

# Torrance Tribune

The Weekly Newspaper of Torrance

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## Veterans Day Reminds Community of Sacrifice, Freedom



Photo by TerriAnn Ferren.

## Scores Remain High Despite Budget Woes

By Dylan Little

On Tuesday, the Torrance School Board heard a presentation on the latest round of test scores. Overall, Torrance Unified School District (TUSD) performed well, although some subgroups didn't meet their adequate yearly progress (AYP) goals.

The District's Academic Performance Index (API) score grew from 857 to 869 this year, putting Torrance schools a large margin ahead of the State's goal to get every school to the 800 level by the 2013 school year. Senior Director of Secondary Education Timothy Stowe said that Torrance met the 800-point goal a decade before the deadline and hasn't slipped below it since. "California has set 800 as the score they want schools to achieve by 2013-2014 and we reached that goal in 2003 and we continue to improve upward," said Stowe. "This is a clear indication of the hard work our students do."

Stowe credited all the people who impact education in Torrance with the positive showing for the District. "It's been another great year," said Stowe. "It's something we all in Torrance Unified take a lot of pride in. It takes a lot of work, from teachers to administrators to parents to classified staff and of course the students themselves, who actually put pencil to paper."

When looking at the breakdown for the District's significant subgroups (such as Latinos and Economically Disadvantaged students that consist of at least 100 students), Senior Director of Elementary Education Don Kim noted that while these groups didn't meet their goals from the State, most did outperform their peers from Los Angeles County and other parts of California. "In TUSD there are various subgroups that did not make their targets—but when TUSD is compared to Los Angeles County and the overall state, our scores are equal or higher on average and in every subgroup," said Kim.

Stowe also highlighted the gains many subgroups made this year. The only group not to improve was American Indians/Alaskan Natives, who lack the numbers to be considered a significant subgroup. All the other subgroups made gains from last year, with only Asians, Pacific islanders and students identifying with two or more races not improving by double digits.

"Especially when you look at English language learners and students with disabilities and some of the populations that are typically

underrepresented, like Latinos and African Americans, it's double-digit growth for all those groups," said Stowe. "It's really a testament to the work that all the schools are doing in helping all students achieve."

The District had more good news concerning its graduation statistics. District-wide, 90 percent of the students taking the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE) for the first time passed it. TUSD also has an impressively high graduation rate that has

See Scores, page 13

## Learning Center Delivers Multifaceted Education Programs

By Cristian Vasquez

Since 1966, the Switzer Learning Center has been dedicated to providing educational therapy to those in need. Through their outpatient diagnostic and treatment clinic, K-12 nonpublic school, the center has been serving kids afflicted with mild to severe learning, emotional and behavioral challenges, along with their families.

"Kids are not grouped in the program based on grade level or age, but they are grouped based on their developmental level. However, once they turn 18 the kids are moved into our transitional program, which is more focused on life skills and less focused on academics," Switzer's Dr. Wendy White said. "The ratios in the classrooms, regardless of where they are grouped, are one to one. The students are always with a staff member working in cooperation with each other to complete their lesson or their job. This is project-based learning, so oftentimes you will come into the room and not find anybody

in here because they are out actively doing a lesson rather than sitting down. The kids get more out of it when they are doing something that makes sense to them. There is no question of why am I learning this."

A majority of the kids at the center have been rejected by other school districts either because those organizations do not have the resources to assist them or because the student has displayed behavioral problems that can't be properly addressed. Switzer Learning Center focuses on helping students who are afflicted by dyslexia, different spectrums of autism, attention deficit disorder, emotional disorders and a wide range of different learning disabilities.

"Our Heritage Program was an original program and has been in existence since 1966 and it is for children with severe learning disabilities. When you have learning disabilities that aren't diagnosed, remediated and helped, the kids often develop really bad behavior problems."

See Switzer, page 3

## Weekend Forecast

**Friday**  
Few  
Showers  
66°/59°



**Saturday**  
Few  
Showers  
63°/58°



**Sunday**  
Partly  
Cloudy  
63°/56°





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# SMILE awhile



Sayat family with Leoni and Robin kiddies on a gloomy afternoon. Submitted by Mama Vien.



Tucker Watson, 2 1/2, shows off his voting sticker after helping Mom vote. Submitted by Heather Watson.



The Madrona Marsh, Torrance's backyard, is utilized by amateur high school filmmakers as the setting of an original short film they attempt to produce with a budget of zero dollars. Submitted by Hung-Lin "Kevin" Wei.

**Readers send us your photos!** Do you have a favorite photo? An old yearbook photo? Glamour Shot? Baby photo? **We want them.** We will accept only one photo, per person, every month. Once a month, we will pick a "Staff Favorite" and the winner will get a **\$25.00 gift certificate** from one of our advertisers.

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# Business Briefs

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR ANNUAL THANKSGIVING DINNER ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 22

The Salvation Army will be hosting its Annual Thanksgiving Dinner on Thursday, November 22 at 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Free traditional Thanksgiving Dinner. Volunteers are needed to help and support The Salvation Army 5th Annual Thanksgiving Luncheon to provide a traditional Thanksgiving Dinner to 450 people on Thanksgiving Day, November 22. Volunteer opportunities include set-up, preparation, cooking meals, serve meals and clean-up on Thursday 8:30 am to 3:30 pm. Let the spirit of Thanksgiving be given those who are in the most need this season. Call 310-370-4515 and contact Kathy Conklin for more information. Volunteers are also needed this season to help sort can foods, collect toys at our Angel Tree Program, ring bells at our Kettle sites, and sort through gifts in The Salvation Army Torrance Corps. Also coordinate an Adopt-A-Family Program and Can Food Drive for your family members, church, business, clubs and organization. Just a little is much to those who are in need. For more information, contact Angela Ohl at 310-370-4515.

## TORRANCE CITICABLE AWARDED TWO WAVE AWARDS

Torrance CitiCABLE, the government access cable television channel for the City of Torrance, was recently awarded 2 Western Access Video Excellence Awards (WAVE) for their excellence in local programming in the categories of Government and Seniors. The news-style program, "This Week in Torrance" received the award in the Government Category. The winning episode touched on local events and subjects including women voters and high school campus harassment. For an episode covering local Torrance activities that promote a healthy lifestyle for the senior community, "Senior Scene" was honored for their video excellence in the Senior Category. More than 350 entries were submitted for the WAVE Awards from states including Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Nevada and New Mexico. The WAVE Awards ceremony was held on October 20 as the concluding event to the Alliance for Community Media Western Region Conference. Learn more about Torrance CitiCABLE and watch award winning episodes by visiting [www.TorranceCA.Gov/CableTV](http://www.TorranceCA.Gov/CableTV). For more information on the Alliance for Community Media and the WAVE Awards visit [www.ACMWest.org](http://www.ACMWest.org)

## BROCHURE COVER CONTEST FOR LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Torrance Cultural Arts Foundation is seeking talented students to design our 2013/2014 season brochure cover and win a \$500 scholarship. Our annual brochure contains information about all the events produced by the Foundation and is distributed to

more than 80,000 people. This competition is open to all students from South Bay high schools. (The South Bay includes Manhattan Beach, Hermosa Beach, Redondo Beach, El Segundo, the Palos Verdes Peninsula, Inglewood, Hawthorne, Gardena, Carson, Lawndale, Harbor City, Torrance, Lomita and San Pedro.) One winner will be selected by the TCAF Board of Directors and Executive Director. This winner will receive a \$500 scholarship. Deadline for entry submission: Feb. 4 at 5 p.m. For more information and entry forms, please e-mail [contest@torrancearts.org](mailto:contest@torrancearts.org) or call 310-378-8100.

## ANNUAL HOLIDAY FESTIVAL WINTER WONDERLAND ARRIVES

Sun., Dec. 2, Torrance Memorial Medical Center presents the 29th annual Holiday Festival, featuring decorated trees and a holiday celebration that includes a food court and musical entertainment. The event is located at Torrance Memorial Medical Center, 3330 Lomita Blvd., Torrance. Holiday Festival Hours are:

Tues., Nov. 27, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. – Boutique Shopping

Wed., Nov. 28, 10 a.m. – 9 p.m. – "Senior Day #1" – Free admission to seniors and the physically challenged from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Thurs., Nov. 29, 4 – 9 p.m. – "Senior Day #2" – Free admission to seniors and the physically challenged from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Thurs., Nov. 29 – "Non-Profit/ Community Service Group Evening 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Fri., Nov. 30 – Closed to the Public

Sat., Dec. 1, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Sun., Dec. 2, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For recorded information call, 310-517-4606.

## LAUP SEEKS PRESCHOOL TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Los Angeles Universal Preschool (LAUP) is accepting nominations to recognize the contributions of five outstanding preschool teachers in Los Angeles County. The nomination deadline is open until December 15. One teacher from each of the five Los Angeles County supervisorial districts will be honored for going above and beyond the call of duty to set the learning foundation and better prepare students for elementary school and beyond. The five winners will be notified in February 2013 and recognized during an awards dinner to be held in April. The Preschool Teacher of the Year Awards is open to all preschool teachers in Los Angeles County, including those who work in non-LAUP affiliated preschools. Candidates may nominate themselves or be nominated by anyone associated with the preschool including parents, administrators and co-workers. The 2013 winners will each receive a \$2,000 cash award. The ceremony will take place on Thursday, April 4, at the Globe Theatre in Universal Studios Hollywood. To nominate a preschool teacher, please visit [www.laup.net](http://www.laup.net).

## Switzer

from front page

Executive Director Rebecca E. Foo said. "As a result, that is usually the straw that breaks the camel's back with the schools and school districts. When a child has an individualized education plan [IEP] for a nonpublic school, then they can come here because that is what we are--a nonpublic school. Yet we still have to do everything that you would do in a regular public school. The kids in our Heritage Program have to have the same curriculum as the kids at Torrance Unified or LA Unified. They must take the same high school exit exam and STAR testing, but the only difference is that it is in a much smaller environment so they get more individualized attention."

