

Torrance Tribune

The Weekly Newspaper of Torrance

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39th Annual Medal of Valor Luncheon Honors Heroes



Torrance Mayor Frank Scotto proudly poses with Torrance Police Officers Dusty Garver (left) and David Cho (right) who each received the 2013 Distinguished Service Award at the 39th Annual South Bay Medal of Valor ceremony. Photo by Charlene Nishimura.

Three Torrance Schools Make the California Distinguished List

By Dylan Little

During the Torrance School Board's June 3 meeting, the group celebrated three of Torrance Unified School District's (TUSD) schools for being named California Distinguished Schools. Senior Director of Secondary Schools Tim Stowe explained that having three distinguished schools in one district is no easy feat. Just to apply a school must show growth in every significant sub-group school-wide and also demonstrably work to close the achievement gap--meaning all of the subgroups (such as English learners) needed to grow more than the state average. From there, the schools must highlight a signature practice implemented at their campus.

"Eligibility to apply is very, very strict," said Stowe. "Not just are [these schools] high performers, but they are meeting the needs of students on every level."

The first of TUSD's 2013 distinguished schools was West High School. Principal Ben Egan said the signature practice that set West High apart was how the school handles collaboration time. During a summer conference, the staff developed a lasting plan to focus on benchmarks, assessment and reflection, code-named BARS. By focusing collaborative time on these areas, teachers could use their lunch breaks and conference periods to look into student performance.

Next was Casimir Middle School, where staff had two signature practices: rearranging silent reading time to make room for extra individualized attention and enrichment activities, and working with their PTA to increase parent involvement through programs like Dine and Dash. Principal Susan Holmes said both practices have "really helped us grow."

The third 2013 distinguished school in TUSD

was Richardson Middle School. Principal Chad Mabery said Technology for Learning was the signature practice that earned the title. The program integrates hands-on technology into as much of the curriculum as possible, from taking middle school classes online to using

iPads in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) classes. Another major facet of the program is having teachers utilize eTUSD, an online homework hub, to keep students engaged while they are out of the classroom.

See School Board, page 5

On a Mission to Help People With Limited Vision

By Cristian Vasquez

Since 1978, The Center for the Partially Sighted has been dedicated to providing resources that will enable individuals with partial sight to effectively use their remaining vision. "It was started by Dr. Sam Genensky, who himself was visually impaired. At the time he was working for the Rand Corporation with his coworkers and developed what is now called the CCTV [Closed Circuit Television], which is a video magnifier," CPS Director of Rehab Services Chris Nelms said. "At that point, there were several articles that were done on Dr. Genensky and his magical reading machine. He received lots of letters from people who were just like him--not blind, but visually impaired. Most of the resources at that time were for people who were totally blind and nothing for people who were partially sighted."

What began as a small clinic, as part of the Santa Monica Hospital, has grown into an independent center headquartered in Culver City with facilities in San Luis Obispo, Tarzana, Eagle Rock and Torrance

that serve thousands of people.

"We get referrals from a lot of the ophthalmologists in the area, for instance, from retinal specialists because macular degeneration is one of the largest diagnoses that causes vision impairment in a lot of the elderly people," Nelms said. "They figure that one person in every four over the age of 85 has visual impairment. It is a disease of the back of the eye, the retina and they do not know what causes it. So a lot of times the ophthalmologist will get to the point where there is nothing that they can do to improve a patient's vision, so they will make referrals here to our low-vision optometrist who will look at a lot of devices and ways that will allow people to use the vision that they have left."

Dr. Genensky founded CPS to provide optometric services as well as rehab and counseling services for the partially sighted, so he founded the Optometric Center and acted as the first CEO. The optometry branch was what started it all and it became the biggest part of the center. However,

See Center page 10

Weekend Forecast

Friday

AM Clouds/
PM Sun
68°/62°



Saturday

Mostly
Cloudy
70°/64°



Sunday

Mostly
Cloudy
71°/64°



Seniors

Boomers Turning 65 Face Complex Healthcare Choices

(BPT) - Every day, about 10,000 baby boomers turn 65 and become eligible for Medicare. Not everyone will sign up, but it's important to understand the importance of early choices when enrolling in Medicare for the first time.

You can enroll in Medicare three months before turning 65, the month you turn 65 or up to three months afterward.

"Turning 65 opens the door to Medicare

for decisions related to Part B and Part D coverage. The late-enrollment penalty is 10 percent for each full 12-month period you could have been enrolled in Part B. Likewise, Part D imposes a penalty if you go for more than 63 days without coverage after enrolling in Part B.

"Your first-time Medicare plan choices also are more complicated if you have retirement dates, COBRA coverage or

"You can enroll in Medicare three months before turning 65, the month you turn 65 or up to three months afterward. Turning 65 opens the door to Medicare eligibility, but it brings with it some complex choices."

eligibility, but it brings with it some complex choices," says Paula Muschler, manager of the Allsup Medicare Advisor, a personalized Medicare plan selection service. "Choices seniors make at this time can impact their healthcare costs over the long term and their entire family."

Muschler offers the following key steps for Medicare first-timers.

1. Take a look at your existing group health plan coverage and think about how it will coordinate with Medicare. Many people work past age 65. As a result, Medicare-eligible individuals who have health coverage through

dependent coverage to consider," Muschler says. "These are good reasons to contact a Medicare specialist, who can help answer the right questions and provide guidance to seniors so they make choices that match their situations."

4. Understand how higher income and changes in your income affect Medicare costs. Higher-income beneficiaries pay higher premiums for Medicare Part B and prescription drug coverage. For Part B, the 2013 monthly premium is \$104.90 for joint filers with income of \$170,000 or below (\$85,000 for single filers). However, the



their employer or their spouse's employer may be able to wait to enroll in Medicare Part B, which covers outpatient medical care. This is not true in every case, however. This option depends on other factors, such as the size of the employer and how soon you expect to retire after reaching 65. You may want to consider enrolling in Medicare Part A, which includes hospital coverage, even if you defer Part B.

2. Consider the options for first-time enrollment, keeping in mind your current health needs and financial resources. If you choose traditional Medicare, you have an average of 31 Medicare Part D prescription drug plans from which to choose. You can also choose from 10 standard Medigap policies for supplemental coverage, ranging from basic to comprehensive coverage. The price for these plans also can differ from one company to the next.

Adding to the complexity, Medigap plans are not required to accept you after your initial enrollment period. This is one reason first-time choices are crucial. Seniors evaluating Medicare Advantage plans over traditional Medicare also have an array of options - an average of 20 plans, depending on where you live.

3. Follow Medicare enrollment rules to avoid costly mistakes. Penalties are in place

premium increases to between \$146.90 and \$335.70 for those with incomes above these thresholds. Likewise, higher-income beneficiaries can expect to pay from \$11.60 to \$66.40 more each month in prescription drug premiums.

The Social Security Administration uses IRS records when determining premiums. Social Security may reduce an individual's income-related monthly premium with verification. "Social Security has specific requirements about how you can document changes in your income when you are requesting reduced Medicare premiums," Muschler explains.

5. Review healthcare coverage for your spouse and dependents to determine how your choices may affect their coverage. If you are nearing Medicare eligibility, you can find yourself at a crossroads when it comes to providing healthcare for your entire family.

Some employers may continue to provide coverage to a worker's family, or you may need to purchase COBRA coverage or private coverage for family members. "One early step is to talk with your benefits plan administrator to see what options you may have and then plan for your family," Muschler says.

Seniors turning 65 have seven months during their initial enrollment period to make critical decisions. But you can begin evaluating your options earlier to be better prepared. •

Calendar

SATURDAY, JUNE 8

• Free Electronics Recycling Event, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., 2200 W. Carson St. For more information call (714) 663-8500. Event benefits Torrance High ASB.

• Torrance Certified Farmers' Market, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., Charles H. Wilson Park, 2200 Crenshaw Blvd. For more information call (310) 618-2930.

• PV Street Fair and Music Festival, 10 a.m.-9 p.m., Norris Center Drive in RHE between Silver Spur Road. www.pvstreetfair.com.

• Beading Workshop, 10- 11:30 a.m., Henderson Library, 4805 Emerald St. For more information call (310) 371-2075.

• Dance and Music (Shakti Dance), 5 p.m., James Armstrong Theatre, 3330 Civic Center Drive. For more information call (310) 428-5875.

