# Council Moves to Form Street Lighting District

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# 2000 IN RANCHERO DAYS PARADE

## A Penny for your Thoughts

With Ranchero Days the main topic of the man on the street in Torrance it is only natural that the Herald photographer's question for today would be:

"Do you favor city-wide celebrations?"

Below are the people selected along with their answers to the question:

H. M. Haynes, 1340 Engracia, retired:

"Every city should have celebrations. Long Beach has its Miss Universe Contest and Torrance Ranchero Days. I think it helps a town as visitors will tell others when they get back home about the time they had. I like to watch these events as I am on the down side of the hill and not as active at these affairs as I once am."

• • •

Mrs. Cora Scheffer, 1911 Gramercy, housewife:

"I am for any civic activity that will help to promote the spirit of friendliness among people. I think we need more community activities and get-togethers. I attend all of the local civic events and am a member of the Senior Citizens Recreation Center. I think people need to get out in groups for better understanding of each other."

• • •

Janet Coleman, 3222 El Prado, Torrance high school student.

"Ok, yes I think city-wide celebrations are wonderful and always go. I think they promote better relationship and get people out where they can ge better acquainted. We should have these celebrations more often. I always attend the rodeo and the carnival."

• • •

Linda Smiley, 2101 Opal, Torrance high school student:

"I think events like Ranchero Days stimulate interest among people and helps to raise money for civic organizations. I always go to the rodeo, aquacade and the carnival. I think attending these events shows a loyalty to the city. Also I will got to see the Rodeo Queen."

• • •

Mrs. Frances Stokes, 218 Andreo, clerk:

"Do I favor city-wide celebrations? I guess a lot to Torrance. Celebrations create more interest between citizens and also interest from outsiders. I attend these events—I sure do

(Continued on Page 2)

## Vote 4-2 As Drale Plea Fails

Plans to amalgamate one-third the city into a street lighting district are under way today following a public hearing Tuesday night when councilmen over-ruled protests and ordered the assessment district formed.

Protests to the formation of the district were registered by Councilman Nickolas Drale and Victor E. Benstead.

Drale maintained the city could pay for lighting without the formation of a district and also declared the new plan was a form of double taxation.

"Between the costs of trash collection and street lighting we have added $15 to each homeowner's tax bill," Benstead declared.

Drale stated the money collected by the city from the Edison Co.'s franchise (an estimated $47,000) and other funds should be used to pay for lighting of streets.

Councilman Robert Jahn declared the assessment district was a fair plan to share the cost of lighting.

**Share the Cost**

"There are many residents who have no street lights but who still are paying taxes into the general fund to provide the other areas with lights," he said. "This way, everyone pays for the services he is getting."

According to city officials, 7000 city lots now have lights and the assessment district would provide 2000 more lots with street lighting. The city will continue to pay for power supplied to light the intersections throughout the city, including the new district.

The new district, which includes the mercury vapor lamp lighting of downtown Torrance, would cover the cost of providing "adequate" lighting for approximately one-third of the city.

Cost of the program will range from an estimated $5 for some residential lots per year to $22 a year for downtown lots where the more expensive lamps will be installed.

## *It Wasn't a Burglar—Just A Kinkajou*

It had enough to be awakened by strange noises at 4 a.m. but to be awakened by a Kinkajou bear scratching around the house is just downright discouraging.

It's not that Ray Rice, 2062 Lincoln Ave., has anything against strange Kinkajou bears, it's just that he has no use for them—especially at 4 a.m.

Since the police are supposed to take care of prowlers and other things that disturb residents in the early a.m. hours, Rice made a hasty phone call.

Police arrived and took the small animal into custody—and since there's no statute on the books for booking runaway Kinkajous, officers took the bear to the South Bay Humane Society.

A native of Mexico, the Kinkajou is a small animal with a prehensil tail.

After the local officers collected the nocturnal visitor, the Rices went back to sleep . . . instead of counting sheep they now count Kinkajous.

## Check Theft Is Reported

Loss of a wallet containing $85 in cash and an endorsed check for $225 from the seat of an unlocked car Monday night was reported to Torrance police.

