

Torrance Tribune

The Weekly Newspaper of Torrance

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El Camino College Recognizes Women of Distinction for 2013



Members of the Women's History Month Committee at El Camino College recognized outstanding women from the El Camino College area, honoring them for their contributions to the community. Nominees were judged for their contributions in one or more of the following areas: professional accomplishments; leadership and/or mentorship; and social, educational, or health services and must live or work in the communities within the El Camino Community College District: El Segundo, Redondo Beach, Manhattan Beach, Hermosa Beach, Lawndale, Lennox, Inglewood, Hawthorne, and Torrance. The leaders were honored at the annual Women's Wall of Fame Program on March 21. Honorees will also be featured on the El Camino College Women's Wall of Fame throughout the year and their names will be engraved on a plaque that remains on the wall permanently. The new members for 2013 include: Antoinette Brown-Leon, professional, youth advocate and community advocate; Bonnie Coronado, educator, community leader and youth advocate; Mattie Eskridge, professional, leader and missionary; Leslie Fletcher, registered nurse, entrepreneur and innovator; Christina Gold, educator, leader and author; Heidi Maerker, business woman, communicator and community advocate; Penny Rahmeyer, foster parent, youth advocate and humanitarian; Lisa Raufman, counselor, author and career advocate; Marna Smeltzer, community advocate, leader and mentor. Photo by David Bever.

Madrona Marsh, Residents Celebrate Arbor Day

By Cristian Vasquez

More than 100 volunteers consisting of mostly high school students gathered at the Madrona Marsh to celebrate this year's California Arbor Day. The March 9 celebration at the Marsh was kicked off with volunteers sorting out donated recycled items before moving on to doing the weed pulling and planting work scheduled for the day.

"To be honest, we have service learning every Saturday morning and we always do habitat restorations in some form or another whether it is removing invasive plants or planting native plants," Madrona Marsh Restoration Coordinator Daniel Marion said. "We use things like Arbor Day and Earth Day to get a little extra promotion in the community. The only thing that is different about today [Arbor Day] is that we promoted it a lot more--but that is one of the reasons for having service learning, which is to make sure that people are not just volunteering and serving the community but they are also obtaining the learning component where they learn all these environmental issues in a local setting that are affecting their lives."

Nationally, Arbor Day is celebrated the last Friday of April when people are encouraged to plant and care for trees through a series of organized events across the country. This year's Torrance volunteers were split into two groups and each was assigned a different task in two separate parts of the Marsh.

"A lot of what we do starts with showing people small examples of how one can remove groups of weeds to allow native plants to grow so that it gives food to the birds and butterflies, along with all the other native species that are dependent on that plant," Marion said. "We take the things that volunteers learn in the classroom and really try to reinforce

them with real world examples. We have had stories of some volunteers who came here to do 10 or 20 service hours for school and once they are done with the required school service hours, they have ended up staying here for two or three years."

Educational changes implemented by Sacramento to the State curriculum have made service learning at the Marsh more than

a clean-up effort on the weekends. "What we do is that we make sure to include an educational component and it is a general style of how we run events like these," Marion said. "Whenever we go out to the preserve to do the habitat restoration tasks, we want to educate people about its purpose--why we do things the way we are doing them.

See *Arbor Day*, page 2

Weekend Forecast

Friday
Mostly Sunny
66°/54°



Saturday
Mostly Sunny
62°/56°



Sunday
Showers
62°/54°



Radio Station Highlights South Bay History

By Cristian Vasquez

The cities of Inglewood, Carson, Hawthorne, Gardena, Lawndale and Torrance were highlighted during KNX 1070's live broadcast on March 8 from the City of Torrance.

The on-location, award-winning broadcast of KNX On Your Corner features in-depth profiles highlighting the history of communities throughout Southern California.

"Most people just stay between home and work and they really don't stop at the many places in between, nor get out of the areas where they gravitate," KNX Assistant News Director Joe Guimond said. "So this program is an effort to bring those communities that you wouldn't otherwise go to, to our listenership. Some of this is the history of the cities. When we go out there we are looking for is first, the biggest, the oldest and all those things that really stand out in the community. I think it is good for a specific community to

realize such things about itself but it also tells other people in the L.A. metropolitan area that these things exist and that this is what makes this community unique."

There have been 16 similar broadcast organized by KNX and the South Bay has been featured in the past. However, due to its size the series had to be done in two parts. The beach cities were highlighted more than a year ago and this time the KNX shifted its attention to the inland communities of the South Bay.

"If you try to do all of the South Bay cities at once, you would dilute the program because you wouldn't be able to pay enough attention to each individual community," Guimond said. "I think people really enjoy that we are paying attention to their communities and that is great because that is what local radio is supposed to do."

Working in collaboration with South Bay BMW, KNX was able to broadcast live from the dealership.

See *Torrance Radio*, page 3

Arbor Day

from front page

This not only promotes lifestyle changes, but we are also hoping to create advocacy where volunteers are going to multiply their efforts. As soon as we get one person to see the value of a more environmentally-friendly lifestyle, then they can advocate that to their friends and family and it will multiply and become more of a movement."

In the 11 years that Marion has been with the Marsh, he has continued to witness the growth of the number of volunteers along with the increasing importance that the Marsh

has on the local and global ecosystem. "We try to create advocacy so that when people begin to see a natural area, even something as isolated as the Madrona Marsh Nature Center, they realize that it is actually a rest stop for migratory birds all along the Pacific Coast," Marion said. "There are not a lot of rest stops left in Los Angeles County and if the birds lost this rest stop, there would not be a way for them to complete the journey. A lot of these birds would not be able to make it, but because of the work that these

volunteers have done over the last 40 years, we have this rest stop which is natural and well-managed. As we continue to work on the Madrona Marsh, we are finding that this place actually ties in with Canada, Argentina, Brazil and all of South America."

With events like Arbor Day, the Marsh is able to provide its volunteers with a unique, hands-on experience that they would unlikely obtain elsewhere. "They get to work in a setting where they can learn what is going on and they can see things like

the fact that there is a lot of trash that is blowing over from commercial areas--which then teaches them not to litter because they are witnessing such a cause and effect situation," Marion said. "This really helps people to change their lifestyles in little ways toward helping the environment. What we really do with Earth Day and Arbor Day, like today, is put out the extra promotion to get people out here. We try to encourage them to come back since we are here every Saturday morning." •



Marion assigns a group of volunteers to raking duties in order to prepare the soil for the planting of native vegetation. Almost 100 men, women and children arrived early at the Marsh for the day-long restoration effort.



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Marion prepares to demonstrate the volunteers the proper step-by-step procedure to planting native vegetation at the Marsh.



Photos by Cristian Vasquez.



Volunteers of all ages get down and dirty to prepare the soil for the planting process. The Marsh serves as a migration-rest stop for birds traveling to South America. Without the work of volunteers the Marsh and the animals it shelters and hosts would suffer.

Torrance Radio

from front page

"I think it is important for us to bring attention to the South Bay and I don't think that people realized how vibrant business is here in South Bay," Peter M. Boesen, Jr. South Bay BMW V.P./General Manager said. "Business is happening here and I talked to the radio station about bringing their show down here because I believe that the focus needs to be here in South Bay. Hawthorne Boulevard, if people haven't noticed, is getting busy. We love the South Bay and we support a lot of local charities; our friends are here in the South Bay and we are community people. We are not some big public company; we

everyday," KNX morning host Dick Helton said. "I came here from Chicago and I have been out here 15 or 16 years now, but every time we do one of these events I learn even more about Southern California and about the communities out here. We learn about those little nuggets and little jewels in the communities. It is nice for us to be able to bring that for our audience so they can learn about places that they might want to go visit."

"I also think that so many people in Southern California spend so much time in their vehicles, fighting to go to and from work that they don't get to stop in a lot of

"The cities of Inglewood, Carson, Hawthorne, Gardena, Lawndale and Torrance were highlighted during KNX 1070's live broadcast on March 8 from the City of Torrance."

are hands-on, private owners that love to do business here in the South Bay."

While the location for the broadcast was a bit unconventional for KNX, the entire radio team enjoyed the experience and was appreciative of listeners trickling in throughout the day.

"Being alongside those really nice cars was wonderful but for me the biggest payoff is when the listeners come by and kind of poke their head in the door and ask if this is where we are broadcasting from and we get to tell them yes," Howard Freshman, Marketing Director KNX, said. "People will then begin to tell us how they have been listening to the station for a certain amount of time and how they are big fans and that is the best part for me because when we are in the office we don't get to see listeners but when we come out, we get to have people talk to us and they always thank us for what we are doing."

Each show takes four to six months to fully prepare for in order to have the one-day event. The broadcast typically consist of 20 feature stories focused on the history of the cities being featured, along with live interviews in between with local leaders, historians and anyone with knowledge and expertise about the cities' history.

"It gives us a chance to learn more about the people and the community that we talk to

these little places we feature," KNX morning host Vicky Moore said. "So it is very nice not only for us to learn about it but we have also received some very positive feedback from our listeners indicating that they enjoy it as well. Plus, you tend to hear a lot of bad news, especially these days with the economy, but on days like these we get to profile nice things such as the Goodyear Blimp, Randy's Donuts and a bunch of other nice things that one can easily miss."

For the news people it is a refreshing change from their usual hard-news approach.

"We are serious news people and we try to give him the serious stories and strong interviews, but we also like to slow down every now and then and give listeners some entertainment and feature stories, so we can be well-rounded and conversational," Moore said. "I enjoy meeting the people who listen to us: they are so kind and wonderful. They walk up to us and introduce themselves and so many of them have listened for so many years, that we are really grateful for it and it is really nice."

"So we understand that what we do is a show and we feel pretty connected to the audience so we try to put a smile on their faces," Helton said. "It is important to us in the midst of all the gloom and doom going on around us; people need a little perk up every day as well." •

Calendar

SATURDAY, MARCH 30

• Breakfast and a Visit with the Bunny, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Toyota Meeting Hall, 3031 Torrance Blvd. For more information call (310) 618-2720.

• Opening Reception for new exhibitions, 6-9 p.m., Torrance Art Museum, 3320 Civic Center Drive.

SUNDAY, MARCH 31

• Torrance Antique Street Faire, 8 a.m.-3 p.m., Historic Downtown at 1317 Sartori Ave.

THURSDAY, APRIL 6

• Lily Cai Chinese Dance Company-Dynasties and Beyond, 8 p.m., James Armstrong Theatre, 3330 Civic Center Drive. For more information call (310) 781-7171.

