

Channel Project Plans in North Torrance Approved

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Torrance Herald

OFFICE AND PLANT AT 1619 GRAMERCY AVE., TORRANCE

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INSPECTORS HIT IN ROAD PROBE

A Penny for your Thoughts



"Would you like to go to 'Y' camp this year?" is the question your Penny For Your Thoughts photographer asked five boy and girl members of the Torrance "Y". Their answers and pictures are recorded below.

Richard Broos, 1001-B Sartori:
"I have never been to 'Y' camp, but I enjoy the outdoors and think I can learn a lot by going to camp. I spent two weeks in the High Sierras last summer and had a lot of fun."

Joe Williams, 1751 Marinette:
"Although I have never been to 'Y' camp, I hope I can go this year as I like to hike and swim. I think it would be good for me and would give my folks a rest."

John McClure, 1629 Cota:
"I have never been to camp before, but hope I can make it this summer. I can learn a lot about camping, sleeping out and about first aid. Then it will keep me out of trouble."

Judy Robison, 2732 Andreo:
"I have been to camp before and it was lots of fun. I liked the hikes and campfire groups at night. I sold peanuts to raise money for the camps and think this is a good cause."

Carol Johnson, 2709 Gramercy:
"I hope to get to go to camp this year as I have never been. I like to hike and ride horses and think all children should go to camp as it is good experience and a chance to learn things."

Teacher Gets Study Grant
Cecil Paschall, sixth grade teacher at Madrona Elementary School, Torrance, has been awarded a National Science Foundation Scholarship to take extra training in science this summer.

He will attend DePauw University, Greencastle, Ind., for six weeks. The program was created by the federal government to strengthen the subject matter background of teachers. Paschall, a resident at 2221 Warmisid, Ave., was chosen from many applicants.

On Dominguez Improvements Set for Drain

Approval of plans and specifications for improvement construction along Dominguez Channel from Redondo Beach Blvd. to Gramercy Place in Torrance was announced yesterday by Supervisor Burton W. Chace.

Approval by the Board of Supervisors came following the report that bids for the project will be opened at County Flood Control District headquarters on June 26, with the contract expected to be let 10 days later.

According to Chace, nearly 17 months will be required to complete all phases of the drainage work.

CHACE SAID the main channel to be constructed as a part of this project extends from a point about 100 feet upstream from Redondo Beach Blvd. southeast approximately 5700 feet to join the existing concrete channel about 100 feet west of Gramercy Place.

The project is the third construction unit of a concrete channel which will eventually extend approximately five miles upstream to join the existing improved channel at 120th St. and Crenshaw Blvd.

Two Charged With Taking Racing Bets

A Torrance woman and a Wilmington man were charged Tuesday with three counts of bookmaking each in a complaint issued by the Long Beach district attorney's office.

Barbara Lea Vancil, 36, of 22027 S. Figueroa St., and Fred H. Willingham, 41, of 1020 Broad Ave., Wilmington, are charged with taking horse race bets at the Vancil home.

They were arrested at the Figueroa St. address May 19.

Trial of Man for Horse Beating Set
A jury trial for a stable owner accused of beating a horse has been set in the Torrance division of the South Bay Municipal Court for June 17.

Donald Baxter, 39, operator of a stable at 4700 Emerald Ave., asked for a jury trial after pleading innocent to the charges brought by the South Bay Humane Society.

Early Start on New Hydrogen Plant Set

Plans call for breaking ground early in September for the new liquid hydrogen plant to be built on the Union Carbide property here, it was learned this week.

Commenting on the previously announced plans to erect the high-energy fuel plant here, W. M. Haile, president of the Linde Co., Union Carbide subsidiary, said the new plant is scheduled to be completed within a year, and would be able to deliver more than five tons of liquid hydrogen a day.

Delivery of the product is scheduled to be made to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, although excess production will be available to other consumers in the west, Haile said.

IMPURE hydrogen gas stream will be brought to the new plant from the Union Carbide plant now operating at Hawthorne Ave. and Del Amo Blvd., and will be processed to contain less than 2 parts per million impurities. It will be liquefied for transport to the NSA and other users.



BOWL BOUND . . . There'll be plenty of music in the Hollywood Bowl Saturday night, June 13. Here, Sheryl Sells, Glen Eden, Glenn Kerhane, John Alter, Jerry Lynd and Bob Gill of the Torrance Youth Band warm up for their part in the 4th annual Youth Band Festival. Eight youth bands in Southern California will take part. Admission is free. (Story on Page 2)

Water District Vote Is Asked for in Petitions

The first legal step aiming at formation of a Water Replenishment District for the Central and West Basin areas was taken this week when a petition bearing approximately 150,000 signatures was filed in the office of the Registrar of Voters by representatives of the water replenishment committee.

Purpose of the new district will be to purchase large quantities of Colorado River water to restore underground basins depleted by salt water intrusion in coastal communities, and to limit underground pumping.

FILING of the Petition was accomplished after a five-month campaign by more than 800 volunteer circulators representing 45 cities and communities situated within the area of the proposed district.

Representatives of the replenishment committee including E. L. Lynn of Inglewood, W. C. Farquhar of Palos Verdes Estates, and D. W. Ferguson of Whittier, (division) chairman.

