said Hays.

Torrance has a rich history of honoring its military servicemen and women. In addition to the banner program and Armed Forces Day Parade, the City has Seaside Heroes Park dedicated to three servicemen (Ferrara, Gifford and Joseph Anzack, Jr.) who were killed in action, a veterans' memorial wall, and its municipal airport named after Zamperini. Mayor Frank Scotto said he believes Torrance to be

programs across the nation, including in the California cities of Burbank, Glendale, Lancaster and Long Beach, the Council decided on a banner program that would allow families or groups like the Torrance Firefighters Association, the Vietnam Veterans of America's South Bay Chapter or the Blue Star Mothers Association to display the name, image and branch of service for their honoree. Families and/or sponsors can pay \$220 to get a Torrance area service member a Hometown

"The support that families give to their loved ones serving abroad can mean a lot. Uyematsu compared the support of his family and friends to the tactical support soldiers receive in combat."

the most patriotic city in the nation because of the respect the community shows its service members. "The City of Torrance takes pride in its military heroes and their families," said Scotto. "We believe that bar none, there isn't any city in the United States that is more patriotic than our city. We are all proud that we have so many people that are in this city that are either veterans of the military, in the military or have loved ones in the military."

Torrance's Hometown Heroes banner program recognizes military service personnel and was started by local residents looking for a way to publicly give thanks to the many heroes, both of the present and the past, who grew up in and around the city. After looking at similar military recognition

Hero banner. They are displayed on Torrance Boulevard and Madrona Avenue near City Hall for a minimum of three months or until 10 more applications are received. Families or groups interested in having a veteran or active duty service personnel recognized as part of the program can pick up an application at City Hall or find more information online at <http://www.torranceca.gov/7491.htm>.

Scotto reminded the audience that if they had someone in mind they would like to honor, there is still a chance to give them a banner. "The Hometown Heroes banner program is ongoing--there is still an opportunity to honor your hero and purchase a banner to be displayed on Torrance Boulevard," said Scotto. •

Asteroid 2012 DA14 Speeds Away from Earth

By Bob Eklund

On February 15, asteroid 2012 DA14 passed extraordinarily close to the Earth—at about 17,500 miles, well within the orbits of our stationary satellites. Unlike the unexpected asteroid collision over Russia that same day, this encounter never presented any danger, but astronomers were eager to observe the event.

An international team led by Nicholas Moskovitz (MIT) observed asteroid 2012 DA14 with a number of telescopes, including the 2.1-meter telescope at Kitt Peak National Observatory. The accompanying video shows the asteroid as it was leaving the vicinity of

shape causes their brightness to change as they rotate. Measuring the rotation rate of the asteroid in this way allows the team to test models that predict how the Earth's gravity can affect close-passing asteroids.

The first asteroids were discovered orbiting the Sun in the space between Mars and Jupiter, but recent discoveries make it clear that they are found throughout the solar system. Of particular interest from most people's point of view are those characterized as near-Earth asteroids. These are objects whose orbits cross that of the Earth and allow them to make a close pass to our planet, with the potential

"But as we saw with the devastating impact of a much smaller, 10-ton asteroid in Russia on the same day as the flyby, there are many thousands of near-Earth asteroids out there that can be dangerous."

the Earth. As Dr. Moskovitz said, "Flybys like this, particularly for objects smaller than 2012 DA14, are not uncommon. This one was special because we knew about it well in advance so that observations could be planned to look at how asteroids are affected by the Earth's gravity when they come so close."

The solar system is home to myriads of asteroids--small bodies left over from its formation. More are discovered every year. Only the largest asteroids are truly spherical,

of colliding on one of those passes.

Earth-crossing asteroids include 2012 DA14, which was discovered just a year ago. Its orbit is similar to the Earth, with a period of 366 days, but with a more elliptical shape and an inclination of 11 degrees to the plane of the Earth's orbit around the Sun. Following its discovery and the recognition that it would make a very close pass on February 15, 2013, the team planned an observing campaign using telescopes in both the Northern and Southern Hemisphere, including facilities



This picture of Eros, the first of an asteroid taken from an orbiting spacecraft, is a mosaic of four images obtained by NASA's NEAR mission immediately after the spacecraft's insertion into orbit. We are looking down over the north pole of Eros at one of the largest craters on the surface, which measures 4 miles (6 kilometers) across. Photo by NASA/JPL/JHUAPL.

drawn into this shape by their self-gravity. Most appear to be completely irregular in shape. They rotate with periods that are generally a matter of hours. And they have a wide range of compositions, from dense iron metal to low-density rocks rich in organic compounds. Asteroids are often described as rubble piles, or loosely bound collections of smaller rock fragments. But these characteristics are not well understood, which is what led Dr. Moskovitz and his team to their study.

