

SPRING 2020

Patrons

TORRANCE MEMORIAL FOUNDATION



WHEN TIME MATTERS

Torrance Memorial Earns
Comprehensive Stroke Certification

LAURA AND JOE GREGORIO

A Second Chance At Life



TORRANCE MEMORIAL
A CEDARS-SINAI AFFILIATE



A LEGACY OF CARE

Our lives are defined in many ways, some which reflect the level of our accomplishments. But for those with a deeper interest, few qualities endure longer than the expression of our love—whether it's aimed toward our family, our community or the thousands of lives we help transform along the way. Your support and contributions, of any amount, help expert community care thrive for years to come.

Learn more about starting your own legacy at www.TMLegacy.org



A VALUABLE EDUCATION

WRITTEN BY JACK BAKER

When I was born, my parents lived on a West Virginia dairy farm where my father grew up and worked. During my childhood, the family moved to Los Angeles where I arrived later as a young college graduate. After time spent in military service and graduate studies, I entered law school at USC, dependent on the generosity of alumni who subsidized my tuition.

I aspired to practice law in the real estate industry and was hired by a fellow Trojan law alumnus to work in his small real estate investment company as its only other attorney. A few years later I became his partner and founded a commercial real estate development company headquartered here but with a focus on East Coast properties. We created development offices in Atlanta, Philadelphia, Boston and other cities. For four decades I worked away from California, commuting by air from Los Angeles and residing in Palos Verdes by choice.

Because of this bizarre business structure, sometimes my wife tells me I am not really from around here and am unfamiliar with local street names. To counter this fact-based accusation, I remained a faithful USC Law School donor and supporter. In part due to this allegiance and fundraising track record, I received an invitation to join the Foundation Board at Torrance Memorial Medical Center. It was my first direct contact with the South Bay business community and Torrance Memorial leadership team. Service on the board for two terms has been quite a valuable education.

Everyone knows the role of a hospital is disease prevention and treatment. But I have learned that Torrance Memorial is the South Bay's community panacea—a word from Greek mythology referring to the goddess Panacea, representing healing and cures.

I have also learned that clinical medicine as a discipline cannot function in a social vacuum. Society determines the type and quality of medicine being practiced in a community. It is the members of society who freely



Ayne and Jack Baker show support by raising their paddle at the Holiday Festival Gala.

determine what resources are available for the training of health care professionals and the delivery of health care to patients across all medical disciplines.

In the South Bay, Torrance Memorial Foundation comprises our representatives who produce the resources reliably year after year for our community welfare. This foundation is second to none. In 2019 the Foundation raised more than \$16.3 million in philanthropy.

Torrance Memorial holds a strong position in the community, as demonstrated most recently by its affiliation with Cedars-Sinai providing additional expert care, a newly opened Hunt Cancer Center centralizing oncology services, and breaking ground on a medical office building in El Segundo opening in 2021. Generous donors make these distinctive achievements possible. It is a privilege for me to be a member of the Foundation Board and to serve its valuable goals. •

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A CEDARS-SINAI AFFILIATE

Patrons

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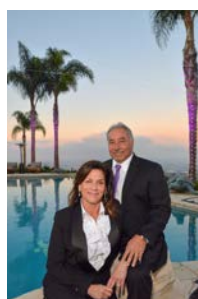
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ON THE COVER

Laura and Joe Gregorio opened their home in Rolling Hills to host a fundraising dinner to support the Lundquist Lurie Cardiovascular Institute and show appreciation for the life-saving treatment Joe received at Torrance Memorial.



PHOTOGRAPHED BY DEIDRE DAVIDSON

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MIRACLE OF LIVING

MAY 20

Miracle of Living
Autoimmune Disease

When: 7 p.m.

**Where: Torrance Memorial Hoffman
Health Conference Center**

Info: 310-517-4711,

Free, no RSVP required

JUNE 17

Miracle of Living
Caregiving for Dementia/
Memory Loss

When: 7 p.m.

**Where: Torrance Memorial Hoffman
Health Conference Center**

Info: 310-517-4711,

Free, no RSVP required



JULY 15

Miracle of Living
Back Pain

When: 7 p.m.

**Where: Torrance Memorial Hoffman
Health Conference Center**

Info: 310-517-4711,

Free, no RSVP required

JULY 28

Miracle of Living at the Beach
Integrative Medicine - Speaker Nicole
Alexander, MD

When: 7:30 p.m.

**Where: Shade Hotel Manhattan
Beach**

Info: 310-517-4704

AUGUST – No lecture scheduled

SEPTEMBER 16

Miracle of Living
Fatigue

When: 7 p.m.

**Where: Torrance Memorial Hoffman
Health Conference Center**

Info: 310-517-4711,

Free, no RSVP required

OCTOBER 21

Miracle of Living
Breast Cancer Success Stories

When: 7 p.m.

**Where: Torrance Memorial Hoffman
Health Conference Center**

Info: 310-517-4711,

Free, no RSVP required



COVID-19 UPDATE

**IN LIGHT OF RECENT EVENTS, ALL CLASSES AND
EVENTS LISTED ARE SUBJECT TO CANCELLATION
FOR THE SAFETY OF ALL.**

TORRANCE MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

JUNE 1

Golfers play 18 holes to raise money for Torrance
Memorial's Lundquist Lurie Cardiovascular Institute.

Where: Palos Verdes Golf Club

Info: 310-517-4703 for details and reservations

FINANCIAL HEALTH SEMINARS

Saturday, 9 to 11 a.m.

Continental Breakfast

Where: Hoffman Health Conference Center

Info & RSVP: 310-517-4728

MAY 9

Family Matters of Money and Legacy Planning

JUNE 13

Generating Income in Retirement

JULY 11

A Whole New Ball Game for Long-term Care

AUGUST 15

Savvy Social Security Planning

SEPTEMBER 12

Why Estate Planning is Still Important

OCTOBER 10

Your Questions Answered – Panel

COVID-19 UPDATE

These are uncertain and stressful times as we watch the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases increase by the day. Our lives have been turned upside down with “safer at home” mandates, social distancing and lines to enter grocery stores only to find empty shelves. At Torrance Memorial we have had to restrict visitors and screen anyone who enters the medical center.

In the midst of this, we have seen the results of our many years of emergency preparedness drills and planning, along with an outstanding team of professionals caring for patients. Our frontline physicians and clinical staff in the Emergency Department and inpatient units who are diagnosing, treating and caring for patients are truly our heroes. They are supported by so many other departments like environmental services, engineering, security, information technology, executive leadership, marketing communications and others.

The response from our community has also been tremendous. Donations of in-kind medical supplies, meals for clinical staff and financial donations all have been outstanding and much appreciated.



Face shield assembly line in the Auditorium



Spirit snack baskets

HELP PREVENT THE SPREAD OF RESPIRATORY VIRUSES SUCH AS CORONAVIRUS



- Stay home when you are sick



- Avoid close contact with people who are sick



- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds



- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 70% alcohol if soap and water are not available



- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then discard



- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands

- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces

HELPFUL HIGHLIGHTS

- Creating 5,000 face shields a week
- Replenishing snack baskets to staff at the hospital provided by the Foundation office
- Helena's Micro Market offering essential grocery items for working staff
- Complimentary well child care in partnership with Torrance South Bay YMCA
- Meal deliveries to ER and targeted units

DONATIONS FROM COMMUNITY

- Skechers – in-kind supplies
- Honda – in-kind mask supplies
- Construction teams – 850 masks
- YPPA member Jeff Kern of Arrowhead Credit Union – meal donations
- Downtown Manhattan Beach Business Professional Alliance – donations for meal deliveries to the ER
- In-kind mask and glove donations from several community members
- Many cash donations

PROGRESS NOTES



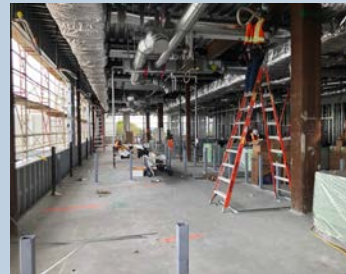
JUNE 20, 2018 GROUNDBREAKING

Family and friends of Donald and Priscilla Hunt, Torrance Memorial Foundation members, Auxiliary Volunteer members, board members, major donors, medical staff, cancer survivors, dignitaries and construction representatives celebrated the Hunt Cancer Center groundbreaking on June 20 at the Torrance Memorial Medical Center campus. The 38,000-square-foot facility consolidates and strengthens cancer care in the South Bay.

HUNT CANCER CENTER TIMELINE

16 months from start to finish—on time and on budget

MARCH 2019 FRAMING TAKING PLACE AND ROOF DECKING IS PLACED



AUGUST 2019 INTERIOR CABINET INSTALLATION EXTERIOR STONE FINISHES

JUNE 2018

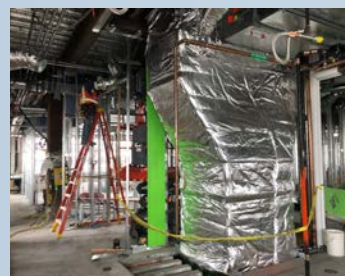
The center was named after the late Donald Hunt, founder of South Bay-based Hunt Enterprises, and his wife, Priscilla. The Hunt family pledged \$34 million to Torrance Memorial—the second largest family gift in the more than 90-year history of the medical center. Designed by c/a ARCHITECTS of Long Beach, the patient-centered environment planned to include private underground parking, 27 generously sized clinical exam rooms, 32 interactive infusion bays and an on-site pharmacy. Completion was scheduled for Fall 2019.

MARCH 2019



MAY 2019

MAY 2019 HVAC DUCT WORK INSTALLED, SUBTERRANEAN PARKING STRUCTURE UNDER CONSTRUCTION



AUGUST 2019





OCTOBER 2019
NEARLY COMPLETE,
PLACING FINISHING
TOUCHES



NOVEMBER 6, 2019
RIBBON-CUTTING
CEREMONY

Nearly 200 invited guests celebrated with docent-led tours of the Donald and Priscilla Hunt Cancer Center that officially opened to its first patients on December 16. The event celebrated and acknowledged the generous donations from the Donald and Priscilla Hunt family, Jake and Betty Belin, David and Barbara Bentley and Francesca and Doug Deaver.



NOVEMBER 9, 2019
COMMUNITY OPEN
HOUSE

The Community Open House gave an opportunity to tour the facilities before it opened to patients in December 2019. The interior was designed to provide a hopeful environment, integrating natural light with calming shades of blues and greens associated with healing and reflective of its proximity to the beach and ocean. Patients also benefit from Torrance Memorial's affiliation with Cedars-Sinai through



● SEPT-OCT 2019

● NOVEMBER 2019

● NOVEMBER 2019

● DECEMBER 2019



The formal program closed with a ceremonial ribbon-cutting led by Priscilla Hunt in honor of her family's generous donations that made the Center possible.

NOVEMBER 6
DONOR OPEN HOUSE



access to new and innovative clinical trials and a team of subspecialists, who treat more than 60 types of cancer from common to rare to complex.

NOVEMBER 19
PHYSICIANS OPEN
HOUSE



DECEMBER 16, 2019
GRAND OPENING TO
THE PUBLIC

Torrance Memorial Cancer Resource Center is now located in the newly opened building providing Nurse Navigators, clinical education, genetic counseling and research trials.