The atmosphere at the center is set in a way that will create a relaxing experience for the students, many of whom are extra sensitive to sensory emotions. Among the activity rooms available for students, there is an exercise room that the kids can use at different levels. There is also a job room where the students have timesheets, also set at different levels and depending on the child's math abilities. Through the job room, the kids are able to earn "money" to be used at the center on Fridays.

"These are Switzer dollars--they are not real dollars," Director of Development Elizabeth Haig said. "It is about teaching them the concept of money and earning. They are learning that you have to earn it to get it. We are teaching them a skill so that they can function in the world."

While most of the kids arrive with a diagnosis (IEP), the center can ask for an assessment if staff feels that a child might have a need not being addressed. It is estimated that about 40 percent of the kids at the center live in foster homes, group homes or kinship care. However, through the programs offered at Switzer Center many of the students have been able to overcome their behavioral challenges. In some instances,

hands-on activities like shop class have had a tremendous impact on many students. "We teach them how to use hand tools first and as they become confident and proficient, we will teach them electric tools. Once they master that, we will teach them actual welding," Foo said. "One kid that's in the shop class was a real behavior challenge until he began getting involved with the shop class. He is in a group home, but now he brings in his own tools because he doesn't trust that people won't mess with his tools. He went from being a very behaviorally involved kid and has turned into having ownership and being the teacher's assistant in the class. He has really turned his behavior around."

The center also provides plenty of extracurricular activities that have been cut at several schools such as art classes, the welding room and music classes. All of them are up and running with the help of volunteers, staff and donations.

"Kids with learning disabilities have a deficit in reading and math, but they are gifted in other areas such as art," Foo said. "We have a group of gifted artists who are working on stuff. Periodically we have sewing classes, so we will teach kids how to make quilts and aprons for their moms."

Yet for the administrators, staff, teachers and volunteers, the biggest impact on these children's lives doesn't come exclusively from the resources available to them. Changing their lives for the better can only happen from the personal connections created with these kids who have suffered negative experiences in traditional school settings.

"I tell staff on an ongoing basis that the kids don't care how much you know--they want to know how much you care," Foo said. "Once they understand how much you care, then they can take the risk to show you how much they know. At that point is when learning takes place." •

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# Police Briefs

## FATAL TRAFFIC COLLISION DR# 120068104

On November 10, 2012, at approximately 11:40 p.m., officers from the Torrance Police Department responded to a fatal traffic collision in the 2200 block of Artesia Blvd.

On arrival, officers discovered that a vehicle traveling westbound on Artesia Boulevard, lost control, went over the center divider and collided with a vehicle that was traveling east bound on Artesia in the number one lane. The 31-year-old driver of the vehicle that was traveling eastbound on Artesia was pronounced dead by Torrance Fire Department

Paramedics. The 53-year-old driver of the vehicle that was traveling westbound is listed in good condition at a local hospital.

Artesia Boulevard between Haas and Casimir was closed to all traffic for approximately four hours during the investigation.

This collision is being investigated by the Torrance Police Department's Traffic Division under the command of Captain Bernard Anderson, Commander of the Special Operations Bureau. Anyone with information regarding this collision is encouraged to contact the Torrance Police Department's Traffic Division at 310-618-5557.

# Police Reports

The crimes listed are crimes where a report was taken by law enforcement agency and submitted for investigation. The outcome of the investigation or any criminal court proceeding are not considered when reporting crimes. The crimes are listed as follows: arson, simple assault, aggravated assault-weapon, auto theft, auto burglary, commercial burglary, residential burglary, homicide, strong-arm robbery, robbery with a weapon, theft and vandalism. The City of Torrance, or its employees or agents, shall assume no liability for: 1. Any errors, omissions, or inaccuracies in the information provided regardless of how caused; or 2. Any decision made or action taken or not taken by reader in reliance upon any information or data furnished hereunder.

### NOVEMBER 3

**Auto Theft-All:** 3400 BLOCK SEPULVEDA BLVD Stolen vehicle: '99 Cadillac Escalade.

**Burglary-Auto:** 3700 BLOCK EMERALD ST Suspect(s) smashes window for entry and takes property/wallet, GPS, vehicle antenna.

**Robbery-Weapon:** 21600 BLOCK HAWTHORNE BLVD Suspect exits vehicle and orders victim to empty his pockets, threatening harm before victim flees on foot/no loss.

**Theft:** 1700 BLOCK WATSON AVE Suspect(s) takes property off of victim's vehicle/tailgate.

### NOVEMBER 2

**Robbery-Weapon:** 236TH ST & CABRILLO AVE Suspects approach pedestrian victims, hold a handgun to one victim's head and demand their property/cell phones.

**Burglary-Commercial:** 22000 BLOCK WESTERN AVE Suspect(s) cuts lock for entry and takes property from storage unit/

microwave, refrigerator, PA system, speakers, electric piano, spotlights.

**Auto Theft-All:** 3000 BLOCK ARTESIA BLVD Stolen vehicle: '96 Honda Accord.

**Burglary-Auto:** CARLOW ROAD & 238TH ST Suspect(s) enters unlocked vehicle and takes property/wallet.

**Theft:** 21300 BLOCK MADRONA AVE Suspect(s) takes unsecured property from location/bicycle.

### NOVEMBER 1

**Burglary-Residential:** 5500 BLOCK 190TH ST Suspect(s) pries open sliding glass door for entry and takes property/vehicle key, vehicle.

**Burglary-Residential:** 3700 BLOCK 190TH ST Suspect(s) removes screen, enters unlocked window, ransacks, but flees without taking any property.

**Theft:** 1600 BLOCK CABRILLO AVE Suspect(s) takes victim's locked property from front of location/bicycle.

**Burglary-Commercial:** 16300 BLOCK CRENSHAW BLVD Suspect(s) removes window screen for entry, ransacks and takes property/cash, faux eyelashes.

**Burglary-Auto:** 2300 BLOCK CARSON ST Suspect(s) smashes window for entry and takes property/bag, cash.

**Auto Theft-All:** 2900 BLOCK AIRPORT DR Stolen vehicle: '12 Dodge Charger.

**Burglary-Commercial:** 16400 BLOCK CRENSHAW BLVD Suspect(s) pries open window for entry, but flees without taking any property.

### OCTOBER 31

**Burglary-Auto:** 22500 BLOCK KATHRYN AVE Suspect(s) smashes window for entry and

*See Police, page 11*

# Calendar

## THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15

• Prospective Decorator Orientation, 7:30 p.m., Torrance City Council Chambers, 3031 Torrance Blvd. The City of Torrance needs decorators for its 2013 Rose Parade float. For more information call (310) 618-2930.

• Free Holiday Light Exchange, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., South Bay Environmental Services Center, 20285 S. Western Ave., Suite 100. Also 11/16. For more information call (310) 371-7222.

## SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17

• 43rd Annual Holiday Arts & Crafts Fair (also Sun. 11/18), 9 a.m.- 4 p.m., Torrance Cultural Arts Center at 3330 Civic Center Drive. Please check the website <http://torrancecraftsmensguild.org> for additional information.

## MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19

• Free Community Flu Clinic (Torrance Community Services Department/L.A. County Public Health Department), 9 a.m.-Noon, Ken Miller Auditorium, 3341 Torrance Blvd.

• Genetic Genealogy: Demystified-Reading and Understanding your Family Tree DNA Results, 7 p.m., Toyota Auto Museum. For more information contact Judie Rice at [judieson@aol.com](mailto:judieson@aol.com).

## TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20

• City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.-10 p.m., City Hall, Council Chamber, 3031 Torrance

Blvd. For more information call the City Clerk at (310) 618-2870.

## ONGOING

• Downtown Torrance Market Place, every Thursday, 3-7 p.m. For more information call (310) 787-7501 or (310) 328-6107.

• Volunteers needed to help and support The Salvation Army's 5th Annual Thanksgiving Luncheon on Thanksgiving Day, November 22, 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. For more information call Kathy Conklin at (310) 370-4515.

• The Salvation Army Torrance Corps needs volunteers for Angel Tree Program, bell-ringers, Adopt-A-Family Program and Can Food Drive. For more information contact Angela Ohl at (310) 370-4515.

• South Bay Apple MAC User Group, 6:30-7:30 p.m. open forum/7:45-9:00 p.m. main program, Lomita VFW Hall, 1865 Lomita Blvd. Last Wednesday every month. For more information contact [ptownsend@sbamug.com](mailto:ptownsend@sbamug.com).

• "Retired Guys Only", first Wed. of each month, 9:30-11 a.m., Torrance First United Methodist Church, 1551 El Prado. For more information call (310) 328-3242.

• Diabetes Support Group meets the second and fourth Tues. of the month, 7-8:30 p.m., Torrance Memorial Health Conference Center, Rm 1. For more information call (310) 370-3228.



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# Politically Speaking

## Political Penguin

By Duane Plank

So went to my assigned polling place last Tuesday, waded through the assembled throngs eagerly waiting to make their voices heard. Okay, actually strode right up and in--just a couple of folks in the precinct who weren't volunteers were ahead of me.

Surprisingly, wasn't asked to show my ID before they signed me in to cast my ballot to elect the most powerful man in the world. The very nice lady at the check-in table did her best, but struggled to find the mansion address on her printout. Finally found the address and I was allowed to proceed to the voting booth.

Punched my ballot, took it to the guy whom I was supposed to hand it to. Stood behind a lady who seemed to be a little exorcised--she apparently was having a tiff with the ballot-hand-it-to guy. He was a bit uptight. She was ticked too. She muttered something about that he had no right to look at her ballot. He asked her why she had to use profanity?

