

\$5000 Marijuana Garden Found in South Torrance

SAILOR HELD AFTER AUTO HITS OFFICER, HURLS HIM 52 FEET

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12

32 PAGES



(Herald Photo)

NEW QUEEN HOPEFUL . . . Shirlee Garner is the latest entry in the race to succeed Sandra Constance as "Miss Torrance." Miss Garner is sponsored in the event by the Torrance Mounted Police.

Torrance Herald Special Features

The State of California this week ordered traffic on Pacific Coast Hwy. slowed down to 45 miles per hour. For details, see story on Page 22.

Churches	25
Clubs	9-10-11
Criswell	18
Editorials	18
Gardens-Plaza	20
Hollywood Riviera	3
John Morley	18
Narbonne Notes	23
North Torrance Tattler	32
Sacramento Report	19
Seaside Heights	4
Society	9-10-11
Sports	6-7
Tartar Teen Talk	5
Walteria News Notes	22
Want Ads—Classified	28-31

Anyone Need Train Track?

The city will advertise for bids on a franchise allowing National Supply Co. to maintain and operate railroad tracks in Torrance in two or three weeks, according to City Attorney James Hall.

But the only bidder will be National Supply Co. itself.

The National Supply franchise to maintain their railroad tracks across certain Torrance streets, originally issued to Union Tool Co., expired in 1944 and was not renewed, according to City Ordinance No. 67.

National Supply officials learned of this situation through a small article which appeared in THE HERALD in April, under the heading "It's The Law," quoting the ordinance.

They investigated and found that their franchise actually had run out and that they were operating their supply trains over "unfranchised tracks." But there is not expected to be much opposition to the Company's bid for the franchise—after all, who needs railroad tracks?

Parking Meter Ordinance Gets Final City Approval

Police Harvest Marijuana Crop After Stakeout

A south Torrance marijuana rancher lost his crop here yesterday morning when two police officers harvested his plants which were given a maturity value exceeding \$5000.

Pulling up the carefully cultivated crop which was growing amidst a heavy natural growth area south of the Pacific Coast Hwy. on Crenshaw Blvd. was Police Sgt. D. C. Cook and his partner Gus Rethwisch.

The two had been staked out on the briar-patch garden for several hours following an anonymous tip that the man growing the stuff would be back in a few minutes to water his crop.

Evidence of careful watering was found at the scene, Sgt. Cook said. The grower, however, didn't show up.

County Board To Continue Basin Tests

The Los Angeles County Flood Control District will continue its efforts in the Manhattan Beach project for the stemming of sea water intrusion in the West Basin, Supervisor Burton W. Chace has announced.

Acting on Chace's motion, the Board of Supervisors unanimously approved "continuing the project under the direction of the Flood Control District until June 1, 1955."

The project, which to date has exceeded all expectations according to Col. Harold Hedger, Chief Engineer of the Flood Control District, is being carried on by the County with the cooperation of the State of California and the municipalities in the West Basin.

The project, Chace said, is being carefully watched by cities of the entire Coastal area who face similar problems of salt water intrusion into their fresh water supplies.

REPORTER SIFTS GIRLS INTO THREE CONTESTS

There's no shortage of prospective royalty in the Torrance area this summer.

Thus far, 32 lovely girls are vying for the title of "Queen" in three different queen contests with prizes ranging from a trip to Mexico City to corsages and free dinners.

In order to straighten out the confusion engendered by the three contests, a HERALD reporter this week sifted through the maze of bathing suits, prizes, sponsors and proud mothers, and came up with the following information, which is broken down into essentials:

The three contests are to choose:

- a) Miss Torrance of 1954.
- b) The Queen of the Torrance Community Fair.
- c) The Queen of the Walteria-Pacific Hills area.

The Walteria-Pacific Hills DATE—July 16. Queens will be judged by audience at Civic Auditorium. Doors open at 7:30 p.m.

July 22—Coronation Ball, Civic Auditorium. Doors open 9 p.m.

SPONSOR—Pacific Hills Home-owners Association.

PRIZES—Trophy, formal gown, portable radio, course in charm, corsage, free dinner.

ENTRIES—Gwen Hull, 14, Alter Realty; Ronee Lemaster, 15, Walteria Drug Store; Diane Puscas, 17, Minter Grocery; North Carolina; Shirley Hines, 15, Gordon's Market; Pat Wingard, 16, Booth's Associated Service; Ella Mae McLeod, 17, Paramount Center; Joyce Simon, 19, Walteria Cleaners; Maurine Brinkerhoff, 16, Virgil Hancock Services; Betty Eskina, 17, Anonymous; Penny's Beauty Shop.

