

Torrance Tribune

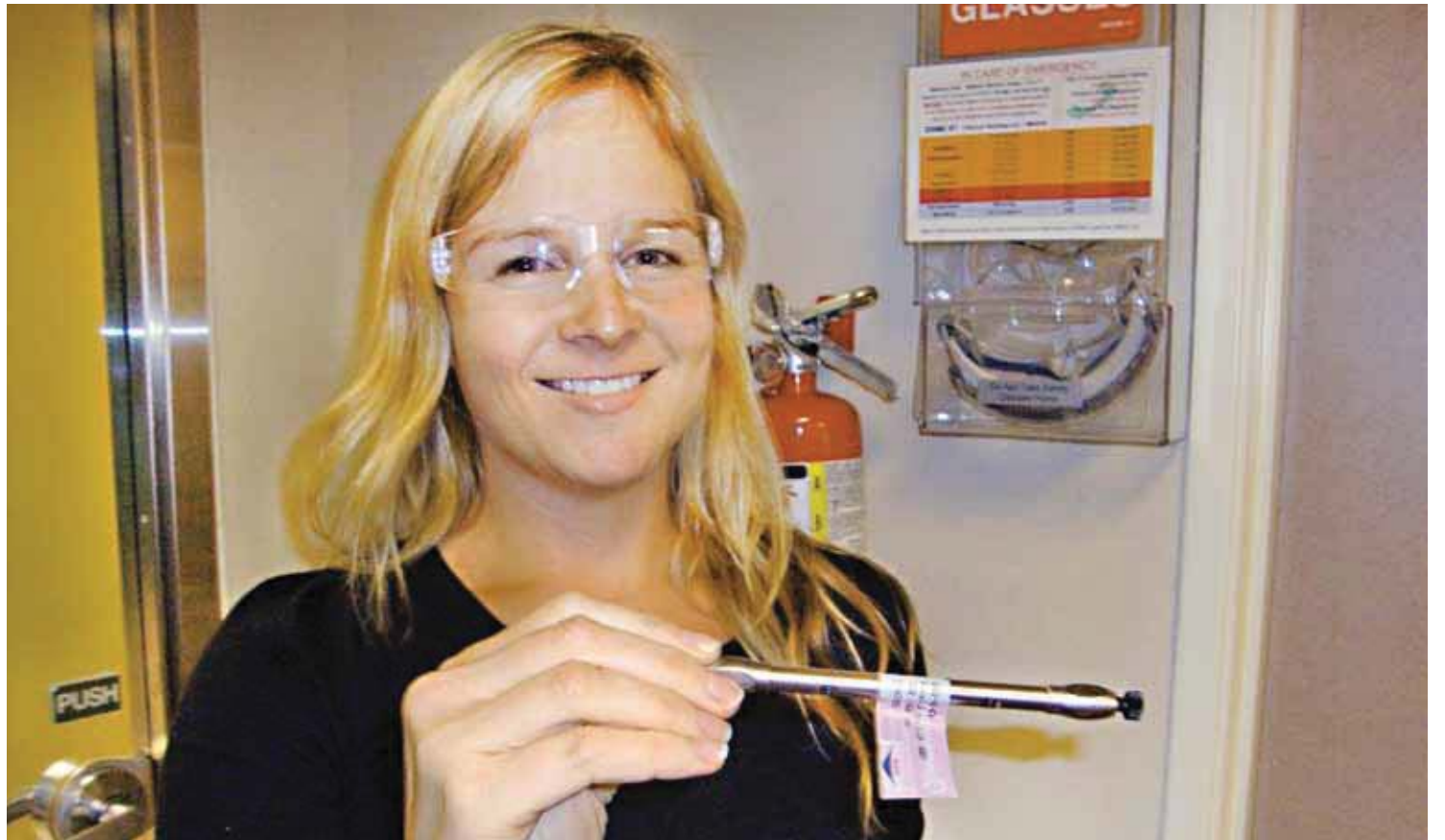
The Weekly Newspaper of Torrance

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Torrance Company Global Leader in Analytical Chemistry Solutions



Phenomenex Manager Kari Kelly holds an HPLC column, which is manufactured and used to measure compounds and test substances. For story and more photos see TerriAnn in Torrance on page 8. •

Council Continues With Strategic Plan

By Dylan Little

The Torrance City Council voted to continue with the Strategic Plan Action Plan for a third year during its Oct. 22 meeting. The Action Plan is a tool City staff uses to develop and measure the effectiveness of policy ranging from environmental concerns to economic development.

Torrance's Strategic Plan was adopted in 2008 and the Action Plan portion was added in 2010. The plan has been guiding the City to move forward in areas residents see as priorities, and covers areas as diverse as stewardship of the environment to cost-effective governance. Assistant City Manager Mary Giordano said staff has been working to develop ways to share highlights of the plan with residents. "It's an opportunity to brag a little bit on the strategic management of the City and its implementation," said Giordano. "What you have before you is the culmination of a three-year action plan."

In order to show the community what the City is doing to achieve the goals of the Strategic Plan, the City released a Community Report (viewable at www.torranceca.gov/StrategicPlan). The report lists 10 areas covered by the plan and for each area highlights projects that address these priorities--such as the Del Amo Boulevard Extension project addressing the priority of maintaining well-functioning infrastructure. Mayor Frank Scotto hopes that making this information easily accessible will better inform the public and silence critics who see the plan as City employee busywork. "I think people will get a lot of information out of this that might inform them about the direction of the City of Torrance," said Scotto. "I'm proud of this. When we went down this path, people said we were just spinning our wheels."

One of the biggest highlights in the Council's opinion was the sheer amount of outside funding various City departments secured for Strategic Plan goals. Projects to improve public transportation, like the planned Regional Transit Center, have received much of their allocation from outside the City's general fund. Scotto

noted that securing so much external funding has been especially important in the face of the general economic decline. "When we talk about \$50 million in grant funding, that's no easy task," said Scotto. "In these tough economic times, it's pretty amazing for a city--one city--to get \$50 million in grants funding. We're very pleased that we were able to do that."

Scotto sees the Strategic Plan as a tool to guide how Torrance will mature and grow long into the future. "I think that we laid the path and the groundwork for the future of the City to be on the right path no matter who takes over or which Council is elected," he said.

While the Strategic Plan serves as a roadmap for the City, another facet of it details how the City is progressing in these areas by referencing under which Key Performance Indicators (KPI) projects fall. There are over 170 KPI in the plan and Scotto believes they are vital to show what the City is doing to address the concerns of the community. "The most important part of this is we have indicators that show us what we've done and where we've gone," said Scotto.

Overall, the Council was pleased with the progress shown and goals laid out in the latest iteration of the Strategic Plan. Councilmember

See City Council, page 3

Weekend Forecast

Friday

AM Clouds/
PM Sun
69°/59°



Saturday

AM Clouds/
PM Sun
76°/60°



Sunday

AM Clouds/
PM Sun
74°/57°



District Unveils Plan for Common-Core Funds

By Dylan Little

The Torrance Unified School District (TUSD) School Board heard the district's spending plan for \$4.8 million in one-time funding Sacramento is providing to assist districts in implementing the new Common Core State Standards and Smarter Balanced assessments. The plan discussed during the Oct. 21 board meeting focused on professional development and acquiring new instructional materials.

The influx of cash is intended to help districts provide materials, teacher coaching and technology upgrades to ease the transition to the new standards and assessments. Chief Academic Officer Tim Stowe said the district has a head start on preparing for these changes, but there is still a lot of work to be done.