The team is analyzing the data to measure any changes in the rotation rate of the asteroid after its close encounter with the Earth. Although asteroids are generally too small to resolve with optical telescopes, their irregular

in Australia, New Zealand, Tasmania, South Africa, Spain, Israel, Hawaii, Massachusetts and Arizona.

2012 DA14 is not expected to visit the vicinity of the Earth any time for at least the next century, but as we saw with the devastating impact of a much smaller, 10-ton asteroid in Russia on the same day as the flyby, there are many thousands of near-Earth asteroids out there that can be dangerous. Observing campaigns like the present one will mean that scientists will have a much better understanding of the properties of near-Earth asteroids and their potential for making trouble should they get too close.

Image and videos:

<http://www.noao.edu/news/2013/pr1302.php> •

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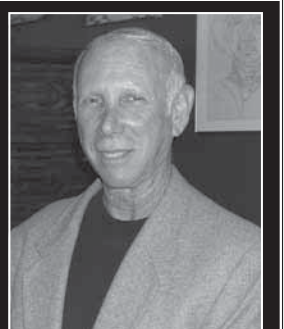
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Seniors

Health Care Law Protects Consumers Against Worst Insurance Practices

KEY HEALTH INSURANCE PROTECTIONS FOR ALL AMERICANS MOVES FORWARD
Courtesy of the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services News Division

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) today issued a final rule that implements five key consumer protections from the Affordable Care Act, and makes the health insurance market work better for

"Because of the Affordable Care Act, being denied affordable health coverage due to medical conditions will be a thing of the past for every American."

individuals, families, and small businesses.

"Because of the Affordable Care Act, being denied affordable health coverage due to medical conditions will be a thing of the past for every American," said HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius. "Being sick will no longer keep you, your family, or your employees from being able to get affordable health coverage."

Under these reforms, all individuals and employers have the right to purchase health insurance coverage regardless of health status. In addition, insurers are prevented from charging discriminatory rates to individuals and small employers based on factors such as health status or gender, and young adults have additional affordable coverage options under catastrophic plans.

Today's final rule implements five key provisions of the Affordable Care Act that are applicable to non-grandfathered health plans:

GUARANTEED AVAILABILITY

Nearly all health insurance companies offering coverage to individuals and employers will be required to sell health insurance policies to all consumers. No one can be denied health insurance because they have or had an illness.

FAIR HEALTH INSURANCE PREMIUMS

Health insurance companies offering coverage to individuals and small employers will only be allowed to vary premiums

based on age, tobacco use, family size, and geography. Basing premiums on other factors will be illegal. The factors that are no longer permitted in 2014 include health status, past insurance claims, gender, occupation, how long an individual has held a policy, or size of the small employer.

GUARANTEED RENEWABILITY

Health insurance companies will no longer refuse to renew coverage because an individual or an employee has become sick. You may renew your coverage at your option.

SINGLE RISK POOL

Health insurance companies will no longer be able to charge higher premiums to higher cost enrollees by moving them into separate risk pools. Insurers are required to maintain a single statewide risk pool for the individual market and single statewide risk pool for the small group market.

CATASTROPHIC PLANS

Young adults and people for whom coverage

would otherwise be unaffordable will have access to a catastrophic plan in the individual market. Catastrophic plans generally will have lower premiums, protect against high out-of-pocket costs, and cover recommended preventive services without cost sharing.

In preparation for the market changes in 2014 and to streamline data collection for insurers and states, the final rule amends certain provisions of the rate review program. And, HHS has increased the transparency by directing insurance companies in every state to report on all rate increase requests. A new report has found that the law's transparency provisions have already resulted in a decline in double-digit premium increases filed: from 75 percent in 2010 to, according to preliminary data, 14 percent in 2013.

