

# Torrance Tribune

The Weekly Newspaper of Torrance

Herald Publications - Torrance, El Segundo, Manhattan Beach, Hawthorne, Lawndale, & Inglewood Community Newspapers Since 1911 - (310) 322-1830 - Vol. 5, No. 19 - May 7, 2015

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## Orchestra Debut Showcases Young Artistic Talent



The Young Artists Orchestra made their concert debut on April 23rd at the James Armstrong Theatre in Torrance. An ensemble of 40 highly talented high school musicians from Torrance and the South Bay comprise the orchestra who are trained and mentored by LA's top professional musicians and are under the direction of Artistic Director and Conductor Daniel Suk. The concert included a performance by special guest 16-year old soprano Golda Berkman, winner of the Music Center's 2015 Spotlight Award in Classical Voice and the Dream Youth Choir. More info can be found at [www.yaola.org](http://www.yaola.org). Photo courtesy of Young Artists Orchestra.

## City Celebrates Culmination of Students and Government Day

By Cristian Vasquez

In front of a full council chamber, the Torrance City Council and Executive City Officials stepped down from the dais and gave way to this year's participants of the city's Students and Government Day.

"Today we will continue the tradition set forth by my predecessor Mayor Frank Scotto," Torrance Mayor Pat Furey said as he addressed the chamber. "In Torrance we have the belief that continuing to improve the life of our community entails the involvement of everyone. Regardless of the age, anyone can contribute to the betterment of our city and I truly hope that we all do."

The council and executive staff gave way to the group of students to step in and conduct government affairs such as community announcements, and conducting two proclamations: one declaring May 9 Fire Service Day with Fire Chief William Racowschi and the other proclamation declaring the week of May 11-15 as Bike Commute Week.

The students who stepped in to fulfill the duties of the city council for a part of the evening were: Councilman Sarang Bhatnagar from Bert Lynn, Public Works Director Preston Cao from Macgruder, Mayor Esther Cash from Macgruder, Community Services Director Isabelle Causley from Jefferson, City Treasurer Anjelika Esteban from Saint Catherine Laboure, Transit Director Jaycee Garrido from J.H. Hall, City Attorney Max Hampel from Riviera Hall, Community Development Director Ramzy Issa from Macgruder, City Manager Wyatt Javate from Madrona, Finance Director Josh Lim from J.H. Hall, Assistant City Manager

Sammie Kuo from Calle Mayor, Councilman Tyler Lee from Jefferson, Councilwoman Katie Miyamoto from Saint James, Councilman Josh Nicola Casimir, General Services Director Kaitlyn O'Brien from Richardson, City Clerk Prisha Sadhwani Calle Mayor, Councilwoman Emily Stevanus Calle Mayor, Police Chief Ashley Tandoc from Nativity, Councilman Troy Wakimoto from Richardson, and Fire Chief Nicole Wood from First Lutheran.

"As I was coming in tonight I was thinking how quickly nine years go by. Former Mayor Scotto

had a vision and came in to talk to me about it and I said why not? Let's pull it off," Torrance Unified School District Superintendent Dr. George Mannon said. "We have great students as we displayed tonight. It is a unique program and I don't know of another city that has a program quite like this one. I hope all of you had a really great time today; I know you are going to be leaders in the future but I also want you to think back and reflect that you have had an experience that most students will never have."

See City Council, page 10

## New Location For Gym at Jefferson Middle School

By Cristian Vasquez

During Monday night's meeting School Board meeting, board members reconsidered, discussed and agreed on a different location for the new gymnasium to be built at Jefferson Middle School. The Board voted 4-1 to change the location of the structure from the previously selected area, which was referred to as Option A, to Option B in part to appease local neighbors who were concerned about issues such as neighborhood safety and the aesthetics of the new building.

"With the gymnasium, I fear and we fear, that our entire lifestyle will be impacted and the safety issues are paramount to me," Larry Jones, local resident and neighbor to Jefferson Middle School, said. "We have a

very tight-knit and very supportive neighborhood where we actually care about each other; it is very quiet and very peaceful. Two times a day, right now, in the morning and in the afternoon when the children are dropped off and they are picked up, the neighborhood changes dramatically."

In addition to the changing the location of the new gym from the north side of campus [closer to the Carmen Street homes], to the southern end of campus, closer to Carson Street, the approved Option B site will require the addition of 10,000-square-feet of black asphalt in order to accommodate the two volleyball courts and two ball walls that will be eliminated through the addition of the gym.

See School Board, page 10

## Weekend Forecast

**Friday**  
Showers  
63°/56°



**Saturday**  
Partly  
Cloudy  
64°/55°



**Sunday**  
Sunny  
69°/57°





# Joseph Arnold Elementary 50th Anniversary

Photos courtesy of Torrance Unified School District

The 2014-2015 school year marked the 50th birthday and anniversary of Joseph Arnold Elementary School. To mark the special occasion, the school's PTA, faculty, and staff worked tirelessly to put on a celebration for the whole community with a carnival. Past Arnold students, teachers, staff, and administrators attended the special event. •



Councilwoman Heidi Ashcraft, Sarah Wiltfong (Rep 4 Assemblymember David Hadley), TUSD Board member Terry Ragins, TUSD Board President Don Lee, TUSD Superintendent Dr. Mannon, TUSD Board member Michael Wermers, TUSD Board member Martha Deutsch, Principal Justine Lange, and PTA President Cindy Wermers, with Joseph Arnold students.



Principal Justine Lang and PTA President Cindy Wermers.



Fourth grade teachers Lori Perez, Laurie Hankey, and Rubina Ahmed.



Joseph Arnold Elementary third graders.

# Salvation Army SpringSplendor Art Event

Photos by Chris Nishimura

The annual Salvation Army SpringSplendor Art Event was held on April 17 at the Torrance Art Museum, located at 3320 Civic Center Drive in Torrance. Top Salvation Army benefactors, acclaimed artists, city dignitaries including Mayor Patrick J. Furey and special guests enjoyed an evening of world-class art in a museum setting. Guests partook of Farm to Table Gourmet Cuisine and were entertained by live music and a lively raffle drawing and silent auction. All proceeds from the night's event benefitted the Salvation Army after school programs. •



Arun Bhumitra of Armitra Properties and his wife Dr. Marina Bhumitra enjoy the Salvation Army event festivities.



Torrance Mayor Patrick J. Furey congratulates Salvation Army Advisory Board Member and event organizer Stephanie Cartozian and featured artist Thomas Redfield on a successful event.



Salvation Army Advisory Board Chairman Jack Messerlian, his wife Shari Messerlian and Advisory Board Member Maureen O'Donnell welcome guests to the SpringSplendor Art Event.



Torrance Councilman Mike Griffiths is flanked by the Salvation Army's Millie Bearchell and Colleen Riley.