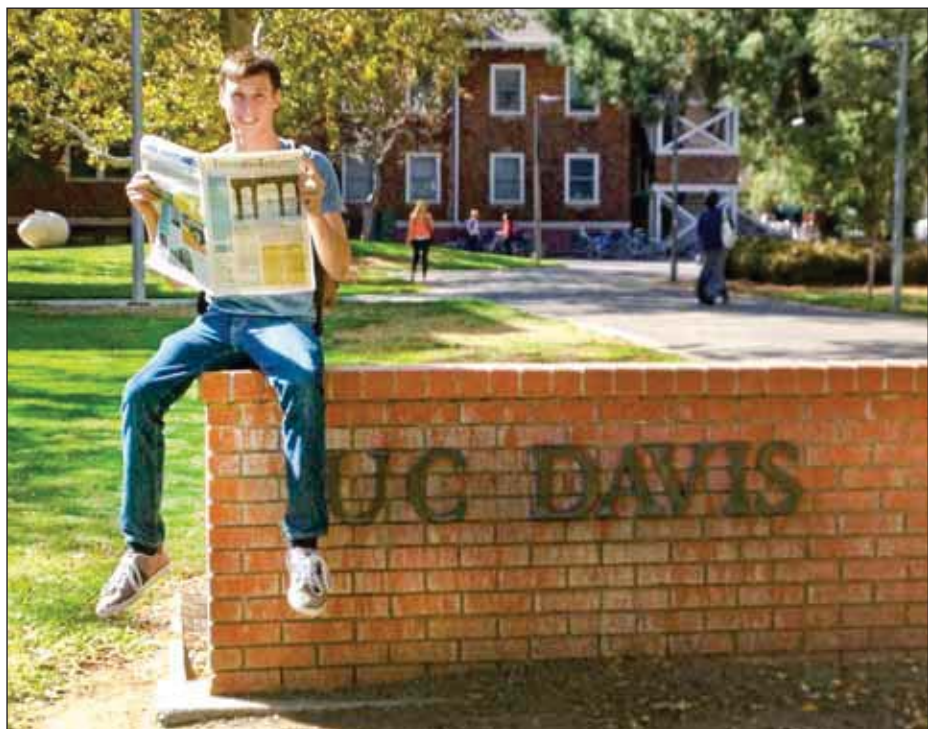
"We're spending a lot of time, effort and money this year -- and we have for the last couple years -- getting teachers, administrators and students ready for this work," Stowe said.

The biggest share of the Common Core adoption funds -- \$2.7 million -- is being used for professional development. Among the strategies the district is considering to provide more opportunities for teacher collaboration and education are hiring additional subject areas coaches. The district is also looking to provide more release time for teachers. In the middle school and high school levels it is taking the form of extra staffing to allow teacher leaders to coach their colleagues. In the elementary level, Stowe is considering hiring physical education teachers to allow classroom teachers collaborative time.

"If we hire six PE teachers at the elementary school level that would be enough time for every teacher in grades one through five to have one hour of release time per week," Stowe said. "We see that as a benefit for a number of reasons. One, when the PE teacher is working with the students . . . teachers aren't planning for

See School Board, page 5

Torrance Tribune in Davis



Torrance resident David S. Gibson, currently a junior at UC Davis, is seen reading his Torrance Tribune between classes. David graduated from West High in 2010. •

Ode to the Vampire Bat

A Halloween poem by M. Judy Wiener of Torrance

Dedicated to the misunderstood and much maligned Vampire bat

Featherless wings, lean and angular,
huge hairy ears and teeth quite spectacular—
Navigating off sound waves and squeaks and squeals,
“I’m a weird little hairball, I’m hell on wheels!”

Darkest cave ceilings shelter kinship and snoozing,
We ‘hang’ ‘til nightfall, then off we go cruising.

It’s fun scaring children and frightening the timid.
Those lovely old folktales are so ghoulish and vivid.
Some tickle your funny bone, some tout superstition,
others fly in the face of good sense or religion.

But, “bats in your belfry” or “bat out of hell,”
it’s a fact, sucking blood keeps you happy and well. •

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Business Briefs

Local Business ‘Thinks Pink’



For the month of October, the 24Hr HomeCare staff will trade their customary blue polo shirts for pink shirts in support of the fight against breast cancer. (From top, L to R): Anthony Evangelista, Dave Jurich, Miriam Corona, Nathan Rice and Matt Mahoney. From bottom, L to R: Sonia Ojeda, Kalia Guibi and Jennifer Wheat.

Fall Art Exhibition Opens



Artist Vadim Zanginian poses with his mother, who was also the subject of his art piece.



Museum Director Dali Higa and President Brian Higa enjoying the museum’s second show opening.



Artist Millie Greene (left) stands in front of her featured paintings with Esther Dailey, who came to see the museum’s fall exhibition.



The works of artists Danny (left) and John (right) McCaw and their father, Dan McCaw, were featured at the fall exhibition.

The opening of the California Museum of Fine Art’s Fall Exhibition was held in Downtown Torrance at the 1421 Marcelina Avenue location. The original works of fifteen artists, including Tom Balderas, Galust Berian,

Glenn Dean, Hollis Dunlap, Millie Greene, Dali Higa, Dan McCaw, Danny McCaw, John McCaw, Terry Miura, Gregory Packard, Derek Penix, Nancy Seamons Crookston, Max Turner and Vadim Zanginian, were featured. The exhibition will be open to the public through November, Wednesdays through Saturdays from noon-6 p.m.

South Bay Business Asks for Facebook ‘Likes,’ Donates to Children’s Camp

Adia, an in-home care provider, has announced its Facebook campaign called, “Help Adia Send a Kid to Camp.” The campaign will benefit Pediatric Therapy Network’s (PTN) Camp Escapades. Adia will donate \$5 for every “like” Adia receives on its Facebook page (search “Adia – The Gift of Caring” on Facebook) up to \$3,000.00.

Camp Escapades is a two-week summer camp open to children with special needs, such as children diagnosed with moderate to severe autism spectrum disorders, Down syndrome, Cerebral Palsy and pre-natal drug and alcohol exposure, and/or other developmental disabilities. Campers will enjoy activities such as: arts and crafts, cooking, dancing, moon bounces, sports, yoga, waterslides and other special events throughout the week. Pediatric occupational therapists, physical therapists and speech and language pathologists are on staff to assist throughout the day.

Los Angeles County Landmark to Close its Doors



On Dec. 22, 2013, the infamous Proud Bird Restaurant will retire. A historic restaurant, which has served Los Angeles County residents for 47 years, will be remembered by its landmark symbol “the airplane,” the restaurant’s pivotal attraction. On Dec. 14, in honor of its retirement, the United Economic Development Fund, a nonprofit organization that “supports community growth and development at the grass roots level,” will present a commemorative plaque to Proud Bird for its outstanding services to the County. Photo courtesy of Proud Bird’s Facebook page.

Torrance Business Shines Light on Impoverished Villages

LEDtronics, Inc. announced that its “Pehli Kiran” initiative provided LED solar lanterns to top students from impoverished villages in Pakistan. Top students received a solar lantern or a solar cell phone charger to help them continue their studies and encourage them to stay in school.

The “Pehli Kiran,” or “first ray of light,” is a philanthropic initiative created in 2003 by Pervaiz Lodhie, CEO of LEDtronics, to create opportunities for socio-economic development worldwide.

“The Pehli Kiran initiative gives poverty-stricken families freedom from darkness, illiteracy, poverty, hunger and disease,” states Lodhie. “On Sept. 3rd, we extended this program to schools in deprived areas of Pakistan to encourage students to continue their studies and show appreciation for their hard work. •



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School Board Elections

Tabakian Promotes Various Pathways for Student Success

By Dylan Little

Educator and academic consultant John Paul Tabakian is (along with incumbents Michael Wermers and Mark Steffen and Martha Deutsch) seeking one of three open spots on the Torrance School Board in the Nov. 5 election. Tabakian has been an assistant professor at Los Angeles Mission College, Cleveland Chiropractic College and Los Angeles Trade Technical College teaching political science and history. He has also written a book, *The Academic Entrepreneur*,

not sexy to most people, but it helps keep programs alive. I decided to throw my hat in the ring because I thought I could make a difference.”

While the idea of involving the private sector in education might conjure images of playground supervision being provided by the lowest bidder, Tabakian said that under his watch, educational services would always remain exclusively run by the District. “It’s a nightmare in terms of liability,” said Tabakian. “Privatizing services will never

“The Torrance Tribune is featuring School Board Election profiles of each candidate.”

which offers suggestions on how to influence institutional policies in community colleges that in turn encourage faculty academic entrepreneurialism. He is seeking a term on the Board to address issues with district funding and to promote the success of non-traditional students.