Dr. Brian Sherman, Ed Nazarath, RN, Dr. Richard Krauthamer, Dr. George So, Derek Berz, Dr. Shlee Song, Dr. Paula Eboli, Dr. Eric Nakkim, Marco Pech, RN

STROKE DOESN'T HAVE TO BE DEVASTATING WHEN EXPERT CARE IS CLOSE TO HOME

Torrance Memorial earns Comprehensive Stroke Center certification and continues to offer advanced stroke care in the South Bay community.

WRITTEN BY MICHELLE ABT | PHOTOGRAPHED BY VINCENT RIOS

In January 2020, Torrance Memorial Medical Center received its Comprehensive Stroke Center (CSC) certification from DNV GL, a national health care accreditation organization. The CSC certification—the highest level of certification awarded by DNV GL—signifies

Torrance Memorial's ongoing commitment to offering the most advanced stroke care for members of the South Bay community.

This significant milestone was achieved through a team approach and a variety of program-wide collaborative efforts that resulted in these critical enhanced stroke

treatment capabilities.

"The Comprehensive Stroke Center certification is a win-win for Torrance Memorial and Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, as well as for the entire South Bay community," says Shlee Song, MD, medical director of the Comprehensive Stroke Center and Telestroke

Program at Torrance Memorial and Cedars-Sinai. "South Bay residents now have access to a team of specialists who offer a full range of stroke treatments close to home, decreasing the time it takes for patients to receive expert stroke care and increasing the chances of a positive outcome."

NEUROSURGERY EXPERTISE

Through a partnership with Cedars-Sinai established in 2016, Torrance Memorial now has specially trained neurosurgeons on staff who can perform advanced minimally invasive and open procedures to remove blood clots, treat brain aneurysms and control bleeding in the brain.

As part of the CSC certification process, Torrance Memorial was required to demonstrate it is equipped to perform complex neurosurgical interventions to treat all types of strokes, including ischemic strokes that occur when the blood supply to the brain becomes blocked, as well as hemorrhagic strokes that occur when a blood vessel ruptures and causes bleeding in the brain. Torrance Memorial was also required to show hospital staff could provide expert treatment for a brain aneurysm, which is a bulge in a blood vessel in the brain that can cause a hemorrhagic stroke if it ruptures.

Paula Eboli, MD, is an endovascular neurosurgeon at Torrance Memorial who specializes in performing a range of complex endovascular procedures. Endovascular procedures treat problems with blood flow to the brain from inside the blood vessels themselves, using a catheter inserted through a small incision in the wrist or groin.

Dr. Eboli uses the latest brain and blood-vessel imaging technology to perform procedures not previously offered at Torrance Memorial, including clipping and percutaneous coiling to treat brain aneurysms, percutaneous thrombectomies to remove blood clots that cause ischemic strokes, and carotid endarterectomy and stenting to remove blockages and prop the carotid arteries open.

STROKE FACTS

795K

Every year more than **795,000 people** in the United States have a stroke. About 610,000 of these are first or new strokes.



Someone in the United States has a stroke every **40 seconds**. Every **four minutes**, someone dies of a stroke.

87%

About **87%** of all strokes are ischemic strokes in which blood flow to the brain is blocked.

Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

"The partnership between Cedars-Sinai and Torrance Memorial brings the expertise of Cedars-Sinai neurosurgeons to the South Bay, allowing us to deliver a higher level of acute stroke care at Torrance Memorial," says Dr. Eboli.

TELESTROKE TECHNOLOGY

In addition to being ready and able to provide the most advanced surgical stroke treatments, Torrance Memorial is leveraging the latest Telestroke technology in partnership with Cedars-Sinai to deliver faster stroke diagnosis and treatment, which promotes improved outcomes for patients.

The Telestroke program provides physicians at Torrance Memorial with 24/7 access to stroke specialists at Cedars-Sinai. Using a specialized videoconferencing system, Cedars-Sinai specialists can examine stroke patients, interpret brain images, confirm the diagnosis and provide treatment recommendations just as if they were at the patient's bedside.

"Telestroke is enabling us to do everything so much faster when minutes count," said Dr. Song. "With Telestroke, expert help is just minutes away."

NEUROINTENSIVE CARE UNIT

Another component of the CSC certification was the establishment of Torrance Memorial's Neurointensive Care Unit, which provides specialized care for patients who have experienced a stroke.

The Neurointensive Care Unit is equipped with the latest monitoring technology and staffed by a team of specially trained nurses, neurointensivist physicians and ancillary support professionals, such as respiratory therapists, physical therapists, nutritionists and pharmacists.

"When patients arrive in the Neurointensive Care Unit after having a stroke, they are facing an uncertain—and sometimes grave—health situation. We help the patient and their family by surrounding

them with a multidisciplinary team that works together to provide compassionate, seamless and exceptional stroke care,” says Brian Sherman, MD, board-certified neuro-intensivist at Torrance Memorial. “It’s like a NASCAR pit crew—each staff member has a job to do, but everyone is communicating and working together in parallel.”

The combination of faster access to stroke care, the most advanced treatments and specialized, compassionate care for patients and families in the Neurointensive Care Unit often results in better outcomes and shorter hospital stays for patients.

“We shepherd our patients and their families through all aspects of stroke care, combining science-based treatment with compassion to make them feel truly cared for. It’s so satisfying for Torrance Memorial to have a Neurointensive Care Unit where a patient can be in a coma in the evening and wake up the next morning asking for an omelette,” said Dr. Sherman. “It reaffirms why we come to work every day.”

A POSITIVE COMMUNITY IMPACT

Before Torrance Memorial became a CSC, South Bay residents who required advanced stroke care had to be taken or transferred to another facility—sometimes resulting in delayed treatment that placed patients at a higher risk of increased brain damage that could lead to physical or cognitive impairments.

Now, when seconds count, South Bay patients can receive faster access to advanced stroke care right in their community, without having to go to a facility farther from home.

“When it comes to stroke care, time is brain—and the faster someone receives treatment, the better their chance of a positive outcome,” says Marco Pech, MSN, RN, SCRNP, stroke program coordinator at Torrance Memorial. “It’s amazing to see patients leave Torrance Memorial deficit-free with their loved ones after having a serious stroke.”

“Being a Comprehensive Stroke Center is making a statement to our community that

STROKE
FACTS

65

Stroke is a leading cause of serious long-term disability, reducing mobility in more than half of stroke survivors age 65 and older.

Recognizing the warning signs of a stroke using B.E.F.A.S.T. could save a life:

- B
Balance (Sudden loss of balance or unsteady on the feet?)
- E
Eyes (Loss of vision in one or both eyes?)
- F
Face Drooping (One side of the face drooping or numb?)
- A
Arm Weakness (One arm/leg weak or numb?)
- S
Speech (Unable to speak, slurring words or difficult to understand?)
- T
Time to call 911 (Note the time symptoms first started and call 911 immediately.)

Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

we offer the highest level of stroke care and have all the systems in place to support patients and families throughout a neurological emergency,” says Dr. Sherman. “At Torrance Memorial, we provide specialized stroke care from the emergency department through follow-up, and we anticipate each patient’s needs from day one.”

Additionally, having access to comprehensive stroke care close to home means families do not have to travel long distances to care for their loved ones.

“Having a patient transferred to a facility outside their community adds stress for the patient and family, especially during a lengthy hospital stay,” says Dr. Song. “Providing care close to home helps patients recover, allows family members to visit and eases stress.”

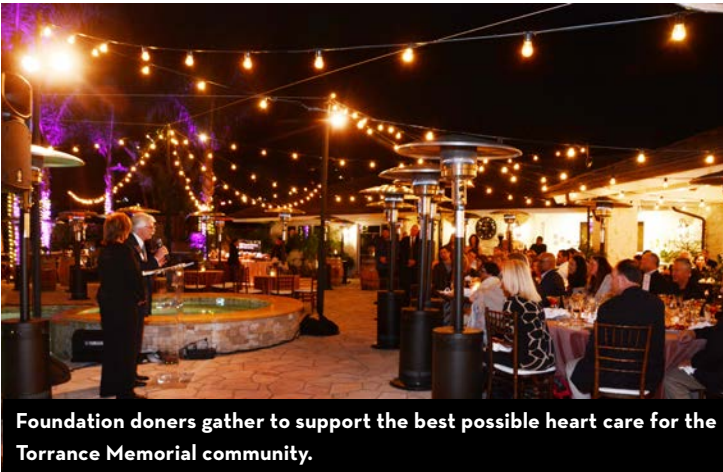
PROGRAM-WIDE COLLABORATION

Torrance Memorial’s stroke program staff all agree the hospital’s long-awaited CSC certification was the result of a commitment to provide the best community stroke care and enhanced capabilities and is due to the outstanding collaboration between Torrance Memorial staff, as well as between Torrance Memorial and Cedars-Sinai.

“The co-led program between Torrance Memorial and Cedars-Sinai allows us to combine our resources to treat patients at Torrance Memorial and if needed, expedite transfer to our partnered colleagues at Cedars-Sinai,” says Dr. Sherman. “Expert care can come to Torrance Memorial with our affiliation.”

“Our administration was strongly supportive of our efforts to obtain the CSC certification, including putting together local donor support—they were always coming from a place of ‘yes,’” says Dr. Song. “The Lundquist family has invested in the idea of delivering expert care in the region establishing the Lundquist Neurosciences Institute.”

“It takes a village to have a successful stroke program,” said Pech. “Many people worked diligently to provide South Bay residents with this level of stroke care.” •



Foundation donors gather to support the best possible heart care for the Torrance Memorial community.

A GATHERING FOR GIVING, GRATITUDE

A Torrance Memorial Foundation fundraiser raised \$4.4 million for the Lundquist Lurie Cardiovascular Institute.

BY MELISSA BEAN STERZICK

Joe and Laura Gregorio's beautiful Rolling Hills home was the perfect setting for a recent Torrance Memorial Foundation fundraiser benefitting the Lundquist Lurie Cardiovascular Institute on February 29. The hilltop and panoramic views of the South Bay reflected the broad scope of the evening's purpose: to support the Institute and continue the best possible heart care for the Torrance Memorial community.

Members of the Foundation gathered for cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and live music on the Gregorios' terraced patio, then took their places for dinner at tables set with crystal stemware, linen napkins and lavish floral centerpieces. A roaring outdoor fireplace, palm trees draped in sparkling lights and Torrance Memorial's insignia projected on the surface of the pool added to the spectacular backdrop.

The objective of the event was to raise \$1 million for the Lundquist Lurie Cardiovascular Institute. The final number came in at a remarkable \$4.4 million.

Torrance Memorial president and CEO Craig Leach, Dr. Chris Matchison, Dr. Erol Kosar, Dr. Aziz Ghaly, Dr. Mark Lurie, Dr. Mike Wyman, and Melanie and Richard Lundquist were all called upon to share their thoughts at the gathering.

Craig Leach celebrated Torrance Memorial receiving seven out of eight American Heart Association awards for 2019. The honors include recognition for excellence in care for patients with heart

failure and stroke, as well as high achievement in prescription standards, resuscitation and speed of treatment.

Dr. Ghaly, who recently joined Torrance Memorial through Cedars-Sinai, emphasized the impressiveness of the Institute's new technology and cutting-edge therapies. Dr. Ghaly said patients at Torrance Memorial in need of heart care can undergo any procedure, short of a transplant, without leaving the South Bay.

"I'm really excited and humbled to join Torrance Memorial," he said. "The nurses, doctors and facility are all exceptional. My goal in coming here is to align the two programs. We are to become one group—to work here as a team."