• Simon Kidgits Club "Lil Chefs" event, 10 a.m.-noon, in the Del Amo Fashion Center, JoAnn's Court. Kids encouraged to bring a non-perishable food item to be donated to a local food bank. For more information call Lindsay Hermance at (310) 542-8525.

SUNDAY, JUNE 9

• Tom Glavich on Gasterias, 1:30 pm, South Coast Cactus & Succulent Society, South Coast Botanic Garden, 26300 Crenshaw Blvd.

• Three mini-musicals, 10-10:50 a.m., Neighborhood Church, Fellowship Hall. 415 Paseo del Mar, PVE.

• Venus & Mars In Harmony (Los Cancioneros Master Chorale), 7 p.m., James Armstrong Theatre, 3330 Civic Center Drive. For more information call (310) 781-7171.

TUESDAY, JUNE 11

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

SATURDAY, JUNE 15

• The South Bay Republican Women Federated 75th Anniversary party at the DoubleTree Hotel. For more information call (310) 371-6009.

• Opening Reception for New Exhibitions, 6-9 p.m., Torrance Art Museum at the Joslyn Center, 3320 Civic Center Drive. No RSVP is necessary.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19

• Miracle of Living Health Education Lecture Series: When You Gotta Go... (Treating Matters of the Bladder), 7 p.m., Torrance Memorial Health Conference Center, 3330 Lomita Blvd. For more information call (310) 517-4706.

ONGOING

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

Finance

Trim Your Wedding Costs

By Jason Alderman

Weddings have always been big business, but I was shocked to see how expensive they've become in the 17 years since my wife and I got married. According to the annual Real Weddings Study, the average wedding in the U.S. now costs \$28,427, and that doesn't even count the honeymoon.

Wait, it gets worse.

Among the more than 17,500 surveyed brides who got married in 2012, the average amount paid for a wedding dress was \$1,211. On average they also spent \$204 per wedding guest and dropped \$12,905 for the reception venue.

There are many ways to rein in wedding-related costs while still having a memorable event. Here are a few suggestions:

Create a budget. Unless you're a professional wedding planner, you'll probably be floored by how many expenses weddings can amass, including: wedding and engagement rings, invitations, postage, marriage license, clergy and location fees,



After you've settled on vendors, get signed contracts that specify dates, products, prices, deposit and payment terms, cancellation policies, liability insurance and whether tax and gratuities are included.

Here are a few suggestions for trimming costs:

Date flexibility. You'll get more bang for your buck off-season - a June wedding might cost 20 to 30 percent more than one in April or October.

Have your florist use in-season flowers.

Daytime weddings are often cheaper than evening events.

Instead of a hotel, consider less-costly alternative reception venues like community centers, museums, city park clubhouses or other public facilities looking to earn extra income. Ask whether they have their own tables, chairs, sound and lighting systems; if not, add equipment rental costs into the equation.

A buffet dinner reception could save you \$15 or more per guest compared to a plated

"According to the annual Real Weddings Study, the average wedding in the U.S. now costs \$28,427, and that doesn't even count the honeymoon."

flowers, bridal gown and groom's tuxedo, rehearsal dinner and reception, photography, catering, DJ or band, limousine, parking attendants, tips, gifts for wedding participants and honeymoon expenses.

Shop around. Bridal expos are a good way to meet a lot of vendors and gather ideas. Just don't get caught up in the excitement and commit to anything before you've done follow-up research. Some tips:

Bring along someone from the wedding party as well as a trustworthy friend who isn't emotionally and financially connected to the wedding.

You may feel pressured by vendors to sign contracts or put down deposits, but it's probably wiser to take their contact information and research them first.

Create a separate email account for wedding vendor communications. Once you sign up for one offer or contest, believe me, your inbox will be swamped.

dinner, because you're not paying for table service. Save even more by hosting an afternoon reception and serving lunch or hors d'oeuvres.

If you're hosting a large reception, have a smaller display cake for the cutting ceremony, with a sheet cake stored in the kitchen.

Serve wine, beer and one signature cocktail, instead of offering a full bar.

Consider renting or buying a second-hand wedding dress from a consignment shop, or an online specialty site. The same goes for grooms wear.

Hiring a disc jockey instead of a live band will save hundreds of dollars; plus you get a broader selection of music and a built-in emcee to move things along.

One last budgeting tip: Limit the number of guests to ensure you can have a meaningful interaction with each. Remember, spending just one minute apiece with 300 guests would take five hours. •

A South Bay Gem: Old Town Music Hall

By Brian Simon

A group of devotees have banded together to inject some new life into Old Town Music Hall, located in El Segundo, and increase patronage in the process. Open since 1968 on Richmond Street, the theater recently suffered through some down years thanks to a sluggish economy and continued lack of awareness about the cultural landmark that remains the only Southland venue featuring regularly scheduled silent film classics with live organ accompaniment as well as piano and full band concerts showcasing popular American music from the early decades of the 20th Century.

But a turnaround may be in the works for the venerable hall, thanks to the efforts of an eight-member advisory board formed this past January that has launched a social media campaign, revamped the theater's website, and coordinated several cosmetic upgrades to the building. Though business is not quite booming yet, there are already noticeable improvements. "Every week, there are some new faces coming in and quite a few younger people," said advisory board member and founder James Moll. "We are doing outreach through Facebook, Twitter and the new website to reach a whole new generation of people...and it's working."

Moll, who grew up in Hawthorne, is an Oscar, Grammy and Emmy award-winning filmmaker with a long personal history at Old Town Music Hall. His mother and stepfather met there in the early '70s and after marrying began to take the then-12-year-old to the venue on a regular basis. Already studying piano at the time, the young Moll learned how to play ragtime from the theater's late co-founder Bill Coffman. "I worked there on and off throughout high school and college, but wasn't able to get over there much in recent years because of my career," said Moll. "Then last December, my stepfather said it would be nice to visit [co-founder] Bill Field, as attendance was down and he [stepfather] wondered how long the place would survive."

Field has run the theater mostly by himself since Coffman's death in 2001, playing the renowned Mighty Wurlitzer pipe organ week after week while also choosing and arranging the film showings and putting out the schedules. Though still in decent condition, the place

definitely needed a few fixes. "There were things that weren't operating properly—the drapes weren't working for many months," said Moll, who offered his assistance as a volunteer after the visit last year. The advisory board then came about through happenstance. "Strangely enough over those first few months, I met a group of people all in completely coincidental ways who are now part of our advisory board. For instance, a few months back, a young woman was frantically knocking on the front door because she had her parents with her who were visiting for just a few hours and really wanted to see the theater. So I brought them in and played piano for them. I mentioned we were working on the drapes and the woman said she worked for a drapery company!"

In addition to the new drapes, the board is garnering donations for new signage and lighting, seat recovering and an updated projection system, with plans to improve the audio as well. Remarkably, the theater's cornerstone—the Wurlitzer—is still in tip-top shape and sounds as it did when it was built in 1925. Field and Coffman acquired the instrument in 1959, eventually housing permanently it in its current location nine years later.

The theater's now higher profile has begun to pay dividends, with area media outlets suddenly taking notice of the venue. A blurb last month on CBSLA.com about inexpensive options in Los Angeles mentions the offering of "three hours of entertainment, fun and a trip down memory lane—all for \$10." CBS News is also reportedly planning a feature story on Old Town Music Hall to air during the May sweeps, according to advisory board member and long-time Chevron employee Lily Craig. "While I was there the other weekend to see the movie *Gilda*, I noticed a young man and a very distinguished gentleman shooting footage," she said. "Turns out it was a CBS News producer who was there to shoot 'a few things to do' kind of feature. However, he fell so in love with the place, he told Bill [Field] he now plans on making it more of a feature story. I can't wait to see it!"

Craig is the only El Segundo resident on the advisory board and noted she was honored to join after being approached by Moll. "This

See *Old Town Music Hall*, page 8

Sanctuary

Only Fools are Positive

By Rev. Eric Jay

"Only fools are positive." How fitting that this familiar proverb was originally spoken by Moe Howard, one of the Three Stooges. Unfortunately, this proverb is also fitting for how our culture today views anyone with a confidence in their convictions of what is right vs. wrong. It seems we are to be "tolerant", unless of course the other person believes in a right and wrong. That's intolerable. Culture says unless your positivity in conviction also includes a healthy dose of relativism, you're a fool. The only thing positive about the wisdom of relativism is that it is positively contradictory. Truth is by definition exclusive. Something can only



of life happening each and every day; the loss of the human soul.