TUESDAY, APRIL 9

• Art of Northern Europe-1400s-1500s, 12:10-1 p.m., George Nakano Theatre, 3330 Civic Center Drive. For more information call (310) 818-2326.

THURSDAY, APRIL 11

• South Bay Republican Women Federated Monthly Luncheon Meeting, 11 a.m., DoubleTree Hotel, 21333 Hawthorne Blvd. For more information call Gloria (310) 326-9340 or Vera (310) 320-1431.

SATURDAY, APRIL 13

• "I Hear America Singing" - Torrance Civic Chorale program, 8-10 pm, James R. Armstrong Theatre, 3330 Civic Center Drive. For more information call (310) 781-7171.

• Cactus and Succulent Show and Sale, 9 a.m.- 4 p.m., South Coast Botanic Garden, 26300 Crenshaw Blvd. For more information call (310) 544-6815.

SATURDAY, APRIL 20

• Bunka-Sai Japanese Cultural Festival, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. (also 4/21), Torrance Cultural Arts Center, 3330 Civic Center Drive. For more information call (310) 618-2930.

SATURDAY, APRIL 27

• "What's Up for Kids" Expo, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Torrance Cultural Arts Center, 3330 Civic Center Drive. For more information call (310) 544-1042.

ONGOING

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

• Torrance First United Methodist Church sanctuary open for prayer and meditation prayer vigil through March 30. The church is located at 1551 El Prado. For more information call (310) 328-3242.



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Diana Brownson, Accompanist

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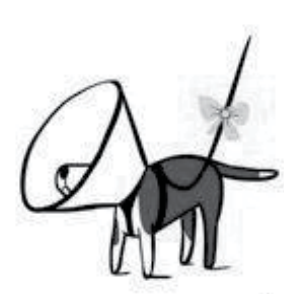
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A presentation of the Cultural Services Division of the Torrance Community Services Department
www.TorranceCA.Gov & www.torrancecivicchorale.org

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Illustrated by Lil' Chin www.doggedrawings.net

People

Congratulations

Matthew Parr, of Torrance, made the Dean's List for the fall 2012 semester at

University of Houston (UH). Matthew is a hotel and restaurant management major. •

Business Briefs

El Camino College Debate Team Wins State Tournament

The dynamic El Camino College, ECC, debate team recently swept the state championship title at a tournament in Woodland Hills, with



ECC student Jonny Deatherage named best speaker in the state. The team crushed the competition, with second place many points behind. ECC finished the tournament with 265 points, followed by Irvine Valley College with 210. This win marks the first state tournament championship in ECC history. The team is now looking forward to the national championships, also in Woodland Hills, on April 16. Bottom row, from the left: Mario Mejia, Joy De Guzman, Nicholas Bishop, Frank Masi, Harrison Shieh. Middle row from the left: Brooke Matson, Crystal Smith, Andrew Escalante, Lawrence Lan, Carter Beck. Top row, from left: Abigail Watkins, Jonny Deatherage. Courtesy of El Camino College.

Civic Chorale Performs on April 13

The Torrance Civic Chorale will perform their "I Hear America Singing" program on Saturday, April 13 at the James R. Armstrong Theatre. Music from composers from around the country will be featured and will include the award-winning "Hawaiian Splendor" dance troupe accompanied by the band of Chuck and Yolanda Kaimikaua. 'Choralographer' Yvonne Farrow will perform "California Here I Come" in memory of Hewell Howser and the fiddle artistry of Alex Wurmbrand and pennywhistle player Cathy Larson will also be on stage. "I Hear America Singing" highlights the works of composers Rick Sowash and Morten Lauridsen. Patriotic and Native-American selections will also be featured throughout the evening's journey through the music of America. The James R. Armstrong Theatre is located at 3330 Civic Center Drive in Torrance and reserved seats are \$16.50, which includes a \$2.50 per ticket handling charge by the theatre box office. For more information, interested person may contact 310-781-7171 or 310-781-7172. To learn more about the Torrance Civic Chorale, visit them at www.torrancecivicchorale.org. The Torrance Civic Chorale is in part sponsored by the Cultural Services Division of the Community Services Department of the City of Torrance. •

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.

March 16

Burglary-Commercial: 2200 BLOCK REDONDO BEACH BLVD Suspect(s) cuts lock securing door for entry, cuts property from walls and takes same/copper wire.

Theft: 4200 BLOCK REDONDO BEACH BLVD Suspect(s) takes property from victim's backpack in secured employee break room/cash.

Burglary-Commercial: 2300 BLOCK ABALONE AVE Suspect(s) pries door jamb for entry and takes prop.

March 15

Theft: 3600 BLOCK LOMITA BLVD Suspect(s) pries open door for entry and takes property from desk drawer/cash.

Auto Theft-All: 3400 BLOCK TORRANCE BLVD Stolen vehicle: '96 Honda Accord.

Burglary-Residential: 700 BLOCK CALLE MIRAMAR Suspect(s) pries door for entry, ransacks and takes property/jewelry box, jewelry.

Theft: 18400 BLOCK CRENSHAW BLVD Suspect(s) takes victim's vehicle's catalytic converter.

Burglary-Residential: 1400 BLOCK CRAVENS AVE Suspect(s) enters unlocked door and takes property/watch, wallet.

Theft: 22500 BLOCK NADINE CIR Suspect(s) takes property from unlocked maintenance closet/purse.

Vandalism: MAPLE AVE & OPAL ST Suspect(s) tags manhole cover.

Vandalism: 23600 BLOCK ARLINGTON AVE Suspect(s) pries open vehicle's tool locker and takes property/reciprocating saw.

March 14

Vandalism: 3700 BLOCK PACIFIC COAST HWY Suspect(s) smashes glass.

Burglary-Commercial: 24200 BLOCK CRENSHAW BLVD Suspect(s) smashes window for entry, ransacks and takes property/eyeglass frames.

Vandalism: 3500 BLOCK TORRANCE BLVD Suspect(s) scratches victim's vehicle's paint.

Burglary-Residential: 5300 BLOCK DORIS WAY Suspect(s) uses hidden key for entry and takes property/jewelry, cell phones, laptops, camera.

March 13

Burglary-Commercial: 4800 BLOCK TORRANCE BLVD Suspect(s) enters location by unknown means and takes property/cashbox, cash.

Burglary Auto: 25600 BLOCK AMBER LEAF ROAD Suspect(s) enters unlocked vehicle and takes property/GPS, pocket knife set, flashlight, emergency kit, charger.

Battery Simple: 3400 BLOCK NEWTON ST Suspect repeatedly punches victim in the face.

Vandalism: 2500 BLOCK REDONDO BEACH BLVD Suspect(s) scratches victim's vehicle's paint and releases air in its tires.

Burglary Auto: 18200 BLOCK KINGS DALE AVE Suspect(s) enters vehicle by unknown means and takes property/backpack, tablets, cases, lens dial, laptop, cell phone, stereo.

Theft: 24300 BLOCK CRENSHAW BLVD Suspect(s) takes unattended property from shopping cart as victim-employee stocks shelves/backpack.

March 12

Burglary-Residential: 22700 BLOCK ERIEL AVE Suspect(s) enters unlocked window and takes property/jewelry box, jewelry, wallet, cash.

Theft: 5000 BLOCK SCOTT ST Suspect(s) takes property from location/delivered parcel.

Burglary-Residential: 3100 BLOCK 177TH ST Suspect(s) takes property from victim's residence by unknown means/tablet.

Burglary-Residential: 2100 BLOCK MIDDLEBROOK ROAD Suspect(s) pries off screen, enters window, ransacks and takes property/wooden box.

Vandalism: 2300 BLOCK JEFFERSON ST Suspect(s) graffiti's stairwell at location.

Burglary-Residential: 5200 BLOCK DORIS WAY Suspect(s) pries off screen, pries open window for entry, ransacks and takes property/jewelry.

Burglary-Residential: 22200 BLOCK REDBEAM AVE Suspect(s) enters partially open window, ransacks and takes property/unknown property loss at time of report.

Robbery Weapon: 2300 BLOCK SANTA FE AVE Suspect approaches victim, presses handgun to her head and demands property left in victim's vehicle/purse.

Theft: 3600 BLOCK 182ND ST Suspect(s) takes victim's vehicle's catalytic converter.

March 11

Auto Theft-All: 23500 BLOCK CRENSHAW BLVD Stolen vehicle: '90 Honda Echo.

Theft: 4200 BLOCK 190TH ST Suspect(s) defeats gate lock for entry, forces hasps securing power and control boxes and cuts/removes property/cables.

Theft: 4000 BLOCK 184TH ST Suspect posing as victim's neighbor, phones victim and convinces her to wire funds purportedly needed to bail him out of jail.

Auto Theft-All: 2700 BLOCK ANDREO AVE Stolen vehicle: '03 Ford P/U. •



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Easter *In the Field*

Easter Sunday / March 31st 6am

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Politically Speaking

One Man's Opinion

By Gerry Chong

In poll after poll, the public seems flummoxed over the inability of Democrats and Republicans to work together for the best interests of the country. To understand why that is, the ABC interview of President Obama by George Stephanopoulos should have been required viewing. Simply put, the Left and Right can see the same thing but

Right on--if you say so, Mr. President...

So as not to embarrass the President, the Democratic Senate has not proposed a budget in four years...contrary to U.S. law. By contrast, House Republicans have proposed and passed a budget every year of the Obama Administration. This year too, Congressman Paul Ryan has proposed a budget designed to balance the budget over 10 years, but

"At the same time, our nation's productivity has struggled to breach two percent per year--a debt to growth ratio of greater than 7:1. Yet Obama says this is not a problem. Our debt is now greater than our productivity, but Obama says this can be ignored."

interpret their vision in 180-degree differences.

With great clarity, Obama said, "We don't have an immediate crisis in terms of debt." He went on, "I don't intend to balance the budget for the sake of balancing the budget."

In later speaking to Republicans, he went on, "Our biggest problems over the next 10 years are not deficits. The biggest problems we face are unemployment, stagnant wages, slow growth and widening inequality."

The President's perspective is bolstered by New York Mayor Blumberg who said the U.S. is so wealthy it can borrow indefinitely. *New York Times* columnist and economist Paul Krugman believes we need to spend more--not less.

In examining the President's economic credibility, it should be pointed out that his last two budgets were defeated in the Senate by a vote of 99-0 and in the House by 144-0. In other words, no Congressman or Senator of either party echoed the President's views. This year, the President has so far chosen to go AWOL on the budget. His budget is now more than a month late and the President says he is having trouble printing the document!

