

Torrance Tribune

The Weekly Newspaper of Torrance

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Community Celebrates Annual Rock Around the Block Summer Event



Alex Hattori, a junior at South High school, is currently ranked No. 2 in the world and No. 2 in the nation for double-handed yo-yoing. The teen enjoys spending time with different community groups and events, demonstrating his skills with the yo-yo at the ninth annual Rock Around the Block summer event. Read more below. Photo by Cristian Vasquez.

Torrance Historical Society Hosts, Celebrates Ninth Annual Rock Around the Block

By Cristian Vasquez

For the ninth year, the Torrance Historical Society organized and hosted the 1950s-style summer event Rock Around the Block in celebration of Torrance's All-America City Award. "In 1956, the City of Torrance received a wonderful award [All-America Award] from the League of Cities and *Life Magazine*. They received a telegram from President Eisenhower [on display at the museum] along with six or seven other cities honored," event coordinator Janet Payne said. "The reason the City received the award was for 'Growth Without Strain' because it was after World War II and we were poised and prepared for the influx of people buying homes and coming into the city to work. The transition went very smoothly."

The afternoon's festivities included a cakewalk, bubblegum blowing contest, hula hoop competition, games of jacks and hopscotch, and a pie-eating contest. In addition, South High junior Alex Hattori, who is currently ranked second both in the world and in the nation for double-handed yo-yoing, demonstrated his skills with the yo-yo for everyone in attendance.

"It is really fun and it is nice seeing all these people reminisce with what I do," Hattori said. "Playing yo-yo is something people used to do, so it fits in [with the event]. When most of these people were younger, they used to play with yo-yos. So they have a general idea what a yo-yo is and they see this new style and they start to smile, which is pretty nice."

Hattori has performed at Rock Around the Block for three years and enjoys the interaction with kids and grown-ups as well as the overall festivities. "I do a lot of charity performances for people in Torrance and I also do the Torrance Variety Show in September--and the first time I did that, I found out about this when Janet Payne contacted me," Hattori said. "After performing, I

like to teach the kids that are around, or anyone who wants to learn, how to play with the yo-yo."

Included in the free festivities were vintage cars on display along Post Avenue courtesy of the Cruisin' 50s Car Club, Touring A's and local car owners Bop to '50s music. There were special exhibits such as the All-America City button and logo received by the City and the largest collection of local yearbooks housed

by the Torrance Historical Society.

"The first time we decided to do something through the museum was to get people interested in the history of the City," Payne said. "The idea was to get people into the museum and we have a display about the All-America City such as the speech the Mayor wrote to make to the panel. The whole idea was to promote

See Rock Around Block, page 3

West Basin Honors Water Leader Bill Wright

Bill Wright, Metropolitan Water District (MWD) Board Member, announced his retirement after nearly 20 years of service. Wright joined the MWD Board in 1994 and most recently served as Vice Chair of the Water Planning and Stewardship Committee. As a member agency of MWD, the West Basin Municipal Water District Board (West Basin) honored Wright for his years of service and influence in the water industry at the July Board meeting. Wright was an active member of the Association of California Water Agencies, National Water Resources Association and the Colorado River Water Users Association. He was also an alternate member of the Colorado River Board of California. In addition, he served as a member on the MWD Audit and Ethics Committee, Special Committee on Bay-Delta, Engineering and Operations Committee and Real Property



and Asset Management Committee. Wright is a long-standing water expert representing the city of Torrance. He served on the Torrance Water Commission from 1976 to 1984 and on the Torrance Environmental Commission from 1984 to 1992. In 1993, Wright received his second community service award from the Torrance City Council for his work on these commissions. Wright taught physics for 29 years at West High School in Torrance before retiring in June 1993. He also taught summer school courses in oceanography for 11 years, with units about local freshwater aquifers and Torrance's seawater intrusion problem. In 1984, he was first saluted for his experimental work teaching local high school students about solar energy processes. In 1987, Southern California Edison honored Wright with its "Outstanding Teacher Award". •

Weekend Forecast

Friday
AM Clouds/
PM Sun
71°/61°



Saturday
Mostly
Sunny
70°/62°



Sunday
Partly
Cloudy
72°/62°



PETSPETS Pets PETSPETS

Pets Without Partners

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

We picked up **Snuggles** just as this little guy



Snuggles

was being dropped off at the shelter. The family received him as a gift and was not expecting it. They begged us to take him because he was such a great little dog. We agreed and this little Yorkie-Westie hitched a ride back to the rescue with us. Snuggles is a sweet little clown with a very animated personality. He is young at nine to 10 months old and a tiny guy at 5.7 pounds. He is full of spunk and loads of fun. Snuggles loves toys and will chase little plush toys you throw for him and will then bring them back. Come and meet him--you will absolutely love him. This is a breed that will require some grooming appointments, so please remember this when budgeting for him. Snuggles is neutered, current on vaccinations, de-wormed, microchipped, and is great with other dogs and with children.

Darla is a beautiful Shepherd mix who is a very quiet, passive, sweet gal. She comes when called, is perfect on leash and loves to play with plush toys that she chases when thrown up in the air. Darla is around 12 months old and weighs 50 pounds. She is still a little underweight. She is very friendly, lovable and a super quick learner. She is wonderful with all of our dogs at the rescue and has a very go-with-the-flow personality. Darla will make her new family very happy. Whoever adopts her is in for a real treat! Darla is spayed, current on vaccinations, de-wormed, microchipped, is great with other dogs, and loves children.

Bandit is a love of a dog. He is sweet,



Bandit

gentle, kind-spirited and knows how to rock those airplane ears. He loves to hug you as he snuggles in around your neck and he will hang onto you with his paws. Snuggling with you is when he is happiest. Bandit has a sad story, as his owner died unexpectedly at only 45 years old. Poor little guy sat in a boarding kennel for over a month before we took him in. Bandit is darling, to say the least, and would make a great addition to any family situation. He is great with all other dogs and is completely housebroken. He is seven years old and weighs about 13 pounds. He's not shy about giving out kisses and has a spectacular little personality, as he is just now starting to really shine here in our rescue. Shine, little star...shine! Bandit is neutered, current on vaccinations, de-wormed, microchipped, housebroken, loves everyone he meets, and is great with other dogs and with children.

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



Darla

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(c)(3) non-profit organization.

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

Purrrfect Companions

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

Have you heard what they say about tux-

picked up and cuddled by everyone. This affectionate little guy will follow his owner from room to room, so you'll never be lonely. Elliot



Harriet

edos? Some say they are pretty much the best cats in the world. Tuxedos are known to be funny, friendly, sweet and sometimes a little weird. Harriet is all of the above. Harriet is a little round fur-ball with the sweetest personality. She's friendly and outgoing with new people, dogs and cats. Are you looking for a kitten that you can introduce to all your friends and family? Harriet will do! She's the kind of girl you bring home to meet your mom. She loves to play and explore. Hope you're ready for some quality naps with this little girl—she's very soft and cuddly. Her foster mom suspects that she'll be a sweet and easygoing cat when she grows up. She'll make an excellent companion and lap cat when she's older. Right now, she just wants to be your baby.