Artist Arlene Cartozian (L) poses with new owners of her "Farmers Market Asparagus" painting – Torrance Mayor Patrick J. Furey and his wife Terry Furey.



Major Brian Bearchell poses with Sara Balough and Nancy Bishop.



# Police Reports

**Burglary-Auto** 4/26/2015 7:30:00 PM  
3200 BLOCK 187TH ST  
Attempt stolen vehicle: '01 Saturn SL2

**Theft** 4/25/2015 8:23 PM 19800 BLOCK  
HAWTHORNE BLVD  
Suspect completes fraudulent return during course of employment

**Theft** 4/25/2015 3:10:00 PM 2400 BLOCK  
PACIFIC COAST HWY  
Suspect(s) takes unattended property off of table/ cell phone

**Theft** 4/25/2015 2:00:00 PM 16700  
BLOCK YUKON AVE  
Suspect(s) takes property from victim's residence without permission while there with permission/ jewelry

**Battery-Weapon/Agg** 4/25/2015 12:36:29 AM 23300 BLOCK HUBER AVE  
Suspect throws victim to the ground and a second suspect drives his vehicle at him while he is still on the ground

**Theft** 4/24/2015 10:56 PM 23300 BLOCK  
ARLINGTON AVE  
Suspect(s) takes property locked to staircase railing/ bicycle

**Burglary-Commercial** 4/25/2015 8:00:00 AM 1300 BLOCK EL PRADO AVE  
Suspect(s) defeats door lock for entry and takes property/safe

**Vandalism** 4/24/2015 10:28 AM 4800  
BLOCK PACIFIC COAST HWY  
Suspect(s) enters unsecured window, sprays girls' locker room with fire extinguisher and breaks locks on multiple lockers in boys and girls' locker rooms

**Theft** 4/24/2015 3:23:06 PM 3900  
BLOCK 242ND ST  
Suspect(s) takes victim's vehicle's catalytic converter

**Theft** 4/24/2015 7:00:00 AM 2600  
BLOCK PACIFIC COAST HWY  
Suspect(s) takes victim's vehicle's catalytic converter

**Auto Theft** 4/23/2015 8:00:00 PM 21800  
BLOCK HAWTHORNE BLVD  
Stolen vehicle: '06 Chevrolet P/U

**Theft** 4/26/2015 9:10:00 PM 21200  
BLOCK HAWTHORNE BLVD  
Suspect(s) defeats window latch for entry and takes property/ third row seats

**Theft** 4/24/2015 8:30:08 AM 5400  
BLOCK CARSON ST  
Suspect(s) takes victim's vehicle's catalytic converter

**Theft** 4/24/2015 5:23:14 PM 2900  
BLOCK 235TH ST  
Suspect(s) takes victim's vehicle's catalytic converter

**Theft** 4/23/2015 11:15:00 AM 2400  
BLOCK 237TH ST  
Suspect(s) takes property from residence

*See Police Reports, page 10*

# Community Briefs

## Green Hills Vietnam Memorial Wall

Green Hills Memorial Park, located at 27501 S. Western Ave. in Rancho Palos Verdes, will be featuring the Vietnam Memorial Moving Wall on display 24 hours a day from Thursday, May 21, 2pm through Tuesday, May 26, 7am. The opening ceremony and patriotic ceremony will be held on Friday, May 22 at 6pm. Green Hills will also be having their 30th annual Memorial Day Observance on Monday, May 25, starting at 10am. For more info, call the event line (310) 521-4460.

## North High Students Win Gates Scholarship

Two academically outstanding North High students, Jacqueline Tayra and Ahsan Zaman, have been awarded the prestigious Gates Millennium Scholarship. The scholarship is given to those deserving students who have a record of exceptional academic performance, a dedication to community services, and an initiative to be a leader among their peers.

Jacueline Tayra is an exceptional student, not only because of her 4.31 GPA but also because of her various extracurricular and community service projects, including volunteering at her church as a LifeTeen leader, and volunteering at the Madrona Marsh and the Gardena Willows Wetland Preserve. Tayra will be pursuing a degree in International Relations and Business as well as a minor in Japanese at USC.

Along with his 4.75 GPA, Ahsan finds time to be the president of the North High speech and debate team, a board member and volunteer tutor in CSF, and a laboratory technician at Experium Academy where he worked with younger kids, helping them foster a love of science. Zaman will attend USC in the Fall to pursue degrees in Computer Science and Electrical Engineering.

## Friar Tux Shop Celebrates



Celebrating the newly remodeled Friar Tux Shop on April 17 at 2535 Pacific Coast Highway in Torrance were (L to R) Friar Tux Shop District Manager Eric Acuna, Store Manager Shanti Telemaque, City of Torrance Mayor Patrick J. Furey who presented a congratulatory certificate, Director Store Operations Jeff Lemnitzer, Torrance Councilmember Heidi Ashcraft and Councilmember Mike Griffiths. Photo provided by Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce

*See Community Briefs, page 4*

# Film Review

## #chicagoGirl Uses Social Media to Coordinate the Uprising

By Nelson Tracey for CINEMACY

Coming off our coverage of The Newport Beach Film Festival is #chicagoGirl, a documentary from director Joe Piscatella about an American teenager who takes to social media to run a revolution in Syria, all from her bedroom. #chicagoGirl is currently available to stream on Netflix.

For most of us, social media is a strange entity firmly rooted into our daily lives with little consequence; yet for protestors around the world, this tool is vital toward the fight

today. With the advent of the Internet, an "information cascade" allows for so much to be shared so quickly.

Unfortunately, as optimistic as all this sounds, the government is still in complete control, and sadly the Syrian regime has been much more difficult to topple than any contemporary uprisings. The film doesn't shy away from the casualties of the revolution: we are emotionally swept by this documentary. We learn that cameramen are often the first people to be targeted in shootings due to



#chicagoGirl -- The social network takes on a dictator. Photo courtesy of Revolution L.L.C.

for freedom and democracy. #chicagoGirl (fittingly the first film I'm aware of that has a hashtag in the title) is the story of 19-year-old Ala'a Basatneh from Chicago, whose use of the internet serves as a key intermediary in both organizing protests in Syria and making sure that the media worldwide knows about it. Having Ala'a so far away from the conflict is crucial because she can put herself out there online without risking her life near the conflicts themselves.

Ala'a started out like any other teenager using Facebook and Twitter, posting selfies at the mall or sharing milestones in her life online. But as soon as she became aware of the Syrian conflict, she found a call to action that dominated all other priorities. Ala'a abandoned her social life and academic prowess in order to continually coordinate the uprising. She serves as a liaison to the press, but more interestingly uses her social network to connect protestors that otherwise wouldn't meet. When anyone she knows is detained, she is given their Facebook password and deactivates it to avoid letting the government find out who else they are connected to.