We all know. We know that this life is not all there is, but we're still tempted to foolishly live as if it was. People escape all kinds of tragedies each and every day, however, no one has ever escaped the the tragedy of death. We will all die, and that day is approaching

all of us on the horizon. So where can we turn, to what expert can we rely on who has the answers, the positively true answers, that can be trusted and who has the power to take action? Human lives depend on it.

The Good News is that we have an expert on life and death, One who lived perfectly and overcame death itself, Jesus Christ. No

"The only thing positive about the wisdom of relativism is that it is positively contradictory. Truth is by definition exclusive. Something can only be true if the opposite is false."

be true if the opposite is false. Right only exists if there is a wrong, and vice versa. If truth is relative, then the assertion that truth is relative is at best, relatively true, and cannot be trusted. Proverbs 1:7 says, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction." Even our relativistic culture understands this. When terrorist attacks happen or when crimes are committed we want justice; we want a wrong to be righted. When tragic events like the tornado in Ohio happen, we don't want relatively true answers, we want experts in meteorology to tell us what is really happening and give instruction, and we want the experts to help make forecasting disasters more effective - human lives depend on it. As tragic as the disaster in Ohio is in the taking of physical life, there is a more violent storm and loss

one else knows death as He does, and His expertise on this life and His power to save us from death has been given to us freely in His work and word. True Wisdom is not an idea, an opinion or an intellectual assent. Wisdom is a Person, and it is only through a relationship with that Person, that we are able to live this life positively. 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 says it this way, "For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to those who are being saved it is the power of God. Remember God said, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.""

"Only fools are positive?" Then count me as the most foolish of them all! Nothing is more sure, and nothing more positive than faith in Jesus Christ.

Email Pastor Jay pastor@stjohnses.com •



Metro Briefs

SOUTH BAY

Join In "Dump The Pump Day" June 20

Now in its eighth year, National Dump the Pump Day encourages people to ride public transportation and save money, instead of driving a car. In LA taking public transit could mean saving as much as \$10,000 annually instead of paying for gas and parking. Find out how at metro.net and plan to take public transit on Thursday, June 20.

New Metro Bus Schedules June 23

More frequent mid-day service on the Metro Orange Line is one of the changes Metro is making in its bus service to improve efficiency and effectiveness starting June 23. For complete details on the service changes, visit metro.net. Revised timetables will be available online or on buses starting in June.

Metro's Sustainability Efforts Honored

Metro is the first and only recipient of the American Public Transportation Association's Sustainability Commitment Platinum Recognition. Cited were Metro's efforts in reducing energy and water use, as well as reducing harmful air pollutant emissions in its facilities and buses.

ExpressLanes Users Keep Growing

The number of Metro ExpressLanes transponders sold recently hit 150,000 and continues to grow. Join the motorists who are saving time in traffic on the I-10 and I-110 freeways. All vehicles except motorcycles need a FasTrak® account and transponder to use the lanes. To get yours, visit metro.net/expresslanes.

Lane Opens In Sepulveda Pass

Marking a milestone for the I-405 Sepulveda Pass Improvements Project, Metro has opened a segment of a northbound lane to traffic between the I-10 and Santa Monica Boulevard. Additional lane segments are scheduled to open this summer. Check metro.net/405 for the latest information on project updates and construction schedules.



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

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Politically Speaking

One Man's Opinion

By Gerry Chong

We've reached a milestone! Thanks to the graciousness of *Herald Publications*, we've completed the first 200 episodes of that never-ending drama "The Reign of Obama." It's a story that never seems to end, but needs to be told over and over again because no one should lose track of the significance of his presidency.

Until his election, I had never written a column before and had quietly slumbered into my retirement from "real work." I had never suspected that a president could so disrespect the Constitution and the law. To this point, government had acted as a referee of private sector conduct because

"But one day in 2009, the President crossed a wide, bright, red line separating the public sector from the private sector."

greedy men might bend the law to suit their needs. But one day in 2009, the President crossed a wide, bright, red line separating the public sector from the private sector. The President of the United States had used his power to seize ownership of one of the iconic names in American business, General Motors! He used the bankruptcy courts to scrub out the interests of stockholders and bondholders; installed his own management team; dismissed hundreds of small businesses acting as GM dealerships; and handed 17 percent of the company ownership to its unions. The government, in a coup, moved from being a referee in the game to being a major player. Imagine if the NFL had bought the San Francisco 49ers and challenged the other teams in the league to compete against the league's own team! Silently, businesses observed and reduced domestic employment.

And so Obama woke me from my slumber and I began the first of now 200 columns. As time went on, each day brought a gasp that the country had never operated this way before. In the modern era, prior presidents had respected the Constitution role of Congress, issuing only 126 presidential edicts. By contrast, Obama, with no respect for Congress, bypassed that body 926 times!

Before the passage of the Affordable Care Act, 80 percent of Americans carried health insurance and 75 percent were satisfied with their plan. But Obama knew better than his constituents, so he had Democrats use the most distasteful tactics this side of Tammany Hall to pass Obamacare. This originally 2,700-page monster has morphed into a 15,000 page litany of rules, regulations, bureaucracies and confusions that will affect every American. Like anything that size, it has some good and some bad points, but no one knows how the bill will affect them. One bill sponsor

now calls implementation of the bill a "train wreck" and therefore vowed not to run for reelection. Another sponsor has called the bill "incomprehensible."

The bill has never received public support, so it is not surprising the latest Fox News poll shows people oppose the bill by 54-32--a whopping 22-point loser.

These were the major stories of the first Obama years, but throughout the theme has been irresponsible spending and debt growth. The national debt under Obama has exploded from \$10.6 trillion to \$16.8 trillion, but will grow to \$23 trillion by 2023 under his plan.

We are told this is an economy in recovery, but the economy is growing only at the rate

of inflation. As the "spreadin' the wealth around" president, he hasn't been so hot. The Pew Research Center, quoting statistics from the Census Bureau, says that since 2009, the net worth of the richest seven percent grew by 28 percent, but the worth of the remaining 93 percent fell by an average of four percent...and under Obama, wealth has been more densely concentrated than ever before. According to Pew, the wealth held by the top seven percent grew from 56 percent to 63 percent of the nation's wealth. What, is he a Republican?

It's going to be a sad day for writers three-and-a-half years from now when he steps down because the President's foolishness and foibles keep us all employed. His exploits include everything from the "Fast 'N Furious I" Mexican gun running to "Fast N Furious II" where we attempt to buy Stinger missiles back from our enemy Al Qaeda, only to have them assassinate four Americans...and from State Department denial of security for our ambassador to a fictional tale for public consumption.

From the IRS spying on Conservatives; to Department of Justice spying on ABC News and Fox News; to President Obama asking Attorney General Holder to investigate himself; to the incredible story of EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson creating a fake persona with which to send out emails so that if her records were subpoenaed, she would not have to release her fake person emails for public scrutiny. We expect Inspector Clousseau and the Keystone Kops to make an appearance any time now.

Writing about this President has given me column fodder for years and I hope beyond. Keep it up, Mr. President. We columnists need you. Sometimes you make us laugh and sometimes you make us cry. Sometimes, both at the same time... •

Another Man's Opinion

Gun Control is Public Safety Issue; Not an Attempt to Take Away Guns

By Cristian Vasquez

The gun control debate seems to not be going away and the issue is only becoming more and more contentious. Recently the State Assembly passed AB 500, introduced by Tom Ammiano (San Francisco), which requires gun owners to safely store their firearms when living with someone who is prohibited from owning a firearm due to mental illness or because of a prior criminal record. There are other elements to the bill, such as allowing for a seven-day extension on the current 10-day waiting period to purchase weapons if more time is needed for the background check. However, the storage element of the bill is of much interest because some people who oppose the bill label it an attack on the right to bear arms. Republican Assemblyman Tim Donnelly called the bill's intent un-American.

Looking past party rhetoric, the truth is there is absolutely nothing wrong with imposing rules and fines on gun owners who live with

There are rules that corporations must follow to stay in business. There are rules that citizens must obey in order to ensure public safety. This storage requirement is simply another step to make sure that firearms don't land in the hands of dangerous people. It is true that criminals will find ways to obtain weapons and ignore any type of gun restrictions. Yet, if you are a responsible gun owner, why not make access to a gun more difficult for someone who should not have one?

