

City Council Citizen Development
and Enrichment Committee
West Annex Commission Meeting Room
Torrance, California

Members of the Committee:

**SUBJECT: Community Services – Torrance Rose Float Association Request for Funding
of the 2015 Rose Parade Float**

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

The City of Torrance first participated in the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade in 1914, then again in 1947 and 1948, and has continuously participated in the parade since 1958. Historically, the City funded Torrance's entry in the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade. For many years, the City's contribution toward the float was \$80,000, with the Torrance Rose Float Association (TRFA) assisting with an additional annual contribution of \$10,000. In 2006, to offset increased costs incurred by the float builder, City Council approved an additional \$45,000 toward the float. In 2007, Council approved an additional \$3,000. And in 2008, Council approved an additional \$4,000 toward the 2009 float. This brought the City's contribution toward the float to \$132,000. Coupled with the \$10,000 contribution from the TRFA, the total costs for the 2009-2011 floats was \$142,000. In 2011, the TRFA voted to contribute an additional \$20,000 toward the 2012 Centennial-themed float, bringing their total contribution to \$30,000; the total cost of that float was \$162,000.

Due to City's budgetary constraints, the 2012 float was the last that the City agreed to commit major funding for. In 2012, Ace Clearwater Enterprises (Gary and Kellie Johnson) made a donation of \$75,000 toward the 2013 float. They later added \$10,000, bringing their total contribution to \$85,000. The TRFA made a contribution as well and the City of Torrance contributed \$17,500.

In 2013, in celebration of their Torrance birthplace and their 50th anniversary, the American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO) donated \$100,000 toward the 2014 float. Ace Clearwater Enterprises donated \$10,000. The TRFA made a contribution as well and the City of Torrance added \$20,000. The TRFA covers all costs for Decorating Week – bus transportation, lunches, etc. in addition to paying the Parade Entry Fee. For the last several years, the float builder has been Fiesta Parade Floats (Tim Estes, President). The City of Torrance and the TRFA have been highly satisfied with the work they have provided. The Torrance floats have won many awards over the years.

2015 Rose Parade Float

Upon receiving the news that the theme of the 2015 Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade was 'Inspiring Stories', the Torrance Rose Float Association agreed that it would be appropriate to honor Torrance hometown hero, Louis Zamperini. Mr. Zamperini was subsequently announced as the Grand Marshal of the Parade. Louis Zamperini passed away in July of this year, but will be represented by his family in the parade according to parade organizers.

The TRFA has continued with their fundraising campaign, and while they have achieved some success, no major sponsor has been identified to date. On August 11, 2014, TRFA Vice-President Georgean Griswold delivered a letter to Mayor Furey and members of the City Council, requesting \$150,000 to fund the 2015 float. On August 19, 2014, Mayor Furey referred the matter of funding the 2015 float to the City Council Citizen Development and Enrichment Committee. On August 25, 2014,

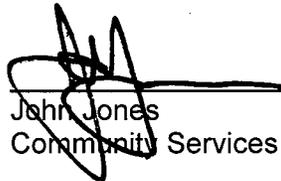
TRFA President Roseanne Villalobos indicated that the true actual amount being requested from the City to fund the float is a maximum of \$99,000. TRFA President Roseanne Villalobos has indicated that per Tim Estes, President of Fiesta Parade Floats, the cost to build the Louis Zamperini-themed float is \$150,000. The current TRFA Treasurer's Report and float design are included as attachments in this item. The total cost of the float is \$150,000, and TRFA currently has approximately \$44,000 in their account and anticipate additional donations through fundraisers per President Rosanne Villalobos. In addition, TRFA covers all costs for Decorating Week – bus transportation, lunches, etc needs to be factored in as an additional expense. Fiesta Parade Floats requires \$25,000 by September 15, 2014, \$35,000 before November 1, 2014, \$40,000 before December 15, 2014 and \$40,000 before January 31, 2015. TRFA has already made a payment of \$10,000 to Fiesta Parade Floats upon execution of the agreement.

Staff has learned that the City of Olean, New York, the birthplace of Louis Zamperini, recently dedicated a monument honoring Mr. Zamperini. The article was shared with TRFA and staff recommended that TRFA reach out to the City of Olean to seek potential sponsorship partnership since the 2015 Rose Parade float will be honoring Louis Zamperini. The article from the Olean Times Herald is attached with this item.