It is no exaggeration to say that Facebook has never served a greater purpose. In past regimes, dictators could carry out heinous crimes because there would be no visual record. The power of video and sharing has never been harnessed more than it is

how powerful and incriminating their footage can be. Because of how much footage exists from the various people documenting the ongoings, especially from photojournalist Bassel Shahade, there is a wealth of great documentation that keeps #chicagoGirl engaging.

The biggest issue with the film, however, is that it doesn't cover the crucial leap between Ala'a being a regular teen to an influential coordinator. Since this is the time that is so pivotal, and could potentially inspire others to do the same, it should have been a more integral part of the story. However, it isn't hard to get past this since the content that follows is so gripping. While there are certainly moments where the film could benefit from being more specific, the overwhelming power of the storytelling here outweighs these criticisms.

The reason why I love this film is for what it represents. This documentary is as much a call to action as any other piece of media that you will see this year. If we are going to make a difference in the world, it has to start with people like Ala'a who are passionately working to do so without any formal title. The ultimate irony is the film's message, that in order to make a difference one has to go beyond using just social media. True change comes from tangible work – social media is just there to document it. This is a message that ought to be shared all across the world. •

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# Classifieds

The deadline for Classified Ad submission and payment is Noon on Tuesday to appear in Thursday's paper. Advertisements must be submitted in writing by mail, fax or email. You may pay by cash, check, or credit card (Visa or M/C over the phone).

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

Beware: Employment offers that suggest guaranteed out-of-state or overseas positions may be deceptive or unethical in nature. If you have any doubts about the nature of a company, contact the local office of the Better Business Bureau, (213) 251-9696. Herald Publications does not guarantee that the advertiser's claims are true nor does it take responsibility for those claims.

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1BD. Westchester, \$1350/mo. Living room, new carpet, very quiet, very clean. Perfect for one person. No pets. (310) 821-4261.

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**APARTMENT FOR RENT**  
1 BD available June 1-15 302

Maryland St. \$520 covered parking and laundry room. (310) 545-2845.

**EMPLOYMENT**  
**Writer wanted for local community newspapers.** Area to be covered is Lawndale and Hawthorne. Topics include city council meetings, school board meetings ( Please note: interested school board or city council applicants must cover one meeting and submit article, gratis, to be considered. If we publish it, you will be compensated.) local events, people and other items of interest. You must have some writing experience. Please send resume to management@heraldpublications.com. No phone calls please.

**GARAGE SALE**  
**Estate Sale 754** Virginia St. Sat 5/9 730AM-1PM. No EARLY birds. Lots of items.

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**YARD SALE**  
**Sat, May 9 7-3 538** Concord St. Furniture, commemorative plates, kids clothes, jewelry, books, kitchen ware.

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## Community Briefs from page 3

# Bunka Sai Japanese Cultural Festival



The 43rd annual Bunka Sai Japanese Cultural Festival was held on April 25-26 on the grounds of the Ken Miller Recreation Center in Torrance. Proceeds from this event benefit the Torrance Sister City Association's student cultural exchange program which sends students from Torrance to Kashiwa, Japan for three weeks. TSCA is a non-profit, community-based, volunteer organization dedicated to promoting goodwill between the people of Torrance and Kashiwa, Japan. Pictured are City of Torrance Mayor Patrick J. Furey with Leilani Kimmel-Dagostino who volunteered her time to work at the TSCA booth. Photo by Chris Nishimura.



The Bunka Sai festival included flower arranging displays (ikebana) along with demonstrations of Japanese dance, koto and shakuhachi music, traditional vocal music, taiko drums, shodo calligraphy and origami. Okinawan taiko and a dance exhibition and martial arts performances were also featured. Photo by Chris Nishimura.

## WEEKLY CROSSWORD See Answers Next Week

### Streams of Thought

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						68					69			

- Across**  
1. Gangster's blade  
5. Choir part  
9. Investment  
14. Topological shapes  
15. Certain vendor  
17. Rivers  
19. Craving  
20. Underside  
21. Piles  
22. Whimsical  
23. Go (for)  
25. Get sidetracked  
28. Bombast  
31. Wedding helper  
35. Unwrinkle  
36. Equivocate  
38. Latish lunchtime  
39. Rivers  
42. Secreted  
43. Soldier's knapsack  
44. Corner  
45. Incline  
47. Chart maker  
48. Dawns  
49. Difficulty  
51. Tonic's partner  
52. Commendation
- Down**  
1. "Don't move!"  
2. Web page  
3. Neighbor of Pakistan  
4. Namely  
5. Bother  
6. Extended  
7. Blockhead  
8. 1952 Olympics site  
9. D.C. politico, for short  
10. Corrupts  
11. Pond organism  
12. Hoard  
13. Blows it  
16. Expo presentation  
18. Do as directed  
22. Phyllis Diller's "husband"  
24. Feline vibrato?
25. Suspires  
26. Follow  
27. Sonata section  
28. Country's Brooks  
29. It might be airtight  
30. Brown ermine  
32. Accept  
33. \_\_\_ a high note  
34. Stinks  
36. Last Greek consonant  
37. Bloke  
40. Squeezed  
41. By and by  
46. Analyzed  
48. Subcompact  
50. Brewer's equipment  
51. Itinerant  
52. E.P.A. concern  
53. Novice: var.  
54. Three oceans touch it  
56. Defunct ruler  
57. Former Yugoslav leader  
58. Lummoxes  
59. Clip  
60. Charge  
61. Extended family  
63. Powers that be  
64. Blinking light, maybe

### Last Week's Answers

1	C	R	A	B	5	O	G	H	A	M	10	R	A	J	A
14	L	I	M	A	15	B	L	I	N	I	16	E	T	A	L
17	A	G	I	N	18	E	A	V	E	S	19	C	O	D	A
20	S	U	N	D	A	Y	N	E	W	S	21	P	A	P	E
23	S	P	O	O	L	E	D	24	P	A	P				
					25	L	E	D	26	S	K	E	W	28	L
31	A	T	T	I	C	32	L	E	O	N	33	R	O	T	E
36	R	I	S	E	S	37	W	I	T	H	38	T	H	E	S
39	G	E	A	R	40	H	E	A	L	41	O	M	E	N	S
42	O	R	R	43	H	I	D	E	44	P	S	I			
				45	P	I	P	46	O	U	T	S	47	I	D
50	W	E	A	R	S	51	U	N	G	L	A	S	52	S	E
56	A	U	R	A	57	A	V	A	I	L	58	I	S	N	T
59	G	R	I	N	60	W	E	A	V	E	61	O	U	S	E
63	S	O	A	K	64	S	A	N	E	R	65	N	E	E	R

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

### SUDOKU Medium

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

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.



