

News



Torch

Lighting the Way to Torrance High School Since 1922

Blood Drive II Hits Small Gym

PUMPING BLOOD SAVES LIVES

BY ALICE LEE

Torrance High School's second annual UCLA Blood Drive occurred on February 13 at the small gym from 7 am to 12 pm. Participants had to be seventeen years old, medication-free, sans tattoos less than a year old, no piercings in certain areas, and without illness. Adults from outside of the school were also allowed to donate.

In the last Blood Drive, 127 packs of blood were donated and twenty-seven people were deferred. This time we had 141 packs of blood donated with thirty-seven people deferred. The difference is not significant, but more is better than less. Each person who donated saved three lives.

Because of the cold weather, more students caught the flu, which resulted in their last

minute absence. Noelle Lai, who works for the UCLA Health Systems, relied on Kasey Noguchi (Vice President of the Associated Student Body) who did a wonderful job. Ms. Lai proudly stated, "This is one of the most organized blood drives I have seen. [Kasey] did a great job!" Kasey contributed much effort to the organization and is always appreciated.

An ASB presence was noticed during the event from six in the morning till noon, setting up tables, chairs, and snacks, making this event very well coordinated. Scheduling and consent forms were time consuming, but the staff didn't miss a beat!

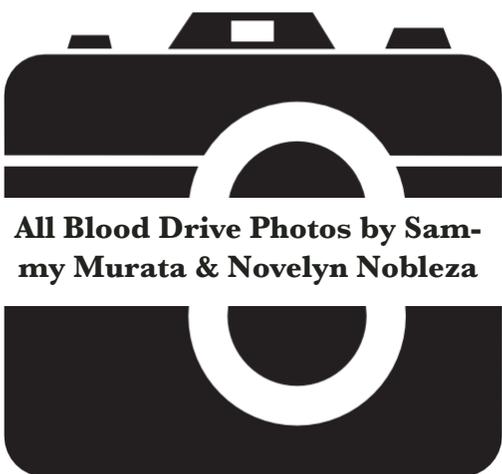
Thanks to all who participated, turning consent forms in on time, and staying hydrated and warm!



Niah Jimena (12th)



Mikko Santiago (12th)



Associated Student Body



Danika Mcenroe (12th)



Photo Courtesy of: Reader's Digest

FROM OPPRESSION TO APPRECIATION

BY KAMILLE MOSQUEDA

February has been deemed Black History Month to celebrate achievements of African-Americans in United States history. However, February wasn't chosen arbitrarily.

Black History Month began in 1925 and was conceived as something else entirely. Harvard-trained historian Carter G. Woodson helped establish Negro History Week alongside the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History. They chose the second week of February to be Negro History Week as it both coincided with the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass.

The response of the first Negro History Week was favorable. Departments of Education in the eastern portions of the United States, as well as the city school administrations of Baltimore and Washington, D.C., gave their cooperation.

Black history clubs started to form, inspired the recent events in February, and progressive whites also endorsed the effort. Throughout the decades, Negro History Week grew in popularity, with some mayors across the United States even endorsing it as a holiday.

In February of 1969, Black History Month was proposed at Kent State University. One year later, from January 2 to February 28 in 1970, the first celebration of Black History Month took place at Kent State.

In 1976, the celebration was recognized all over the nation. During the United States Bicentennial, president Gerald Ford recognized Black History Month, urging Americans to "seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history."

Now, the entire nation has come to recognize the importance of Black history in the United States. Every president since Gerald Ford has issued presidential proclamations about the observance, and the same association that Woodson helped found, now called the Association for the Study of African American Life and History, promotes the research and study of Black history year-round.

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TURN THE PAGE!

NEWS! PAGE 2

Have you tried Carne Molida? Go check out the recipe on Page 2!

STUDENT LIFE PAGE 3

Did you know we have a lot of working Tartars? Read about them on Page 3!

ENTERTAINMENT

You guys voted on your favorite boba place! Check out the results of the survey on Page 4!



BITTER SWEET VICTORY

BY EDUARDO BENITEZ

Super Bowl XXIX aired on Sunday, February 3, and was one of the lowest scoring games in Super Bowl history. The New England Patriots marked a meager 13 points to the Los Angeles Rams 3 points. To paraphrase an old saying, as long as you win, it really doesn't matter by how much.

Patriots running back Sony Michel scored the solitary touchdown for the day, and Rams field goal kicker Greg Zuerlein scored their trey-spot in the third quarter. "He's Tom Brady, he's going to make plays," Rams linebacker Mark Barron said. "At some point something is going to happen."

New England Patriots wide receiver Julian Edelman won the MVP award for the game with an impressive 141-yards receiving. Quarterback Tom Brady also earned his sixth Super Bowl title, making him the first player to accomplish this feat. Brady avoids the topic of retirement and isn't likely to change his decision anytime soon. As reported on nbc.com, Sean McVay, coach of the Rams, admits to being out-coached and

more.

Fans on twitter expressed their disdain for the lack of touchdowns, with one commenting, "3-pointers are ruining the game..." And another user, mocking the loss of touchdowns, posted, "Somewhere there's someone at a Super Bowl party who's never watched the sport before asking if this is what football is."