OFFICIALS of the two associations, in sponsoring the move to replenish the underground basins, frequently pointed out the danger of allowing local water reserves to be destroyed by sea water intrusion. They emphasized the urgency of storing water to meet excessive hot weather demands in addition to security reasons.

Preparatory to completing the district formation, a hearing will be conducted by the State Dept. of Water Resources at the request of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to determine the final boundary of the proposed district and benefit to the lands included therein. Following the hearing, the Board of Supervisors will call an election on the proposal, tentatively expected to take place in the fall.

Two past presidents, Paul Diamond and Don Hitchcock, also attended.

A check for \$300 from the Kiwanis Club was presented to the group by Hitchcock; and Ralph Morris presented a \$300 check from the Lions club.

Young Mother Gets 1 to 10 in Prison For Check Charges

A 23-year-old mother of two was sentenced to serve from 1 to 10 years in state prison after she admitted cashing \$2000 to \$3000 in worthless checks to support a heroin habit.

Superior Judge Maurice C. Sparling sentenced Mary Enriquez, of 22119 Dolores St., after she confessed using false temporary driver's licenses to cash 84 had checks at 50 area stores. She was committed to the California Institute for Women at Corona.

Given a one-year jail sentence for heroin addiction earlier this month was her husband Carlos.

James Becker, manager of the Southern California Gas Co. office here, has been elected president of the Torrance Dental Health Assn. to succeed Darwin Parrish.

Becker, who was first vice president during the past year, was elected at the annual dinner meeting of the group at the Torrance Women's Club-house which was attended by more than 60 area civic leaders and dentists.

Ray Sloan, advertising executive, will be first vice president for the coming year. Other officers include Mrs. E. G. Collins, second vice president; Mrs. Owen Bertrand, secretary; and Mrs. Mathew Humber, treasurer.

Mrs. Robert Dearth, a graduate of SC and a hygienist for the Redondo Beach Schools for the past seven years, was the principal speaker. Students of Marjorie Peterson's school for ballet, and a puppet show staged by members of Brownie Troop 1490 entertained members of the group during the evening.

Mrs. R. M. McBee, executive secretary of the group, reported that 1958-59 was the biggest year in the group's history with almost \$4000 spent for dental services for needy children of Torrance.

Dentists attending the meeting included Drs. Robert Barrett, Stanley Challis, Paul Chan, Burton Easley, Ross Yamahata, Robert White, and Robert Thompson.

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Council Ends Investigation

Any deficiencies in the recently completed section of Arlington Ave. can be laid to the fact that "inspection on the project was rather negligent and also that management in the engineering department was not up to the level we might have desired."

That, in essence, was the report delivered to the city council Tuesday night by Wade Peebles, director of public works for the city.

The contractor on the job apparently did the job in good faith and, as a public relations gesture, has offered to make some repairs at his own expense, Peebles said. He said core tests made of the strip of pavement from 190th St. to Del Amo Blvd. indicated that the city probably got the value it paid for, although some of the material had not been laid down properly — again the fault of the city inspector on the job.

PEEBLES explained later that the sub-base had not been laid down evenly and that as a result, the paving above it varied in thickness.

He estimated that about 5000 square feet of paving would have to be replaced on the never-opened roadway at a cost of about \$15,000.

Mayor Albert Isen, who had ordered the probe last week, was harsh in his criticism of the affair.

"I THINK the Torrance people have a right to know these things," he said. "While it is probably true that the proper amount of materials were applied, these errors are the grossest type of mismanagement—almost bad enough to be called willful—a bungle from start to finish," he said.

"The people concerned with it are no longer with us," he added.

"The people have a right to know that these errors will cost something over \$10,000 to repair without taking into consideration the work the contractor had offered to do on his own," Isen said.

Passing on information which had apparently been discussed before the council meeting at a "closed door" session, the mayor said 3000

yards of spoil material from another road job just north of the project in question had been dumped on the newly paved section of Arlington Ave. at a saving of about \$4500 to the contractor. City forces later had to move the material to the dump at its own expense, he said.

Isen and Councilman Victor Benstead walked out of the pre-council meeting after about 25 minutes.

"I JUST can't participate in there," Isen said. He had said earlier that he would leave as soon as the discussion got away from personnel, a legal topic for closed door meetings.

When asked by reporters what was being discussed when he left, Isen said: "Don't put me on the spot."

Tuesday's report apparently ended the probe into the road situation, the council indicated.

Hospital Repairs Due Soon

Plans to strengthen the original sections of Torrance Memorial Hospital this summer to make them conform to state standards were reported to the HERALD yesterday.

Contractors and engineers are now studying the structure to determine what must be done to strengthen the hospital, particularly the central section which contains the admitting offices, and administrative section.

Whether the hospital will have to close those portions under repair has not been determined, Administrator Leonard Ensminger said when asked about the project yesterday.



ON THE MOVE . . . Directors of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce check in at the organization's new headquarters, the old city hall at 1511 Stevens Ave., for their first board meeting in the new quarters. Left to right are John Strach, George Bradford, Henry Miller, and Archie Groves. The Chamber of Commerce, city recreation department, and city employees' credit union are now located in the downtown building. (Herald Photo)