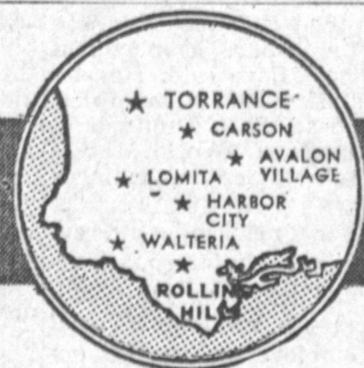


# Midnight Tonight Ends Registration

24-Hour  
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## TORRANCE PRESS

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VOLUME XII, NUMBER 42

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1960

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# SCHOOL TAX FIGHT LOOMS

## Council Says 'Whoa' to Gift from Del Amo

The Del Amo Estate's presentation of a huge section of trees eventually estimated at three quarters of a million dollars, to help beautify the City of Torrance, came to a temporary halt this week, as the city council voted to wait a week to get a complete report in writing.

It had earlier been pointed out that the city can take as few or as many trees as it chose from the Del Amo nurseries, but that it would present an estimated cost of \$15,000 to haul and transplant all the trees.

"There are strings attached to this offer if they are restricting us to one area," Councilman Willys Blount insisted. "The area I was shown had large trees, and it would cost us more than it is worth," Blount declared.

Councilman Nicholas Drake stated "we are not paying Del Amo any money at all. We are not paying \$15,000 for trees, and we are not under any obligation at all. We can take one tree or all."

As a substitute motion, the council appointed a commission of three men, Councilmen Victor E. Benstead, Willys Blount, and George Vico, to meet with the Del Amo Estate representatives, explore the sections offered, and obtain in writing the exact offer extended to the city. They will report back to the council next week.

## Security Bank To Offer Samples at Open House

Torrance's newest bank, Security First National branch at 1347 El Prado, will be launched tomorrow with an open house.

Flipo the Clown, refreshments, balloons, samples of the bank's merchandise and a Treasure Chest of transistor radios and cash prizes will mark open house Friday, James J. Weigel, manager, announced.

New contemporary quarters in downtown Torrance marks Security's 24th in Southern California.

The opening day festivities will begin at 9:45 a.m. with a ribbon-cutting ceremony. The open house will continue to 9 p.m.



BRAND NEW JOB—Kathy Hamilton, 923 Linden Ave., Long Beach, walks into a title and a new assignment, registering in Torrance's Department of Employment. The 50,000th registrant here, Miss Hamilton receives a referral slip from Mel Sparkes, Veterans Employment representative, and meets her new boss, Albert W. Hinz, director of industrial relations, Harvey Aluminum Co. in Torrance.

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## Local Employment Office Marks Silver Anniversary

Torrance and South Bay workers received \$4,891,046 in unemployment insurance benefits during the 12 months ending June 30, 1960, Murray Love, manager, Torrance office of the California State Employment Service, announced today.

"South Bay merchants were also benefited by these temporary payments to jobless workers in that they were enabled to pay their own bills through this boost in community purchasing power," Love said.

"September 15 marks the 25th anniversary of California's unemployment insurance program," Love said. "In the Los Angeles area we have 119,786 employers, with a total of 1,841,325 employees, who are covered by unemployment insurance."

"In addition, there are 56,601 Federal Government employees who are protected by job insurance, benefits paid from federal funds."

"While the \$263,380,655 in benefits paid gave a boost to the economy in the Los An-

## Plunge to Stay Open All Month

Torrance's Benstead plunge will open week-day evenings during the current hot spell, according to Harry Van Belleham, director, Recreation Department.

The pool at 3331 Torrance Blvd. will be open from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. The usual small charge for admission will prevail.

The plunge will also be open on week-ends throughout September, he said.

## Board Approves Bid to Construct New Victor School

A \$715,200 bid for construction of Victor Elementary School, Spencer and Victor, has been accepted by the Torrance Board of Education, Superintendent J. H. Hull announced today.

The new school will serve the rapidly developing Victor Tract area. It will have 21 classrooms as well as administration, music, shop, homemaking, and multipurpose cafeteria-auditorium facilities.

Construction by the Kiely Corp., lowest of 11 bidders, will begin soon.