While the capabilities of the Lundquist Lurie Cardiovascular Institute and the advanced cardiac care offered by Torrance Memorial—enhanced through its partnership with Cedars-Sinai—were front and center, gratitude was another predominate theme. Torrance Memorial's leadership, physicians and donors alike expressed their thanks for the financial support provided for the Institute to date.

A standing ovation for Melanie and Richard Lundquist was a poignant pause in the program. When the applause finally stopped, the Lundquists thanked the donors for supporting the Institute, which was established with their initial \$10 million gift in 2013.

"Melanie and I couldn't be more pleased to see what has been accomplished. We are just a little part of what you all do," Lundquist said.

Melanie Lundquist reiterated her care and concern for those who suffer cardiovascular disease. She shared a heartfelt account of the couple's first collaboration with the Torrance Memorial Foundation and her happiness with its outcome.

"I don't think anybody could be prouder than we are to be affiliated with such an outstanding organization. The improvement in the quality care that can be provided in our own community is absolutely amazing," she said. "For us to have the opportunity to make a difference like this for the community—there is no better journey." •



Laurie McCathy, Kay Sheth, Bharti Sheth, Sam Sheth, Tom McCathy



Dr. Dominic Anthony Emerson, Dr. Ankush Chhabra, Dr. Danny Ramzy, Dr. Aziz Ghaly, Dr. Dominick J. Megna, Dr. Mark Lurie, Dr. Joanna Chikwe, Dr. Aamir Sayeed Shah

A GREAT HEART PROGRAM IS NOW EVEN BETTER

A powerful partnership between Torrance Memorial and Cedars-Sinai brings the nation's #3 heart program to the South Bay.

WRITTEN BY MICHELLE ABT | PHOTOGRAPHED BY PETER COOPER

Since Torrance Memorial affiliated with Cedars-Sinai in 2018, the two organizations have been working to bring outstanding care to the local community. More recently, they announced a further extension of this partnership: Cedars-Sinai Smidt Heart Institute cardiothoracic surgeons will practice alongside Torrance Memorial's exceptional surgical team to provide the latest and best cardiac surgery options to patients in the South Bay.

This partnership is a welcome expansion of the Torrance Memorial Lundquist Lurie Cardiovascular Institute. It is made possible

with the addition of respected Cedars-Sinai surgeons Joanna Chikwe, MD, Wen Cheng, MD, Dominic Anthony Emerson, MD, Fardad Esmailian, MD, Dominick J Megna, MD, Danny Ramzy, MD, Aamir Sayeed Shah, MD, and Alfredo Trento, MD.

These surgeons will join the newest Cedars-Sinai cardiovascular surgeon and director of Torrance Memorial's cardiac surgery, Aziz Ghaly, MD, to strengthen the existing Lundquist Lurie Cardiovascular Institute. Dr. Ghaly provides further expertise in a variety of procedures such as complex valve repair and replacement, heart transplant, coronary

artery bypass grafting, aortic root and arch surgery, mechanical assist devices, surgical treatment of arrhythmias and minimally-invasive valve surgery.

While these procedures—as well as diagnostics and treatment—have always been available at the medical center, the addition of Dr. Ghaly to the surgical team will allow for the growth and expansion of the program in the South Bay.

Dr. Ghaly explains: "Cedars-Sinai has a nationally recognized cardiac program, ranked #3 in the nation and #1 in California, performing a high volume of cases that require advanced clinical expertise. Our goal is to merge our experience and expertise with Torrance Memorial, partnering with their physicians to make more of these services available to patients at the Torrance Memorial campus."

"This partnership builds on what is already an excellent program at Torrance Memorial and a strong relationship between the two medical centers," says Craig Leach, president/CEO of Torrance Memorial Medical Center. "By working together we add important resources to our program, and the additional surgical coverage will ensure community members have a highly skilled team available in an emergency, able to treat highly complicated cases of heart disease and structural heart defects."

Mark Lurie, MD, medical director of the Lundquist Lurie Cardiovascular Institute, is looking forward to taking the Cedars-Sinai partnership to the next level. "The Cedars-Sinai relationship has been extremely productive in terms of providing enhanced cardiovascular care for our patients at Torrance Memorial," he says. "Adding extra surgical resources means even better access for our patients without having to travel out of the South Bay. It's a win for our program and a win for the community." •

Dr. Aziz Ghaly is a Cedars-Sinai cardiovascular surgeon on staff at Torrance Memorial and can be reached through his office at 310-784-6946.



EXPERIENCE MATTERS

At Torrance Memorial Lundquist Lurie Cardiovascular Institute, we are proud of the strength and depth of our cardiovascular program. From prevention through treatment, our numbers speak for themselves.

4,000

Torrance Memorial treated nearly 4,000 cardiac inpatients in one year, based on 2018 data from the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development, making it the third busiest hospital among Los Angeles County residents.

"These numbers reflect the expertise of our entire cardiovascular team—cardiologists, interventionalists, surgeons and other specialized staff. Together we are providing the most up-to-date care, including the newest structural heart procedures such as TAVR, Mitri-Clip and Watchman. Our goal is to greatly improve outcomes and quality of life for our patients with all types of heart disease." – **Victoria Shin, MD, FACC**, chair of cardiology division

1,000

Our program treats more than 1,000 heart failure patients every year, while reducing readmission rates.

"Recent breakthroughs in heart failure treatment, including new medications, makes living with heart failure more achievable than ever before. However, the key to a successful heart failure program like the one here at Torrance Memorial is patient education and follow-up. Our nurse practitioner takes a comprehensive, supportive and long-term approach to patient care that has become the cornerstone of our success. Additionally, our affiliation with Cedars-Sinai means our heart failure patients also have access to further advanced care—such as transplant— if necessary." – **Mark Lurie, MD**, medical director, Lundquist Lurie Cardiovascular Institute



At 59 minutes, Torrance Memorial has the fastest door-to-balloon time in the South Bay.

A ST-Elevation Myocardial Infarction (STEMI) receiving center, Torrance Memorial has been recognized as a regional and national leader in heart attack care. Our door-to-balloon (D2B) time ranks Torrance Memorial among the top 25% of hospitals in the United States.

"Door-to-balloon time is a key quality performance measure in treating heart attacks. The American College of Cardiology and American Heart Association recommend the artery be opened within 90 minutes, and recent studies have shown opening the artery within 60 minutes offers even better short- and long-term patient outcomes. At Torrance Memorial our team is actively engaged with first responders and has optimized care delivery in the ER to not only exceed the 90-minute goal, but to also best the 60-minute goal. This allows us to continue to provide the best possible care for the South Bay patients." – **Ankush Chhabra, MD**, interventional cardiologist, peripheral vascular specialist

Torrance Memorial has performed the most TAVR procedures in the South Bay.

Since 2014, Torrance Memorial surgeons and interventional cardiologists have performed transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR) procedures on more than 488 patients—a volume not seen in many other hospitals.

"As with any procedure like the TAVR, experience counts. Our surgeons and interventional cardiologists have a long-running, well-established structural heart program. As a result of that experience, the TAVR program at Torrance Memorial has had excellent results and outcomes that are superior to the national average. And most importantly, the TAVR procedure is helping patients who otherwise would have no treatment options."

– **Salman Azam, MD**, Interventional Cardiologist
Lundquist Lurie Cardiovascular Institute

488

SALSA WOMEN'S SOCCER CLUB

L.A. Salsa Women's Soccer Club presented a "Kick For A Cure" donation of \$1,024 to Torrance Memorial Physicians Network Cancer Care Team at the Hunt Cancer Center Community Open House event. The Club is also bringing awareness to Breast Cancer in the City of Torrance.



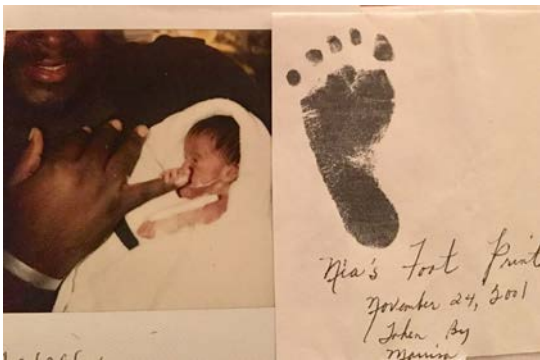
Front row L to R: Jaqueline Saldana, Hannah Martinez, Kristen Rahmeyer **Middle row L to R:** Dr. Swati Sikarla, Dr. Syed Jilani, Savannah Christensen, Sarah Bunma, Kenia Godoy-Mejia, Dr. David Chan, Nancy Lean, RN **Back Row L to R:** Wendy Christensen (team manager), Chris Roger, Dr. Andrew Horodner, Heidi Assigal, Brian Lee, Aaron Rodriguez (head coach)



Parents Gary and Mira Campbell gather with family and friends to dedicate a customized gaming cart in honor of their beloved daughter Megan.

GAMERS OUTREACH KART DONATION

Parents Gary and Mira Campbell dedicated a GO Kart to our Pediatric Unit in memory of their beautiful daughter Megan, who at the age of 22 died after a rollover crash on US Highway 95 about 45 miles northwest of Las Vegas on March 20, 2019. Her parents were also in the car and sustained serious but survivable injuries. Megan graduated from Miami University of Ohio with a degree in interactive media studies and a minor in computer science. She dreamed of starting a career in the gaming industry—particularly in 3D graphics and character development. As an avid video gamer, the portable game kiosk built for the medical environment is the perfect way to commemorate Megan and share her love of gaming. Her gamer name was #Wolfgirl Veera.



NICU PROCLAMATION

On November 26, Mayor Pro-Tem Cedric Hicks bestowed a proclamation from the city of Carson to Dr. Schwartz and the NICU staff as a way to give thanks and show appreciation for the care his daughter and family received so many years ago. Hicks' third child, Nia, was born prematurely at two pounds and spent several months in the NICU. Now 18, she is thriving and graduated from Carson High School in May 2019. Nia was on the track team throwing the shot put and ranked third at her school in the sport. She was also involved as a youth commissioner for the city of Carson and volunteered in youth programs with the Kiwanis club. Currently she is attending Cal State Dominguez Hills majoring in business with an emphasis in advertising and wants to use her degree to help promote her hair salon business.



Cedric Hicks presents proclamation to the NICU, L to R:

Emily Tatu (NICU RN), Susan Zerna (mother baby RN), Ria Magtanong (NICU RN), Evelyn Sua (NICU RN), Elizabeth Lowerison (NICU/PEDS nurse manager), Natalie Thorpe (L&D/ mother baby nurse manager), Leah Romine (MCHS director), Mayor Pro Tem Hicks, Dr. Jerry Schwartz (NICU medical director), Stacey Kimura (NICU RN), Janice Miyashiro (NICU social worker), Debbie Bakalar (NICU RN), Erlinda Valerio (NICU RN), Erika Deane (NICU RN), Kathryn Bressickello (NICU RN), Jaycee Ringle (mother baby RN) and Imelda Domingo (NICU unit secretary)

GIVING TUESDAY

Giving Tuesday was created in 2012 as a simple idea: A day that encourages people to do good. Over the past seven years, it has grown into a global movement that inspires hundreds of millions of people to give, collaborate and celebrate generosity. **\$34,621** was donated to Torrance Memorial on Tuesday, December 3, to support the Hunt Cancer Center. With a matching donor donation, the total was elevated to **\$69,242!**

Since 2015, overall donations total **\$220,000 for Giving Tuesday.**



AT THE TOP OF THEIR GAME

Joint replacement patients choose the Lundquist Orthopedic Institute for help in getting on with their lives.

