

# Torrance Tribune

The Weekly Newspaper of Torrance

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## Nonprofit Brightens Holidays for Children In Foster Care



Every year, Counseling4Kids gives hundreds of toys to children in foster care in the South Bay community and beyond thanks to their annual Gifts4Kids program. Seen here is Community Liaison LaShanda Maze with toys for the annual giveaway that helps abused and neglected children feel merrier during the holidays. For more information, interested persons may visit [www.counseling4kids.org](http://www.counseling4kids.org). Photo courtesy of Counseling4Kids.

## Music Teacher Receives Pleasant, Helpful Surprise

By Cristian Vasquez

For Torrance music teacher Jack Sollecito, music is more than just a way to make money. It is a passion that he has been involved with his entire life. Earlier this year, that passion led to a big surprise coordinated by Howard Wood Elementary Principal Dr. Teresa Lanphere.

Mr. S., as he is affectionately known by students and colleagues, walked into school one Wednesday morning unsure of where his music class would take place. As he was led to a possible classroom, he was not expecting a group of eager and excited children, a camera crew from Yahoo's *Ultimate Surprises* webcast and a newly renovated and stocked music room.

"Last year this place was under construction, so we moved around a lot," Sollecito said. "The kids are true troopers, as they say. The kids were very resilient and we made it through last year. But this year, it is so exciting to come into this room where everything is new and to be part of this new experience is great. I think it is going to be memorable for me and for them."

Dr. Lanphere, who was responsible for coordinating with producers, students and Sollecito without revealing the surprise to anyone, spent several months communicating back and forth with *Ultimate Surprises* executives to convince them that Sollecito was a great candidate for their show that aims to capture the moment of surprise for the selected individual.

"In February I received a cold call from a casting agent, which we don't usually get. He spoke to Francesca, my secretary, and said that they were looking for things that they could do to surprise somebody that is worthy," Dr. Lanphere said. "So I called him and he asked if I had any teachers to highlight. So I told him that we were in the process of remodeling our school and that we were

going to have a new music room, but that we didn't have anything to go in it. I also told him that we had a part-time music teacher who was at our school one time a week."

The *Ultimate Surprise* also included taking the shell of the classroom, which only had carpet, and painting it to look like a music room, filling it with IKEA furniture and decorating it with music art such as old vinyl records to make the setting more inspirational. The school also received a donation of \$2,000 worth of instruments from the House of Blues Foundation. The instruments included a drum set and several guitars, along with keyboards and music stands. Wood Elementary is a Title I school--a low-income campus with one-third of its student population participating in the reduced lunch program. For Teresa, that was the clear indicator that many of her students do not have the ability to buy or rent their own instruments.

"My thought was that if we could do a neat surprise for him [Sollecito] that would also benefit our students in the long run, then we should help everyone," Dr. Lanphere said. "I know that instrumental music is very important to students, but usually the only way that you can participate in that is if you have an instrument or if you can rent one. We don't have instruments to give the kids and if we don't train the kids early in elementary, then they don't have enough skill to go to middle school and ultimately the high school band. They really need to start now. Plus, now is when you can really capture their interest and get them motivated."

From classical music to songs popular on slave plantations and all the way to blues and rock, Sollecito incorporates the history of music in his curriculum in order to help the students better understand and appreciate how music has evolved. "Music, I didn't quite realize how much it has impacted all of my students. Now with the video coming out,

I have a lot of people contacting me telling me how they loved it and how they are still singing or playing," Sollecito said. "The importance in music, at least how I teach it, is learning the history and then a song. Students will learn the history of a great song and where it came from. That, I think, helps them understand music better and makes them want to be involved with it longer. Whether or not you're a good musician, if you're into music and appreciate it, if you can sing and play instruments then your brain functions better and you do better in school, which is what Torrance wants."

In addition to the new classroom filled with instruments, Sollecito was visited by front man for the Goo Goo Dolls John Rzeznik for a jam session in front of the students. Sollecito, who has played percussion most of his life, has performed with a wide range of artists in the past, including blues singer Doug MacLeod and *American Idol* contestant Lisa Tucker. He has also played with friends who regularly perform with bands like Kansas and artists such as Olivia Newton-John.

"I still play with a guy named Doug MacLeod, a world-famous blues musician who travels the world. People ask me how it was playing guitar with John Rzeznik and it was great playing guitar with him, but playing with Doug MacLeod is 80 times harder," Sollecito said. "John came in and hit it from the beginning, so everything was smooth. With Doug, you just never know when he's going to switch chords. He's a super talented blues guy."

The day of the *Ultimate Surprises* recording was a bit mysterious for Sollecito, who was asked to report that morning directly to Dr. Lanphere's office earlier than usual. In addition, because of the camera crew and early arrival by students, fellow teachers and school district officials, there was no

See Music Teacher, page 2

## Weekend Forecast

**Friday**  
Partly  
Cloudy  
60°/49°



**Saturday**  
Partly  
Cloudy  
58°/50°



**Sunday**  
Few  
Showers  
57°/47°



# Calendar

## WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2

• Craft Delight-Crafters are invited to bring a current portable project and a sack lunch to the Library, Noon- 1:30 p.m., Henderson Library, 4805 Emerald St. For more information call (310) 371-2075.