Harriet is very attached to her brother, Elliot. They do everything together. They were both bottle-fed by humans since they were only three weeks old. Because of this, these two are more affectionate, more social and more comfortable in new environments than your average cat. They've been raised with a Cocker Spaniel and a toddler, so they are used to

loves to play! He has a few toys that he'll carry in his mouth and leave hidden around the house. When he's tired, he'll nap at your feet, on your bed, or anywhere that you are. Elliot also loves to purr! Just one pet, touch or poke and he's purring louder than you've ever heard a cat purr before. So come over and meet Harriet and Elliot today. You'll be glad you did!

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 p.m. in Westchester at 8655 Lincoln Bou-



Elliot

children and dogs.

Now, watch out! There's a purr machine on the loose! If you are looking for a fun, playful and absolutely loving kitten, then Elliot is the one for you! He loves greeting houseguests at the door and expects to be

levard, just south of Manchester Avenue, 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. •

Calendar

SATURDAY, AUGUST 3

- Torrance Certified Farmers' Market, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., parking lot of Wilson Park, 2200 Crenshaw Blvd. For more information call (310) 618-2930.
- YMCA Low Cost Vet Clinic, 9:30-11am. Torrance-South Bay YMCA, 2900 W. Sepulveda Blvd. For more information call (310) 325-5885.
- Torrance Theatre Co. presents Willy Wonka, 7:30-10 p.m., James Armstrong Theatre, 3330 Civic Center Drive. For more information and additional dates call (310) 781-7171.

MONDAY, AUGUST 5

- Free Music Concert for kids, 7- 8 p.m., 2340 Sepulveda Blvd. #D. For more information call (310) 387-5772.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 6

- City Council Meeting, 7- 10 p.m., City Hall, Council Chamber, 3031 Torrance Blvd. For more information call (310) 618-2870.
- Seniors Don't Be Scammed, 10 a.m.- Noon,

Katy Geissert Library, 3301 Torrance Blvd. For more information call (310) 618-5735.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 10

- TRW – A Legacy of Technology, 2-5 p.m., Western Museum of Flight, 3315 Airport Dr. For more information call (310) 326-9544.
- Free Beginning Composting Workshop, 9:30-11 a.m., Columbia Park, 4045 190th St. For more information call (310) 781-6900.
- The City of Torrance Open House, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Cultural Arts Center, 3330 Civic Center Drive. For more information call (310) 618-2376.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 11

- South Coast Cactus & Succulent Society, 1:30 p.m., South Coast Botanic Garden, 26300 Crenshaw Blvd. For more information call (310) 618-9886.

ONGOING

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

People

Congratulations

Shaunak Intwala, of Torrance, is a doctor of pharmacy student. Intwala was named to

the Spring 2013 Dean's List at University of the Sciences. •

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.

July 20

- **Auto Theft-All:** 2700 BLOCK DALEMED ST Stolen vehicle: '10 Ford P/U.
- **Battery-Weapon/Agg:** 3500 BLOCK MARICOPA ST Suspect(s) approaches from behind and strikes victim in the head with unknown object, causing injury.
- **Theft:** 2100 BLOCK 235TH ST Suspect(s) takes property left on tailgate/ring of keys.

Auto Theft-All: 22600 BLOCK CRENSHAW BLVD Suspects pull up, exit vehicle, approach victim, brandish a knife and demand victim's property/backpack, cell phone.

Robbery-Weapon: 22600 BLOCK CRENSHAW BLVD Suspects pull up, exit vehicle, approach victim, brandish a knife and demand victim's property/backpack, cell phone.

July 19

- **Burglary-Auto:** 4700 BLOCK BULOVA ST Suspect(s) enters vehicle by unknown means and takes property/sunglasses.
- **Burglary Auto:** 19900 BLOCK PRAIRIE AVE Suspect(s) enters unlocked vehicle and takes property/case, laptop, hard drive, toolboxes, sunglasses, GPS.
- **Burglary-Auto:** 4000 BLOCK 190TH ST Stolen vehicle: '07 Chevrolet Avalanche.
- **Burglary Auto:** 3700 BLOCK REDONDO BEACH BLVD Suspect(s) smashes window for entry, ransacks and takes property/cash.
- **Battery-Weapon/Agg:** 1600 BLOCK ARLINGTON AVE Suspect fires several shots at the vehicle the victim is riding in, hitting him in the stomach. •

Rock Around Block

from front page

the museum, to promote the City's history and to do it in a way that appeals to people--and this really does." The estimated 1,200 people in attendance were able to walk up and down the street engaging with different booths and vendors, including In-N-Out Burger and the local fire department that was demonstrating CPR procedures to add more educational elements to the fun summer event. "They [people] come and have fun because as our vice president said, 'I see faces of friends,'" Payne said. "The City really supports us, such as the departments by bringing the barricades out, providing trashcans and posting the signs. They know we are going to do a good job." In addition the Bartlett Senior (over 50) Center hosted an open house, simultaneously giving attendees the option to dine on their patio

while listening to The South Bay Strummers--a ukulele group. The Torrance Women's Club was also present and had a 1950s Club scrapbook available for viewing. The Torrelles, a group of City employees who sing '50s and '60s songs a cappella, also provided the guests with entertainment. "If you talk about what it was like in those days, like the focus being on family and a good, healthy community where people reached out, then people pay attention to things like that because you make it personal," Payne said. "Everywhere, every museum and every business is trying to get people in to make them feel a part of something. We try to get people into a free, family-fun event celebrating the 1950s. People then ask questions about other things. If they go into the museum, they can ask about yearbooks." •

Business Briefs

Torrance Memorial Names New Director Of Planned Giving



Torrance Memorial Medical Center is pleased to announce the hire of Sandy VandenBerge as Torrance Memorial Health Care Foundation's director of Planned Giving. She joins the hospital with more than eight years in donor development and will assist individuals with giving opportunities such as charitable remainder trusts, bequests and

charitable gift annuities. VandenBerge will also help lead the hospital's Professional Advisory Council (PAC), which hosts monthly Saturday seminars featuring attorneys, financial planners and CPAs about the benefits of charitable tax and estate planning. VandenBerge's extensive background includes non-profit experience as the director of Corporate and Foundation Relations for the L.A. Biomedical Research Institute, and vice president of the Long Beach Community Foundation. Prior to planned giving, she managed recruitment, admissions and student services for Pepperdine University's Graduate School of Education and Psychology. She also worked as a clinical social worker at Children's Hospital Los Angeles and as an adjunct professor at University of Tirana in Albania and Tunghai University in Taiwan. VandenBerge's dedication to the community includes serving on the Children's Maritime Foundation's Board of Directors. She is also the co-organizer of TEDxSoCal, an advisory council member for the organization Cambodia Town, Inc. in Long Beach and an advisory member for Arts Council for Long Beach. To learn more about Torrance Memorial's Planned Giving Program, visit www.torrancememorial.org/PlannedGiving. •