WRITTEN BY JOHN FERRARI | PHOTOGRAPHED BY VINCENT RIOS

Spring is here. You've been exercising and practicing for your favorite outdoor activities. You should be at the top of your game, but that joint pain isn't going away. In fact, it's getting worse. Whether it's rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis or a sports injury, it may be time to consider orthopedic surgery for a partial or total hip, knee or shoulder replacement. But when?

"You're going to know when it's time," says Todd Shrader, MD, a joint replacement surgeon and sports medicine specialist with Torrance Memorial's Lundquist Orthopedic Institute. "It's when your quality of life is suffering and other options are not working."

If joint replacement is in your future—as it is for an increasing number of Americans—there's good news: It's one of the most successful and effective surgical procedures performed today.

The Lundquist Orthopedic Institute is at the forefront of advances in the field of joint replacement. Emphasizing comprehensive, patient-centered care, the institute also provides a full range of expertise in specialized fields including general orthopedics; sports medicine; hand, wrist, foot and ankle care; and pain management.

The care and attention the institute's specialists devote to each patient shows in the distinctions it has received. Ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as one of the nation's top centers for orthopedic surgery, the Lundquist Orthopedic Institute also has earned Blue Cross Blue Shield's Blue



Distinction Center designation for joint replacement and spine surgery.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Health Statistics, more than 1 million total joint arthroplasties (the reconstruction or replacement of a joint) are performed in the United States each year. That number is predicted to rise to nearly 4 million over

**Dr. John Andrawis
and Dr. Don Sanders
team up to help
patients stay active
in the South Bay.**



Lundquist Orthopedic
Institute patient Jill Lynch

"I WAS IN A
LOT OF PAIN
LEADING UP
TO SURGERY.
I FEEL LIKE I
HAVE MY LIFE
BACK."

CLINICAL SPOTLIGHT

the next 10 years. Here in the South Bay, the Lundquist Orthopedic Institute's specialists perform more than 1,200 hip and knee replacements—more than double any other hospital in the area, according to 2018 data from the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development.

"The population is getting older, so there are more and more people who have arthritic joints," explains Lundquist Orthopedic Institute orthopedic surgeon Don Sanders, MD. "Also, people are staying more active as they get older; that creates more wear and tear on joints. The large Baby Boomer population is now right smack dab in the middle of where they're requiring joint replacements."

As Baby Boomers have aged, joint replacement surgery has really come of age. The last two decades have seen major advances. "We've been able to develop more minimally-invasive techniques," Dr. Sanders says. "The concept is we do less damage when we're doing the surgery"—thereby reducing recovery times significantly.

Dr. Sanders helped pioneer the direct anterior approach for hip replacement surgery—a technique that leaves the muscle attachments intact, allowing patients to recover faster and more completely. First performed at Torrance Memorial in 2004, the technique now accounts for 80% of hip replacements at the hospital. Similarly, the subvastus approach for knee replacement surgery avoids cutting into the quadriceps, speeding patient recovery.

Another even more recent innovation is robotic-assisted surgery. The Lundquist Orthopedic Institute started using the Mako Stryker robotic system last year to assist with knee replacement surgery. "We're starting to develop evidence of patients having less pain and better recovery using the system," says Dr. Sanders.

The system doesn't actually perform the surgery, Dr. Sanders explains. "We use the robotic arm to assist in the surgical procedure." Specifically, the system allows surgeons to operate with greater precision.

"That's critical to achieve successful joint replacement," says Dr. Shrader. "The robot aligns the joint implant perfectly and balances the soft tissues, both critical factors for a successful total knee replacement."

A third advancement—to anesthesia and pain blocks—helps patients get back on their feet as soon as possible. Local pain blocks, similar to epidurals, are administered before and during joint replacement surgery.

Reducing pain and discomfort after surgery has a practical benefit. "Patients who get up sooner recover quicker," explains Lundquist Orthopedic Institute orthopedic surgeon John Andrawis, MD. "They can usually

have a physical therapist see them within a few hours of surgery. Torrance staffing allows that to happen."

"We've been at the forefront of pain management," adds Dr. Shrader. "Patients wake up with very little to no pain. We want patients to walk the day they have the surgery. It lowers the chance of getting a blood clot. Plus it helps them go home [faster], and it's much better to recover at home."

Although most patients remain at Torrance Memorial overnight after joint replacement surgery, "the large majority go home the next day," says Dr. Sanders. For some patients, there's even the possibility of going home the day of the surgery.

"It really depends on the patient," adds Dr. Andrawis. Some younger patients—generally those younger than 70—may choose joint replacement surgery as an outpatient procedure. However, he says, "it's not your chronological age, it's your physiological age" that determines whether outpatient surgery is a possibility.

Getting back on her feet after a bilateral hip replacement was a priority for 47-year-old yoga instructor Jill Lynch. "My hips started bothering me more than five

Joint replacement surgeon Dr. Todd Shrader says patients are going to know when it's time to choose surgery.



years ago,” she recalls. “I tried to fix the problem and alleviate the pain with strength work and neurological work. I did every possible thing I could do ahead of time, but eventually I had to admit to myself there was something wrong and the only option was surgery. I did some research beforehand, and given how important my hips are to my career, I knew I wanted the direct anterior approach and I knew Dr. Sanders was the best.”

Lynch was using a walker four hours after her surgery. Five days after her surgery, she was walking without crutches, and after a month she and Dr. Sanders agreed she could resume her yoga work. “I feel fantastic,” she says. “I was in a lot of pain leading up to surgery. I feel like I have my life back.”

Lynch’s background in yoga helped her recovery, but Torrance Memorial’s goal is to give every patient the best experience and easiest recovery possible.

“We have an extensive pre-op process,” Dr. Andrewis says. “This year we’re working on a pre-op clinic so we can coordinate better patient care—especially patients with multiple medical issues. And before surgery and rehab, we have prehab for fitter patients. Our patients have a month-long presurgical process. The goal is to educate people on what to expect, which allows them to be more successful in their recovery. There are all these touchpoints at Torrance Memorial.”

Successfully combining exceptional surgeons, advanced surgical techniques and the latest technology with comprehensive care and the convenience of a local hospital has earned the Lundquist Orthopedic Institute another impressive distinction. It’s ranked in the top 10% of hospitals nationwide for patient satisfaction in a 2018 survey conducted by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

After all, Torrance Memorial patients like Lynch don’t choose the Lundquist Orthopedic Institute just because it’s convenient; they choose it because it’s the best. •



Jill Lynch showing off her signature handstand. “I feel fantastic,” says Lynch, who got back to her yoga routine only one month post-surgery.

*In Loving
Memory*

of our significant donors who are

Forever Present

in our

Hearts



John Gogian, survived by his beloved wife, Billee Gogian



Ralph Scriba



Bill and Jolene Mertz



Sigrid Allman



A HANDS-ON GUY

Joe Gregorio takes a proactive approach to his business and his health.

PHOTOGRAPHED BY VINCENT RIOS

At the age of 9, Joe Gregorio wasn't just riding dirt bikes. He was repairing and rebuilding them. By 16 he was rebuilding cars. Hands-on work came naturally to Joe, who took auto, machine and wood shop classes at San Pedro High School.

"As kids, we didn't have cell phones or computers, so we worked with our hands," he says.

After high school, Joe attended El Camino College to play football. Shortly into his first season, he suffered a football injury that sidelined his sports career. At that point, he decided to follow his passion by enrolling in trade school at Harbor Occupational. There he learned electrical, motor control, welding and diesel engine repair skills, among others.

He attended academies for training on specific brands of machinery. Then he earned his electrical, general building and engineering contracting licenses.

For two years, Joe worked as an engineer and mechanic at the now defunct DiCarlo's Bakery, where his dad worked. In 1979 he began working as a mechanic in the Los Angeles and Long Beach harbors, performing maintenance on ship-to-shore cranes—the large cranes used at ports to load and unload shipping containers.

Working for a company called Rigging International Maintenance Company (RIMCO), Joe climbed the ranks and eventually managed the firm's operations. Eleven years later, in 1991, he left RIMCO to start his own business, Pacific Crane Maintenance Company.

Based in Long Beach, Pacific Crane today employs about 1,000 people, including 800 longshore personnel. Team members work at multiple marine terminals maintaining the mechanical equipment used in the ports

of Los Angeles and Long Beach as well as Seattle and Tacoma, Washington.

Joe, now 60, remains hands-on as the company's chairman and CEO. A family-run business, Pacific Crane benefits from the participation of Joe and his wife Laura's entire clan. Their sons Joe Jr., Andy and Robert, daughter Jennifer, son-in-law Kyle Clinton and brother-in-law Darrin DelConte all play important roles within the family-owned business.

"You spend a lot of time with family. Sometimes you get along, and sometimes you don't. But for the most part we all enjoy what we do and look forward to doing it each day," Joe says. "We do what it takes to get the work done."

Despite the stress of running a company, Joe gets great satisfaction from Pacific Crane's achievements. "It's rewarding when your customer needs a piece of equipment repaired and you and your company are the ones who can repair it. It's great to know you were able to get the equipment up and running so the container boxes continue to move and ships are unloaded," he says. "You watch the trade come in and out of the harbor ... and you know you're part of that trade's movement."

At home Joe enjoys his family. He and Laura met at San Pedro High School and have been married for 40 years. They devote themselves to their five grandchildren (ranging in age from 7 to 21), attending their sports events and various performances.

The Gregorios first came to appreciate Torrance Memorial Medical Center when their son Robert, then a senior running back at Palos Verdes High School, broke his ankle during a game. They rushed him to Torrance

High school sweethearts Joe and Laura Gregorio remain steadfast in their dedication to family, health, business and Torrance Memorial.

PATRON PROFILE



PHOTOGRAPHED BY VANESSA BETANCOURT

Top Row - Left to Right - Kyle Clinton, Jennifer Clinton, Laura Gregorio, Joe Gregorio, Danielle Gregorio, Joe Gregorio. Front Row - Left to Right - Robert Gregorio, Lauren Gulan, Joey Gregorio, Courtney Clinton, Joshua Gregorio, Cooper Clinton, Mackenzie Gregorio, Justine Gregorio, Andrew Gregorio

Memorial. At that time, executive vice president Laura Schenasi was also a part of the Palos Verdes High School family, and with her help Robert was able to move swiftly through the emergency room at Torrance Memorial. Thanks to her care and concern, the Gregorios decided to explore the opportunity of joining the Patrons program and soon after became members of the Torrance Memorial family.

"We've gotten all our kids to become Patrons as well," Laura notes. "It is an outstanding community hospital," says Joe. "I've been in other community hospitals, and there's no comparison. They have good physicians and good administrators, and it's just a fabulous place."

But Joe didn't always have positive associations with hospitals. When his dad went to a community hospital years ago for an angiogram, it was one of the first performed at that location. Joe's dad had an allergic reaction to the dye used for the procedure and died almost instantly. He was 46.

An autopsy showed he had coronary artery disease, so Joe resolved to watch his own health. He took matters into his own hands, going for regular tests with his Torrance Memorial cardiologist, Benjamin Rosin, MD.

After Dr. Rosin retired, Christopher Matchison, MD, took over Joe's care.

