



# SOUTHWOOD

## Homeowners Association Newsletter

### September Calendar

#### **Torrance City Council Mtgs.**

7pm at 3031 Torrance Blvd.

9.3 – Dark; No meeting

9.10

9.17

9.24

#### **Torrance Planning Commission**

7pm at 3031 Torrance Blvd.

9.4

9.18

#### **TUSD Board Meetings**

7pm at 2336 Plaza Del Amo

9.3 (Tues)

9.16

#### **Torrance Adult School Fall Term**

8.28-12.13

#### **City of Torr. Community Classes**

9.8 Classes begin

#### **Free Star Party**

8:00-10:00pm Madrona Marsh

9.7

#### **Free Grandparents Day Stroll**

10:00-11:00am Madrona Marsh

9.8 Pre-registration required

**For information on these events**

**+ MANY more events, go to**

**[www.torranceca.gov](http://www.torranceca.gov)**

### *A Message from Your Outgoing Southwood President*

Hello Everyone! Can you believe it is September and our local schools have already been in session since August 26? I want to thank everyone who voted for the slate of officers and the bylaws updates. The changes in the bylaws mainly addressed wording updates, grammar and spelling corrections. I would also like to thank the following outgoing board members and appointed officers for a wonderful and productive year: Carolyn Finkenbeiner, Lynne Woike, Liz Dye, Laurie Craig, Val Clark, Emi Morimoto, Roberta Stotesbury, Sam Quan, Frank Miles, Kim Nokes, Tara Unverzagt, Rosie Wider, Donna Spreitzer, Joseph Nadarajah, Lynn Welsh and Mitch Levine.

Congratulations to the incoming board: Laurie Craig (President), Carolyn Finkenbeiner (1<sup>st</sup> VP), Lynne Woike (2<sup>nd</sup> VP), Alicia Walker (3<sup>rd</sup> VP), Glenda Fukunaga (Treasurer), Emi Morimoto (Recording Secretary), Val Clark (Corresponding Secretary) and Roberta Stotesbury (Sergeant at Arms). I wish them much success!

Thank you and see you around the neighborhood!

*Alicia*

### *A Message from Your Incoming Southwood President*

Hello, Southwood! I'm Laurie Craig and I am looking forward to working with our returning and new board members this year. First, I want to thank Alicia Walker for the wonderful job she has done as president. Last year, there was a call for new people to join the board to keep Southwood Homeowners Association alive. Alicia enthusiastically

*Con't on Page 2*



Southwood Homeowners Association

4733 Torrance Blvd. #155

424.226.6428

[southwood.homeowners@gmail.com](mailto:southwood.homeowners@gmail.com)

[Facebook.com/southwoodHOA](https://www.facebook.com/southwoodHOA)

## City Council District Elections

Last year, on June 19, 2018, the Torrance City Council adopted an ordinance establishing by-district elections for City Council. Previously, each Councilmember was elected for an “at-large” 4-year term which means they serve in an “at-large” capacity and are allowed to live anywhere in the City of Torrance. However, when their 4-year term expires, they will be required to live within the boundaries of the district that is on the ballot during that election in order for them to be able to run for a 4-year term to that City Council district seat. The districts will be phased in during the next two election cycles – Districts 2, 4, and 6 will be introduced in 2020 and Districts 1, 3, and 5 will be introduced in 2022. After all of the districts have been introduced, the City Council will be comprised of six Councilmembers who each live in and represent one of the established districts and one Mayor, who will remain elected “at-large”. For more information on elections in Torrance and to see which district you are in, visit [www.TorranceVotes.org](http://www.TorranceVotes.org).

## 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 us at 424.226.6428 or email us at [southwood.homeowners@gmail.com](mailto:southwood.homeowners@gmail.com).

## President Message Con't

answered that call and reached out to other school parents with whom she had volunteered. Together, we had a productive year with Alicia as our spirited, warm and capable leader.