In addition, today the U.S. Department of Labor announced an interim final rule in the Federal Register that provides protection to employees against retaliation by an employer for reporting alleged violations of Title I of the Act or for receiving a tax credit or cost-sharing reduction as a result of participating in a Health Insurance Exchange, or Marketplace. Additional information is available at www.dol.gov/opa/media/press/osh/osh20130327.htm or www.osha.gov.

For more information on how this final rule helps create a better health insurance market for consumers, please visit: <http://cciio.cms.gov/resources/factsheets/marketreforms-2-22-2013.html>

For information on the rights and protections guaranteed by the health care law, please visit: <http://www.healthcare.gov/law/features/rights/>

For the full text of the proposed rule, please visit: http://www.ofr.gov/OFRUpload/OFRData/2013-04335_PI.pdf

Sports from page 6

found itself down by just one basket prior to Royal's free throw barrage. Before fouling out, Carter assisted in giving West the lead with just five minutes remaining in the game. Once he fouled out, however, it became clear that he was the main source of offense on the night for West. "I felt like defensively we were strong, but offensively we could not score," said Nitake. "It was our poorest shooting night we've had. Their big guy shut us down. That dude was a difference-maker on the defensive end."

Maybe no words were truer by Nitake as his team went scoreless in the nearly five minutes following the lead provided by Carter. After going up by a count of 32-31, the drought saw the Warriors fall behind by two points at 36-34 with just over 30 seconds remaining. Royal would go on to outscore the Warriors six points to two in the final seconds of the game to drive home the win for Royal on West's home court.

Though the Warriors fought valiantly, it was their scoring drought and Carter fouling out that ultimately sealed their fate on the night. "It was disappointing to end like that," Carter expressed. "We worked hard and we had a chance. It was a successful season, but I wanted to do more for our seniors. Their leadership pushed us and helped us come together as a team." The Warriors did exactly that towards the end of the season as they came very close to making a historic playoff run. Like Carter said, however, the season ended successfully for the team and the seniors have nothing to be ashamed of with their effort. For Carter, there is much to look forward to in the future. Only a junior this year, Carter will be back next season with the added experience of this playoff run under his belt. Already a dominant presence in the middle, there is no telling what Carter and the Warriors will have in store for their fans next season. •

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Q: Can I choose which field sobriety test I want to take if I am pulled over and the officer suspects that I'm on drugs?

A: No. Effective January 1, 2013, drivers suspected of driving under the influence of drugs no longer have the option to choose a chemical test of their urine to determine drug content. By requiring a blood test, AB 2020, helps law enforcement and prosecutors to better identify and convict persons driving under the influence of drugs. A urine test will be allowed if a blood test is unavailable, or if a person has hemophilia, or is using an anticoagulant for a heart condition. If a blood test is unavailable, then the person is deemed to have given his or her consent to a urine test.

Q. I saw a clip of the DMV Answer Man. Is this something that the DMV will be continuing?

A. I'm glad you saw it! The DMV is always looking for innovative ways to provide information to our customers. There will be a total of nine DMV Answer Man videos that will be periodically posted on the site to answer your common DMV questions! To see the first installment, visit <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PclInDwDNEo>

Q. I received a "Demand for Payment" letter for a dishonored check. How do I pay?

A. You have several payment options:

You can send a cashier's check or money order payable to the DMV. Do not mail cash, a personal check or credit card payment information. Dishonored checks cannot be paid by personal check or credit card. Write your account number on the front of your payment. Your account number is the 10-digit number located in the upper right hand corner of the Demand for Payment letter. Mail your payment and a copy of the Demand for Payment letter to:

DMV

Revenue Services Support Unit
Mail Station C140
P.O. Box 825341

Sacramento, CA 94232-5341

You can pay it in person at a DMV office. For faster service, make an appointment online or call 1-800-777-0133 to make an appointment. Be sure to have the letter with you and a valid form of payment (Cash, or an ATM/Debit card, or a cashier's check or money order made payable to DMV). For more information on dishonored payments, visit http://www.DMV.ca.gov/vr/dis_pmt_faqs.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.

Finance

Should You Hire a Tax Preparer?