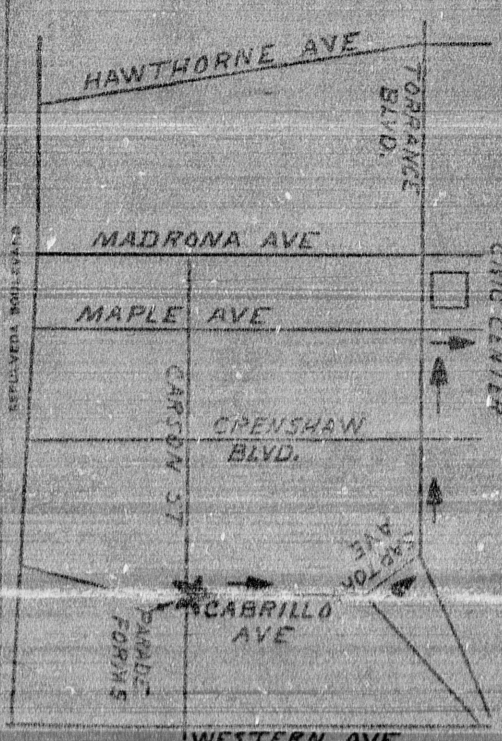
Mrs. Jessie Smith, 35, of 1531 W. 186th St., Lawndale, said the theft took place while her car was parked at 21000 Victor St.

Another police report stated that vandals evidently juveniles, had entered through an open window at the residence of James Burk, 22622 Ladeene Ave., damaging walls throughout the house with crayons.

**Petty Theft Admitted**

Child vandals robbed a trailer and candy shop owned by Lt. T. A. Morris, Torrance police department, according to a police report this week.

## Parade Route




**Parade Line-up Listed**

Complete lineup of Parade units and other entries will be found on Page 2.

RIDE 'EM COWBOY . . . Tom Dawsey, on "Rainbow," is doing a good job just to stay on this horse. All of the stock used in the Torrance Rodeo have been used in championship shows. The fourth annual rodeo, sponsored by the Torrance Mounted Police and the Torrance Lions Club, will be held Saturday and Sunday, 2:30 p.m., at Civic Center and is part of the Ranchero Days celebration.

## SEVEN HURT IN TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

An 82-year-old Hermosa woman is in Harbor General Hospital today with a fractured hip—the result of an automobile accident in Torrance Monday.

Mrs. Katherine Fries was crossing the street at Pacific Coast Hwy. and Vista del Mar when she was hit by a car driven by Mrs. Joann Hall, 28, of Dallas, Tex.

Mrs. Hall, who told officers she could not avoid hitting the woman, was not held.

**Three Injured**

Three persons were injured Saturday afternoon in an accident at Crenshaw Blvd. and Rolling Hills Rd.

Most seriously injured was Jeff J. Deciago, 23, of Los Angeles, who was treated at Harbor General Hospital and later transferred to another hospital.

He was a passenger in the car driven by Douglas Joseph Deciago, 22. The driver and Dorothy Geneva Deciago, 15, received minor injuries.

The car collided with a dump truck driven by Scott Finley Jr., 41, of Los Angeles.

**Plunges Over Cliff**

Three men were injured when their auto plunged over a 125 embankment in Palos Verdes Monday night.

Injured were Edward Hales Maur, 21, Bill Carl Wachob, 18, and Bob Kelly, 23, all of San Pedro.

Deputies said the auto was traveling downhill on Palos Verdes Dr. South when it left the road on a sharp curve and went over the embankment.

Firemen were called to rescue Kelly who was trapped in the vehicle.

## Paul's Chevrolet Has 'Featurama'

Paul's Chevrolet showroom at 1640 Cabrillo is the setting this week of the Chevrolet Featurama, billed as the world's greatest traveling show of automotive engineering.

Focal point of the exhibit is an Impala sports coupe cut in half lengthwise to lay bare all the construction details of the car. Specially made transparent coverings for engine, transmission, suspension and other parts give a clear view of the mechanisms in operation. While viewing the half-body of the car, visitors can don earphones to hear songs by Pat Boone in "two-dimentional" sound.

A rugged truck power train teaming the Workmaster V8—230 H.P. engine with Power-malic transmission and an 18,000 pound single speed heavy duty rear axle is shown in continuous motion and visible through transparent enclosures.