## SUNDAY, JANUARY 6

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

## TUESDAY, JANUARY 8

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

## WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9

• Bubble-ology 101, 4 p.m., North Torrance Library, 3604 W. Artesia Blvd. For more information call the Youth Services

Department at (310)-618-5964.

• Doug MacLeod in Concert, 7 p.m., Katy Geissert Civic Center Library, 3301 Torrance Blvd. For more information call (310) 618-5959.

## THURSDAY, JANUARY 10

• West High Dance Performance, 7 p.m. (also 1/11), James Armstrong Theatre, 3330 Civic Center Drive. For more information call (310) 781-7171.

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 11

• Studio Cabaret Series-Louie Cruz Beltran (also 1/12), 7:30 p.m., George Nakano Theatre, 3330 Civic Center Drive. For more information call (310) 781-7171.

## SATURDAY, JANUARY 12

• Think Clean, Go Clean! Eco Art Contest and Festival, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Torrance Cultural Arts Center, 3330 Civic Center Drive.

# 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).

Errors: Please check your advertisements immediately. Any corrections and/or changes in an ad must be requested prior to the following Tuesday deadline in order to receive a credit. A credit will be issued for only the first time the error appears. Multiple runs will only be credited for the first time the error appears. No credit will be issued for an amount greater than the cost of the advertisement.

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### EMPLOYMENT

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la Kreme Nail Lounge (562)434-4004 delakreme@gmail.com

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# SMILE awhile



Santa Baby Jerex Yankiling, three months old. Submitted by Marichu Austria.

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## Music Teacher

from front page

parking available and that made Sollecito a few minutes late.

"I was thinking that Jack [Sollecito] probably thought that he was in trouble because I wanted to see him early in the morning," Dr. Lanphere said. "I'm a pretty low-key person, but we're sitting here talking thinking about what his schedule would be. I was kind of stalling for time. Finally I told him we should go check some options, so I showed him a little room where we keep extra things in storage. It really is not a workplace, but he was like, 'I can make it work.' Then I told him we had one more spot, but I told him that I didn't think it was finished. We walked over to the room, he walks in and everyone yells, 'Surprise!' He had no idea what was going on."

With the new music room set up and all the new instruments in place, Sollecito has gone from surprised to excited and looks forward to engaging his students even more in the world of music. "I think that I have tailored this course to where I am really excited to be here," he said. "I tell my friends that I get to play guitar and sing for eight hours a day. I have benefits, I get a retirement pension and I am singing the songs that I want to sing while teaching what I want to teach. They play for somebody else while I am running my own show and I think that happiness that I exuberate comes out for the kids. Something that I really emphasize, especially with the instrumental class, is that you don't have to be excellent at it. You just have to enjoy it and be a part of it. It will help your life." •

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# El Camino College Superintendent/President to Retire

## Courtesy of El Camino College

El Camino College Superintendent/President Thomas M. Fallo announced at the Board of Trustees' November 20 meeting that he plans to retire June 30, 2013. Fallo's announcement comes after 21 years of service at the South Bay college.

An alumnus of El Camino College, Fallo has been a dedicated supporter of community college education throughout his entire career. Contributing to the success of the college is Fallo's commitment to support student-centered leadership, a management style that affects every decision he makes at the college.

Fallo became El Camino College's fifth president when he took office in July 1995, following a stint as ECC vice president, administrative services, in 1991. His presidency has focused on the college's fiscal future, while guiding the Torrance-area campus through a period of unprecedented growth and progress. As the ECC president with the second-longest tenure, Fallo is also widely credited with keeping the college solvent and successful during challenging economic times.

During his tenure, Fallo has hired 219 full-time faculty members at El Camino College and 24 faculty at El Camino College Compton Center, adding a total of 243 educators to the academic community. As president, he has also celebrated student success with more than 25,000 students earning degrees and certificates through the years.

Under Fallo's leadership, the El Camino Community College District sought and obtained voter approval for two facilities bond measures to fund a much-needed campus modernization program, including classroom upgrades, instructional equipment updates, and critical health and safety repairs.

The college's first-ever bond measure was a \$394 million facility and equipment bond that passed in 2002, still the largest successful bond for a single-campus community college district. A second bond measure for \$350 million was approved by voters last month. At \$744 million, the combined total equals the largest facilities bond program for a single-campus community college district. Voters expressed confidence in the college when asked to support these measures, approving them with an overwhelming 61 percent and 68.2 percent of the vote in 2002 and 2012, respectively.