Joe underwent annual treadmill tests, EKGs and blood tests, all of which he passed for 33 years. But there was one test he declined: an angiogram.

In April 2018, Joe felt some stronger than normal indigestion. An endoscopy test showed no problems. But when the indigestion soon returned, Dr. Matchison insisted Joe undergo an angiogram. He and Joe's primary physician, Lawrence Sher, MD, of Palos Verdes Medical Group, assured Joe that what happened to his father would not happen to him.

"Within a minute of starting the angiogram, they told me, 'You're not leaving here. You need to be admitted to the hospital and you will need surgery,'" Joe recalls.

Joe had severe blockages in three arteries that left little more than a hair's breadth for blood to circulate. He would need coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) surgery—an open-heart procedure using healthy arteries from his chest to create new pathways around the blockages. A heart-lung machine would pump his blood while his heart was stopped during the procedure.

Joe was shocked. Although he knew before

"You spend a lot of time with family. Sometimes you get along, and sometimes you don't. But for the most part we all enjoy what we do and look forward to doing it each day. We do what it takes to get the work done," Joe says.

“IT IS AN OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY HOSPITAL,” SAYS JOE. “I’VE BEEN IN OTHER COMMUNITY HOSPITALS, AND THERE’S NO COMPARISON. THEY HAVE GOOD PHYSICIANS AND GOOD ADMINISTRATORS, AND IT’S JUST A FABULOUS PLACE.”

undergoing the angiogram that it might reveal coronary artery disease, he didn’t really believe he would need open- heart surgery—a prospect that had haunted him since his father’s passing 33 years earlier.

Over the next 24 hours, Joe asked many questions about his surgery and his postsurgical care. Both Dr. Matchison and surgeon Jack Sun, MD, answered all of Joe’s and his family’s questions.

Another constant figure was Laura Schenasi, who reassured Joe and his family and addressed all their questions and concerns. Although this made the family comfortable and helped relax Joe a bit, he was still not comfortable with the idea of undergoing open-heart surgery. He was determined to “fix” the situation another way, as he does with the machines he maintains.

Joe asked Dr. Sun and Dr. Matchison if he could just get a few stents inserted instead of having the CABG surgery. They explained why that would not be a good idea and described why surgery made the most sense.

Still, Joe resisted. Dr. Sun and Dr. Matchison then

consulted with Michael Wyman, MD—a heart surgeon operating at Torrance Memorial for years and one of only a handful of surgeons in the world specializing in stenting completely blocked arteries. He agreed with the other two physicians, and the three assured Joe that the CABG surgery was his best option.

Just two days after his fateful angiogram, Joe faced his biggest fear and underwent CABG surgery with Dr. Sun and his team. The procedure was a success, allowing Joe to return to his CEO duties and, more importantly, return to his family with a second chance at life.

He has since adopted a regular workout routine consisting of 30 to 60 minutes of cardio daily and lifting weights three times a week. Joe feels better now than he did before the procedure. “I have more energy, and I no longer need asthma or blood pressure medications,” he says.

“The staff was fantastic, and my care was off the charts,” Joe continues. “Dr. Sun and Dr. Matchison explained everything thoroughly and were really on their game. They looked in on me and so did some of my other Torrance Memorial physicians. Many have become my friends. I can’t speak highly enough about them.”

Joe mentioned others who were important to him and his successful operation: Anthony Rasic, MD, his anesthesiologists and his friend Dottie Rudinica (who also works in cardiology). Dr. Rasic helped him recover after his surgery, checking on him frequently before Joe was discharged and making himself available for any concerns after Joe returned home from the hospital.

The anesthesiologists who worked with Joe were calm and confident, which helped him relax. Dottie constantly checked on Joe and ensured he was comfortable pre- and post-op. She reassured him he was in the best hands possible with Dr. Sun.

All involved had an extremely positive impact on Joe’s experience, making the operation and his recovery. He recalls that when he was told he needed open-heart surgery, he wondered if having it done at a community hospital was the best choice.

Joe asked, “Am I in the right place?” His doctors assured him he was, and Joe agrees. “If I ever were to get into medical troubles anywhere else, I’d do whatever I could to get myself back to Torrance Memorial.”

Joe and Laura credit the Lundquist Lurie Cardiovascular Institute for saving his life. To express their gratitude, the couple hosted a dinner at their Rolling Hills home in February to raise funds for the Institute. •

Joe and Laura enjoy participating in their five grandchildren’s various performances and school and sporting events.



PHOTOGRAPHED BY VANESSA BETANCOURT



Joe and Rita Meistrell

A WIN-WIN FOR EVERYONE

Local couple's retirement plan includes gift to benefit Torrance Memorial.

WRITTEN BY TABITHA HOGUE | PHOTOGRAPHED BY DEIDRE DAVIDSON

South Bay natives Joe and Rita Meistrell have been married for 48 years and love to go on adventures. From trips to Catalina Island to forays further afield—everything from grizzly bear watching in Alaska to admiring glaciers in Antarctica—the Meistrells are happiest when they're exploring life together.

"Joe is my best friend as well as my husband," Rita says. She states that approaching life with a sense of humor has helped them get through rough times.

The couple have had full and rewarding careers, with Joe spending just under 35 years (and going on about 2,000 SCUBA

dives) working for the Sanitation Districts of L.A. County. When he retired in 2005, he was serving as the supervising environmental scientist in charge of monitoring the waters off Palos Verdes.

Meanwhile, Rita worked for 33 years for The Aerospace Corporation after falling in love with computer programming, which appealed to her logical and puzzle-solving side. Her team developed "real-time" spacecraft simulations for the U.S. Air Force. Now in retirement, the Meistrells enjoy spending more time with their son and grandchildren.

As they thought about retirement plans, the couple wanted to have a plan in place to

give them a secure retirement while at the same time benefit their community. Over the years they had positive experiences with Torrance Memorial, both personally and secondhand. Rita had major surgery at the hospital in 1971, and Joe's mother and sister both had long illnesses requiring multiple stays there. "We always felt they were given excellent care," Joe recalls.

He and Rita own several rental properties in the area, and when a longtime tenant moved out last year, they decided to explore creating a charitable remainder trust (CRT) to benefit the hospital.

"Basically it came down to a choice between selling the property and giving a large amount of the proceeds to the government for capital gains tax and reinvest the remainder, or donate the property to Torrance Memorial as a CRT and receive both a tax credit and income from the invested proceeds until our deaths—after which the hospital gets the remainder," Joe says. "The idea of the hospital (which has provided such good health care to the community) benefiting from our hard work was much more appealing than letting the funds slip away into some anonymous government program."

Torrance Memorial's Professional Advisory Council members Eric Harris and Stuart Tsujimoto also had a hand in helping the gift come to fruition. "Eric, as an attorney, set up the trust for us," Joe says, "and Stuart is the financial investment manager for the funds within the trust."

The Meistrells came to realize creating a charitable remainder trust was a win-win for everyone. "It's a win for us because in addition to eliminating the tax consequences on the sale of the rental property, it replaced the income we were receiving from the rent," Rita notes. "And it also provides us with a tax credit."

"The hospital wins because upon our deaths they receive the remainder of the funds," Joe shares. "The community wins because it helps Torrance Memorial remain one of the top hospitals in the country." •

REVERSING YOUR MINDSET

WRITTEN BY KAREN PRYOR

Retirement. We spend years planning for it, yet it's still surprising how quickly it arrives. Have we saved enough? How long will we be able to live on our own? What if the market takes a downturn the year we retire?



Karen Pryor,
Priority
Lending
Group, Inc.

Henry, age 65, lived in his mortgage-free home and was working part-time. He was eager to retire, but the advice of his financial advisor was to wait until age 68 to begin taking his Social Security. With a reverse mortgage, Henry was able to “bridge the time gap” with a three-year monthly term payment (non-taxable as loan proceeds) close to the amount of his Social Security. He was able to fully retire and leave the remaining funds in a growing line of credit as added security in the form of an emergency fund.

WHAT IS A REVERSE MORTGAGE?

It is a loan for homeowners 62+ that allows them to access a portion of their home's equity, using the home as collateral. The homeowner is required to keep all property charges (taxes, insurance, HOA dues, etc.) current. The loan generally does not have to be repaid until the last borrower no longer occupies the home as their primary residence. At that time, heirs must refinance the loan (if they want to keep the home) or sell the home to pay it off. All remaining equity will pass to the heirs and most importantly, there is no personal liability if the home sells for less than the loan balance.

HOW DOES A REVERSE MORTGAGE WORK?

Although jumbo reverse mortgages are now available, the most common reverse is the FHA Home Equity Conversion Mortgage (HECM), which has been around since 1988. This product is available with both fixed and adjustable rates, but it is the adjustable rate version researchers found most compelling. Why? Because of the payout options, specifically the line of credit (LOC) feature. It comes with a guaranteed growth factor: The unused funds on the line of credit grow at the same rate as the note rate, and the LOC grows regardless of the value of the home.

Let's say you're 65 years old and have paid off your home, now worth \$765,000. You could qualify for a reverse mortgage up to \$389,000 (after costs). If you left those funds on

the LOC, that balance would grow. At the end of 10 years, it would be worth approximately \$576,000.

HOW COULD A REVERSE MORTGAGE HELP YOUR RETIREMENT?

As noted in Henry's story, it might bridge the gap before you begin Social Security, or it might supplement your retirement portfolio by providing the money to fund a grandchild's education or continue charitable donations to Torrance Memorial. The loan money could also be used as an emergency fund, providing a greater sense of security and allowing you to retire with more confidence.

How does that help to protect your portfolio? According to Barry Sacks, a retired pension attorney who has published research on reverse mortgages, retirees should follow a simple formula: If the market goes up, use the retirement account for income; if the market goes down, use the reverse mortgage.

IS A REVERSE MORTGAGE RIGHT FOR YOU?

Studies by the American College of Financial Services (educates and certifies financial planners) showed reverse mortgages as a good tool to extend retirement assets. It is not the right choice for everyone, however. If you're planning on moving soon, the costs on an FHA HECM can be prohibitive. A home equity line of credit could be a better option for short-term needs. It also may not be right for you if the home needs to remain mortgage-free for a family member. Understanding how a reverse mortgage might work for you is the key to making the right decision for your retirement plan, so consulting with your financial advisor is a good idea. •

Karen Pryor is the broker and owner of Priority Lending Group, Inc. located in Torrance, specializing in reverse mortgage financing and the strategic use of housing wealth. Karen is also a member of the Torrance Memorial Professional Advisory Council. NMLS #167985/CA DRE #01170541, karen@prioritylending.com, 310-753-1924

A FORCE FOR GOOD

South Bay couple believes in heroic philanthropy.

WRITTEN BY TABITHA HOGUE | PHOTOGRAPHED BY SIRI BERTING

For Steven and Khryste Griswold, giving back to their community through volunteer service and philanthropy has become a way of life. Last year Steve was honored as the volunteer of the year by the Palos Verdes Peninsula Chamber of Commerce. He helps at a number of organizations, including the Cancer Support Community in Redondo Beach where he serves as a board member.

Steve and Khryste are both members of Torrance Memorial's Young Professionals and Physicians Alliance (YPPA), a social group with just over 125 members that is organized around raising awareness of the hospital's services. YPPA also alerts the community to particular needs of the hospital and ways people can help meet those needs.