**Public Invited**

Other interesting exhibits show Chevrolet's pioneering fuel injection system in operation. Visitors can also watch and experience self-leveling action of the new Chevrolet Level-Air suspension.

"We invite everyone in the area to enjoy this interesting exhibit," Paul Loranger said yesterday. "More than 25 million have already seen the elaborate display throughout the country and we are delighted to be able to have it in Torrance during Ranchero Days."

## License Fees For Handbills Again Altered

City councilmen have reset the license fee for distributing handbills in Torrance.

The fee was lowered to a maximum of $25 per day last week, but at Tuesday night's meeting the $50 per day fee was reinstated at the suggestion of Mayor Albert Isen.

In order to make the change in fee charge, a new ordinance was ordered drawn and will be presented at next week's meeting.

The original decision to lower the fee was made in order to conform more closely with fees collected by other cities.

Local merchants will be exempted from the license charge.

The new ordinance also enforces tighter control on the distribution of handbills.

VISITORS TO PAUL'S CHEVROLET . . . can see what the inside of the popular Impala sports coupe looks like and watch it in full operation. This is one of the several outstanding exhibits on display at the showroom, 1640 Cabrillo, which are part of the famous Chevrolet Featurama, traveling automotive engineering show.

16 Band Groups

## Saturday Event To Be 'Biggest'

Ranchero Days hit full stride today with the opening of the Midway north of the Civic Center, Torrance Blvd. at Maple. They reach a climax Saturday morning with a parade at 10:30 a.m. that promises to be the largest in the history of the area. President Fred W. Mill of the sponsoring Torrance Chamber of Commerce, assisted by 19 other civic organizations and fraternal groups, said yesterday there will be 200 entries with more than 2000 individuals participating. Sixteen bands and drum corps, 28 majorette groups, scores of floats and scores of equestrian entries will be riding for the fun of it or for many trophies being offered by the sponsoring Torrance Mounted Police unit.

**Powers Marshal**

Lt. D. C. Cook, parade coordinator, emphasizes that there will be some of the finest "horseflesh" in the West on parade led by Lt. Gov. Harold J. Powers as grand marshal. City officials and other dignitaries will ride in the procession which will form at Carson and Cabrillo, and proceed westward to Sartori, Torrance Blvd. and destination at Maple Ave. near the Civic Center.

Six sound equipment units, located throughout the route, will keep spectators informed. Spectators are urged to arrive early with a promise that there will be much pre-parade entertainment including demonstrations of trick formation riding by the Huntington Park Elks motorcycle police unit.

**Shows Open Today**

The midway shows, with 19 thrill rides and food and game booths will open at 6 p.m. today and tomorrow and at 12 noon on Saturday and Sunday. There is no admission charge to the midway.

"Riverboat Review", an aquacade sponsored by the Torrance recreation department will be staged at 8:15 p.m. Friday at the municipal pool.

The R.C.A. rodeo will be staged Saturday and Sunday at 2:30 p.m., admission $1.50 for adults and 75 cents for children under 12. Tickets for the event are on sale at Lawson's Jewelers and Paramount Building Supply.

All profits from operation of the booths at the carnival and from other events of the celebration will go toward the cost of Torrance's entry float in the Rose parade.

## Council Hears Request for More Police

City Manager George Stevens is studying the possibility of hiring an additional seven police officers.

The request for the study was made by Councilman George Bradford at Tuesday's council meeting. Bradford declared the force needed the additional personnel in order to provide adequate protection for local residents.

Other councilmen agreed with Bradford's statement that more personnel was needed but expressed doubt that the money to hire them would be available.

Bradford maintained that many officers are now working on their own time to finish cases and are not getting paid for the extra hours. Assistant Police Chief M. Porter agreed with the statement.

The police department has asked for an additional 13 officers. Thus far, the city has included provisions for six.

## City Asks For Ballot On Charter

City councilmen will request the board of supervisors place the proposed amendments to the county charter before the people at an election.

A citizen's advisory committee submitted recommendations for overhauling the charter to the supervisors yesterday. New changes would include increasing the number of supervisors from five to 11.

At the request of Councilman Robert Jahn, a resolution will be prepared and sent to the county asking that the changes be put to a public vote.