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PARKING PROBLEM?—There doesn't appear to be any shortage of parking spaces as indicated in these photos of downtown Torrance. These pictures were all taken Monday afternoon and clearly indicate numerous available parking spaces in front of meters. Top photo shows Post Ave., looking north from Cravens Ave.; center, is Cravens Ave., looking south-east from Post, and bottom photo shows Torrance Blvd. east of Engracia Ave.—Press Photos

Engineering Report Blasts Road Work

Time for Change

AN EDITORIAL

To see wide open spaces, one doesn't have to go to Texas. One can stay in downtown Torrance and observe them right along the curb.

But despite the overabundant number of vacant parking stalls, 700 meters are installed in the central area.

When the meters were originally installed, it was intended that they assure rotation of parking spaces as well as provide the revenue with which to purchase off-street parking lots.

But as was pointed out in Sunday's Torrance Press, motorists are avoiding the central district more and more and revenue is rapidly slipping.

Income from the meters has dropped to the extent that only once in the past seven months has it been sufficient to pay for the charges against the meter fund.

Daily observation of parking stalls in the downtown area clearly shows that there is no parking shortage either at meters or in city lots, except rarely on Friday afternoons and Saturdays.

Despite the abundance of available space, enforcement is vigilant, to the point of driving shoppers away.

It should be emphasized that this is not intended to blame the enforcement officers for doing their job well, for either a law should be enforced vigilantly, or the law should be repealed entirely.

It seems to us that with motorists steadily bypassing the metered downtown area, a committee should be appointed by Mayor Albert Isen to survey the problem.

Undoubtedly the study will show that a number of meters should be removed entirely, and that time limits be used instead of meters in other sections.

The important thing, however, is that action be taken now, before the city loses too much in sales tax revenues.

Overcharge Indicated in City Probe

A contractor's road construction work will be questioned Tuesday, when an engineering report claiming an overcharge of \$14,087 will be submitted to the City Council.

The report submitted by Wade E. Peebles indicates that work performed by the Norwalk Asphaltic Concrete Co., on Lomita Blvd., did not adhere to city plans.

The report claims that the engineering department was unable to find that a storm drain included in the job was approved by anyone.

It also alleges that the drain pipe was not installed as was designed on city plans but was connected to a county trunk line without the county's approval, control or inspection.

Despite this finding, the contractor charged for the work as if it were constructed according to the plans, the report said.

The report also asserts that the city was denied use of two-feet of roadway for the entire length of Lomita Blvd. from Crenshaw to Hawthorne Bldvs. Despite this, Peebles claims in his report that the City is being over-charged by \$4046 on this item.

The report also questions installation of sewer laterals, asserting a \$4298 in over-billing.

Norwalk Asphalt submitted a final bill of \$182,292.48 for the job, while city officials claim the correct billing should have been \$168,205.33.

City inspectors who were assigned to supervise the project, are no longer with the city, it was learned.

Beer Problem Faces Airport Commission

Something of an argument may brew at today's meeting of the Airport Commission when the subject turns to beer.

The board will act on a request by a citizens committee to sell beer at Torrance Municipal Airport on Airport Day, Sept. 9.

Commission President Tom Abrams said he has been asked about allowing suds concessions with the proceeds to help defray costs of future airport promotions.

"I'm still personally against it, but that's only one man's opinion," Abrams said.

He explained that he is not fearful that pilots might take off in planes while under the weather, but he is worried that some people might get tanked up and wander out on the runway.

At tonight's meeting Abrams will poll his commission colleagues on the subject.

Four Hurt in Auto Collisions

Four Orange County residents were injured in a two-car collision at Pacific Coast Highway and Calle Mayor Sunday night.

Taken to Pacific Medical Center were John A. Mortimer, 32, his wife, Sally M., 27, and son, Brook, 2, all of Laguna Beach, and Arthur Trumhough, 52, of Costa Mesa, police reported.

The other vehicle was driven by Clifford Davis, 16, of 21817 Marjorie Ave., officers said.

In a collision at Pacific Coast Highway and Hawthorne Blvd., Mrs. Amra M. Gohle, 59, a passenger in the car driven by Frederick W. Gohle, 66, of Los Angeles, complained of injuries, police said.

A woman who fell beneath the wheels of her rolling car, was taken to Pacific Medical Center, Saturday.

Mrs. Elizabeth C. Otto, 58, of 210 Via Alameda, told officers that she was removing a bicycle left in the driveway behind the car she was pulling out of the garage.

The auto started rolling and while Mrs. Otto attempted to stop it, she fell under the wheels of the car.

A neighbor, Harry Davis of 207 Via Alameda, was called to the scene and aided her until police arrived.

ISSUE DOG LICENSES

New dog licenses will be issued at the South Bay Humane Society beginning today. The tags, which cost \$3, will be issued only if a valid rabies certificate is presented.

Plans Near Ready for City Parade

Plans are nearly completed for the third annual Rancho Days Parade, July 25, it was announced by the sponsoring Torrance Chamber of Commerce.

This year's event will start at 6 p.m. instead of the usual late morning hours. Lt. D. C. Cook, who again is in charge of the event, stated the change was made so that the over 50,000 viewers can enjoy the parade in more comfort. The last two years, extreme heat was a real hazard, not only to viewers, but also to the marchers who have to cover an area of over two miles in the line of march.

Lt. Cook said Torrance will not again boast of the Southland's longest parade—last year's event lasted over 3½ hours. "This year, Lt. Cook said, "we have planned a snappy 1½ hour event and are now one of ten parades in Southern California that are invitation-only."

Latest bands to have accepted invitations are Antler's Drum and Bugle Corps, Los Caballeros, Bellflower Ranger Band, and the Long Beach Youth Band.