Tabakian said his displeasure with the Torrance Unified School District started



with the latter’s reliance on keeping a large reserve for economic uncertainty and a perceived inflexibility in looking into new sources of funding. He would like to see the District reach out to other organizations in both the public and private sectors to create lasting programs that would not burden local taxpayers.

“I was disheartened to hear about the excess reserves and the funding policies during the economic malaise,” said Tabakian. “I felt some of the answers that current Board members had made were inaccurate. I have a new way of thinking about funding approaches. It’s

happen. I absolutely know from first-hand experience it’s preferable to handle things in house.”

Instead Tabakian would like to see the private sector become more involved outside of school hours. One way he mentioned to do that is to open up school property for private use. “We have 33 campuses. What we are not doing is we are not capitalizing on our market resources,” said Tabakian. “For example, I foresee a time when we will be leasing out our property to private industry.”

Part of Tabakian’s plan for capitalizing on the District’s resources is to make higher education available to high school students on their own campuses. He envisions teachers already employed by the District staying after school to teach community college-level courses, with their extra hours covered by an outside entity or fees paid for the classes. “What I want to do is build a college in every single high school campus,” said Tabakian.

Offering college-level courses isn’t free, but Tabakian believes that through partnerships it could be possible to make after school college courses affordable to most students. “Using the fundraising abilities of our District and partnering with corporations and companies, perhaps they would sponsor a college course where it doesn’t cost families additionally,” said Tabakian. “There’s a lot of money out there that’s readily available to us. We just don’t see it.”

In Tabakian’s opinion, one of the keys is to get third parties, either for-profit or nonprofit, to join with the school to offer higher education on high school campuses. “I think I can raise lots of money,” said Tabakian. “We need to embrace contract education. That’s step one. With contract education, using a third party entity—it could be the Torrance Education Foundation, [or] it could be some other entity—we’re going

See School Board Elections, page 5

Calendar

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24

- South Bay Cities Council of Governments: 6 p.m., 20285 Western Ave., Ste 100. For information email CityClerk@TorranceCa.gov.

- South Bay Ostomy support Group Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Torrance Memorial, West Tower, #”B. For more information call Carol at (310) 378-5331 or Anne Marie at (310) 548-8558.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25

- Annual Hickory YMCA Haunted House, 6:15-8:30 p.m., Hickory Elementary, 2800 W. 227th St. For more information call (310) 530-9391.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26

- Make a Difference Day Volunteer Event, 8:30 a.m.-Noon, Madrona Marsh Nature Center and Preserve, 3201 Plaza Del Amo. For more information call (310) 782-3989.

- Toddler and Preschool Concert Series, 10:30 a.m., Katy Geissert Library, Community Meeting Room, 3301 Torrance Blvd. For more information call (310) 618-5964.

- Homebuyers Workshop, 2-3 p.m., Torrance Crossroads Member Service Center, 24329 Crenshaw Blvd. Suite F. For more information call (866) 347-6143.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27

- Free Walking Tour of Old Torrance, 1:30 p.m., Torrance Historical Society & Museum, 1345 Post Ave. For more information call (310) 328-5392.

- Evening of Poe(try), 5 p.m., Torrance Historical Society & Museum, 1345 Post Avenue, Old Torrance. For more information call (310) 328-5392.

- Torrance Antique Street Fair- 15th Anniversary Event, 8 AM to 3 PM.1317 Sartori Ave. For more information call (310) 328-6107.

MONDAY OCTOBER 28

- Jewish Genealogical Society Of Los Angeles, 7:30 p.m., Toyota USA Auto Museum, 19600 Van Ness Blvd. For information contact judieson@aol.com.

- Jefferson Middle School Fall Concert, 7 p.m., James Armstrong Theatre, 3330 Civic Center Drive. For more information call (310) 781-7171.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29

- Calle Mayor Middle School Fall Concert, 7 p.m., James Armstrong Theatre, 3330 Civic Center Drive. For more information call (310) 781-7171.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30

- Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce Monthly Lunch and Learn event, noon, Chamber office, 3400 Torrance Blvd, Suite 100. For more information call (310) 543-3113.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31

- Carr Elementary YMCA First Annual Haunted House, 5:15-8 p.m., Carr Elementary, 3404 170th St. For more information call (310) 329-0824.

- City of Torrance Community Services Department Halloween Carnival, 4-8 p.m., Wilson Park, 2200 Crenshaw Blvd. For more information call (310) 618-2930.

- Halloween Carnival, 4-8 p.m., Wilson Park 2200 Crenshaw Blvd. For more information call (310) 618-2930.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2

- African American Quilters of Los Angeles Bi-annual Quilt Show, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Carson Community Center, 3 Civic Center Plaza Drive. For more information call (310) 677-3269.

- YMCA Low Cost Vet Clinic, 10-11:30 a.m., Torrance-South Bay YMCA 2900 W. Sepulveda Blvd. For more information call (310) 325-5885.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5

- City Council Meeting, 7-10 p.m., City Hall Chambers, 3031 Torrance Blvd.

ONGOING

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

- Jerry Hicks, fine art photographer, will be displaying three new pieces at the El Segundo Main library. 111 W. Mariposa Ave. For more information call (310) 524-2722. •

City Council

from front page

Bill Sutherland thanked Giordano and City staff for the diligence in creating a thorough summary of the plan. “You’ve done a fantastic job,” said Sutherland. “I’m sure to the public it seems easy to compile this, but we up here know the amount of hours you’ve put into this.”

Also during the meeting, representatives from two Torrance non-profits--the South Bay Bocce Courts Project and the Torrance Education Foundation--invited the public to join them in fundraisers to support their causes. Joel Massa of the South Bay Bocce Courts Project asked people to consider picking up pizza from the Crenshaw Boulevard and Pacific Coast Highway California Pizza Kitchen location on Oct. 24 when it will be donating 20 percent of the receipts of diners who say they are there to support the

Friends of Torrance Exceptional Athletes or the South Bay Bocce Courts Project. These organizations seek to provide opportunities for elderly and disabled people to enjoy sports through organized play and the construction of easily accessible Bocce courts.

Similarly, Mary Hoffman of the Torrance Education Foundation asked the public to support the Torrance School District through the Sketchers Pier-to-Pier Friendship Walk on Oct. 27 starting at 8 a.m. She said that each school site to sign-up 100 walkers would receive an extra \$1,000 from the Torrance Education Foundation on top of the \$2,500 it would receive in sign-up donations. Sign-ups are open until the start of the event and more information can be found at www.torranceeducationfoundation.org. •

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Politically Speaking

One Man's Opinion

By Gerry Chong

*Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come;*

*'Tis Grace that brought me safe thus far,
And Grace will lead me home...*

— Amazing Grace

In the ultimate irony, before the Republican capitulation on all issues that had brought the government to a partial standstill, Congressman Steve Southerland (R-FL), a funeral-home director, led the House in a rendition of the traditional burial hymn *Amazing Grace*. For some, this song was simply a replacement for the House's morning prayer. For others, it marked the death of the last Republican proposal to end the shutdown. But for still others, it signaled the death of the Republican Party.

The Republican predecessor, the Whigs, bickered and remained on its death bed for five years before disbanding. So should Republicans. For five years, they have been unable to make a single, simple point: Specifically, Obamacare is the foundation for our economic malaise.

It creates or raises taxes, slows job growth and replaces full-time jobs with part-time jobs. Its goal is to enroll seven million new insureds, but government and private organizations project 11-35 million will lose employer-provided insurance. It diminishes family income. Its projected cost has exploded from \$960 billion to \$2.6 trillion—a 270-percent growth in three years. Medical care will be rationed. Administratively, the Obamacare website cost \$634 million and is nonfunctional. By its most crucial measurement, at full implementation, 30 million will still remain uninsured. Any moron should have been able to forcefully

tell this story, but not Republicans.

Steve Forbes, editor of *Forbes Magazine*, offered a seven-step modification to Obamacare, but Republicans ignored it. Specifically: Allow interstate shopping for medical insurance. Eliminate coverage mandates and allow companies to offer an array of plans, allowing consumers to shop for the plan that best suits their needs. Provide tax deductions for individuals for buying insurance. Initiate medical malpractice tort reform. Eliminate government employee exemption from Obamacare. Create high risk pools to mitigate the impact of premium jumps on healthy consumers. Prevent Medicare money from funding Obamacare. Again, a simple story to tell, but Republicans failed.

