

# Invite Public to Witness Powder Puff Race Start

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OFFICE AND PLANT AT 1619 GRAMERCY AVE., TORRANCE

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# ALL CITY EMPLOYEES WIN PAY HIKE

## New Formula For Increase Is Approved

All municipal employees will receive pay increases effective July 1, but some will get proportionately more than others under a compromise increase plan adopted Tuesday night by the City Council. The city fathers approved a plan advanced by Councilman George Bradford under which workers in the lower brackets will get 5½ per cent boosts while those in the higher levels will get only 3 per cent.

The breaking point will come after a salary range that formerly paid about \$650 per month to start.

The unanimous compromise came after Mayor Albert Isen, Councilmen Nickolas Drale and Victor Benstead refused to vote for an urgency ordinance providing for a uniform 3 per cent boost. Their refusal to vote for the increase would have delayed paying of the raise by more than a month.

The TRIO wanted a \$20 a month across-the-board increase.

The across-the-board plan was opposed by City Manager George Stevens on grounds that it would seriously impair a new wage structure adopted by the Council last month.

In other matters, the Council:

Approved a year's contract for pound services with the South Bay Humane Society but called for regular Health Dept. inspection of the kennels.

DENIED THE Downtown Retail Merchants request for free bus rides during a sales promotion on July 21 but agreed to allow the organization to post placards on street lamp standards.

Granted the Chamber of Commerce a \$3000 increase in its annual subsidy.

Refused to reconsider its 60-day tabling of a request for a variance to erect a "senior citizens' village" in the Victor area. Isen indicated that the delay may kill the project and said he planned a meeting with the promoters on tax problems involved in the question.

## Miffed, Beasley Resigns

Evidently miffed at his colleagues, Councilman John A. Beasley resigned Tuesday night as chairman of the Council's transportation committee.

Beasley obviously was ruffled because the Council decided to delay action for two weeks on a bus recommendation made by Beasley's group.

The committee asked the Council to approve a plan for adding three busses to the Torrance Municipal Bus Lines, extend routes into various residential areas and change the rate structure.

Other Councilmen requested the delay to give further study to the proposal.

## Police Raise Limits On City Streets

Five-mile-an-hour increase in the speed limits along two local streets were announced yesterday by Police Chief Percy Bennett.

Limits along Western Ave. will go to 45 miles an hour between 190th St. and Torrance Blvd. and to 40 miles an hour between 220th and 248th St. on 190th St., the limits will be raised to 40 miles an hour between Hawthorne Ave. and Crenshaw Blvd. and 45 miles an hour from Crenshaw to Western.

## Boswell Elected Board President

William C. Boswell Jr. was elected president of the Torrance Board of Education Tuesday night. He succeeds Walter A. Gerrabrant.

New vice president of the board will be Mrs. Grace Wright, succeeding Boswell.

The new president was elected to the board two years ago. Publications director for North American Aviation Co., Inc. he has been a Torrance resident for 12 years. He has served as president of the Torrance Chapter, City of Hope, and is a member of the Optimists, Alondra Park Men's Golf Club, and Los Fiestadores.

He and his wife, Mary Lee, former Torrance Educational Advisory Committee moderator, live at 2342 Onrado. They have one daughter, Pamela, 8.

The only member of the original Torrance Board of Education, Mrs. Wright has served as president of the local board and currently is vice president of Los Angeles County School Trustees. She



WILLIAM C. BOSWELL  
... new president  
has lived in Torrance for 46 years. She and her husband, Mark, live at 1532 El Prado. They have two grown daughters.



HOLIDAY HONORS... Residents on 187th St. between Crenshaw Blvd. and Ermanita Ave. in North Torrance were almost unanimous in their efforts to observe Independence day by flying the American flag. Here in front of the home of Sid Myers, 3304 W. 187th St., officers of the Bert S. Crossland Post of the American Legion congratulate Myers for his participation. From left are Chaplain C. J. "Paddy" Ryan, Myers, Adjutant John Ellis, and Commander Stanley Heiman. (Herald Photo)

## Expand 'Decency' Group

Enlargement of Torrance's Decent Literature Committee and granting it a greater measure of official sanction was approved by the City Council Tuesday night despite a note of caution from City Attorney Stanley Remelmeyer.