Local Business, Nonprofit Host Pet Lover's Event

By Cristian Vasquez

Cats, dogs and pet enthusiasts will gather on Sunday, August 4 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. for the Pet Lover's Event at Manhattan Beach Toyota. In its third year, the family-friendly pet adoption event takes place two times a year at the car dealership located at 1500 N. Sepulveda Blvd., and has drawn large crowds of current and prospective pet owners. "It is a service to help dogs and cats get adopted and it is a drop in event for people to come and go as they please," Director of Public Relations for Manhattan Beach Toyota Al Wise said. "We have a nonprofit organization that we work with called the Lovejoy Foundation that is bringing the dogs and cats. They are a wonderful organization that we support and partner with and with them we have been able to adopt out some dogs and a few cats." The day's festivities will include raffles all day and will also provide fun activities for attendees

such as contests including; Best Look-a-Like, Best Pet Trick and Best Costume. Current dog owners are encouraged to bring their pets to the event but they must have their pet on a leash. "The beach communities are dog communities: people love their dogs and they certainly love to take their dogs on The Strand so we decided to do something for them," Wise said. "For those people who do not have pets but want one, in my opinion, it is always preferable to go for a shelter dog instead of going to a pet store and purchasing one." This outreach-based event has drawn up to 500 people during past events. It has been three years since the beginning and now the event has developed into a well-organized function. However, getting things started depended on a lot of hard work and a little bit of luck. "We had an agency lined up [for an event] that canceled at the last minute. So here we

See Pet Lover's Event, page 4

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Politically Speaking

One Man's Opinion

By Gerry Chong

The grossly painted harridan, oversold so many times before, made her entry from stage left—ignoring the disdain with which her audience greeted her. Present were businesses, 60 percent of which said they had either frozen hiring or cut existing employees because of her. Thirty-eight percent said she has caused them to pull back from planned business growth. Twenty-four percent believe they will drop employee health insurance entirely. Ironically, the President speaks of economic growth while he touts her as his primary accomplishment.

In the audience, front and center were unions, led by the Teamsters, who finally understand that the harridan damages unions. Since 62 percent of all jobs created under this “recovery” have been to part-time workers, temporary workers, and the lowest earning segment of the economy, there will be fewer targets for unionization who can afford to pay union dues. In a terse and critical letter to Democrats, the unions have complained of being duped by the Administration since 40-hour workweeks, the backbone of the middle class, are disappearing.

Seated in the orchestra section were healthcare insurance companies such as Aetna, United Healthcare, and Anthem Blue Cross, all of which have withdrawn from the California Insurance Exchange. The GAO estimates that in 2011, Medicare and Medicaid paid a whopping \$50.7 billion in fraudulent payments while the 10 largest insurance companies earned only \$13.7 billion. In other words, the government lost nearly four times as much as the largest insurers earned!

With only two months before Obamacare is to be implemented, doctors are nearly clueless about how the law will affect them. In a CNBC poll, only 11 percent of doctors believe the law will open as scheduled. Asked how policies purchased from exchanges will impact their business, 78 percent were slightly familiar or not familiar at all. Eighty-one percent were either slightly familiar or not familiar with rates exchange insurers will pay. Doctors were unaware that under Exchange rules, a patient can go up to three months without paying premiums and still not get dropped.

Doctors know they will see a greater work load, but 70.5 percent say they have no idea how the claims process works.

The left wing of the audience was occupied by Democrats whose support for Obamacare has fallen by 20 percent. In a poll conducted jointly by Republican and Democratic pollsters, 56 percent of the public favors dropping Obamacare entirely.

Now that the President has chosen to delay the employer requirement to provide employee insurance for one year, the IRS is in turmoil. It needs employer information before determining the amount of subsidies the individual will receive from taxpayers. Since employer reports are not due until 2015, there is no way to determine 2014's individual subsidy amounts.

In the loge section sat the NBA and NFL, both of which the President pressured to promote Obamacare but both of which declined.

At the curtain, the band played on, the huckster did her dance and the audience jeered. It's 60 days and counting to the Obamacare train wreck. •

Another Man's Opinion

Keeping the Lights on Benefits Everyone

By Cristian Vasquez

Newly elected Assemblyman Al Muratsuchi introduced Assembly Bill 66 in June to require the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to mandate an “electrical corporation to include in an annual reliability report, information on system reliability, including the frequency and duration of interruptions in services.” This is in response to the power outages that have occurred in the Rancho Palos Verdes area—where since 2008, an average of 26 power outages have been reported a year. Under Assemblyman Muratsuchi's bill, the CPUC would develop the report with the expectation for it to use the information within to remedy the problem.

While the legislation introduced was in response to a regional problem, its outcome will impact the entire state. It should not be too much to ask that the CPUC demonstrate at the very least a level of competence and transparency that would make California residents not have to worry about power outages. We all expect to come home to watch TV, do some online shopping and update our Facebook status without interruption. I am sure that most of us are reasonable enough to understand that even the most efficient and well-operated system can from time to time have a setback. However, 26 power outages annually for the past four years is a major malfunction. Whatever the issue that is causing this in the RPV area should have been taken care of a long time ago.

Thank you, Assemblyman Muratsuchi for requiring the CPUC to provide a report and subsequently fix the issue, but we really should not need a law asking the CPUC how to do its job. If the clerk at 7-Eleven forgot how to make coffee 26 mornings every year...wait, he would be fired after two mornings with no coffee. It is great that there are requirements being established, but the truth is it's absurd that they are needed. Why haven't heads rolled because of this? So many power outages for such a long time indicate more than just a problem with the system—it demonstrates a high level of incompetence by those responsible for addressing the issue. Such was the level of dysfunction that one of our elected officials had to remind the CPUC how to do its job.

It is sad that we have become such an incompetent state that power outages can paralyze a region within our borders twice a month since 2008 without any signs of improvement. Is it because our bureaucracy has become too big for its own good? Probably. Is it maybe that we don't have the right people in the right positions to run these entities? Very likely. Or maybe those responsible just don't care. That is also a likely possibility. The one thing we know for sure is that the CPUC has failed our neighbors in the RPV area and hopefully Assemblyman Muratsuchi's bill will fix the problem so that these power outages do not spread to the rest of the state. I don't know about everyone else, but I certainly do not miss the blackouts from the Enron days. •

Pet Lover's Event

from page 3

were about to have our Pet Event with no pets to adopt out,” Wise said. “We went searching for an agency and we found one that hosted small events that took place at a church on Aviation. They were just starting to set up and we let them know that we were having an event and that we needed them and that we were hoping to have more people than just the drive-by clientele. Sure enough they packed up their stuff and came over to our location and adopted out 14 dogs that day, which was a record number of adoptions for

one day. They have been part of our event, twice a year, since then.”

The Lovejoy Foundation is a nonprofit organization that rescues animals and assists in adopting them out or finding them foster homes until a pet is adopted. The foundation provides food and medical needs for pets staying with foster families. In addition, the foundation depends on the work and efforts of volunteers who assist at the adoption site by helping to walk and care for animals as

See *Pet Lover's Event*, page 9

Finance

How to Replace Important Documents

By Jason Alderman

If your wallet has ever been lost or stolen, you know what a pain it is to replace your driver's license. That goes double when other vital documents like your, passport, birth certificate or car registration are misplaced or destroyed in a natural disaster. Without the proper ID, you can't start a new job, buy a house, apply for insurance or a host of other common transactions.

Here's a guide on how to get copies or replacements for many common documents:

Birth, death, marriage and divorce certificates. These records come from the states where the events occurred. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has a handy directory that provides links to the appropriate agencies in all U.S. states and territories, including costs and mailing instructions (www.cdc.gov/nchs/w2w.htm).