But low scores wasn't the only disappointment that Sunday night - the halftime show was no grand event. An online petition was circulated to allow a certain yellow animated character's song, Sweet Victory, to be played during the Maroon 5 performance. The petition was successful with over a million signatures.

However, the song did not make it to the Mercedes Benz Stadium. Instead, fans were met with a 15-second clip used to introduce Travis Scott singing "Sicko Mode." This Super Bowl could very well be the weakest game in football history.



Photo courtesy of: Mix 94.1

POLAR VORTEX FREEZES MOST OF THE U.S.

BY KAMILLE MOSQUEDA

Much of the United States has been experiencing extremely cold weather due to a polar vortex that has given way to life-threatening temperatures as low as -60 degrees Fahrenheit in parts of the Midwest and New England.

A polar vortex is a swirl of low-pressure air six miles above in the earth's atmosphere responsible for keeping the Arctic cold. On January 2, the polar vortex near the North Pole split in two, heading towards North America, bringing with it temperatures cold enough to induce frostbite within a few minutes, according to Stanford University.

The extreme weather was blamed for several deaths in Milwaukee, Detroit, and Rochester, Minnesota. A few people were found frozen to death just a short walk from their homes. At least 21 people have died fr

from freezing temperatures and dangerous road conditions.

Schools were closed, mail services were interrupted, and thousands of flights were cancelled. Many governors declared statewide emergencies in the Midwest, both the Washington Post and NPR reported.

Emergency room doctors John Torres and Felix Gussone published an article on NBC News warning Americans that if someone is outside, frostbite can settle in as soon as five minutes. They advise people to dress appropriately, wear several layers of loose fitting, lightweight, and warm clothing, and drink appropriate beverages like hot herbal tea or hot chocolate, but nothing alcoholic.

Despite the bitter winter cold, the good news is that temperatures seem to be rising in the affected areas as spring slowly approaches.



Photo courtesy of: BBC News



THE MARRIED LIFE



BY ADRIANNA VALENZUELA

When you think of Valentine's Day, grand gestures of endearment, like flowers, teddy bears, and chocolate come to mind. We approached several of the married couples in Torrance High School and asked a series of questions about the holiday that celebrates spouses. When asked "What do you think Valentine's Day is about?", most teachers had similar responses. Mrs. Brown said, "Love and romance." History teacher Mr. Baughman said, "It was about being with the person you love." And Mrs. Baughman responded with, "It is a day you spend with your significant other to show them how much they mean to you." They all mentioned the idea of love and spending time with those you love.

Then the teachers were asked, "What do you do on Valentine's Day when they you are married?" Mrs. Brown said, "Absolutely nothing. I know, I have been married for thirty-three years and we do absolutely nothing." Her answer was very different from the couple

that has been married for a shorter amount of time.

Mr. Baughman replied with, "Married couples express the love they have for one another by spending time with each other and doing little romantic things like writing each other notes or going to a movie." Mrs. Baughman responded with a similar answer as she said, "Have a romantic dinner and maybe see a movie afterwards."

Finally, the last question was, "How was Valentine's Day different being married as opposed to just dating?" Surprisingly, all teachers had the same answers. They all believe they spend more time to impress the other person more when they are dating compared to when they are married. Valentine's Day might differ as the amount of time you are married increases. Do all the sappy stuff now before you get married and all the nice gifts come later.



Photo courtesy of: Save Eats

UN FAMILIA RECETA ANTIGUO

BY EDUARDO BENITEZ

If you crave something Mexican, meaty, quick, and easy, the Carne Apache is a delicioso delight which requires no cooking. Here are the ingredients:

- 1 or 2 pounds of extra-lean ground beef
- Juice from sliced key limes
- 1 cup of diced tomato
- 1 cup of diced onion
- A fresh bunch of cilantro, roughly cut
- Coarse salt to taste.

First, fill a large bowl with the ground beef at room temperature. Then, cut the key limes in half and extract the juices from them to decontaminate the raw meat. You can either squeeze the limes by hand or use a manual or automatic juicer machine, your choice. Soak the meat in the juice for 30 minutes to an hour.

The amount of key limes varies on the amount of ground beef, but around 6-8 key limes is recommended for the amount of meat described above. The more key limes, the more sour the meat. Other condiments are also recommended with this dish, including guacamole, tapatio, or salsa.

Next, remove the ground beef from the bowl and press the juices out, placing the dried meat into a separate bowl and repeating the process. With the meat properly prepared, all that remains is dicing the tomatoes, onions, and cilantro. Mix the produce into the bowl, add the salt to taste, and scoop the mix with your favorite choice of tortilla chips. Serves 5-8 hungry amigos. Muy rico!



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WORKING TARTARS

BY CHARLENE CAVE

Photo courtesy of: Charlene Cave



JACK BALLARD (11th)

"I left my previous job in a bakery and found another job at the AMC movie theater in Rolling Hills. I started working because I wanted to make some money on my own and save it. I began to work a couple weeks ago and I practically clean up the place."