RECOMMENDATION

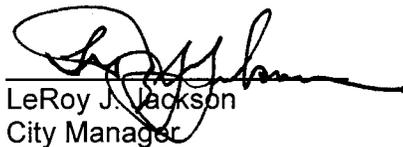
The Community Services Director is requesting the CD & E Committee to review the request by the Torrance Rose Float Association and provide direction to staff. Funding for a Rose Parade Float was not budgeted and would require reallocating existing funds should the City Council wish to fund. If the Committee votes to recommend funding of the 2015 Rose Parade Float, staff will prepare an item for City Council consideration. The 2013-15 Operating Budget was approved with \$20,000 in one-time funding for the float. These funds were contingency funds to cover shortfalls caused by cost over runs or shortfalls in donations. The City Council may consider using these funds and year end carryover funds to fund the 2015 float but then would not have funds "budgeted" funds available for any budgetary shortfall. If City Council considers long term funding, further discussion will be required to address funding as part of the May budget process and also require budget offsets.

Respectfully submitted,



John Jones
Community Services Director

CONCUR:



LeRoy J. Jackson
City Manager

Attachments:

- A) Letter dated August 11, 2014 from TRFA to Mayor Furey and Council Members
- B) Letter dated August 25, 2014 from TRFA President Roseanne Villalobos
- C) 2015 Rose Parade Float Design
- D) August 1, 2014 TRFA Treasurer's Report
- E) Fiesta Float Invoice
- F) Float Construction Agreement
- G) Olean Times Herald article regarding the Louis Zamperini Monument Dedication

Torrance Rose Float Association

3031 Torrance Boulevard, Torrance, CA 90509-2970 • 310/618-2930

August 11, 2014

Torrance City Council
3031 Torrance Boulevard
Torrance, CA 9053

Mayor Furey and Council Members,

When the Pasadena Tournament of Roses announced in January the theme for the January 1, 2015 Parade was to be "Inspiring Stories" the Torrance Rose Float Association, (TRFA), knew the City of Torrance's 61st Parade float would honor LOUIS ZAMPERINI. Louie was asked, and he enthusiastically approved. We locked-in a design with the Tournament even before he was announced as the 2015 Grand Marshal in May, thus ensuring an "exclusive" in the Parade.

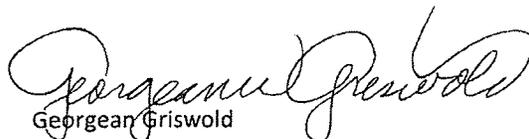
We located three very strong potential sponsors. However, after negotiations, none was able to commit for the 2015 float. We are still aggressively working to find a sponsor, but our time is short as we are now in the construction phase, timing wise.

It would be heartbreaking and embarrassing if we fail to enter Louie's City of Torrance float.

Therefore, the TRFA is respectfully asking the City to consider funding the 2015 City of Torrance float. \$150,000 is needed. The TRFA will continue to aggressively seek funds and will pay for all costs associated with running the program.

Thank you for your consideration. We anxiously await your reply.