Passport. Immediately report lost or stolen passports to the U.S. State Department by calling 877-487-2778. If it happens overseas, contact the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate. Visit http://travel.state.gov/passport/lost/lost_848.html for further instructions.

Driver's license, car registration. To learn how to replace your driver's license, vehicle registration or car title (which you'll need to transfer ownership), or to access other motor vehicle services, contact the Department of Motor Vehicles. Go to www.usa.gov/Topics/Motor-Vehicles.shtml for links to each state's DMV.

Social Security card. These days, you may not actually need to replace a misplaced Social Security card. If you know your Social Security number, you generally can still collect Social Security benefits, get a job and apply for government benefits and services. However, if you do want to replace the card, you'll need to gather documents proving your identity and citizenship and complete an application (www.ssa.gov/online/ss-5.pdf); then mail or take the paperwork to your local Social Security office.

Military service records. Veterans often need copies of their military service records to



apply for government programs, including health care, retirement or education benefits. You can apply to the National Archives (www.archives.gov/veterans) for a copy of your records (or an immediate family member's if deceased). The site also has information on replacing lost military medals and awards.

Green card. If your U.S. Permanent Resident (Green) Card is lost, stolen or damaged, or if your name or other important information has legally changed since it was issued, you may request a new card from the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) by filing Form I-90 (available at <http://www.uscis.gov>). If you're outside the U.S. and lose your green card, contact the nearest U.S. consulate or USCIS office before applying online for a new card.

Medicare card. To replace a lost, stolen or damaged Medicare card, follow the procedures at <https://secure.ssa.gov/apps6z/IMRC/main.html>. To replace a Medicaid card, contact Medicaid (www.medicaid.gov).

Tax returns. If you need exact copies of previously filed and processed tax returns (including attachments), you may order them from the IRS by submitting IRS Form 4506 (at www.irs.gov). There is a \$57 fee for each year's return you request. Before ordering an exact copy, however, ask whether a “tax return transcript” or “tax account transcript” will suffice. These abbreviated printouts of returns are often acceptable substitutes for student loan and mortgage lenders and are free. To order transcripts, go to www.irs.gov/Individuals/Order-a-Transcript.

School transcripts. If you need to order high school or college transcripts, it's best to contact the school's registrar or student services office directly for instructions. (Some websites that claim they can expedite the process have proven unreliable.)

For even more suggestions, see “Replace Your Vital Documents” at www.USA.gov. •



Attend a free homebuyer workshop

Find out what it really takes to become a homeowner

Separate myths from truths. Learn more about finding, financing and owning a home in today's real estate market. Know what to expect — and what will be expected of you. So you can make informed homebuying decisions.

Date: Saturday August 31
Time: 10:00am - 12:00pm
Location: 3400 Torrance Blvd
 Torrance, Suite 104

Contact me to reserve your seats today!



Liz Worden
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Together we'll go far

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Dear Foodies and Friends,
So my youngest son turns 13 this Friday. How this happened I don't know but it did. He is such a good eater and always willing to try something new.

His favorite is a dish we call "cheesy noodles". This is a concoction of any kind of long noodles, linguini, fettuccini, or even ramen mixed with some broccoli and lots of cheese.

Needless to say it is the go to at any meal period, breakfast, lunch, 11zies or dinner if we got some noodles they are turned into cheesy noodles.

Note: My four dogs like the leftovers

The Chef



Cheesy Noodles a la Noah



- 1/2 pound long noodles blanched in water then rinsed and cooled
- 1 pound of broccoli chopped roughly
- 1/2 cup chopped onions
- 1/8 cup olive oil
- 3 cups chicken broth
- 1/8 cup lite soy sauce
- 1 cup grated cheddar
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 6 slices American cheese or more
- 1/2 cup grated parmesan

In a hot saucepan sauté the onions and broccoli in the olive oil for 2 minutes. Add the broth, cook for 1 minute. Add pasta. Bring to a boil. then add the cheddar and American cheese. Stir till hot, then add the soy. When then cheese has melted, remove from the fire and mix in the butter and parmesan. Finally, eat and have fun.

Tips: You can also add bacon. chicken, other veggies or anything you want!

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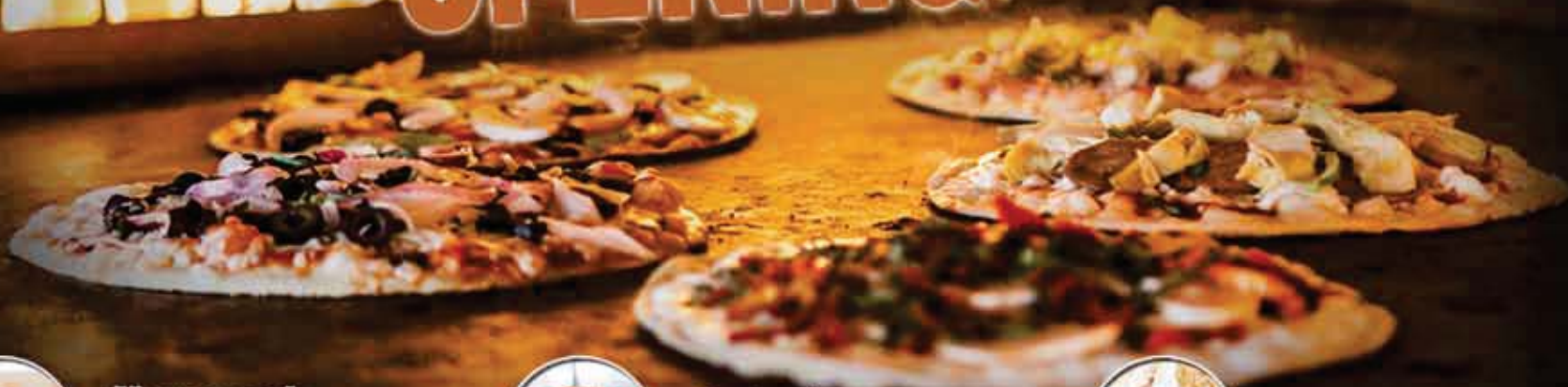
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Torrance Memorial Medical Center Presents 2013 Evening Under the Stars with Kenny G

Photos Chris Nishimura

This year's "Evening Under the Stars with Kenny G" benefiting the Torrance Memorial Medical Center was held on July 20th on the grounds of Honda's Torrance campus. This marked the 27th annual gourmet food & wine festival hosted by Honda. "We are so grateful that American Honda has once again selected Torrance Memorial Medical Center to benefit from this longstanding community tradition," said Laura Schenasi, executive vice president.

"The proceeds advance our fundraising goals as we enter the final stretch of capital campaign toward construction of the new Main Tower that will benefit the health needs of the entire South Bay." Torrance Memorial Medical Center President/CEO Craig Leach announced that the Tower is due to open November 2014, five months ahead of schedule. Kenny G provided star entertainment and also donated a personally crafted and manufactured saxophone as part of the live auction. Guests enjoyed cuisine from over 30 fine restaurant and beverage partners.



Left to right: Striking an elegant pose are Ann Rogerson, Andrew Rogerson, Priscilla Hunt, Cora Oriel and Elizabeth Sison.



Left to right: Erik Wedin and Steve Morikawa of American Honda Motor Co., Inc. and Mike Ryan and Kim Ryan greet the many guests at the Evening Under the Stars with Kenny G event.