Having a law in place that dictates proper storage for a firearm is in no way a restriction on gun ownership and it will not lead to the government taking away your guns. Truth is, there is not a big government conspiracy to strip law-abiding Americans from their firearms. There is no organized effort by Democrats to confiscate every gun from every home in America. These are simply rules and guidelines set to ensure everyone's safety and to hold irresponsible gun owners accountable if they

"It is simply a rule to ensure that gun owners are being responsible with the storage of their weapons by setting guidelines that will restrict access of such weapons to people who have lost that right."

people who are not allowed to own guns. It is not a law to take away anybody's gun. It is simply a rule to ensure that gun owners are being responsible with the storage of their weapons by setting guidelines that will restrict access of such weapons to people who have lost that right. Furthermore, it is almost impossible to deny that law-abiding gun owners are very responsible and careful with their weapons. So why the outcry with a law that indicates what appropriate steps need to be taken to store a firearm? We have rules and guidelines for every aspect of our lives for many reasons and one of those reasons is to try to ensure that people are accountable for their actions.

fail to keep weapons away from the wrong hands. Unfortunately, the issue of access to guns is addressed by anti-gun control groups through rhetoric and they chose to ignore real-world situations. The right to own a gun is not absolute and the rules to gun ownership are not a detriment to one's ability to own a gun. We need a license to drive just like we must be 21 years of age to consume alcohol, yet we cannot combine these two activities without expecting to not get into trouble when caught. Gun laws are not taking away anyone's firearms. They are simply trying to eliminate the risk of the general population suffering because of somebody else's irresponsible behavior. •



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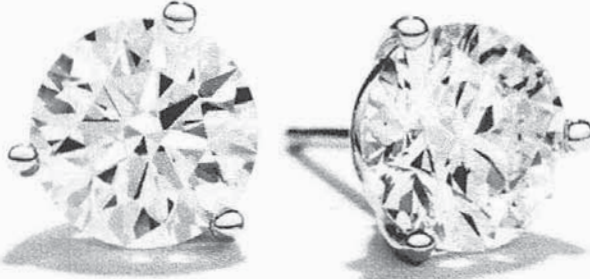
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Sports

Critical Off-Season in L.A.

By Adam Serrao

As all of Los Angeles looks on and watches the likes of LeBron James and Tim Duncan chase championships, the basketball buzz surrounding the city remains focused on the possibility of losing players rather than gaining them. With free agency in the NBA starting in less than one month, team owners everywhere are dreaming of ways to attract franchise players to their cities so that they too can chase championships come June. Two of the biggest names in this year's free

"The basketball buzz surrounding the city remains focused on the possibility of losing players rather than gaining them."

agent class happen to reside right here in Los Angeles. Both Dwight Howard and Chris Paul have begun the process of deciding where they will play next year. While both players would receive more money if they signed max contracts with their current teams, there is ever-increasing speculation that the Staples Center might be void of some of the best talent in the league at the start of next season.

As the healing process continues for the Lakers and the team tries to put the pieces back together from what was an ultimately disastrous season, Howard's decision looms large on the minds of all front office personnel, Lakers players and fans alike. What was thought to have been the worst case scenario a year ago when the Lakers traded for Howard is now coming closer and closer to being a reality. What if Dwight Howard does walk away from the Lakers? No Andrew Bynum, no Howard and a team that will then be relying on only Pau Gasol to front some of the biggest bodies in the league on a night-in and night-out basis. "I know in my heart that this is a place where I think he should be," Lakers GM Mitch Kupchak said. "We have a great legacy, great history of great players in this city dating back to when the franchise came here in 1960, and he certainly fits the mold." Well, it's not 1960 anymore and if you can take one thing away from Howard's personality dating back to his time spent with the Orlando Magic, it's that he wants to create his own legacy--not be part of someone else's. For that reason alone, a city like Houston may just have the best chance of signing Howard.

If you were Dwight Howard, would you want to stay in Los Angeles? The ever-increasing pressure of a championship or bust. Playing alongside an aging and injured Kobe Bryant. A head coach (D'Antoni) that you don't like. The only thing good about his decision to stay here in L.A. would be that he could make more money than anywhere else over

the next five years. The Lakers would be able to offer Howard a five-year deal worth \$118 million while other teams will only have enough cap space to offer him four years at around \$85 million. Houston, however, is a city in a state that has no income tax, so Howard, in all actuality, won't be taking such a hard hit in the wallet if he winds up signing there for one fewer year. The expectations in Houston are far less than what they will be here in Los Angeles. That will make it much easier for Howard to come to work

every day. Add in a head coach in Kevin McHale that Howard will likely respect and a roster filled with players like all-star James Harden, sharp-shooter Chandler Parsons, and young stars Jeremy Lin and Omer Asik, and it's clear to see that Houston is much more desirable than first perceived.

In less than one year's time, Chris Paul has made a name for himself here in Los Angeles and most NBA experts might say that it is difficult to envision him joining any other team but the Clippers. Not so fast, however. Paul has recently become upset about the widespread rumor running around the league that he got head coach Vinny Del Negro fired. Paul vehemently denies the accusation, but whether it was actually Paul's call or not, a source close to the situation was quoted as saying, "Chris is a man of principle and if he feels like you've gone against his principles, it will affect how he feels about you. He's very agitated that his name has been put out there as the reason for Vinny's firing." Could that agitation lead to him changing jerseys next season? Clipper fans certainly hope not, but one thing is for sure--there will be a variety of different suitors begging for his services. Mark Cuban is always ready to spend the money for another superstar in Dallas, while Atlanta--one of Paul's favorite cities in the country--will have the cap space to not only sign him, but Howard as well.

The bidding war for these two superstars won't begin until July 1 when free agency opens up. While it should certainly be entertaining to see where they land, imagining what the Los Angeles basketball scene would be like without them seems to be quite a lackluster picture. In the end, as we all know, both players are going to do what makes them happy and probably join the team that gives them the best opportunity at winning now. If Los Angeles is not that destination, this city will have a long way to go to rebuild its previously sparkling basketball town reputation. •

Up and Adam

By Adam Serrao

While the South High Spartans were making their way to the top of the Pioneer League baseball standings, the school's volleyball team put together a great run under head coach Kevin McElwee as well. The Spartans' baseball team wound up in a tie for first place in their league standings and eventually made it as far as to the second round of this year's playoffs. McElwee's volleyball team, on the other hand, took second place outright in the division with some key victories and accomplishments along the way in what wound up being a very successful season for the school.

The Spartans were one of only two successful teams in their division this season, as the other was the first place El Segundo Eagles who finished atop the division standings. The Spartans played the Eagles twice this year, suffering their only two league losses of the season. In the first match between the two clubs back in mid-April, the Spartans mounted a come-from-behind effort to take the Eagles to a fifth set after going down 0-2. Unfortunately for McElwee and his club, they would lose by a slim 15-13 margin in the fifth set. The second matchup between the two schools wasn't as close as the first. El Segundo finished the Spartans off quickly, beating them 3-1 to take the match and the season series from South. Those two losses aside, however, the Spartans were able to maintain a winning mentality, sweeping two-game sets from Centennial, North and Torrance High in order to maintain a 6-2 league record that would ultimately get the team into the playoffs.

Once in the playoffs, the Spartans kept their momentum rolling as they took on and defeated St. Joseph in the first round. The match wasn't close, as South jumped out to a 25-14 first set victory, a 25-15 second set victory and a 25-18 third set victory to sweep all three sets and take the match. South would advance to take on a much more formidable foe in the second round when they were matched up with the Laguna Beach Breakers. Beach city schools are often known for an influx of volleyball talent and this one was no different. The Breakers dismantled the Spartans in the second round of the playoffs, winning in three straight sets to send McElwee and his club packing for the year. The Spartans, however, finished with a 16-12 record on the year and more importantly dominated in league play to advance to the playoffs. McElwee will look to improve on the team's performance further in order to be even more successful next season.

North High

The Saxons' volleyball season wasn't as successful as the Spartans', finishing with a 4-9 record and taking fourth place in the Pioneer League standings while missing out on the playoffs this year. The baseball team was a little bit more successful, reaching the playoffs but being ousted in the first round by La Habra with a 9-2 loss. While those two teams may have struggled, there remains one sport at North High that always stands out above all the rest: wrestling. Jordan Gurrola is the man that fit the bill this year, earning 2013 All-Area honors. Gurrola, a senior at North High this year, posted a 52-5 record this season while wrestling in his third state championship, placing fourth in his weight class at 120 pounds. Gurrola also placed third in this year's CIF Northern Division Tournament and won the CIF Masters Tournament outright. Gurrola did well to extend a long lineage of excellent wrestlers at North that at one time also included his two brothers, Brett and Garrett, who both also wrestled for North and competed at the state championships. The Saxons keep pumping out wrestling talent year after year and fans can likely expect more of the same next season.

