



SOUTHWOOD

Homeowners Association Newsletter

September Calendar

Torrance City Council Meetings
6:30 p.m. Virtual or at
3031 Torrance Blvd.
9.12 & 9.26

TUSD Board Meeting
7 p.m. Virtual or at TUSD Board
Room, 2336 Plaza del Amo
9.5 (Tuesday) & 9.18

Looking to Hire Now!



We have an immediate opening on our Newsletter Delivery team! We need a student or student partnership (middle school to high school age) to deliver our monthly newsletter in the area west of Palos Verdes Blvd. between Torrance Blvd. and Sepulveda. The pay is \$50/month. Newsletters are delivered from September until June.

This is a great way to serve your community and make some extra cash. Please contact us via email at southwood.homeowners@gmail.com or via call or text at 424.226.6428.

Scanning Southwood

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



COMMUNITY EVENT



All Residents Welcome!

Saturday, September 16
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Paradise Park

**Meet with Neighbors,
Torrance Police and
Fire Departments**

Bring the kids!
Free ice cream!



Hosted by Southwood HOA
www.southwoodhomeowners.com



Southwood Homeowners Association
4733 Torrance Blvd. #155, 90503
424.226.6428
southwood.homeowners@gmail.com
[Facebook.com/southwoodHOA](https://www.facebook.com/southwoodHOA)
www.southwoodhomeowners.com

Restaurant Row Replacements

Are you wondering what will be replacing the restaurants that have been torn down on Hawthorne and Torrance Blvd.?

The Marie Callenders site is being redeveloped as a multi-tenant, quick service restaurant building. The incoming tenants are Board & Brew, The Kebab Shop and Marugame Udon.

Elephant Bar is being replaced with Pho Hue Oi, serving popular Hue and Vietnamese dishes.

The former Souplantation will be converted to office use.

Parks & Rec Report

By Ed Candioly

Coyote Abatement Service continues on a daily basis. Double digit sightings have been reported by the public over the last couple of months, with two coyotes captured by the vendor contracted to assist. Always keep your distance if a coyote is sighted, protect small pets and contact Animal Control with the sighting location as soon as possible.

Doggie “Doody”

This article from February 2021 bears repeating as it continues to be an issue in our neighborhood.

Are you being a good neighbor and doing your “doody” picking up after your pet? How about when your kids take their best buddy out for a walk? There have been instances of people kindly using a bag, but then leaving the bag hidden in a neighbor’s nicely landscaped yard. Please remember the golden rule “Do unto others...”, as no one wants to deal with others’ doggie deposits.



SHA General Meeting Recap

On May 16, 2023, Southwood HOA held a General meeting at Anza Elementary. Here are some highlights from our speakers: ([link to recording](#))

- Bridgett Lewis, District 2 Councilmember
 - Anza Ave. will be repaved this summer from Del Amo to Sepulveda.
 - Gable House will be replaced with a 200 unit apartment complex, ex-Toyota property has plans for 6 apartment developments.
- Sheila Poisson, Torrance Finance Director
 - The original projection of \$18M from SST (the increased 0.5% sales tax) was exceeded. The projection for next year is ~22M.
 - In November of 2022, our rating was AA- (negative outlook). Now we are rated AA (stable). City reserves went from low of \$600K to \$44.7M.
- Michelle Ramirez, Community Development Director
 - Per state passed bills in 2020, sidewalk vending is allowed, but vendors have to get the right county and city permits. If a vendor is in violation, the city can only issue administrative citations.
 - Removal of sidewalk vendors in violation can only be done with the involvement of County officials. A joint taskforce of City and County officials periodically addresses sidewalk vendors in violation.
- Chris Kuebert, Sanitation Services Manager
 - Organic waste (food, grass, tree trimmings) should all go into the Green Bin. See the City of Torrance [brochure](#) for more details.
 - Do NOT put plastic bags of any kind (compostable or not) into the Green Bin due to processing plant limitations.
 - Starting in 2024, Torrance will be auditing routes for compliance to the organic waste rules (but would not be punitive yet).
- Mike Griffiths, City Councilmember on Local Zoning Control
 - In recent years, the State has passed laws that take land zoning out of the hands of the City. It started in 2016 when statewide standards were adopted for ADUs (Accessory Dwelling Units). In 2021, SB 9 passed allowing R1 zoned properties to be split with up to 3 units on each half.