# TerriAnn in Torrance

## The Merry Month of May

By TerriAnn Ferren  
Photos courtesy of TerriAnn Ferren

The springtime all around us reminds us that the month of May is here, the month of May Day, Mother’s Day, Armed Forces Day, and Memorial Day. Last week, I asked my parents about the



Barbara White and Thomas Lancaster, May Day 1935 - Los Angeles California.

beginning of May and the Maypole and if they ever celebrated the day in school when they were young. My daddy told me on or near May first, when he was a little boy in grade school, he remembers having a May parade and a Maypole to celebrate spring. In preparation for the big parade at school, my daddy told me he decorated his bicycle (big tricycle) spokes and wheels with flowers and colored paper, dressed up, and wore a paper hat as he rode his bike to school all in celebration of May Day.

When I gave him a look of, “are you kidding me?” my mother nodded affirmatively and said she even had a photograph of daddy when he was a little boy all dressed up in his May regalia. That I had to see! It was the first time I had ever seen the photograph and I couldn’t believe how sweet he looked. Then I asked my daddy about the day and he told me, “My Aunt May and my mother decorated my bike. The left rear wheel was decorated with daisies. I think I wore a red sash. Barbara White, my neighbor had the same color sash and vest. We rode to school and it was only a few blocks away at Main Street School in Los Angeles – on Main Street and 53rd. Then we got in a parade line, and had a parade all around school and didn’t do much else that day. This was in 1935, and it was called the Spring Festival.”

Then I asked my mom what she did, and she said, “We didn’t have a parade, we had Maypole dances at Adair Street School in Los Angeles. Everybody would hold a long ribbon secured to the top of the Maypole and we would intertwine it so that it ended up looking really pretty at the

end. We would also do dances and the person behind you would be your partner.” She told me she remembered one of the songs and began singing, “I am captain of the horse Marines; I feed my horse on pork and beans. I teach the ladies how to dance, for that is the style in the army, I teach the ladies how to dance, I teach the ladies how to dance for that’s the style in the army.” My mom also told me she had flowers on her head and there were flowers everywhere.

Irene Barlough told me, “We had a parade and a Maypole and we had ribbons and wore fancy dresses to school. I went to Miramonte School on East 68th Street near Compton and Hooper. My mother [who was from Hungary] told me May Day is big in Europe and everybody goes to church.” Irene’s recollections mirrored my parents’ and it must have been the norm in Los Angeles long ago when they all were young.

Checking with my trusty Encyclopedia Americana Volume 18, I was reminded that May Day is, “The popular name of the first day of the month of May, on which from a very early period general festivities took place. May has generally been regarded as a time for gladness. The outbreak into new life and beauty which marks nature instinctively excites.” Long ago all over Europe, people in every village would celebrate the first of May

by setting up tall poles (sometimes fixed) and collecting flowers. Then they would dance around the pole.

In kindergarten I remember having a May Day Parade once and there was a pole decorated with crepe paper and flowers. Hanging from the top of the pole were long pieces of crepe paper, I think, or thin rope that we would hold and then skip around in a circle. But I can remember doing that only once or twice and it wasn’t nearly as exciting as what my parents remember when they were small growing up in Los Angeles.

May is also the month when the Catholic Church celebrates the tradition of crowning Mary, the mother of Jesus, with a flower wreath. All over England, and in many other countries, various celebrations take place, usually involving flowers to mark the beginning of May. Many countries trace the origins of their celebrations to pagan rituals. But May Day celebrations took a different turn in 1889, when in Europe; they adopted the day as international Labor Day. I can remember watching television newsreels of other countries parading their military might in front of their citizens on this day. Not my favorite way of celebrating spring, I have to admit.

Then, I asked someone from another country

about May Day. Rita Welche, who moved to this country (and the city of Torrance) with her family in the 1980s from Brussels, told me what she used to do on May Day in Belgium. “May Day is a big deal. But it is our May Day – it is the official day of all the people who work. It is a big, big deal. We get the day off and if you are lucky enough to have it fall on a Thursday, you get Friday off too! It isn’t like May Day in Sweden – with flower things. Offices close and everybody gets the day off. There is no school – that’s for sure. We buy little sprigs of Lily of the Valley [which is very expensive] because it brings luck to the one who receives it. People would sell them [sprigs of lily of the valley] in the streets and [you would] give them to loved ones or sweethearts. Those things were expensive because it was like Valentine’s Day.” Even after Rita moved to the United States, she told me she would always send her mother, Solange Paternoster, a tiny bouquet of Lily of the Valley; after all she wouldn’t be considered a good daughter if she didn’t. Rita’s sweet mother passed away last year and this will be the first May Day she won’t be sending flowers to her mom. In addition to May Day, Rita told me May is also filled with religious

See TerriAnn, page 9



Thomas Lancaster on his decorated tricycle en route to Main Street School in Los Angeles.

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# Sports

## The Best Day in Sports That Was

By Adam Serrao

Almost one week ago to the day, May 2nd represented what was supposed to be the best day out of the year for sports goers. Naturally, everyone will have their own opinion about which sports mean the most, but a day that had hockey, horse racing, basketball and one of the biggest boxing matches of all time (to name a few) has to at least be somewhere high up on your list. Certain sports caught us all off guard and certain sports went

the fight that allowed him to do calisthenics for about thirty minutes. Pacquiao will make near \$120 million. Quite a nice payday for two fighters who clearly knew what they were getting themselves into.

Well, how ‘bout them Dodgers? They played last Saturday night, too, and won, mind you. Joc Pederson hit another home run to continue on with what will most likely be his stellar Rookie of the Year season and newcomer Howie Kendrick’s tie-breaking

*“The most talked about, hyped and anticipated fight in the history of the sport possibly was a huge letdown.”*

exactly how we all would have expected. What mattered the most, though, is that for one entire day the sporting world captured our entire and complete attention.

What would discussing last Saturday even be if the biggest boxing match in the history of the sport wasn’t the focus of attention. Naturally, everyone has their own opinion of the fight that took place last Saturday night between Floyd Mayweather and Manny Pacquiao, but to me personally, it felt like a scam. Boxing purists are going to tell you that it was Mayweather at his vintage best. Dancing around the ring, using defense to his advantage, Pacquiao threw 429 punches and landed only 81. On the other hand, Mayweather threw 435 and landed 148. The percentage there lies in favor of Mayweather. That being so, he won the fight, remained undefeated, and cashed in on quite a nice payday.

If you look at the fight from a non-numerical standpoint, however, it seems very much like Mayweather and Pacquiao had a discussion about how they were going to dance around the right for 12 rounds, be sure not to hurt one another, and walk away from the MGM grand in Las Vegas with all of our money, laughing all the way to the bank. After watching a fight where pretty much nothing of any substance happened, one would be hard pressed not to think such things. The most talked about, hyped and anticipated fight in the history of the sport possibly was a huge letdown. The only thing that I personally took away from it was that should there be a rematch, I’d rather spend my time doing something else rather than give those two fighters who looked as if the fight happened five years too late another cent of my money. “It’s a good fight,” Mayweather said. “I thought I won the fight. He didn’t do anything. He moved outside. I got him many more times with a lot of punches and I thought I won the fight; I was never hurt.” Yes, Floyd. We know. You were not hurt and you did, indeed, win the fight. Congratulations.