Democrats will no doubt kill the bill because their President has a different agenda.

Clearly runaway spending is the backbone of the Democratic platform. If we look at the growth of the national debt, we see that it has exploded by 60 percent over the last four years...from \$10.6 trillion to \$16.5 trillion. At the same time, our nation's productivity has struggled to breach two percent per year--a debt to growth ratio of greater than 7:1. Yet Obama says this is not a problem. Our debt is now greater than our productivity, but Obama says this can be ignored.

In February, Democrats bemoaned the spending cuts the President himself had proposed, but that month's borrowings were four times the amount of the spending cuts for the whole year! Democrats clearly prefer to borrow more than slow down on spending.

The race is now on to see if our debt will bankrupt the country before economic growth can occur, and in fact whether debt growth will prohibit economic growth.

So "pays yo' money, an' takes yo' chances," America. Which horse will win the race? Republican or Democrat?

From the Source

Political Q & A

Question of the week: "What impact will Sequestration have on South Bay communities?"

Congressman Henry Waxman replied:

I am deeply concerned about the impact of sequestration on South Bay communities. California's economy has only begun to recover, and the cuts to key domestic and defense programs will slow its growth. The cuts, which began two weeks ago, could add up to as much as \$10 billion for California alone, and could put 200,000 jobs at risk.

The aerospace and defense industries, which employ tens of thousands of people in the Los Angeles region and play a significant role in the economy, face large cuts. California's 64,000 civilian military workers also face furloughs and smaller paychecks beginning next month and stretching out for the remainder of the fiscal year. Sequestration will cause significant economic disruption for a number of major employers in the South Bay area, including the Los Angeles Air Force Base, Northrop Grumman, Raytheon, The Aerospace Corporation, and related subcontractors.

Defense is not the only part of the budget that will be slashed. Key education programs also face major cuts. The Los Angeles Unified School District will lose about \$37 million in Federal aid. The University of California system broadly, and UCLA in my district, will suffer from cuts to Federal research money, work study jobs and student aid programs. And 80,000 UC students could face higher bills next year because of cuts in Pell grants.

Sequestration slows economic growth and is harmful to our national security. We have an obligation to put partisanship aside and make budget decisions that reflect the priorities of the American people. President Obama has offered to work with Congress on a comprehensive plan to reduce the debt, create a fairer tax system and rebuild the middle class, all of which are necessary to strengthen our economy. I hope the Republican leadership will work with Democrats and the White House to work together in a responsible, bipartisan way to end these arbitrary and harmful budget cuts. •

Another Man's Opinion

Same-Sex Marriage: Equality vs. Morality

By Cristian Vasquez

As Americans, our rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness have always been protected by the Constitution and it is about time that our laws start living up to the promise of this popular phrase. Fortunately, Barack Obama has become the first sitting President to come out in support of same-sex marriage. Yet, there remains a significant portion of the population that believes that same-sex couples should not enjoy the liberty to marry the person that they love. What is even scarier is that critics of same-sex marriage like to use the Bible as the moral compass to deny fellow Americans the right to be happy.

The President's administration has taken a significant step in the field of same-sex marriage when the Department of Justice filed a brief in the case regarding California's ballot initiative defining marriage as between one man and one woman. The brief is asking the Supreme

"Fortunately, Barack Obama has become the first sitting President to come out in support of same-sex marriage."

Court to affirm a lower court decision to strike down the measure (Proposition 8). We are fortunate to live in a country where every citizen is given the same opportunity to live their life as they please. Furthermore, we are very lucky to have a President who has had the courage to declare his opposition to the restriction of any minority's rights because of the capricious behavior of a separate minority. The truth is there has been an overall increase in the support for same-sex couples to marry. However, the small group of mostly far right religious fanatics is loud and has significant influence to continue pushing for these discriminatory laws against same-sex couples.

One must remember that a person's rights are supposed to be protected from infringement from third parties. Yet when it comes to the issue of same-sex marriage, the opposition seems to forget that one person's lifestyle is not to impose itself on another individual's

life. While opponents of same-sex marriage argue that allowing such couples to marry destroys the sanctity of marriage and is somehow a threat to society, the truth is that selfish, oppressive and discriminatory laws are the real threats to society. A gay or lesbian couple becoming legally married has no effect on a "righteous" or "religious" couple. Same-sex couples marrying does not hinder the Christian right from going to church and teaching their children Christian principles so in the end, they are still worthy of entering heaven.

However, these groups tend to believe that their right to practice religion means that everyone else must live by their rules--and that is simply wrong. What these anti same-sex marriage groups are doing is depriving fellow Americans of their right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness simply because they want everybody to abide by their religious

practices and beliefs. For those willing to make the argument that God intended marriage to be between a man and a woman and that anything different will result in an eternity in hell, then they should worry more about their own judgmental souls that need some saving and let the same-sex couples deal with the man upstairs when they die.

Having President Obama's administration support same-sex couples in their quest for equality might not be a popular move among some conservatives at the moment, but time will justify his acts. Let's not forget that 60 years ago, interracial marriage was illegal in many states and perceived as a sin by conservatives. Most Americans now look back at those times and consider it foolish and wrong. With the President's new stance, in 60 years we can look back and be reminded of how foolish this nation once was by denying all its citizens that right to marriage. •

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Sports

The Horrors of the WBC

By Adam Serrao

The World Baseball Classic (WBC) has proven to be effective for the globalization of baseball. For approximately three weeks out of the year, the tournament displays national baseball teams featuring professional players from the highest level leagues around the world, including Major League Baseball (MLB). The tournament not only provides a platform for the best players from around the world to compete against one another while representing their home nations, but it also helps to promote the game around the globe. For that reason and that reason alone, Bud Selig and the rest of the executives in charge of MLB have become married to the idea of the WBC. The players who participate in the Classic may be putting themselves at

have been barred from participating by their teams or have simply declined the invitation outright. Detroit's Justin Verlander, Tampa Bay's David Price and even LA's Clayton Kershaw all turned down bids to play for their respective countries in the tournament. The risk of injury is obviously the biggest cause for concern from players and coaches around the Major Leagues, although many, like Dodgers' General Manager Ned Colletti, contend that injury could happen anywhere and at anytime. "Things happen all the time. Injuries happen to teams all the time," Colletti stated. "We have to play without [Ramirez] for eight weeks. I think our offense is still good. There's nothing more we can do about it." At the moment, Colletti is correct. Come next time, however, the GM may think twice

"Things happen all the time. Injuries happen to teams all the time."

a greater risk than most teams' owners and general managers would like, however. With the risk of injury to key players on contenders' rosters, is the World Baseball Classic worth the three-week display of talent that most baseball fans don't even avidly follow anyway?

Though Japan has dominated the World Baseball Classic since the inception, there is no denying that the Dominican Republic has been and is one of the greatest teams to exist in the tournament's history. Featuring some of the best baseball players from Major League Baseball, the Dominican Republic made short work of this year's tournament in beating Puerto Rico 3-0 in the final while capping off an undefeated run at the championship. One of the key contributors to the country's success (in addition to many others) was the Los Angeles Dodgers' very own Hanley Ramirez. The Dodgers acquired Ramirez from the Miami Marlins at last year's trade deadline to fill in at third base and shortstop for the club.

In just half a season last year, Ramirez brought power from the plate that was otherwise nonexistent for the Dodgers in previous years while also fitting in nicely with the rest of his teammates. Now, however, the Dodgers may be looking at spending an extended period of time without Ramirez after he tore his right thumb ligament diving for a ball in the WBC. With a star-studded roster like the one that the Dodgers display this year, the only thing that can stop them from being an elite team is having to deal with injury. Already worried about Zack Greinke and Carl Crawford, the Dodgers now must focus their attention on getting Ramirez back into playing shape as well. "It's bad, it's bad," said Ramirez. "It's something I can't control. It could happen anywhere. Unfortunately, it happened in the WBC. It's very disappointing." But would the injury really still have happened if Ramirez was at spring training in Arizona with the rest of the club? It's a question that will certainly never reveal an answer, but sustaining an injury of that magnitude that will now have the star shortstop missing opening day and the first two months of the season would seem very unlikely to happen in spring training.

While Ramirez even through his injury seems to be in favor of the WBC, many athletes

before letting any of his players participate in a tournament that concludes only two weeks before the season begins.

The concept of the World Baseball Classic simply does not seem important enough to merit as many setbacks as it does. In addition to injury risk, players will lose time that they need to get familiar with their teams. Spring training is a time for catchers to get used to catching pitchers, pitchers to get used to throwing to catchers and hitters to get work on their mechanics. Instead of worrying about their teams, managers like Don Mattingly begin to worry if players like Hanley Ramirez will return to the club in one piece. The WBC is not the Olympics. Baseball was voted out of the Olympics for the 2012 games and the WBC doesn't get nearly the same viewer interest as the Olympics. That being said, don't look for the tournament to disappear anytime soon. The Commissioner and other key MLB executives are "1,000 percent committed" to the idea of the tournament. "It's a worldwide event and it's an unqualified success," said MLB Executive Vice President Tim Brosnan, who chooses to look past all of the negatives that the tournament may present. "People can talk negatives all they want. I can cite 1,000 positives for every negative."

Despite the fact that potential all-stars get injured and other all-stars choose to not even participate, it looks as if the Classic will be around for good. The games don't come close to selling out, even with highly discounted tickets. In America, only five newspapers from outside of the Bay Area (where the championship game was held) even sent reporters to cover the championship round. Even so, the passion that was shared in many countries outside of the USA goes unequaled—and both the Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico this year gained a national identity as the two nations received the chance to celebrate as their own stars took center stage. So for now, Dodger fans' cries will fall upon deaf ears. They will be without a starting shortstop for almost half of the season, but that's the way the ball rolls. The World Baseball Classic will indeed be back in effect again and Major League Baseball fans everywhere will have to begin their worry once more. •

Up and Adam

Saxons Slip Late in Loss to West

By Adam Serrao

It has been difficult for pretty much any team to knock off the West High Warriors so far this baseball season, but last Wednesday at West High, the North High Saxons nearly did it. Perhaps attempting to take a page out of Chino's book (the only team to beat the Warriors so far this season), North jumped on the Warriors late to take a lead halfway through the final inning of play. Under head coach Juan Cueva, however, the Warriors have gotten accustomed to scoring late this year in order to seal away a victory. That's exactly what Cueva's team did again, this time against the Saxons. After a three-run top of the seventh by North, West responded with two runs of its own in the bottom half of the inning to secure the team's ninth win in a row while in the process breaking North's two-game winning streak.

