



TORRANCE T NEWS TORCH

Lighting the Way to Torrance High School Since 1922

HALLOWEEN UNDER QUARANTINE

CANS FOR A CAUSE

BY: VERONICA GARZA
Editor-in-Chief

Torrance High School will be hosting its annual canned food drive from Wednesday, November 4, to Friday, November 20. All donated cans will be given to Project Hope, a local charity affiliated with the South Bay Volunteer Center, and the El Camino College Food Bank in efforts to help feed local Torrance students and families.

During the previous school year, THS students donated 13,516 cans, setting this year's goal at 15,000 cans. Drop-off dates include: Wednesday, November 4, from 8 to 9:30 a.m.; Friday, November 6, from 3 to 5 p.m.; Monday, November 9, from 3 to 5 p.m.; Friday, November 13, from 3 to 5 p.m.; Monday, November 16 from 3 to 5 p.m.; Wednesday, 11/18 from 8 to 9:30 p.m.; and Friday, November 20, from 3 to 5 p.m.

All drop offs will be held at the student parking lot, and all grades will be rewarded spirit points. ASB asks

that students stay in their cars with their masks on as an ASB member retrieves their cans. Donated cans must have the student's graduation year written on them in order to correctly distribute spirit points.

For classes and clubs offering extra credit or merits, students must attach a note with their name, grade, and the name of the class or club. Additionally, they will be asked to specify how many cans will be donated for each class or club. Donations are not limited to standard cans: two small, five ounce cans equal one standard can, and five individual packets of instant ramen are the equivalent of one can.

THS looks forward to continuing this charitable tradition and encouraging students to take part in helping their community. Even in uncertain times, THS is able to unite in efforts to provide for the less fortunate.

A SPOOKY SPIRIT WEEK

BY: VERONICA GARZA
Editor-in-Chief

Tartars will be given the opportunity to show their school spirit from home this semester as the THS ASB organizes the first spirit week of the 2020-2021 school year. This event is scheduled for Monday, October 26, through Friday, October 30. In addition to dress-up days, Tartars will be given the opportunity to compete for spirit points through games and activities.

To start the week, Tartars will be sporting their favorite teams on Jersey Monday. Tuesday will be Throwback Tuesday, a time in which students are encouraged to post their favorite Halloween memory on their Instagram stories. Pink Out will be held on Wednesday to show support for Breast Cancer Awareness. Thursday is class color day, a time for students to dress in their class color from head to toe. The final dress-up day is Freaky Friday, a chance for students to post their favorite Halloween costumes.

ASB organized a Kahoot game for students and teachers to test their knowledge of Halloween. The game was hosted over Zoom on Wednesday, October 21, and the recording is set to be posted on THS's YouTube account on Thursday, October 22. The freshmen led the scoring, correctly answering the most questions. In order, the sophomores, juniors, and seniors trailed behind them.

Following the Kahoot are two pumpkin carving contests, one for individual competitors and one for each grade inspired by Red

Ribbon Week. For the Red Ribbon Week pumpkin, each class council's publicity will be carving or painting a pumpkin with the following criteria: Red

Ribbon Week, two facts regarding the event, and graduating class year and color must be included in the design. Pictures of the pumpkins will be posted on the @thstartars Instagram account, and the pumpkin receiving the most likes will be crowned the winner on October 29 at 9 a.m.

For the individual contest, competitors will be judged on their level of creativity and usage of Halloween themes, originality, details, and design. The pumpkin can be either painted or carved, but it must be medium sized and school appropriate. Pictures are to be sent to THS's Instagram account, @thstartars, or emailed to 1023657@tusd.org sometime between October 26 and October 28. Graduating class year, name, and description of design must be included. Polls will be posted on the @thstartars Instagram story. Whichever pumpkin has the most votes by October 29 will be the winner.

THS ASB hopes this spirit week will return some normalcy to the lives of the Tartars, as events such as these are a school staple. Although all-school and snack rallies have been put on hold, Tartars can still virtually join hands in the celebration of Halloween, and engage in competitions for class spirit.



DEL AMO MALL – SOCIAL DISTANCING

BY: ANDREW GERGES
Club Writer

Torrance's Del Amo Mall stands as the 7th largest fashion center in the United States. With an array of activities from shopping in Nordstrom to playing arcade games in Dave & Busters, it is no surprise that going to the Del Amo Mall is one of the most popular activities in the South Bay.

Most of the mall has been shut-down since March due to state restrictions pertaining to the Covid-19 pandemic. It first began opening some of its outdoor stores on May 30 while many of its indoor shops and restaurants remained closed. In July, some interior stores began reopening but were shut down by the state once again due to a surge in infections.

The closure of most of the mall's activities has had an immense impact on its businesses and its regular customers. The Simon Property Group, which owns and operates the Del Amo Mall, estimates millions of dollars of lost revenue from its months of closure. Many storeowners are calling for the reopening of the mall, citing the fact that they had to fire many employees just to stay in business.

According to *the Daily Breeze*, proponents of opening the mall believe the mall should reopen with social distancing guidelines in order to ensure business prosperity but limit the spread of Covid-19. Opponents believe that the mall should remain closed since the United States already faces the highest infection rate in the world and reopening the mall would only exacerbate the problem.

Torrance High senior Mahima Manoj stated, "I just really want the mall to open again so I can enjoy my senior year with my friends." Mahima also said she understood "why they want to keep the mall closed," but she prefers the enforcement of social distancing.

According to *the LA Times*, several malls, including Del Amo Mall, have sued the State of California to insure the reopening of their interior stores. This ruling, which has not yet been announced, will have immense ramifications on Torrance businesses and citizens looking for leisure time.