The Council approved a resolution making the group an ex-officio agency of the city and allowing each Councilman to appoint a member.

Unanimous approval of the resolution came after Remelmeyer cautioned that such an arrangement might create a legal hazard for the city.

"THERE IS a danger that the city would be sued for libel or slander or for some other tort in which damages are requested by reason of a loss of business due to state-

ments or actions on the part of the committee or its members," Remelmeyer advised the Council.

The committee has been functioning semi-officially for the past two years and has been attempting to persuade merchants to remove from their shelves books and magazines considered objectionable.

THE RESOLUTION allows the committee to make recommendations to the City Council on methods of controlling obscene literature.

The original five-person committee has dwindled to three members named by the Council. One of them, the Rev. William Schatz, resigned from the group Tuesday night and was replaced by the Rev. David Beadles.

## Social Events Underway for Women Pilots

As a final gesture of the city's hospitality, the public was urged today by Chamber of Commerce and aviation leaders to be at Torrance airport at 9 a.m. Saturday for the start of the All-Woman Transcontinental Air Race more generally known as the Powder Puff Derby.

First of 82 airplains in the daytime flight across the country to Wilmington, Del. are to be waved off promptly with Robert Cummings, screen and television star and himself an experienced pilot, acting as honorary starter.

The women pilots and copilots will fly only during daylight hours with scheduled stops. They must be in Wilmington by July 13 to qualify for \$2500 in prizes. The race is operated on a handicap basis with the slowest plane being eligible to win.

Faster of the light planes are expected to complete the flight within two or three days and, some pilots of these will be striving to make a hurried trip, even setting a speed record for the long flight. Most of the contestants will find the long flight a test in itself for themselves and their aircraft. Many have competed before, some have experience unmatched by the majority of male pilots and there are some with comparatively few hours and cross-country experience.

A NUMBER of the contestants have been staying at the new Plush Horse Inn, near the airport, and are participating in various social events which started yesterday with a picnic in Torrance park. This evening they will be guests at a luau party at the Polynesian restaurant also near the airport on Pacific Coast highway.

Tomorrow will be given over to final checkups on aircraft and rest. Saturday morning the entire group will be entertained at breakfast at the Plush Horse and the ladies will depart for the airport to begin their struggle against weather and choppy air over the western mountains and deserts.

## Policeman Aids Stork Fifth Time

A bachelor Torrance policeman, Charles Oates, delivered a baby for the fifth time here Sunday.

Oates responded to an emergency call from Robert L. Smith of 19138 Firmona Ave., who called police to report that his wife, Bonnie, 28, was having a speedy visit from the stork.

The policeman, aided by Smith, delivered an eight-pound, one-ounce boy before an ambulance got to the Smith home.

Mother and son were taken to Torrance Memorial Hospital, where both ever reported in satisfactory condition.

The baby is the Smith's fourth child. Oates has served as midwife an average of once a year since he has been on the Torrance force.

## Burglars Raid Grocery Store

More than \$3200 in cash and \$500 worth of liquor and cigarettes were taken by burglars Tuesday night at Western Farms Store, 24020 S. Narbonne in Lomita.

Burglars gained entrance by forcing open a door after silencing an alarm system. The cash was removed from a floor safe, employees discovered when the store was opened for business yesterday.

## A Penny for your Thoughts

"July is the beginning of the forest fire season. In addition to current procedures, what would you suggest to reduce the hazards brought on by careless smokers and campers?"

Answering were:

Francis P. True, 1209½ W. 204th St., operator, Shell Chemical:

"The people themselves should take more care to see that their camp fires are out and watch themselves closer that they don't flip their cigarettes just anywhere. Perhaps if they would make it illegal to throw a lighted cigarette out an open window, people would get into the habit of using the ashtrays in their cars, then for those that don't, have a fine and a fairly stiff sentence."