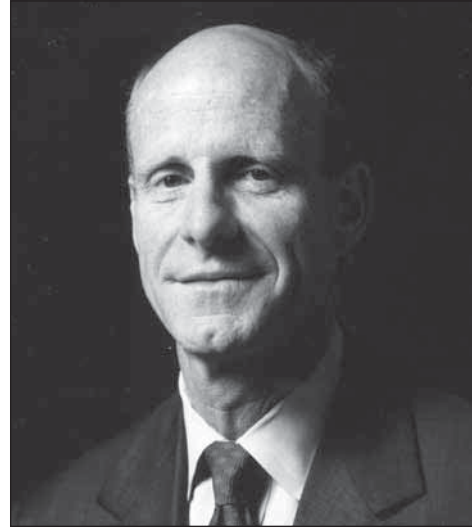
Extensive renovations to several buildings are already complete, and by his retirement, Fallo will have seen the opening of two completely new instructional buildings, as well as a new entrance to campus off of Redondo Beach Boulevard with a new 1,230-space parking structure; a central plant which saves the college \$100,000 in annual energy costs; and a new Learning Resource Center. This spring, he will participate in the grand opening of the new Math Business Allied Health (MBA) Building, and groundbreakings for a new Shops Building and a new Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) Center.

Fallo also led a historic partnership with the Compton Community College District in August 2006 when the former Compton College had its accreditation revoked. The agreement between the El Camino and Compton districts certainly had challenges, but it was the dedication to student achievement that led to the completion of the agreement. Fallo always believed it was El Camino College's responsibility to assist the struggling neighboring college, which aligns precisely with his philosophy of student-centered leadership and the overriding goal of helping students succeed.

Through the partnership, El Camino College Compton Center receives accredited instructional and related support, in addition to administrative services, to meet the needs of ECC Compton Center students. In the

past six years, enrollment has more than doubled, and several programs designed to boost student success have been established.

From 2010-12, Fallo led a comprehensive redistricting program that modified trustee area boundaries and changed the college's system from "at-large" to "by-trustee area" elections. The redistricting process included establishing a community-based



Superintendent/President Thomas M. Fallo.

Boundary Review Committee to guide the effort, which utilized 2010 census data to ensure each area was representative of the District's constituents. Public forums and interactive online maps were also part of the program.

Fallo's presidency also propelled the incredible growth of the El Camino College Foundation, which was just a little more than 10 years old when Fallo became president. He established the President's Circle, a group whose key purpose is to support the college's academic programs; the President's Breakfast, an annual meeting designed to increase communication between the college and area high schools; and the student Book Fund, which offers students assistance with the rising cost of textbooks. Another important component of the ECC Foundation is the newly established annual Scholarship program, where more than \$600,000 in scholarships will be distributed in amounts from \$500 to \$4,000 throughout the current academic year to about 425 outstanding students.

Before becoming president at ECC, Fallo served as vice president, administrative services at El Camino College. He held a similar position at Glendale Community College, and also served as vice chancellor, business services, and as chancellor for the Los Angeles Community College District before joining the El Camino College administrative team.

Fallo holds a doctorate in educational administration from Pepperdine University; an M.B.A. in business management from UCLA; and a bachelor's degree in economics, also from UCLA.

He is president of California Manufacturing Technology Consulting, the Statewide Association of Community Colleges JPA, the Schools Association for Excess Risk, and Intelcom, and is a past president of the Association of California Community College Administrators and the Association of Chief Business Officers.

Among other awards, Fallo has been honored as the prestigious Pacesetter of the Year, awarded by the National Council for Marketing & Public Relations, recognizing outstanding leadership of chief executive officers at two-year community, junior or technical colleges.

As CEO of one of the largest single-campus, two-year colleges in the nation, Fallo oversees 1,300 employees, more than 25,000 students, and an annual budget of nearly \$430 million. El Camino College proudly offers 87 degree programs and 89 certificate programs, in addition to a wide variety of activities and support services to nearly 533,000 district residents in nine communities. •

# IRS Offers Tips for Year-End Giving

## Courtesy of the Internal Revenue Service

Individuals and businesses making contributions to charity should keep in mind some key tax provisions that have taken effect in recent years, especially those affecting donations of clothing and household items and monetary donations.

### RULES FOR CLOTHING AND HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

To be deductible, clothing and household items donated to charity generally must be in good used condition or better. A clothing or household item for which a taxpayer claims a deduction of over \$500 does not have to meet this standard if the taxpayer includes a qualified appraisal of the item with the

*"For individuals, only taxpayers who itemize their deductions on Form 1040 Schedule A can claim deductions for charitable contributions."*

return. Household items include furniture, furnishings, electronics, appliances and linens.

### GUIDELINES FOR MONETARY DONATIONS

To deduct any charitable donation of money, regardless of amount, a taxpayer must have a bank record or a written communication from the charity showing the name of the charity and the date and amount of the contribution. Bank records include canceled checks, bank or credit union statements, and credit card statements. Bank or credit union statements should show the name of the charity, the date, and the amount paid. Credit card statements should show the name of the charity, the date, and the transaction posting date.

Donations of money include those made in cash or by check, electronic funds transfer, credit card and payroll deduction. For payroll deductions, the taxpayer should retain a pay stub, a Form W-2 wage statement or other document furnished by the employer showing the total amount withheld for charity, along with the pledge card showing the name of the charity. These requirements for the deduction of monetary donations do not change the long-standing requirement that a taxpayer obtain an acknowledgment from a charity for each deductible donation (either money or property) of \$250 or more. However, one statement containing all of the required information may meet both requirements.

## REMINDERS

To help taxpayers plan their holiday-season and year-end giving, the IRS offers the following additional reminders:

- Contributions are deductible in the year made. Thus, donations charged to a credit card before the end of 2012 count for 2012. This is true even if the credit card bill isn't paid until 2013. Also, checks count for 2012 as long as they are mailed in 2012.