It wasn't easy, but the Warriors did it again. In quite the same fashion that they piled on the Torrance Tartars two weeks ago, the team came from behind with multiple runs late in the game to ultimately win and continue on with its streak. The Saxons, however, have developed a propensity to score on the Warriors late in the game, as they did again last Wednesday night with three runs in the seventh. Only a year ago, the Saxons put up seven runs in the sixth inning to nail home a thrilling 7-6 victory over their cross-town

walks and a strikeout. West's starting pitcher threw six innings, allowing three runs on six hits with five strikeouts. The win for West (9-1) keeps its streak alive and has the team sitting at the top of the Bay League standings with league play beginning in less than two weeks. The Saxons (5-5) on the other hand are struggling to maintain consistency this season as they currently sit in fourth place in the Pioneer League. League play starts a week earlier for the Saxons, however, and now is their time to get on a roll.

SOUTH HIGH

The South High Spartans continue to be the dominant power in the Pioneer League this year and are currently coming off of two impressive victories over both Palos Verdes Peninsula and Palos Verdes. In their most recent victory against Palos Verdes, starting pitcher Matt Mogollon was the difference-maker for the Spartans in the game. Throwing a 78-pitch complete game, Mogollon worked efficiently all day long in allowing only five hits and two runs in South's 4-2 victory. "I just threw strikes, hit my spots and let my defense do the work," said a modest Mogollon.

The Spartans and Palos Verdes traded runs in each of the first four innings to see the score tied up at 2-2 going into the top of the fifth inning. Andy Rojas led off the inning with a single before scoring on a Nick Cohan shot to right field. Mike Esparza knocked Cohan

"It wasn't easy, but the Warriors did it again. In quite the same fashion that they piled on the Torrance Tartars two weeks ago, the team came from behind with multiple runs late in the game to ultimately win."

rivals from West Torrance. Working in the same fashion this year, the Saxons didn't wind up as lucky. The Warriors trailed by a run going into the last half inning of play when North pitcher Austin Anderson balked to advance West's Masata Okawato to second base after he led off the inning with a single. Nyles Nygaard singled to left field to score Okawato and tie the game at three runs apiece. Nygaard made his way to third base on the play before Tommy Oslund came up to the plate and delivered a walk-off, game-winning hit into left-center to score Nygaard and win the game for the Warriors.

Oslund has been one of the Warriors' best players over the last two years and didn't hesitate to come through for his team when put in the position once again. "He is seeing the ball really well and starting to let the ball get to him," Oslund's coach Cueva spoke of him. Oslund went three for four on the night with an RBI and one run scored to up his batting average to .389 with seven RBIs on the season. More importantly, the Warriors came through with another close win when it looked as if the Saxons had it all but wrapped up. Roman Luna and Jorge Hernandez opened the seventh inning with back-to-back singles before Kevin Cole hit a single down the line, scoring both runners. North head coach Mike Demaria used Jonathan Stogryn as a pinch runner later in the same inning and the Saxons later saw him score on wild pitch to account for their third and final run of the inning.

Anderson pitched all seven innings for North, allowing four runs on 11 hits with two

home with an RBI single and accounted for the Spartans' second run of the inning, bringing the eventual winning score to 4-2 for the Spartans. South is on a roll lately at 7-2 this year under head coach Grady Sain. The record has the Spartans currently sitting in first place in the Pioneer League, but tough matchups against West High and league foes Torrance and Lawndale await on the schedule.

TORRANCE HIGH

The Torrance Tartars seemed to be digging themselves into somewhat of a hole early on this season, but that all changed as they took on Redondo Union in a doubleheader last Wednesday. In the first of two games, both Torrance and Redondo scored one run each in the first inning and the fourth inning before the Tartars broke out with three runs in the bottom of the fifth to come to a 5-2 victory. Torrance was able to keep the momentum going into the nightcap when it came back from an early 1-0 deficit to score a run in the fourth and another in the seventh for a 2-1 victory. Senior Kevin Ahir was two for three on the night with a run scored, while Jacob Waggoner went three for three with a double and an RBI. The Tartars (5-6) are near the bottom of the Pioneer League to start the season, but with league play slowly approaching, head coach Ollie Turner and company have the opportunity to get things turned around quickly. Torrance will be tested early on in league play as it faces off against cross-town rivals the South High Spartans to get things going. •

"When baseball is no longer fun, it's no longer a game."

~ Joe DiMaggio

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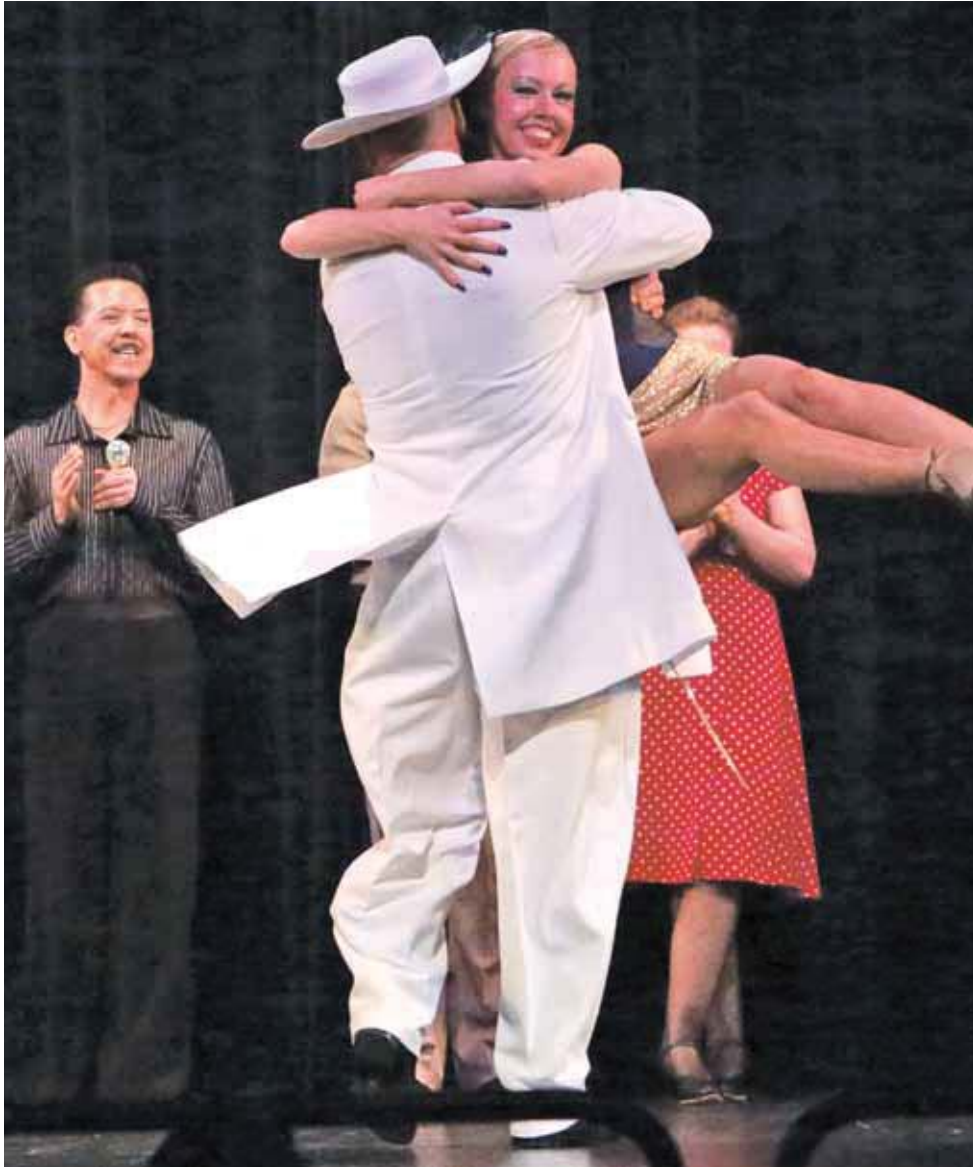
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Dancing with the South Bay Stars

Torrance Cultural Arts Foundation (TCAF) hosted its "Dancing with the South Bay Stars" last Saturday night. Participants picked the charity of their choice and danced away in

support of them. "Dancing with the South Bay Stars" winner was Scott Easterly. Second place was Sonya Vicerra, third place was Lily Craig.



Winner Scott Easterday, owner/operator of Torrance-Del Amo Mall's Outback Steakhouse resides in Torrance and is a board member for Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce and member of the Torrance Police Department's Task Force. He and his partner Alina Sachs are dancing for Pediatric Therapy Network.



Second place, Sonya Vicerra, a resident of Torrance works in Corporate Community Relations for Honda Corporation. She is active in a variety of Honda community endeavors and a leader in the Honda Community Action Team. She and her partner and nephew Tadd Gadduang are dancing for the South Bay Classic.



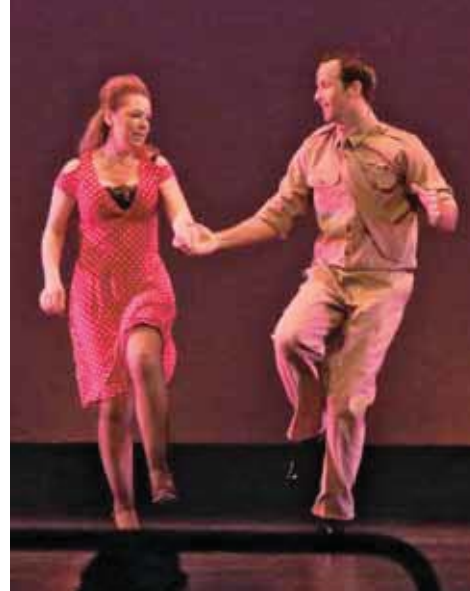
Dean Reuter, owner of Reuter & Reuter is a resident of Torrance and past president of Rotary Del Amo. He currently serves as Lieutenant Governor of Rotary International District 5280. His partner Debbie D'Aquino are dancing for Polio Plus-Rotary International Foundation



All the performers, before their performances. Photo by Sherry Kramer.



Lily Craig, a resident of El Segundo is Chevron Oil's External Affairs Manager representing the Oil Company in the cities of El Segundo, Hawthorne and the greater LA Basin. Among her many community endeavors, she is past president of the El Segundo Chamber and is a board member for El Segundo Education Foundation. She and her partner, Edward Hairston are dancing on behalf of the El Segundo Concert Band.



