

# City Council Turns Down Disputed Change of Zone

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# CITY MOPS UP IN WAKE OF STORM



**PENINSULA SCENE . . .** This driveway at Crest Road west of Quailridge Road in Rolling Hills was typical of Peninsula scenes at mid-day Monday when a combination of rain, hail, and slushy snow covered the area with a white blanket. It was the first measurable snow in the area since Torrance and surrounding cities were blanketed on Jan. 10, 1949. On that date, enough snow fell to provide material for numerous snowmen around town. (Herald Photo by Darrell Maddox)

## Rifle Helps Clear Areas Under Water

The city was getting back to normal at midweek following one of the heaviest storms in recent years which inundated parts of the area over the weekend. More than two inches of rain fell during the three-day storm.

During the height of the storm Monday, city crews were working to keep drains opened and homes dry in several sections of the city, according to reports made to City Manager Wade Peebles by street and traffic department officials.

Worst hit was the area of Elgar and 168th Street where water reached a depth of 5 feet at one time. Residents were unable to get in or out of their homes when the water backed up from the county storm drain project in the area.

**CITY CREWS** finally called on members of the police department who opened a temporary brick bulkhead with a high-powered rifle; the flooding receded in about one hour, Peebles reported.

Damage to new pavement at Pacific Coast Highway and Crenshaw was estimated at \$400. Pacific Coast Highway was closed between Hawthorne Avenue and Calle Maytor for several hours Monday afternoon, and traffic was diverted across Newton Street.

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## Book Two In Local Accidents

Two drivers involved in separate accidents last weekend were booked for felony drunken driving.

Arrested Sunday for felony drunk driving was Charles A. Murray, 40, of 22607 Iris Ave. His pickup truck collided with the rear of a sedan driven by Willie Henry Oliphant, 34, of Los Angeles.

**OLIPHANT** and a passenger in his car, Florence Oliphant, 28, also of Los Angeles, were treated for minor injuries at Harbor General Hospital. Murray was taken to Harbor General but refused medical attention. The accident occurred about 6:16 p.m. at Artesia and Crenshaw boulevards.

The other driver booked for felony drunken driving was Marion Royce Chambers, 40, of Cypress. His car collided head-on on 190th Street east of Hawthorne with a pickup driven by Arthur Lee Stidham, 20, of 2220 Rockefeller Lane, Redondo Beach.

**STIDHAM** and two passengers in his truck, Eugene Wayne Stidham, 23, of 1514 W. 205th St., and Linda Kay Stidham, 19, of 2220 Rockefeller Lane, were treated for minor injuries at Harbor General Hospital. Chambers was also treated for minor injuries at the same hospital.

Marlene Patricia Wolgat, 18, of 24433 Neece Ave., was treated for minor injuries Saturday at Harbor General after her compact sedan collided with a parked car in front of 2920 Winlock Road. The accident occurred about 11:30 p.m.

## Bag Bandit Takes \$75

An armed bandit held up a service station on Western Avenue Sunday night and made off with \$75 in cash.

Station attendant George Louis Beaver told police the bandit came into his station at 22771 Western Ave. and handed him a small white insulated bag.

"Fill it up, put it all in. Don't try anything," the thief said. When Beaver asked the bandit if he wanted the credit cards the thief said "No, just the green and hurry it up."

Beaver filled the bag with \$75. The suspect left and walked south on Western Avenue.

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## Council Does Turnabout on Zone Decision

A petition for a change of zone on four acres of property at 230th Street and Madison Avenue to permit construction of apartment buildings has been denied by the City Council in a decision which reversed a decision made in November.

Petition of Akira Kimura, 3605 W. 230th St., to rezone the property to permit developers to construct 180 apartment units had been approved by the Planning Commission in October, and was approved by the Council on Nov. 28. The following week, council asked reconsideration of the matter before a full council.

Strong protest by residents of single family home developments in the area won out Tuesday night when only Nick Drake voted against a motion to deny the request.

Opponents, led through the fight by Carl Seeburg of 3610 W. 227th St., expressed fears that increased traffic on the streets would lessen the value of property, would endanger children, and would create new hazards for students attending Meadow Park Elementary School.

## Cities Seek Bigger Share Of Gas Tax

A larger share for cities in state gas tax funds allocated to the county was urged at a meeting this week attended by 71 city officials and civic leaders at the Plush Horse Restaurant.

Virgil H. Sponberg, Long Beach city council member and chairman of the gas tax committee of the League of California Cities, presided at the meeting which stressed the fact that cities in Los Angeles county have 75 per cent of the roads and receive only 25 per cent of the funds to maintain them.