Keep Streets and Property Free of Debris

Are leaves from your tree(s) overrunning your property, or maybe just your neighbor’s downwind property? Please be aware if your tree is causing the blanket of leaves over nearby lawns, sidewalks and gutters. Address the problem of leaves and debris in the following ways:

- Trim the Tree – If it is a City tree in the parkway, obtain a no-charge permit from the City first. Property owners are responsible for contacting the pre-approved contractor and for all costs associated with the work. Call 310.781.6900.
- Avoid piling leaves or other debris in the streets or gutters. The Street Sweeper already collects an average of 11-12 tons of trash and debris a day.
- Keep the street in front of your home dry on street sweeping days. Street sweepers are more effective when the street is dry.
- Keep long twigs and branches out of the street, alley, and gutter. Street sweepers have difficulty removing this type of debris.
- Never pour oil, antifreeze, paints or any other liquids or hazardous materials in the streets, gutters, storm drains, alleys, or on the ground.

TUSD Reports Year-End Highlights

By Kim Nokes

- Haley Yang, an Anza 1st grader, was one of five Torrance students who represented TUSD at the 2023 Invention Convention Americas event in July. Her invention was an Anti-Gravity Tissue Case.
- The Torrance Rose Float Association announced West High senior, Jodie Cheng, as the winner of the float design contest. The 2024 parade theme is “Celebrating a World of Music” and Jodie’s design depicts baby hummingbirds calling for their mother.
- The West High Football team organized and hosted a football minicamp for Friendship Foundation participants. The Friendship Foundation is a South Bay nonprofit that creates inclusive opportunities for students with special needs.
- TUSD hosted educational representatives from the Hsinchu City, Taiwan Government Education Department, and various Hsinchu junior high, elementary schools, and the National Tsing Hua University. The guests visited summer school classes at Anza Elementary.
- Anza Elementary was named a California Distinguished School.
- West High School
 - Digital Speech and Debate – National eChampions
 - Academic Decathlon Team – County and State Finalists
 - eSports Team – Regional Champions
 - Girls & Boys Cross Country Teams – CIF Finalists
- TUSD Advertising Campaign
 - As enrollment dips in our District and statewide, TUSD is working to creatively market the district schools to prospective families. A recently filmed commercial will be posted on social media, aired on Citicable, and featured on the District website. Students of parents who work in Torrance may be eligible to attend TUSD schools via an interdistrict permit transfer. The staff at the Family Welcome and Enrollment Center can help with the required process.

Environmental Science: A Timely Discipline

As climate change becomes more prevalent, West High School student Kaitlyn Matthews shares the importance of the AP Environmental Science Class:

AP Environmental Science is based around the health of the environment and problem-solving. Climate change has become a massive part of everyday life. The course provides a better understanding on food chains and how different habitats provide for certain species, but problem-solving is the main factor of the course. This is one of the few classes that can actually give a step forward to making the world a better place. You will figure out different ways to plant crops to prevent erosion and water loss, and how to lessen the amount of water runoff in more urbanized areas.

This class puts a different perspective on life. We will start to think about how we are going to live the rest of our lives. What car you want to buy in the future may not be the best for the environment and without taking this class you may never think about that. However it is super important to think about what the world will look like for future generations if we do not start acting *now*.

September 2023

Thank you for joining SHA!

We are a little behind last year with our member count. Please join us! This list is based on dues received from 5.12 to 8.16.

Richard & Lisa Bejarano
Peter Kappelos
Sophia & Philippe Neveu
Barry Northan
Denis & Valerie Rodgers

Haven't joined/renewed yet?

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

Oversized Vehicles Parking Rules



1. Residents must register their oversized vehicle with the City for \$25. Residents will receive a sticker to adhere to the left rear bumper.
2. Residents who wish to temporarily park their oversized vehicle in front of their home for up to 3 consecutive days (72 hours), must pre-purchase "daily paperless parking permit(s)." Residents are eligible for a maximum of 96 daily paperless parking permits per year with a maximum of 24 daily paperless permits per quarter.
3. To activate the daily paperless permits, residents call the Torrance Police Department at 310.618.5636.

If you find that an oversized vehicle is not following the rules above, you may call TPD Traffic Division at 310.618.5557.

See the [City website](#) for more info.

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