Left to right: Red Car Brewery's Laurie Latham-Brandt, Frankie Becerra, Maverick Fernando and Bob Brandt offer guests a taste of their delicious cuisine.



Left to right: Torrance Memorial Medical Center's Dr. George So, Dr. Jackelyn Lee and Laura Schenasi catch up at the gala event.



Steve Morikawa, Assistant Vice President of American Honda Motor Co., Inc. introduces Kenny G to the audience.



Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce Board Chair Sherry Kramer enjoys the grand festivities with Bob Berg and Ian Kramer.



Left to right: Amber Trailer of Good Cookies & Beyond, Kristen Axten, Marianne Brooks and Leisa Plumb of Gourmet Grindz provided delicious desserts and coffee for the event.



Chef Shafer of The Depot and Buffalo Fire Department is again busy donating his services to a worthy cause. He is surrounded by Karen Haley and Oscar Delgado.



Left to right: Dr. George So, Dr. Jackelyn Lee and Craig and Mrs. Leach get ready for the festivities.



Left to right: Enjoying the many restaurant tastings are Mike Staal, Leon & Jackie Carroll, Ron Kovic, TerriAnn Ferren, Dr. Wade Nishimoto and Scott Donnelly.



Kenny G provided headline entertainment at the 27th annual gourmet food & wine festival and shows guests his custom made saxophone which he donated as part of the event's live auction.



Left to right: Taking time to pose are Kelly Santiago, Demi Stevens, Aaron Aalcides, Torrance Chief of Police John Neu and Michele Neu.



Left to right: Enjoying the cuisine are Arshaunette Shedrick, Brian Story, Janet Dalaque and Melanie Cordero.

Sports

Braun vs. Brains

By Adam Serrao

Though sports may be a vastly different world than the one that we all currently live in, certain moral factors about its living remain the same. For example, we are all raised in a society that upholds its citizens to tell the truth. At an early age, we are taught to be honest and in doing so our character will be a virtuous one. In the sports world, that same moral standard of honesty remains the same. Look at Pete Rose, for example. Dishonesty will keep him out of the Hall of Fame for as long as he lives. Lance Armstrong must now be experiencing that same feeling--maybe even to a greater extent. Then there's Ryan Braun. Braun has played for the Milwaukee Brewers since the 2007 season and has since turned himself into a five-time All-Star, a five-time Silver Slugger, a Rookie of the Year (2007), an NL home run leader (2012) and an NL MVP (2011). Just recently, however, Braun was caught by Major League Baseball (MLB) and suspended for the rest of the year without pay for "violations of the Basic Agreement and its Joint Drug Prevention and Treatment Program." Not even two years ago, Braun professed his innocence in the matter and swore to everyone who looked on that he was innocent. Now a proven liar, Braun, like those who have come before him, must prepare to pay the price.

That price, for Braun, does not seem to be a steep one upon first glance when considering the repercussions of his actions. Braun's suspension includes the final 65 games of the Brewers' season and any potential postseason action that the team may see. The money that Braun will lose resulting from this suspension amounts to \$3.25 million. After he serves his not even half-season suspension, however, Braun is eligible to return to the Brewers' organization for spring training and receive the remaining \$132 million on his contract. Without the use of performance enhancing drugs, Braun may have never even made it to the Big Leagues and definitely would not have accrued some of the money awards that he has garnered up to this current date. The fact that he loses only \$3.25 million while also receiving an extended vacation may have made his cheating worthwhile for the player. It boosted Braun's name and brand to a level that it would have otherwise never seen and turned him into a multi-millionaire. MLB used Braun as its first example, but the slap on the wrist that they gave him may not even do its part to deter other players from becoming future offenders. If Braun's case proves anything, it's that financially PEDs are worthwhile, especially for a player with a subpar skill set.

While the picture that has just been painted may make it seem like Braun is getting away with highway robbery, he does in fact seem to

be somewhat apologetic for his actions. "As I have acknowledged in the past, I am not perfect," Braun said in a statement released by MLB. "I realize now that I have made some mistakes. I am willing to accept the consequences of those actions. This situation has taken a toll on me and my entire family, and it has been a distraction to my teammates and the Brewers organization. I am very grateful for the support I have received from players, ownership and the fans in Milwaukee and around the country. Finally, I wish to apologize to anyone I may have disappointed--all of the baseball fans, especially those in Milwaukee, the great Brewers organization and my teammates. I am glad to have this matter behind me once and for all and I cannot wait to get back to the game I love." Braun may have put this matter behind him, but to those who appreciate the game of baseball, there is still much more to be heard that has yet to be said. For instance, Braun has still never admitted to taking PEDs or any kind of steroid. That is in fact what he has been suspended for, yet he fails to directly acknowledge his own wrongdoing.

Likewise, Braun fails to acknowledge the fact that he lied directly to face of the public, of baseball, of his peers and of the country when two years ago he fervently denied having taken any sort of PED. "I truly believe in my heart and I would bet my life that this substance never entered my body at any point," Braun said in February of 2012 when initially accused of taking PEDs. "If I had done this intentionally or unintentionally, I'd have been the first one to admit it. I truly believe this substance never entered my body." All of those statements have now been proven to be lies and one of baseball's biggest names has now forever tarnished his name as well as his career.

Ryan Braun didn't only lie to himself--he lied to everyone around him. What's worse is that by lying about his initial positive test, Braun wound up getting the sample collector fired and cost a man his job. By having no integrity himself, he jeopardized another man's integrity (and job) in the process. Braun may still be a millionaire and may still come back to get paid next season, but his peers in the game of baseball and most fans of the game of baseball will no longer respect him. Braun not only lied, but also forced others to lie for him and will now forever be the victim of a tarnished reputation. There are still honest players like Andy Pettitte and Jason Giambi, who have been caught using PEDs, admitted to it and apologized for their actions. Those players have been forgiven and forgotten about. The Ryan Brauns of the world, however, have no excuse for their actions on or off the field and will forever be marked with the scarlet letter of disgracing their peers, their own names and the entire game of baseball. •

Up and Adam

Tartars Honing Skills in Summer Ball

By Adam Serrao

There are a lot of good things happening in Torrance over the summer and one happens to be taking place right here in our own very backyard with the Torrance High School Tartars. Head coach Ollie Turner has the youth on his team playing well and is seeing good things out of players who are looking to make a big difference on the club next year. Turner is known for tinkering with his lineups in the summer. That way, come time for Pioneer League competition, he knows just how to use his guys. With new players

"Our whole team underperformed. Our pitching was not bad, but our offense never clicked." More of the same was evident when Torrance faced perhaps its biggest challenge of the summer versus Banning. Banning went on to the L.A. City Section Division I semifinals last year and showed just why it was so good as it took a 3-1 victory over Turner and his Tartars earlier this month.

While the pitching for Banning has always been pretty good, it is difficult to tell whether it was on display again during the game or whether the Torrance bats just went cold,

"Whether it was the coaching style of Turner or the ambition of the players that did it, Torrance went on a streak and won seven games in a row to close out the season."

stepping up to the plate and a new coach back in the fold, Turner believes that his team should be primed to make a run at the whole thing next May.