Trish Pietrzak is the Executive Director for the Torrance Education Foundation, resident of the South Bay and owns a Manhattan Beach-based public relations/marketing firm. She and her partner Todd Hansen are dancing for the Torrance Education Foundation.



Heidi Cunningham, a resident of Torrance is Branch Manager for Torrance-based Kelly Services. She is a TACC and Elwyn California board member. She and her partner Mark Mendez are dancing for Elwyn California



Sheldon Bracket, owner of Daddy's Gourmet Cookies, resident of Redondo Beach, director for Leadership Torrance 2012 and on the board of directors for Counseling4Kids. He and his partner, Larisa Bates are dancing for Counseling4Kids. All photos by Alexandra Sloan.



Winner Scott Easterday. He and his partner Alina Sachs are dancing for Pediatric Therapy Network.

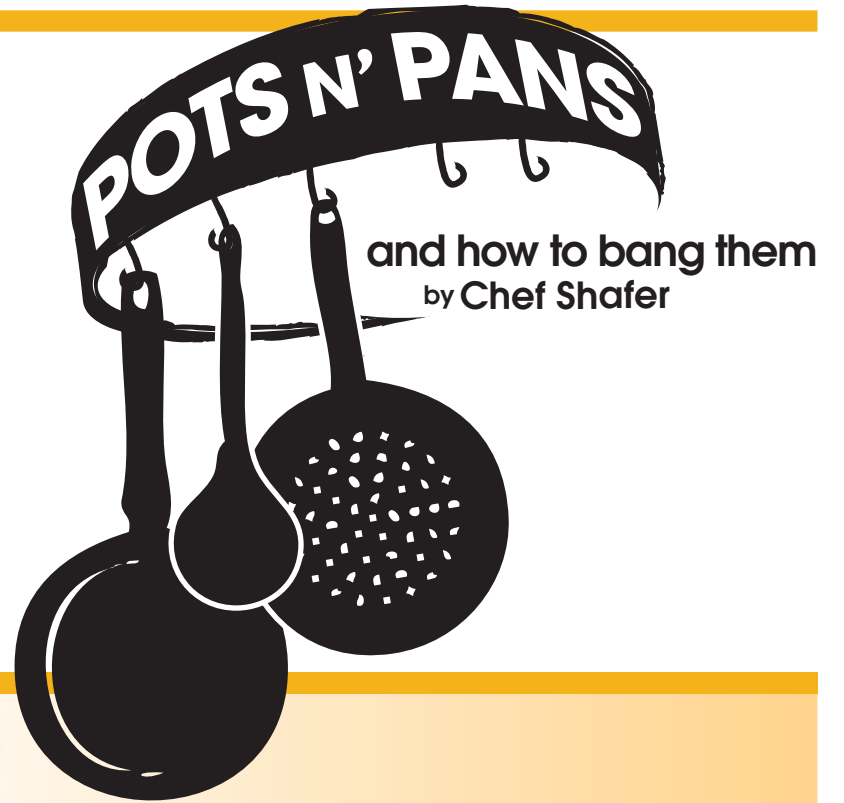
The Easter Bunny is hopping around the corner, and with the holiday an old favorite comes to mind- Deviled Eggs!

They were always a standard in our house around Easter. My mom even had a special platter that held the eggs "a la half shell".

Now, it's not really the best thing you can eat, but it's Easter and you've already dipped into your kid's basket and stole some chocolate...

so why not go for it!

The Chef



Deviled Eggs

Basic recipe

12 eggs hardboiled cooled and peeled

Cut the eggs in half lengthwise
Separate the yolks and place them in a mixing bowl
Place the white on a tray and refrigerate

Stuffing

12 cooked egg yolks
1/2 cup mayo
Pinch salt
Pinch pepper
2 tablespoons spicy mustard

Mix together and stuff back into egg white shells, chill, and sprinkle with paprika

Optional twists

With a little imagination you can modernize your deviled eggs by adding the following:
Add some lump crab meat
Add some chopped up smoked salmon
Add some chopped ham or salami
Or spice it up with some chipotles or jalapeños
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TerriAnn in Torrance

Easter in Torrance

By TerriAnn Ferren

Easter Sunday is the next major holiday most people think of after Christmas. Easter is a feast that doesn't fall on a specific or particular date. It falls on a different day and sometimes even a different month depending on the year. The date is set by marking the

The trappings of Easter most of us remember as children are baskets, dyed eggs, bunnies and chocolate. Never mind that bunnies don't lay eggs. None of that matters to most of us now and I doubt anyone thinks about the origin of when or why we use eggs and baskets to celebrate Easter. Easter is a holiday linked

week before--so I would drive back to school on Easter. But when we were younger, we would always have Easter egg hunts which I really liked and we would hide stuff all around the house. Sometimes eggs would have clues to other clues, so we would search for our Easter basket. It was really fun. I have an older brother Andrew and we would see who could find it [the basket] first--and as I got older, I would make my mom do it." Janette told me the year before she went off to college she really wanted to have an Easter egg/basket hunt and asked her mom to hide the baskets. She said the memories of that Easter remain and she loved searching out the goodies with clues that led to the hidden treasure. Janette went on to tell me, "I haven't seen my parents since about June last year, so I am going there. They live up in South San Francisco, so I am hoping that I get the day off of work so I can go up there for a little bit and since I'll be with my family, maybe we'll end up doing something together. Just having dinner--just spending time together with my family."

James Harper smiled as he told me what he does Easter Sunday, "Usually I go to church," he said. "I'll go with my family and they put on a service that has a few shows and they do reenactments and stuff and they have concerts and it's almost an

parents would [hide eggs] around and my sister and I would [gather them]--they [my parents] would put candy and money [in the eggs]. We used to dye eggs--that was really fun as a kid--to do all the colors and try and mix it and see what you get." He went on to tell me usually Easter dinner consists of ham, mashed potatoes and vegetables, and he emphasized that his mom cooks--confessing he isn't the best cook.

Tim Edmondson was happy to share, "Normally we go to church. We celebrate the rising of Christ. That's what we believe.



Tim Edmondson. Photo by TerriAnn Ferren.

It's always family--my wife's parents, her two other sisters and their families. They're Cuban, so we bust out the Cuban food. We've got it all--plantains, chicken, beans and rice, and then of course--[since] they married the American guy--so we regular Southern California guys, we barbecue steaks. We do baskets and eggs with the kids. I love to hide the eggs and we have one [Easter egg hunt] for the little-bit-older kids and we really have fun. We always end up forgetting a couple [eggs] that we hid and find them a couple weeks later, always outside."

Listening to Tim reminded me of all the times I would take turns with my sister and brother as we hid eggs and then hunted for them all afternoon in the backyard of Uncle Millard and Aunt May's house. After dinner I remember watching *The Robe* starring Victor Mature, or the *Ten Commandments* starring Charlton Heston. Those movies were/are spectacular. And who can forget Judy Garland in *Easter Parade*, or the epic *Ben Hur*?

Later that week I ran into Cindy Simmons, who is living/working in Torrance for a few months and I asked her about her Easter memories. "Well, when I am here in California I like to go to Easter Sunrise Service at the Wayfarers Chapel and we get there and it's dark and we get to watch the sunlight come up and they have music and it's beautiful and wonderful," she said. "I live in Florida [when I am not here]. I go to church and we used to have Easter dinner early 'cuz my dad and his wife would like to eat early."

Elaine was all smiles and told me, "We go to the Wayfarers Chapel--love it, love it, love it! It is the most beautiful, breathtaking morning. You cry. When we were little, it was wonderful. We would wake up and we would find our Easter baskets. They were always hidden and we had new Easter outfits and we had a whole gang of kids--seven of us--and we had Easter hats and we all went to church and had a ham for dinner and it was wonderful and I remember in church the fragrance of the flowers and the birds chirping on Easter morning. It was really very beautiful."

Wow, birds chirping and the fragrance wafting from the scent of Easter lilies. That sounds a lot like Easter morning to me. There are traditions we hold close to our hearts and new traditions we make every year that one day will be the memories for children. On Saturday, March 30 in the Toyota Meeting Hall, the Torrance Community Services Department is putting on its annual *Breakfast and a Visit with the Bunny* where adults accompany children to hear Easter music, have a yummy breakfast and watch a puppet show. All for \$20! Register by phone at 310-618-2720 or access www.torranceca.gov/Parks/7145.htm. Happy Easter! •

"It falls on a different day and sometimes even a different month depending on the year. The date is set by marking the first Sunday following the full moon after the vernal equinox on March 21. Got that?"

first Sunday following the full moon after the vernal equinox on March 21. Got that? Sometimes Easter comes soon after the first of the year and sometimes it comes later. As a child I didn't think about that much, but as I grew I thought it odd Easter moved about.



Edgar Calderon. Photo by TerriAnn Ferren.

Christians have turned the ancient origin of the spring equinox and the worship of Ishtar (Easter) and reclaimed it instead to celebrate and commemorate Jesus Christ rising from the dead. Growing up, I remember my sister Linda and I would always have matching new Easter dresses and shoes for Easter Sunday. Posing for pictures with our Easter baskets was a tradition in our family and I couldn't wait for Easter morning. After church, we would visit family and I can remember one Easter I think I ate all the eggs in my basket in one day. Good thing Easter comes only once a year.

closely with Passover. But that is a study all to itself that I will not take the time to discuss here. Rather, I wanted to find out how the citizens of Torrance celebrate Easter. Everyone I asked was not only happy to answer my question, but was excited to do so.

Last Saturday night, I spoke with Edgar Calderon and asked him about his Easter traditions. He was more than happy to share. "In the morning we go to church--the kids [Celeste, three years old, and Anthony, one year old] and my wife [Betty] and then we drive over to my mom's house for breakfast and then take the kids to the park for Easter Sunday," said Edgar. "Usually my mom will make something really traditional like huevos rancheros -- a traditional Mexican Easter. If I am working, I am usually here [at the theatre] at 5 a.m. doing something for Easter Sunday. The mass service which is still fine 'cuz I get to go to mass. We do Easter egg hunts for sure--baskets optional 'cuz the kids are too little. That is what we do." Well, I had no idea huevos rancheros was a traditional Easter breakfast. Sounds great to me!

Janette Shugart, a Theatre Tech at the James Armstrong Theatre and Technical Director of Rolling Hills Preparatory School, shared her Easter ritual with me. "I don't do very much anymore 'cuz I'm older and usually work comes first," she said. "When I was in college, our spring break would usually be the



Janette Shugart. Photo by TerriAnn Ferren.

all-day event. It's fun. I have a sister, but she lives out of state. So usually I go with my mom and my dad and then sometimes my family from Big Bear comes down. I have one aunt and like five cousins up there, so they come to visit. When I was a kid [we used to do Easter baskets]. Growing up, my



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I remember the first time a store offered me the senior discount card — and I didn't even ask. I was mortified. I bet some of you know how I felt. Of course, now I try to shop at that store every Senior Discount Day!