The fight itself generated a live gate of \$74 million and the pay-per-view take-in shattered the previous buy record of 2.48 million and revenue record of \$150 million. The event even brought together two rival networks, HBO and Showtime, who were both live at the fight. Mayweather is expected to earn somewhere near \$180 million from

RBI single lifted the “Boys in Blue” to a 6-4 victory of their division rivals, the Arizona Diamondbacks. The real Los Angeles story of the day, however, was the Los Angeles Clippers. Chris Paul’s best impersonation of Willis Reed was good enough to lift the Clippers to a Game 7 victory over the San Antonio Spurs and see the team advance to the Western Conference Semifinals for just the fourth time in franchise history. “I thought about the team and all the things we’d been through,” Paul said. “I know that if it was any other guy on our team in a situation like this, they wouldn’t lay down. So I just tried to find a way.” Paul injured his hamstring in the first quarter of the game, left the game briefly in the first quarter, but willed himself back into the competition and hit the game winning shot for his team with one second remaining on the clock. The Clippers will take on the Houston Rockets next.

Who could forget about the horse races? American pride was ringing far and wide as Bob Baffert’s horse, American Pharoah edged out Firing Line for the Kentucky Derby win. Dortmund finished third. The most exciting two minutes in sports lived up to the billing and now American Pharoah has entered his name into the running for a Triple Crown. Next, before the Belmont Stakes, the 140th running of the Preakness Stakes at Pimlico in Baltimore will take place on Saturday, May 16. Follow American Pharoah on his journey to become the first Triple Crown winner since Affirmed in 1978. To round out the day in sports, the New York Rangers edged out the Washington Capitals in Game 2 of the second round of the Stanley Cup playoffs at Madison Square Garden, the Yankees beat the Red Sox 4-2, and if you’re a soccer enthusiast, Chelsea won the Premier League title.

Another day like this one may not ever be seen again in the history of sports watching. A day where a fight with so much anticipation and build-up takes place on the same day as an NBA Game 7 playoff, the NHL hockey playoffs, the Kentucky Derby and even the NFL Draft is a sports lover’s dream vacation. Sports will, of course, go on and there will be many more interesting events to take place, many of which will be in the wake of this one great day. Last Saturday, May the 2nd, however, was one of the best to be seen in a very, very long time. •

## Tartars Continue Trending Upward

By Adam Serrao

Just when it looked like all was lost for head coach Ollie Turner and the Torrance Tartars, the championship coach has rallied his team back to form for a late season playoff run. Naturally, with just four games remaining and a horrible 3-14 start to the regular season, there is much work to be done. The 2014 CIF Southern Section and Pioneer League champs are up to the task. With a 2-1 victory over their rivals, the North High Saxons, last Friday afternoon at Kendall Field in Torrance, The Tartars did their part to not only keep pace with North High in the Pioneer League standings, but to also keep their own playoff hopes alive.

In what turned out to be a low-scoring game, it was junior Tyler Masueli who was the hero of the day for the Tartars. With the bases loaded in the bottom of the second

their playoff dreams alive. Torrance (6-19, 3-3) will face off against last place Centennial before they have a tough task ahead in closing out their season against the first place West High Warriors. North (9-10, 3-3) will close their season out versus Leuzinger and a South High team that just won’t leave West alone for the top place in this year’s Pioneer League standings.

### West High

The West High Warriors have been nothing short of dominant all season long. That streak of dominance continued last Wednesday afternoon as head coach Juan Cueva and his club took on the Centennial Apaches. As this year’s last place team, Centennial was completely overmatched by No. 1 ranked West High and the final scores of the two-game sweep showed exactly that. A 13-3 victory

*“Just when it looked like all was lost for head coach Ollie Turner and the Torrance Tartars, the championship coach has rallied his team back to form for a late season playoff run.”*

inning, Masueli came up with a key hit. A double to right field knocked in Ryan Siebert and Alex Gallegos to give Torrance a lead that they would not relinquish. “It puts us back in the hunt and gives us a chance to make the playoffs,” coach Turner explained of Masueli’s key at-bat and the Tartars victory. “We’ll just have to see what happens the rest of the way.” Masueli finished the day going 1 for 3 with two RBIs. The other hero, however, was pitcher Jacob Vanderlinden. The senior held the Saxons scoreless until the fourth inning and allowed just one run over 5 1/3 innings pitched while striking out three.

While the victory was big for the Tartars, the Saxons were able to come away with a win of their own in the first game of the two-game series between the two rivals. The Tartars scored first in the game last Wednesday at North High to take an early 1-0 lead, but Owen Canady relished in his opportunity to be a hero for the Saxons. With the Tartars leading 3-2 in the bottom of the seventh and final inning, Canady stepped to the plate and came away with his only hit of the game. A two-RBI, walk-off single put an exclamation point on what was an epic final-inning comeback that foiled Torrance’s chances at what they thought was a sure win. Canady was indeed the hero and wound up keeping his team from getting swept by one of their bitter inner-city rivals.

The series-split wound up being good for both teams. North’s walk-off win allowed them to keep pace with the Tartars for third place in the Pioneer League standings. Torrance and their close 2-1 victory in the second of the two games wound up having the same effect for their team. With only four games remaining in the season, both teams will have to keep winning in order to keep

in game one where the Warriors scored nine runs in the bottom of the sixth inning gave the first place team momentum heading into game two. In the second of the two games, West came out on fire. With four runs in the first and four in the second, it wasn’t long before the Warriors were headed back home with a 9-0 victory and two-game series sweep. Trevor Mallett blasted a two-run home run in the game and Cody Wissler went 2 for 3 with a two-run home run of his own while knocking in three runs and stealing a base to lead West on offense. Up next for the Warriors (18-6, 6-0) is an epic matchup with the South High Spartans in a two-game series where first place will be on the line.