What has the end to the government impasse shown us? It shows Obama will not compromise and will give no quarter to the party that is busy committing suicide. In two steps, he will drive the Republican Party from existence. First, the outlines of a budget accord must be reached by mid-December with final agreement by Jan. 15, 2014. Expect sequester spending cuts to be erased, while new spending initiatives and taxes will be increased. Then in its second step, he will force the raising of the national debt from its current \$16.95 trillion (\$125,000 for each working American) to over \$18 trillion!

The hapless Republicans are defenseless. They have played the shutdown hand poorly and can only quietly acquiesce, folding their tent. Any political party that over five years cannot make two simple arguments does not represent its constituency and does not even coherently represent a point of view. It therefore deserves its fate.

Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound... •

Another Man's Opinion

Another Inefficient Solution to a Serious Problem

By Cristian Vasquez

A few weeks ago, Governor Jerry Brown signed Assembly Bill 60, authored by Assemblymember Luis Alejo, which grants the opportunity for undocumented immigrants to apply for a driver's license. There are many theories and arguments in favor and against such a move. Whether or not you are in favor of giving a driver's license to someone who is in the country without permission, this new law is a fresh example of how badly the issues with our immigration system need to be fixed. In addition, AB 60 highlights the inefficiency of our federal government's ability to solve an important task.

First of all, if the federal government is responsible for determining immigration policy and states have resorted to enacting laws within their borders to help deal with the issue of undocumented immigrants, then that proves how badly the federal government is failing at its task. This failure can be attributed to more than a handful of factors. The easiest thing to address is border security. Between arguing about building a wall at the United States-Mexico border or increasing border patrol personnel, little has been done in regard to either one. As a result, the border remains unprotected and vulnerable to human trafficking rings that will exploit every opportunity to make money. Furthermore, there is the issue of companies hiring undocumented workers. For years, the approach has been to punish and deport the source of cheap labor (undocumented workers) while the ones creating the demand (businesses) got off with a slap on the wrist

at best. So while one group of undocumented workers left the country, businesses recruited a new batch of similar workers. The recent E-Verify Program is supposed to help and there has been a decrease in the amount of undocumented workers hired by large companies.

The reality is that if the borders were better secured and if businesses that hired undocumented workers suffered more severe and serious consequences, there would be less of a need for states like California to enact laws granting driving privileges to these workers. Opponents will say AB 60 does not make our roads safer and that it rewards a group of people violating the law. That's true. Supporters argue that these people are working and acting as productive entities in society, so the driving privileges are being extended to a group of people contributing to the economy. That is also true. What is additionally true is that if the federal government took the issue of border security and immigration trends and policy more seriously, we would not be in this position.

If imposing fines and penalties removed the incentive for businesses to hire undocumented workers, then there would be a smaller pool of undocumented laborers waiting to jump into the workforce. Not to mention, these businesses would have to follow the rules like the majority of business owners. If the border was better protected, there would be an even smaller pool of undocumented workers. Hence, we would not have to resort to controversial laws such as AB 60. •

From the Source

Governor Signs Senator Wright's Gun-Storage Bill into Law

A news release from Los Angeles
Senator Roderick Wright

SACRAMENTO – As the deadline for bills passed this year to be signed or vetoed approached, a measure by Senator Roderick D. Wright (D-South Los Angeles) to help keep

guns out of the hands of those individuals the law prohibits from possessing them was signed into law Friday by Governor Jerry Brown.

Under current law, gun owners only have a responsibility to keep their guns secured and out of the reach of children. Problems can

arise, however, when a licensed gun owner resides in the same home as someone who is legally prohibited from owning a firearm, usually due to previous crimes.

Senate Bill 363 creates a safe storage requirement for a person who legally owns

right to own a gun for their own protection, but they also carry a responsibility to do what they can to keep that gun from falling into the wrong hands and becoming a threat to the community," said Wright.

Wright is a vocal proponent of the right

"But they also carry a responsibility to do what they can to keep that gun from falling into the wrong hands."

a firearm and resides with a person he or she knows, or has reason to know, is prohibited from owning a firearm. Under the bill, a gun owner would face misdemeanor charges if they store a gun unsafely and it is used by the prohibited person residing in their home to cause bodily injury.

"Law-abiding citizens have a Constitutional

to responsible gun ownership. Last year, he passed a bill to streamline the process for applying for a Concealed Carry Permit in California, and in the last days of the 2013 Legislative Session, he spoke out against several of the overreaching gun control bills, which were vetoed by Governor Brown this month. •

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School Board

from front page

sub plans. The students are actually receiving instruction in an area where the teacher is an expert. The other opportunity that we see is that it's regular, it's weekly, it's planned for. It's that regular time that's helpful. Teachers are asking for that time."

As planned, the remaining \$2.1 million will be spent on instructional materials. While most of this funding will be for Common Core compliant math texts (an approximate \$1.8 million expense), the remaining funds will go to provide supplemental materials, including possibility instructional software.

"We budgeted to provide supplemental

"We aren't going to be purchasing, we're going to be leasing. We clearly believe that is the direction to go in."

and support resources for the other content areas," Stowe said. "The teachers are asking for resources for English, non-fiction text for example. We need to try to find things that will match [teacher needs], that might include instructional software."

Other than the previously mentioned instructional software, no funding in the \$4.8 million for Common Core adoption is the realm of technology. Stowe instead said the district is planning to address this area with unrestricted general funds. He made it clear that upgrading the district's technological capabilities is vital for the district.

"We know we have a large need for upgrade of infrastructure as well as devices for students," Stowe said.

In order to fulfill this need, Superintendent George Mannon explained that the district is planning on leasing hardware through out the district, as opposed to the often-piecemeal approach of looking for specific site opportunities to add technology.

"We aren't going to be purchasing, we're going to be leasing. We clearly believe that is the direction to go in . . . that way we

get new equipment when the lease ends," Mannon said. "We don't think this should be a school project. We shouldn't upgrade our infrastructure on a school-by-school level but district wide. The only way to get a standardized system is to purchase it on the district level."

In order to create the Common Core funding plan, Stowe gathered input from administrators and teachers in English language arts and math. This group decided that teacher training, as modeled by Loyola Marymount's Center for Math and Science Teaching (CMAST) program would be the most effective way

to bring teachers and students up to speed on the new requirements.

"We talked about the needs, we talked about what's working and [one] of the areas that we identified . . . the CMAST math program . . . that model where you have intensive training and coaching while you implementing something has proven very effective, not just in our practice but in the research," Stowe said.

The presentation was intended to give the board and the public time to analysis and comment on the plan before it is approved. Board President Michael Wermers said he was pleased, although he also expressed concerns over the adoption of new technology.

"I think we have a good plan, I think this is a good start. We're going to find all kind of things that are going to bite us in the butt later as we move forward," Wermers said. "These are the two that are glaring to me right away, we got to make certain we have a training plan and we have to make sure we have a maintenance plan as part of this [new technology] equation. But I think this is a great plan." •

School Board Elections

from page 3

to use that entity to market college-level courses to our constituents here in Torrance at a higher cost than what they would pay just to go to school."

Tabakian also said he wants to improve education for students with circumstances outside the norm. He said he understands how students in non-traditional circumstances have a harder road ahead of them because he was a non-traditional student himself. He took the California High School Proficiency Examination instead of finishing high school and would like to see students in similar situations succeed. "I'm a nontraditional student. I have an interest in helping non-traditional students be successful," said Tabakian. "The one thing that is most important to me is student success."

Tabakian mentioned that nontraditional students in the District's continuation campus

Sherry High School sometimes slip through the cracks of a system focused on getting students to four-year colleges. "We view Sherry High School as the drunk uncle that sleeps on the couch," said Tabakian. "What happens to those students? I help students and families realize it's not where you're coming from. It's where you're going and I want to help [them] get there."

