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AND LAWNDALE NEWS

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Hawthorne Cougars Tough on Defense in Win Over South High



Last weekend, the Hawthorne High Cougars came out on top 33-14 in a road game matchup versus the South High Spartans. The Cougars played well on both sides of the ball and showed their mettle on defense. In this photo, a group of Hawthorne defenders swarm South receiver Denton LaPiccolo. See more photo highlights inside this week's edition. Photo by Dirk Dewachter

The Joyful Art of Organizing

By TerriAnn Ferren

During the summer, have you, like me, overlooked the clutter and building up of "stuff" around the house to such an extent that you finally decide that enough is enough? Well, that happened to me this week. One extra book on the stack I have already read, or the little tchotchke that moves about the house to different places, or the pile of folded clothes destined to be donated...had finally gotten to me. It was time for some spring-cleaning and organizing before the end of summer, which officially ends on September 22. Spring-cleaning in summer, you ask? Definitely yes.

First, I began ripping out the old phone line in my office I had tacked around a doorframe to a fax machine I no longer used. Who knows why I had not removed it before, but just that one action made me feel great. Then I moved over to the pile (rather, piles) of books and files. Files need a home in a storage bin, so off I went, seeking additional organization bins.

Because of the suffocating heat and humidity of the week, instead of venturing miles to the container store, I ended up at a big box store and lo and behold found just what I was looking for--plastic bins. An added bonus was that the bins were much less expensive than the ones I intended on buying. Home to tidy!

That afternoon, after piling my files into the containers, I realized the bins weren't quite the size I imagined, so fitting them into the storage container was a little tricky. But it worked. Have you ever seen all those organizing cubes and trays just aching for use at the store? Pondering their use, do you also imagine yourself all organized and neat? Do you, on occasion, get the bug to clean and organize?

After moving some things into the garage, it made my office and guestroom look larger and gave me a sense of accomplishment. Maybe you, like me, usually keep things tidy, but on occasion let things get a bit out of hand, and some major organizing is called for.

Thinking about being organized, I decided that asking some South Bay residents how they feel about being organized would be fun. I mean, am I the only one who yearns for the calm of order while fighting the entropy law? Absolutely not.

Young adult and South Bay resident Jillian Vasquez told me, "I always organize. I organize clothes and I often organize my make-up. I organize my haircare products--I have a drawer for haircare and one for make-up. I get all my organization things from Daiso and I measure them and make little areas so I can adjust them. I feel very clean and accomplished. If I go to bed at night with a dirty room, I don't sleep well." Jillian told me she makes her bed every day and even organizes her clothes by color, using matching hangers.

Then I spoke with teenagers from a local high school about their organizational skills. What I found out was surprising. Fifteen-year-old Kiran Abayaratra told me, "My mom used to do everything for me, but then my sisters--well, I sort of started doing everything she does for myself. So I organize my clothes and have cabinets for everything I wear. For shoes, we have like a box so it's not a mess all the time." Kiran told me he feels it is simply easier keeping things organized and added, "If you can keep yourself in the habit of staying organized, things become a lot easier."

Eric Berg, age 16, told me, "I think of my organization as organized chaos. I leave it where it is and I remember where it was. I just keep everything in one spot. That's where I keep it, so it is bad organization...but it's also good in my own way. I know where my things are. If someone cleans up, I am lost."

Maxwell Johnston, age 15, said, "I try and stay organized most of the time, but I live with a little brother and he's 13. It is kinda difficult because he usually leaves everything around and I have to pick up after him sometimes. We have kinda found this balance finally, and it is nice because now I know where everything

is. It is much easier now." Maxwell told me he tells his younger brother to pick up after himself and it seems to be working. "You have to keep reassuring them as to what to do because they never listen the first time. It is repetition," added Maxwell. Wise words from a 15-year old!

Next I spoke with Elissa Nakano, age 15, who told me, "I like to say I am organized, but I am not really sure--it is relative. I mean, I think in my household I am organized, but that is just because my parents are kind of unorganized."

Mia Hasenmayer, age 15, said, "I feel that I am pretty organized 'cuz for me, I get annoyed and anxious if things are out of place or if my room is a mess. I have to clean it up that second." Sitting next to Mia was her best friend from preschool, Abby Howell, age 15, visiting from San Jose, who attends Leland High School. Abby told me, "I think for me, I like coming home to a really organized room and waking up to an organized house and it is really nice. I think when you get into the habit of being organized, it just makes you feel better and cleaner as a person. It gets you in the habit of being organized not just in your house or room, but in everything else."

