Thursday, November 15, 1956

TORRANCE PRESS Page TT

Doctor Attends 3

## What Does Torrance Have to Offer Culturally? Newly Organized Art Group Slates Three-Day Festival Art Festival: Schedule Of Events LOCATION: Torrance (Ben. brought to the pool shelter | ART FILMS to be shown in-Torrance blvd, near Madrona). major divisions include paint DATE: Friday, November 16 ing, sculpture and crafts.

(This is the first in a series of articles dealing with Torrance's cultural activities. Has the city's cultural development kept pace with the city's rapid growth? What is being done here culturally? What is needed? The series will cover the fine arts, music, little theater work, and discussion groups. The articles will be writ-ten by Ralph R. Gompertz and Durfee Parkins.)

### By RALPH R. GOMPERTZ

"Come down, come down from your ivory tower," a popular song title which is frequently applied to dreamers, college professors, and artists, is completely out of place, however, when applied to the recently organized Torrance Art group.

The principles upon which the group was organized are refreshing in their soundness, both as they apply to artists nd the general public.

"We don't officially approve of any one style of painting," Mrs.Vicky Feldon, founder of the group, stated. "Our members paint as they want to - from traditional to abstract. We are only interested in encouraging good paint-Ing.

Artists, on the other hand, don't just paint for themselves, they paint for others, too, Mrs. Feldon stressed.

"You don't paint for yourself alone," she said, "you want people to look at your paintings, too."

Recognizing the importance of the relationship of the rtist and the public, the group is sponsoring its first threeday art festival here this week-end in order to permit area artists to display their wares and permit local residents to see what's being done here in the way of artistic expression. HOW TO ENJOY ART

If individuals approach art properly, they can gain a great deal of enjoyment from it, Mrs. Feldon explained.

"The important thing to remember is that an artist is not a photographer," Mrs. Feldon continued. "Individuals should remember that the camera was invented to reproduce actual scenes and people. The artist, however, adds 'himself' p his painting. It is not a question of how well he reproduces nature but a question of what does he put into it of himself. Different artists try to do different things in their paintings. They range from cold abstract to the highly emotional. The sort of art an individual likes simply reflects his own personality."

Art is a special language and in order to understand art properly an individual should try to learn that language. Individuals, Mrs. Feldon suggested, should open their minds half-way and meet the artist half-way.

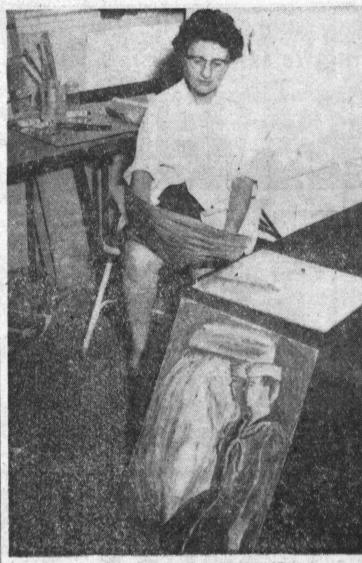
Mrs. Feldon started the local group in January of this year simply by writing a "letter to the editor" asking individdals who are interested in painting to contact her in order to form an art group.

Twelve individuals responded, half of whom are still with the group. At present the group consists of about a dozen active members, both men and women.

Members are mostly amateur painters, ranging from beginners to those with professional school training. Not only is the group free of identification with any one school of art,

#### PANELISTS Art Show Set TO DISCUSS By South Bay A.ssocia! ART FRIDAY The South mmunity Arts associatio hold its

annual show 1. Carrying out the theme of members only, a



THE HALF-WAY MEETING Mrs. Vicky Feldon, head of the Torrance Art Group, believes that the artist and the public should make an attempt to meet each other half-way .--- Press Photo.

but it places no restrictions either on the medium in which any of the members wish to express themselves. Consequently, different individuals specialize in oil, water color, casein paint, ceramics, silk screening, sculpture (in wood) and copper etching. MEETINGS

The group, which recently became a part of the Torrance Recreation Department, meets the first Friday of every month at McMaster Park on 174th st. near Yukon.

There's just one requirement-every member must bring in a new project which he has started since the last meeting, whether it is completed or not. The evening is then given over to group discussion and criticism.

Mrs. Feldon, who, together with her husband, Milton, and their three children, Fred, 8, Francis, 4, and Ruth 2, came here from Akron, Ohio, finds Torrance a wonderful place icipating in which to live.

Hermosa ned to settle in Torrance at The Feldons had not p' They happened to pass through the city, liked it so much, and within three days bought a home here at 815 Fonthill. Mrs. Feldon's husband works in research at Shell Chemical. Mrs. Feldon hopes that through the efforts of her group, individuals with artistic interests will find an outlet and that the life of the community will be enriched. While some individuals find satisfaction in just painting for a hobby, others feel compelled to dedicate their whole life to painting, subordinating everything else to this one calling. Yet there is one thing that all who have ever held a paint brush hold in common-the desire to interpret what they have seen and felt so that others may see and feel.