I of course bemusedly watched the confrontation, and when the lady stomped away, handed my ballot to the guy behind the folding table. He gave it back to me, I slid it into the verification machine, got my "I voted" sticker and left. Took all of about three minutes and if I wasn't delayed by the well-meaning woman, would have taken about two entire minutes.

So, all of you who can't be bothered to vote, saying it takes too much time out of your "busy" schedule, maybe you can rethink that notion. I am sure that you can spare a couple minutes out of your busy time-wasting schedule to vote next time around?

And I still don't get the voting early thing?

People are too...whatever to vote on the prescribed day? Absentee ballots? Bolshoi. But at least those people voted. Saw people lined up the day before, on Monday, when they could have just strolled into the precinct on Tuesday. Different state, maybe. Guess I credit the folks for showing up at all, cuz I heard some lame stories from some of my work comrades the next day about why they didn't take the time, make the effort, to cast a ballot.

Same people who can spend hours daily updating their Facebook status can't be bothered to do their civic duty. And what was your excuse for not voting?

So we are now privileged, or sentenced, to four more years of "Hope" and platitudes from the POTUS. Well, one good thing, is that the campaigner-in-chief now will get to spend his time actually trying to fix the problems that he claimed that he was going to fix four years ago when he ascended to the throne.

Can't pass the blame onto the Bush administration any longer, can you, Mr. Obama?

Don't think he will waste too much time barnstorming around the country the next four years to goose the presidential campaign of H. Clinton, do you? So the next election cycle started around 8:15 p.m. last Tuesday, when the networks, and the apparently over-served ABC anchor Diane Sawyer, deemed the incumbent the winner.

Did you see Sawyer's bumbling performance? Comical. And maybe, just maybe, Chardonnay-fueled... •

## One Man's Opinion

By Gerry Chong

A few days ago, in the collective quiet and solitude of voting booths all over the country, the American public performed the most delicate of surgeries on the body politic. It separated the body's heart from its head. The empathy for the 23 million unemployed, the 46 million living below poverty and the 47 million on food stamps cried out for continued spending, expansion of government and a replacement of market principles with more government planning. Rather than addressing the

survive this choice.

Here's what we know about our future: We know Obamacare is now irreversible and is the law of the land. Nancy Pelosi famously said we need to pass this bill to see what's in it. We passed the bill and saw what was in it, but now the mystery has reappeared. The bill has generated 15,000 pages of regulations, so we still don't know what's in it.

We know Obama will push for tax increases on the successful as their "fair share" without a corresponding call for any social contribution

*In the election, the public narrowly chose to address the concerns of the heart over the concerns of the head.*

foundational question of whether government programs or free market principles are the best route to solving the problems of poverty, the heart simply asked the question of which government programs we should try next.

In its search for government solutions, the heart ignores the fact that government authority and individual freedom are anathema to each other...that in fact, freedom is a zero-sum game the ownership of which is held individually or taken by the collective. The heart is willing to make that trade.

The head, by contrast, asks two simple questions: Is the freedom and creativity of the free enterprise system a more productive route to national prosperity? Is there a financial limit to the amount of "empathy" the economy can afford?

In the election, the public narrowly chose to address the concerns of the heart over the concerns of the head. So now we will see in the years ahead whether the country can

from the 49.5 percent who currently pay no tax. Gaming the system for "free stuff" is increasingly the name of the game.

We know there are not enough wealthy people in the country that the government can tax and make a significant dent in the annual deficit or the cumulative debt--and that the call for increased taxes is more a populist paean than an economic plan.

Like adding sugar to a child's diet, there is a short-term high, but a long-term death sentence to the unbridled spending of the heart people.

Even among the more responsible of the heart people, there is a feeling of discomfort that the economy cannot afford the empathy of the heart. For the unscrupulous, however, the free flow of government money is a signal to let the games begin, and sadly it is the unscrupulous that provided the margin of victory for the heart over the head.

Can America survive this lobotomy? We'll see. •

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*"Nobody will ever deprive the American people of the right to vote except the American people themselves and the only way they could do this is by not voting."*

~ Franklin D. Roosevelt



# Sports

## Brown and Out

By Adam Serrao

If you take Phil Jackson out of the equation, the Lakers have had a hard time keeping a head coach over the last 13 years. As if the number 13 in itself isn't unlucky enough, all of the coaches of the purple and gold not named Phil Jackson have suffered the same fate. Since Phil took over the team in 1999, four different coaches (five, with the hiring of Mike D'Antoni) besides the Zen Master have gotten their shot to take center stage in Hollywood. Rudy Tomjanovich, Frank Hamblen, Mike Brown and now Bernie Bickerstaff have all attempted to take the team to a championship level, but for the most part have all failed to succeed. That's

there. When you go out in the offseason and spend as much money as the Lakers have on the short-term contracts of Dwight Howard and Steve Nash, it is easy to understand why the Lakers have expected a bit more out of Brown than they have gotten. Perhaps the most telling sign that Brown just didn't fit in with the team was the poor defensive play in the first five games of the season. Brown prides himself on being a defensive coach. Once he was fired and Bickerstaff took over, the Lakers not only got their second and third wins of the season in back-to-back routs of the Golden State Warriors and the Sacramento Kings, but they also held their opponents to 77 and 90 points

*With all of that money out there on the table, winning became a must and Mike Brown just wasn't doing it.*

not even to mention Kurt Rambis, Bill Bertka and Del Harris who all came before Jackson. So maybe it's unfair to put all of the blame on Brown. It doesn't seem to be necessarily easy to coach this team. But when the team posted an 0-8 record in the preseason and started the regular season off at 1-4, can you really blame the Lakers for moving as swiftly as they did to remove him from his head coaching position? The Laker franchise is all about winning and winning right now. With Kobe Bryant's career nearing its end, the firing of Mike Brown is precisely what needed to happen.

According to the Lakers, they didn't fire Brown because there were better candidates for their head coaching position available. A source close to the Lakers explained that the firing was done "more to stop what was happening than to pursue anybody else." When you've won only one game all year, in addition to last season's unceremonious finish, that decision becomes a little easier to make. The theory presented by the source close to the Lakers is, of course, a politically correct theory. The Lakers knew that Phil Jackson wouldn't be coming back to the team last year. He had already spent six years with the team in what was his second tenure and according to Jackson, his health was deteriorating. For that reason, the Lakers had to go out and hire a coach they thought could make the biggest impact on the team as quickly as possible. Mike Brown got the job. What many people don't understand about Brown is that even though he has a lot of friends around the league and is a genuinely good person, he has now failed to win with the two biggest stars that this league has seen in the last 10 years (Kobe and LeBron James).

Whenever there is a coach of Phil Jackson's stature available and willing to come back, it would be in the best interest of any team to do anything and everything to go out there and get him. A source close to Jackson even told ESPN last Saturday, "Phil's health is fine now. That's no issue at all. Phil's feisty. He gets feisty when he's ready to coach. He likes this Lakers team." Perhaps Jackson isn't the only one who has been feeling feisty. Having not experienced much success to start the season, the Lakers may have just gotten their juices flowing as well, in essence making Brown expendable. Though Jackson ultimately didn't get the hire, he may have opened the Lakers' eyes up to the fact that there are bigger and better out

respectively on offense. One was their best defensive effort of the season and the other was a forceful showing in itself.

Brown's firing came as an obvious shock to other coaches and players around the league, but there seems to be a lot less stress around the Staples Center since the time of his unfortunate departure. A "We want Phil!" chant even broke out several times in the crowd at the Staples Center during the game last Friday night. Unfortunately for those Lakers fans partaking in the chant, they didn't get their wish, but with D'Antoni they get the next best thing. From a Laker point of view, D'Antoni came at a much cheaper price and will supposedly be more faithful to the team. "Phil would come back only to win and skipping games doesn't lead to winning," a source close to the Lakers explained. The nature of Jackson's health would disallow him from traveling with the team on certain road trips. D'Antoni, on the other hand, will be able to spend all of his time with the club. Obviously, choosing D'Antoni over Jackson is a shock in itself, but as long as Kobe is okay with it, it should slide. "I love PJ, but I'm very excited about D'Antoni," Kobe related. Kobe's apparently not the only one. Nash, who has previously played with D'Antoni, expressed his feelings as well. "Obviously everyone knows how much I love Mike," Nash said Sunday night prior to the hiring. "If [D'Antoni] were to coach, it would be seamless and terrific for me, and I think the team as well." While D'Antoni has never won a championship, he is a fun and easy coach to play for and with a roster like the one that the Lakers have created, it shouldn't be hard to make a strong run with a leader of his stature.

What it really came down to in Mike Brown's case is that the Lakers were off to the worst start in the Western Conference this year despite carrying the league's largest payroll at just over \$100 million, which would also trigger a luxury tax bill of more than \$30 million. With all of that money out there on the table, winning became a must and Mike Brown just wasn't doing it. With an offense that wasn't suited to its players' talents and a defense that just didn't try, it was obvious that a change needed to be made. That change is D'Antoni and with him at the helm, it will quickly become apparent that the Lakers are in fact the team that they should have been under Brown this entire time. •

## Up and Adam

### West is Back on the Map

By Adam Serrao

It was just another game for the West High Warriors, right? After losing three straight Bay League matchups to almost drop the team all the way out of playoff contention, the Warriors were somehow able to regain their form towards the end of the season as they rallied off two straight wins in which they outscored their two opponents by a total margin of 106-13. That's exactly what we were used to seeing from the team to start the season and is exactly what we got from the team in its first playoff match last Friday night as West took out fourth-seeded St. Joseph of Santa Maria with a commanding 45-20 victory.