Everyone I know is either a senior or is related to one. And our needs and desires are

street in Palos Verdes to the city of Torrance where we are able to find a good-sized condo with two bedrooms and two baths that was reasonably priced. Also, part of our criteria as we looked toward the future was a ground floor unit without stairs and close to shops and restaurants that we could walk to when that day came when we were no longer able to drive. We were also lucky enough to find a place with a small yard, which was enough to satisfy my husband. One of the things we first noticed after moving was that it was a lot noisier than before but we soon got used



unique but some basics are the same. One thing is that if you are with a significant other, both should agree on what, where, when and even if you should make any changes to your living arrangements. This is one thing my husband and I experienced about nine years ago and fortunately, we were in agreement on what we wanted to do.

We decided to downsize to a condo. We were ready to move into a place more manageable with less to clean, less yard work and looked forward to having more freedom and money for traveling. We moved from a very quiet

to it especially after installing double paned windows, which made a big difference.

I realize that not all seniors want to sell their houses and downsize. Some like to have the large family home for everyone to come back to for the holidays and other occasions. However, your housing needs may change as you get older and I certainly understand. If you have any questions for me, I can be reached at (310) 890-6407 or e-mail me at kay@homesbykay.com. To learn more about me please visit my website www.homesbykay.com

Finance

When Retiring Together Doesn't Make Sense

By Jason Alderman

Back when people from my parents' generation were first planning their lives together, most married couples looked forward to working hard for a few decades, buying a house, raising a family and then retiring together while they still had enough money and energy to travel and pursue favorite hobbies.

Some couples do manage to pull this off and thrive; but for many others, any of a host of obstacles can block their ability to retire at the same time. For example:

Thanks to periods of unemployment, home-value decline or 401(k) account loss suffered during the Great Recession, many couples simply don't have enough money to retire together comfortably.

If there's a significant age difference, one spouse may not have accumulated enough Social Security credits to qualify for a benefit by the time the other is ready to retire.

Women often worry that the couple hasn't saved enough since they're statistically likely to survive their spouses — often for a decade or more.

One spouse must continue working to supply employer-provided medical coverage until both reach Medicare eligibility age (65 in most cases).



Should we downsize to a smaller dwelling or even move to a retirement community?

Sell the house, buy a trailer and live like nomads for a few years?

Move to a warmer climate or to be nearer our grandchildren?

Move to a state with lower taxes or cost of living?

Start a small side business to keep

money rolling in?

Are we finished supporting our children financially?

Even before asking those tough questions, you already should have begun estimating your retirement income needs. Social Security has a helpful online Retirement Estimator that can help (www.ssa.gov/estimator). After you've explored various retirement scenarios, consider hiring a financial planner to help work out an investment and savings game plan, or to at least review the one you've devised.

Along with the financial impact retirement will have on your marriage, keep in mind that this may be the first time that you've been together, day in and day out. Many people are so consumed by their jobs that they haven't taken time to develop outside interests and hobbies. Well before retirement, you and your spouse should start exploring activities

"Many couples simply don't have enough money to retire."

One spouse is just hitting his or her stride, career-wise, and isn't ready to slow down.

Among couples who have managed to save enough to retire together, when it comes time to pull the trigger many realize they haven't fully agreed on where or how to retire; or they discover that their wishes have diverged over the years. This can put tremendous strain on a marriage if you're not willing to compromise and talk things through.

Long before you actually retire, ask yourselves:

and networks of friends you can enjoy, both together and independently. Consider things like volunteer work, hobbies, athletic activities or even part-time employment if you miss the workplace interaction and need the money.

And finally, if your plan is to have one spouse continue working for a while, try living on only that one salary for a few months before retiring as an experiment. This will give you an inkling of how well you'll do financially and whether you might both need to keep working to amass more savings. •

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A Student's Perspective Looking Up

Prioritizing Creativity

By Glen Abalayan,
Torrance High School Student

Standardized education is stifling creative growth. By condensing the learning process into standards, the education system is preventing students from thinking critically about the subject at hand. Alongside students, teachers are also restrained from teaching outside of the

students must fit in, standardized education is gradually shredding away attributes that do not immediately contribute to an increase in test scores--namely those revolving around creative thinking. Today's education system should instill into students a love for learning and an embrace of their own individuality instead of producing students whose creative

"Today's education system should instill into students a love for learning."

box because of how they have to complete a set quota of standards by a certain time. This stifling of creativity will only hinder growth, as it will raise a generation of great test takers but poor thinkers. In a world of mass production centered on efficiency, it is increasingly difficult to think against the grain.

It's ironic how colleges want creative thinkers, but focus their admissions towards students with high test scores. High scores are not an accurate gauge for creativity as much as a high sense of creativity is an inaccurate assumption of high test scores. Unfortunately, there is currently no legal method of measuring creativity on transcripts. This lack of recognition causes creativity to take a backseat in favor of things that can be measured--namely test scores. Unless creativity is given as much of a priority as scores in transcripts, colleges will get students who do well at retaining information but do poorly in using this knowledge to think critically.

Another factor stifling creative growth is the standardized education system. The system's expectation of having every student understand a broad concept in nine months prevents teachers from delving deeper into the subject at the risk of falling behind--which in turn prevents students from thinking critically on the given subject. By creating a mold all

spirit has been corroded away in exchange for the tangible results of high test scores.

I am not biting the hand that gives to me. The ability to be writing this very article is due to the culmination of education I have received throughout the years. It is the system's method of placing creative thinking as one of its lesser priorities that I cannot understand. Creativity drives innovation, which in turn brings growth. Being such an important resource towards growth, it is confusing why standardized education seeks to take it away from its students.

Albert Einstein once stated, "Everyone is a genius. But if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing it is stupid." This can be applied to creative students who are not proficient in test taking. Although these students possess great minds, they unfortunately cannot receive the recognition they need because there is currently no way to measure their imaginative ability. Creativity should be given as high of a priority as test scores if colleges and companies want to attract the critical thinkers and innovators they long to recruit. Regardless of how much today's education system tries to deprioritize creativity, students should not allow themselves to disregard it in exchange for the short-lived guise of high scores. •

Astronomers Detect Water in Atmosphere of Distant Planet

By Bob Eklund

A team of international scientists using the W. M. Keck Observatory has made the most detailed examination yet of the atmosphere of a Jupiter-size planet beyond our solar system. According to lead author Quinn Konopacky, an astronomer with the Dunlap Institute for Astronomy & Astrophysics, University of Toronto, "We have been able to observe this

the power of directly imaging a planetary system--the exquisite resolution afforded by these new observations has allowed us to really begin to probe planet formation."

The team used a high-resolution imaging spectrograph called OSIRIS, fitted on the Keck II telescope on the summit of Mauna Kea, Hawaii, to uncover the chemical fingerprints of specific molecules, revealing a cloudy atmosphere

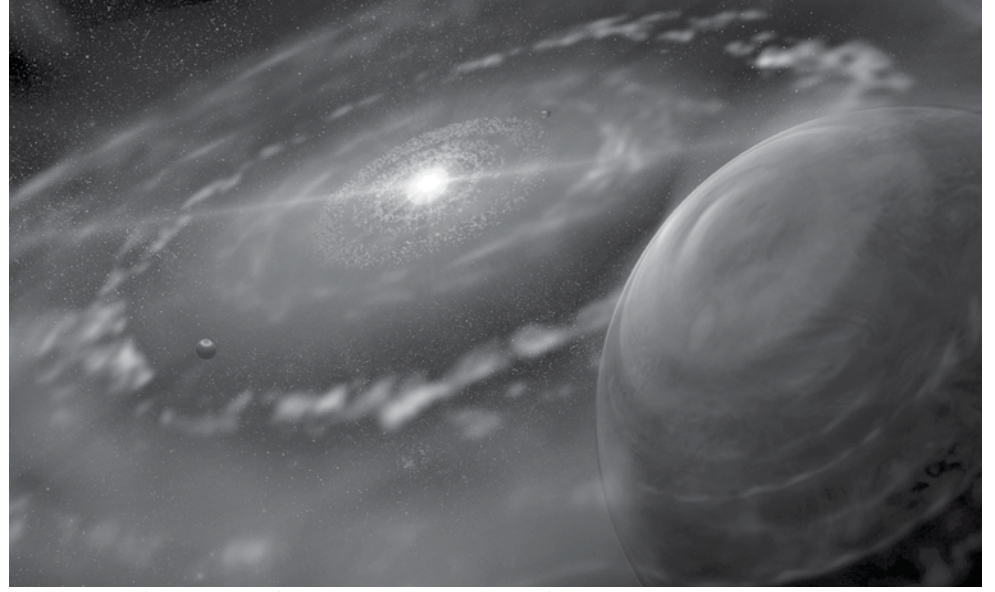


Image courtesy of Dunlap Institute for Astronomy & Astrophysics; Mediafarm.

planet in unprecedented detail because of Keck Observatory's advanced instrumentation, our groundbreaking observing and data-processing techniques, and because of the nature of the planetary system." The paper is being published in the March 22 issue of the journal *Science*.

"This is the sharpest spectrum ever obtained of an extrasolar planet," said co-author Bruce Macintosh, an astronomer at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. "This shows

containing water vapor and carbon monoxide. "With this level of detail," says coauthor Travis Barman, an astronomer at the Lowell Observatory, "we can compare the amount of carbon to the amount of oxygen present in the atmosphere, and this chemical mix provides clues as to how the planetary system formed."