West High

The West High Warriors ended their baseball season by making a run at third place in the Bay league standings and advancing to the playoffs where they lost in the first round to the Diamond Bar Brahmas. The Volleyball team, however, wasn't as lucky. In a tough Bay League division that featured the likes of Mira Costa and Palos Verdes (who finished first and second in the league respectively), the Warriors went 1-3 in league play--losing twice this season to Mira Costa. Though West wasn't tremendously successful this season, the team did come away with a key victory against the second place Palos Verdes Sea Kings. The Warriors took down the second place club in their division 3-2 in a win that head coach Tom Shortridge hopes can give the team optimism heading into next season.

Torrance High

The Torrance Tartars' volleyball team didn't experience much more success than the Warriors. With two straight losses to the South High Spartans in league play, Torrance was forced to finish in third place and out of playoff contention for the season. Among the highlights of the season was a two-game series sweep against Culver City and a victory at the end the year versus Oxnard. Head coach Nathan Jones will hope to carry that victory over into next year for added success and possibly even a playoff push. •

School Board

from front page

"Kids are learning not only in class, but outside of class," said Mabery.

The Board also recognized 17 middle school girls for being sponsored to take part in the American Association of University Women's (AAUW) Tech Trek Science & Math Camp for Girls. AAUW Representative Pam Kenoyer explained that since 1999, the AAUW has been working on exposing young women to related STEM fields.

"Tech Trek seeks to encourage a diverse group of young women to take math and science courses throughout high school, motivate students to attend college and inspire young women to get into STEM careers," said Kenoyer. "Science, math and technology are major fields where women are presently underrepresented, but fields where they can and do succeed."

In order to get these young women interested in STEM fields, they attend summer camp on campus at UC Santa Barbara and UC

San Diego where they will be trying hands-on experiments in the fields of physics, geology, biology, forensics, anatomy, robotics and more. While they are on campus, they will also get to meet women in working in STEM fields.

"The goal of Tech Trek is to provide a fun, yet educational experience that will expand the minds of the middle school-aged girls that attend," said Kenoyer. "[It will] allow them to live on a college campus, get acquainted with other girls who think math and science are fun, and meet female role models in math, science, technology and other non-traditional careers."

In order to send the girls to this enriching summer camp, the AAUW worked with the business community and past Tech Trek participants and their families to sponsor these students. The organization raised \$14,450 in donations from the Keck Foundation, Symantec Corporation, Northrop Grumman,

See School Board, page 9

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TerriAnn in Torrance

What's in a Name?

By TerriAnn Ferren

What's in a name? All of us have a name we were given at birth that we carry all our lives and becomes part of who we are. Names are important. It has always puzzled me how many cities, countries and places have their names changed depending upon world events. For example: Persia to Iran, Siam to Thailand, Peking to Beijing (although I am told that is due to a translation issue), Celon to Sri Lanka, Tanganyika to Zanzibar which later merged to form Tanzania. Then you have Yugoslavia, which now is all sorts of other countries, not to mention Cape Canaveral to Cape Kennedy and then back again to Cape Canaveral. But some name changes are important enough to prompt a Dedication Ceremony. One such event happened last Thursday, May 23 in Torrance at the east entrance of the city near Western Avenue.

The City of Torrance has named buildings and parks before, but this time the naming has been elevated to Historic Landmark proportions. From now on the "Torrance

Bridge" is formally named the *Pacific Electric Railway El Prado Bridge* and is one of 67 historic sites located all over California. Irving Gill, hired as chief architect by Jared Sidney Torrance, designed this bridge in 1913 to last. To prepare the bridge for its 100th birthday, the ivy was pulled from its skin and repairs ensued complete with a new railing on top of the bridge. Truly this bridge is very special as we drive through its arches in and out of the city's eastern gate. (See *Torrance Tribune* February 3, 2011 - *The Torrance Bridge*).

Why was this particular name (the *Pacific Electric Railway El Prado Bridge*) chosen? *The Southern Pacific Electric Company* ran its trains over the bridge and El Prado was the original name of the street where cars drove through the arches before the street became Torrance Boulevard. Combining the two historic points created our new name. The street of El Prado still runs through Torrance in our historic downtown district not far from the bridge.

To celebrate this most exciting event, a

Dedication Ceremony was planned in the parking lot of *Torrance Center South* which 20 years ago was the exact location of the ceremony that marked the deeding of the bridge to the City of Torrance. Parking my car and walking toward the site of the event, I was struck by the sheer beauty of the cleaned, repaired, majestic 100-year-old bridge framed by tall, fragrant eucalyptus trees. What a beautiful architectural masterpiece! As I approached, I noticed former Councilmember and current El Camino Board of Trustee Maureen O'Donnell and asked what she thought about this most special occasion. She said, "I am so delighted to see the restoration of the bridge. I remember it from the time I was a young girl coming into Torrance. This was the welcoming--the bridge. You knew you were in Torrance... Really just a wonderful monument to the people of this community, to the builders, to the architects, to the developers, and certainly to Jared Sidney Torrance himself."

Councilmember Susan Rhilinger

behind its design and construction. I think it's a marvelous thing and I am very happy to be here." You are right, Councilman. It is indeed special to be here for this event.

Assistant to the City Manager Brian Sunshine said, "This is fantastic. It's kind of interesting. The spot we're in 20 years ago when the bridge was deeded to the city, we had a ceremony here and I was actually part of the group that put that together. So to be invited back and see the rededication of the bridge and see the current condition where it has been rehabbed is just beautiful."

The day was picture postcard perfect, even with our daily dose of wind whipping the branches of the trees back and forth. Councilmember Tom Brewer greeted the citizens as he took the microphone to begin the event. Dignitaries, officials, City employees, *The Torrance Historical Society* and the *Southern California Live Steamers* were all in attendance for the official naming of the "Torrance Bridge" proclamations--and congratulatory certificates were presented



The now dedicated Pacific Electric Railway El Prado Bridge.



Mayor Frank Scotto with the plaque.

commented, "I think this bridge looks like it's aged, but now we can see it clearly and hopefully we'll take good care of it and no graffiti on it. I think we need to do something about the railing along the top though. Now you can see the studs and all." As more people arrived, I caught up with Councilmember Gene Barnett, who told me, "Well, I think it's a rare opportunity that we have here in the city of Torrance to have a wonderful landmark like this on the centennial of the existence of that bridge and the history

from representatives of the politicians who serve the area.

Then Mayor Frank Scotto was introduced, took the microphone and said, "On Tuesday, May 7, we officially named our historic bridge. This bridge has become somewhat of an icon for Torrance as you look at things that we print or make. It seems to be on virtually everything we do... Today is a celebration of us officially naming the bridge *Pacific Electric Railway El Prado Bridge*." Mayor
See TerriAnn, page 11

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Just got some eggplants in and decided to make some ratatouille. This dish is great both hot and cold and can be used so many different ways that it should be a staple in your arsenal of recipes. Just to list a few uses: Serve cold with assorted cheese, sliced sausages and some crusty bread; Use as a pasta sauce; seared Ahi tuna ratatouille and some feta for an appetizer or salad entrée; serve warm with scrambled eggs topped with mozzarella; goes great with grilled lamb, chicken or seafood; A topping for bruschetta; the sauce for a pizza; add a little chicken broth and some cream and it will make a wonderful roasted eggplant bisque, etc. Let your mind wonder.