The Warriors came out of the locker room ready to play last Friday night. Knowing the severity of the situation, the team relied on its two powerhouses to get the win in its first round playoff game. It was a night to show off the throwing arm of Joey Notch and the strength and speed of running back Barry Thomas. Behind those two players, the Warriors came out hot with 10 first quarter points and 21 second quarter points to put up 31 in just the first half in order to jump out to a 31-14 lead at the break. "I thought we played inspired football," said West head coach Greg Holt of his team's performance. "We executed extremely well on offense. This no-huddle offense, when it is run right, is hard to defend." St. Joseph's found that fact out quickly and was made victim to the inspiration on the West High sideline and particularly in the backfield all night long. Joey Notch was the instigator on offense, getting the momentum going for the Warriors by going 25 of 34 for 272 yards and two touchdowns. Notch also rushed for 75 yards on the night, but left the heavier workload for Thomas. After handling the ball 25 times, Thomas came away with four touchdowns on 166 rushing yards to provide most of the points on the scoreboard for West High.

The Warriors didn't lose a quarter all game, putting up 14 more points in the second half compared to St. Joseph's six that came in the fourth quarter. The win for the Warriors sets up a rematch between them and Bay League foe Mira Costa in the semifinals this Friday night. It was Mira Costa that began the Warriors' three-game losing streak that ultimately knocked the latter out of first place and had them struggling for playoff positioning. A rematch against their league foe should be exactly what Holt and his squad are yearning for to have a chance at redemption. It won't be easy, however, as Costa lost only one game all season in league play and wound up in second place in the Bay League standings. Mira Costa beat Highland 35-21 in a first round matchup last week.

#### NORTH HIGH

They said it was a playoff game for the North High Saxons, but they went about their business in the same way they did during the regular season and league play. The Saxons weren't too familiar with their opponent, but Oak Park had won only five games all season long and had no idea what it was up against last Friday night at North High. The 27-0 victory not only displayed the usual explosive

offense for the Saxons, but put their defense on exhibit as well. With its third shutout of the season, North's defense only allowed 103 total yards all night long as the Saxons powered their way into the second round of the CIF Southern Section Northwest Division playoffs.

Comparatively speaking, it was a quiet day for the Saxons on offense. The only touchdown of the first half came on a 12-yard pass to Adrian Colclasure to give the team a 7-0 lead towards the end of the first quarter. North's only other score of the half was another touchdown pass by starting quarterback Jorge Hernandez--this time to Zack Barrett with only seconds left in the half to make it 13-0 going into the break. After a quiet third quarter, North blew it open in the fourth with two touchdown runs, one by Hernandez himself, to bring the game to its final score of 27-0.

The victory for North is the team's first playoff win since 2005 and gets the team into a quarterfinal matchup this Friday night with Gladstone. If the Saxons are looking for a challenge, they will most certainly get it in this game. Gladstone is not only coming off of an impressive 54-17 win over Mary Star last week, but also finished in first place in the Montview league, having lost only one game all season.

#### TORRANCE HIGH

The Torrance Tartars suffered a heartbreaking loss to their first round playoff opponent Whittier Christian last Friday night at Whittier College. After taking a 14-3 lead in the first half, it looked as if the Tartars, under starting quarterback Jacob Kalama, might just coast to an easy victory on the night. Whittier Christian was able to score 21 unanswered points, however, to take a 24-13 lead in the third quarter. Torrance would battle back, scoring six points in the third quarter and eight in the fourth, but ultimately it was not enough as the Tartars took the 38-28 defeat on the night.

Kalama was 13 of 28 for 201 yards passing and a touchdown. The Tartars put up 515 yards of total offense in a losing effort that unfortunately saw their playoff lives come to a premature end. The Tartars finished at 5-6 on the year and in third place in the Pioneer League standings.

#### SOUTH HIGH

The South High Spartans kept their streak of consecutive years in the playoffs alive by making it to the first round to face off against top-seeded Bishop Diego. South has now made it to the playoffs every year since the 2009 season. Almost as quickly as they got in, however, they were sent home by a 43-9 loss on the night.

The Spartans were able to get on the board early with a field goal to start things off in the first quarter, but after that it was all Bishop Diego. Sixteen points in the second quarter and 13 in the fourth quarter led the way for Diego, which took advantage of South High penalties and turnovers all night long. The Spartans' season ended with a fifth place finish in the Pioneer League and only one win in league play against Lawndale. South will look to improve on that record for next year in order to get a better seed come playoff time. •



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Now transformed into a museum, the USS IOWA, known as "The World's Greatest Naval Ship" was the site of the annual mixer between the Japan Business Association of Southern California and the Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce. Guests were able to tour the ship which was built in 1940 and served the country for more than 50 years. Photos by Chris Nishimura.



Welcoming everyone to the USS IOWA event were Mayor Pro Tem Gene Barnett and Cherie Davis, General Manager from the Miyako Hybrid Hotel.



Dignitaries from the Japan Business Association of Southern California and the Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce celebrate the sake barrel ceremony toast.



The Honorable Jun Niimi, Consul General of Japan in Los Angeles (on right) with Yuichi Yamakawa of Kintetsu Enterprises Co. of America.



Torrance City Councilman Bill Sutherland and Esther Dailey from Green Hills Memorial Park.

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# Sports

## North Torrance Football Advances in CIF Quarterfinals

By Kelly Kemp

The North Torrance Saxons, now 9-2, leaped into the CIF Quarterfinals against Gladstone this week due to their recent 27-0 shutout of Oak Park. It was the Team's second blanking in a row, third for the season.

There were some great plays from the offense, but the defense really rocked, tackling runners behind the line of scrimmage more than a dozen times and sacking the opponent's quarterback almost half that many times – led by TJ Cimaglio (3), with Junio Juarez, Keith Thompson, and Luis Yopez. •



Running Back Ty Young weaves through Oak Park line to score a touchdown in the fourth quarter to bring the Saxon tally to 19.



Wide Receiver Devante Jenkins leaps and stays inbounds to complete a pass.



Senior Quarterback Jorge Hernandez sprints away from Oak Park lineman. Photos by Shelley Kemp.

## South Girls Volleyball – Back to Back CIF Semis

By Kelly Kemp

The South Lady Spartans, now 25-10 for the season, finished off Bonita High School at home in CIF First Round and Santiago at Corona in the Quarterfinals to bounce back to the CIF-SS Division II-AA Semi-finals and maintain their quest at second seed for the Finals. [First seed North Torrance was upset by Martin Luther King of Riverside at home in three sets.

In the Bonita game, South had a sluggish second set, but still topped the Bearcats in four sets. It seemed like the Spartans should have run away with the contest, but many kills went long by inches. This was noted especially in the fourth set, which seemed to proceed from side-outs with great Spartan defense coupled with out-of-bounds with just missing Spartan offense. In the end it was seniors Erika Eastley's 16 kills and 4 blocks and Tessa Fournier's 28 digs that controlled the match. •



Senior Skyler Ceballos pops the ball trying to fake out Bonita blocker.



Erika Eastley slams the ball over the net into Bonita territory. Eastley led her team with 16 kills.



Junior Karly Eastley slams the ball from the outside and scores a point.



The Lady Spartans celebrate match point after a kill by MacKenzie Fitzpatrick.



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**W**ith Thanksgiving just around the corner, I thought I would share with you my favorite cranberry sauce recipe.

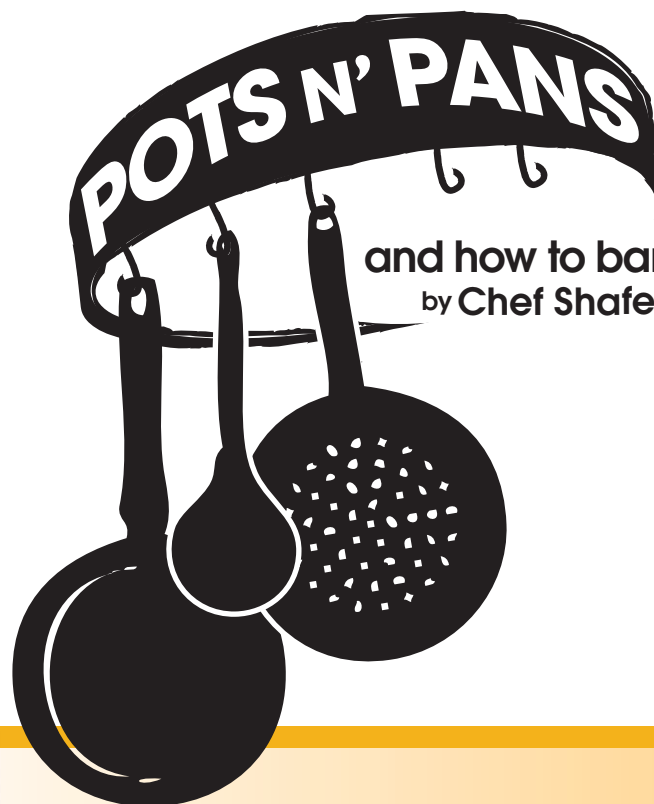
Did you know that cranberries have pectin in them so you don't have to use a thickening agent to get a great, thick, and flavorful sauce to go with your turkey?

I like to use the sauce year round:

- As dipping sauce for shrimp cocktail
- With a roasted pork loin
- With grilled salmon or sword fish
- As a spread with brie or other soft cheeses
- Or, you can mix it with some olive oil and balsamic vinegar and it will make a wonderful salad dressing

Have fun and happy holidays!