Next, I'd like to briefly introduce myself. My husband and I moved to Southwood in 1990, both working for TRW at the time. We have a daughter (27 years old) and twin boys (21 years old) who went to Anza, Jefferson and West. While my kids were in school, I enjoyed volunteering in the classroom, for PTA, West High band, and sports.

Finally, we are looking for a few more people to help us out this year. We need observers for the following meetings: **Torrance City Council, Planning Commission, Airport Commission, Environmental Quality Commission, Parks and Recreation, Traffic Commission**. We'd appreciate any amount of time you can spare to attend meetings (or watch on CitiCable for City Council) and then send an email with a brief summary. We also have the Hospitality position open. This person simply arranges for light refreshments at one or two general meetings at Anza Elementary. Please let me know if you can help. Contact me at [southwood.homeowners@gmail.com](mailto:southwood.homeowners@gmail.com) or 424.226.6428.

Best,  
*Laurie*



## Want more local news?

To get a weekly newsletter containing local information and events sent right to your email from the City of Torrance, sign up for the eNewsletter. The purpose is to highlight activities and events that are happening each week in Cultural, Parks, Recreation and Libraries. It is sent each Thursday at 4pm. Sign up at [TorranceCA.Gov/eNewsletter](http://TorranceCA.Gov/eNewsletter).

## Southwood “Meet and Greet” Recap

On Wednesday, June 12<sup>th</sup>, Southwood Homeowners Association held a “Meet and Greet” and general membership meeting at Anza Elementary. The main purpose of the meeting was to ask questions of Councilmen George Chen and Geoff Rizzo, both Southwood Homeowners Association members. Other city officials attended including Councilmen Mike Griffiths and Aurelio Mattucci, and City Clerk Rebecca Poirier. After the general meeting concluded, discussion began concerning the new voting districts. Mr. Rizzo provided a detailed background as to why Torrance will be switching from at-large voting to districts. Basically, just like many other cities in the state, Torrance switched to districts rather than face a lawsuit from a voter advocacy group that contended at-large representation led to violations of the California Voting Rights Act. For more information on Torrance’s new voting districts, see the sidebar on the previous page.

Other questions from Southwood residents were posed to the Councilmen about such topics as city council meeting disturbances, status of the pre-school on restaurant row and the senior apartments, strategy on tree removal, unlicensed solicitors, and the new bright lights in the Walmart parking lot that are shining into nearby homes.



TorranceAlerts is a mass notification system designed to keep Torrance residents and businesses informed of

emergencies when a "call-to-action" is required. TorranceAlerts also provides advisories on major weather events, traffic, community events and more. Register at [torranceCA.Gov/TorranceAlerts](http://torranceCA.Gov/TorranceAlerts) and tailor your advisories to receive notifications of interest to you.

## Into Facebook?

If you are familiar with Facebook and would like to help SHA, we need someone to periodically post updates to our Facebook page. The information to be posted would be emailed to you, then you would simply post it on the page. Please let us know if you can help (email at [southwood.homeowners@gmail.com](mailto:southwood.homeowners@gmail.com) or 424.226.6428).

## Thank you to the 442 members who have joined SHA!

This list is based on dues received from 5/5 to 8/5.

Donald E. & Cindy Asher  
Matt & Susan Cook  
Henry & Naomi Endow  
Sue Enoch  
Fr. Bert & Ellie Gamo  
Arlo & Carol Hagen  
Andy & Machiko Irie  
Stephen & Dennell Jangaard  
John & Marilyn McCall  
David T. & Shelly Oriba  
Dean & Kristine Sato  
Tom & Tandra Stark  
Fred & Maureen Tafoya  
Howard & Barbara Thomas

## Congratulations West High!

West High has been named a 2019 California Distinguished School! Distinguished School award winners represent examples of not just excellent teaching, learning and collaboration, but also highly successful school climate efforts ranging from real time conflict resolution to positive behavior intervention.

West High has also been honored as having an Exemplary Program in Arts Education. Congratulations to West High’s Visual and Performing Fine Arts Department!

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