Tabakian said he isn't a politician and believes that while serving as a board member won't further his career; it will improve education in Torrance. "I absolutely believe that the only way we're going to move forward and really think about innovative new ideas is to sacrifice," said Tabakian. "I created this model. I want to help educate my community about the effectiveness and why we need to embrace these trends and not be afraid of it." •

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Sports

Up and Adam

Warriors Get Back On Track

By Adam Serrao

One week after a devastating loss to Mira Costa, West High's first defeat of the season, head coach Greg Holt and his team needed to get themselves back on track. That's exactly what they did last Friday night at West High against Redondo. Maybe it was the defense that held Redondo scoreless until the fourth

dropped back-to-back games while being outscored 100-12 over that same two-game span. Those losses are way off in the distance now, though, and perhaps no game better symbolized the Saxons' quick turnaround than their matchup with Lawndale last Friday night at North High. North's 42-21 victory was not only its second league win in as

"Whatever the reason was, the Warriors came out with a vengeance and wanted only one thing – a win."

quarter. Maybe it was the offense that put up a total of 37 points--23 of which came in the first half. Whatever the reason was, the Warriors came out with a vengeance and wanted only one thing--a win. With their complete team effort, that's exactly what they got by defeating Redondo 37-7, keeping themselves in the hunt for possibly a Bay League crown and playoff berth.

The game was tight to begin with, as neither team could really get anything going on offense. As usual this year for West, however, starting running back Brett Ojiyi broke the spell and was the first one to get into the end zone and get his team on the board. With just about three minutes remaining in the first quarter, Ojiyi ran it in from six yards out and gave his team the momentum that it would take into a dominant second quarter. Starting quarterback Zach Heeger took over for Ojiyi and got the scoring going with a 10-yard rushing touchdown to push the West High lead to 14-0 in the second. After a field goal, Heeger got at it again, completing a 70-yard touchdown pass to his favorite receiver, Dane Silverlake, to make it 23-0 at the half. "Our offense was fairly efficient," Holt said of his team. "If our offense is efficient, it gives us a breather on defense. Today's win was a complete team win."

The Warriors would score two more times in the second half before Redondo got on the board in the fourth quarter, but by that time the game was already well out of reach. The victory for West keeps it in competition for the Bay League crown. Currently, it sits just behind Mira Costa (West's one loss) and Palos Verdes with a key game against Palos Verdes coming this Friday night. A win would almost assure the Warriors of a playoff spot and shot at the Bay League crown.

North High

The North High Saxons keep finding ways to win on the football field. Nobody has to remind head coach Todd Croce or the rest of his team how they started off the season. It looked bleak, to say the least, as the Saxons

many tries, but it was also its fourth win of the season and kept the team at the head of the class and in first place in the Pioneer League standings.

Lawndale led in this one 13-0 after the first quarter and it looked as if it had the distinct advantage on North on the night. Mique Juarez had other plans, however. Juarez's 88-yard kickoff return to start the second quarter not only got the Saxons on the board, but gave them the push that they needed. The Saxons scored a touchdown on their next possession to go up 14-13 and led 21-13 at the half after scoring 21 unanswered points. The fun didn't stop there for the Juarez or the Saxons. Juarez threw two more touchdown passes before all was said and done--one to Ira Moore and one to Makelty Davis--to up the Saxon lead to 35-21 before they eventually outlasted Lawndale by the final of 42-21. Juarez was the star of the game, coming away with 197 yards and two touchdowns on the ground as well as 98 yards and two touchdowns passing. North will face its toughest challenge in the Pioneer League yet as it takes on El Segundo in a battle for first place this Friday night.

South High

The South High Spartans finally did it. It wasn't easy, but they at last got what they have been searching for all season long. With an 8-6 victory at home last Friday night against Centennial, the Spartans finally got their first, ever elusive victory of the season. There wasn't much scoring taking place on the night. South only managed one touchdown in the second quarter and decided to go for two to capitalize as much as it could on the scoring opportunity. That's where the score stayed at the half--8-0. Centennial came out of the gates raring to go in the third quarter and put a quick six points on the board. When it went for two to tie the game, however, Centennial came up short. Those two points were the difference in the game as South came away with the 8-6 victory on

See Up and Adam, page 8

'Tis Not The Season

By Adam Serrao

The Los Angeles Dodgers have not won a World Series title since 1988 and after much hope, optimism and anticipation from the team's fan base for this year, that trend remains intact. After an impeccable regular season, many free agent moves that served to improve the team and some of the best talent that the Dodger uniforms have ever seen, it all came crashing down on L.A. in just one game. After finishing off the regular season strong and devouring the Atlanta Braves in the first round of the playoffs, the Dodgers knew that the last team that they wanted to see was the St. Louis Cardinals. This was why. As good as Los Angeles' pitching has been all season long, St. Louis' proved to be better. Clayton Kershaw is now 0-4 against the Cardinals this year. If the best pitcher in all of baseball can't beat them, then the Dodgers stood no chance.

Looking back to June 22, the Dodgers were in last place in the NL West and fans everywhere seemed to be giving up on a team that opened its pocketbooks in the offseason to manufacture a playoff contender. All of a sudden, as if over night, something in the clubhouse changed. The Dodgers began enjoying coming to the ballpark and

all postseason long, too. The team will also have a full year out of Puig and will most likely know now what it takes to upgrade some of the weaknesses that haunted the club early on in the season. This Dodgers' team, despite the large salary, defied the odds this year and gave its fan base hope--the first real hope that it has had since the 2009 season or possibly even well before then. Even still, the players don't see it that way yet. "It's great, but we didn't meet our goal," Dodgers' catcher A.J. Ellis explained. "I'm not really in the mood to pull out positives or moral victories right now. This hurts and it's going to hurt for a long, long time. Probably until we get to spring training and we get back together again, we're going to think about this and what could have been."

What could have been is a lot different than what was. An 11-pitch at-bat to Cardinals' lead-off batter Matt Carpenter sparked a run that wound up booting the Dodgers right out of competition. But between the lines, the Dodgers have somewhat of a bigger problem to handle this offseason. When Carpenter laced a double to right-center on that 11th offering, Beltran should have been walked with first base open. Ricky Nolasco maybe should never have taken the mound

"Hanley Ramirez also had no right to be out there on the field after a wild pitch hit him in the side and fractured his rib."

believed that they could beat any team that they played against. That showed too as the team went on to win 42 of its next 50 games and not only wind up on top of the NL West, but also as one of the best teams in the league. In that light, the season was a success for the Boys in Blue. Losing in six games in the National League Championship Series sure has a way of overshadowing all of the good from a season that is now over, though. "What does it really matter, making the playoffs or coming in last place?" a clearly dejected Clayton Kershaw said. "If you don't win the World Series, it doesn't really matter." Just like that, Kershaw's Cy Young caliber season, Yasiel Puig's remarkable rookie season and Zack Grienke's outstanding first year in Dodger blue all went out the window. Ninety-two wins means nothing to the Dodgers without a ring.

There is reason to be optimistic for next season. The Dodgers entered the postseason with an injured Matt Kemp and as many people forget, without one of their best pitchers who has been out all year in Chad Billingsley. Hanley Ramirez also had no right to be out there on the field after a wild pitch hit him in the side and fractured his rib. Andre Ethier was battling injuries

in Game 4 of the series. In a pivotal Game 1 that went back and forth and eventually ended in the 13th inning, Adrian Gonzalez should have never been taken out in the eighth inning for a pinch runner, leaving a gigantic hole in the lineup. The Dodgers could have maybe been a little bit more prepared for Game 6, rather than playing games after the National Anthem. Instead of cheering on Scott Van Slyke to hold his position outside of the Dodger dugout in a stand-off of sorts with Joe Kelly, they may have been better served to keep their heads on the task at hand, figuring out how to get a hit off of Cardinal pitcher Michael Wacha.