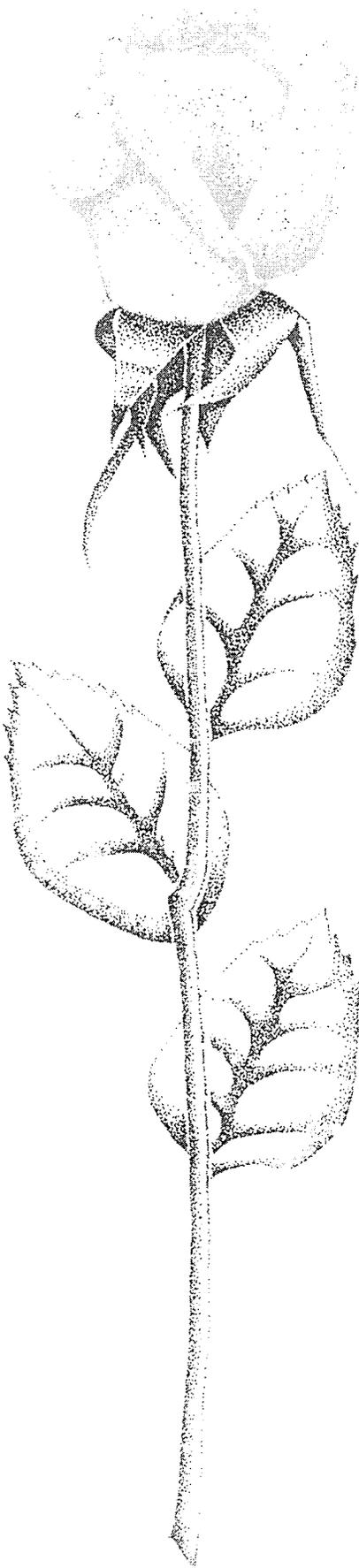
Respectfully,

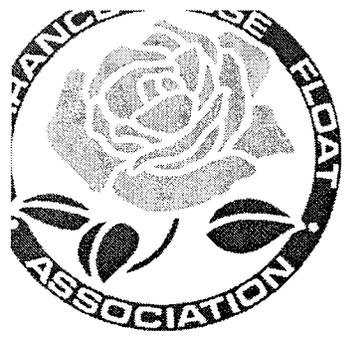


Georgeann Griswold
Vice President

Home phone: (310) 373-2634

CC: Leroy Jackson, City Manager
John Jones, Community Services Director





August 25, 2014

The cost of the Torrance Rose Float is 15,000.00 plus 5,000 to Tournament of Roses; The Torrance Rose Float Association (TRFA) has already made the following payments of 5,000 to the Tournament of Roses entry fee (non-refundable) and a 10,000.00 payment to Fiesta Parade Floats.

Below is the payment schedule as noted in the agreement with Fiesta Parade Floats.

TORRANCE shall pay FIESTA the total sum of \$150,000.00, which shall be payable as follows:

1. \$10,000.00 upon execution of this AGREEMENT; (Paid)
2. \$25,000.00 on or before September 15, 2014 at which time the main construction shall commence;
3. \$35,000.00 on or before November 1, 2014 at which time all construction shall be completed;
4. \$40,000.00 on or before December 15, 2014 at which time the float will be in a ready to decorate state.
5. \$40,000.00 on or before January 31, 2015.

The TRFA is looking for help with a 140,000.00 or less, the attached Treasurer's report reflects a balance of 35,635.67 in checking and 5,804.84 saving. We will need to use money from the saving for decorating week to pay for bus transportation, lunches and snacks for decorators (5 days) and supplies. Please keep in mind we do ask for donations for lunch and drinks and snacks.