H. C. Bolgard, 319 E. 110th St., Los Angeles, retired from National Supply:

"I think the government should spend more money to put a larger staff to work and patrol in the danger areas during the fire prone months. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure and in the long run, it wouldn't be nearly as expensive as having to fight those fires. Also each person could be more careful with their cigarettes and campfires."

June Henderson, 24608 Narbonne Street, Lomita, housewife:

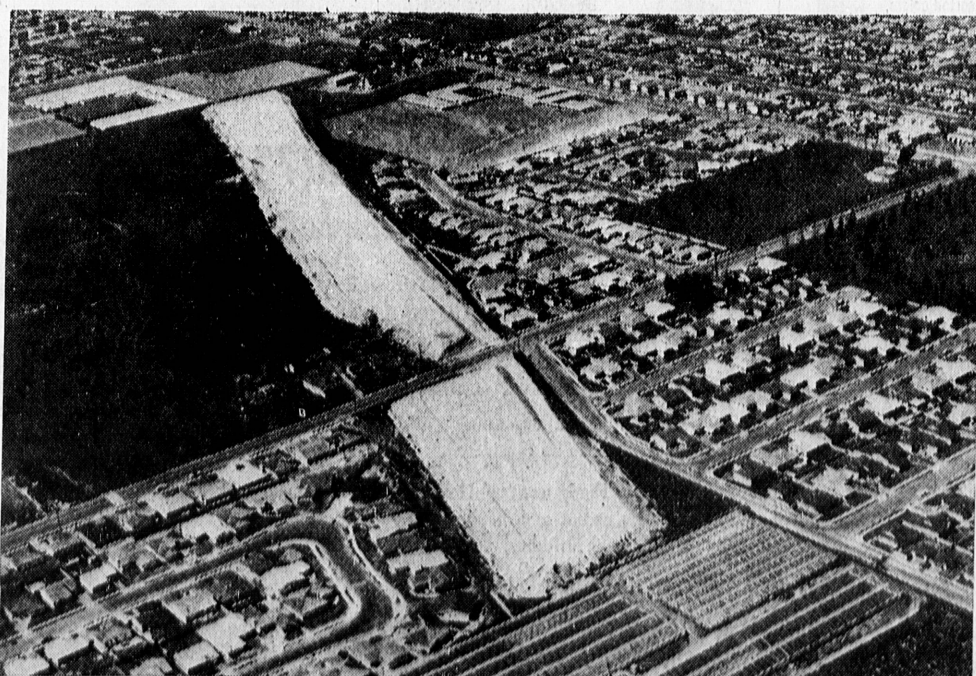
"I think a lot of it is up to the people themselves. If they would be more careful with their cigarettes in the fire hazard areas, it would help a lot. It might help too, to call a person's attention to the fact that he threw or was about to throw a lighted cigarette away. He may have done it without being conscious of doing it."

Mrs. Diane Moreno, 23014 Carolale Ave., Wilmington, a housewife:

"Maybe if they had the same kind of law for 'cigarette flippers' as they do for the 'litter bugs' it would help, that way every one would watch one another and be more conscious of such things. If someone sees another throwing a lighted cigarette away where it could cause a fire, they should report them, even possibly get a small reward. Many people just toss their cigarette away without thinking, because they are so much in the habit of doing it, so maybe if someone would remind them about such things, it would help."

## Police Auction Set

An auction of unclaimed property is slated for 9:30 a.m. on July 16 by the local police department. The sale will be at the rear of the police station, 3141 Torrance Blvd.



KEY INTERSECTION... Aerial photo shows the important crossing of the Harbor and the San Diego freeway, north of 190th and west of Figueroa streets in Torrance. Compacted embankment of the San Diego Freeway as

placed by State's contractor from excess excavation on Harbor Freeway. This 226,000-cubic-yard fill is in addition to the 1,080,000-cubic-yard 1959 disposal program.