



SOUTHWOOD

Homeowners Association Newsletter

March Calendar

Torrance City Council Meetings

7 p.m. via Teleconference
3.2, 3.9, 3.16 & 3.23
3.30 – no meeting

Torrance Planning Commission

7 p.m. via Teleconference
3.3 & 3.17

TUSD Board Meeting

7 p.m. via Teleconference
3.1 & 3.15

Torrance Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Comm.

7 p.m. via Teleconference
3.4

Torrance Businesses Update

Hobby Lobby

Located at the former Toys R Us site on Hawthorne and Sepulveda, Hobby Lobby has delayed their grand opening by a couple of months and is expected to open on April 12, 2021.

Raising Cane's

Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers at 23000 Hawthorne (previously the site of Pier 1 Imports) is scheduled to open March 2, 2021.

Randy's Donuts and Jersey Mike's Subs

Both of these establishments are now open on Hawthorne near the Olive Garden.

Message from Your President

Springtime is almost here, and with it, warmer weather – a great time to enjoy the outdoors. I hope you and your family take advantage of our beautiful Southern California weather, the sweeping coastlines, and the scenic Palos Verdes hiking trails.

Speaking of good weather, the SHA Board is hoping to hold an outdoor association meeting in June. Normally, we would hold an association meeting in May or June to honor our scholarship winner and have a speaker or presentation on some neighborhood topic. We will have to see how things look as we get closer to June.

Meanwhile, we hope you find the newsletter informative. Please feel free to contact us anytime with comments/suggestions. If you're new to the neighborhood, send us an email or text. We'd like to welcome you in our newsletter.

Our membership drive is ongoing. We surpassed the 400 mark in mid-February! This is the first year we offered a way to join/renew online. We had almost a fourth of our members join online this year. We're glad many people found the online payment option convenient.

Laurie Craig

Be Part of the Solution

Let's make Torrance the best it can be! If you notice something that needs to be fixed, removed, or cleaned, report it. Under "Contact Us" on the City website torranceca.gov, there are phone numbers and links to use.

Torrance also has a one-stop shop to report many types of issues. The City link to [Submit a Service Request](#) found on the "Contact Us" page directs you to the proper form to request service regarding sidewalk/street repair, property maintenance, noise, park condition, dumped trash, parking or vehicle issue, animal control, and more.



Southwood Homeowners Association
4733 Torrance Blvd. #155
424.226.6428

southwood.homeowners@gmail.com
[Facebook.com/southwoodHOA](https://www.facebook.com/southwoodHOA)
www.southwoodhomeowners.com

Scanning Southwood

Welcome to the Neighborhood!

Chris and Jennie Whitaker
(Redbeam)

Mary Lee (Talisman)

If you have any news to share related to births, deaths, marriages, new jobs, moving in, moving away, etc., please let us know. Call or text us at 424.226.6428 or email us at southwood.homeowners@gmail.com.

Support JMS 8th Grade Promotion

Jefferson is sponsoring a series of restaurant nights to raise funds for a unique promotion experience this year. JMS 8th Grade class will get a percentage of the sales.

When you order in person or online, show the fundraiser flyer (printed or on your phone), or enter the online code. Here are the dates for March:

Mar 2 – Panda Express 10am-9:30pm

Mar 9 – Chipotle 4pm-8pm

Mar 16 – Lemonade 11am-9pm

Mar 23 – Wahoo's 11am-8pm

Mar 30 – Lazy Dog 11am-11pm

The flyers for each restaurant are at jefferson.tusd.org. If you order online, please be sure to use the restaurant's own website or app (3rd party delivery or ordering services will not accept the flyer).

After a challenging year of online school, the parents of the 8th Grade class are hoping to raise enough funds to give the students a memorable promotion experience to include a congratulatory lawn sign, a lei, class photo poster, t-shirt, virtual activity/game night, and photo opportunities on campus.

Questions? Email Deanne Herbers at deanne.herbers@gmail.com

Housing Bills Back on Legislative Agenda

The California State Legislature has 7 proposed housing bills which the Torrance City Council opposed through a resolution on January 26. The resolution states in part the following:

- The council is opposed to the multitudes of bills being proposed that directly impact and interfere with the ability of Cities to control their own destiny through use of the zoning authority that has been granted to them.
- Should the State continue to pass legislation that attacks local municipal authority, control and revenue, the City of Torrance will support actions such as a ballot measure that would limit the State ability to control local activities and strengthen local democracy and authority.