Sources say that Mattingly will be back in Dodger blue to coach the boys into another playoff run. Maybe this year was pivotal. It gained Mattingly and his club the experience that is necessary to come up big in the World Series. There is no question that the talent exists on the Los Angeles Dodgers. How that talent is used, however, is the difference between putting a nice shiny ring on your finger at the end of October, or watching a team that you've lost to have that same opportunity. There will always be next year for the Los Angeles Dodgers, but that next year could have been this year. •

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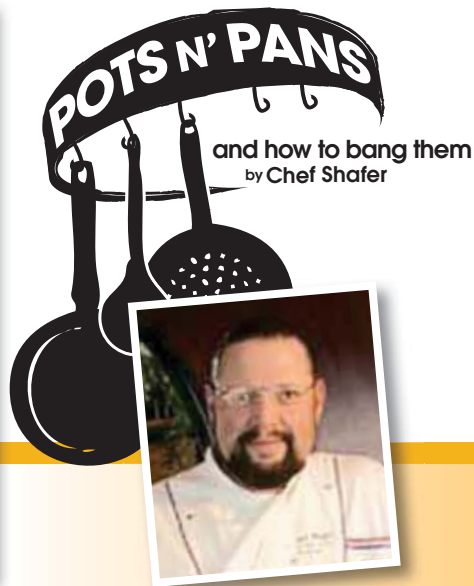
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I hope you all liked the spinach recipe from last week. The next day, I took some of the leftover spinach and mixed it with eggs and made a great omelet for my wife. She loved it but didn't get to finish. She got up to answer the phone, and the dogs helped her clean the dish. Continuing with our Halloween garlic theme, this week we are going to make:

The Chef



Garlic Smashed Potatoes with Sour Cream and Scallions



20 medium-size Red Skin potatoes
2 cloves of peeled garlic
1/2 cup vegetable oil
1-tablespoon kosher salt
1-tablespoon black pepper

Mix together potatoes, garlic, oil, salt and pepper. Place on a sheet pan and bake in the oven at 350 for 30-40 minutes, or 'til the potatoes are tender

Place in a large bowl and smash together with the following:

- 1/4 pound of butter 1-cup sour cream
- 1 cup chopped scallions
- Add more salt if needed. •

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TerriAnn in Torrance

Phenomenal Phenomenex

By TerriAnn Ferren

Whenever I am home and decide to make myself a sandwich, I open the bread and take out two slices, pull open the refrigerator door and select all the items for my sandwich. It doesn't even occur to me to think that the food I purchased at the local store would be unsafe. I take it for granted that the "use-before" dates on the products are enough and tell me when to throw out the items. The same is true for other things I purchase. Water is pure and clean, and I trust measures are taken to keep it that way. The same is true for soil and many other organic materials. But how are items tested?

Right here in Torrance is a company that is a global leader in the technology of developing analytical chemistry solutions that solve the separation and purification challenges



President of Phenomenex, Fasha Mahjoor.

in industry, government and academic laboratories and clinical labs. That company is Phenomenex. Four-hundred-and-fifty people work at Phenomenex in Torrance and 250 to 300 work for the company globally. Last week, I decided to visit this amazing place and see for myself exactly what Phenomenex makes and does.

Kari Kelly, manager of corporate marketing, greeted me in the bright and chic lobby. Kari was born near LAX and told me, "Science is my passion." She proceeded to explain what Phenomenex does. "It is difficult to explain to our family and friends what we do. Our number one technology is HPL Systems [High Performance Liquid] chromatography or high-pressure liquid chromatography. According to the dictionary, chromatography is a technique used to separate the components of a chemical mixture by moving the mixture along a stationary material. Different components of the mixture are caught by the material at different rates and form isolated bands that can then be analyzed."

Got it.

Luckily, Kari brought an example. She was holding an HPLC column--which is a piece of equipment that helps test substances. These columns are the foundation of what,

as I understand, the company manufactures and uses to measure compounds and test for purity of any number of substances. Kari told me that inside the steel tube (this one was the size of a pen) was essentially silica (sand)--and this spherical silica is coated with different chemistries--hundreds of different chemistries--inside the tube. She explained to me if you wanted to test water to see if there were pesticides in it, you would inject a solution into the column with different chemistries. Each of the chemistries interacts with the chemistries inside the column and they interact in different ways at different times that can be measured and identified. This procedure, using the rods which come in small to very huge sizes, is the vehicle used to test everything from blood to food to soil. Amazing! A good example is Tylenol. A company will purify it by using the rods and pushing into the rod substances that will check for everything relevant to quality control. One tube may be used thousands of times depending upon what is being tested. Blood, plasma and urine that are tested in environmental labs cannot be used repeatedly for obvious reasons. So chromatography is the study of separation.

Got it.

This was all very scientific and I asked Kari how long this technology has been used and she said since the '60s or '70s, but not as sophisticated as today. What Phenomenex has done is create a silicon particle which has a hard core--a non-porous hard core--and then bonded some of the core on the outside so essentially it's the most sturdy, powerful, high-efficient particle in the world. That is essentially what's created in the lab Kari showed me.

As I walked down the hallway, I noticed the brightly painted walls of this amazing company. I saw people in white lab coats working and smiling at me as we passed by. Everyone seemed in a jovial mood. This lab was unlike any I have ever seen. Not only did the bright, clean colors catch my eye, but there was exquisite artwork and antiques everywhere. Windows were punched out and skylights illuminated this bright, open, spacious place. Kari took me through another manufacturing area in the company where an SPE tube (solid phase extraction) is produced. Basically, that was where a syringe-looking device is fitted with a "filter" that collects "junk" that one might not want to go through the column to extend the life of the column--like blood. That is my non-scientific explanation. Kari also went on to tell me they also manufacture gas chromatography columns that are very pretty. "They are beautiful pulled glass and very much like thread, but they are tubes and they use gas. Instead of being steel, it is glass and it's just gorgeous," Kari said.

Kari continued, "Phenomenex is very

different. People are inspired to work here. We have a gym, a cafeteria, game room, and even a sleep room." Yes, I was surprised to see a room that was painted in soft, soothing colors with dim lighting and a very restful atmosphere complete with luxurious lounge chairs just beckoning for someone to take a few moments to rest. One person was resting, so we quietly walked through that room.

As you can imagine, quality control is huge in this business. While walking through the maze that is Phenomenex, I saw bright labs, exotic equipment, smiling scientists and beautiful art. There were no doors. Everyone was open to each other and the doors that did exist (only four) were glass and belonged to the top management. I then was escorted to the office of the President of Phenomenex, Fasha Mahjoor. This gracious man invited me into his very unique office and told me he grew up in England, went to Manchester University and studied architecture. He was accepted to a master's program in London, but came to California in 1978 not really intending to stay forever. Due to world affairs and being of Iranian Baha'i background, he decided to stay. Graduating from USC in 1980, times were tough for architects. A close British friend, who had studied chemistry and was a PhD, had started a business in Britain and wanted to enter the American market. He came to California and offered Fasha a job selling his products. "I failed every chemistry class that existed. At age 15, I used to get chucked out of the class. Soccer and rugby were a lot more interesting to me," Fasha said. Then Fasha pointed to a 10' x 10' drafting table standing in one end of his spacious, immaculate office and told me that is where it all started. "In a very short period of time, I found I could sell quite a lot of these products and I suppose I never



One example of featured artwork.

saw myself as a businessman at all and so I moved to two little rooms in P.V., then four little rooms. Then in '87 - 1988, I came to Torrance. I started Phenomenex in 1982."

I learned that in the beginning Fasha only imported the products he sold, but two years after he went out on his own he went into manufacturing (chromatography) and expanded into research. "It is absolutely magical," he said. "All discoveries of drugs, diseases, pollution---all food safety that you hear about on the television---is all discovered by chromatography. All the drugs that either come onto the market or go off the market because they find an impurity in it are analyzed. Urine, blood, you name it...anything that is

in your refrigerator has been analyzed. All drug companies have labs. Scientists, for example--if they want to test aspirin--we say we will take your sample whatever they are analyzing, develop a method and then give you a kit and a tool and a method to follow to make your work faster, cheaper, better, with greater detection, etc. All have their own laboratories."

Then I learned Phenomenex sells a considerable amount of product to China. It has 15 subsidiaries internationally and Phenomenex is number one in the world in its niche. When Fasha Mahjoor began his business, there were 500 companies and now there are about 25. Torrance houses the world headquarters of Phenomenex, which has grown to 15 buildings.