Steve and Khryste are among the professionals in the group. Steve serves as president of Griswold & Griswold Insurance Agency, and Khryste works as a home care liaison at Home Care Assistance in Palos Verdes. Griswold & Griswold has strong ties to the health care community, as it provides insurance to about 700 doctors in the area. Khryste's job involves working with patients and their families, so joining YPPA to support the hospital was a natural fit for the couple.

The Griswolds say they enjoy the opportunities YPPA provides to get

to know professionals and physicians in the area.

"They have really compelling events—they're always fun, interesting and different," Steve says. "It doesn't feel just like business networking events; they're more like community events."

YPPA is also a great way for the Griswolds to support the work of Torrance Memorial. "There's so much good that's created out of the hospital," Khryste says, noting she visited the hospital once as a patient when she broke her ankle playing roller derby.

"Torrance Memorial is one of the leading health care institutions in L.A.," Steve notes. "The high quality of care, the resources and the technology it offers—it's important to foster those high standards."

Steve's dedication to supporting high standards also shines through in his work at Griswold & Griswold. There he has worked to build a solutions-focused company dedicated to helping everyone, including clients who are in distress or who have difficult risk profiles.

His company's website has a fun "superhero" theme, which depicts Steve and each of his team members in comic book hero fashion—each with their own superhero title and specialty.

"I've always been a comic book geek, so it's kind of come full circle for



Khryste and
Steve Griswold



me,” Steve says. “It’s like picking something from my childhood and living it. I don’t think I have any one favorite superhero but Superman has always been the iconic superhero—the one I grew up admiring. He represented justice and integrity.”

Khryste’s job deals with everyday heroes: the patients and their families who are dealing with aging or health crises and learning to face them with patience and courage.

“I’m in a special position of supporting the needs of seniors with a positive, empowering approach to aging that celebrates independence, dignity and quality of life,” Khryste says. “It’s rewarding seeing my clients getting better when they have someone there just for them. And sometimes it involves seeing them transition through end of life. While that’s a hard experience, there’s something in being able to provide peace to the family and peace to that person at the end of life that is important and special.”

Previously, she founded and operated Baby Cakes Baking Company, which gave her other opportunities to give back by partnering with various nonprofits in the area like the Education Foundation and Walk with Sally, which provides mentoring for children and families impacted by cancer. Khryste is also a founding member and chair of the Los Angeles chapter of Star Legacy Foundation, which provides education, supports research and advocacy, and raises awareness regarding pregnancy loss and neonatal death.

Khryste and Steven’s first son, William, was stillborn on January 27, 2016; they dedicate this work in his honor.

While staying busy with their careers, Steve and Khryste are also raising their 18-month-old son, Ryūkō. Even at this early stage in his life, they are setting an example for him to understand true heroism just involves doing something good to help those around you.

“Any time you come to the aid of another, you’re being a hero,” Steve says. We may be indirectly saving lives, but by helping the community do their best for everybody involved, I’d definitely consider it heroic.” •



18-month-old Ryūkō flies through the air with the support of his own superhero: his father, Steve.

It’s always play time at the Griswold home.



Expert cardiac care

TORRANCE MEMORIAL AND CEDARS-SINAI'S AFFILIATION BRINGS MORE EXPERT CARDIOLOGY CARE TO THE SOUTH BAY. More access to cardiac specialists and programs located within Torrance Memorial. More patient benefits from innovative cardiology research and the latest advancements in cardiac treatments. More expert care for our patients and the South Bay. Learn more at MoreCardiacExperts.org

Left to right: Cedars-Sinai Smidt Heart Institute: Aamir Shah, MD, Aziz Ghaly, MD, Joanna Chikwe, MD;
Torrance Memorial Lundquist Lurie Cardiovascular Institute: Victoria Shin, MD, Mark Lurie, MD.

A group of five medical professionals, three men and two women, are standing in a bright, modern hospital hallway. They are all wearing white lab coats. The man on the far left has a name tag that reads "Alex Koh, MD, Endovascular Surgery" and a Cedars-Sinai logo. The woman next to him has a name tag that reads "Torrance Memorial" and a Cedars-Sinai logo. The man in the center has a name tag that reads "Cedars-Sinai". The woman next to him has a name tag that reads "Torrance Memorial" and a Cedars-Sinai logo. The woman on the far right has a name tag that reads "Cedars-Sinai". The hallway has large windows on the left and a bright light source in the distance.

just got more experts.



TORRANCE MEMORIAL
A CEDARS-SINAI AFFILIATE



Roxanne and Ramin Mirhashemi, MD, share a love of wine in their impressive cellar and happily make time to support Torrance Memorial's Ambassadors program.

AMBASSADORS TO THE COMMUNITY

Torrance Memorial Ambassadors share what moves them.

WRITTEN BY TABITHA HOGUE | PHOTOGRAPHED BY VINCENT RIOS

Ramin and Roxanne Mirhashemi have their hands full between work and community involvement in the South Bay. Dr. Ramin Mirhashemi is an experienced gynecological oncologist at Torrance Memorial, working

with patients suffering from various types of gynecological cancers. His wife, Roxanne, is a local attorney who regularly donates meals to the Los Angeles Downtown Women's Center and also co-chairs Torrance Memorial's fashion

show at the hospital's annual Holiday Festival.

The choice to support Torrance Memorial as members of the Ambassador program was easy. Roxanne says her respect and enthusiasm for the hospital is what prompted her to become an

Ambassador. “I know in our community, for my friends who live in the Beach Cities, any time they need any kind of medical help I feel very confident recommending Torrance Memorial for critical health treatment,” she says.

Torrance Memorial’s Ambassadors program was established more than 40 years ago as an annual giving program for physicians, community members and volunteers to support the hospital financially. Their giving supports the Lundquist Lurie Cardiovascular Institute, the Hunt Cancer Institute, the Lundquist Neurosciences Institute, and the Orthopedic and Spine Institute. Throughout the year, Ambassadors socialize and enjoy exclusive cocktail and dinner parties, an annual women’s luncheon, wine tastings and a hospital update from president, CEO Craig Leach.

Roxanne says she really enjoys meeting other women in the community through the Ambassadors program, as well as meeting appreciative patients who have had a great experience with their treatment at the hospital. Serving as co-chair for the fashion show is another way for her to show her support. “It’s been amazing being a part of that—and my fourth year participating,” she says.

Roxanne also enjoys giving back to the community in other ways, including supporting the Manhattan Beach Education Foundation and providing meals for the women at the Downtown Women’s Center, which provides shelter and food for homeless women. Donating meals to the center

was a tradition she started years ago with her younger daughter, Emma.

Dr. Mirhashemi is glad to be practicing at Torrance Memorial, saying he has been impressed by the vision CEO Craig Leach has for the hospital and the high standards he has fostered. “I’ve been all over the country—in academic centers and in private hospitals—and Torrance Memorial is the top-quality community hospital I’ve ever been associated with. The quality of care here is just above and beyond.”

Dr. Mirhashemi has promoted improved quality of care at Torrance Memorial through advocating for the purchase of a da Vinci robotic surgical system. Torrance Memorial was the first hospital in the area to get the da Vinci system, and the hospital now owns two—allowing doctors to perform less invasive surgeries with quicker recovery time. Dr. Mirhashemi has performed more than 3,200 surgeries using the robotic system.

His many years of surgical experience have included an interest in furthering the field through research. He has co-authored more than 60 articles in medical journals and enjoys expanding his medical knowledge.

Although he enjoys the technical side of the job, Dr. Mirhashemi says the most rewarding thing about being a physician in his specialty is helping his patients. “I think the field of cancer is one where you actually can make a big difference in someone’s life, whether it’s curing their cancer or helping them through the dying process.” •



FROM SURGERY TO HITTING THE SLOPES

In his spare time, Dr. Mirhashemi loves to go skiing with his wife and two daughters, who both attend college out of state. It is a passion that began in his youth. “We grew up on skis,” he says. “We’ve been skiing, both my brother and I, since we were 5 years old.”

He says his parents were avid skiers who took their children skiing at resorts around the world, in North America and Europe, and continued the tradition after they immigrated from Iran to California. As an adult, Ramin skied at various resorts with his wife and kids, but eventually the regular resort ski slopes were starting to lose their appeal. He was hungry for greater adventure, so he turned to helicopter skiing, or heli-skiing, which involves being flown out to ski in a remote spot in the mountains not accessible via a ski lift.

“It’s mostly deep powder skiing,” Roxanne says. “You have to be an expert to do that.”

Dr. Mirhashemi says skiing is his one passion, and his heli-skiing trips in the mountains of British Columbia are something he looks forward to all year. Asked if he’s a thrill-seeker, he laughs and says, “A little bit ... maybe just a tiny bit.”

BE YOUR OWN HERO BREAST CANCER AWARENESS EVENT

In late October, 68 guests gathered in celebration of female wellness, strength and empowerment in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness. Encouraging women to Be Your Own Hero, the event was hosted by Torrance Memorial and the Young Physicians and Professionals Alliance at Barsha Wines & Spirits in Manhattan Beach. Guests enjoyed a complimentary rosé tasting and light appetizers. Torrance Memorial's Melanie Friedlander, MD, Lisa Jewell, MD, Sarina Pai, DO, and Rashaan Ali-Jones, MD, spoke about the diagnostic and preventive care provided at Torrance Memorial's Polak Breast Diagnostic Center. They also shared personal and inspiring journeys about treatment and comprehensive care patients received through Hunt Cancer Institute.

PHOTOS BY PHILICIA ENDELMAN



1. Dr. Lisa Jewell, Barbara Willett, Stephanie Wiles 2. Antonia Carpenter, Kelly Thornsgaard 3. Emily Macias, Erin Fiorito 4. Dr. Melanie Friedlander, Dr. Lisa Jewell, Dr. Rashaan Ali-Jones, Dr. Sarina Pai 5. Sandy VandenBerge, Nancy Lean, Evelyn Calip, Tiffani Zanelli

AMBASSADORS SIP 'N SUNSET

Raising funds for cardiology and cancer

Torrance Memorial Ambassadors, an annual giving program of the Foundation, gathered at the home of Jackie and Greg Geiger to learn how their donations are supporting lifesaving work in cardiology and cancer. Guests heard Dr. Mark Lurie, medical director of the Lundquist Lurie Cardiovascular Institute, discuss Torrance Memorial's partnership with Cedars-Sinai and how it offers the most advanced cardiac care in the region. President/CEO Craig Leach shared his excitement for the December 16 opening of the Hunt Cancer Center and what it will mean for the community.