If you ask Turner, he'll tell you that the Tartars are coming off of a disappointing season last year. Losers of three out of their first four games and six out of their first nine, it certainly seemed as if Turner and his team were going to be in for a long season. It never is quite easy to get along with other Pioneer League rivals either. The Tartars, however, did so quite nicely. Racking up a record of 7-3 in the Pioneer League, Turner's only three losses in league play came to El Segundo and South, which both finished tied atop the Pioneer League with the Tartars in the standings at the end of the year. The loss to South was an ugly one, taking a 6-1 defeat in early April. The silver lining is that the Torrance boys turned it around just two days later to not just beat the Spartans, but shut them out on their home turf just two days later. El Segundo certainly had Torrance's number, though, taking two straight games from the Tartars in a sweep later that month.

Towards the end of the season, something clicked for the Tartars. Whether it was the coaching style of Turner or the ambition of the players that did it, Torrance went on a streak and won seven games in a row to close out the season. The Tartars took that momentum with them into a first round playoff victory over St. Bonaventure before eventually being knocked out in the second round by San Dimas. "We're coming off a rough year and we're trying to get it back in the right direction," Turner said of his club now participating in summer league action.

like Turner has been fearful of over the past year or so. Justin Yanez pitched five innings while giving up just six hits and no runs to the Tartars, as Banning also saw all three of its runs come in the second inning. A double and two singles supplied all of the runs that Banning would need to take home the victory.

On the brighter side of things, Kyle Smith was doing his best to keep the Tartars afloat in the game, just as he tried to do when used sparingly last season. Smith racked up four victories with a 3.87 ERA in limited time for the Tartars last year. In the upcoming year, however, Smith figures to be a bigger part of the rotation and batting order for Torrance and he showed just why in the game against Banning. Smith produced all of the offense for the Tartars, going three for four with two bunt singles, and came into the game to toss two innings of relief in which he didn't allow a run. Smith was singled home in the game by Paul Moon in the sixth inning to break up Banning's shutout bid and account for the Tartars' only run of the game.

Though the Tartars lost the game, they gained another key piece of the puzzle when former assistant coach Terry DeWan announced that he will return to take over the pitching staff after a head coaching stint at Covina in which he went 26-25 over two seasons of play. DeWan will look over Smith, Ray Diaz, Jacob Gurwell and David Aros in an attempt to put together a stalwart pitching staff that will shut down the rest of the Pioneer League next season. "We're ready to turn the page," Turner explained. With a successful summer league under their belts, Turner and the Tartars may just be poised for a breakout season next year. •

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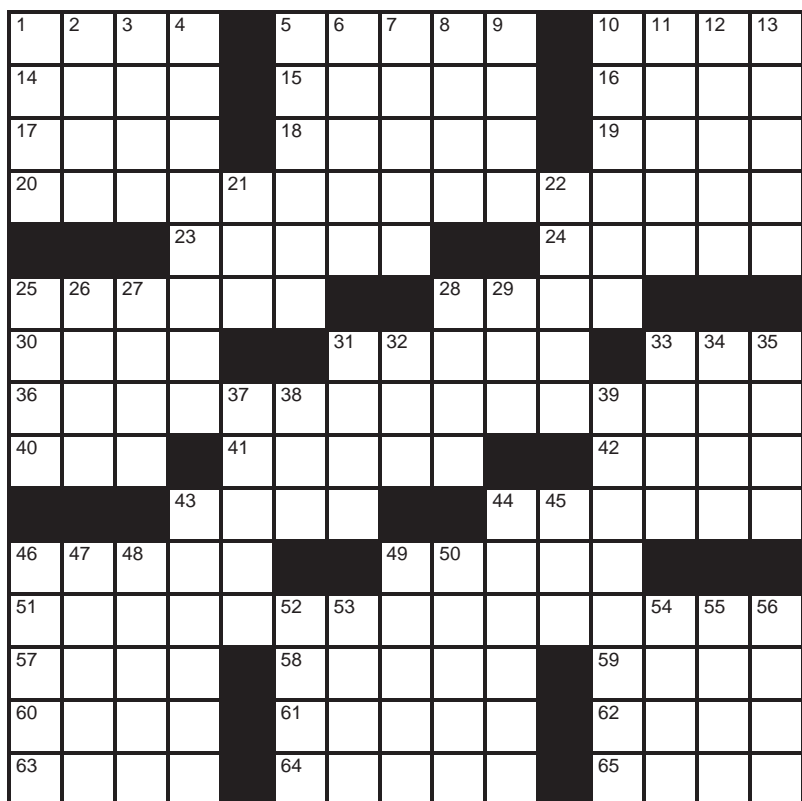
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WEEKLY CROSSWORD See Answers Next Week
All You Need Is Love



ACROSS

- 1. Rock band (with "The")
- 5. Weaned pig, var.
- 10. ___ orchid
- 14. Mac download
- 15. One who winnows
- 16. Old weapon
- 17. Aviation acronym
- 18. Wise enders
- 19. Troubles
- 20. LOVE
- 23. Hazards
- 24. Bridget, to Jane
- 25. Briefly
- 28. Store
- 30. Chinese dynasty
- 31. Former capital of Japan
- 33. Dr. J's first pro league
- 36. LOVE
- 40. Big, fat mouth
- 41. Standing
- 42. Interruption
- 43. Coral ___
- 44. Hound
- 46. Toklas partner
- 49. Swiss capital
- 51. LOVE

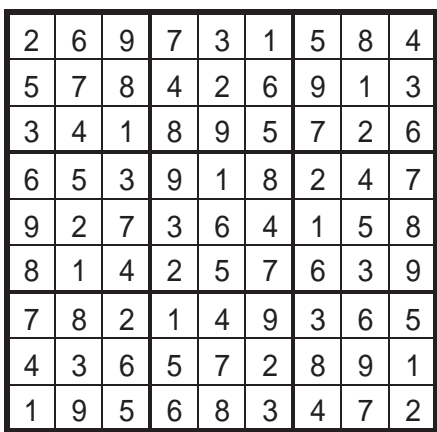
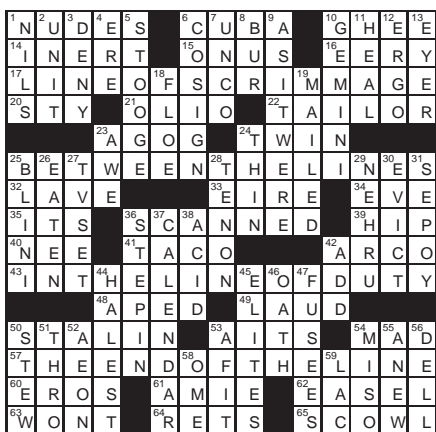
DOWN

- 1. Bawbee, for one
- 2. Remarkably
- 3. Handwoven rugs
- 4. Certain gland
- 5. Lean
- 6. Diacritical mark
- 7. Gold braid
- 8. Freshman, probably
- 9. While lead-in
- 10. Blue ___ ("Yellow Submarine" character)
- 11. Express
- 12. Purposeful
- 13. Wiesbaden's state
- 21. Salad topper
- 22. Concluding stanza