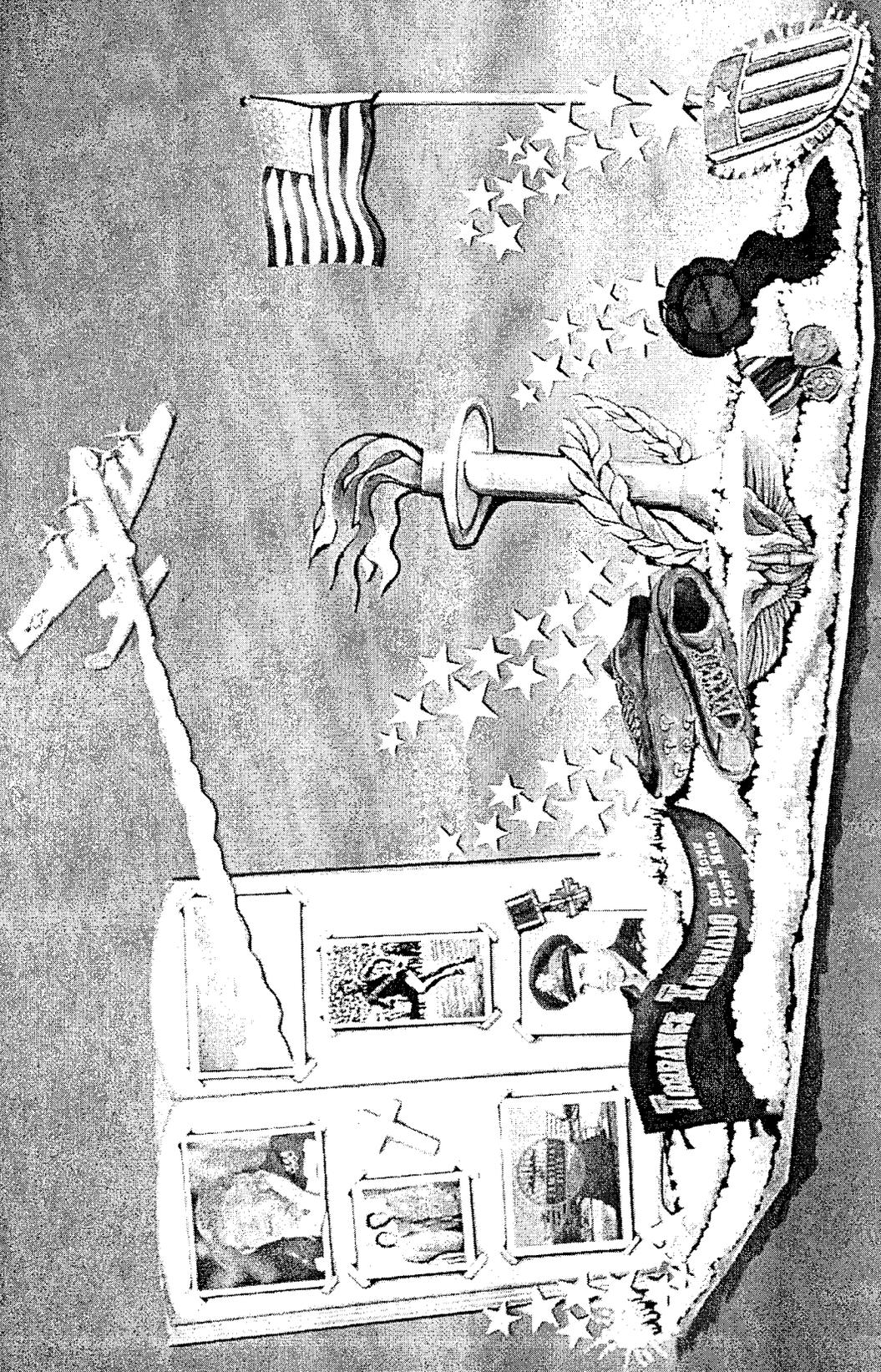
Currently we have 35,635.00 and not recorded 6,000.00 donations and an estimate of 2,500.00 Aug 22-23 fundraiser not recorded. We will receive more money as it gets closer to the end of the year. We still have an expected income of our memberships, (2,000.00 estimation) and Rose vials (2,000.00 estimation).

Below is an estimation of payments to Fiesta

Payment to Fiesta		
150,000.00		Cost of 2015 Float
	(10,000.00)	First payment from TRFA (Paid)
140,000.00		
	35,635.00	Current saving
	6,000.00	Donation (not recorded on treasurer report)
	2,500.00	Estimate from Aug 23 Fundraiser
	4,000.00	Estimate membership and rose vials
92,000.00		
		Less additional fundraising

Looking forward to discussing the possibilities with the Citizen Development & Enrichment Standing Committee.

Thank You
Roseanne Villalobos
President
Torrance Rose Float Association



**LOUIS ZAMPERINI
A RACE WELL RUN**

CITY OF TORRANCE

Torrance Rose Float Association
Treasurer's Report
August 2014

Checking Account Opening Balance August 1, 2014	\$ 35,635.67
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Accounts Receivable		
Donations	\$ 8,350.00	
Membership	\$ 325.00	
Promotion Items	\$ 22.00	
Rest for Roses (California Pizza Kitchen)	\$ 194.52	
Rose Vials	\$ 640.00	
20 for 2015	\$ 320.00	
Yard Sale	\$ 3,944.50	
Total	\$ 13,796.02	\$ 13,796.02
		\$ 49,431.69

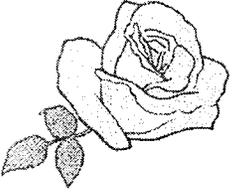
Accounts Payable		
Georgean for Floral Arrngement for Zamperini Ck 2241	\$100.55	
Fiesta Floats Ck 2239	\$10,000.00	
Georgean for AYSO Trophy Picture Ck 2240	\$183.50	
Total	\$10,284.05	