## Camino Welcomes 12 New Instructors

Newcomers to the El Camino College faculty this semester total 12. Dr. Stuart E. Marsee, president of the college, announced today. The campus is opening for its fourteenth academic year.

All instructors named by President Marsee are full-time additions to the staff, some serving as one-year replacements for instructors now on leave of absence or exchange.

Coming to the United States as an exchange teacher in the division of social sciences is Ivar Ruht Bjornal of Halden, Norway, who will assume the history classes of Instructor Will Scoggins. Scoggins is currently in the Scandinavian country for a one-year teaching assignment.

## Barbers Hassle Over Staying Open on Sunday

Torrance barbers threw verbal towels right and left at a furious pace this week, as more than 100 showed up at the city council to haggle over whether to close or not to close on Sundays.

Petitioning the city to order all shops closed on Sunday, pro and con forces were loudly vocal in their reasons why shops should close or stay open.

The city council referred the matter to the legal department to determine whether a health or public safety problem was involved. A report will be delivered at the next council meeting.

## City Hall Will Be Open Late to Register

With a record turnout of voters registering in Torrance, spurred on by civic organizations, volunteer groups and door-to-door canvassing, the city hall will remain open tonight, Thursday, until midnight for last minute registration.

Headed by Mrs. Helen Robello, registrar, five men and women will work to the late hour to register as many as possible, Deputy City Clerk Robert Carlson, announced today.

Those who have not registered as yet may call the city hall, FA 8-5310, to learn the names and address of a neighborhood deputy. There are 175 voting precincts throughout Greater Torrance, the deputy announced.

Mayor Albert Isen and the city council urged every possible effort be exerted to turn in a 100 per cent registration. Bank of America and Safeway, Carson and Western Ave. are also taking registrations today.

## Advisory Group to Discuss Plans

Torrance's Instructional program and the proposals for the forthcoming school tax override election will be discussed Monday, Sept. 19 at a meeting of the Torrance Educational Advisory Committee.

The group will gather at the Torrance Masonic Lodge, 2336 Cabrillo Ave., at noon.

## Board Seeks 50¢ Tax Override in October Election

With 27,000 youngsters enrolled in Torrance schools, and another school year in full swing, opposing forces are turning their attention to the 50-cent tax override requested by the school board, and up for special election Oct. 11.

Answering opposition that the tax override does not have a time-limit once approved, Superintendent J. H. Hull today declared, "the Torrance school district tax rate, even with the override, will be more reasonable than some of its neighboring districts."

"The school tax rate, which

includes bonds and interest, Hull said, "two years from today, if the override is voted adds 50 cents, will still be below the tax rate of Lawndale, Hawthorne, Manhattan Beach, Redondo Beach and Palos Verdes by this date."

The total school tax rate for Redondo Beach School district is \$2.17, Hull said, "add the tax rate for the South Bay Union High School district of \$1.99, and the total tax rate for this district is \$4.17."

"The same applied to Palos Verdes amounts to \$3.85; Manhattan Beach elementary district, \$2.43. Hawthorne has

a \$2.56 tax rate for its elementary schools, and \$1.95 for its high schools, making a total of 4.51."

"Lawndale also has a \$2.33 tax rate for its elementary schools, and \$1.95 for its high schools, for a total of \$4.28."

Torrance's present tax rate is only \$3.63, the superintendent explained. "This is not comparable to what other districts in our area are paying for education on the local tax bill."

Torrance's school tax of \$3.63 includes some 92 cents for bonds and interest, Hull declared. "It is this which is most expensive in Torrance, due to the large building program we have carried on for many years."

For operating costs, which the override is designed to aid exclusively, Torrance's tax rate is \$2.68, "whereas the Los Angeles school district's operating cost is \$2.80," he said.

The bond and interest rate here is almost double that of Los Angeles, however "it must be remembered that the Los Angeles School District is readying a \$153,000,000 bond issue, which will increase the tax structure," Hull stated.

Only one of Torrance's neighbors, El Segundo, has a lower tax rate, Hull explained. "El Segundo has a small residential area, therefore smaller numbers of students to support, and it has a large industrial base."