PHOTOS BY DEIDRE DAVIDSON



1. Dr. Mark Lurie, Judith Gassner 2. Pat Lucy, Rich Lucy, Dr. Barry Wolston 3. Mary Jo Unatin, Peggy Reich
4. Greg Geiger, Jackie Geiger 5. David Buxton, George Brandt, Ann Buxton, Diana Brandt

MOVEMBER PINTS FOR PROSTATES

On Veteran's Day, November 11, 2019, 200 guests attended Movember Pints for Prostates event with beer tastings and food from the newly opened Brews Hall at Del Amo. Urologist Dr. Lawrence Flechner and primary care physician Dr. Keith Chumley spoke of the leading causes of death among men, the importance of early detection, prevention and encouragement to lead a healthy lifestyle. Prostate cancer survivor John Sparks shared his personal journey and thanked his cancer care team at Torrance Memorial and his wife, who were all devoted to his care and recovery. More than \$2,870 was raised for the Movember Foundation, which supports prostate and testicular cancer and mental health issues. The well-attended event was sponsored by the Zislis Group. PHOTOS BY DEIDRE DAVIDSON



1. Dr. Lawrence Flechner, Cancer Survivor John Sparks, Dr. Keith Chumley 2. Sean Lucy, Rich Lucy 3. Sam Sheth, Kay Sheth 4. Dr. Brian Miura, Brandy Van Zitter, Sophia Neveu 5. Joseph Bufano, Michael Zislis 6. Dave Klein, Brad Baker, Patrick Theodora

LIGHT UP A LIFE

Torrance Memorial Hospice hosted the 24th annual Light Up a Life tree lighting ceremony on November 17, 2019, to honor National Hospice and Palliative Care Month. Along with a food-and-wine reception, guests were treated to the sounds of American operatic tenor Dennis McNeil, the Los Cancioneros Master Chorale and members of Palos Verdes Peninsula High School Orchestra. Through the event, the community acknowledged and celebrated the memories of the lives of lost loved ones. The ceremony includes a name-reading, during which lights for each individual are illuminated on a holiday tree. Those names are then inscribed on a scroll of remembrance and displayed with the tree in the hospital's West Tower lobby throughout the holiday season. The event supports Torrance Memorial's Hospice programs and assists those who cannot afford care. For information or to make a donation call 310-517-4694 or visit TorranceMemorial.org/hospice.

PHOTOS BY DEIDRE DAVIDSON



1. Front: David Peters, Christi McCaverty, Oliva Licea, Tenzin Kiyosaki
Back: San Pedro City Ballet Angels 2. Front: Cheryl Oshiro, Dr. Sherlene Jay-Jung, Nicole Cha Back: Rey Rey Rivera, Nicholas Lu, Dr. Alice Diego-Malit, Francesca Malit, Katrin Cohen, Taylor Rivera 3. Sue Morgan, Christi McCaverty, Sterling Bentley, Saundra Cramer, Iona Matson (Volunteers) 4. Los Cancioneros Master Chorale 5. Name-reading ceremony

HUNT CANCER CENTER DONOR OPEN HOUSE

On November 6, nearly 200 invited guests celebrated with docent-led tours of the Donald and Priscilla Hunt Cancer Center, which officially opened to its first patients on December 16. The event celebrated and acknowledged the generous donations from the Donald and Priscilla Hunt family, Jake and Betty Belin, David and Barbara Bentley, and Francesca and Doug Deaver. The formal program closed with a ceremonial ribbon-cutting led by Priscilla Hunt in honor of her family's generous donations to support cancer care efforts.

PHOTOS BY DEIDRE DAVIDSON





1. Dr. Mark Lurie, Barbara Deming-Lurie, Craig Leach 2. Back: Roger Oriel, Dorie Prestridge, Ralph Moore, Paul Prestridge, Luming Dulay, Ralph Simmons, Saxon Nowotka, Brenda Nowotka, Ryan Moore, Ped Dulay; Front: Trini Foliente, Priscilla Hunt, Susan Moore 3. Phyllis Scribe, René Scribe 4. Dr. Hugo Hool, Dr. Mark Lurie, Craig Leach, Priscilla Hunt, Dr. Dan Theodorescu, Dr. David Chan, Shelly Smith, Dr. Thomas Simko 5. Gail Long, Dick Meyer, Pat Carlson, Patty Herman 6. Carole Hoffman, Dr. Heidi Hoffman, Roxanne Ellison, Bruce Ellison 7. Russ Varon, Michael Rouse 8. Front: Sigrid Allman, Sterling Bentley Back: Song Klein, Barbara Bentley, Ralph Allman 9. Lisa Noski, Chuck Noski, Dave Klein, Song Klein, Rich Lucy, Pat Lucy

IN YOUR COMMUNITY

HUNT CANCER CENTER COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE

More than 500 Torrance Memorial employees and community members enjoyed a tour and celebrated the near completion of the Donald and Priscilla Hunt Cancer Center on November 9, 2019. The Hunt Cancer Center is a 38,000-square-foot facility, designed to consolidate and strengthen cancer care treatments and services in the South Bay to one location, in a patient-centered environment.

PHOTOS BY DEIDRE DAVIDSON



1. LA Salsa Women Soccer Club members
2. Dr. Andrew Horodner, Dr. Thomas Lowe, Brian Lee, Heidi Assigal, Dr. David Chan, Dr. Vanessa Dickey, Dr. Swati Sikaria, Dr. Syed Jilani
3. CEO and president Craig Leach, Dr. David Chan, Barbara LeQuire, Mary Wright, Judy Leach
4. Barbara LeQuire, Heidi Assigal, Chris Rogers, Kelly Rogers, Mary Wright
5. Kristal Quinto sharing important mental health services offered at the Center
6. Community members lining up to take a tour of the center

HUNT CANCER CENTER PHYSICIANS OPEN HOUSE

On November 19, physicians of Torrance Memorial Medical Center were invited to celebrate the long-awaited opening of the Donald and Priscilla Hunt Cancer Center, which opened to its first patients on December 16. The center is now home to the Torrance Memorial Physicians Network Cancer Care group, including its infusion center.

PHOTOS BY DEIDRE DAVIDSON



1. Craig Leach, Priscilla Hunt, Dr. Thomas Simko 2. Front: Dr. Tom Lowe, Jessica Gunderson, NP, Dr. Swati Sikaria, Dr. Andrew Horodner, Dr. Vanessa Dickey, Susan Starr, NP, Dr. Syed Jilani; Back: Dr. Hugo Hool, Dr. David Chan 3. Dr. Rich Krauthamer, Dr. Vinh Cam 4. Dr. Melanie Friedlander, Dr. Thomas Simko, Dr. Aileen Takashi 5. Dr. Omer Deen, Dr. Minh Nguyen, Dr. Daniel Cho, Dr. Syed Jilani, Dr. Deren Sinkowitz, Dr. Brian Miura 6. Dr. Mel Snyder, Janice Snyder, Dr. David Chan, Dr. Jeremy Rudnick

HOLIDAY FESTIVAL FASHION SHOW

A sold-out, high-fashion runway show kicked off festivities at the 36th annual Holiday Festival on December 3. The show featured couture fashions by David Tupaz, personal designer to Priscilla Hunt. More than 700 guests attended the event under the "big white tent" on the medical center's grounds. All funds raised supported the new Hunt Cancer Center.

PHOTOS BY DEIDRE DAVIDSON



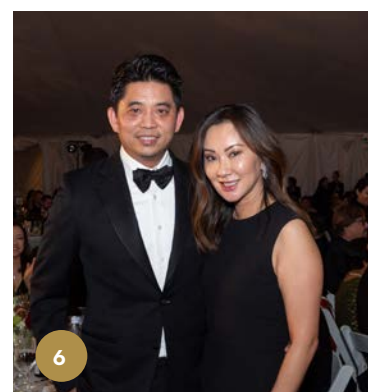


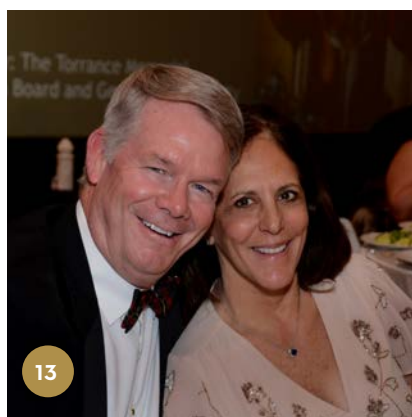
1. Dr. Barbara Schultz, Teri Young, Ayne Baker **2.** MaryJo Unatin, Dr. Elizabeth Paul, Judith Gassner, Debbie Talosi **3.** Valerie Punzel, Elena Bates, Cindy Wight, Sheryl Cook **4.** Front: Sophie Zikois, Harriet Bailiss-Sustarsic, Wendy Klarik, Ann Zimmerman, Erika Rosenberg Back: Nina Kirkendall, Vicky Mar, Angela Furkioti, Christy Abraham, Paula Thomas, Melissa Orr, Gina Quatrone **5.** Joy Theodora, Roxanne Mirhashemi, Linda Perry, Allison Mayer **6.** Sally Eberhard, Judy Leach **7.** Front: Heather Kline, Jennifer Brown, Deena Ruth, Maureen Hawke Back: Marilyn MacLeod, Melanie MacLean, Lisa Cheatham, Song Klein, Kande Hall, Amanda Paren, Dianne Hawke, Lorraine Ouye **8.** Jay Madore, Priscilla Hunt, Brett Ellis **9.** Terry Holm, Phyllis Spierer **10.** Carolyn Snyder, Bev George **11.** Jean O'Dell, Janice Petrosino, Linda Smith, Bonnie Medina, Celeste Crandell, Barbara Smith

HOLIDAY FESTIVAL GALA 2019

Torrance Memorial Medical Center celebrated its 36th annual Holiday Festival by raising close to \$1.7 million dollars through event ticket sales, a Lexus opportunity drawing, holiday boutique sales, themed decorated tree sales, live and silent auctions and donation pledges. More than 720 guests attended the sold-out dinner gala event. All funds raised support the new Hunt Cancer Center, a facility that consolidates Torrance Memorial's cancer care and services into one location and hosts research in partnership with Cedars-Sinai. The center opened December 16.

PHOTOGRAPHED BY DEIDRE DAVIDSON & CLARK MCNULTY





1. Alan Goldstein, Ronnie Goldstein 2. Dr. Andrew Sheng, Eunice Sheng, Connie Lai, Dr. Jeff Lai 3. Chiaoyi Lin, Frank Lin, Debbie Kao, Dan Tseng, Karen Chuang, Dr. Chan Chuang, Stephanie Chiang, Dr. Dean Chiang 4. Linda Vallee, Allison Mayer, Randy Dauchot, Ellen Smith, Kathy Goldstein 5. Christina Pavesi, Phil Pavesi 6. Jason Yang, Sandy Yang 7. Kelli Hallett, Melissa Weinberg, Tricia Campbell, Dr. Patti Panucci, Russ Varon 8. Jackie Geiger, Greg Geiger 9. Dr. Norman Panitch, Robin Panitch, Carolyn Snyder 10. Kelli Hallett, Dean Hallett 11. Stephanie Chiang, Debbie Kao, Sandy Yang, Karen Chuang, Chiao-Yi Chen, Serena Ngan, Jessica Tsai 12. Diane Landon, Mark Landon 13. Steve Lopes, Helaine Lopes 14. Richard Lundquist, Michael Zislis, Craig Leach

HOLIDAY FESTIVAL GALA 2019

Continued

15. Carol Wharton, Jim Collings, Desiree Collings, Celina Platon **16.** Kay Sheth, Sam Sheth, Judith Gassner, Bharti Sheth, Michael Zislis, Andrea Zislis **17.** Front: Regina Finnegan, Andy Livian; Middle: Dave Klein, Song Klein, Janice Tecimer, Tori Schladen; Back: Timur Tecimer, Kirk Johnson, Tracy Livian, Dan Finnegan, Kathy Johnson **18.** Tom O'Hern, Lori O'Hern **19.** Dr. Alex Shen, Allyson Shen **20.** Richard Umbrell, Liz Umbrell **21.** Dr. George So, Sam Sim, Liu Wentao, Dr. Jackelyn Lee, Sandy Huang, Laura Schenasi, Carol Xia, Monica Sim, Summer Xia, Jason Huang, James Duan **22.** Dolly Rouse, Mark Rouse **23.** Dr. Anna Mellor, Eric Mellor **24.** London Theodora, Brianna Theodora, Jaden Theodora, Pat Theodora, Ellen Theodora, Carol Marcil, Jerry Marcil, Cami Evans, Don Evans **25.** Dr. Ramin Mirhashemi, Dr. Aileen Takashi, Dr. Charles Spenler **26.** Front: Edwin Raquel, Lani Raquel, Priscilla Hunt, Dr. Michael Newman, Brenda Nowotka Back: Stella Velasco, Wes Kauble, Zach Steeber, Melissa Steeber, Sara Moore, Ryan Moore, Saxon Nowotka