Checks Cleared		
Torrance Credit Union Fee	\$ 5.00	
Ck# 2237 Registry of Charitable Trusts	\$ 50.00	
Ck #2239 Fiesta Parade Floats0.	\$ 10,000.00	
Ck #2240 Georgean Griswold- Trophy Picture	\$ 183.50	
Ck#2241 Georgean Griswold- Flowers for Zampeini Memorial	\$ 100.55	
TOTAL	\$ 10,339.05	\$ 10,339.05
		\$ 39,092.64

ACCOUNT BALANCES AS OF August 31, 2014		
Balance Checking Account	\$ 39,092.64	
Balance Savings Account	\$ 5,805.33	
Total Funds Available	\$ 44,897.97	

Respectfully Submitted,

Bev Findley
TRFA Treasurer



FIESTA

PARADE FLOATS

INVOICE # TRFA-1501

Date - July 15, 2014

Bill To:

Torrance Rose Float Association
Attn - Roseanne Villalobos
3031 Torrance Blvd.
Torrance, CA 90503

Remit To:

Fiesta Parade Floats
Attn - Tim Estes
P. O. Box 5417
Pasadena, CA 91117-0417

Description:	Amount
Per Float Construction Agreement for 2015 Rose Parade Section IV.A.1. - \$10,000.00 upon execution of this Agreement	\$10,000.00
Payment #1 of 5	

Thank You for doing Business with Fiesta Parade Floats
Federal Tax ID # 95-4155611

0 - 30 days	31 - 60 days	61 - 90 days	> 90 days	Total Due
\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00

P.O. BOX 5417 PASADENA, CA 91117-0417 PHONE 626-610-0974 FAX 626-610-0978

FLOAT CONSTRUCTION AGREEMENT

THIS FLOAT CONSTRUCTION **AGREEMENT**, made this ___ day of July, 2014 between FIESTA PARADE FLOATS, a California corporation, whose mailing address is P O Box 5417, Pasadena, California, 91117-0417, hereinafter called **FIESTA**, and the Torrance Rose Float Association, c/o Roseanne Villalobos, President, whose mailing address is 3031 Torrance Blvd., Torrance, California, 90503, hereinafter called **TORRANCE**.

THAT FOR, valuable consideration the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, IT IS AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

I. SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED BY **FIESTA**

A. **FIESTA** shall create, construct and supervise the decoration of a float for **TORRANCE**.

1. To be entered in the 2015 Tournament of Roses Parade ("**PARADE**") to be held in the City of Pasadena, California on January 1, 2015.

2. In accordance with;

a. The designs, sketches and specifications to be submitted to and approved by **TORRANCE** and,

b. The instructions of the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Association ("**ToFR**") for floats to be entered in the **PARADE**.

B. **FIESTA** shall furnish and provide.

1. All equipment, material and labor required to construct said float;

2. A float Decoration Supervisor to oversee the decoration of the float by a Decoration Crew supplied by **TORRANCE**.

3. Two capable and qualified drivers for said float on the day of the **PARADE**.

4. Any personnel required to guide the float to and in the **PARADE**.
 5. Storage location during the construction of the float in order that **TORRANCE** may review the construction and progress of the float at any time during business hours prior to the commencement of the **PARADE**.
- C. Materials used in the float.
1. Materials used in the construction of the float shall be supplied by and shall remain the property of **FIESTA**. Other than what is supplied by **TORRANCE**, if acceptable to **FIESTA**, **FIESTA** shall determine the materials that will be used to construct and decorate the float.
 2. Any materials and decorations supplied by **TORRANCE** shall remain the property of and shall be returned to **TORRANCE** unless other arrangements are made and agreed to by **TORRANCE**.
- D. Operation of the float during and after the **PARADE**.
1. **FIESTA** shall place the completed float in the **PARADE**, operate it in the **PARADE** and place it in the Post Parade exhibition area set aside for this purpose.
 2. **FIESTA** shall abide by all rules, regulations, requirements and instructions of the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Association for floats entered in the **PARADE**.
 3. **FIESTA** shall assume full responsibility for and control of the operation of said float before, during and after the **PARADE**.

II. SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE FLOAT

- A. The design, sketches, specifications and the dimensions of the subject float shall be submitted to **TORRANCE** by

FIESTA for approval and same are hereby incorporated herein by this reference as though set forth in full.

- B. The float title, "pending" shall appear in letters at least six inches high so as to be clearly legible to the viewing audience and television. The name "CITY OF TORRANCE" shall appear on the float in letters approximately six inches high so as to be clearly legible to the viewing audience and television.
- C. Any additional desired signage and/or desired logo(s) requested by **TORRANCE** to be on the float must meet the requirements of the **TofR** and approved by the **TofR**. **TORRANCE** understands that **FIESTA** cannot guarantee approval of the additional desired signage and/or logo(s) by the **TofR** and is not responsible should any additional desired signage and/or logo(s) not be approved by the **TofR**.

III. FLOAT DESIGN RELEASE

With respect to the selected design, by virtue of this signed **AGREEMENT**, **TORRANCE** understands that the right to reproduce the selected final float design shall belong to **FIESTA** and that any reproduction of the design has to be cleared by **FIESTA**, except for the following:

- A. For any nonprofit advertisement of the float that promotes **TORRANCE**, its sponsors, **FIESTA** or the **PARADE**.
- B. For any novelty item, in which the novelty item sales are used to promote **TORRANCE** and/or to assist **TORRANCE** in raising monies to pay for the float, related costs for the float, or as a donation to any nonprofit organization.

IV. PERFORMANCE BY TORRANCE

- A. **TORRANCE** shall pay **FIESTA** the total sum of \$150,000.00, which shall be payable as follows:
 - 1. \$10,000.00 upon execution of this **AGREEMENT**;
 - 2. \$25,000.00 on or before September 15, 2014 at which time the main construction shall commence;

3. \$35,000.00 on or before November 1, 2014 at which time all construction shall be completed;
 4. \$40,000.00 on or before December 15, 2014 at which time the float will be in a ready to decorate state.
 5. \$40,000.00 on or before January 31, 2015.
- B. **FIESTA** understands that **TORRANCE** will provide a Decoration Crew to decorate the float and said Decorators shall be coordinated with **FIESTA**. It is understood by **TORRANCE** that any and all Decorators supplied shall be able to perform the necessary tasks required for a Decorator.
- C. **TORRANCE** acknowledges and agrees that it shall be solely responsible for and shall pay the **TofR** entrance fee for the **PARADE**, which is separate from the amounts set forth in Section A above. Failure to pay the required entrance fee will not excuse any performance by **TORRANCE** due under this **AGREEMENT**.
- D. Proper costuming of personnel and/or float riders supplied by **TORRANCE**, shall be the responsibility of **TORRANCE**.
- E. **TORRANCE** acknowledges that there are rules and regulations regarding the **PARADE** and the participation therein. If any fines, penalties and/or judgments are made by the **TofR** regarding the **TORRANCE** float and/or **TORRANCE** participation due to negligent actions by **TORRANCE**, then such fines, penalties and/or judgments shall be solely incurred and/or paid for by **TORRANCE**. **TORRANCE** shall not be responsible, however, for any fines, penalties and/or judgments made by the **TofR** resulting from the failure of **FIESTA** to follow or advise **TORRANCE** of any rules regarding participation in the **PARADE**.

V. FAILURE OF PERFORMANCE

- A. In the event that completion and/or participation of the float is prevented by an act of God, war, fire not attributable to failure to employ reasonable precautions by **FIESTA**, or any other unforeseen cause beyond the control of **FIESTA**, **FIESTA** shall immediately cease work on the float and shall be entitled to reimbursement of ten percent (10%) of the contract price plus any and all Actual Expenses incurred prior to the notice to cease or the cessation of the work.
- B. "Actual Expenses" shall include, but not limited to, the amount shown on invoices for the cost of materials, sub-contract parts, designer fee and/or labor costs. In the event that such actual expenses are less than the amount paid to **FIESTA** on the date of cessation of work, **FIESTA** hereby agrees to refund the difference to **TORRANCE**.
- C. Difficulties experienced by **FIESTA** in obtaining material, equipment and labor shall not be considered as valid excuses for non-performance.