### South High

While West High made quick work of the last place team in the standings, the South High Spartans made quick work of the second-to-last place team. The Spartans finished off a two-game sweep of the Leuzinger Olympians with an 11-5 victory and a barrage of offense that saw five different players get two hits or more. Ace of the staff Drake Pingel was on the mound for South, so the team never really had anything to worry about. Pingel pitched six innings of scoreless ball while striking out eight batters in the six run victory. The matchup of the year comes next for the Spartans (14-7, 6-0) who have been waiting patiently for their chance to show the world that they are better than the No. 1 ranked Warriors. Not only will first place be on the line, but so will bragging rights as this inner-city rivalry series should feature some of the best, most intense baseball that we’ve seen all season long with various implications on the line. You do not want to miss out on this series. •

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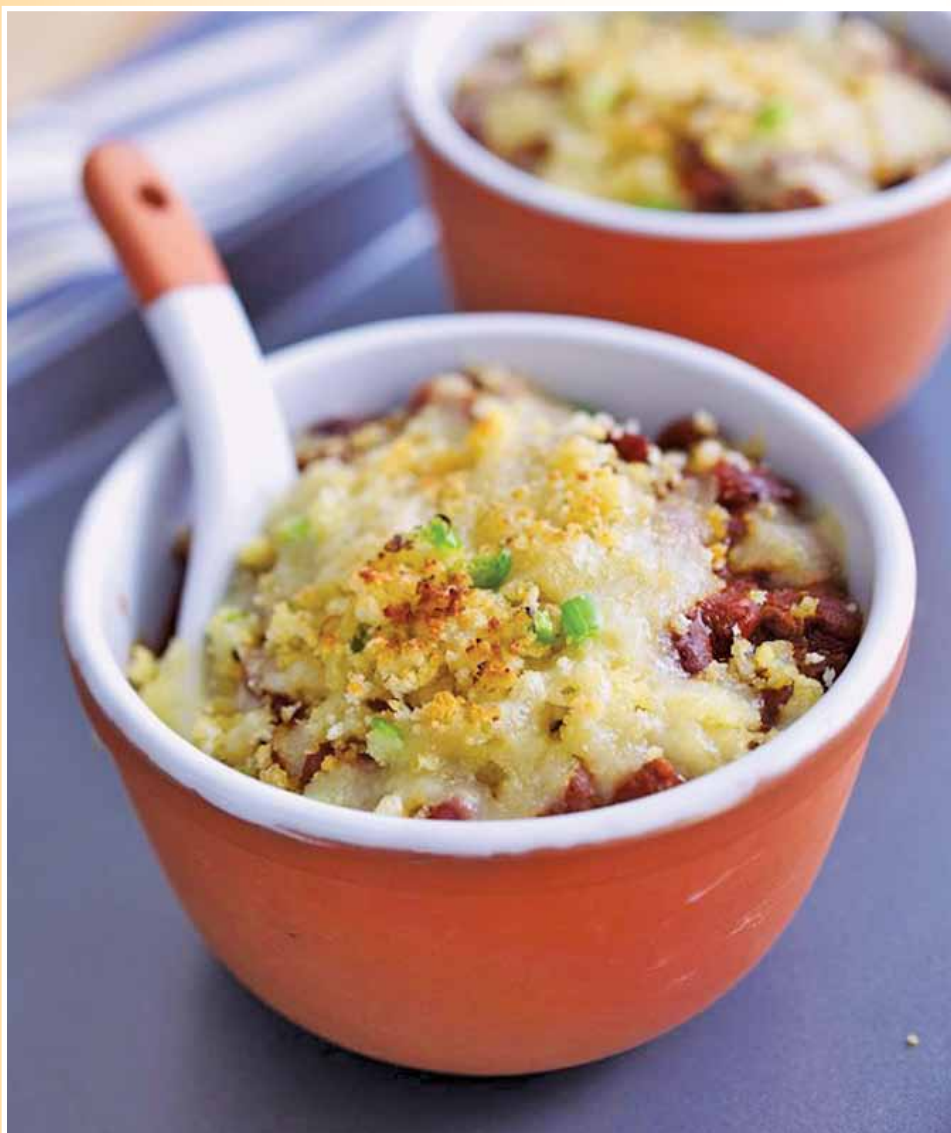
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## Firehouse Chili with Cornbread and Havarti Crust



*Makes 4 servings as a main course  
or 12 servings as an appetizer*

## Ingredients

- 6 cups prepared chili from the deli section in your local grocery store
- 1 cup shredded Arla Dofino Creamy Havarti
- 2 cups cornbread crumbs
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh cilantro
- 1 seeded and minced jalapeno
- 1 tablespoon fresh lime zest

## Preparation

1. Preheat the oven to 400 F. Heat the chili and divide between four oven-safe servings bowls, set aside.
2. Combine the shredded Havarti with cornbread crumbs, cilantro, jalapeno and lime zest. Top the chili with the cornbread mixture and place in the oven until cheese melts and cornbread browns, about 15 minutes. Remove and serve right away. •



# Sports

## Torrance Baseball Wins vs North High

Photos by Osvin Suazo, oqoimages@gmail.com



#0 Dylan Hatai pitching for the North High Saxons



#20 Jacob Northrop with a pitch resulting in the third strike for the batting Torrance Tartar.



#21 Paul Moon making a run for the home plate.



#12 Ryan Eastburn batting first for the Torrance Tartars.



The North High Saxons celebrating a close victory against the Torrance Tartars.



The Saxons and Tartars at the end of the game after a winning upset by the North High Saxons.

## Torrance Softball Wins vs South, 5-1

Photos by Osvin Suazo, oqoimages@gmail.com



A South High Spartan has a close call with a high pitch.



The Torrance Tartars huddle before the 5th inning.



The Torrance Tartar's pitcher after a successful strike out.



South High Spartan #4 waits to be called up to bat.







Police Reports

from page 3

without permission while there with permis-  
sion/ cash, jewelry  
**Burglary-Auto** 4/23/2015 8:30:00 AM  
4200 BLOCK 176TH ST  
Suspect(s) enters unlocked vehicle, ransacks  
and takes property/ disabled placard  
**Theft** 4/22/2015 7:30:00 PM 3300 BLOCK  
TORRANCE BLVD  
Suspect(s) takes unsecured property from  
locker room/cell phone  
**Burglary-Residential** 4/22/2015 7:50:00  
PM 2100 BLOCK 230TH ST  
Suspect(s) removes screen, enters unlocked  
rear window, ransacks and takes property/  
safe, documents, jewelry, laptops, MP3, tablet  
**Burglary-Auto** 4/23/2015 7:45:00 AM  
4100 BLOCK 178TH ST  
Suspect(s) enters unlocked vehicle, ransacks

and takes property/ sunglasses  
**Burglary-Auto** 4/23/2015 8:00:00 AM  
4000 BLOCK 175TH ST  
Suspect(s) enters vehicle by unknown  
means, ransacks and takes property/ shoes,  
clothes, sunglasses  
**Burglary-Auto** 4/23/2015 6:30:00 AM  
4100 BLOCK 175TH PL  
Suspect(s) enters unlocked vehicle, ransacks  
and takes property/ purse, electronic game  
**Theft** 4/22/2015 5:15:00 PM 18300  
BLOCK AMIE AVE  
Suspect(s) takes unsecured property from  
carport/ car seat, bed frame, tires  
**Robbery-StrongArm** 4/21/2015 7:25 PM  
1600 BLOCK CRENSHAW BLVD  
Suspect enters business, reaches over  
counter, pushes employee and takes property