*The Chef*



and how to bang them  
by Chef Shafer

## Cranberry Sauce

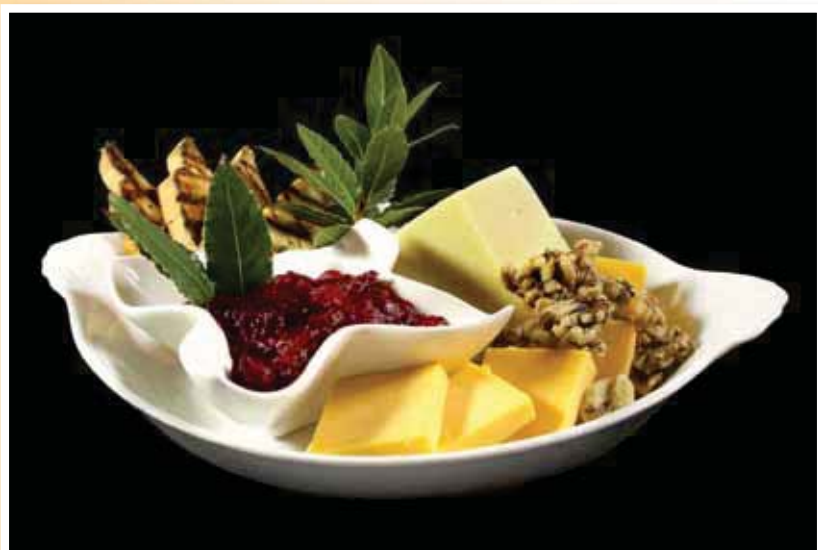
- 2 bags of fresh or frozen cranberries
- 2 cups of orange juice
- 2 cups of brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon chopped pickled ginger \*
- 1/2 cup seasoned rice vinegar
- Pinch of salt and pepper

Place all ingredients in a pot, bring to a boil, then simmer for 10 to 15 minutes or until the berries have softened. Chill and serve.

\*the kind you get at a sushi bar/ can be purchased at Vons and most markets

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## A Student's Perspective

# Peninsula Teacher Returns from Second Tour in Afghanistan

By Glen Abalayan,  
Torrance High School Student

Sergeant Jonathan Stamper is of a rare breed. The 47-year-old lifelong Californian recently returned from his second tour in Afghanistan and resumed his career as a chemistry teacher at Palos Verdes Peninsula High School. His ability to manage both roles of educator and peacemaker shows his dedication to public service. As the new school year begins, Stamper now has to hang up his fatigues and replace them with khakis.

Sergeant Stamper began his military career at an uncommon time in his life. While people his age are reclining in their chairs and experiencing the dreaded mid-life crisis, Stamper came to the realization of joining the United States Army in 2006.

"It happened when I was about 42 when I had a student on his first day wear his Class-A Army uniform...I thought that was neat--I've always been patriotic," recalled Stamper of his "aha" moment. "A few days later, the same student said 'Hey Mr. Stamper, did you know they rose the enlistment age to 42?'" Fortunately for Stamper, he was 41 and seven months at the time. He immediately went to the recruiter on the same day.

Stamper was deployed to the Civil Affairs (CA) Unit. His main role was to speak to farmers, mayors, teach children and maintain the peace. "It's like the Peace Corps side of the Army," he said.

But the line between mediator and soldier was constantly skewed when Stamper moved from Iraq to Afghanistan on his second tour. "This time it was totally kinetic--more on finding the 'bad guys,'" he said. Compared to the conditions in Iraq, Stamper had to constantly dodge rifle fire and watch his step, all while still trying to engage the populace by organizing farms and founding businesses.

"I didn't mind getting shot at," said Stamper. "The Taliban would shoot, but it was like 'spray and pray.' All they did was harass us. The thing that really got us scared in the platoon were the IEDs. We lost two men from that... It was a good taste for what the Army infantry life was like, which made me have a lot of

respect for them. But I am twice their age."

Being in a group dominated by recruits half his age was a stressful experience for the 42-year-old. "Every young kid who didn't like his dad would take it out on me like I was their father figure," said Stamper. But having a nickname of "Pops" also had its perks. One of them included having to carry a small field radio, as opposed to a 100-pound EOD robot, on his back.

"During a patrol, a guy asked me, 'How old are you?' I said, 'Forty-seven.' Then he went, 'Dang, my dad's 46!' So the next day they let me carry the radio. One guy asked why and he said, 'Hey, would you let your dad carry that? Then don't give it to Stamper cause' he's your dad's age!'" recalled Stamper of when the load on his back suddenly became lighter.

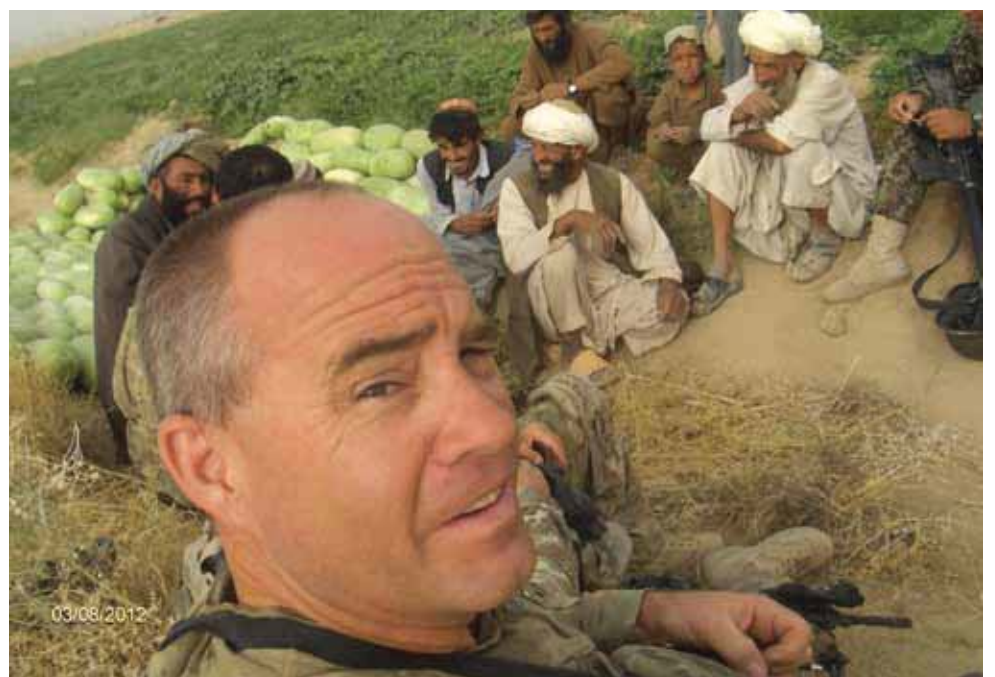
Stamper returned to the South Bay in 2012 to resume his teaching career. He began that career when he taught chemistry and physics at West High for 12 years before switching to Peninsula. "West High was my first love. I can't forget it," said Stamper. Today, Stamper has to return to his 18-year teaching career and grade the hundreds of assignments students complete every day. But his military experience has turned this once-tedious task into a cakewalk. "At least I don't have to wake up at four in the morning to do patrols, wear 70 pounds of armor and get shot at," he said.

The increase in class size has been a growing issue on teachers, including Stamper. But he had to make do with his limited resources and move forward. "If I have to go underneath a tree and conduct a class underneath a tree and go back in time to be more austere, that's fine because there are kids in Afghanistan who can't get an education," said Stamper.

Sergeant Jonathan Stamper has balanced two of the most demanding roles in public service--being a soldier and an educator. His experience in the Middle Eastern war theatre has taught him to appreciate the things most people take for granted, a lesson he tries to instill in his students. The Army's motto to "improvise, adapt and overcome" is shown in his teaching method in the classroom as well as in the field of battle. Truly, Sergeant Stamper is of a rare breed. •



Photos courtesy of Sergeant Jonathan Stamper.





# Looking Up

## World's Most Advanced Mirror for Giant Telescope Completed

By Bob Eklund

Scientists at the University of Arizona and in California have completed the most challenging large astronomical mirror ever made. For the past several years, a group of optical scientists and engineers working at the UA Steward Observatory Mirror Laboratory underneath the university's football stadium have been polishing a 27.5-foot-diameter mirror with an unusual, highly asymmetric shape.

By the standards used by optical scientists, the "degree of difficulty" for this mirror is 10 times that of any telescope mirror ever before made. The mirror surface matches the desired prescription to a precision of 19 nanometers—so smooth that if it were the size of the continental United States, the highest mountains would be little more than a half-inch high.

This mirror, and six more like it, will form the heart of the Giant Magellan Telescope (GMT), which will have more than 4,000 square feet of light-collecting area. The Giant Magellan Telescope will lead a next generation of giant telescopes that will explore planets around other stars and the formation of stars, galaxies and black holes in the early universe.

"Making this first GMT mirror required all the expertise and experience that the university has built up over 25 years of making telescope mirrors and a great deal of innovation to push beyond previous limits in optical fabrication and testing," said Buell Jannuzi, director of

the UA Steward Observatory and professor of astronomy. "In achieving this remarkable milestone, the team built and demonstrated all the equipment and techniques that will lead to efficient production of the remaining mirrors for the GMT."

The mirror was cast at the mirror lab from 20 tons of glass, melted in a rotating furnace until it flowed into a honeycomb mold. Once the glass had cooled and the mold material was removed, scientists at the lab used a series of fine abrasives to polish the mirror, checking its figure regularly using a number of precision optical tests.

The mirror has an unconventional shape because it is part of what ultimately will be a single 82-foot optical surface composed of seven circular segments, each 27.5 feet in diameter. "We need to be certain the off-axis shape of this mirror, as well as the other six that will be made for GMT, is precisely right, to an accuracy of 1/20th of a wavelength of light," said Buddy Martin, polishing scientist at the Mirror Lab. "Only then will the seven large mirrors form a single, exquisitely sharp image when they all come together in the telescope in Chile. We have now demonstrated that we can fabricate the mirrors to the required accuracy for the telescope to work as designed."

The second of seven mirrors for the GMT was cast at the mirror lab in January of this year. The third will be cast in August 2013.