By Jason Alderman

The U.S. tax code grows more complicated every year and currently spans thousands of pages – even government experts can't agree exactly how long it is. So it's not surprising that millions of Americans hire professional tax preparers to complete their returns.



you can share last year's return and discuss how your situation has changed.

Ask how their fees are determined – some charge by the number of forms (schedules) filed, others by the hour. You might pay anywhere from \$100 to many thousands of dollars, depending on the complexity of your situation, where you live, the agent's credentials, etc.

Relinquishing the onerous task of calculating your taxes to a professional may save you time and give peace of mind – they know more about tax law than you do, right? But remember: You're still legally responsible for all information on the return. So if the preparer makes a mistake or intentionally defrauds the government, you'll be on the hook for any additional taxes, interest and penalties – even possible prosecution.

The IRS notes that although most tax return preparers are professional, honest and serve their clients well, taxpayers should use the same standards for choosing a preparer as they would for a doctor or lawyer, and be on the lookout for incompetence and criminal activity.

There are several basic types of tax preparers: certified public accountants, IRS-designated enrolled agents, tax attorneys, storefront agents (think H&R Block) and self-employed preparers.

The first three types must meet their own licensing agency's continuing education and licensing requirements and are bound by ethical standards; they're also the only professionals authorized to represent you before the IRS on all tax matters, including audits, collection and appeals. Others may only represent you for audits of returns they actually prepared. Always ask whether they belong to any professional organizations with continuing-education requirements.

Here are tips for choosing the right tax return preparer:

Request an initial free consultation at which

One good way to get a sense of fees is to ask what they would have charged to complete your last year's return.

Be wary of tax preparers who claim they can obtain larger refunds than other preparers. No one can estimate your refund without first reviewing your financial information.

Avoid preparers who base their fee on a percentage of the refund.

Consider whether the individual or firm will be around to answer questions about the return months or years after it's been filed.

Check their credentials and find out if any complaints have been filed with the Better Business Bureau.

Reputable preparers will ask to see receipts and will ask multiple questions to determine whether expenses qualify for deduction.

Ask whether your return's preparation will be outsourced, which means your personal information could be transmitted electronically to another firm, possibly outside the U.S.

Ask about their experience with IRS audits and what their fees would be to represent you in an audit.

Ask their policy for reimbursing you for fines, penalties and interest if it turns out your owe back taxes on a return they prepared – many have insurance for that purpose.

And finally, don't muddy the waters by linking your tax-return fee to buying another product the preparer may be trying to sell, such as a refund-anticipation loan or check, retirement savings account or insurance policy.

*"Everything in life is somewhere else,
and you get there in a car."*

~ E. B. White

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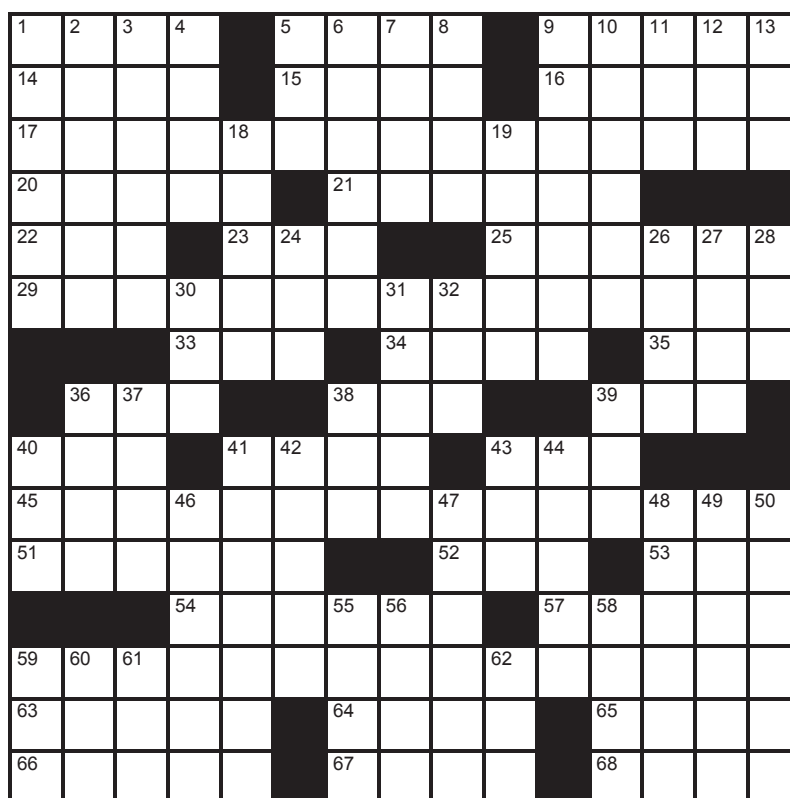
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WEEKLY CROSSWORD *See Answers Next Week*