Soldier in Germany

Army Pvt. Robert Sadgavage, son of Mrs. Esther Johnson, 5233 Bindewald Rd., recently was assigned to the 3d Infantry Division in Germany.

The 19-year-old soldier is a 1957 graduate of Torrance High School. Before entering the Army, he was employed by Metlox Manufacturing Company, Manhattan Beach.

Driver 'Shaved' of Money

The \$5 robbery of a driver by a young hitchhiker Monday night is under investigation by Torrance detectives this week.

George Edward Gresh, 39, a custodian at a Long Beach hospital, told officers that the youth he picked up in Manhattan Beach suddenly whipped out a razor mounted in a holder while they were driving along Pacific Coast Highway between Calle Mayor and Hawthorne Blvd.

"Look, I want you to see this," the young robber, described as 18 and of slight stature, told Gresh.

He then forced him to return to Manhattan Beach, where he took the money out of his wallet.

The bandit then forced the victim to continue to drive along residential streets and then park.

Discuss Plans for Extension of Del Amo Blvd

Right-of-way problems for the extension of Del Amo Blvd. from Madrona Ave. to Crenshaw Blvd. were discussed between city and General Petroleum officials, Tuesday.

The city has been promised county funds of above \$200,000 for the construction of the project which would link Hawthorne and Crenshaw Bldvs.

Presently traffic between these two major streets has to use either 190th St. or Torrance Blvd.

Two Subdivisions OK'd in Carson

Two Carson area subdivisions were approved by the County Regional Planning Commission last week.

These included the requests of Clyde C. Myers to erect six homes on a one-acre parcel located north of 213th St., and west of Bolsa St., and the application of R. A. Watt to build 325 single family homes on 60 acres north of Carson St. and east of Normandie Ave.

O.K. TRASH SITE

A zone exception for a waste disposal facility containing approximately 180 acres east of Main St., and south from Del Amo Blvd., was approved by the County Regional Planning Commission.

7600 Enrolled in Summer School, Expect Increase

Nearly 7600 students were enrolled in summer school classes in Torrance schools Tuesday, with more expected by the end of the week, according to officials.

Included in the totals were 5911 elementary students and 1657 high school students. Totals are expected to increase during the week as many students traditionally are a little late in entering. Some cases of flu were reported among the enrollees.

Heaviest attendance was at Seaside School, where 481 students returned for summer classes in sessions which will run through July 31. Riviera School reported 388 students, while Steele had 325.

South High had 704 pupils, while North High counted 627.



WAR PAINT—Instructor Janet Thomson puts ceremonial paint on face of Barry Seidler during an Indian lore class which began at the Arts and Crafts Center, 1511 Cravens Ave., Monday. Classes will be held on Mondays and Wednesdays during summer, with children between the ages of 6 and 12 learning how to make Indian objects.

Mother of the Year Contest Deadline

"Children are wonderful people," stated Dick Fitzgerald of the Carl's Mother of the Year Contest judging committee. "I never realized how really well thought of our local mothers are. The hundreds of entries so far received are warm and glowing tributes to this most wonderful of all people."

There is still time left to enter this most unique contest for Mom. The victorious mother will receive a beautiful mink stole from the Gay Shop in Torrance, and what will probably be the most exciting day of her life as she reigns supreme at the Grand Opening of Carl's Market at 228th and Vermont Avenues here in the heart of the great South Bay. Children up to the age of 18 may send entries, to be found on page 11 of today's Press, to nominate their mother for Carl's Market Mother of the Year. The contest closes Tuesday.



SHARK HUNTERS—A. L. Patronsky, Torrance pharmacist, and his son, Robert, examine fishing gear with which they caught shark which may have been a man-killer. Stomach of shark is being analyzed to determine if it contained human tissues. —Press Photo

Pharmacist Hunts Shark for Hobby

A Torrance pharmacist may have killed a mankiller shark during a fishing trip, Saturday.

A. J. Patronsky, owner of the Professional Pharmacy, 2055 Torrance Blvd., is awaiting an autopsy report to determine if human flesh was in the stomach of the 15-foot blue shark.

"There was a suspicious hunk of meat, and when we pulled it at Pierpoint landing, we turned it over to the police," Patronsky said.

Removes Stomach

A shark killer for the past two years, the pharmacist said that after he caught the shark, he slit it open and removed the stomach. After examining the stomach, he tossed the carcass back into the ocean.

Patronsky and his son, Robert, 16, have been going out on his 29-foot cabin cruiser "Pelican" every weekend to hunt for sharks in the Catalina Channel.

He believes that increase in water temperatures has attracted the sharks which have killed two persons this year.

"They're more plentiful and larger. Also they are hungrier, braver and come in closer," he pointed out.

Patronsky won a trophy for shark hunting last year, but said he has never caught a white shark, although he hooked one once.

He used a 120-pound line with a 300-pound leader to bring in the fish.

"The bonita sharks fight like marlin," he explained. "There should be a lot more people going shark hunting. It's good sport."

The coroner's officers said that it had sent the shark stomach which was turned over by Patronsky to the pathology department in General Hospital for analysis.

Fireworks Stand Rumors' Create City Warning

The city will stand for no shenanigans in operating fireworks stands, which open here for business Sunday.

This was made clear by the City Council after a couple of them reported they heard "rumors" that two licensed organizations intend to turn over sale of fireworks to a private promoter.

License Inspector Gale Whitacre said that service clubs and other local organizations which have been issued licenses, are required to man the stands themselves.

The City Council authorized use of a policeman to check the stands to determine if the licensed organizations are manning them themselves or turning over operations to an outsider.

Councilmen said that if they find any violation of the ordinance, the stands will be closed.

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