The Chef




Ratatouille



- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 6 cloves garlic, chopped
- 1 cup onions, diced
- 1 cup carrots, diced
- 3 cups eggplant, diced
- 1 15 oz. diced canned tomatoes
- 6 to 8 fresh basil leaves, chopped
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon pepper
- 1 teaspoon ground bay leaf
- 1 teaspoon ground fennel
- 1 teaspoon crushed chilies optional
- 1 to 2 cups chicken broth

In a hot sauce pan brown off the garlic and onions to a golden brown. Add the carrots and eggplant and cook for 3 minutes. Add all spices and herbs and tomatoes with juice and 1 cup broth. Then cook on low heat for 15 minutes, stirring occasionally. If it gets to dry add more broth. Check your seasoning and serve. Have fun cooking and dining. •

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Old Town Music Hall

from page 3

group of folks have a lot of energy and passion about our little El Segundo gem and have come together to help Bill give the theater some new life," she said. "I can't even begin to describe the feeling one has sitting in that theater singing along to some cool old tunes,

watching a silent movie while Bill plays the Wurlitzer organ---actually forgetting that you are watching a silent movie--and then watching a classic movie. I was smiling the whole time, sitting there imagining what it must have been like back in the day. One

of the surprises for me personally was that I did not realize that there were concerts taking place there as well as movies *with* sound! That's how little I knew. I felt bad about that, having lived and worked here for so many years, but I just did not know--or

a little bit. "Every presidential year is lousy for patronage—I can look at it all the way back to the beginning," he said. "We just had a Charlie Chaplin showing and his films had been unavailable to us for many years. With the Chaplin film, we had a very good weekend."



The lobby at Old Town Music Hall captures the spirit of the 1920s.



The Mighty Wurlitzer Theater Pipe Organ is the centerpiece of the theater, with more than 2,600 pipes and instruments colorfully on display.



Two concert grand pianos bookend the keyboard console of the 1925 Mighty Wurlitzer Theater Pipe Organ on stage at Old Town Music Hall.



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completely appreciate--what the theater offers."

Moll pointed out that Old Town Music Hall boasts a mailing list of nearly 10,000 people with surprisingly very few from El Segundo. "I don't understand it--there's this cultural gem here and why aren't more people in El Segundo discovering it? One sure thing on our to-do list is outreach to residents of El Segundo."

Though the number of patrons could stand some improvement, the theater's rent situation is now stable after Coffman and Field came close to moving to Torrance in 2000 due to prohibitive increases proposed at the time that have since been resolved. Field, who has been playing the same Mighty Wurlitzer for the last 54 years and plans to continue doing so for as long as he can, hopes business will pick up

Field added that he has noticed some upswing lately, as recent patrons have mentioned seeing a feature on Channel 9 and finding out about the theater on the website for the first time. "I know they're working hard and I appreciate all their efforts," he said of the advisory board.

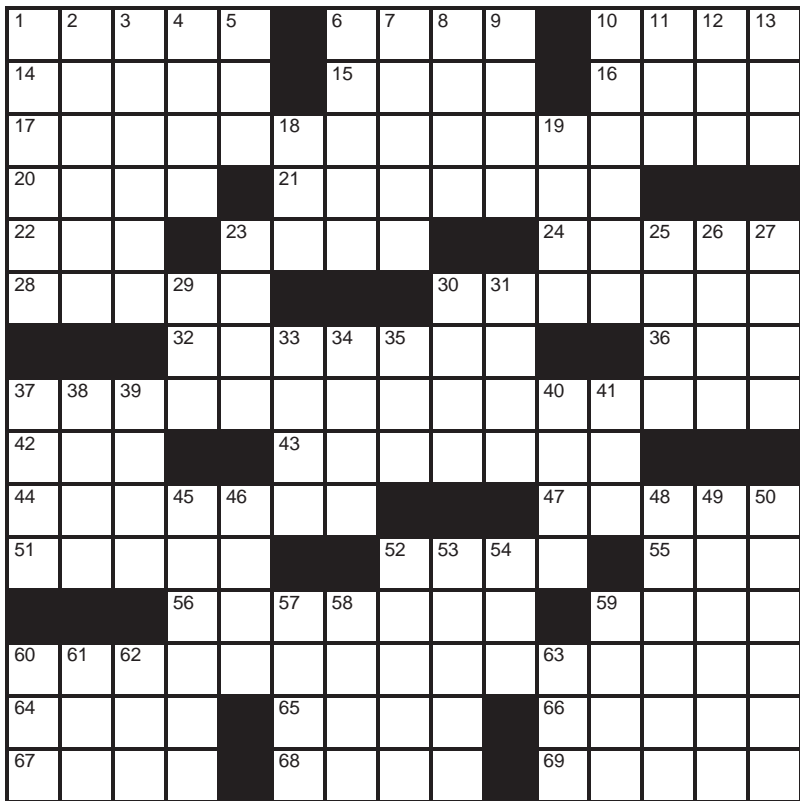
Realizing that ticket prices alone can't sustain the business, Moll and company are now looking for corporate sponsorships and have set up a donations link on the theater website. Several fundraisers are also in the works, including a 45th anniversary celebration at the end of the year. Most recently, a benefit concert for Old Town Music Hall took place there on May 4-5 featuring four pianists and acclaimed singer Janet Klein. "The support

See Old Town Music Hall, page 10



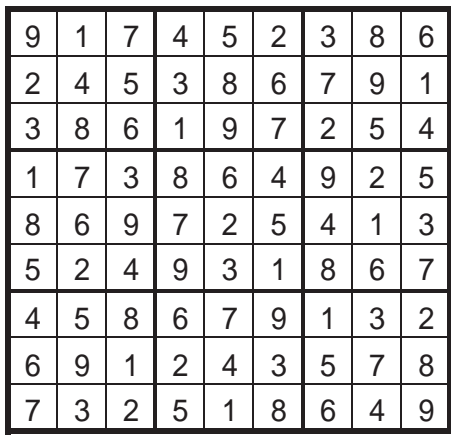
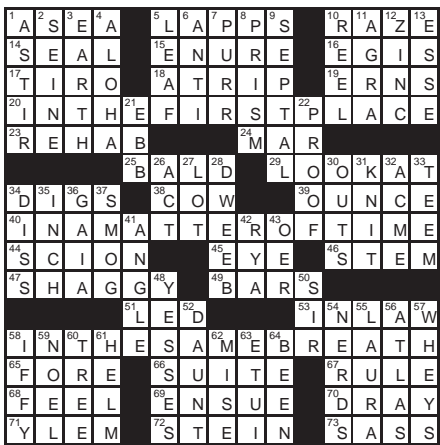
Advisory Board: (Left to Right) Lara Scott, Kimberly Lee, Bill Field (seated), James Moll, Amanda Toney, Rich Botto, Tracey La Monica, Robert Chambers Pullman (Lily Craig not pictured).
Photos by DonHoltz.com.