There has been uncertainty about how planets in other solar systems formed, with

See Looking Up, page 14

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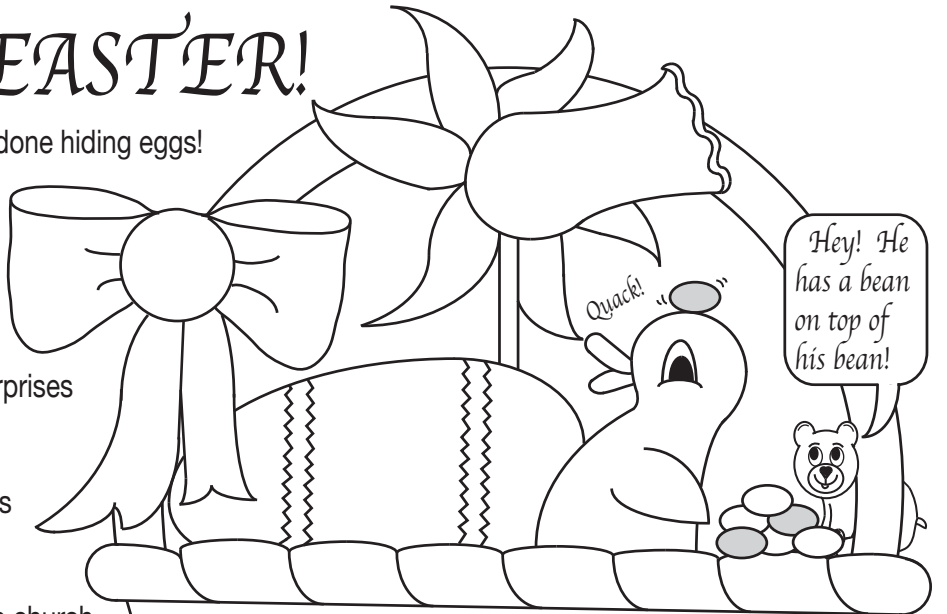
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Easter is an important Christian holiday. It is a time for joy and new beginnings. It is a time of fun surprises too!

"HOPPY" EASTER!



Whew! Almost done hiding eggs!



Hey! He has a bean on top of his bean!

Connect the dots to see a shining light:

Can you fill in the crossword puzzle?

1. colored and hidden
2. hops by to deliver surprises
3. filled with treats
4. hat (with ties)
5. beautiful white flowers that grow from bulbs
6. bells ring out to invite people to these at the church

Surprise someone special and give them a little joy by coloring in this basket, cutting it out and delivering it. If you want to be fancy, add some sparkles.

Next, find and circle 8 words that begin with the letter "h"!

- LILIES
- BONNET
- EGG
- SERVICES
- RABBIT
- BASKET

Easter is a time of...

Can you find and circle the words below?

- | | | |
|--------|----------------|--------|
| family | egg hunts | joy |
| prayer | hot cross buns | bells |
| lambs | new clothes | song |
| light | sunrises | lilies |

Free Puzzles

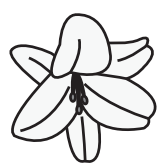
Print our new puzzles: Hop To It!, Alphabet Letter "B," and Shorten It Up! at www.readingclubfun.com

"Eggs'-citement!"

These eggs have bounced out of the basket! They are beginning to break open. Legs are poking out through the shells. Can you tell what animals are being born? Draw lines to match the eggs with the names.

ostrich chick kangaroo alligator pig turtle pony

Some of the animals shown hatch from eggs, some do not! Color the four eggs that have animals that hatch from eggs.



What Can These Easter Symbols Do?

Chicks, flowers, rabbits and eggs are all symbols of Easter.

Can you find and circle the three things each symbol can do? (The other ideas are silly.)

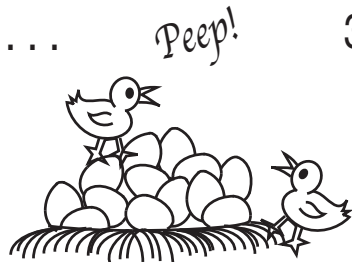
1. chicks can ...

- peep
- scratch
- hop
- moo
- tell jokes



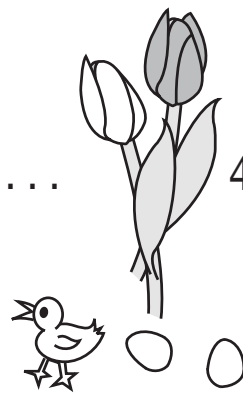
2. flowers can ...

- run
- blossom
- grow
- attract bees
- dance



3. rabbits can ...

- hop
- nibble
- lay eggs
- plant gardens
- wiggle ears



4. eggs can ...

- roll
- write
- sing
- hatch
- crack



Classifieds

The deadline for Classified Ad submission and payment is Noon on Tuesday to appear in Thursday's paper. Advertisements must be submitted in writing by mail, fax or email. You may pay by cash, check, or credit card (Visa or M/C over the phone).

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Looking Up

from page 12

two leading models called core accretion and gravitational instability. When stars form, they are surrounded by a planet-forming disk. In the first scenario, planets form gradually as solid cores slowly grow big enough to start absorbing gas from the disk. In the latter, planets form almost instantly as parts of the disk collapse on themselves. Planetary properties, like the composition of a planet's atmosphere, are clues as to whether a system formed according to one model or the other.

Although the planet's atmosphere shows clear evidence of water vapor, that signature is weaker than would be expected if the planet shared the composition of its parent star. Instead, the planet has a high ratio of carbon to oxygen—a fingerprint of its gradual formation in the gaseous disk tens of millions of years ago. As the gas cooled with time, grains of water ice formed, depleting the remaining oxygen gas. Planetary formation started when ice and solids collected into planetary cores—very similar to the way our solar system began.

“Once the solid cores grew large enough, their gravity quickly attracted surrounding gas

to become the massive planets we see today,” said Konopacky. “Since that gas had lost some of its oxygen, the planet ends up with less oxygen and less water than if it had formed through a gravitational instability.”

The planet is one of four gas giants known to orbit a star called HR 8799, 130 light-years from Earth. The authors and their collaborators previously discovered this planet, designated HR 8799c, and its three companions back in 2008 and 2010. Unlike most other planetary systems whose presence must be inferred by their effects on their parent star, the HR 8799 planets can be individually seen.

“We can directly image the planets around HR 8799 because they are all large, young and very far from their parent star. This makes the system an excellent laboratory for studying exoplanet atmospheres,” said coauthor Christian Marois, an astronomer at the National Research Council of Canada. “Since its discovery, this system just keeps on surprising us.”

Images:

http://keckobservatory.org/news/astronomers_detect_water_vapor_on_distant_planet

WEEKLY CROSSWORD See Answers Next Week

Heavenly Bodies

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64								65					66

Across

- 1. Ninny
- 4. Exploits
- 9. Addition symbol
- 14. Kind of dog
- 15. Remove a brooch
- 16. Category of arachnids
- 17. Breakfast order
- 20. Protection
- 21. Sealed
- 22. Day of the month
- 23. Stuffing
- 24. College major
- 27. Flatten
- 29. Affirm
- 30. "___ true!"
- 33. Lead provider
- 36. Agreement
- 37. Leno and Walters, for example
- 40. Wake-up call?
- 41. Tear
- 42. "___ a chance"
- 43. Blood pigment
- 44. K follower
- 46. Referendum choice
- 47. Desk item
- 51. Vandalizes, in a way
- 55. Small green parrot

Down

- 1. Very, in music
- 2. Pivoted
- 3. "The Playboy of the Western World" author
- 4. Secures with a rope
- 5. One-striper: Abbr.
- 6. Piquance
- 7. Like some currents
- 8. Fishhook line
- 9. Pungent condiment
- 10. Breezed through
- 11. Make fun of
- 12. Joule fraction
- 13. Woody Herman's "___ Autumn"
- 18. Not yet final, at law
- 19. It has strings attached
- 23. Central points

- 24. Winged
- 25. Taking it back to the old-school?
- 26. Rendezvous
- 28. Common request
- 29. Social worker?
- 30. Restive
- 31. Titter
- 32. Diets
- 34. Barely beat
- 35. Hag-ridden
- 36. Mouse manipulator
- 38. Palindromic conjunction
- 39. Approximate
- 45. Overflow
- 47. Play too broadly
- 48. Showed
- 49. Alchemical solvent
- 50. Balkan capital
- 52. Underplay
- 53. Twilight, old-style
- 54. Numbers
- 55. Malaria symptom
- 56. Eur. think tank
- 57. Trash
- 58. It's stranded
- 59. Natl. Humor Month
- 60. Cast

Last Week's Answers

1	J	U	D	E	A	6	C	A	B	L	9	10	A	11	Q	12	U	13	A	
14	U	N	D	I	D	15	A	L	O	E	16	T	U	P	I					
17	S	T	A	N	D	18	I	N	G	O	V	19	A	T	I	O	N			
20	T	O	Y	S	21	C	O	I	F	22	D	I	D	N	T					
			23	T	W	E	E	N	A	24	G	E	R							
26	A	G	R	E	E	27				28	O	N	E	D	G	E	30	31	32	
33	R	H	E	I	N	34	C	H	O	U	35						37	R	I	P
38	R	O	U	N	D	39	O	F	A	P	40	L	A	U	S	E				
42	A	S	S			43	A	C	T	S	44	A	N	I	M	E				
45	S	T	E	A	M	S	46				48	D	A	D	O	S				
			49	C	A	T	50	E	C	H	51						53			
54	C	O	M	E	T	57	R	O	O	D	58	O	N	C	E		60			
62	H	O	O	T	S	63	A	N	D	H	64	L	E	R	S					
65	E	Z	R	A	66	L	I	E	U	67	S	I	R	U	P					
68	F	E	E	L	69	B	E	R	M	70	D	A	D	Y						

3	9	1	6	4	7	2	8	5
5	2	6	3	9	8	7	4	1
7	8	4	5	1	2	3	9	6
8	1	5	9	2	6	4	3	7
4	3	2	1	7	5	9	6	8
6	7	9	8	3	4	1	5	2
1	4	8	7	6	9	5	2	3
2	5	3	4	8	1	6	7	9
9	6	7	2	5	3	8	1	4

SUDOKU Medium

			2	5			1	8	
		4					3	2	
8				6			2		5
		5	3			7	1		
2									4
				2	6			5	9
5				1			9		2
				1	4				5
	8	9					5	6	

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

Pets Without Partners

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

Indy is a Rat Terrier mix who was born on July 2, 2012 and currently weighs nine pounds. This little guy is very sweet and has unique coloring with his tri-colored face and coat and four white socks. He is a loving,



Bigelow

gentle little guy who is snuggly and endearing and also loves to run and play all day long. Indy is great with other dogs and cats and is good with children over the age of 10. He is also fond of the rabbit in his foster home and they have become fast friends. Indy is neutered, current on all vaccinations, dewormed, microchipped, housebroken, good with other dogs, good with older children, cat-safe, and rabbit-safe.

On Academy Awards day, 11 little Beagle puppies came to us from a breeder who got into trouble with animal control for having too many dogs on her property. We took these little guys in so they would not land in the shelter. Each pup is named after an actor, director or movie. Lucy, Ethel and Bigelow are just three of the adorable puppies. The others can be viewed on our website. Each of the litters was born in January 2013. These puppies are seen by appointment with an approved application. When you meet them is when you will pick your pup.