VI. WITHDRAWAL BY SPONSOR

In the event that **TORRANCE** should instruct or cause **FIESTA** not to complete the float or not to drive it in the **PARADE**, it is recognized that **FIESTA** can only construct a certain number of floats and in agreeing to construct the float for **TORRANCE**, it must reject the opportunity to construct other floats, and further that it is important to **FIESTA's** business to have the opportunity to display it's work in the **PARADE**, the exact amount of which would be extremely difficult and impractical to fix. It is therefore agreed that if such instruction or causing be given prior to September 15, 2014, the maximum amount owed to **FIESTA** would be \$10,000.00. If after September 15, 2014, if such instructions or causing be given, **FIESTA** is entitled to be paid its full contract price.

VII. TIME OF THE ESSENCE

It is stipulated by the parties hereto that time is of the essence and that the completed float shall be ready to be placed in the **PARADE** and shall participate therein.

VIII. INSURANCE

- A. FIRE; **FIESTA** shall obtain and maintain a policy of insurance covering loss or damage to the float by fire and so-called all risks, in an amount of no less than \$150,000.00, with loss payable to **TORRANCE** or **FIESTA** as their interest may appear.
- B. WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION; **FIESTA** shall carry said insurance in an amount adequate to cover all employees supplied by **FIESTA**, concerned with the construction and the operation of said float. Any personnel, decorators and/or float riders supplied by **TORRANCE** shall be the responsibility of **TORRANCE**.
- C. PUBLIC LIABILITY & PROPERTY DAMAGE; **FIESTA** agrees to carry said insurance during entire period of creation, operation and exhibition of said float as follows:
1. General Liability coverage not less than \$1,000,000.00 combined single limit per occurrence and in the aggregate for bodily injury and property damage.
 2. Excess following form General Liability coverage of \$4,000,000.00 per occurrence and in the aggregate for bodily injury and property damage.
 3. **TORRANCE** named as additional insured under said policies along with the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Association and the City of Pasadena.
- D. **FIESTA**: agrees to have the insurance company writing such insurance's as listed above issue certificates of insurance to **TORRANCE**.

IX. RELATIONSHIPS

The performance of **FIESTA**'s service herein under shall be in the capacity of an independent contractor and not as an officer, agent, or employee of **TORRANCE**.

X. EFFECTIVE DATE

The effective date of this **AGREEMENT** shall be the date of execution by **TORRANCE**.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this **AGREEMENT** to be executed this ___ day of July, 2014.

FIESTA PARADE FLOATS

TORRANCE ROSE FLOAT ASSOCIATION

BY: _____
Timothy W. Estes
President

BY: _____
Roseanne Villalobos
President

Zamperini monument dedicated

By Kate Day Sager Olean Times Herald | Posted: Sunday, August 24, 2014 9:00 am

OLEAN — “I hope mothers, fathers, teachers and all other responsible citizens bring their children here, sit on this bench and read the words on Louie’s monument ... and never forget that freedom is not free,” Jim Bardenett said during the Louis Zamperini Memorial dedication on Saturday.

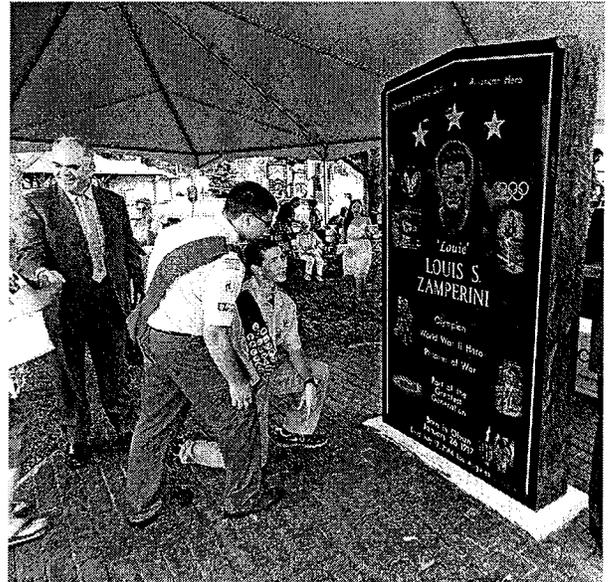
A monument that honors Mr. Zamperini, a native of Olean, was unveiled in front of a couple of hundred people at War Veterans Park at East State and Front streets. Mr. Bardenett, who headed up an ad-hoc committee to collect community donations for the project and construct the monument, also organized the ceremony. The entire project was put in motion by Olean resident Fred Eade who first suggested that the community needed to honor its native son.