- Check that the organization is qualified. Only donations to qualified organizations are tax-deductible. Exempt Organization Select Check, a searchable online database available on IRS.gov, lists most organizations that are qualified to receive deductible contributions. In addition, churches, synagogues, temples,

mosques and government agencies are eligible to receive deductible donations, even if they are not listed in the database.

- For individuals, only taxpayers who itemize their deductions on Form 1040 Schedule A can claim deductions for charitable contributions. This deduction is not available to individuals who choose the standard deduction, including anyone who files a short form (Form 1040A). A taxpayer will have a tax savings only if the total itemized deductions (mortgage interest, charitable contributions, state and local taxes, etc.) exceed the standard deduction. Use the 2012 Form 1040 Schedule A to determine whether itemizing is better than claiming the standard deduction.

- For all donations of property, including clothing and household items, get from the charity, if possible, a receipt that includes the name of the charity, date of the contribution, and a reasonably-detailed description of the donated property. If a donation is left at a charity's unattended drop site, keep a written record of the donation that includes this information, as well as the fair market value of the property at the time of the donation and the method used to determine that value. Additional rules apply for a contribution of \$250 or more.

- The deduction for a motor vehicle, boat or airplane donated to charity is usually

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Together we'll go far



# TerriAnn in Torrance

## Centennial Year in Review

By TerriAnn Ferren

At the end of every year, we take a look back at the accomplishments and events that marked our lives, our community and our world. This year's reflection is extra special because it is the end of a Centennial Celebration year that will not be repeated--at least not repeated for 100 years and then it will be the Bicentennial.

We began this bright and shining year looking forward with a fresh, clean slate armed with New Year's resolutions and the promises of clean closets, extra gym time and learning more about our town. One story I recall right away as we began the year was about finding



Oliver Stone and Ron Kovic.

out where our trash and recyclables end up (*Torrance Tribune, January 5, 2012*). And what amazing things go on at the Western Museum of Flight (*Torrance Tribune, February 2, 2012*)! The museum has held and continues to put on special events that keep the legacy of flight alive in our community. The *Valentine Tea and Centennial Fashion Show* hosted by the Torrance Women's Club was a big success. Those of you who attended this Centennial event remember the fashion show where historic figures were featured and historic footage was shown. John Powers' *Works in Progress* series, performed at the George Nakano Theatre, brought the life

of our city founder Jared Sydney Torrance to life on stage along with other major influential people of the era during the founding of our city through performances by major talented actors. Cherry trees were planted in the Pine Wind Japanese Garden (*Torrance Tribune, February 16, 2012*) and I received a stellar overview of the Torrance Police Department when I attended and graduated from *Partners in Policing* under the guidance of Officer Erik Eidet (*Torrance Tribune, February 23, 2012*).

The Greatest Generation was honored (*Torrance Tribune, March 15, 2012*) at the Toberman Annual Fundraiser where our own hometown hero Louis Zamperini was honored along with two-time basketball Hall of Famer Bill Sharman, WWII veteran and Olympic gold medalist Dr. Sammy Lee, and Dodger legend Tommy Lasorda.

And on a rainy March morning (*Torrance Tribune, March 30, 2012*), the Rotary Club of Lomita-Torrance Airport joined hands with Mayor Frank Scotto, City Council members and local citizens to plant our city flower, the hybrid delphinium, in a curbside planter in front of the Katy Geissert Library. I remember smiles and determination that wet March morning.

Several remarkable and outstanding citizens were highlighted during the year as well. Among the many were Paul Geil (*Torrance Tribune, April 6, 2012*), Dr. Terrence Hammer (*Torrance Tribune, April 13, 2012*), Cathy Calderon Lacey (*Torrance Tribune, April 20, 2012*), and Dr. Christopher Dalis, D.D.S. (*Torrance Tribune, January 26, 2012*). Amazing men and women surround us each and every day in our community and usually they go about their business without fanfare, applause or recognition, but sometimes we get a peek into the lives of the very special people who make up our town.

Talent is everywhere around us, from our adults and children who dance and sing, to those who excel in the art of sewing, music,

painting and filmmaking. Remember when the custom painted piano by Roseline Seng showed up on the entry plaza at the Torrance Cultural Arts Center in front of the James Armstrong Theatre? Children of all ages, amateurs and professionals took a turn tickling the ivories (*Torrance Tribune, April 20, 2012*). The generosity of the citizens of our town is boundless and this year was no exception with the ongoing dedication of programs such as *Project Linus* under the care of Martha Bauman, who oversees hundreds of "no sew" blankets and then donates them to those in need whether they be ill, cold or could just use a little comfort. Blankets are even donated to our



Biplane once owned by Steve McQueen.

military at the LAX USO. The rededication of the Torrance Veterans Memorial Wall and the honoring of our hometown fallen soldiers took place this year under the guidance and love of Janet Payne and Jerry Ronan of the



Mayor Frank Scotto backstage with others in the Centennial Fashion show.

Torrance Historical Society (*Torrance Tribune, June 8, 2012*).