On the Set



Across

1. Dove tail
5. Ankh feature
9. Sweetly, in music
14. Montreal player
15. Retin-A treats it
16. New Jersey county
17. Turturro and Bacon, e.g.
20. Ancient horn
21. Horse handler
22. Dance, e.g.
23. Elephant grp.
25. Bivalve shells
29. "Enter" and "left"
33. Can you dig it?
34. Clumsy boats
35. Tags
36. Legal org.
38. Govt. agency
39. Layer
40. Back
41. Berry
43. Gasteyer of "Mean Girls"
45. Camera chief
51. Synagogue singer
52. Cousin of an ostrich
53. Bar order

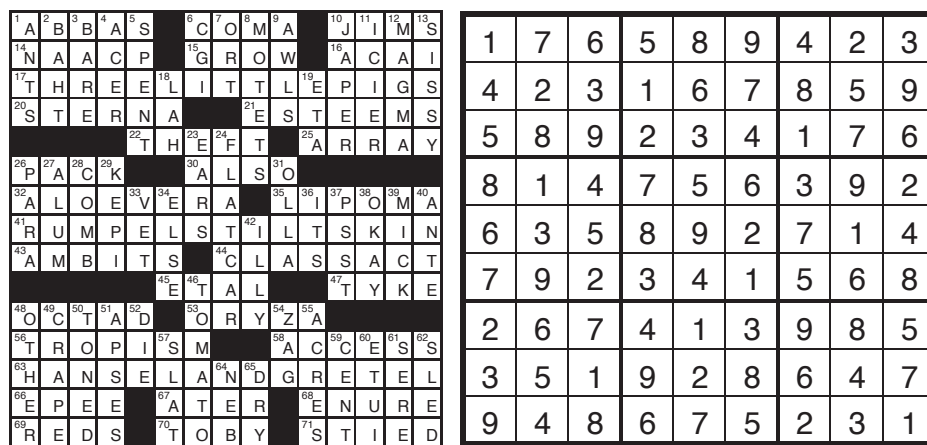
Down

1. Centers of activity
2. Give a pep talk
3. Ancient military hub
4. Phone, slangily
5. Fond du ___
6. Marine mollusks
7. Addition column
8. Chipper
9. Lecturers
10. Sovereign's privilege
11. "Seinfeld" uncle
12. One for the road
13. Dash widths
18. Bit
19. "Wellaway!"
24. Catullus composition

Down

26. Churn
27. May event, for short
28. Bubblehead
30. ___ few rounds
31. Call
32. It's full of periods
36. "Tosca" tune
37. Beethoven's birthplace
38. Blubber
39. Twaddle
40. TV monitor?
41. Love devotee
42. Freight
43. Coat part
44. Pacific island
46. Short musical pieces
47. Swiss canton
48. Binary compound
49. Big roll
50. Move audience members
55. Fish caught in pots
56. Beasts of burden
58. Suffix with psych-
59. Blubber
60. Central truth
61. Can. neighbor
62. Minor player

Last Week's Answers



SUDOKU *Medium*



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.

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PETSPETS **Pets** PETSPETS

Purrrfect Companions

Are you thinking of inviting the “Easter” bunny over this spring by bringing a pet rabbit home? Before you buy a bunny from a pet store, think about this: On the list, rabbits are the third most often abandoned pet and third most often “put to sleep” in animal shelters in the U.S.

Rabbits are not toys--they are delicate, exotic pets and can live up to 15 years. On the other hand, they are also wonderful companion animals. They’re clean, sociable, and

pounds, with a long body, slightly fluffy fur, and a dark silver and light cream color. He’s a Magpie Harlequin blend. Have you



Awesome and Gorgeous.

considered getting a second rabbit, but are not sure if you could deal with the bonding? We can help.