Mr. Zamperini, who died in July at the age of 97, was an Olympic long-distance runner, a World War II hero and inspirational speaker. His story of survival during 47 days on a raft in the sea, several years of brutality in Japanese prison camps and his ability to forgive his enemies through his Christian experience were chronicled in the best-selling Laura Hillenbrand book “Unbroken, A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption.”

Mr. Zamperini’s story will be featured in the upcoming Universal Pictures film “Unbroken” directed by Angelina Jolie and expected to be released later this year, on Christmas Day.

The event Saturday included speeches by elected officials and military honors by the 914th Airlift Wing Color Guard and three-volley salute by the Allegany American Legion Charles Harbel Post 892 Honor Guard and Firing Party.

“This (monument) is a connect, or better yet, a reconnection of Louie to our community because he hasn’t been here for many years,” Mr. Bardenett said in referring to Mr. Zamperini’s move from Olean as a toddler. He said connections Mr. Zamperini kept with the community, however,



Zamperini monument

Boy Scouts Alex Kruse (left) and Louis Mehmel look at the Louis Zamperini monument in War Veterans Park following Saturday’s memorial dedication to the locally-born Olympian and veteran.

were through people like Mr. Bardenett's grandmother — who was Mr. Zamperini's godmother — and Toots Weitzel, whose son Mark Weitzel lives in the area.

Speakers included U.S. Rep. Tom Reed, R-Corning, who said Mr. Zamperini was the true definition of an American hero. He said Mr. Zamperini's biggest successes came after his hardest challenges in life, such as post-traumatic stress disorder and alcoholism.

"He went to a revival with Billy Graham as the preacher and he listened to the word of God," Mr. Reed said. "He took back the lessons of that experience and lived his life in an even greater way."

State Assemblyman Joseph Giglio, R-Gowanda, gave one of the more touching tributes during the afternoon. He admitted that while reading the book "Unbroken" he was moved to tears.

"The more I read it, the more I cried," Mr. Giglio said. "As you read that book you understand what they went through and why they're called the 'Greatest Generation.'"

He further noted that "Louie's message to us is there is still tyranny out there. The young kids who go fight the wars today are the same kids who fought in World War II, they're no different."

In his presentation, Olean Mayor Bill Aiello said the community was proud to call Mr. Zamperini one of its own.

"Olean was Louie Zamperini's birthplace, his Bethlehem," Mayor Aiello stated. "Olean was his first breath, his first sight, his first sounds, his first words, his first step."

Mayor Aiello said Mr. Zamperini was of a different class of heroes, because most heroes are created from sudden, frightening situations.

"We celebrate Louie Zamperini this day because his whole life, start to finish, 97 years, was one long heroic saga," he observed.

Mark Williams, Cattaraugus County Commander of the American Legion, spoke next.

He said Mr. Zamperini's life was one full of contradictions, with his early years bent on mischief.

"It's interesting, Mayor Bill (Aiello) being a juvenile officer for a lot of his career, and myself as public defender; in another day and age Louis Zamperini would have been well-known to both of us," Mr. Williams said. He noted Mr. Zamperini didn't succumb to the difficulties in his life, however, and turned his life around, time and time again.

"Instead we are here honoring his man who overcame insurmountable circumstances," he said.

Others who participated in the event included The Rev. Gregory Dobson who provided the invocation and benediction; the Forrest Rosell Rider Captains with the Patriot Guard Riders of New York; Bob Fairbanks who played "Taps;" and patriotic tunes by the Bent Brass Band. Also

recognized were Eagle Scout Alex Kruse and Olean Troop 617, as well as Eagle Scout Tyler Davis of the Bolivar, who provided landscaping at the monument.

(Contact reporter Kate Day Sager at kates_th@yahoo.com)