"The home owners of Tor-

(Continued on Page A-2)

## Contract Given to Pave Stretch Improving Blvd.

Award of a contract for the improvement of Hawthorne Blvd., from Crest Road to 1.2 miles southerly, to Asphalt Sales Company on its low bid of \$67,931.06 was announced today by County Supervisor Burton W. Chace.

The project was designed by the Los Angeles County Road Department and is scheduled to be completed in November of this year.

Work will consist of constructing pavement for a two-lane highway. Grading and drainage structures were constructed by adjacent developers.

Chace said that Hawthorne Blvd. is a major highway and will eventually be developed to full master plan highway standards from the Pacific Coast Highway to Palos Verdes Drive West.

The segment from Crest Road southerly is a continuation of the recently completed portion immediately to the North. The portion between Palos Verdes Drive North and Silver Spur Road is now under construction at an awarded contract cost of \$588,989.

## City Councilman Beasley on Mend

Councilman J. H. Beasley was reported improved this week by his physician, Dr. Paul Bower.

Beasley suffered a heart attack last week, and was rushed to South Bay Community Hospital. He will be confined for the next three weeks recuperating. The family asks that no visitors call, but thanks everyone in Torrance who has sent notes and letters.

## Editorial

Today is the last day to register to vote. There are no tomorrows. If you have not registered as yet, there are field deputies in your neighborhood in every part of Torrance. There is still time. The City Hall will remain open until midnight, with 5 volunteers working overtime to take your registration.

If any self-appointed official or commissar told you that you could not vote, or only vote for one man, you would scream to high heaven. Don't give away your precious heritage. Voting is not only a privilege, it is a duty; it is the oil that lubricates the machinery of government. Without it, rust and civic decay are the result. The rats in the junk heap take over.

Make registering and voting a family project. Load the kids in the car, and take them with you as you register—give them a "grass roots" lesson in civics. Torrance needs your registration, and you need the feeling of participating in your government.



LUCKY BABY—The 1000th infant born in Torrance's Little Company of Mary Hospital gets a royal welcome as Downtown Merchants Association presents young Don Mutt with a complete layette set. Father, Antonio Mutt,

115 W. 117th St., a cook at Del Mar Lanes, and sister Margaret Mary are shown here with the infant's mother, Francisca. The baby weighed 9 lbs., and has a sister, Frances, 11 months. Dr. Reinhold A. Ulrich delivered.



HANDS ACROSS THE SEA — The "ugly American" has no place in Torrance as foreign exchange students toast each other with a soft drink. Around the table are Brenda Memoli, Montivideo, Uruguay, who will study at South High School, Pierette Faure, Seine,

France, North High, and Gabriele Moretti, Turin, Italy, Torrance High. Standing are Robbie Hole, who studied in Nuremberg, Germany, this summer, and Linea Hileman, North High, who will spend this year in Zurich, Switzerland.

## Traffic Council Paints Sidewalk Safety Reminder

Adopting the theme "Schools are Open-Be Extra Alert," the Torrance Traffic Safety Council, in cooperation with the Torrance Parents-Teachers Association, today launched a "Back to School" safety campaign.

More than 26,000 Torrance school children are returning to school this week. The Torrance Traffic Safety Council is initiating a program for their benefit emphasizing pedestrian safety.

The Safety Council is issuing bumper banners stating the theme of the program,

## Foreign Students Enliven Local High School Year

Italy, France, and Uruguay came to Torrance this week, represented by three young people who will spend the coming school year as foreign exchange students here.

Greeted by school board officials, the high school teenagers are here through the American Field Service, according to Mrs. John Walti, chairman.

The students are: Brenda Memoli, Montivideo, Uruguay, who is staying with Mr. and Mrs. John Chaudano, 3429 Crickwood St. She will attend South High.

will be Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Mitchell, 17110 Casimir Ave., and who will be a North High student.

Gabriele Moretti, Turin, Italy, who will make his home this year with Mr. and Mrs. William Herrmann, 2556 El Dorado, and will go to Torrance High.

A South High School student, Robbie Hole, spent the summer in Nuremberg, Germany, under the auspices of the Americans Abroad program. A North High student, Linea Hileman also will go abroad this year to live in Zurich, Switzerland, under the same program.