How about a beautiful bonded pair of bunnies? Check out **Awesome** and **Gorgeous**. She’s the fluffy dark Angora blend, while he’s the big Californian blend. They’re the sweetest, most loving couple imaginable. He has a laidback, calm disposition and loves to hang out with people. She’s busier and makes people earn her trust. She’s the more responsible one who takes care of him. Around her; he’s a giant baby. As we like to say, “Awesome is gorgeous and Gorgeous is awesome!”

All these orphaned bunnies are available for adoption through Los Angeles Rabbit Foundation. To see more of their rabbits, please visit www.larabbits.org. The group holds weekly adoption venues on Saturdays from 12:30 to 3:30 at 3860 S. Centinela Avenue, Los Angeles 90066 (two blocks south of Venice Boulevard). All the rabbits are neutered and box-trained prior to adoption. Adopters receive a care packet, a bag of oat blend hay and advice for

the life of the rabbit. If you can’t adopt, the organization always needs foster homes, volunteers and, of course, donations. Make this year a positive one for a rabbit in need.



Bluebelle

once neutered can easily be litterbox-trained. There is a wide selection of rabbits waiting for homes, so please don’t shop--*adopt* one of these beautiful bunnies or one of their friends.

Bluebelle has the most beautiful blue eyes. She has been looking for a new home since her people abandoned her. If you can give her the love she needs, preferably in a home with a cat or other rabbit, please let us know. About two years old, Bluebelle has excellent house habits and will be a wonderful bunny girl for the right human.



Toki is an active, fun, Toki young adult Lop who adores most girl rabbits. If you have a girl rabbit looking for love, or an easygoing boy rabbit, he might be just the ticket. Around two years old, he weighs about 6.5

Happy Tails

What could be sweeter than an adorable bunny? Sage (formerly Peter) has a wonderful new family who wants to share with everyone the joy of having bunnies in their life...

“Sage (aka Peter) is an amazingly sweet and funny bunny...a healthy, happy boy! He makes us laugh and warms our hearts. It is hard to get anything done with him in the house because you just want to spend all day cuddling him. As we were told, he loves to be petted and he is so cute about snuggling by your side and giving kisses in return. The other morning, I walked into his room and he was on the top story of his bunny house. He looked at me, jumped to the second story, slid down the ramp into his hay box, jumped out and ran straight to me. Now *that’s* a greeting! He is one of those bunnies who always has a project going. He has leveled countless willow tents, balls, mats and toys. He works/plays very hard on whatever he is doing and then he sleeps like a little angel. He loves his favorite people and comes running to be petted whenever he sees us. Sage loves his veggies and his treats and makes a very cute noise when he’s eating. He is the only

bunny I’ve ever known who asks for belly rubs. He stands up, stretches his front feet against a gate and holds still while you pet his belly while making his cute little noises. It’s pretty darn cute! We have tried to bond him with another rabbit, but as loving as he is toward people he is surprisingly combative with other bunnies. For now, he is choosing human companionship. He does have a very nice relationship with Que, a three-pound bunny who, like Sage, has just one eye. Coincidence? The two boys spend hours sitting together with a fence between them. They definitely seek each other out and have never fought through the fence. I could go on about how adorable Sage is and about how much we love him, but I’ll let these pictures speak for themselves.

Sage is doing really well. We are so very lucky to have this precious bunny in our lives!”--- Sage, Que, Mochi, Jagger, Geovanna and Jennifer.

When you adopt a “pet without a partner,” you will forever make a difference in their life and they are sure to make a difference in yours.

Pets Without Partners

Adopt a “pet without a partner” and give a homeless pet a second chance in life.

Elliott is our little circus clown and just so adorable. He was living as a stray in a park under some bushes and wouldn’t come out. That is until we walked a cute little female dog in front of him and out he came! He is the class clown, the life of the party and Mr. Congeniality all wrapped up into one dog. Elliott has a cream-colored coat with tan cow patches, is two to three years old and weighs about 17 pounds. Our groomer says he is a “hypoallergenic” dog, as not much came off him in the way of shedding. She believes he many have some Lhasa Apso and Poodle in him. Elliott loves everyone he meets young and old and gets along with every dog he meets. He is playful, spry, spunky and a barrel of laughs. Elliott is neutered, current on vaccinations, de-wormed, microchipped, and good with children and other dogs.