MYLA MORALES (11th)

"I work at Ono Hawaiian BBQ as a cashier. I have been working here for seven months, and the hardest part is customers complaining about food preparation time, having to multitask, and performing at a high standard. When applying for any job, just be yourself. Be confident and come prepared."



TRISHA BRIONES (12th)

"I'm a receptionist at a dental office. I answer phones and make appointments, and make sure the doctor's files are in order. One time I calmed down a crying kid who was in pain because of a filled cavity. My advice for students looking for work is to be annoying when it comes to applying, even if they don't like it. You have to keep checking on them."



ANONYMOUS (11th)

"I work at Blue Sugar Shoes. I assist customers and make sure they are comfortable with the shoes they are buying. I just started working there recently and as a "newbie". It is hard to engage with customers because it is a different environment compared to a food establishment."



RESUME YOUR RESUME'

BY SUSHMITA NAIR

Torrance High School students are planning to create resumes. A resume is a formal document showing a list of the applicant's work experience, education, and skill. It's purpose is to give the employer enough information to feel the applicant is worth hiring. Here are some tips to spice up your resume so you can stand out:

Simplicity is very important. The employers will only take a quick glance so keep the resume simple and clear. It's better to have a one-page resume with an attractive font, something easy to read. Add some subheadings to make it easier for the reader to find what they need. You can even add bolds and italics, just don't overdo it!

Model Resumes are helpful to follow so your resume looks neat and is easy to read.

Colors are an easy way to stand out, but be careful to not choose bright colors. This can distract the employer from the content. Choose professional colors such as a true blue or fire orange.

Accomplishments are a way to show the employers how you are different and should be hired. Add any accomplishments.

A Professional Email is very important. Without it, the chance of rejection is 76%.

Quality over Quantity is a rule to ensure your resume has worthy content rather than too much of nothing.

Proofread is the most important tip because the first impression is the last impression, so make it count! Employers aren't looking for people with spelling mistakes.

I interviewed Ms. Leccese to know if she had any tips for THS students looking to improve their resumes. She said, "Employers like it when people are well-rounded. So join as many clubs and sports as you can. Try to volunteer for different places so your employer knows you have experience in various areas. And lastly, don't lie! They hate when people lie, so just don't do it." Honesty is always the best policy when job hunting.



JOB WISHLIST

BY MARGAUX ESCUDIER



CHIARA AIELLO (11th)

"I'm looking for a job in customer service at a clothing store perhaps. It'd be nice to be independent and make my own money. It wouldn't be my first job as I've already worked at my mother's friend's store. I'm motivated so I'll do everything to succeed as an employee. I'd like to work some days during the week after school and on weekends."



DYLLAN PEREZ (12th)

"I'd like to work in a fast food or a clothing store. I want to be more independent and become more responsible with money; therefore, I'm willing to go wherever I can. I'd like to find a job as soon as possible and work during the week after school. I just hope that it won't stress me too much and won't take all my free time away."



RAPHAEL MELENDEZ (11th)

"I want to find a job in a restaurant or a store close to my house. I am looking for a job to help my mom and siblings so they won't have to worry about things. I also want to gain experience and responsibility. I would like to work after school and weekends."



FEI BAGTAS (11th)

"I want to work to gain experience and I believe that I can be a great employee as I am very motivated and a fast learner. I would be new to the retail industry in general but I have experience in customer service. I already have experience with Caregiving Agency as a clerk and I have always wanted to help people and give them a good experience."

Job Wishlist Photos

Photo courtesy of: Margaux Escudier

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BOBA POLL

BY CHARLENE CAVE



Recommendation:

Strawberry Milk Tea with Boba



"Sweet and savory!"



Recommendation:

Thai Tea with Boba



"Who doesn't like Thai tea?"



Recommendation:

Okinawa Pearl Milk Tea with Boba



"Delicious and great to drink with popcorn chicken!"



NOT THE FIRST

By Natalia Corrales



BEAUTIFULLY HORIFFIC

BY JOHN DOROY

A beautiful day where everyone expresses their deep appreciation and affection for their significant other

But that day is when I get into a sorrowful depression because as one who tends to observe a lot I get envious

Sometimes I look up and think, will I ever get that sensation

I know possibly I won't anytime soon cause of who I am

But if there is anything I rather wish than getting that chance is for you as the reader to be happy in your relationship with whoever

and this is one of the perfect times to show how much he or she means to you

Future Events

- Snack Rally (Feb 27)
- Lip Sync Rally (March 1)
- Lunch Mini-Game Rally (March 6)
- ELMAC (March 8)
- Daylight Saving Time begins (March 10)
- Snack Rally (March 13)
- Spirit Week (March 11-15)
- All-School Rally (March 15)
- Spring Formal (March 29)
- St. Patrick's Day (March 17)
- Movie Night (March 20)
- Spring Play (March 28)

TNT RETRACTIONS: John Doroy was a writer for the January issue; no credit was given. Andrew Gerges; name was misspelled.

We're sorry for the mistakes that we have made. We'll work harder to improve and catch these mistakes!

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