The Giant Magellan Telescope will be located

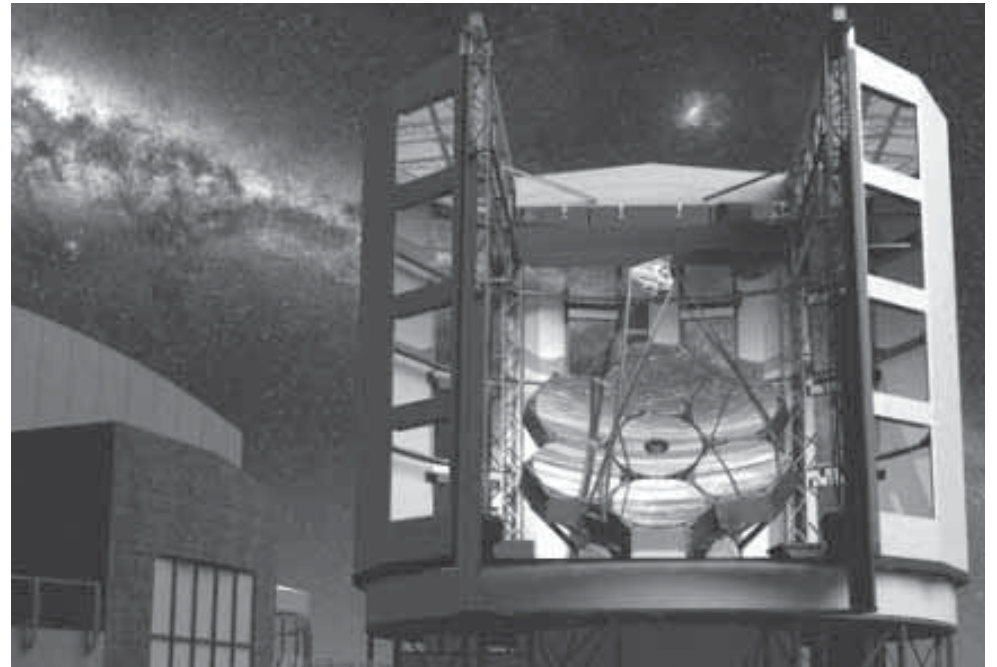
on a remote mountaintop in the Chilean Andes where the skies are clear and dark, far from any sources of light pollution. At the Carnegie Institution for Science's Las Campanas Observatory in northern Chile, earthmovers are completing the removal of four million cubic feet of rock to produce a flat platform for the telescope and its supporting buildings.

Wendy Freedman, chair of the GMT board (and director of Carnegie Observatories,

headquartered in Pasadena) said, "The technical achievements at the UA's mirror lab and the dedication and commitment of our national and international partners will allow us to open a new window on the universe. An exciting future of discovery awaits us."

More information & images:

<http://uanews.org/story/world-s-most-advanced-mirror-giant-telescope-completed>  
<http://www.gmto.org/primarymirror.html> •



The Giant Magellan Telescope, against the southern Milky Way, as it will appear when it's completed. (Image: Todd Mason/Mason Productions and GMTO Inc.)

### Police

from page 4

takes property/binder, baking sheet, laptop.

**Burglary-Commercial:** 2500 BLOCK PACIFIC COAST HWY Suspect(s) pries open door for entry, pries open cash register and takes property/cash.

**Vandalism:** 2700 BLOCK SKYPARK DR Suspect(s) damages prop depicting political sentiment on victim's vehicle.

**Burglary-Auto:** M 17800 BLOCK YUKON AVE Suspect(s) smashes window for entry and takes property/purses.

#### OCTOBER 30

**Auto Theft-All:** 800 BLOCK CRANBROOK AVE Stolen vehicle: '01 Chevrolet P/U.

**Auto Theft-All:** 5100 BLOCK PASEO DE LAS TORTUGAS Stolen vehicle: '12 Ford P/U.

**Theft:** 1500 BLOCK AMAPOLA AVE Suspect(s) takes property from victim's residence without permission while there with permission/laptop, cell phone, video games.

**Auto Theft-All:** 1800 BLOCK 178TH ST Stolen vehicle: '00 Honda Civic.

**Theft:** 21900 BLOCK ANZA AVE Suspect(s) takes property from open trailer/A/C coil.

**Burglary-Residential:** 2700 BLOCK 180TH PL Suspect poses as neighbor's worker to distract victim in her backyard while his associate(s) enters the victim's unlocked front door, ransacks and takes property/cash.

**Vandalism:** 3400 BLOCK LOMITA BLVD

Suspect(s) enters restroom inside office and forcibly pulls sink, cabinet and mirror off of wall.

**Theft:** 3500 BLOCK MARICOPA ST Suspect(s) cuts chain securing property and takes same/bicycles.

#### OCTOBER 29

**Burglary-Commercial:** 4200 BLOCK REDONDO BEACH BLVD Suspect(s) forces open locker and takes property/wallet, cell phone, gym bag, clothes, keys. •

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# Seniors

## Shop Early: The Right Prescription For Selecting A Medicare Drug Plan

(BPT) - The most important shopping seniors may do this season is for a Medicare prescription drug plan. Therefore, it's one holiday shopping item that shouldn't wait until the last minute.

New research from Express Scripts shows 84 percent of seniors (based on an analysis of Express Scripts Medicare (TM) 2011 PDP enrollment data) wait until the last minute to select a Medicare Part D plan, and half of all seniors will attempt to enroll specifically on Medicare Monday - the Monday following Thanksgiving, the busiest enrollment day of the year. In addition, many seniors are not aware that the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) changed the enrollment deadline in 2011 to Dec. 7, thus trimming the enrollment period by three weeks.

'As a result of down-to-the-wire decision making, seniors risk overpaying because they do not have the time to shop, compare and ensure the plan they choose covers all of their pharmacy needs,' says Paul Reyes, host

Look beyond the sticker price: While lower premiums are helpful if you do not currently take many medications, when you do need more medications, the costs of the medications can really add up. You should evaluate any out-of-pocket costs you'll be responsible for based on the medications you take regularly, and make sure these medications are included on the plan's list of covered medications.

Star search: Beneficiaries should consider a plan's CMS star rating - an objective comparison of important plan attributes and performance, such as patient safety and support. The CMS star ratings range from one to five, with four and five representing above-average plan performance.

Mind the coverage gap: The coverage gap, also known as the 'donut hole,' begins when your total drug costs (the amount that both you and your plan pay) reach \$2,970. Once you reach the coverage gap, you are responsible for paying the full cost of your medications until you hit a total of \$4,750. Look for a



Express Scripts Medicare Choice Plan offers a \$0 copay on generics ordered through home delivery. The great news for Medicare consumers is that many popular brand name medications, such as Lipitor, are now available in generic form.

Care and convenience: A plan that offers round-the-clock pharmacist support can help you get the support you need from your plan - even if it's the middle of the night, plus may offer you ways to help you stick to your treatment regimen and avoid potentially harmful drug interactions and side effects. Plans that have a national pharmacy network can make a lot of sense if you travel or spend time away seasonally - plus look for other ways to save - such as through home delivery for chronic medications. These savings can really add up.

Play it safe: If you're shopping for a Part D plan online, be sure to start with www.Medicare.gov, the official U.S. Government website for Medicare, to ensure you are signing up with a CMS-approved Medicare Plan. Also, if you order medications online, look for the site's VIPPS certification to ensure you are buying medications from an online pharmacy licensed by the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy.

So when enrollment begins on Oct. 15, start comparison shopping for a plan early - on and review the above information to help find the plan that's right for you. For more information regarding how to choose your plan, or to sign up for free reminders to ensure you don't miss the enrollment period, visit www.Express-ScriptsMedicare.com. •

*"As a result of down-to-the-wire decision making, seniors risk overpaying because they do not have the time to shop, compare and ensure the plan they choose covers all of their pharmacy needs."*

of the Ask the Pharmacist radio series and pharmacist for Express Scripts. 'Choosing the wrong plan could end up costing hundreds of dollars or more because you're locked in until next year's enrollment period.'

It's important to start the process early so you have plenty of time to thoroughly compare plans and avoid long wait times and enrollment frustration. Reyes has the following tips to help you make the right Part D choice:

plan that will alert you when you're getting close to the gap and will help you stretch your Medicare dollars to delay or avoid it. If you use a lot of medications or have reached the gap in previous years, consider a plan that offers coverage in the gap.

Is there a generic for that? Generic medications can help lower your monthly drug costs, thus delaying or even preventing you from reaching the gap. Many plans offer incentives for generics - for example, the

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# TerriAnn in Torrance

## A United Thanksgiving

By TerriAnn Ferren

Next Thursday, November 22, our country will join together to give thanks for all our blessings as we celebrate Thanksgiving. In the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy, I am sure most of us here in the South Bay and everywhere are reflecting on what sort of Thanksgiving it will be for our fellow Americans on the East Coast. With all the devastation caused by the hurricane, the images sometimes seem unreal and the scope and tragedy left in the wake of this major disaster leave many of us wondering how we can help. In the spirit of our American heritage, most of us seek to help our fellow citizens when tragedy hits and Hurricane Sandy is no different. Almost immediately, philanthropic organizations went into action to assist the needy across the nation.

The local Salvation Army Torrance Corps, Southern California Division is led by Captains Neil and Rubina Navarro. Administrative assistant Cathy at the main office on Emerald Street informed me that the division head office is handling the donations for the Sandy victims and checks may be sent to P/O Box 93002, Long Beach, CA 90809 or by calling 800-725-2769. She also reminded me that the free *Fifth Annual Thanksgiving Luncheon* on Thanksgiving Day will be served at 11:30 a.m. and 1:30

p.m. at the facility in Torrance. All are welcome. Make reservations to attend the luncheon/or if you wish to donate or help, call 310-370-4515.