The *Riviera Historic Home Tour* was a huge Centennial event where historic homes were opened to the public and an informative historic video of the Riviera was created by Sherwin Rubin and shown over the course of that weekend. It was wonderful to learn the history of the Riviera, how our town grew and how the events of the world influenced our growth.

Throughout the summertime, this year was filled with firsts. We had our first new road

The summer was spent in part at Torrance Beach and the many parks around town and we all celebrated Boss's Day and the 35<sup>th</sup> *Excellence in Arts Awards* (*Torrance Tribune,*



The opening day of Del Amo Blvd.

*October 18, 2012*). Halloween and the popping up of the annual pumpkin patch and petting zoo complete with pony rides reminded us that fall was indeed on the way as our thoughts turned toward the election in our land.

By the time the Birthday Bash hit, we were flung into an Indian summer heat wave, but that didn't melt the festivities or enthusiasm of Mayor Scotto or any of our Council members. Gene Barnett, Tom Brewer, Pat Furey, Cliff Numark, Susan Rhilinger, Bill Sutherland, and our City Clerk Sue Herbers and City Treasurer Dana Cortez were all on hand to mark this special and final formal celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the City of Torrance by Jared Sydney Torrance (*Torrance Tribune, November 8, 2012*). There was a formal ceremony on stage, live



Behind the scenes at the Valentine Tea and Fashion Show.



Larry King introducing hometown hero Louis Zamperini.



The Greatest Generation Tommy Lasorda, Dr. Sammy Lee, and Bill Sharman. Photos by TerriAnn Ferren.

opening in years with the completion of Del Amo Boulevard from Crenshaw to Maple Avenue (*September 6, 2012*). Mayor Scotto, Council members and dignitaries opened the road by riding in vintage cars east and then west over the newly paved thoroughfare.

Our Centennial Celebration continued with a huge hometown parade in downtown Torrance and the Centennial Plaza dedication at El Prado Park showcasing special commemorative centennial bricks with the names of citizens and a *Time Capsule Ceremony* (*Torrance Tribune, September 20, 2012*). All this festivity was a hint of things to come on Sunday, October 28 when the City of Torrance would get together for the big Birthday Bash.

entertainment, food trucks, a vintage refurbished Torrance bus on display, historic documents and video being shown in the *Dee Hardison Sports Center*, along with the release of 100 doves and skydivers descending! Let me just say here that the City of Torrance can put on one fabulous Centennial Celebration! What an amazing Birthday Bash!

December is here and the 100-year birthday celebration of our city is nearly over. In reflection, it has been a very good year for the City of Torrance. Under the direction of Mayor Scotto and the Council, together with

the wise guidance and steering of our City Manager LeRoy Jackson, the City of Torrance is in capable, competent hands. But if you ask any of our illustrious leaders what our greatest asset is they will tell you it is the people who make up the city by the sea that makes us so special--and that is absolutely true.

Our Centennial year has passed wrapped in memories within our hearts,

The City of Torrance founded in 1912 still vibrant within its parts.

Looking forward with hope in the midst of the world today,

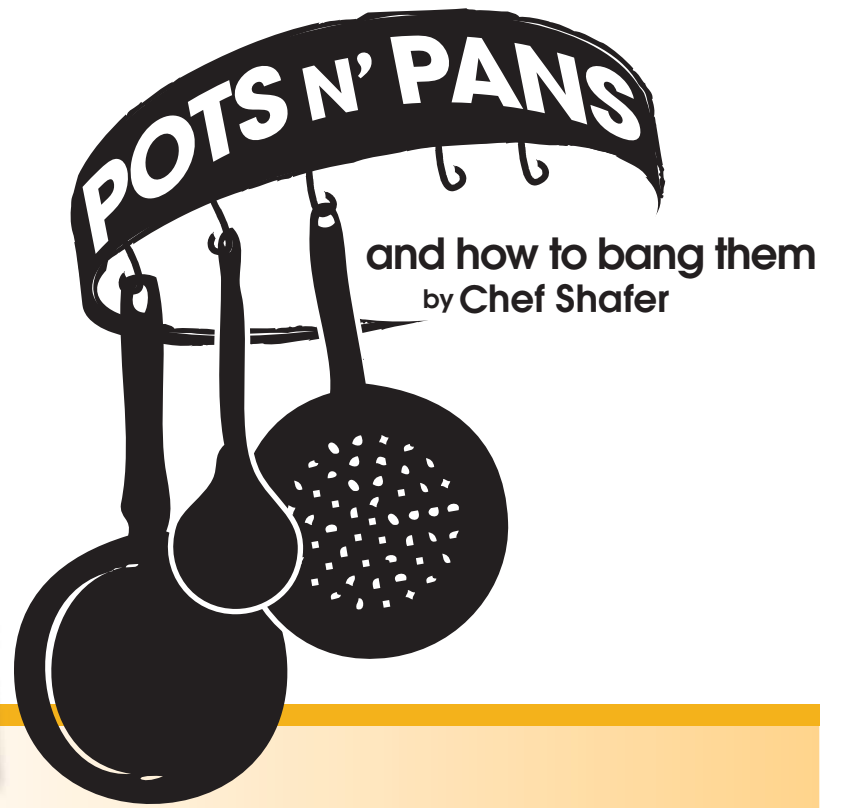
One hundred years and counting, on this 2012 Torrance's birthday. •

It's the holiday season and I love to make what I call chocolate fruit cake. I know fruit cakes are door stoppers and why people use the green cherries I'll never know.