WEEKLY CROSSWORD See Answers Next Week
In Addition

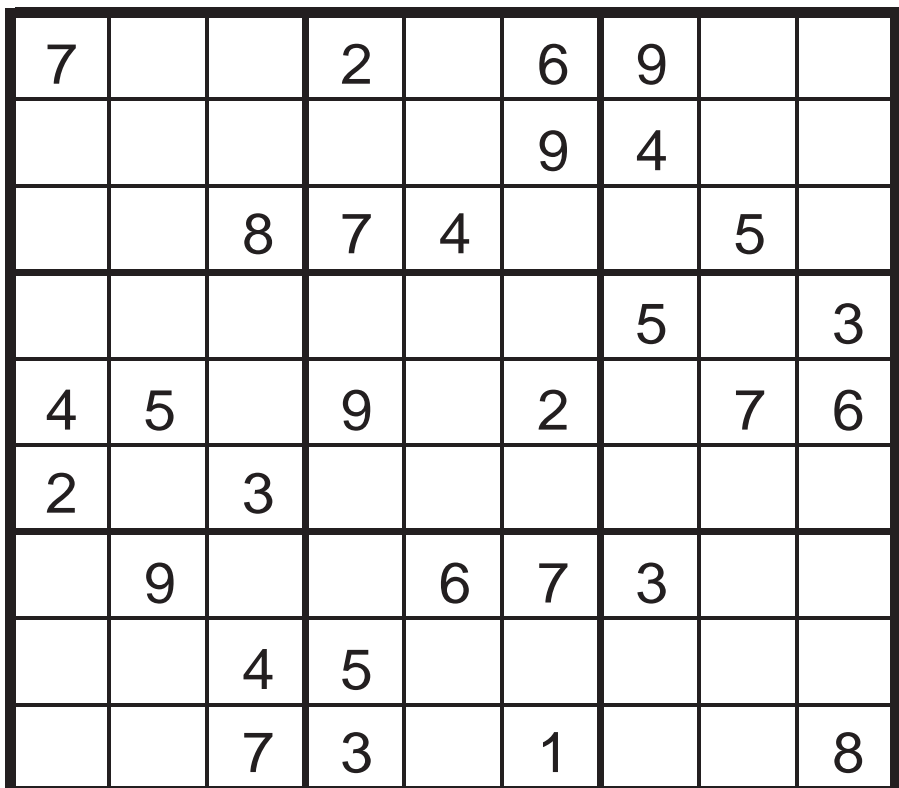


- Across**
- 1. Approval
 - 6. Clink
 - 10. Shoot
 - 14. Escalator feature
 - 15. River in Italy
 - 16. Yawl call
 - 17. Aging devil dog?
 - 20. Debut of March 3, 1923
 - 21. It can be criminal
 - 22. King topper
 - 23. Kind of job
 - 24. "Forget it!"
 - 28. Hawaiian island
 - 30. Garden-variety
 - 32. Ancient Roman coins
 - 36. ___ in (eat)
 - 37. Took a break to work on furniture?
 - 42. Theater sound
 - 43. Some art
 - 44. Baton wielder
 - 47. Orbital point
 - 51. Absolute
 - 52. Dateless
 - 55. Grp. concerned with defense
 - 56. IRS employee
- Down**
- 1. Pertaining to Ohio, e.g.
 - 2. It's used to treat bruises
 - 3. Servant
 - 4. Circular announcement
 - 5. Anomalous
 - 6. Biblical Assyrian king
 - 7. Saw
 - 8. Tranquil scene
 - 9. Weak
 - 10. Tailor
 - 11. Key letter
 - 12. Long stretch
 - 13. River in Wales
 - 18. African grazer
 - 19. Teen spots
 - 23. Bank holding
 - 25. Dry riverbed
 - 26. Opposed to, in dialect
 - 27. Safecracker
 - 29. Bustle
 - 30. "___ it the truth!"
 - 31. II x IV
 - 33. Literary adverb
 - 34. Big top?
 - 35. Earth Summit site
 - 37. Schools of thought
 - 38. Literally, "king"
 - 39. Butter
 - 40. Destroy disk data
 - 41. Accident
 - 45. Medium meeting?
 - 46. Align
 - 48. Zen enlightenment
 - 49. Spain and Portugal
 - 50. Tom of fiction
 - 52. Brown ermine
 - 53. They may have abs of stone
 - 54. Elbow's site
 - 57. Time to act
 - 58. Like some rumors
 - 59. Have the lead
 - 60. Signal
 - 61. Hart Trophy winner, 1970-72
 - 62. "Rocky ___"

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.

Classifieds

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Upright Piano and bench - Ludwig of New York. Good condition \$300. Call (310) 322-7978.

GARAGE SALE

303 Center St. ES. Sat. 6/08, 8 a.m. Moving Sale! Large variety, household items, collectibles, depression glass, books, furniture, kitchen items.

903 Cedar St. ES. Sat., 6/08, 8 a.m. Household items, art, electronics, collectibles, garden items, furniture, jewelry, women's & men's clothing & accessories. Great prices!

780 West Palm Ave. ES. Sat., 6/08, 7 a.m. to 12 p.m. No Early Birds. Moving Sale! Furniture, clothes, collectibles, DVD's, Pictures, linens, china & books.

711 W. Sycamore Ave. Sat., 6/08, 7 am - 11 am. Fashion women's clothes, furniture, twin bed, bedding, books, suitcases, Lots of great stuff!

111 Main Street. ES. Sat., 6/08, 8 am - 1 pm. Uniform company moving sale. New samples, shirts, pants, aprons, belts, sweaters, fabric, furniture.

HOUSE FOR LEASE

3BD/2BA. Vintage Home, ES. Small office, new lawns, private garden. No garage, driveway parking. 501 Kansas St. \$3200/mo., 1 mo. deposit. (310) 567-9810 and (530) 721-1448.

HOUSE FOR RENT

3-4BD/2.5BA. ES. Executive Eastside. Enclosed patio + bonus room. \$3950/mo. Discount for long term. (310) 345-8013.

3BD/3BA. ES. with 2 car garage. Available July 1st. for \$2,995. Call (310) 322-0000.

4BD/3BA. ES. Close to beach, schools, freeways. \$3500/mo. + \$3500 deposit. Available 7/01. View after 6/15. Call (702) 413-7937 or (702) 336-3986.

OFFICE SPACE FOR LEASE

Office/Retail space available on Main Street 1800 sq.ft. \$1.85 per square foot NNN. Call (310) 322-0000.

To appear in next week's paper, submit your Classified Ad by Noon on Tuesday.

School Board

from page 5

MOOG Inc., Alcoa Inc. and other business and private families.

"We couldn't do it without the support of the Torrance community," said Kenoyer. "They are absolutely fabulous. Between the businesses and personal donations, we actually had a couple of donations this year from Tech Trek Alumni. The parents feel the program was such a benefit to their daughters that they are giving back."

Lastly, the Board heard an unusual budget update. Typically around this time of year, the District is incorporating the updated State budget--the so-called May Revise--into its own budget to get a clearer look at the financial future. However, this year was what Deputy Superintendent of Administrative

Services Donald Stabler called "one of the strangest budget years ever" with four competing education funding formulas vying for acceptance. Because of the uncertainty and the regulations of the Los Angeles County Department of Education not entirely meshing with the probable future outcome of the final State budget, the updated document presented to the Board held, in Superintendent George Mannon's opinion, "no resemblance to reality"--although it did touch upon the District's plan to reduce class size by two students per class in all grade levels. It did not include any raises for teachers, although the District is still pursuing salary increases. Stabler said a more complete budget (which would incorporate salary increases) will be presented in late July. •



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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.

May 25

Burglary-Residential: 3600 BLOCK REDONDO BEACH BLVD Suspect(s) cuts lock securing exterior garage door, pries open interior door for entry to residence, ransacks and takes property/game systems, cash, jewelry.

Battery -Simple: 20300 BLOCK HAWTHORNE BLVD Suspect grabs victim's arm, causing his ribs to strike the counter.

Burglary-Residential: 2100 BLOCK JOHNSON CT Suspect(s) knocks on victim's front door, proceeds to rear yard when no one answers and flees when confronted by homeowner/no entry, no loss.

Theft: 1400 BLOCK MARCELINA AVE Suspect(s) takes property from victim's unattended purse/cell phone.

Theft: 3700 BLOCK LOMITA BLVD Suspect(s) takes property from open office/purse, laptop.

Burglary-Commercial: 2500 BLOCK TORRANCE BLVD Suspect(s) pries open door for entry, disables alarm, unknown property loss at time of report.

May 24

Auto Theft-All: 17700 BLOCK WESTERN AVE Stolen vehicle: '94 Honda Civic.

Theft: 5000 BLOCK 190TH ST Suspect(s) takes property victim inadvertently forgets/purse.

Theft: 3500 BLOCK CARSON ST Suspect(s) defeats lock and takes property

from locker/wallet, keys.

Burglary-Auto: 17400 BLOCK CRENSHAW BLVD Suspect(s) punches door lock, but fails to make entry/no loss.

Theft: 1600 BLOCK CRAVENS AVE Suspect(s) takes property from rear room of open business after requesting to use the restroom/ purse.

Theft: 2500 BLOCK REDONDO BEACH BLVD Suspect(s) takes victim's unattended property/ purse.

Theft: 18900 BLOCK WILTON PL Suspect telephones victim eliciting her assistance in a bank branch "security issue", requesting she withdraw cash and deliver it to his "associate", waiting at a restaurant at Torrance/Hawthorne - victim complies/cash.

Burglary-Residential: 2600 BLOCK CABRILLO AVE Suspect(s) pries/ smashes window, but fails to make entry/no loss.

Burglary-Residential: 25600 BLOCK FALLENLEAF DR Suspect(s) pries open door for entry, ransacks and takes property/jewelry.

May 23

Theft: 22800 BLOCK ARLINGTON AVE Suspect(s) takes property off of victim's parked vehicle/wheels, tires.

Auto Theft-All: 1700 BLOCK CABRILLO AVE Stolen vehicle: '92 Toyota Tacoma.

Theft: 3600 BLOCK PACIFIC COAST HWY Suspect(s) takes property from victim's purse as she shops/wallet.

Burglary-Residential: 1800 BLOCK 178TH ST Suspect(s) cuts screen, smashes sliding glass door for entry, ransacks and takes unknown property at time of report.