from register/ cash  
**Burglary-Commercial** 4/22/2015 9:40:00  
AM 200 BLOCK PALOS VERDES BLVD  
Suspect(s) accesses lockbox, enters  
vacant business, tunnels through wall to  
adjacent business and takes property/ watches,  
cash  
**Battery-Simple** 4/21/2015 2:05:00 PM  
DEL AMO BLVD & HAWTHORNE BLVD  
Suspect kicks victim in the shin and pushes  
her, causing her to lose her balance  
**Theft** 4/21/2015 5:54:00 PM 4800 BLOCK  
PACIFIC COAST HWY  
Suspect(s) takes victim's property from  
classroom/ cell phone  
**Burglary-Residential** 4/21/2015 9:00:00  
AM 2400 BLOCK 169TH PL  
Suspect(s) attempts to pry open window/

no entry, no loss  
**Auto Theft** 4/21/2015 8:15:00 AM 4100  
BLOCK 173RD ST  
Stolen vehicle: '91 Ford Probe  
**Battery-Simple** 4/20/2015 8:00:00 PM  
2200 BLOCK CRENSHAW BLVD  
Suspect tackles victim to the ground and  
repeatedly punches him in the lower back  
while a second suspect repeatedly punches  
victim in the face  
**Auto Theft** 4/24/2015 5:55:00 PM 4000  
BLOCK 177TH ST  
Stolen vehicle: '96 Honda Accord  
**Burglary-Residential** 4/20/2015 1:42 PM  
3500 BLOCK TORRANCE BLVD  
Suspect(s) enters residence tented for  
fumigation, ransacks and takes property/  
handbags, laptop •

City Council

from front page

Students and Government Day, which started  
nine years ago under former Mayor Scotto,  
was created to assist Torrance students in the  
eighth grade in developing an effective civics  
education. By participating in Students and  
Government Day, students learn the roles of  
the City Council and city executives by shad-  
owing elected officials and staff, conducting a  
portion of a City Council meeting, learning the  
mechanics of self-governance, and participating  
at the local level.  
“There are many benefits to this program  
and in the years that Riviera Hall has been  
involved in Students and Government Day  
what we have seen is an increase in awareness  
and appreciation our civic education, which is  
something that not only our students have shown  
but our alumni as well,” Principal of Riviera  
Hall Phyllis Nollan said as she addressed the  
students and chamber. “One of our school’s  
goals, and it is a goal that all of our schools  
share, it is to develop proactive citizens and  
this program does a wonderful job in helping  
us as educators in carrying out this objective  
that we have.”  
With the belief that students who recognize  
and understand how local government works  
become more informed and involved citizens  
and voters, the city invites students to submit  
an essay as part of the competitive selection  
process for the program. More than 1,000

essays were submitted this year and the 20  
students that were selected answered the prompt:  
“Voting in America is a privilege. The 26th  
Amendment of the United States Constitution  
grants US citizens who are 18 years of age  
or older the right to vote. What can you do  
now and in the next few years until you are  
18, to prepare yourself to be a well-informed  
voter? And how will this preparation help your  
decision making?”  
“We are continuing our effort to expose  
young people to the value of local govern-  
ment,” Furey said. “Our goal is to expose them  
to careers in public service and to encourage  
them to become involved citizens later in life.  
“Every year since we started Student and  
Government Day, we are impressed by these  
students,” Furey said. “With students like you,  
probably as future mayors, councilmembers,  
executive staff, I am assured that Torrance has a  
bright future ahead of us. After spending most  
of today with these students I think I can speak  
on behalf of my colleagues and say Torrance  
is lucky to have such exceptional students and  
I think some of the best are here tonight.”  
At the conclusion of recognizing the students,  
the council surprised Former Mayor Frank Scotto  
and his wife Cindy Scotto with the Jared Sid-  
ney Torrance Award. The award, named after  
the city’s founder, was established in 1984 to  
recognize sustained service to the community. •

School Board

from front page

“One of the things we mentioned at the last  
board meeting [March 31] was the additional  
cost for option B and we wanted to show the  
additional costs but broken down, since at  
the last meeting we didn’t have them,” Jesse  
Miller, Senior Project Manager with HMC  
Architects, said. “We would have to remove  
13,800 square-feet of asphalt and the two ball  
walls, that has about a \$15,000 additional to  
the budget.”  
Furthermore, placing the gym on the southern  
part of the campus will require installing 500  
feet of gas line, 100 feet of water lines, one  
fire hydrant, 500 feet of fire line, 100 feet of  
sewer line and 50 feet of storm drains, at a  
total additional cost of \$133,447.  
While the location of the middle school gym  
“remains conditional upon the completion of  
the environmental review process, and does  
not preclude the Board of Education from any  
alternatives or mitigation measures that the  
California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”)  
may otherwise require to be considered,” as  
stated the agenda item, the board addressed the  
concerns of not only of neighbors but of school  
officials who seek a building that will create  
the least amount of blind spots on campus in  
order to provide proper supervision.  
The new gym is part of the Torrance Unified  
School Gymnasium Floor Plan and Exterior  
Elevations Option for Calle Mayor, Casimir,  
Jefferson, Lynn, Madrona, Magruder and  
Richardson Middle Schools. Each school will  
be evaluated for proper location of its new  
gym before construction begins; however, it  
is agreed that the gyms will be identical, give

and take minor adjustments.  
One exception made to the gym at Jefferson  
Middle School was the removal of bathrooms  
inside the facility. It is required that restroom  
facilities be made available within 200 feet of  
the building. However, the gym being placed  
on southern end of the school puts the building  
within 40 feet of existing bathroom facilities,  
eliminating the need to incur the additional  
expense and effort for in-building restrooms.  
Despite the concerns voiced by residents like  
Jones, Torrance School Board President Don  
Lee, who lives across the street from Jefferson  
Middle School, assured residents at the meeting  
that no additional programs are scheduled or  
even being considered by the school or board  
at the new gym at Jefferson. The new gyms  
will be designed to serve student needs during  
regular school hours, and not as a venue for  
evening activities.  
“I have gotten a couple of emails about speed  
bumps and traffic enforcement but those fall  
through the City of Torrance; we don’t dictate  
how they [city] operate the streets and they  
don’t dictate how we operate the schools,” Lee  
said. “There has been a lot of extra enforcement  
around school sites, certainly the principal can  
help you with that. We try to manage the traffic  
flow in the area we have control over but if  
there is extra enforcement wanted, Torrance  
Police Department will be happy to speak to  
you [residents] about those things.  
“We can’ tell the city to lower the speed  
limit; we can’t install speed bumps; what we  
can do is to control everything within our  
space,” Lee concluded. •

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**Bones**

We are looking for volunteers to help with our pet adoption fairs which are held every Saturday at the Petco located at 537 N. Pacific Coast Highway Redondo Beach 90277, from noon-3:30 p.m.. If you are interested in volunteering and can commit to at least one Saturday a month, please contact us at [info@msfr.org](mailto:info@msfr.org). You can also visit all of our Miniature Schnauzers & Friends rescues at the adoption fair or check out our website, [www.msfr.org](http://www.msfr.org). If you have any questions about a particular dog's availability you can email us at [info@msfr.org](mailto:info@msfr.org). Schnauzers! But you can't adopt just one!