This is the way to enjoy delicious dried fruits and nuts surrounded by really good chocolate, and it will take less than 20 minutes to make.

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2 pounds of good chocolate

I use Callebaut from Belgium but Trader Joe's has some good chocolate. Chop it up and melt it down in a double boiler

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Happy holidays. •

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# Looking Up

## Grail Lunar Impact Site Named for Astronaut Sally Ride

By Bob Eklund

NASA has named the site where the twin Ebb and Flow spacecraft impacted the Moon on December 17 in honor of the late astronaut, Sally K. Ride, who was America's first woman in space and a member of the GRAIL mission team.

On December 14, Ebb and Flow, the two spacecraft comprising NASA's Gravity Recovery and Interior Laboratory (GRAIL) mission, were commanded to descend into a lower orbit that would result in an impact three days later on a mountain near the Moon's north pole. The formation-flying duo hit the lunar surface as planned at a speed of 3,760 mph (1.7 kilometers per second). The location of the Sally K. Ride Impact Site is on the southern face of an approximately 1.5-mile-high mountain near a crater named Goldschmidt.

"Sally was all about getting the job done, whether it be in exploring space, inspiring the next generation, or helping make the GRAIL mission the resounding success it is today," said GRAIL principal investigator Maria Zuber of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge. "As we complete our lunar mission, we are proud we can honor Sally Ride's contributions by naming this corner of the Moon after her."

The impact marked a successful end to

the GRAIL mission, which was NASA's first planetary mission to carry cameras fully dedicated to education and public outreach. Ride, who died in July 2012, led GRAIL's MoonKAM (Moon Knowledge Acquired by Middle School Students) Program through her company, Sally Ride Science, in San Diego.

Along with its primary science instrument, each spacecraft carried a MoonKAM camera that took more than 115,000 images of the lunar surface. Imaging targets were proposed by middle school students from across the country, and the resulting images were returned for them to study. The names of the twin spacecraft were selected by Ride and the mission team from student submissions in a nationwide contest.

"Sally Ride worked tirelessly throughout her life to remind all of us, especially girls, to keep questioning and learning," said Senator Barbara Mikulski of Maryland. "Today her passion for making students part of NASA's science is honored by naming the impact site for her."

Fifty minutes prior to impact, the spacecraft fired their engines until the propellant was depleted. The maneuver was designed to determine precisely the amount of fuel remaining in the tanks. This will help NASA engineers validate computer models to improve

predictions of fuel needs for future missions.

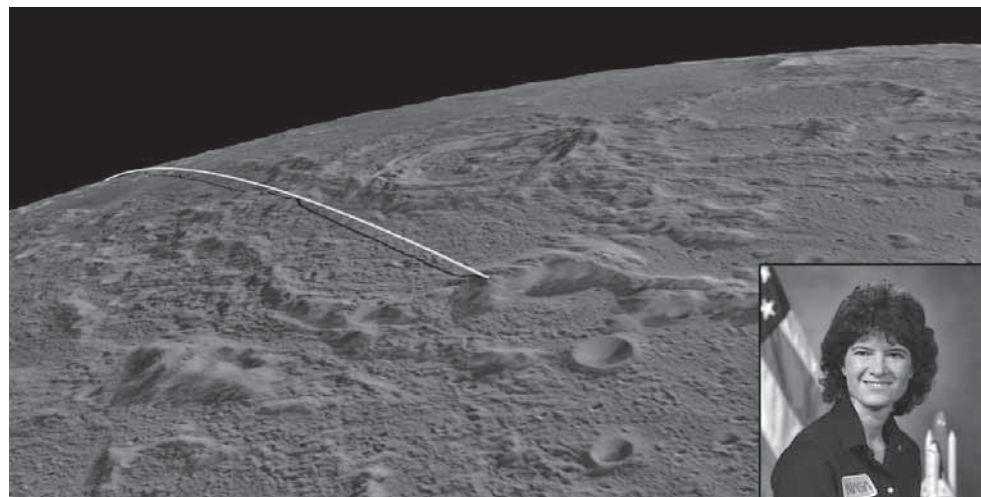
"Ebb fired its engines for four minutes, three seconds and Flow fired its for five minutes, seven seconds," said GRAIL project manager David Lehman of JPL. "It was one final important set of data from a mission that was filled with great science and engineering data."

The mission team deduced that much of the material aboard each spacecraft was broken up in the energy released during the impacts. Most of what remained probably is buried in shallow craters. The craters' size may be determined

when NASA's Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter returns images of the area in several weeks.

Launched in September 2011, Ebb and Flow had been orbiting the Moon since January 1, 2012. The probes were intentionally crashed into the lunar surface because they did not have enough altitude or fuel to continue science operations. Their successful science missions generated the highest resolution gravity field map of any celestial body.

