

Toddler Dies Under Wheels of Father's Truck

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Torrance Herald

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IN THE HERALD TODAY

Ann Landers	9	Public Notices	11-12
Comics	11	Society	9-10
Crossword	11	Sports	6
Editorials	4	Star Gazer	11
Obituaries	2	Want Ads	12-15

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TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1961

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ZONE CASE CLIMAX DUE TUESDAY

A Penny for your Thoughts

The Pennies photographer this week asked Torrance area shoppers what they think about the establishment of emergency telephones along the freeways.

Mrs. Dan Shaw, 2229 Nelson St., Redondo Beach:

"I think it would be a wonderful idea. I could have used one when I had a flat tire on the freeway and again when my car broke down. There are telephones along the Pennsylvania turnpike."

Ken Ryder, 119 Via Anita:

"I think emergency telephones are a good idea. They surely would help if you ran out of gas or had a flat tire. I haven't needed one yet but when I do I sure hope they are installed."

Mrs. Hilda Green, 1556 W. 226th St.:

"I have never needed one but I think emergency telephones would be a good idea. I think traffic congestion at the scene of accidents could be avoided by getting police to the scene quicker."

Roy Leonard, 2305 241st St., Lomita:

"Emergency telephones would be a real good convenience. Although the freeways are heavily traveled by police I think phones are a good idea."

Lewis Sechrist, P.O. Box 1088 Palos Verdes Estates:

"An excellent idea. Freeways are a bad place to have an emergency; difficult place to get anyone to stop and a long ways to go for help. They wouldn't be much help if they were not at least two miles apart. Otherwise a person could walk off before reaching one."

Jury Acquits Area Man of Murder

William Campbell, of 1041 W. 253rd St., Lomita, has been acquitted by a Superior Court jury in Long Beach of the murder of a Los Angeles man in Harbor City last June 15.

Campbell testified he shot Luis P. Kavanaugh, 27, accidentally when he thought Kavanaugh was about to attack him at Campbell's Harbor City home.

Father Hears Child Scream; Stops Truck

A one-year-old Torrance girl was killed accidentally Friday morning when her father backed his pickup truck out of the driveway.

Pronounced dead on arrival at the Little Company of Mary hospital was Erin Kathleen McLaughlin of 21829

Barbara St. The little blonde tot was apparently entering the driveway from the sidewalk when the accident occurred about 7:55, according to police.

The girl, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William E. McLaughlin, was run over by the truck's right rear wheel. The McLaughlins have two other children, Michael, 5, and Sean, 2.

Funeral services for the girl were held at the Halverson-Leavell Mortuary Chapel Saturday with the Rev. Hugh Percy, rector of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, officiating. Private cremation followed at Pacific Crest Cemetery.

In New York

Soldier Killed in Car Crash

Army Pvt. Roderick Antrim Jr., 229 Camino de las Colinas, died Wednesday when he was involved in an auto accident near Geneva, N.Y.

The 19-year-old soldier was a graduate of South High school, class of 1960. He is the only son of Mr. and Mrs. Roderick E. Antrim.

Antrim and a companion, 20-year-old Pfc. Gerald Brady, of Erie, Pa., collided with a stalled truck. Brady was also killed.

Both were stationed at the Seneca Army Ordnance depot in Romulus, N.Y. Antrim had last seen his parents in April while on leave before reporting to his upstate New York post.

Funeral services were held yesterday at White and Day's Redondo Beach chapel at 1 p.m. Military committal services followed in Green Hills Memorial park.

His parents are the only survivors.

Trash Collection Will be Day Late

City officials this week reported that trash collections normally made on Mondays will be made Tuesday during the Labor Day weekend only. All collection will be a day later for the week beginning Sept. 4.

Normal collection schedules will be resumed on Monday, Sept. 11.

Postman, Family Finish Model A Trip to Canada

By Darrell Maddox
Herald Staff Writer

A 4000-mile vacation trip by automobile is not unusual for most people, but for a Torrance family it turned out to be a real experience. They returned this week from such a trek which they took in a 1931 Model A station wagon.

Taking the four-week trip through California and the Pacific Northwest were Mr. and Mrs. Paul Smith of 2366 W. 229th St., their children, Mike, 4, and Paula, 5, and Mrs. Smith's nephew, Tom Schneider, 13, of 2062 W. 238th St.

"We thought a policeman in an Oregon city was kidding when he pulled us over for speeding," Mrs. Smith said. The Smiths traveled from Torrance north on Highway 99 to Chico where they took a side trip to Virginia City, Nev., and returned to Chico to visit relatives.

THEY CONTINUED their trip north on Highway 99 through Oregon and Washington to Vancouver, B.C., where they started back, returning to Torrance along the coast on Highway 101.

Although a little reluctant to take such a trip again Smith, a Torrance postman, admits giving some thought to traveling to Detroit in his Model A to attend the national meet of the Model A Restorers club. The Smiths are members of the organization's Harbor chapter.

NO MECHANICAL problems were encountered. "But we must have had about 40 flats because we had to much of a load in the station wagon," Smith said. As an example they tell of having four flats on their first day of the trip and seven on the last day.