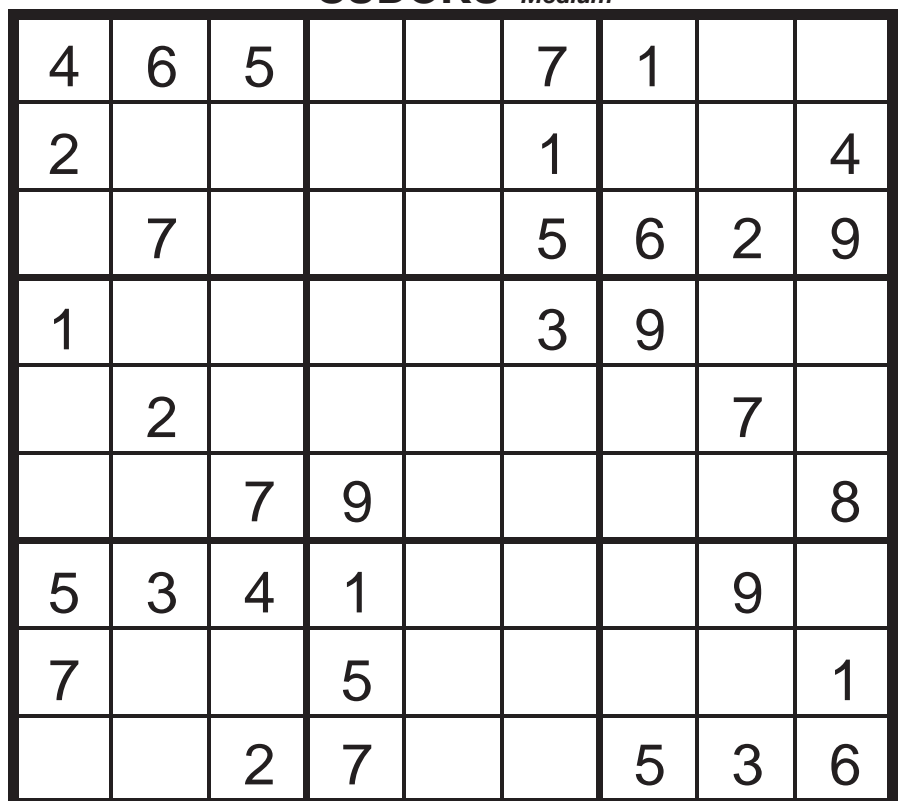
DOWN

- 25. Hurting
- 26. "Slow down!"
- 27. Counseling, e.g.
- 28. Bricklayers' equipment
- 29. T.G.I.F. part
- 31. Groove made by a cutting tool
- 32. Starchy tuber
- 33. Turkish title
- 34. Some contests
- 35. Kind of dealer
- 37. Dictation taker
- 38. Loser at Antietam
- 39. Drug
- 43. Like most eyeglasses
- 44. Pound
- 45. Boric acid target
- 46. Muffler
- 47. General Mills brand
- 48. Gush
- 49. Impose
- 50. Employ anew
- 52. Mangrove palm
- 53. Alka-Seltzer sound
- 54. ___ bread
- 55. Resentments
- 56. Dog command

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

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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Come! 623 Whiting Street, ES. Sat., 8/03, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Yard Sale! Beds, couches, dining room set, dishes, rugs and more!

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SEEKING ROOM FOR RENT

Clean, older married male, infrequently in town, seeking shared apartment with own bathroom in El Segundo. Roommate reference available. (661) 618-8866.

Pet Lover's Event

from page 4

people come and go throughout the day.

provide free samples of their product.

"It is much easier to do this because now we know what we are doing," Wise said. "The first year we had a great idea but we did not

"They [attendees] can expect to have some fun; they can expect to have some food and to meet some like-minded people that also love

"Cats, dogs and pet enthusiasts will gather on Sunday, August 4 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. for the Pet Lover's Event at Manhattan Beach Toyota."

know if it was working and we didn't know if anyone would show up; but that first event we had about 500 people show up."

New to the event this year is the presence of the Gourmet Grilled Cheese Truck. There will also be more than 14 vendors, including the adoption agency, pet photography, pet insurance and pet accessories which, adds variety to the services and products offered by the large number of vendors. Many of the vendors will

animals," Wise said. "If they have an animal, they are welcome to bring it. If they do not have one, then they can come and play with the ones that we have or adopt one that we have to give it a good home. We also have a groomer that comes out and does some grooming. There is something for everybody."

For more information on the event, persons interested can call 310-546-4848 and ask for Customer Relations Manager Joy Anderson. •



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TerriAnn in Torrance

Under the Stars for Charity

By TerriAnn Ferren

The balmy afternoon and then the rain beating on my open window made my eyebrows rise. Was it going to rain out the *Evening Under the Stars with Kenny G* just when I finally was able to attend? This was the 27th Annual *Gourmet Food and Wine Festival* put on by *American Honda Motor Co, Inc* & the *Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce*, which benefits the *Torrance Memorial Medical Center New Patient Tower*. Quickly looking at the dress I had decided to wear, I added a coat and changed shoes just in case. It was the evening the *Torrance Memorial Hospital* benefit was being held on the tennis courts of *Honda* in *Torrance*. I had wanted to attend this special event for years and finally it was happening! I was going to the *Gourmet Good and Wine Festival* and would hear *Kenny G* live. Truthfully ever since last year, I regretted not attending and decided that would not happen again.

Driving east down *Torrance Boulevard* toward the event, I noticed the sky had cleared completely and the white clouds dotted the blue summer sky as the breeze kept the warmth at bay. Turning into the parking lot, I spotted a line of elegantly dressed men and women getting ready to check into the event. Everyone received a wrist bracelet, either iridescent red or iridescent blue, and a glass and plate. You see, this was a gourmet food and wine event and excellent local restaurants and vineyards had set up booths for guests to taste-test all the offerings.

The hosts of this benefit, *American Honda Co, Inc.* and the *Torrance Chamber of Commerce*, did a magnificent job of creating an atmosphere of welcome to those attending the evening. A red carpet covered the pathway from the parking lot--across the street and then down onto the tennis court covered with green. The large space looked like a huge carved-out fantasy area where vendors lined the court and signs designating the different restaurants, venues and companies were placed above the vendor booths. All this effort was to benefit *Torrance Memorial Hospital*. Everyone attending the event was well-aware of the purpose and focus--even the guest performer, *Kenny G*.

As I walked around, people were visiting, eating and drinking--all the while keeping tabs on the stage situated smack dab in the center sideline of the courts area. It was there that the entertainment of the night would be presented. It was hard to imagine that only hours before,

the rain had poured down on this very spot. The only memory of that event seemed to be the clear air and the clouds high above the festivities. The moon was nearly full and looked like it was purposely placed in the sky



The entertainer, *Kenny G*. Photo by *TerriAnn Ferren*.

especially for atmosphere. Sometimes the moon sets a tone for an evening. Such was this night.

As the sun set and the evening progressed, colored lights softened the atmosphere and the stage was lit with tiny lights--like stars. Those who were fortunate to be sitting in front of the stage around tables in the red section were taking their seats. On both sides of that area, others-- including me in the blue area--were also either snapping up a seat around tables or moving toward the stage to get a closer look. As for me, I was one who wanted a close look and didn't even look for a seat. This is one bit of entertainment I wasn't about to miss. Not one single second. Honestly, the anticipation by this time was palpable and we knew the show was about to begin. Then from the back of the red area, the piercing sound of the smooth jazz saxophone cut through the crowd noise--and like a piper, all eyes were on the man with the long, curly hair dressed in an elegant charcoal suit and crisp white shirt whose very breath was the source of the sound. Floating slowly toward the stage stopping to serenade groups of people as he went, *Kenny G* without saying a word was communicating with each and every person who opened up their soul to his heavenly sound.