Burglary-Auto: 17300 BLOCK ATKINSON AVE Suspect(s) smashes vehicles' windows for entry and takes property/jacket, cash, manual, cigarettes, GPS, credit cards, earthquake kit, CDs, sunglasses, duffel.

May 22

Robbery Strong-Arm: CALLE MAYOR & ANZA AVE Suspect simulates handgun and demands/takes victim's property/backpack.

Theft: 1000 BLOCK CRENSHAW BLVD Suspect(s) takes property from victim's purse located in a desk drawer in her workplace office/credit card. •

Center

from front page

counseling and rehab soon became a crucial element to the center's resources.

"The center is about people learning ways to remain independent and for them to do as much as a person can for themselves despite being partially sighted," Nelms said. "Our optometrists are different in that they have lots of training and experience in low vision, so they can look at any visual problem and figure out what type of glasses or devices might make a person's vision better in order for the person to carry out their daily functions."

CPS also provides services and resources for younger patients, including kids. Optometrists will analyze methods and tools such electronic devices that can be used to allow younger individuals to remain working or to go back to work.

"We have a couple of doctors who specialize in pediatrics and we have a pediatric clinic," Nelms said. "Three of our sites have the capability to look at children who have visual problems, whether they are born blind or not. The doctors will see them and make recommendations, which also include glasses and gadgets that can help, especially for school-age children."

The center also works with the California Department of Rehabilitation for people who have visual impairments and are going to school, looking to become employed or need services to become employed. There is a low-vision evaluation to look at assisted technology that might be helpful to the client and recommendations are then made that might be useful to the California Department of Rehabilitation. The counseling team at CPS consists of two counselors in the Culver City office and one in the Tarzana office. Two of the three counselors will conduct over-the-

phone, one-on-one counseling sessions mainly because most of these patients do not have the transportation to get to the office. Other patients live too far from any of the counseling locations.

"They [patients] are looking for adjustments to being partially sighted, how to cope with these losses, as well as how to deal with the family's perception of the patient and how the family copes with one's visual loss," Nelms said. "It is mostly individual counseling, but there is some joint counseling available to help the family cope and understand what is going on. A lot of times families do tend to be overprotective, but some families do feel like they [patient] are just faking it. Especially looking at the elder population and macular degeneration, you see people losing central sight but not losing peripheral vision--so they can see a lot, but there is a lot more that they can't see. They can't see small details and some of it is being able to help the family adjust and realize what is going on with this loss of sight."

Nelms continued, "A lot of it has to do with personal coping skills and how you are and how you do things. Some people look at vision loss as a minor inconvenience. They know there are ways to do things and want to learn to get around it. Other people feel that if they can't read a book like the normal population reads a book, then they can't read. It does not matter to them that there are books on tape, that there are devices to read to you or that they can learn Braille. You can be a productive person without vision."

More information about the CPS and its Torrance location is available at www.low-vision.org. •

Old Town Music Hall

from page 8

and change have to come from people who care about preserving classic American movies and music," said Moll. "Our goal is to introduce the theater to a whole new generation of filmgoers who may not have ever experienced silent classic films. And it's not just the films, but also the music of the

'20s, '30s and '40s..."
Old Town Music Hall is located at 140 Richmond Street. For more information and upcoming calendar, call 310-322-2592, or go to <http://oldtownmusichall.org/> Movie and concert schedules are also available outside the theater. •

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TerriAnn

from page 6

Scotto went on to say that in addition to the renaming of the bridge, this is also a rededication that coincides with its 100th birthday. Mr. Bill Lawson, *Chairman, ASCE Los Angeles Section History and Heritage Committee* who presented the facsimile of the plaque (the real bronze plaque will be the actual size of the prototype and will be mounted on the

column where the existing plaque resides), congratulated the City of Torrance and said, "[We will] recognize the bridge under its new name and it will be an historic landmark for all to see." This event commemorates that from now on our very own Torrance Bridge will be known as the *Pacific Electric Railway El Prado Bridge* all over the world.

As I left the ceremony site, I looked back at the beautiful arched bridge, now clean and proud, surrounded by those huge eucalyptus trees and I hoped that the name of the bridge would remain forever. Thinking about how names change through time, I guess I hope some things don't change, like the name of the *Pacific Electric Railway El Prado Bridge*.

Leaving the parking lot, I drove west that afternoon on Torrance Boulevard to enter the city of Torrance through our beautiful, cleaned and refurbished bridge. I hope people take the time to enjoy this magnificent historical structure whose arches act as open arms to the entrance of our city every time they pass under this regal bridge. •



Donna Duperron, President and CEO of The Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce.



Gene Barnett, Council Member.



Torrance Historical Society.



General Services Director, Sheryl Ballew and Maureen O'Dowd, former Council Member and El Camino Board of Trustee Member.



L-R Council Members Pat Furey, Susan Rhlinger, Tom Brewer, and Bill Sutherland, ASCE Bill Lawson, Mayor Frank Scotto, Council Member Gene Barnett, City Treasurer, Dana Cortez and City Clerk Sue Herbers.

Real Estate

How to Take Advantage of Home Improvement Tax Rebates Before Time Runs Out

(BPT) - When U.S. lawmakers made a deal to keep the country from going off the “fiscal cliff” at the end of 2012, they reinstated a tax break of up to \$500 to help homeowners earn money back for energy efficient home

improvements. The tax credit included in the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012 is the first home improvement incentive since 2011, making this remodeling season an opportune time to upgrade your home’s energy efficiency

and curb appeal before time runs out on Dec. 31, 2013.

While many of the products eligible for the new tax credit are the unsung heroes of home energy savings - heaters, water pumps, air conditioners - energy efficient replacement windows and doors are included, helping to save energy while also infusing new life into

to make up the full amount. For example, if you buy qualifying windows for \$2,000, roofing for \$2,000 and a water heater for \$1,000, you will receive the entire \$500 credit.

The total amount of savings allowed per household is cumulative since the program began in 2006. So, if you’ve already received \$500 or more in total credits since 2006, you



a dull home exterior. Pairing the latest energy efficient technology with stylish design, many window and door manufacturers are geared up with qualifying products that can fulfill any homeowner’s unique style needs.

are not eligible to earn more credit. But, if you’ve received less than \$500, you can still add new credits, up to the full amount.

“For anyone who regrets missing their chance to receive a tax credit for energy efficient home improvements, this is an incredible opportunity,” says Chris Pickering, vice president of marketing for Ply Gem Windows. “Old and outdated windows and doors are not only an eyesore, they can cost homeowners energy through leaks, cracks and poorly insulated glass every month.”

Windows and doors that are eligible for the tax credit must be ENERGY STAR qualified in the region where they are being installed. Look to products like the Ply Gem Windows Mira Premium Series, which can be configured to meet ENERGY STAR requirements in every U.S. climate zone and are available in 38 colors, with multiple shapes and grille patterns.

Since 2006, there have been a number of versions of the energy efficient tax credit for homeowners. The current extension covers all purchases made in 2013 and retroactively gives credit for 2012 purchases. The credit is 10 percent of the cost of building materials and select energy efficient heating and cooling devices, insulation and roofing for primary residence, up to \$500. Installation fees do not apply.

According to ENERGY STAR’s website, all of the windows, doors and skylights in your home do not need to be replaced to qualify. Also, new windows and doors that were not there previously, like ones in an addition, qualify for the tax credit.

Some categories like windows are capped at \$200, but can be combined with other purchases

The tax credit will be given, dollar-for-dollar, in the following year’s tax returns, so be sure to keep your receipts. To find ENERGY STAR rated window and door products for your climate zone, visit www.plygemwindows.com and consult with your local dealer or contractor to ensure the products you are purchasing qualify for the tax credit. •

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OPEN HOUSE IN EL SEGUNDO

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- Sun. 1-4pm** **1221 Beech Ave, Torrance** **2/1** **\$529,000**
Roger Hart Forecast Realty 310-781-2000
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Think Outside the Fuse Box: Energy-Saving Home Improvements

(BPT) - Here are three home improvements that can help make your house even more energy-efficient.

Stop Standby Power Waste - When an appliance gets frequent use, constantly unplugging and replugging it may not be convenient. Connect outlets to wall switches that make it easy to turn the device off or on at the outlet.

Motorized Rolling Shutters - Motorized shutters enhance privacy and security and offer protection against intense sunshine and winds. They can help maintain a more comfortable indoor temperature and protect furnishings from damaging UV rays. •



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