After speaking with the young adults and teenagers, I realized they have very good habits. And they were very open with advice on how staying organized leads to an organized life. Although confessing I don't color-coordinate my clothing, or have them all hanging on matching hangers, I do okay. And I try and not let things get out of hand. Most of the teenagers I spoke with had a clear handle on their rooms. All of them knew how to organize their world. Listening to them gave me a sense of pride in our young American teenagers. Not only were they articulate, responsive and forthcoming, but they took time and shared their knowledge of what works for them. I was impressed. Inspired about organizing yet? •

Weekend Forecast

Friday
AM Clouds/
PM Sun
70°/63°



Saturday
Sunny
70°/63°



Sunday
Partly
Cloudy
70°/63°



PETSPETS **Pets** PETSPETS

Purrrfect Companions



Cupcake

We have kitties of every size and color. One is sure to be your perfect match. Look at this week's picks and check out their friends at www.kittenrescue.org.

Cupcake is a very sweet young cat. She was found with her three kittens about four months ago and was a very loving mom to them. She is like a dog in that she follows people all over the house and likes to be in the same room with them. Cupcake always runs to the door to greet her foster family when they arrive. She is a fast learner and quickly understands when told not to do something (e.g. to not try to exit through the front door when people go out). This elegant and graceful girl has an easygoing temperament and will be a wonderful addition to your family.

Tequila is quite the little character. He is spunky, funny and opinionated. His favorite three things are to eat, nap and play--exactly in that order. He is quite vocal when it comes to meal time because he loves wet food. It's a good thing his fast metabolism allows him to easily retain his boyish figure and good looks. In fact, he is going to be on the petite side when he is full-grown. He is an independent little guy that appreciates a good head rub, although he is not all that fond of being held for longer than a minute or two. He would rather curl up next to you or sit on your lap while being petted. If you're looking for a playful kitty that has an entertaining, quirky little personality, Tequila is your guy. He is young enough to adapt to a household with cat-friendly dogs and other cats in the home.

Priscilla is a beautiful girl, inside and out. She loves people, treats, pets, attention, and... oh, did we mention treats?

She is sweet and gentle. She likes to play a little bit, but her favorite activity is to cuddle up with you for a nap on the couch. Priscilla would like to find a home without other cats, as she is more of a people person. She recently lost her home of 10 years when her owner had to move into a nursing home and is very eager to meet that new special someone who would like to bring her home.

Grace is a warm, maternal little kitten. She is a special girl who enjoys belly and head rubs. She also likes to perch up on a window, gazing at squirrels and watching for you to come home. On her playful side, she enjoys fuzzy toys and jumping for ball teasers. This beautiful angel would love to meet you!

Sprite is best known as a little purr machine. He is a very affectionate kitten who loves to be held and cuddled. While his foster mom works from home, Sprite likes to keep her company all afternoon by sleeping on her lap or beside her keyboard. Sprite is not just about napping and cuddling. He also loves to play and wrestle with his foster siblings and chase his cat toys around the living room. If you're looking for a kitten that loves to cuddle as much as he likes to nap and play, then Sprite is the perfect one for you! Because Sprite is such a social kitten, he would do best adopted together with another kitten or into a home with an existing cat.

Phoebe is a very sweet girl. Although she can be a little shy in a new environment, once Phoebe settles in, she's quite a cool cat! Phoebe is happiest in a home where she is the only kitty, but she is also quite fond of the family dog in her foster home. They like to hang out and just chill together. Phoebe loves to chase wand toys with her human



Grace



Electra

friends. She also likes long naps in the sun, sleeping with her foster mom--and especially likes to snuggle next to her at bedtime. Her ideal home would be with adults (or some mature children would be okay too) where she is the only kitty, or with a mellow, cat-friendly dog. Phoebe is crossing her paws that you will get to meet soon!

Electra is a pretty, smoky-grey girl who is full of spunk and playfulness. Though she lives with many cats at the sanctuary and shared her previous home with another kitty, we suspect she would be happy to be an only cat. Electra is a quirky girl who would love to have a home with a person or persons who would play with her--she loves jumping, leaping and chasing her feather on a stick toy. Electra also likes to be pet after all of that playing. She will definitely entertain you with her playfulness!

These cats and kittens are available for

adoption through Kitten Rescue, one of the largest cat rescue groups in Southern California. All our kitties are spayed/neutered, microchipped, tested for FeLV and FIV, dewormed and current on their vaccinations. For additional information and to see these or our other kittens and cats, please check our website www.kittenrescue.org or email us at mail@kittenrescue.org.

Your tax-deductible donations for the rescue and care of our cats and kittens can be made through our website or by sending a check payable to Kitten Rescue, 914 Westwood Boulevard, #583, Los Angeles, CA 90024.

On Saturdays, we have adoptions from noon to 3:30 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. •



Sprite



Tequila



Priscilla



Phoebe