One of the bills, SB 9, allows 6 units without public input where 1 single-family home now stands. It ends single-family zoning statewide, overriding city powers.

You can stay informed and participate in the effort to advocate for local control over zoning and land use decisions by going to California Cities for Local Control website (localcontrolca.com) spearheaded by Torrance City Councilmember Mike Griffiths. Also, you may go to Livable California (livablecalifornia.org) for details on the housing bills and subscribe to get updates.

Torrance School Board Observer Report

By Kim Nokes

At the February 1, 2021 meeting, the school board discussed the following items:

Return to School: In-person instruction resumed for Blended Learning TK, K, and 1st Grade students, and for athletic training. It was also announced that Blended Learning 2nd Grade students would return to campus on February 11. The Board is awaiting word from the State regarding when 3rd – 5th Grade students will return to in-person instruction.

Dual Immersion Kindergarten Program: The Board announced the launch of the District's first-ever Dual Immersion Program, being taught in Spanish. The program will be offered to incoming (2021-2022) kindergarten students at Carr and Torrance Elementary Schools.

Vaccine: TUSD staff is working closely with the City of Torrance to help facilitate vaccine distribution to TUSD employees when they become available, hopefully sometime in February.

Covid-19 Cases: TUSD provides information regarding COVID-19 cases among District students and staff (in-person instruction and on campus only) while also maintaining privacy and confidentiality for students and staff. To view the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases, go to tusd.org and click on the "Covid-19 Dashboard & Information" tab at the top.

Torrance Refinery Update

It has been 6 years since the explosion on February 18, 2015, which nearly released 50,000 lb of MHF (Modified Hydrofluoric Acid – a highly toxic chemical that, if released, forms a ground hugging cloud that can drift for miles). Only two refineries in California still use large quantities of MHF – our own Torrance Refinery and the Valero Wilmington Refinery.

After the explosion, the AQMD investigated the use of MHF. After many hearings attended by crowds from both sides of the issue, the AQMD decided in September 2019 to allow the refineries to make voluntary enhanced safety measures. A report from December 2020 states that the proposed enhancements at the Torrance Refinery are on schedule for implementation in 2021.

Of course, no amount of safety measures can be 100% effective. The Torrance Refinery Action Alliance (TRAA) has been advocating for the refineries to convert to a much safer process such as is used at Chevron in El Segundo. If you would like to stay informed on this issue, go to TRAA's website traasouthbay.com to sign up for twice monthly e-newsletters and optionally attend their virtual Zoom meetings on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Metro Green Line Extension to Torrance

By 2028, the Metro Green Line will be extended from the existing Redondo Beach Station on Marine Ave. just west of the 405 to the proposed Regional Transit Center in Torrance (on Crenshaw between Torrance Blvd. and 190th).

The 3½ year analysis recently begun will study two potential routes through Lawndale to the Metro railroad right-of-way near 190th and Hawthorne in Torrance. From there, the existing railroad right-of-way will be used to the Torrance Regional Transit Center.

Throughout this analysis period there will be opportunities for the public to comment on the project and participate in community meetings and events. There have already been 2 virtual scoping meetings in February.

Metro has an [online presentation](#) you may view anytime to learn more about the project and leave comments. You may also sign up for email updates by going to the [project page](#) "Connect" tab.

March 2021



Thank you for joining SHA!

This list is based on dues received from 1.12 to 2.10.

Mike & Julie Baker
Richard & Lisa Bejarano
Sandy Bruce
Yanhe Lue & Yan Cai
Gary Clayton & Janine Choi
Dan & Janet Donaldson
Juan & Debbi Duenas
Elizabeth Dye
Elinor Accampo & Robert Hern
Bob & Arlene Hernandez
Jane & Jeff Knaus
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* Charter Member

Haven't joined/renewed yet?

Please go online at southwoodhomeowners.com/join to either print a membership form and mail in with your payment, or join securely online.

Torrance Library Hidden Gems

Did you know the Torrance Library has the following resources?

[Hoopla](#) allows you to borrow and stream movies, TV shows, music and more for free.

Not quite sure what to read next? Let the library service [Novelist](#) help guide you.

Learn a new language through [Mango Languages](#). It's an online system that teaches conversation skills for a wide variety of languages.

Find these services and more at library.torranceca.gov, click on "Resources".

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