I asked Tommy Kovic who lives in Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania, (located 70 miles west of Atlantic City) with his wife Jennifer and their daughter Hannah, age 10, if he and his family felt the effects of Hurricane Sandy and he said yes. "We had winds up to 60 or 65 miles per hour at the height of the storm," Tommy noted. "We had limbs break off trees and limbs were strewn all around the yard. We went into the family room [during the storm] and hunkered down and built a nice warm fire and Hannah built a tent and we tried to make the best of it. Other than that, our power was out for 12 hours but we made the best of it and were back to full function by Tuesday morning. He also told me that the Jersey Boardwalk was decimated. The tragedy on the East Coast is horrific.

The City of Torrance is holding a canned food drive during the *33rd Annual Harry Sutter Memorial Thanksgiving Day 3 Mile Fun Run*. All you need to do is bring canned food to the run. While you watch or run the race, your canned food will be distributed to people in need throughout the South Bay. If you wish to take part in the *Annual Fun*

*Run*, you need to register before the event on November 21, between 11 a.m. 7 p.m. at the Ken Miller Recreation Center or on November 22, 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 a.m. in the Sam's Club parking lot (cash and check only) or online by Sunday, November 18 at [www.thanksgivingday3milefunrun.eventbrite.com](http://www.thanksgivingday3milefunrun.eventbrite.com)—or fill out an entry form available at [www.TorranceCA.Gov/Parks/20996.htm](http://www.TorranceCA.Gov/Parks/20996.htm) and walk in or mail your payment of \$35 to 3031 Torrance Boulevard, Torrance, CA 90503, attention: *Turkey Trot* and make checks payable to *City of Torrance*.

Thanksgiving was proclaimed a national holiday on October 3, 1863 by President Abraham Lincoln. Within the proclamation it is stated, "...I do, therefore, invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States and those who are sojourning in foreign lands to set apart and observe the last Thursday in November next as a day of Thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the heavens." I believe it is this spirit, sparked by our 16th President, that still burns in the hearts of Americans. We help our fellow citizens.

When you think of Thanksgiving, what is it that stands out? Is it the turkey? Is it the pumpkin pie? For many of us, that is the gravy of the holiday that brings to mind family and friends. But there are many of us who are

alone. We may be students away from home, widows, widowers or separated from family, but on this day we can invite someone in or say yes to an invitation. Reach out and join together with someone—either friend or family—on this special Thanksgiving Day.

As I make preparations for Thanksgiving, I will probably get out the bamboo napkin rings that I usually use that I received from Gram Bradley that she bought years ago on a trip to Bora Bora. They are smooth and round and are delicately etched with a different design on each of the 12 rings. Traditions we remember and those we create are the memories of tomorrow. And whether you decide to put mini marshmallows on your yams or not, or to have real whipped cream on your pumpkin pie or not depends entirely on you.

Our temperatures in Torrance continue to be unseasonably warm and as I think of those on the East Coast hit by Sandy with cold weather coming on, I know I am not alone in wanting to help. This is the month we especially give thanks and it couldn't be a better time to give to an organization that is helping those who need assistance. Whether you are taking part in the *33rd Annual Fun Run* or cooking a Thanksgiving feast, remember those who need a helping hand—especially now. •



The local Salvation Army Torrance Corps, Southern California Division. Photo by TerriAnn Ferren.

## Scores

from front page

seen slight, but steady growth for years. "We have a very high graduation rate and one we continue to incrementally improve year by year by a student or two," said Stowe. "It's a very small margin. We have a 97 to 98 percent graduation rate, which is very good."

Stowe also noted that the District is improving on the number of seniors leaving high school with all of their University of California (UC) prerequisites (sometimes referred to as A-G requirements) completed. Fifty percent of the 2012 graduating class fulfilled their A-G requirements, up from 48.6 percent last year. Stowe said this focus is important for students

even if they aren't planning to attend a UC, as other college-level programs have similar requirements.

"We focus on giving students as many options post-secondary school as possible," said Stowe. "Incrementally, we're moving up in the A through G completion rates. Counselors are really targeting students who are missing a class or maybe got a D in a class and haven't retaken it. We are encouraging students to repeat that class and get a C or better in it."

The District also saw improvement in the number of students taking Advanced Placement (AP) classes. Nearly 50 more

students have enrolled in AP classes that led to 81 more tests taken and 49 more grading grades. Stowe commented that this is in keeping with a District trend. "Every year, we've seen growth in the number of students challenging themselves with Advanced Placement courses and passing those courses," said Stowe.

Kim and Stowe ended their presentation by thanking the entire community for helping the District combat its biggest problem—a shrinking budget. "We are really appreciative to all the people in Torrance, all the students, teachers and staff members that have helped

us succeed in tough times," said Stowe.

Board President Terry Ragins credited District teachers for helping get through the fiscal storm. She thanked them for doing more for students with fewer resources and despite having more children in the classroom. "It's super-remarkable, given the budget cuts we've had as a district in the past several years, that our test scores continue to go up," said Ragins. "And there are a number of teachers who are responsible for working harder, more efficiently and better with the students. My hat is definitely off to them." •



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**Single apartment in ES.** Quiet small complex, next to High School \$995/mo. Call (310) 647-1635 for more details.

### BOUTIQUE

**Holiday Boutique:** Fri., 11/30, 1:30 p.m.- 7 p.m. (in the cafeteria). Center Street 3rd Annual Holiday Boutique. Come join the fun, vendors, entertainment, food, massage, and sell your gold!

### DUPLEX FOR RENT

**2BD/1BA. ES.** Quiet Unit, Single garage, plus one pkg. W/D hook ups. No pets, \$1475/mo. 1611 E Maple Ave. #A. Avail. 12/01. Call for appt. (310) 283-9121.

### EMPLOYMENT

**Display Ad Sales Position.** We need an experienced Display Ad Salesperson for Herald Publications. Territories include Torrance, El Segundo and Hawthorne. Full or part-time positions are available. 20% commission on all sales. If interested please email your resume to management@heraldpublications.com. No phone calls please.

**Embassy Suites - LAX South.** We are seeking energetic and enthusiastic individuals who are eager to provide hospitable service to our guests! Current Openings: Lead Front Desk Agent (FT), Housekeeping (PT). Must have flexible availability. Apply at: www.hiltonworldwide.com/careers. EOE/AA

**Golden West Tower** a federally subsidized low-income Housing is accepting applications to seniors 62 & over to be added to the wait list for 1 Bedroom and Studio Apts.

Mon. - Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. located at 3510 Maricopa Ave. Torrance, Ca (310) 371-4801.

delakreme@gmail.com

### ESTATE SALE

**527 Eucalyptus, ES.** Fri., 11/16, & Sat., 11/17, 7:00 am both days. 71 years accumulation of antiques, collectables, furniture, porcelain, wood, bronze. Must See!

### FOR SALE

**New Mattress - Lazy Boy,** full size, 4" thick, white. In El Segundo. \$75 cash. Call Mrs. Johnson (330) 396-0843.

### GARAGE SALE

**United Methodist Church Harvest Bazaar,** 540 Main St., Fri. 11/16, 1 p.m.-5 p.m. Lunch @ 12 noon, & Sat. 11/17, 10 a.m.- 3 p.m. Lunch 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. All handmade items, jams, relishes, aprons, quilts, and Grandma's Attic.

**In ally behind 506 E Grand, ES.** Sat., 11/17, 8 a.m. Good Stuff, cheap prices.

**629 Sierra St., ES.** Sat., 11/17, from 8:00 a.m. to? Multi-Family sale. Some antiques.

**540 Standard St. ES.** Sat., 11/17, 8am to 12pm No Early Birds. Elec, furn, kids, household, clothes & misc.

**Huge Sale at Bungalow and E. Pine Ave.** Intersection on Sat., 11/17, 8 am.

**305 Indiana St. ES.** Sat., 11/17 & Sun., 11/18., 8 a.m. Tools, furniture, plants, etc.

### HOUSE FOR RENT

**2BD/1BA.** Home w/2-car garage, ES. Next to Rec. Park \$2,495/mo. Call (310) 647-1635 for more details.

**3BD/1BA.** House for Rent, 1200 Sq. Ft. Pet Ok. \$2250/mo. (310) 283-5680

**4BD/2BA.** 10+ Location! Double garage, W/D hook-ups, A/C, central heating, stove. Close to park, library, downtown. Avail. 11/04. \$2695/mo. 528 Penn St. (310) 465-5707.

## WEEKLY CROSSWORD See Answers Next Week

### Wardrobe Basics

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16		
17					18					19		
20					21				22			
23				24				25			26	27
28			29				30			31		
			32		33	34	35			36		
37	38	39							40			
41					42							
43				44					45	46	47	48
49			50				51	52	53		54	
			55				56			57		
58	59				60				61			
62					63				64			
65					66				67			

### ACROSS

- Italian beverage
- Black
- Calphalon product
- They were created in 1912
- Mountaineer's tool
- \_\_\_ Rancho (suburb of Albuquerque)
- Be in charge
- Go for
- Egg
- Faint
- Bass, e.g.
- Castle part
- Diminutive
- Turning chisel accompanier
- N.B.A.'s Unseled
- Be off base
- \_\_\_ physics
- Carbamide
- Fancy frocks
- Indian tourist site
- Annoying
- Debate position
- Ribosomal \_\_\_
- Dummkopf
- Six-line poem
- Achievement

### DOWN

- Lite
- Interstice
- Afternoon service
- Cause for a lawsuit
- D.C. setting
- It doesn't hold water
- Carry on
- Road shoulder
- \_\_\_-tzu
- Oozes
- Chief administrative officers
- Cause of inflation?
- Discouraging words
- Furrow maker
- Remain unused

### 24. Set aside

- California's San \_\_\_ Bay
- Elder, e.g.
- Pitching stats
- Maori war dance
- Rings up?
- \_\_\_ the town
- 100 kuras
- Breed
- Drew on
- Beanies
- Beast
- Ocular problem
- Discharge
- Enter again
- Idle stage
- Idle
- Hamlet et al.
- Call on
- \_\_\_ Thieves
- Chart holder
- Old English character
- Corn dish
- Atlas stat
- Do-it-yourselfer's purchase
- Party time, maybe
- Buttermilk morsel?
- Common contraction