Images: <http://www.jpl.nasa.gov/news/news.php?release=2012-401>



The final flight path for NASA's twin GRAIL mission spacecraft to impact the moon on Dec. 17. GRAIL's MoonKAM is the signature education and public outreach program led by Sally Ride Science-founded by Dr. Sally Ride, America's first woman in space. Photo courtesy of NASA.

# A Student's Perspective

## On School Fundraisers

By Glen Abalayan, Torrance High Student

Fundraisers are the main source of income for clubs and classes in high school. The outcome of these events determines the groups' future activities, such as dances and banquets. Unfortunately there has been a gradual decline of interest in school fundraisers, thus leaving the clubs dependent on them in a financial crisis. This is evident in clubs whose string of failed fundraisers caused them to be in a gloomy economic position. There needs to be a change in the approach club leaders take

in planning fundraisers and another change in the public's attitude towards those events.

There are a number of pitfalls some clubs mistakenly succumb to when it comes to fundraising. One of these is the lack of effective communication between the event planners and the public. Clubs rely too much on cliché publicity by focusing too much time in making posters and not enough time actually selling their product to the general audience. This crucial gap of information is what prevents the public from participating. There is a common saying that goes, "It is

the one percent that kills you." It is common knowledge to not invest in something one does not know about and the failures of some events is simply this common sense put into practice.

Likewise, the public's view of such events also needs to change. A perfectly planned fundraiser will still be considered a failure if students do not participate in it, as its success relies on the amount of people who choose to go. There are an increasingly unfortunate amount of students who remain apathetic about their club's financial outlook. This upward growth of indifference in turn causes

the downward spiral of the group's morale.

For any fundraiser to be successful, there must be a change in both parties. For clubs, this can be in the form of a reformatted approach towards fundraising, while the public needs to change their perception of fundraisers. A successful change by both the clubs' leaders and the public will ensure the successful outcome of any fundraiser. Clubs can only reap what they sow. An event's success is dependent on both sides' cooperating with the most minuscule gap of information between both groups as possible.

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 4 years / Female

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I love tummy rubs! Although I am a large dog, I am nothing more than a big couch potato. I am quite smart too as I already have learned how to sit and lie down. I would love to snuggle with you and keep you warm on cold nights! I am one of the 12 Pets of Christmas – ask your adoption counselor for more info.



**Candycane**  
 SS# 13-01149  
 DSH  
 2 years / Female

South Bay Pet Adoption Center  
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 Hawthorne, CA 90250  
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I would love a home to call my own. I am a sweet girl who loves to be around people. I would do best in a home with no other cats, as I just don't like to compete for tummy rubs and attention! See what a fantastic addition I would make to your home.



### Last Week's Answers

1	P	2	A	3	S	4	T	5	A	6	H	7	A	8	R	9	P	10	U	11	R	12	G	13	E					
14	A	15	G	16	A	17	I	18	N	19	A	20	C	21	N	E	22	S	23	E	24	R	25	A						
26	P	27	E	28	N	29	C	30	I	31	L	32	S	33	H	34	A	35	R	36	P	37	E	38	N	39	E	40	R	
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53	V	54	E	55	L	56	A	57	B	58	R	59	A	60	C	61	E	62	R	63	E	64	N	65	T					
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78	D	79	E	80	S	81	K	82	T	83	O	84	P	85	C	86	O	87	M	88	P	89	U	90	T	91	E	92	R	
93	A	94	R	95	T	96	R	97	U	98	S	99	K	100	S	P	R	A	101	Y										
102	F	103	U	104	R	105	I	106	O	107	S	108	O	109	T	110	I	111	L	112	L									
113	S	114	E	115	A	116	M	117	E	118	B	119	O	120	O	K														
121	B	122	I	123	S	124	A	125	U	126	S	127	L	128	O	129	W	130	M	131	U									
132	L	133	E	134	T	135	T	136	E	137	R	138	N	139	V	140	E	141	L	142	O	143	P	144	E	145	S			
146	O	147	G	148	E	149	E	150	S	151	L	152	O	153	E	154	E	155	N	156	A	157	T	158	E					
159	T	160	E	161	R	162	N	163	A	164	L	165	B	166	S	167	T	168	O	169	Y	170	E	D						

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9	4	5	3	1	7	8	2	6
6	7	2	4	5	3	9	8	1
5	1	8	9	7	2	6	4	3
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# Commitment Is the New Resolution

## GIVE UP NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS, BUT DON'T GIVE UP ON COMMITTING TO DOING SOMETHING GREAT

(BPT) - The tradition of new year's resolutions has been around 4,000 years, when Babylonians saw fit to start the year off right by making promises to the gods. Today, such promises are a media phenomenon, designed to be broken.

"One reason most New Year's resolutions usually fail before the end of January is because people haven't truly bought into change," says Bahram Akradi, CEO of Life Time, The Healthy Way of Life Company. "We can change the course of our lives for the better without the need for a contrived tradition."

That's why Life Time has launched the Commitment Day movement. By pledging a commitment online at [www.commitmentday.com](http://www.commitmentday.com), anyone can join this national movement when hundreds of thousands of people wake up on New Year's Day to participate in a simultaneous walk/run in one of 30 cities nationwide.