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.



Lucy and Ethel

Purrrfect Companions

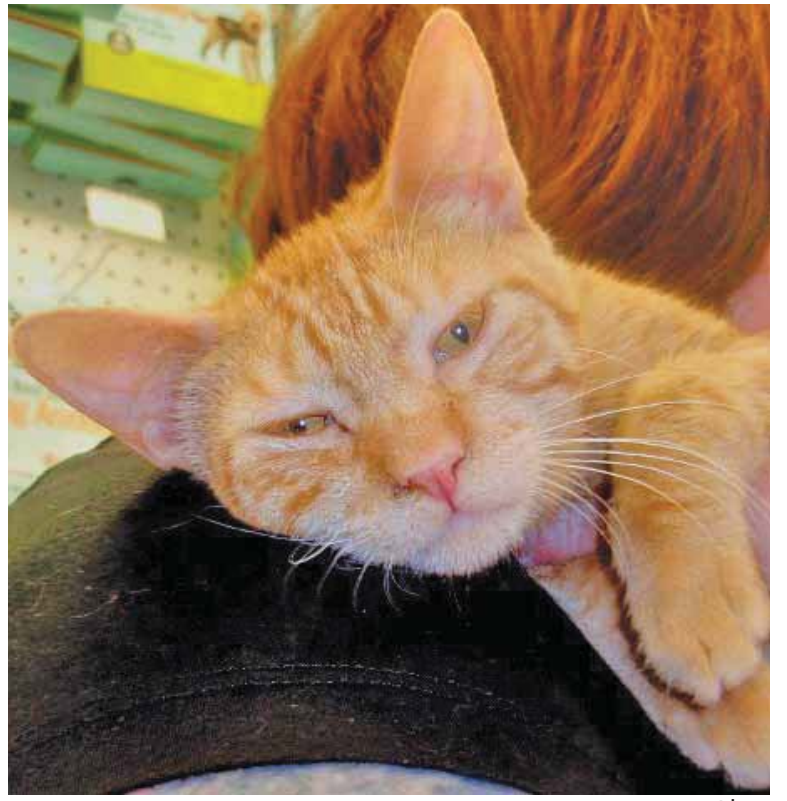
Add a little love with a new best friend when you adopt your purr-fect partner.

If just one word was used to describe **Liberty**, it would be affectionate. Liberty will nuzzle her face into your neck and cling to your arms when you try to put her down--she can't get enough of being with you. She is outgoing with everyone she meets, just wanting to give and receive love and affection. Liberty is quite the talker and has lots to share with everyone around her. Between her high energy and her enjoyment in playing with other cats, Liberty absolutely needs another kitty in her home. She is an amazing little girl who can't wait to find her forever family.

Mama is a fantastically wonderful cat who was rescued off the street with her kittens. She is very tolerant of other cats, though she does not have any interest in playing with them. Mama would adore being the only kitty in your home. If she has the opportunity to get some private one-on-one time with no cats to butt in, Mama will play with you as if reliving her kittenhood lost to motherhood too soon. Mama is a true couch potato. Her favorite spot is on the back of the sofa right behind your head where she can purr, rub her face in your hair and be super loving. Mama would do well for anyone who is seeking a non-demanding companion who will keep them company throughout the day and night.

These kittens/cats are available for adoption through Kitten Rescue, one of the largest cat rescue groups in Southern California. All of our kitties are spayed/neutered, microchipped, tested for FeLV and FIV, de-wormed and current on their vaccinations. For additional information and to see our other kitties, please check our website at www.kittenrescue.org, or email us at mail@kittenrescue.org. Your tax-deductible donations for the rescue and care of our cats and kittens can be made through our website or by sending a check payable to Kitten Rescue, 914 Westwood Boulevard, #583, Los Angeles, CA 90024.

On Saturdays, we have adoptions from noon to 3:30 p.m. in Westchester at 8655 Lincoln Boulevard, just south of Manchester Avenue,



Liberty

and also in Mar Vista at 3860 Centinela Avenue, just south of Venice Boulevard. Our website lists additional adoption sites and directions to each location.

Be kind. Save a life. Support animal rescue.



Mama

Happy Tails

It's a Wonderful Life for Mugsy

Chug, who is now Mugsy, is sharing a wonderful life with Allan and Jodi. His story is living proof that dreams really do come true. His family sent this update to Animals Rule...

“Hi. Thanks for checking in. Mugsy is doing awesome. Just like everyone said, he's quite the little love bug--he just shadows me around the house, waiting for me to sit down so he can curl up in my lap. He's starting to adjust to everything and come out of his shell a bit around all the new people (and dogs) he's been meeting in my neighborhood, though he's still not too sure what to do with the toys we've gotten for him.

He does seem to have a bit of separation anxiety and cried when we tested out leaving him alone in the house for a few minutes--but given his history, it's totally understandable. So we will be easing him into spending time on his own. We took the belly band off today, as he didn't seem to have any issues with marking or waiting to go out, but we are taking him on extra walks until we become more familiar with his signals and signs that he needs to go out. He's eating well and hasn't had any digestive troubles or accidents so far. He's just the sweetest little pup and we are already falling madly in love with him. I can't wait to see our success story

on your site/Facebook page and I'm looking forward to sharing the note cards with my friends and family. I will certainly keep you posted on his progress and appreciate your offer to assist if we have any questions. I'm extremely grateful for the wonderful work that you and the volunteers at Animals Rule do to find loving homes for so many needy pets, so please keep me posted if there's anything I can do to help support and promote your cause. Cheers! -- Jodi and Allan.

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. •



Real Estate

Tips for Choosing the Right Water Heater for Your Home

(BPT) - If all is working well, most homeowners put little thought into their water heater. But when this critical appliance fails, it can be a nightmare that halts a home's productivity completely. With no hot water for washing dishes and clothes - let alone for

area where a tank heater is located, you may select a modern tank heater to replace the old one since the space is already set up for one. The good news is today's tank heaters are more efficient than ever, providing more hot water while using less energy.

"The good news is today's tank heaters are more efficient than ever, providing more hot water while using less energy."

bathing - homeowners are left scrambling to find a new water heater as fast as possible.

While waiting until an emergency occurs to take action isn't uncommon, more and more homeowners are taking the proactive approach by making updates before the life expectancy of their current heater ends. Newer units have many benefits, including better efficiency and lower operating costs, if you choose the right one for your home.

Because heating water is the second largest energy drain in a home, according to the U.S. Department of Energy, many people are choosing modern options that heat water much more efficiently, which helps save money and is better for the environment. Here are the three main types of water heaters and their many benefits.

TRADITIONAL TANK MODELS

Most homeowners have a traditional tank water heater. This option works by continuously heating water in a holding tank throughout the day, providing hot water to the home when there's a demand. If you already have a maintenance closet or storage

For example, the Rheem XR90 gas water heater can be retrofitted into an existing tank area, but takes up less space because it's a 29-gallon tank. This compact unit heats water 42 percent faster than a standard 50-gallon gas water heater (0.58 EF and 40,000 Btu/h). It provides 90 gallons of hot water in the first hour following the heater's initial firing; so, homeowners get three times the amount of hot water in an hour than what the tank actually holds.

TANKLESS OPTIONS

Although tankless water heaters have been used for more than 50 years in other countries, only in the past decade have they become more popular in the United States. A tankless heater uses energy to heat water only as it is needed, so energy is used efficiently and utility costs may decrease. Plus, tankless water heaters can provide a steady stream of hot water that doesn't run out.

These types of water heaters are about the size of a medicine cabinet and are hung on a wall, perfect for homeowners with limited space. Depending on what climate you



live in, you might be able to put a tankless water heater on the outside of your home. Most tankless water heaters are gas fueled, such as the popular Rheem Prestige Series Condensing Tankless Water Heater. This model is easy to install because it is vented with PVC piping, and has a digital display for adjusting the water temperature as well as a self-diagnostic system that will display maintenance codes if problems arise.

HYBRID TANK UNITS

Hybrid water heaters offer homeowners an option that is more than twice as efficient as standard electric units. Consumers who switch to a hybrid electric water heater with heat pump technology will save \$286 annually on their electric utility bills, compared to those who have a standard 50-gallon electric model

(with a 0.90 energy factor), according to U.S. Department of Energy estimates.

How do hybrid water heaters work? These tanks are set up with a heat pump as well as electric technology. The units have three settings: heat pump only, electric only or hybrid mode which uses both. Depending on the demand put on the system, the homeowner can select the most energy efficient means to heat water.

With more people staying in their homes for longer, upgrades such as installing a new water heater are proving to be beneficial today and many years in the future. Visit www.rheem.com to learn more about what water heating option is right for you. Remember to check with your local utility company to see if any rebates are available for water heater upgrades, which can help with the purchase and installation cost.

What to Do with All this Stuff? Moving Tips for Newlyweds

(BPT) - A recent survey of first-time newlyweds by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention shows the median age of people marrying for the first time in the U.S. is at an all-time high. And while the percentage of young men and women living with their parents has risen in the past decade, more than 80 percent of Americans ages 25 to 34 live independently before marriage, according to Census Bureau reports.

Melanie Bergeron, former CEO and current chair of the board for the nation's largest franchised moving company, Two Men And A Truck, suggests a successful move begins with an open mind.

"I was 30 years old and my husband was 40 when we got married, so we had a lot of duplicates on that first move," Bergeron says. "All my decor

was light and contemporary and his was dark antiques, so I was certain we had a decorating nightmare on our hands. In reality, we ended up finding a happy medium and gave away those items we didn't absolutely need. So, rule No. 1 is to keep an open mind as you combine homes."

Bergeron suggests these additional tips to make your first nesting experience as painless as possible:

Duplicates to dollars: Take a pen to paper and lay out your combined inventory a month before your move day.

Box yourself in: Once inventory is complete, decide what will go where and organize everything in boxes that are clearly marked for each room.

Purge before you merge: Most movers estimate jobs by the hour, so the more

you can clean out beforehand the less time it will take to move.

Sweat the big stuff: If you can't afford to hire a moving company for all your belongings, consider hiring professionals for just heavy, bulky items. Before you rent that truck yourself, call for an estimate; the time and money saved will be better spent celebrating your nuptials. •



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Roger Hart (left) with sons: Kevin, Jeremy and his wife Stephanie; and Bradley with his wife Alannah. The Hart family has used its successful business to promote and preserve pride in the Torrance community through responsible real estate transactions and home ownership.

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