### Last Week's Answers

1	A	I	D	E	R	S	7	B	R	E	10	11	E	A	13				
14	R	O	O	M	I	E	15	R	E	N	O	16	U	N	C	E			
17	E	U	G	E	N	E	H	E	N	D	E	R	S	O	N				
			18	P	E	G		19	W	E	E	20	L	U	R	E			
21	S	P	A	R	S	E	R	24	W	A	26	W	E	N	S				
28								29	R	O	D	31	R	U	M				
33	A	N	D	E	S	I	T	E			36	L	A	S	39	S	O		
40	H	O	L	D	E	N	C	A	41	U	L	F	I	E	L	D			
43	S	T	E	E	P			44	T	R	E	A	D	L	E	D			
								45	N	O	47	H	I	V	48	E	E	L	
49	A	L	P	51	Y	A	K	53	C	O	L	I	C	K	Y				
57	B	O	A	S	L	E	V	59	R	60	A	N	T						
62	H	U	C	K	63	L	E	B	E	R	64	R	Y	F	I	N	N		
67	O	P	T	I	O	N	A	L	68	A	E	R	O	B	E				
69	R	E	S					70	B	A	B	A	71	T	R	A	N	C	E

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

### SUDOKU Medium

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

Each Sudoku puzzle consists of a 9X9 grid that has been subdivided into nine smaller grids of 3X3 squares. To solve the puzzle each row, column and box must contain each of the numbers 1 to 9.

## CLASSIFIED AD FORM

The deadline for Classified Ad copy and payment is at **Noon on Tuesday**. We reserve the right to reject, edit, and determine proper classification of classified ads. **E-mail ad copy to: classifieds@heraldpublications.com.** Include Visa or M/C number along with billing address and phone number. You may also pay by cash or check.

**PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED BEFORE AD IS PUBLISHED!**

### RATES: Deadline Tuesday at NOON

	1 Time	2 Times	3 Times	4 Times
3 Lines	\$40	\$50	\$60	\$70
4 Lines	\$45	\$55	\$65	\$75
5 Lines*	\$50	\$60	\$70	\$80

\* Additional line charge of \$5 per line

AD COPY:

CATEGORY:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ My ad will run for \_\_\_\_\_ weeks.

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ I have enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ MC# \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Visa# \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration date: \_\_\_\_\_

3-Digit Security Number (on back of card) \_\_\_\_\_



# PETSPETS Pets PETSPETS

## Pets Without Partners

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

**Bodie** is a beautiful, purebred Doberman Pinscher that we adopted out back in July 2009. He has been a treasured family pet whose owner cooked chicken and vegetables for him every day (and he *loves* papaya). Bodie slept on his bed every night, sometimes even under the covers--he was a constant companion. Then Bodie’s owner passed away suddenly and unexpectedly. Bodie was instantly homeless as his back-up did not step up to the plate. He is a beautiful boy with one of the shiniest coats you have ever seen. He will sit for treats and loves to fetch a ball. Bodie is excellent in the car as he went almost everywhere with his prior owner. He would be best placed with a large female dog or as an only dog. If you love this breed, please come and meet him before you adopt from somewhere else. He’s worth the drive. Bodie is neutered, current on vaccinations, de-wormed, microchipped and fine with mature children, but *not* cat-safe.



Bodie

**Sophia** is an adorable two-year-old Maltese who is fully grown at nine pounds. She is brand new at our rescue, so we are still learning about her. This little darling is great at giving



Sophia

little kisses to you and snuggling up for some love. She did not seem interested in playing with any toys so far, but she was a good little eater gobbling up all her food. This is a

sweet little dog who wants to run around the yard and play. She is fine with large dogs and dogs her size and will be fine with children as well. Sophia will need to be crate-trained for a bit longer to be sure she is 100 percent housebroken. Sophia is not cut out for apartment or townhome life--she needs a house with a yard.

Sophia is spayed, current on all vaccinations, de-wormed, microchipped, good with other dogs, good with kids, and cat-safe.

To learn more about these and other wonderful dogs, visit our website at [www.animalsrule.org](http://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. •**

## Purrrfect Companions

Happiness is waiting around the corner when you adopt a purr-fect partner.

**Monique** is a busy bee, always darting from one thing to another. She craves activity and loves to bounce around with other cats. However, once things calm down and she starts getting tired, her cuddly side starts to show itself. Monique adores being stroked and will push her head into your hand for more pets. Her eyes are a unique shade of turquoise, shifting from green to blue throughout the day. Her silken coat is a gorgeous patchwork of orange, Tabby and white. Because she is so young, Monique must be adopted with another kitty or into a home with a young resident cat. She would love to be adopted with either of her sisters or with her mother.



Monique

**Davey** is a sweet, gentle, green-eyed kitten who loves to be loved. This friendly little black cat walked into someone’s front yard in a neighborhood where someone probably took him in as a tiny kitten and then put him back outside when he was about two

to three pounds. He was so happy to be taken in again. Davey love to be brushed. When you start to pet him, he just leans into it and starts purring to melt your heart! He’s a mellow kitten who likes to play with his friend Athena (a black and white Tuxedo girl his own age, also available for adoption--her rambunctious nature is a great balance to Davey’s personality). He does like to chase feather toys and to play with a ball going around a track. If you are looking for a sweet companion, please meet Davey. He’s such a love.



Davey

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](http://www.kittenrescue.org), or email us

at [mail@kittenrescue.org](mailto:mail@kittenrescue.org). Your tax-deductible donations for the rescue and care of our cats and kittens can be made through our website or by sending a check payable to Kitten Rescue, 914 Westwood Boulevard, #583, Los Angeles, CA 90024.

On Saturdays, we have adoptions from noon to 3:30 p.m. in Westchester at 8655 Lincoln

Boulevard, just south of Manchester Avenue, 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. •

## Happy Tails

### Zeb Finds New Home, Name and Family to Love

Even though he had been abandoned, Zeb was a friendly little guy, ready to be friends with whomever life brought his way. So it wasn’t long before Zeb had a new life and a new name Paolo Baci.

“Hi! Thanks so much for checking in and for the great photos of Paolo Baci! Paolo is doing great! He wants to be with me at all times...he has slept on my bed with me since day one! He doesn’t really want to go in his crate. I did put him in his crate to go visit a friend today and he was a little nervous and panting, etc., but fine when he got out of it. He is doing very well with his food--eats all of it. It took him a couple of days to go to

his water bowls (I have one in my bathroom and one in the kitchen), but now he goes on his own. He is doing very well on his walks. He is waiting to go potty until he goes out and I am taking him out a few times a day. He is very social and loves *everyone* so far and loves his walks! I already received the dog tag (via Gianna) and yes, Paolo Baci is his new name. Thanks for everything--will definitely stay in touch!” – Cynthia.

When you adopt a “pet without a partner,” you will forever make a difference in their life and they are sure to make a difference in yours. •





# Real Estate

## Three Ways to Give Energy Savings the Green Light In Your Home

(BPT) - 'Red means stop, green means go' - we learn that axiom as children. When it comes to home energy costs, however, going green can help homeowners put a stop to

appeal can't be argued, their value goes far beyond good looks.

By admitting natural light into your home, skylights can help reduce use of artificial light sources - and help you save on electricity costs. Pair powered venting skylights that come with automatic rain sensors with efficiency-enhancing accessories like designer blinds (available in a varied palette of colors and patterns), and you can improve energy efficiency as much as 37 percent, according to skylight manufacturer Velux America. And, with tubular products like Sun Tunnel skylights, you can even

bring natural light into ground-floor rooms or spots where a traditional skylight may not work, such as a first-floor powder room, hallways, or walk-in closets.

Reduce hot water costs  
Long gone are the days when solar powering your home was an idealistic, but impractical dream. Solar technology is more useful, accessible and cost-effective than ever. Solar water heating systems are becoming mainstream, and offer homeowners a great, green way to trim energy costs. What's more, the cost of installing these systems has been steadily declining as the technology advances, and you may find adding one makes you

eligible for tax credits or incentives from your local, state or the federal governments. You can calculate the costs and possible paybacks online at [www.veluxusa.com](http://www.veluxusa.com).  
Make home a healthier place  
Every year, ill health costs the U.S. economy billions of dollars, experts say, and your own health woes can have a significant impact on your pocketbook. The health benefits of natural light are well-documented, from reducing the symptoms of Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) and promoting the body's production of Vitamin D, to improving mood and even learning ability.

Simply opening blinds and curtains to admit more natural light can directly affect the mood inside your home - not to mention the mental state of the people living in it. Take your green lighting efforts to a higher level by adding venting skylights, and you can also help improve the air quality inside your home. While skylights admit ample natural light, their natural chimney effect works with your windows to bring in and circulate much more healthful fresh air. They also passively vent fumes and dampness that can lead to mold and mildew.  
By incorporating natural light and passive ventilation into their home decor and improvements, homeowners can put the brakes on rising utility costs - and give the green light to energy savings. •



Energy Star-qualified venting skylights, with decor-enhancing blinds, are cost-effective and attractive home upgrades that provide healthful natural light and passive ventilation.

runaway utility bills. And maximizing your home's use of natural light - call it 'green lighting' - is a great way to boost your home's energy efficiency.

Here are three ways you can put Mother Nature to work, and use natural light to lower your energy costs:

### Minimize use of artificial lighting

Anyone who's ever paid an electrical bill knows that the simple act of turning on a light can directly impact your monthly expenses. Homeowners looking for a long-term way to power down their lighting costs may consider Energy Star-qualified skylights a good investment. While skylights' cosmetic



Low profile rooftop solar collectors are unobtrusive and utilize the sun's energy to heat water. These systems qualify for tax credits and other incentives.

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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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