This was the very first time I had ever heard this artist play in person. Maybe it was the special evening or maybe it was because it was

an intimate venue, but the separation between the stage and the audience was clearly removed.

As I stood there by the edge of the blue area, I was mesmerized by the notes floating through the air. *Kenny G* introduced each

song by giving the origin, history or why he chose a particular piece. I looked around and couples were holding hands, swaying to the soft, gentle sound and smiling. Some had their eyes closed as if the music would float over them like a wave. It truly was magic.

Kenny G's real name is *Kenneth Bruce Gorelick* and he was born in *Seattle, Washington* in 1956. He told the audience between songs that he owed his success to his early introduction to music and the support of his music teachers at school. *Kenny G* lives in *Southern California* and clearly has a heart for *Torrance Memorial Hospital*. He said he had flown in from *Chicago* to do the benefit that night and was flying back to his boys, still in *Chicago*, to continue their vacation. That is dedication and character.

The sweet songs went on seamlessly as he played one hit after the other. He introduced his accompanist *Robert Damper*, who has been playing with him since they were both students at *Franklin High School*. The two jammed on stage, improvising as they played. You could tell they had played together thousands of times since their teens. It was a treasure to hear the easy melodies played by this artist who seemed to lose himself in his music. The songs were familiar, but I had a hard time remembering all the titles. *Kenny G*'s music had penetrated my everyday life and now I was hearing this artist live. I knew I would never hear the lilting,

strong, emotional, dulcet tones of *Kenny G* the same way after this beautiful evening.

After the music ended--all too soon--*Kenny G* was escorted off the side of the stage to take photographs with the sponsors and benefactors of the evening. But I wanted to speak with him as well. How was I going to do it? Frankly, I thought of you--yes, my readers would want to hear something from this special man as much as I did. I spoke with a security man at the back of the red section and he told me little. Then a beautifully dressed woman tapped my shoulder, called me over and whispered in my ear, "Here, take my red wristband--I am leaving." Yikes! I couldn't believe it. I quickly slipped the wristband over my clammy hand and flashed it past the security guard. I was in. As I approached the clump of people standing in line for photographs, I identified myself and was told I wouldn't be able to interview or meet with *Kenny G*. Then suddenly *Kenny G* spotted me. I identified myself to him and he waved me toward him and I was able to speak with him one on one. He was gracious and gentle and told me, "I think it is great that *Honda* brings the community of *Torrance* together. I am local enough--I wish I was more local 'cuz I think it would be great to be part of the... this is just great...everybody being here tonight, it shows that people want to be part of a community together." Then he smiled and posed for a photograph for me. Okay, I did gush a bit, but not too much.

After speaking with *Kenny G* and getting his quote about the event, I floated out of the venue to the parking lot, into the car and west down *Torrance Boulevard*. The nearly full moon was still high in the sky and the magic was still there.

All the organizers should be proud of the job they did to put on such a magnificent gala for charity. For it is in giving, as we see everywhere in *Torrance* and the surrounding communities, that true joy lives.

The air was still a bit warm, but the damp from the sea was making its way into our town and closing up another special evening. Who knows what next year's event will be or who will entertain, but all I can say is that for me, this special night will be hard to top. Then again when it comes to vision and giving, *American Honda Motor Company, Inc.* and the *Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce* seem to be a winning combination. Mark me down for next year! •

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Real Estate

Create An Outdoor Space That 'Wows'

(BPT) - Whether you own a cozy cottage or mega mansion, as a homeowner, you likely embrace the outdoor living trend. But when you look at your deck or patio, does it leave something to be desired? By taking a do-it-yourself (DIY) approach, you can affordably

More homeowners are opting for pavers to level and define the space, which adds elegant detail, rather than a bland concrete slab. Find pavers in varying shapes, sizes and colors at your local home improvement store. Remember, by digging and installing a base layer, your

and is virtually maintenance-free, which will save you time and money in the long run. It's just as easy to work with as wood and can be cut and assembled in a similar manner. If you simply want to refresh an existing wood deck, rent a power washer to quickly clean off dirt, grime and paint chips. Replace gray and tan paint with deep brown hues, which adds a subtle upscale appearance. Modern exterior paint lasts years and some options even fill cracks in wood, so look for a brand that best suits your needs.

maintenance and many require less water. Explore options at your local garden center or state extension service's website.

Create an Outdoor Kitchen



Homeowners want to enjoy more time outside and that means cooking and dining al fresco. While a basic barbecue grill will do, outdoor kitchens are in high demand. Building your own outdoor kitchen space is simple. Install countertops surrounding your grill and consider incorporating features like a small fridge, gas burners for side items, smokers or built-in storage spaces for spices and cooking tools. Stainless steel continues to be the go-to material for outdoor kitchen features, blending modern style with the organic look of Mother Nature.

Light the Night

The right lighting can take a good outdoor space and make it great. Solar lighting is trending for outdoor spaces, and this eco-friendly option is also affordable. Light pathways with solar landscape lighting - eliminating the need for electrical cords. Jazz up deck posts with post caps that provide a gentle glow. Finally, a string or two of white garden lights adds a twinkle to the beautiful ambiance of a summer evening.

"Renting what you need saves money, plus helps you maximize your time so you can enjoy your new outdoor space sooner."

create outdoor spaces that enhance the style and functionality of your home, plus add to the overall value of the property.

pavers are less likely to shift over time. Dig down and compact base material with a rented plate compactor or a tamper before laying the pavers in the desired pattern.

Go Native with Greenery

Adding plants to your outdoor space helps the area feel cohesive with nature. Not sure what to add? Whether for pots, containers or the surrounding landscaping, consider native lawn and plant materials. Not only will they look great and add color and depth to your outdoor space, but they are typically lower

Here are a few of the leading trends that the DIY homeowner can use to cost-effectively create an outdoor space that "wows:"

Rent Rather than Buy

Upgrading or adding a deck or patio can feel overwhelming unless you have the right equipment to do the job. Renting what you need saves money, plus helps you maximize your time so you can enjoy your new outdoor space sooner. From power washers and saws for cleaning and cutting, to utility loaders and tampers for digging and compacting base materials, you'll find everything you need at your local American Rental Association member rental store. Not sure what you need? The pros at the shop are specially trained and can help you choose the best time-saving tools for your project.

Use Pavers for Patios

Whether you're looking to refresh your current patio space or are starting from scratch, patios are great ground-level entertainment spaces.

Define your Deck

If you're adding a new deck, composite decking material is the way to go. While it costs a bit more than lumber, it lasts longer

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"Torrance Tribune has helped Torrance Civic Chorale focus advertising for our two December concerts and our one Spring concert toward Torrance residence. The professional assistance, guidance and positive encouragement from Torrance Tribune have helped broaden efforts toward increasing concert patrons. Thank you Torrance Tribune."

David Burks
Artistic Director and Conductor
Torrance Civic Chorale

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