Alan Ali, 31, of Raleigh, N.C., will be running with his sister, uncle, and brother-in-law because they've been inspired by Ali, who once weighed 480 pounds and has lost more than 100 pounds over the last three years by eating healthy and exercising. That progress didn't result from a resolution. "Resolutions never worked for me because at that time in my life I didn't want it bad enough and I wasn't ready to make changes to reach my weight-loss goals," says Ali. He now prefers to set goals throughout the year, which he says will help him get his weight below 300 pounds by the end of 2013.

"Commitment Day is more than just planning to do the 5K run/walk on January 1st," Ali says. "It's about committing to do something and working toward that goal right now. Anyone can say I 'will' do something, but it takes a committed person to put in the time to train for the goal that they set for themselves."

Carla Birnberg, 43, a personal trainer in Austin, Texas, and fitness blogger is also

participating in Commitment Day with her husband and daughter. She says people are eager to make bold changes at new year because the world seems so fraught with possibility. The problem, she adds, is that they don't set themselves up for success. "Once I realized I'm never as far from my goals/resolutions/aspirations as my very next choice, my life changed," says Birnberg.

Birnberg, who has a Twitter following of approximately 16,000 people, knows a thing or two about how important community can be for reaching fitness goals. "I'm a firm believer in everything in our lives taking a village, and this virtual village with all its residents, or accountability partners, changes the sense of isolation old school resolutions give," says Birnberg.

Commitment Day founder, Akradi put it this way: "Instead of feeling forced to do something you think you must do, now you can make a change for the better because you want to. Instead of feeling isolated with your intentions, now you can be bolstered with the support of people making similar commitments. Instead of starting the new year feeling like you're making sacrifices, now you can start the new year celebrating life."

After the holiday revelry and the high spirits of the season, why should we follow ancient Babylonian customs that bring an end to the fun with a self-defeating "promise" in the form of a new year's resolution anyway?

"I've always felt that waking up early on New Year's Day and going out for a run is a far better way to start the year than hungover and sick," says Jill Ormond Whitaker, 34, a new mom in Las Vegas, who has committed to live a healthy and balanced life and provide a good example for her husband and 3-month-old daughter. "It just seems to set the tone for the whole year. Commitment Day takes it one step further because it's a national movement."

To get \$5 off the cost of registration for a Commitment Day walk/run use code "CORP0598" when you sign up. •

## IRS

from page 3

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- Publication 526 <<http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p526.pdf>> , Charitable Contributions
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# Hometown Recruits

## AIR FORCE AIRMAN PAUL K. WILLIAMS GRADUATES FROM MILITARY TRAINING



Air Force Airman Paul K. Williams graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare

principles and skills. Airmen who complete basic training earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force. Williams is the son of Angela Bijole of Arlington Avenue, Torrance, and grandson of Leon and Paula Williams of West Alpine Avenue, Santa Ana. He is a 2011 graduate of South High School, Torrance.

## ARMY PVT. WESLEY VO GRADUATES FROM COMBAT TRAINING

Army Pvt. Wesley Vo has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C. During the nine weeks of training, the soldier studied the Army mission, history, tradition and core values, physical fitness, and received instruction and practice in basic combat skills, military weapons, chemical warfare and bayonet training, drill and ceremony, marching, rifle marksmanship, armed and unarmed combat, map reading, field tactics, military courtesies, military justice system, basic first aid, foot marches, and field training exercises. Vo is the son of Tran Ngoc of Bailey Drive, Torrance. He is a 2011 graduate of North Torrance High School.

## ARMY PFC. EDWIN S. VERDESOTO GRADUATES FROM INFANTRY TRAINING

Army Pfc. Edwin S. Verdesoto has graduated from basic infantry training at Fort Benning, Columbus, Ga. During the nine weeks of training, the soldier received training in drill and ceremonies, weapons, map reading, tactics, military courtesies,

military justice, physical fitness, first aid, and Army history, core values and traditions. Additional training included development of basic combat skills and battlefield operations and tactics, and experiencing use of various weapons and weapons defenses available to the infantry crewman. Verdesoto is the son of Edwin Verdesoto and Pilar Torres, both of East 219th Street, Carson. He is a 2007 graduate of South High School, Torrance.

## AIR NATIONAL GUARD AIRMAN JAD J. STRUTZEL GRADUATES FROM MILITARY TRAINING

Air National Guard Airman Jad J. Strutzel graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills. Airmen who complete basic training earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force. Strutzel earned distinction as an honor graduate. He is the son of Jeffrey Strutzel of Ridgepoint Court, Rancho Palos Verdes, and cousin of Lauren Albert of Locust Street, Santa Cruz. The airman is a 1998 graduate of West High School, Torrance. He earned a bachelor's degree in 2005 from Humboldt State University, Arcata.

## AIR FORCE AIRMAN PETER E. LEON-GUERRERO GRADUATES FROM MILITARY TRAINING

Air Force Airman Peter E. Leon-Guerrero graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio,

Texas. The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills. Airmen who complete basic training earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force. Leon-Guerrero is the son of Jacquelyn Leon-Guerrero of Laurette Street, Torrance. He is a 2009 graduate of West Torrance High School. •



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