

Know Your Traffic Laws

Recently a letter was received at the police station from a mother of a boy who received a citation for hitchhiking. She indicated she was very unhappy with the police department for citing her boy. She mentioned that on many occasions she has observed others doing the same.

From reading this letter it appeared that she was concerned, but not aware of the law pertaining to hitchhiking.

The California Vehicle Code states that no person shall stand in the roadway for soliciting a ride from any driver. In other words, hitchhiking is not illegal as long as the hiker is not standing on the roadway. When the hiker stands on the roadway he then becomes a traffic hazard and can affect the motoring public.

DRIVING TODAY on our busy streets and highways under ideal conditions is a chore in itself, but hikers standing in the roadway only add to the already present hazards in driving.

Many times the hikers will place themselves far enough into the roadway to cause traffic to change lanes to avoid contact with the hiker.

From an enforcement point of view, the officer will cite those hikers that are standing in or upon the roadway and are creating a hazard or are in conflict with traffic.

IN ADDITION to the traffic hazard, there are numerous other reasons why hitchhiking is not safe.

To name just a few crimes involved by drivers on highways are rape, sexual molestation, kidnapping, and robbery.

When a hiker is picked up by a motorist, how can that hiker know what kind of a person is driving that car? How can he tell a sex offender or deviate just by looking? I ask you, the parent, do you want your son or daughter to risk this?

Perhaps your answer to this would be, "My son is old enough and big enough to take care of himself." Then if this be the case, could your son defend himself against a knife or gun?

Hitchhiking may seem harmless enough and in most cases nothing serious becomes of it.

Toastmaster Club Names New Slate

Winners in a hotly contested election for officers of South Bay Toastmasters Club 280 were James McDonald, president; James Rippe, educational vice president; Dr. William Labit, administrative vice president; Donald Payne, secretary; Stewart McDonald, treasurer; and Collins Dunn, sergeant-at-arms. Richard Squires received the appointment of deputy of publicity.

The elected officers will be installed in their offices on April 4.

Thomas Eadie, Hollywood Riviera, winner of the club speech contest and club representative in the area speak-off March 24, is undergoing rigorous practice sessions under the guidance of experienced members.

During the formal portion of a recent club meeting, Stanley Levenson won top honors with his humorous demonstration and talk on "How To Rhumba." Runner-up was Willard Monahan of Manhattan Beach. Other speakers were Stewart McDonald, Manhattan Beach; W. Howard Smith, Torrance; and Dr. William Labit of Torrance.

Men in the South Bay area interested in speech training are invited to attend regular meetings at 6:45 p.m. Wednesdays at the Redondo Beach Elks Club.

Phone Co. Moving to New Office

A large scale moving operation is scheduled for this week-end when Pacific Telephone transfers its 10,800-account Torrance office to new larger quarters at 2154 Torrance Blvd.

The customer business office which handles the records for telephone numbers starting with "FA-8," "FA-0," "328," and "320" will close its doors at 1307 Ravens Ave. at noon on Friday and reopens at the new address Monday morning, according to Dick Pyle, Pacific's local manager.

Pacific's modern new Torrance home was completed earlier this month at an approximate cost of \$557,000. Another \$400,000 will be spent on central office equipment and to acquire off-street parking near the new offices, Pyle said.

I THINK the mother who wrote this letter, as well as most of you mothers and fathers, just never stopped and really gave hitchhiking enough thought. I'm sure that in thinking it over you realize it is not safe under any circumstances.

The citation that is given is not nearly as costly as a life lost. How do we attach a cost to an accident or injury?

We as parents can eliminate this problem by telling our children, "Don't hitchhike under any circumstances." Should your son or daughter be cited for hitchhiking, don't feel the officer is picking on them, but rather preventing an accident or perhaps saving their lives.

LOOK HOW LITTLE IT COSTS by DOMELINER



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COACH ONE WAY \$67³⁹ \$115¹⁵ ROUND TRIP

SALT LAKE CITY
COACH ONE WAY \$23⁷² \$42⁷⁰ ROUND TRIP

DENVER
COACH ONE WAY \$41⁵⁰ \$76⁰⁰ ROUND TRIP

KANSAS CITY
COACH ONE WAY \$53⁴⁵ \$96⁶⁵ ROUND TRIP

ST. LOUIS
COACH ONE WAY \$61⁹⁴ \$109³⁰ ROUND TRIP

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FOR • HUSBAND AND WIFE
FOR • FAMILY WITH YOUNGSTERS

leaving Monday thru Thursday—returning any day

Example: MODERN COACH TRAVEL LOS ANGELES TO CHICAGO

	ROUND TRIP	ONE WAY
Husband	\$115.15	\$67.39
Wife	67.40	33.70
Child 12-21 yrs.	67.40	33.70
Child 8-11 yrs.	33.70	16.85
Child under 8 yrs.	FREE	FREE

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Los Angeles, 6th & Olive Sts.
Phone NEmark 9-4310 or MAdison 9-1381

(Political Advertisement)

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- ★ Torrance Resident Since 1948
- ★ Parks and Recreation Commissioner 6-years
- ★ Realtor
- ★ Past Secretary Torrance-Lomita Board of Realtors
- ★ Chairman Staff Aids Torrance Red Cross

- ★ Member Torrance Chamber of Commerce and Committee on Community Planning
- ★ Represents Parks and Recreation Commission at T.E.A.C.
- ★ State Director California Real Estate Realtors Association

- COMPTON 415 W. Compton Blvd.
- TORRANCE 1327 El Prado
- LOMITA Coast Highway at West.

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Sizes 12 to 24 Months
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GOOD FOR
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Perfect for house cleaning
6 FOR 1⁰⁰

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BATH MAT 3-PC. SET
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Complete 3.98
3-Pc. Set **2⁹⁹**

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FILLER PAPER
25c Pkg.
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Single or Double
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