**SPONBERG** urged all present to ask Supervisor Burton W. Chace to favor revision of the present policy of the county board in a more favorable consideration of the needs of the incorporated areas. He suggested that the L.A. County Board adopt the formula used in Alameda county.

Other speakers at the meeting included Jess Gilkerson, Long Beach city engineer, who explained with charts the present method of distribution of State gas funds in the county; Councilman Fred I. Tourtelot of Rolling Hills, who remarked that his city does not now accept funds for its privately maintained roads and

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## Dr. Cain Heads New College

Dr. Leo F. Cain, vice president at San Francisco State College since 1957, has been named president of a proposed four-year college to be located in the Southwest area.

The doctor received his bachelor's degree from Chico State College and did his graduate work at Stanford University. He has served as training officer with the Bureau of Naval Personnel, director of education with the Department of Justice in Washington, D.C.

## Family Says Shelter Is 'Just Insurance'

By DARRELL MADDOX  
Herald Staff Writer

The problem of what to do in event of an enemy attack has been solved by one Torrance couple. They have built a fallout shelter in their front yard.

Located in the yard of Mr. and Mrs. William H. Tooker at 20545 Madrona Ave., it has a 12-inch thick cement roof and 27 inches of earth on top of that. It measures eight by ten feet in size and is designed to accommodate six persons.

"When we started building the shelter people stopped by the hundreds to ask questions about it," Mrs. Tooker says. Construction of the shelter is completed and the Tookers are in the process of furnishing and stocking it.

**MRS. TOOKER** is a strong advocate of civil defense, and is attempting to get a class started on "What Every Home-maker Should Know to Get Ready in Event of an Attack." The class has a sponsor but a place to meet and a movie projector are needed. The class would be free.

Mrs. Tooker became interested in civil defense about five years ago while she and her husband were living in Santa Monica. "I really can't say what got me interested. It must have been something the government came out with in the paper," she said.

**WHY HAVE** the Tookers

built their shelter? Mrs. Tooker explains it this way. "Why do you take immunization shots? Once you have polio it's too late. You take out insurance. Once you are in a hospital it's too late to prepare for paying for the bills. Why fix a hole in the roof?"

"Who knows whether the shelter will be needed? It's just a precaution," she says. In event of an enemy attack, the Tookers would probably be near their shelter. Mrs. Tooker is a housewife and her husband works at a building materials firm across the street from their home.

**ONE OF THE** biggest problems involved in getting their shelter, Mrs. Tooker says, was finding a reliable contractor. "We had some real quacks visit our house and must have interviewed at least a dozen persons before deciding upon one."

"We're not sorry we built the shelter but what good is a shelter that will hold six people in a city with a population of 109,000," Mrs. Tooker said. Because everyone cannot afford a home shelter, Mrs. Tooker is in favor of community shelters and believes the proposal to have them located at schools is a good idea.

**"THE SHELTER** has been a good investment from the standpoint that persons who learn of it become exposed to civil defense and persons who

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**PREPARED RESIDENT . . .** Mrs. William H. Tooker of 20545 Madrona Ave. goes down a family fallout shelter built in the front yard of her home. The shelter, designed to accommodate six people, has drawn wide attention from persons going by the home. (Herald Photo)

## A Penny for your Thoughts

The Pennies photographer asked members of the North Torrance Pony League Auxiliary, "What good does the Pony League do for the boys participating?"

Mrs. John Rance, 4335 W. 176th St.:

"Pony League keeps the children off the streets about six months out of the year. Otherwise they are getting in trouble. The boys are at an age still where they can't drive a car."

Mrs. Robert Francis, 3722 W. 173rd St.:

"My boy is awfully sports-minded and I think the Pony League teaches him good sportsmanship. The parents just love it. Every other day we are at the ball park. Of course, our husbands get shorted on supper sometimes."

Mrs. Woody Wood, 12076 Purche Ave.:

"Pony League brings the fathers and sons together. If the people who criticize the Pony League would pitch in and help they would realize how much good the Pony League is doing."

Mrs. Jay Comer, 17575 Yukon Ave.:

"I think sportsmanship is being taught in the Pony League. Between the auxiliary and the board of directors, individual parents who bring too much pressure on their boys to win games are gradually discouraging them from participating."

Mrs. Robert Thomas, 17020 Delia Ave.:

"I think Pony League teaches a boy to not only play for himself but also for the team. Pony League also keeps children interested in sports. Otherwise they do lose interest in athletic activities."

## Library Given Greek Classic

Seven volumes of Greek classics were donated this week to the Harbor College library by the San Pedro chapter of AHEPA, Greek fraternal lodge.

The presentation was made to Mrs. Thelma Taylor, harbor librarian, by Mike Stavros, president, and George Stavros, secretary. It consisted of works by Plato, Aristotle, Greek dramatists and historians.