Day Conference stead) swimming pool shelter house on Thursday, November clude: "What is Modern Art?", In Palm Springs house on new civic center (3331 15, between 6 and 9 p.m. Three "Grandma Moses," "Rome," and Dr. George O. Peeke has just "Art Survives the Times."

through Sunday, November 18. FRIDAY: Panel talk, "Car

returned from a three day meeting of the Pacific Coast Fertility society held at the El Mira-

their works and the public will p.m.

EVENT: Artists of the area You Live with Modern Art," Sure, I'm O. Howie Hustle the dor hotel, Palm Springs, No-will have a chance to display awards and public exhibit, 8-10 Classified Ad! Whatever you vember 8-11. Representatives have to buy or sell, I'm your from the entire Pacific coast personal representative. When were present,

have an' opportunity to view SATURDAY: Exhibit 2-6 p.m.; it comes to increasing your Dr. Peeke also attended some them. All works must be orig. art films, 4-6 p.m. inal. Oils must be framed, SUNDAY: Exhibit, 2-6 p.m.; cash. I'm a bull and a bear. of the Western Week activities water colors matted. Entries art films, 4-6 p.m.; art demon- Dial FA. 8-2345 and place your and was guest at the Racket order for fast rising profits. club. must be wired for hanging and stration, 6-8 p.m.



'Art to Live With," the Art Biltmore hotel, in Hermosa Festival in Torrance will open Beach, Friday, November 30 at with a panel discussion, Friday, 8:30 p.m.

November 16, 8-10 p.m., on "Can It will be open to the public, Du Live with Contemporary and feature Painting, Sculpture, Art?" It will take place at the and Ceramics and Jewelry. Benstead plunge, 3331 Torrance Prizes for each of the groups will be announced at a later blvd.

Speaking for the artists will date. be Ben Shaw, 3214 Cricklewood. Feaure of the evening will be He has studied at the Art Cen- the presentation of awards, and ter school in Los Angeles, a drawing for a lovely seascape worked as a sketch artist for oil painting by Dale Kingsley Universal studios, exhibited at Ash, prominent southland artist. the Orange County fair, Los Donation tickets for this drawengeles County Museum, Pasa- ing may be obtained by contactena museum, De Young mu- ing members of the association. seum, San Francisco, and the The show will also be open Palos Verdes gallery. He is Saturday and Sunday, Decemalso a member of the California ber 1 and 2 from 1.5 p.m. Water-Color society. Anyone interested in joining

The other artist on the panel the association may enter his will be Mrs. Enid Helvey, 4403 work in this show by calling Newton st. She received a BA FR. 4-8437 or FR. 4-5277. and MA in art education at the

Chicago Art institute and has taught in Arizona, Santa Bar- LAS FIESTADORES ara college, Los Angeles State WILL DANCE

college, and the South Bay Adult school. Mrs. Helvey has On Saturday, November 17, exhibited at the Santa Barbara the Las Fiestadores dance group museum and is a member and is having a dance at the exhibiting artist with the South Hacienda club, San Pedro. Each Bay Community Arts associa- member is asked to bring a tion of which she was a former guest. Host and hostess are member of their board of direc- Mr. and Mrs. Earl Clayton, Mr. tors. She is also a life member and Mrs. Bob Clayton, Mr. and of Delta Phi Delta, honorary art Mrs. R. R. Dexter and Dr. and Mrs. Burt Easley are on the fraternity.

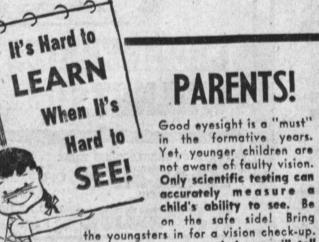
Mrs. Herma Tillim, 16914 committee. Osage ave., will speak for the A pre-dance party will be held public. She is chairman of the at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Recreation commission, director Easley, 3306 El Dorado at 8:15 of the Torrance Personnel agen- p.m. All members and guests cy and active in Torrance com- are invited. munity affairs.

Also representing the lay- nent in Torrance civic affairs. man's viewpoint will be John Donald Mansfield, 3226 An-K. Kesson, 2015 W. 182nd st., tonio, assistant city manager, president of the North Torrance will act as moderator for the Civic Improvement association, discussion. Coffee will be served associated with the Kesson Oil after the panelists finish their Producting company and promi- informative discussion.

MEXICO

TORRANCE

(NEXT WEEK: The Little Theater Movement in Torrance by Durfee Parkins).



If glasses are not needed, we will tell you. Come in soon . . . Enjoy the peace of mind that comes from knowing your children are free from the handicap of imperfect vision!

Until 7:00

1:00 p.m.

elcome

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OPTOMETRISTS

PEOPLE FROM EVERYWHERE ARE HEADED FOR THE TALK TURKEY SALE\*

# **DOWNTOWN TORRANCE**

\* Big Selections - Bigger Savings - Biggest Values Downtown Merchants Division, Torrance Chamber of Commerce