

School Bonds

Civic-Minded

Editor
Torrance Press:
The question has been asked, "Why does Al Gianni go out and help candidates for the City Council get elected?" Or, "Why do you do it unless you can get some gain from it?"
I would like to impose upon

your good newspaper to give my answer.
The reason that I help candidates for public office get elected is that I want to help the people of Torrance, and get good government for the city.
During the last election, in 1952, we pushed the BID ticket, and put two good men in office. My place is open at all times

to anyone interested in good government, and I will continue to help candidates get elected as long as they are for the people of Torrance and for good government.
It is hard for me to understand why anyone wants to question the good intentions of a good citizen, but here is my answer, and I thank you if you

Editor
Torrance Press
May I express my sincere appreciation to you for your invitation to the schools to have a will print it.
Keep up your good work.
Best regards,
(signed) Albert D. Gianni
2131 W. 182nd St.

guest editorial on the front page of your March 4 issue. It was an excellent gesture, well timed for the benefit of our bond issue and I am sure it was of value to us and that it was appreciated, not only by myself, but by the Board of Education and the parents and children of the community.
Thanks again.
Cordially yours,
(signed) J. H. Hull

Car Misses Cops; Hits Gobs Head-on

After forcing a police car off Pacific Coast Highway, a passenger car collided head-on with another, causing a sailor to be pinned in the wreckage for almost half an hour early Saturday morning. Five people were sent to Harbor General Hospital with injuries ranging from minor to serious.

The crash occurred on the treacherous stretch of Pacific Coast Highway near the Ellinwood tract.
Booked on suspicion of felony drunk driving after treatment for minor cuts and bruises at Harbor General Hospital was Richard Headon, 40, of Manhattan Beach.

Pinned in Car
Lewis Cheshire, 21, was pinned in the other car for nearly 30 minutes before the wreckage could be pulled away to allow his release, officers stated.
Sent to Harbor General Hospital were Donald W. Campbell, 22, driver of the other car, suffering a fractured frontal bone; Eugene Martin, 21, fractured right femur; and Lewis Cheshire, 21, multiple fractures. All are sailors aboard the USS Helena.

Also hospitalized was Frank L. Vickson, 39, of Manhattan, a passenger in the Headon car. Martin suffered a fractured right femur.

Forced Off Road
Police Officers Ralph Walker and Sam Piazza said they were forced onto the shoulder of the highway when the Headon car, traveling without lights, came at them from the east on the wrong side of the 80-foot highway.

While the officers were turning around to investigate, the Headon car crashed head on into the Campbell car, it was disclosed.
Headon was released after bail was set for \$1500.

MR. AND MRS. Grover C. Van Deventer enjoyed a visit with their daughter Mickey, home last week-end from Redlands University. Mickey is to sing with the University choir at Sunrise services in the Hollywood Bowl.

DEAR EDITOR
Against Rezoning Torrance Blvd.

Editor
Torrance Press,
Subject: Case 310, Rezoning from R-3 to C-1 Commercial West of Madrid on Torrance boulevard.
Following is a list of reasons that the majority of the Planning Commission based their negative vote on regarding the rezoning of this area after giving it weeks of study.

Changing zones is a serious matter, and could set a precedent we would all regret later on.

From 1940 to 1950 the property before this commission for change of zone was situated in Zone R-3 (Limited Multiple Family Residence).

In 1950 a new Zone Plan for the City of Torrance was prepared and the Commission, after reviewing all the facts, recommended that the section remain in this same Zone (R-3). However, the Commission, realizing that the normal growth of business should be considered in this area, extended the business zone from Cota westerly to Madrid avenue. Since this addition of business zoning, there have only been approximately four commercial units constructed in this area. Further there are 11 lots still vacant and 21 improved and semi-improved with residential units available for business ventures.

By removing the present dwellings there are available 32 building sites which are at the present time located in a C-1 Zone. (Retail Commercial.)

In the area under hearing we have a total of 2 vacant lots. The balance is built up with approximately 14 4-family flats, 16 single dwellings, 4 commercial lots (Corner Crenshaw Blvd.)

To change the Zone on this street at this time would be detrimental to values of the existing structures by allowing small business buildings to encroach in front of Homes and Apartments.

Generally speaking, combination of stores and apartments are undesirable from the standpoint of both the store and the apartments. Streets or other spaces congested with parked automobiles of the apartment dwellers district provides a poor residential environment, especially for children.

Changing this Zone R-3 to C-1 Commercial would no doubt increase the land value, but whether this would offset the increased assessed valuation which could cost these property owners considerable more in their tax bills is questionable.

We believe that the highest and most economical use of the land in question, at this time, is for Limited Multiple Family Residence Zone R-3.

Trusting you will print our side of the controversy, I beg to remain

Very truly yours,
(signed) Beverly B. Smith,
president, Torrance Planning Commission

Park Recreation Beauty Contest Council To Meet

Editor
Torrance Press
Your article in last week's Press of the announcement by the Junior and Senior Chambers of Commerce that they planned to hold a Miss Torrance Beauty Contest with the community fair planned for August has certain implications involving the Torrance Area Youth Bands which I feel needs some clarification.

It is true that the Youth Band has successfully sponsored the Beauty Contest for the past two years and at this writing is making preparations for staging the event again this summer. It is also true that the Fair Committee of the Junior and Senior Chambers of Commerce has extended an "invitation" to the Youth Band to stage the Beauty Contest in conjunction with the proposed community fair and adjudge the winners to be the girls who bring in the most money for the fair committee. The merits of this "offer" will probably be discussed and a verdict rendered at the next meeting of the Youth Band Board of Directors meeting.

I would like for your readers to know that during the past two years of Miss Torrance Beauty Contests sponsored by the Youth Band the only requirement enforced upon the contestants was that they exhibit their figure, poise, face, voice, and charm, in both formal and bathing suits, before a panel of competent unbiased judges. It is on this basis alone that "Miss Torrance" has been chosen.

I cannot speak without official action by our board of directors but it is my own personal opinion that the Youth Band will not be a party to any "scheme" of selecting "Miss Torrance" on her ability to go out and "sell votes."

Yours very sincerely,
(signed) James Van Dyck,
director
Torrance Area Youth Bands,
Inc. Sponsors of "Miss Torrance Beauty Pageant"

THE WALTERIA P-TA assisted Miss Virginia Stallings, seventh grade teacher, by making the blood bank available to her in her recent illness. Miss Stallings is now resting at her home.

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