"Our children thought we knew everyone between Tor-



ENJOY PARTY . . . Gary Henderson, 7, and Diane Nunnery, 8, enjoy balloons and cup cakes during the monthly children's party at Harbor General Hospital. The Volunteers for Children staged the party for the youngsters last Thursday afternoon in Ward C-8. Gary, in traction, was joined by Diane as they had a good time with the other children (Herald Photo)

New Leads Collapse in Search for Local Girl

Another suspect arrested by police in connection with the disappearance of Karen Tompkins has been cleared. Police said they are back where they started from in the mysterious case.

The man, arrested in Arizona, disappeared from his home in vicinity of Dalton St. about the time Karen vanished. He was considered by Los Angeles Police to be "a real hot" suspect.

SGT. W. E. BUTTS of the homicide division, which has taken up the search for the 11-year old girl, said the man "was given a polygraph test and he's clear."

A second suspect was in custody but police had been unable to connect him with the case at a late hour Saturday. Two officers were in Orange County yesterday afternoon checking out a lead there, Harbor Division detectives reported.

At the Tompkins home, Karen's mother was near the breaking point as the fifteenth day of the fruitless search ended without a trace of the

girl. The mother had been buoyed by the new development, only to find her hopes groundless.

LOS ANGELES Police have been in contact with the San Diego Police, comparing notes on the disappearance of Karen and the murder of 10-year old National City girl 20 months ago. San Diego Police have conducted a futile search for the murderer.

Police, however, indicate there is no reason to connect the murder with Karen's disappearance. They say the check is routine.

KAREN HAS been missing since late afternoon Aug. 18. She vanished somewhere between the Halldale Avenue School and her home at 21110 Dalton St. No trace of the little girl has been found and police report that they are baffled.

William Tompkins, the girl's Navyman father, is home on

emergency leave and must report daily to the Navy. His leave, due to expire today, was extended last week until Sept. 13.

Four Finish Police Class

Four Torrance policemen have completed a 16-week basic law enforcement training course at the Los Angeles County Sheriff's academy.

They are James Vernel Farquhar, of Lomita; Melville W. Hone of Torrance; Ramon C. Schneider, formerly of Portland, Ore.; and James David Wallace of Torrance.

The course included instruction on self-defense, marksmanship, investigation of traffic accidents, robbery, narcotics, pursuit driving, emergency childbirth and other police procedures.

City Council Will Consider Ordinance

Rezoning of the John Marble property from M-1 to R-1 will come before the city council again at its Tuesday meeting when an enabling ordinance will be presented for first reading. The council has previously approved the zone change, 4-3.

The controversial zone change has been recommended for denial by the City Planning Commission. Industry within the city has also apposed the move.

The council approved the change of zones at a July 25 meeting and instructed the city attorney to prepare the enabling ordinance. A vote on the ordinance was postponed, however, while a survey of the present industrial land reserves was conducted.

THE ORDINANCE is up for its first reading at the Tuesday meeting. If it is approved, a second reading will probably be scheduled for the following week. A defeat, however, means the zone change will be denied and cannot be considered again for at least six months.

Union Oil Co., which owns about 100 acres adjoining the Marble property to the south, has opposed the change on the grounds that residential zoning so close to heavy industrial plants is not proper zoning. Other firms, including the Garrett Corp., have also expressed opposition to the change.

Don Wilson requested the change of zone in order to construct a housing tract. The Planning Commission, after hearings on the matter last May, recommended denial.

CONSIDERATION of the change was postponed at a June meeting on the motion of George Vico. Vico and Mayor Albert Isen asked a 30-day postponement, and Mayor Isen has since spearheaded opposition to the change.

In other matters, the council will consider the following:

• A request from the Torrance Sand and Gravel Corp. to haul 3/4 million tons of dirt from the Entradero sump in

Probation Facility Approved

County Supervisors this week ordered architects to proceed with the plans for a proposed probation department building to be located in the Torrance Civic Center. Cost of building is estimated at \$382,500.

Harold S. Johnson, Los Angeles architect, submitted a tentative estimate and then was ordered to continue working on the plans for a flat fee of \$28,275.

The building will consist of five sections adjacent to the existing municipal court building parking area. It will have offices for 55 probation officers and facilities for clerks, visitors, and individual conference rooms.



DAN HUTCHINSON
Moose Lodge Ruler

Lodge Chief Gets Moose Citation

Ceremonies held recently at the Torrance Moose Lodge was the occasion for the presentation of a "Governor's Merit Award" to local lodge ruler Dan Hutchinson.

The supreme council of the fraternal organization was represented by Ray Hoffman, who made the presentation. The award cited the Torrance resident for his "Substantial contribution to the fraternity and to Mooseheart, the famed child city of the fraternity."

James A. Evans, another officer of the Torrance lodge was presented the "Outstanding Secretary Award" for his many years of work for the lodge. The award is the fraternity's highest honor.

Don Desmond and Charles R. Britt Jr., were also cited during the evening program for their work in membership conservation.



LONG TRIP . . . Members of the Paul Smith family unpack their 1931 Model A after arriving back at their home at 2366 W. 229th St. following a vacation tour which reached such distant points as Vancouver, B.C. "It's the only way to travel," Postman Smith said on his return. He admitted, however, that flat tires were still a problem as they were in the days of old. (Herald Photo)