JUDGES—the audience.

MISS TORRANCE PAGEANT DATE—July 30.

PLACE—Civic Auditorium.

While Los Angeles sizzled and sweated, sea breezes kept Torrance temperatures down to a high of 82 degrees thus far this week, even though those who were outdoors yesterday may not believe it.

The maximum was reached yesterday after Monday and Tuesday's mercury readings of 78 and 79 degrees. In Los Angeles, however, it was a different story.

Monday's high in LA was 89; on Tuesday, the mercury hit 86, and a temperature of 90 was registered yesterday.

More of the same is predicted for today in Torrance and vicinity.

While the torrid temperatures cause much fuming and fretting inland, they are a blessing to the coastal areas according to the Weather Bureau, because high temperatures inland tend to draw in cool breezes from the Pacific.

Elsewhere in the nation, 14 lives have been lost in the worst heat wave of the summer, as temperatures of 108 to 114 not uncommon.

Freak rainstorms spattered Los Angeles and Torrance Tuesday but the fall was so small as to be immeasurable here.

Benstead Sole Objector to New Ordinance

Torrance motorists can expect to see meters sticking up in front of parking stalls downtown in the next few months as the result of City Council action here Tuesday night. The council adopted the new parking meter ordinance with only one objector—Councilman Victor E. Benstead Jr.

Final vote for passage of the ordinance sets up a law defining the area downtown which will become a part of the central traffic zone, and permitting the city to install meters on parking spaces within the area.

Roughly, the new area is composed of the central shopping district which sits on such streets as Sartori, Cravens, Torrance Blvd., Cabrillo Ave., Post Ave., Marcelina, and Cravens, in the downtown area.

One last move by Councilman Benstead to halt the parking meter ordinance was defeated when he couldn't get a second to his motion to delay the law until it could be put on a special ballot for public vote.

The ordinance will go into effect in about 30 days.

Sea Breezes Cool Local Thermometers

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County Puts City Census At 51,350

Regional Planning Commission figures placing the population of Torrance at 51,350 on July 1 are probably nearly accurate, although possibly a little high, City Manager George Stevens said yesterday.

The commission figures are based on building permits issued, he said, and may include some people who have not yet moved into Torrance.

A census last November placed the city's population at 44,914. City officials had expected the population to increase by 10,000 to 12,000 people this year.

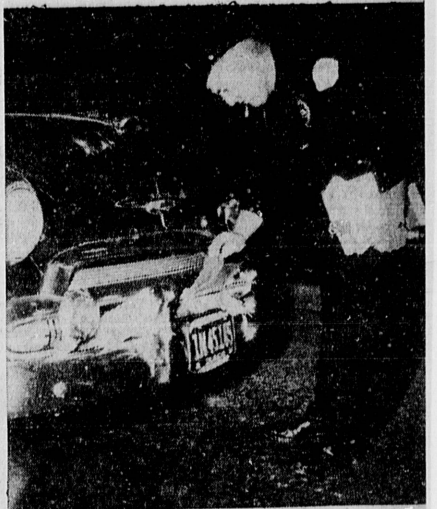
A check of electric meters showed an increase of about 23.4 per cent during the past year. This, Stevens felt, was an accurate index to city population growth, since nearly everyone has electricity, although some do not have gas or phones.

3-Car Crash Hurts Woman

One woman suffered minor bruises in a three-car collision at Carson St. and Western Ave. late Tuesday.

Edith Lengyl, Los Angeles, a passenger in a car driven by Anthony Rizzo, 21, Lakewood, suffered minor injuries.

A car driven by Mrs. Josephine Teems Bivins, 35, 1737 "A" Cabrillo Ave., collided with cars driven by Rizzo and Byron Erick Pallen Jr., 19, 1656 Plaza del Amo. Mrs. Bivins was making a left turn.



OFFICER'S REPORTS . . . Patrolman Richard Thompson inspects reports being held by fellow officer A. I. Jackson when he was struck by auto on Crenshaw Blvd. early yesterday. Jackson received serious injuries.

Officer Jackson Seriously Hurt

Torrance Police Officer A. L. Jackson was seriously injured early yesterday when he was struck by a moving car and carried 52 feet on its front end.

The 30-year-old policeman, along with Officer Don H. Cook was checking a parked car on the west side of Crenshaw Blvd., south of Dominguez St., when he was struck by a car driven by Commissaryman Third Class Gerald Glen Smith, 30, stationed at Long Beach.