But this company isn't all about just keeping our food, soil and everything else either clean or analyzed. It is heavily involved in philanthropy both locally and globally. For the last 25 of his 31 years, Fasha Mahjoor has led his company in doing an enormous amount of charity work all over the world. Fasha told me, "In India, we support a huge orphanage--we get involved. Yesterday, we made 500 boxes for the American Red Cross. Every day somewhere around the world, someone [within the company] organizes something. We go to the jungles of South America and build kitchens and eating halls for poor schools in an environment that is really awful. We do a lot everywhere and I'm really proud of it and I think so is everybody else. My colleagues are so wonderful. They are always so willing and so ready to help in anything. There is not a day where something goes on. Two days ago, we collected shoes and delivered them [downtown] and today I approved another action for the Red Cross. We do blood drives. We rebuild old peoples' homes, make 160,000 meals delivered to underprivileged children in Mongolia. In our Italian office, German office, UK office... everyone's involved. Charity challenges--I was in the UK climbing mountains that I never have done to raise [money] and jumped out of tall buildings with Prince Andrew."

After listening to this amazing man, I asked him how a youngster who might want to get into the business should go about planning their education and he said, "Clearly sciences--in our field it would be chemistry and biochemistry, but more inclined to chemistry. Then again, I'm not a chemist. I am the only non-chemist in our industry. I had to try harder!"

The last thing I asked Fasha Mahjoor about was his architecture and décor throughout his buildings. He told me that he realizes that people enjoy working in clean, organized and neat environments. He said his employees spend eight to 10 hours of their lives in a work environment and it should be pleasant rather than something horrible, dirty or gloomy, or in a cubicle where productivity drops. "I want a smile on everyone's face. I have the most amazing employees--amazing," Fasha said.

From what I saw, the employees at Phenomenex are happy and, well, phenomenal. •



Inside the laboratory. Photos by TerriAnn Ferren.

Up and Adam

from page 6

the night. The victory pulls South out of the gutter of the Pioneer League standings and into fourth place. If it can use this win and create some momentum going into the last three games of the season, it could rise in the standings even more.

Torrance High

One week after coming away with a nice win against South High, the Torrance Tartars were back at it again as they faced off against El Segundo. The Tartars have lost four of the last five games against the Eagles and things didn't necessarily get any easier this time around. Torrance began the game where it left off last week, hanging a quick 14 points

on the Eagles in the first quarter. It was the second quarter, however, that was the most pivotal of the game. El Segundo scored three touchdowns to tie the game up going into the half. In the third, the Eagles scored again as their defense stopped the Tartars on every drive to maintain a 28-21 lead. Both teams exchanged field goals in the fourth quarter and the final score stood at 31-24 in favor of El Segundo once again. The Tartars have a minimal amount of time to get things turned around with only three games remaining in the season, but will attempt to get the ball rolling this week as they take on second-to-last-place Centennial. •

Police Reports

The crimes listed are crimes where a report was taken by a law enforcement agency and submitted for investigation. The outcome of the investigation or any criminal court proceedings are not considered when reporting crimes. The crimes listed are as follows: arson, simple assault, aggravated assault-weapon, Auto: Theft: Auto: burglary, Commercial: burglary, Residential: burglary, homicide, strong-arm robbery, robbery with 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.

October 12

Burglary-Auto 1400 BLOCK COTA AVE Suspect(s) enters unlocked vehicle and takes property/stereo faceplate

Burglary-Auto 1400 BLOCK COTA AVE Suspect(s) enters unlocked vehicle and takes property/stereo faceplate

Auto Theft-All 23700 BLOCK WESTERN AVE Stolen vehicle: '97 GMC Jimmy

Burglary-Residential 300 BLOCK PALOS VERDES BLVD Suspect(s) takes property from residence without permission while there with permission/ keys, wallet, cash, watches, sunglasses

October 11

Battery-Simple CLARELLEN ST & JANUARY DR Suspect pushes victim to the ground, repeatedly punches him in the face, kicks him in the chest and attempts to remove the victim's wallet from his shorts pocket

Burglary-Auto 1900 BLOCK 190TH ST Suspect(s) pries open window for entry and takes property/ third row seat

Vandalism 3600 BLOCK NEWTON ST Suspect(s) etches profanities in playground equipment

Theft 300 BLOCK PASEO DE LA PLAYA Suspects receive payment to repair dents in victim's vehicle, depart to pick up supplies and never return to perform the work

Theft 19500 BLOCK PRAIRIE AVE Suspect(s) takes unsecured property as victim sleeps outdoors/ bike, bag of belongings

October 10

Vandalism 18400 BLOCK HAWTHORNE

BLVD Suspect(s) shoots bullets at business window

Burglary-Residential 1500 BLOCK COTA AVE Suspect distracts victim in her backyard regarding trimming trees while his crime partner enters victim's unlocked residence and takes property/jewelry

Theft 3600 BLOCK DEL AMO BLVD Suspect(s) takes unsecured property from carport/ boxed A/C unit

Burglary-Commercial 19800 BLOCK HAWTHORNE

BLVD Suspect(s) defeats lock and takes property from locker/ cash

Burglary-Residential 2000 BLOCK MIDDLEBROOK ROAD Suspect(s) enters residence by unknown means and takes property/ laptop, gift cards

Burglary-Residential 18400 BLOCK BURIN AVE Suspect(s) enters unlocked window, ransacks and takes property/ laptops, camera, jewelry

Robbery-Weapon 16800 BLOCK GLENBURN AVE Suspects force open screen door and demand victim's property at gunpoint/ paperwork

October 9

Theft 19800 BLOCK HAWTHORNE BLVD Suspect(s) takes property from open business/ trumpet

Burglary-Residential 3800 BLOCK 190TH ST Suspect(s) smashes window for entry/ unknown property loss at time of report

Auto Theft-All 2400 BLOCK 227TH ST Stolen vehicle: '98 Mitsubishi Mirage

Burglary-Auto 2600 BLOCK SKYPARK DR Suspect(s) enters unlocked vehicle and takes property/pink slip, paperwork

October 8

Theft 18300 BLOCK HAWTHORNE BLVD Suspect(s) takes property from residence without permission while there with permission/ cash

Theft 3800 BLOCK 226TH ST Suspect(s) cuts lock and takes property from carport storage space/ suitcases, baby clothes, stereo, speakers, portraits

Robbery-StrongArm 3700 BLOCK TORRANCE BLVD Suspect forcibly pulls property from victim's neck/ pendant

Theft Betw. 3900 BLOCK ARTESIA BLVD Suspect(s) takes property out of purse in storage room/wallet

Auto Theft-All 5100 BLOCK CARMELYN ST Stolen vehicle: '87 Honda Accord
October 7

Burglary-Auto 3400 BLOCK GARNET ST Suspect(s) enters unlocked vehicle, ransacks and takes property/ sunglasses, CDs, keys, registration

Battery-Weapon/Agg 800 BLOCK MAPLE AVE Suspect intentionally rams victim's vehicle with his vehicle

Theft 23200 BLOCK HAWTHORNE BLVD Suspect(s) takes property from open business/ coffee dispenser

Auto Theft-All 1900 BLOCK DEL AMO BLVD Stolen vehicle: '11 Starcraft trailer
October 6

Battery-Simple 23700 BLOCK WESTERN AVE Suspect grabs victim's hair before repeatedly punching victim in the head and face, slamming her head into the floor and choking her

Battery-Simple 23000 BLOCK HUBER AVE Suspect repeatedly punches victim in the head and face

Theft BLOCK TORRANCE BLVD Suspect(s) takes unattended property off of table inside location/ cell phone •

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Photographer: Shelly Kemp

Herald Publications Staff

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People Items, Subscriptions: Martha Prieto, ext. 21

Display Advertising Sales:

Torrance: Charlene Nishimura, ext.23, advertising@heraldpublications.com
Real Estate: graphics@heraldpublications.com
Display Ads: marketing@heraldpublications.com

Important Emails

editorial@heraldpublications.com

For announcements (weddings, engagements, obituaries, calendar), "Letters to the Editor" and subscriptions

legalnotices@heraldpublications.com

For publication of legal notices other than DBAs

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The ghosts and goblins are coming soon, and **Spooky** is looking for a home just in time



Lucy

for Halloween. He is very happy-go-lucky in his personality and just a little cuddle bear. Spooky and his brothers, Boo and Merlin, are poodle-mix pups and were born approximately August 3. This litter of three boys was surrendered to our rescue--they are all happy, silly, playful, funny and, of course, darling! We are accepting applications only at this time and each of the pups will need to stay in the South Bay Beach Cities/North Orange County area. Spooky will be neutered when of age, is current on vaccinations,

de-wormed, microchipped, loves everyone he meets and is great with other dogs. Children in the household need to be over seven, please.