My friends Sulu and Spock have been "transported" to their forever homes so now it's my turn! I'm called **Bones** and I'm a two-year old male Miniature Schnauzer mix. I could be a Tibetan Terrier/Schnauzer mix but we're not making any promises. A more accurate description of me would be that I look like a "Tramp" type dog with my long legs and sleek (23 pound) body. When I was rescued from the LA county shelter I was pretty sick with kennel cough and giardia and I'm still a few pounds underweight. After taking all of my medications, and receiving lots of TLC, I'm feeling great and ready to

begin adventures with my new family. I'm a fairly calm boy who is very good with other dogs. I was a little shy with people in the beginning but I'm doing just fine now. I've been given so much love that my trust and confidence level is right up there! If you are interested in Bones please email [info@msfr.org](mailto:info@msfr.org) for more information.

My name is **Winnie** and I am the perfect little lady for you. I'm a quiet, sweet, female, purebred Miniature Schnauzer who loves people. I'm just a tiny gal, weighing only 10 pounds, and at nine years of age there won't be any growth spurts! After I was rescued from a LA county shelter and examined by a vet I had a dental done. Twelve teeth had to be extracted but I now have the most endearing, if not goofy, smile. I'm considered a special needs gal because I have low grade IBD (Irritable Bowel Disease). I'm on a Rx, high fiber dog food which keeps it totally under control. The MSFR folks thought that they had found me a home but unfortunately, I didn't get along with their other dog. That sometimes happens when you get two women who want to be the "lady of the house." I've been waiting so long to find my forever family; won't you please open your heart and give me a chance? If you are interested in Winnie, please email [info@msfr.org](mailto:info@msfr.org) for more information.

If your idea of the perfect addition to your family is a four-year-old male purebred Miniature Schnauzer, I'm your guy. They call me **Mason** and I was rescued from a shelter where everyone said I was a stray. It's hard to imagine why no one was interested in me



Winnie



Mason

but I spent almost two weeks at the shelter before I was rescued. The only thing I can think of is that my appearance was a bit off-putting. I admit that I was a bit matted and literally had half of a haircut (don't ask me why they didn't finish it). I'm only 18 pounds so I'm not overly large. I have a very expressive face and a sleek black coat. I get along well with other dogs, and I've been told that I have the sweetest personality ever. It had to be the tacky appearance thing - it just



Missy

had to be. You must come to our adoptions on Saturday and see what a proper grooming will do! If you are interested in Mason please email [info@msfr.org](mailto:info@msfr.org) for more information.

They say that breaking up is hard to do and I can attest to that. My name is **Missy** and after my previous owners got divorced the one that had custody of me had to downsize so I ended up at a shelter. Do you know how hard it is for a nine-year-old female purebred Miniature Schnauzer to adjust to shelter life? Take my word for it, it's not easy. I'm grateful that my owner had second thoughts, bailed me out of the shelter, and turned me over to the folks at MSFR. I'm a tiny little gal so even at a mere 14 pounds I'm a bit overweight, but with a little exercise, I know I can get back in shape. I'm very sweet and loving, plus I get along really great with other dogs. All I'm asking for is a chance to be your best friend and companion – come see me at adoptions. If you are interested in Missy, please email [info@msfr.org](mailto:info@msfr.org) for more information. •

Be kind. Save a life. Support animal rescue.

Happy Tails



Suzy-Q is now the ruler of the roost in her new Cypress home.

Congratulations and much happiness to our gal **Suzy-Q** and her new family. Suzy is the little five-year old girl who had bladder stones that was rescued in January. Her Mom always had larger dogs but now she lives in a

townhouse and wanted a smaller friend. Suzy-Q knew a good thing when she spotted her new Mom and warmed right up to her. Suzy-Q now owns a residence in Cypress and she allows her Mom and Dad to live with her! •

THE YELLOW DOG PROJECT.com

If you see a dog with a **YELLOW RIBBON** or something yellow on the leash, **this is a dog who needs some space**. Please do not approach this dog with your dog. Please maintain distance or give this dog and his/her person time to move out of your way.

There are many reasons why a dog may need space:

HEALTH ISSUES  
IN TRAINING  
BEING REHABILITATED  
SCARED OR REACTIVE AROUND OTHER DOGS

**THANK YOU!**

Those of us who own these dogs appreciate your help and respect!

Illustrated by Lili Chin [www.doggiedrawings.net](http://www.doggiedrawings.net)



# Real Estate

## Five Ways to Redefine Your Outdoor Space



(BPT) - Winter's coldest days make you appreciate spring and summer, as well as the warm afternoons spent outdoors enjoying these seasons. And when the time comes, there's no better place to relax than in your own backyard. If your space isn't all it could be, though, this is the perfect time for a little outdoor upgrade.

Below are five projects you can tackle on your own to reinvent your backyard and turn it into the space you always knew it could be.

**LANDSCAPE FOR THE YEAR**

Landscaping provides a focal point in your yard, but don't just landscape with the warmer months in mind - include plants for each season. Showcase blooming flowers and hostas in the warmer months, and pair them with evergreen conifers for a look that's inviting all year long.

**ONE-OF-A-KIND PLANTER BOXES**

Showcase your most beautiful blooms or delicious herbs in planter boxes made from Western Red Cedar. Western Red Cedar is ideal for planter boxes because it is naturally rot, decay and insect resistant. Plus, building the box is easy. You can learn how to build planter boxes of your own at Realcedar.com.

**SITTING BESIDE THE FIRE**

A fire pit is a great way to extend your backyard use into the evening hours, and giving the pit a professional look is easier than you think. Start by measuring the pit area and then build your wall of pavers. Surround the pit itself with gravel, additional pavers or another non-flammable substance, then add some comfy chairs and prepare to enjoy.

### THE ALL-IN-ONE PERGOLA

Whether you're looking for a little shade, a centerpiece for the yard or the perfect spot to entertain, a pergola delivers. Building the pergola out of a lighter wood like Western Red Cedar will make the material easier to handle for any DIYer, and the appearance and smell of Western Red Cedar ensures your pergola will blend in naturally with the rest of your yard. You can find instructions for building your own pergola at Realcedar.com.

**LET THERE BE LIGHT**

Enjoy your backyard any time of day with just a little lighting. Solar-powered path lights are a low-maintenance way to showcase your new landscaping, and hanging track lighting can bring an evening glow to your pergola. Finally, don't forget tiki torches. Adding a couple will give your backyard a rustic feel and keep the mosquitos away at the same time. What could be better than that?

Your backyard is what you make of it, so why not make it great? Any of these projects will noticeably enhance your backyard. For more amazing backyard projects, visit Realcedar.com. •

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