Suffering a skull fracture, facial injuries requiring numerous stitches, and a compound fracture of the left leg, Jackson was taken to Harbor General Hospital, and moved to Torrance Memorial Hospital later yesterday morning.

Cook said that he and Jackson were checking the parked car in which two persons, apparently drunk, were unconscious, when he heard Jackson shout to look out. Cook saw a car coming at a high rate of speed toward the rear of the police car, which was parked behind the other vehicle.

Cook jumped

Soroptimist Girl Takes Long Lead In Fair Contest

Jeacqueline Pagac surged into an early lead in the race for the title of Queen of the Torrance Community Fair this week.

The Soroptimist sponsored Miss Pagac's 3220 total points to date to take a commanding lead over second place Pauline Glueckert, sponsored by the Torrance Rod and Gun Club, who has 3066 total points. In third place is Ella Mae McLeod, Lions Club, who has 3237 1/2 points.

Miss Pagac's 3220 cash votes gained by selling tickets to the Fair, earned her 2000 bonus points and a total of 5220 votes. Bonus points are given out in relation to the number of tickets the girls sell each week.

Gifts Planned

Next week, surprise gifts will be given to the top three girls by local merchants.

The winner of the queen title will receive a seven-day trip to Mexico City. She will be named on Aug. 9, the Monday prior to the opening of the Fair on Aug. 11.

Other girls, and their points to date, are Earsie Sims, Jayettes, 2572 1/2; Theresa Redington, Optimists, 2007 1/2; Elizabeth Webb, Fireman's Association, 1787 1/2; Pat Gaida, Kiwanis Club, 1445; Lois Jones, Women of the Moose, 1210; Carol Winther, North Torrance Civic Association, 1045; Flo Luongo, Civitan Club, 925; Janeene Colombo, Torrance Gardens and Plaza, 815 and the winner of the Miss Lomita Contest, yet to be named sponsored by Lomita Optimists who has 620 points.

Family Budget Help Offered

This is your copy of THE HERALD. It stands all the news of your community and the advertising of outstanding merchants and business institutions who offer you value and service.

If you are not now a regular subscriber—either by advance payment of \$3.60 per year or through your carrier boy at 30 cents per month—this is your invitation to become one.

We hope you'll find the paper interesting and the advertising helpful in making the family budget go farther.

News of your family and friends is invited. Telephone FAIRfax 8-4000.

9 of 10 City Money Accounts Register Increases

By TOM RISCHE

Torrance began fiscal year 1954 with about \$100,000 less in the bank than it had at the same time last year, but city officials aren't worried about it.

Figures released by City Accountant I. J. Hallanger show that the city's fund balance July 1 was \$352,218, compared with \$470,133 last year.

Gains were registered in nine of the ten accounts, the exception being the largest, the general fund, which decreased from \$255,852 to \$235,393. A large chunk of this—\$92,628 worth—can be accounted for by a city's recent purchase of a fire truck, automobiles, trucks, and various other equipment.

Another factor in this might be that the city is growing rapidly, with all of its citizens new and old, demanding various city services. At the same time, most of the estimated 10,000 people who came to the city in the last year are not yet paying city taxes, and will not do so until 1955.

"In other words, they are not yet paying for what they are getting," Hallanger said.

Forced to borrow

The city, along with all other Los Angeles cities, will have to borrow money from outside sources in order to meet their payrolls for about a four-month period until December, when tax monies become available.

Because the cities operate on a fiscal year, they are usually short at the beginning of the period. Loans can be repaid when tax money is received.

A new fund, for parks and recreation, made its appearance this year. Approved last year by the city council, a \$25 fee on new tract homes brought in \$22,052 for construction of new recreational facilities.

Fund To Grow

A fund which is still small, but

which should grow considerably is the airport fund which this year showed only \$330. Next year, money from airport property leases pending at the present time should be in the fund used for airport improvement.

A breakdown of the various funds is as follows:

Fund	July 1954	July 1953
General	\$28,283	\$255,852
Library	21,897	16,808
Motor Vehicle	179,540	123,375
License	14,938	7,061
Traffic Safety	24,537	13,217
Major Streets	37,225	25,182
City Aid to	35,467	30,753
Cities	3,530	8,010
Retirement	4,743	4,071
Improvement	3,202	000
Payroll	32,218	470,133
Clearing		
Parks and		
Recreation		
Total	\$352,218	\$470,133