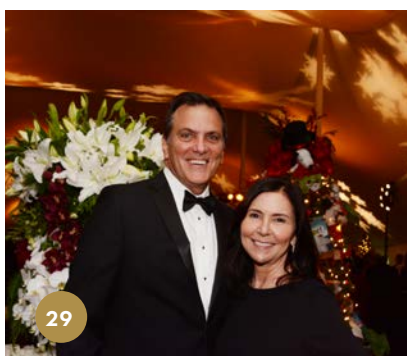




HOLIDAY FESTIVAL GALA 2019

Continued

27. Val Adlam, Chris Adlam **28.** Greg Popovich, Adriana Popovich, Carole Hoffman, Louise Koch, Sharon Soo Beshke, C.J. Beshke **29.** Peter Weinstein, Dr. Tracy Bercu **30.** Albro Lundy, Kelly Boyle, Gary Nelson, Julie Nelson **31.** Wade Welch, Susan Welch, Dr. Thyra Endicott, Jonathan Chute **32.** Dr. Gaurav Banka, Dr. Ram Reddy, Dr. Ankush Chhabra, Dr. Mark Lurie, Dr. Aziz Ghaly, Derek Berz, Dr. Brenton Bauer **33.** David McKinnie, Joe Hohm **34.** Front: Dr. Kalpana Hool, Dr. Hugo Hool, Dr. Tom Lowe, Melody Lowe Back: Dr. Andrew Horodner, Dr. David Chan, Susan Chan, Dr. Syed Jilani, Dr. Vanessa Dickey, Bill Ruiz, Janet McElroy **35.** Brent Enright, Erin Enright, Audra Platz **36.** Dr. Anthony Chen, Dr. David Chan, Susan Chan, Heidi Assigal, Jennifer Chen, Gerhard Eberhart **37.** Jason Huang, John Ngan, Sam Sim, Summer Xia Back: Sandy Huang, Monica Sim, Dr. Jacklyn So, Serena Ngan, Michael Zislis, Dr. George So, Carol Xia **38.** Front: Jack Baker, Cindy Harvey, Dean Dennis Back: Ayne Baker, Rich Harvey, Michele Dennis, Teri Young, Rob Young **39.** Dr. Heidi Hoffman, Erin Hoffman







HOLIDAY FESTIVAL GALA 2019

Continued

40. Front: Steve Lopes, Dr. Mark Lurie, Melanie Lundquist
Back: Judy Leach, Carla Zanino, Barbara Demming Lurie, Craig Leach, Walt Zanino, Richard Lundquist

41. Front: Mary Morikawa, Steve Morikawa, Kacey Takashima, Danny Ahn
Back: Karin Baker, Brigid Dupree, Andrew Swensen, Katie Swensen **42.** Cindy Campbell

43. Front: Mayor Pat Furey, Terry Furey
Back: Vanessa Snyder, Casey Snyder, Carolyn Snyder **44.** Kathleen Krauthamer, Dr. Donny Baek, Dr. George So, Dr. Richard Krauthamer, Evalyn Baek



YPPA CELEBRATES 1920s-STYLE AT THE FIFTH ANNUAL CASINO NIGHT

The Young Physicians and Professionals Alliance (YPPA) hosted its fifth annual Casino Night fundraiser at the Torrance Memorial Hoffman Health Conference Center on Saturday, February 1, 2020. Guests came dressed in 1920s attire in celebration of the decade Torrance Memorial admitted its first patient. With cocktails from Neft Vodka, guests enjoyed blackjack, craps, roulette, poker, and live music. Event proceeds support Torrance Memorial Medical Center's Eating Disorder Program medical unit. For more information on membership and upcoming events, visit TorranceMemorial.org/YPPA.

PHOTOS BY CLARK MCNULTY



1. John Gragg, Alex Gray, Teri Dart, Kevin Fujimoto 2. Diane Islava, Anitra Bornheimer, Doug Laurin, Dr. Elisa Anhalt, Kevin Templeton, Rob Islava, George Bornheimer 3. Jeff Kern, Sophia Neveu 4. Colleen McKinnell, Dr. Jamie McKinnell 5. Beatriz Villa, Cody Charnell, Anthony Walker, Meg Walker, Dr. Sarah Wohn, Susie Corpus 6. Sharon Strauss, Scott Sutherland, Suzanne Sharer, Bob McDaniel

LUNDQUIST LURIE CARDIOVASCULAR INSTITUTE “BE A HEART HERO”

Torrance Memorial Foundation kicked off its 2020 fundraising campaign supporting Torrance Memorial Lundquist Lurie Cardiovascular Institute with an exclusive dinner at the home of Laura and Joe Gregorio on February 29. With the spectacular twinkling lights of the Port of Los Angeles as the backdrop, donors enjoyed an al fresco dinner, cocktails and live music. Drs. Mark Lurie, Christopher Matchison, Aziz Ghaly and Michael Wyman described the advanced cardiac care provided at Torrance Memorial, enhanced through its affiliation with Cedars-Sinai which is ranked #3 in the nation for heart surgery. The campaign is off to a great start with \$4.4 million raised, and Melanie and Richard Lundquist closed the evening by thanking all the donors for supporting this Institute established with their initial \$10 million gift in 2013.

PHOTOS BY DEIDRE DAVIDSON



1. Diane Ziering, Dr. Mark Lurie **2.** Dr. Christopher Matchison, Lauren Matchison, Dr. Aziz Ghaly, Cathi Wyman, Dr. Mark Wyman **3.** Phil Pavesi, Christina Pavesi, Dr. Heidi Hoffman, Carole Hoffman, Dr. Mark Lurie, Michael Rouse **4.** Laura Gregorio, Joe Gregorio, Carla Zanino, Walt Zanino **5.** Song Klein, Pat Theodora, Ellen Theodora, Greg Geiger **6.** Alan Ghaleb, Dr. Cindy Williams **7.** Kyle Clinton, Lauren Gulan, Robert Gregorio, Laura Gregorio, Joe Gregorio, Jen Gregorio Clinton, Justine Gregorio, Andrew Gregorio **8.** Dr. Mark Lurie, Richard Lundquist, Melanie Lundquist, Jack Baker, Dr. Aziz Ghaly **9.** Judy Leach, Brenda Nowotka, Priscilla Hunt, Craig Leach



TORRANCE MEMORIAL WOULD LIKE TO GIVE SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR MANY SUPPORTERS

GIFTS FROM SEPTEMBER 1, 2019 TO FEBRUARY 29, 2020

\$3,000,000

Stuart C. Kern*

\$2,000,000

Patricia and Gerald Turpanjian

\$1,000,000+

American Honda Motor Co., Inc.
Billee and John† Gogian
Melanie and Richard Lundquist
Serena and John Ngan

\$500,000+

Ruth Anne Pearce and Allen Alpay
Betty and Jake Belin
Marie Campbell*
Kim and Eric Belcher
Priscilla Hunt
Norris Foundation

\$200,000+

Sheri and Casey Dodge
Laura and Joe Gregorio
Aida Hillway
Jody and Eric Jonsson
Serena and John Padian
John D. Parks
Ellen and Patrick Theodora -
DocMagic
Torrance Memorial Auxiliary

\$100,000+

Renate and Steve A'Hearn
Colleen and Jamie McKinnell, MD
Ellen and Mike Rosenberg
Darla Valliant and Jack Feldman
Stephanie Enright and Family

\$50,000+

Dorothy and John Bohannon
Sandy and Tom Cobb
Francesca and Doug Deaver
Dottie and Larry Delpit/
Diane Ziering
Sam and Rose Feng
Cynthia and Joe Giacomini
Caren and Jordan Libit
Carol and Karl McMillen
Oarsmen Foundation
Lavonne Rodstein
Lee and May Su
James Yukevich
Frances and Stanley Zee

\$25,000+

Ayne and Jack Baker
Peggy and Wayne Bemis, DDS
Anita and Bill Bronstein
Melanie and John Bronstein
Marie and Jim Campbell
Cindy and Paul Campbell
Tracey and Ronald Cloud
Portia and Andrew Cohen
Nancy and Roy Cootes
Farima and Joseph Czyzyk
Employee Ambassador Program
Noelle and Paul Giuliano
Joanna and Paul Giuliano
Ronnie and Alan Goldstein
Robert Y. Greenberg
Kelli and Dean Hallett
Lisa and Lowell Hill
Sandy and Jason Huang
Karen and Christopher Hutchison
Integrated Digital Solutions, Inc.

Rick Leacock

Darius Irani
Steven Koch
Robert Koch
Lisa and Greg Levine
Janis Adams and John Lyons
Kate and Neil Malik
Christie and John Mavredakis
Dorothy Mayer
Laurie and Thomas McCarthy
Lynn and David McGowan
Liz and Bill Messori
Doris and Gregory Morton
Linda and John Muckel
Nina Ritter
Judith and Sherrill Sipes
Srisamon and Peter Tansavatdi
Valerie and Nick Tell
Deborah and Tom Thomas
Torrance Memorial Medical Staff
Liz and Rich Umbrell
Marcela and John Vanhara
Russell Varon
Cengiz Volkan
Carol A. Wharton

\$15,000+

Nadine and Ty Bobit
Karen and Chan Chuang, MD
COR Healthcare Medical Associates
Lisa and Steven Hansen
Patricia and David Hempel
Carole Hoffman
Ronna and Robert Katz
Keenan Healthcare
Kinecta Federal Credit Union
Nixon Peabody LLP
Lori and Tom O'Hern

Borseen Oushana

Lore and Marv Patrick
Larry K. Prutch
Beatrice and Al Sheng
Kay and Sam Sheth
Simplehuman - Sandy and Frank
Yang
Janice and Timur Tecimer
Phila and Louie Tuccinardi

\$10,000+

Christy and Jay Abraham
Sandy and Tim Armour
Jamie Franco and Neil Bhayani, MD
County of Los Angeles 4th District
Supervisor Janice Hahn
Diana Cutler
Jeff Gausepohl
Kathleen and Rich Goldstein
Gary Hunter
Judy and Parnelli Jones
Judy and Craig Leach
Marilyn and Ian MacLeod
Kirsten Wagner, DDS, and
Richard Rounsaville, DDS
Dolly and Mark Rouse
Patricia Sacks, MD
Elaine and David Scott, MD
Phyllis and René Scribe
Roselle and George Shaw Trust
Kay and Sam Sheth
Thelma and Phil Steinberg
Jan and Ian Teague
Linda and Robert Vallee - Project
Worldwide
Cynthia Williams, MD
Teri and Rob Young
Ann and Gary Zimmerman

\$5,000+

Ann and David Buxton
Susan and David Chan, MD
Kathleen Crane and
The Honorable Milan Smith
Sandra and Joel Damiani
Randy and Luke Dauchot
EMCOR Service/
Mesa Energy Systems
Thyra Endicott, MD, and
Jonathan Chute
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