Lucy is a beautiful, golden, tri-colored Lhasa Apso mix who is full grown at 14 pounds and approximately three years old. This sweet girl loves everyone she meets and is particularly fond of men. She is a very mellow, go-with-the-flow, sweet dog who prefers adults to children. Lucy enjoys the company of other dogs, but does not play with them much. She would be a good candidate as an “only dog” or can easily live with a dog of any age, as she will not bother it. Lucy is also completely cat-safe. She has wonderful house manners, is not destructive inside and is also completely housebroken. She is wonderful on leash and will make a quick adjustment to your living situation. Lucy is spayed, current on vaccinations, de-wormed and microchipped.

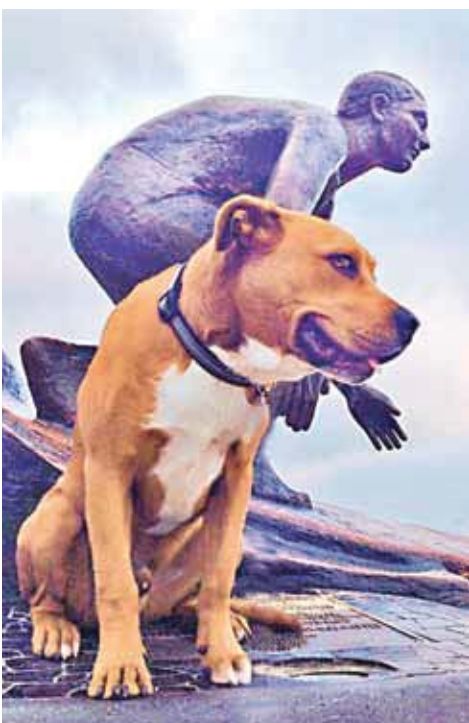
To learn more about these and other wonderful dogs, visit our website at www.animalsrule.org. If a dog is on our website, it's available. Or come to our Saturday adoption events from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 305 North Harbor Boulevard in San Pedro (just off the 110 near the cruise port). We are always in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

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



Spooky

Happy Tails



T-Bone (now Al) was a lost little pup with no collar or microchip. This little gem is now his new family's valued treasure.

“You guys, this dog is unbelievable! Unbelievable in that he is everything you said he was and beyond. We could not have asked for a more loving, playful, housebroken, calm and obedient dog than what we have in Al. He is my workmate at home and when I'm in the office, he is by my side. When he gets tired of hearing me on phone calls (or doesn't get the attention he wants), he saunters back to his crate until I come to him--I admit, he knows what he's doing. At night, he sleeps with my wife and I until we fall asleep and then lies at the top of the stairs/our doorway as if he's protecting our room. I love this dog. I cannot thank you all enough for everything you did to make this happen. I can't wait to introduce him to my kids this weekend. Thanks again for this amazing gift! *-Todd.*”

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Flint is an adorable little love bug and purr machine. He's happy, fun, loving and full of



Vidia

energy. His slender body has an amazing silky black coat, and his big, round eyes are a soft yellow with shades of green. He loves to play with other cats and kittens, especially with his sister Vidia. Flint is friendly, easygoing and does well with new people around. He is not accustomed to dogs. His forever home will need to have a young kitty playmate for him. He would love to be adopted with his sister Vidia or with one of his foster buddies if you don't already have a friendly feline friend for him. Come take a look at Flint, as you will love his affectionate and playful nature. Sadly, black cats are the least likely to be adopted. Please be colorblind and give Flint a chance.

Vidia is a sweetheart with a lot of spunk. She is a dark tortoiseshell cat with shades of cream, orange, black and brown. Her eyes have a soft yellow shade with a hint of subtle green. In her foster home, Vidia enjoys the warmth from the sunshine and loves to take a catnap in the sun. She likes to play with other cats, however, she has no problem speaking up if someone is too rough with her or messes with her when she's not interested. Vidia is still a bit reserved with new people, and a quiet home without small children would be the best. She needs to be adopted into a home with her brother Flint or with another kitten as a play buddy.

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 Blvd., #583, Los Angeles, CA 90024.

On Saturdays, we have adoptions from noon to 3 p.m. in Westchester at 8655 Lincoln Blvd., 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. •



Flint

you will forever make a difference in their life and they are sure to make a difference in yours.



Lost Cat

Rajah went to find his brother Bo, who was found. Lost on Oct. 17. Near the dunes possibly. He's very sweet but shy. Call Wendy at (310) 779-8427 or (310) 640-9159.



Real Estate

Tips to Improve Your Indoor Air Quality

(BPT) - You pride yourself on keeping a clean home. The laundry is washed, the dishes are dry and the den where the children built their pillow fort has been restored to sanity. You've been vigilant about cleaning up the messes you can see, but what about the messes you can't? What are you doing to improve the air quality in your home?

You may not think about the air quality in your home because the problem isn't visible, but that doesn't stop dust, dander or chemicals from polluting your air. Everyday living generates up to 40 pounds of dust in a six-room house every year, according to the National Air Duct Cleaners Association (NADCA), the HVAC Inspection, Maintenance and Restoration Association.

Taking steps to clean the air in your home will do more than just improve air quality; it will also save you money. Twenty-five to 40 percent of the energy used for heating or cooling a home is wasted because contaminants in the heating and cooling system cause it to work inefficiently, according to the U.S. Department of Energy.

If you're interested in improving the air quality in your home and saving money while you do it, here are some tips to get you headed in the right direction.

Hire a professional to clean your most important asset

Your heating and cooling system is the lungs of your home. The system literally takes air in and breathes air out. Because of this, keeping your HVAC system and your



ducts clean is the most important thing you can do to improve your home's air quality.

quality of the air in your home, it will allow your heating and cooling system to run more

"You may not think about the air quality in your home because the problem isn't visible, but that doesn't stop dust, dander or chemicals from polluting your air."

"If your ducts look dirty, they probably are," is NADCA's advice to consumers.

Have your system serviced by a certified technician. This will not only improve the

efficiently, saving you money on energy bills.

Encourage Ventilation

Today's newer homes are built air tight, making ventilation difficult. The simplest

way to encourage ventilation is to simply open windows. In the bathroom, turn on the exhaust fan to stop steam from collecting dirt and keeping it in the bathroom. In the kitchen, place any appliance that creates steam or oily vapor under the stove hood. Finally, make sure vents on the outside of your home are not blocked by leaves or snow as season dictates.

Prevent mold

Mold can be one of the most harmful contaminants of air quality. You'll find mold in areas where moisture and poor ventilation come together. Vacuum rear grills on appliances like your fridge and freezer to improve ventilation and empty and clean any drip trays to eliminate mold. If you have a leaky pipe in your home make sure it is addressed. Take a tour outside and trim any bushes or shrubs that have grown too close as that proximity can lead to mold and algae.

Replace filters and screens

In the warmer months, clean the area around your air conditioner and repair any vermin screens on your chimney flues that may be damaged. During the cooler months, remove screens from any window that may trap condensation and make sure to change your furnace filter monthly.

Keeping the air in your home clean is just as important as washing the dishes or cleaning the clothes. The first step is to have your heating and cooling systems serviced by a technician. Once that is complete, follow these tips to maintain your air quality. •

"The California Museum of Fine Art was looking to promote its grand opening in Downtown Torrance earlier this year and to publicize its special event accommodations. The Torrance Tribune did a superb job covering our grand opening and while we just started running the special event ad, we are already very pleased with the feedback from the local community and businesses."

Brian Higa
President
California Museum of Fine Art

Torrance Tribune

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

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