Coalman is a very sweet and tenderhearted Cattle Dog and Shepherd mix. Adorable is his middle name. He was born in October 2012 and currently weighs 21 pounds. This little love of a dog is so sweet and has such a gentle soul. He is silly, goofy, playful and



Elliott

a barrel of laughs. He will make a very easy transition into any home situation. This little guy will not last long, so submit an application of interest if you would like to meet him. Coalman is neutered, current on vaccinations, de-wormed, microchipped, good with other dogs and with children, and his rear dew claws have been removed.

To learn more about these and other wonderful dogs, visit our website at www.animalsrule.org. If a dog is on our website, it’s available. Or come to our Saturday adoption events from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 305 North Harbor Boulevard in San Pedro (just off the 110 near the cruise port). We are always in need of donations for veterinarian bills and our senior dogs. Donations can be made through our website or by sending a check payable to: Animals Rule Placement Foundation at 305 North Harbor Blvd., San Pedro, CA 90731. All donations are tax-deductible. We are a registered 501©3 non-profit organization.

Saving one animal won’t change the world, but the world will surely change for that animal.



Coalman



Sage (aka Peter) is an amazingly sweet and funny bunny...a healthy, happy boy!

Real Estate

Small Energy Improvements That Save Big Money In the New Year

(BPT) - Now is a great time to make positive changes in your home. While many will wait until March to embrace "spring cleaning" season and make home improvements, a few simple changes can be made now to help you conserve energy and start saving money right away. Here are some steps that can help lower energy consumption - and associated costs - in your home this month and throughout the year:

Turn your house into a "smart home"

From heating and cooling to ceiling fans, lighting and security systems, homes can now be wired for a number of automated functions to optimize the energy consumed by the systems they run.

"Smart home" technology can help save homeowners money by allowing customers to remotely manage thermostats and lighting controls. In addition to helping protect homes against intrusion, fire, flood and dangerous levels of carbon monoxide, integrated home automation systems can help users plan ahead to create schedules to turn off lights when they're not needed, or decrease heating or cooling settings when no one is home. In fact, according to Energy Star's website, using a programmable thermostat alone can save up to \$180 a year in energy costs. Users can control their home automation system either through in-home panels, or through smartphones, tablets and computers.

Don't forget the basics

Every home requires insulation and sealing, whether you live in the steamy south or wintery north. Plus, adding insulation can prove to be economically beneficial for

homeowners, who can save up to 20 percent on heating and cooling costs by sealing and insulating the "shell" of their homes (exterior walls, ceilings, doors, windows and floors), according to EnergyStar.gov.

Sealing and insulating is well within the abilities of most do-it-yourselfers, but you can also hire a professional to:

- Seal air leaks around windows and doors to prevent drafts.
- Add insulation to attics and exterior walls.
- Replace old, inefficient, worn-out or damaged windows.
- Seal heating and cooling system air ducts.

Lower Your Light Bills

If your home is like the average American household, a significant portion of your energy bill each month could be attributed to lighting costs. Since you need a basic amount of light to function in your home, reducing the number of light sources is probably not an option. Instead, look to reduce the amount of energy needed to power the lights in your home, or increase the amount of natural light that enters the house.

Start by replacing incandescent bulbs - which are energy inefficient - with energy-saving bulbs. Energy.gov says replacing just 15 incandescent bulbs could save you about \$50 a year. Energy efficient bulb options include halogen, CFLs and LEDs. And while some homeowners may balk at the higher initial cost of these types of bulbs, keep in mind that CFLs last 10 times longer and use a quarter of the energy of traditional incandescent bulbs, according to Energy.gov. LEDs are even more energy efficient, lasting

25 times longer and using only about 20 to 25 percent as much energy.

Taking proactive steps to improve your home's energy efficiency early on is a great

way to save money this winter and throughout the year. It's a lifestyle commitment that will begin to pay off right away and continue for the rest of the year to come. •



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