

Council Calls Special Session on Vacancy

Torrance

Press-Herald

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16 PAGES

Area Market, Savings Office Hit by Gunmen

Building Permits Top \$3.3 Million

Valuation of new buildings and improvements in Torrance rose approximately \$1.5 million during July over the June total of \$1.8 million. July figures show that 261 building permits were issued, a decline from 305 the previous month. The value of permits was \$3.35 million. This year's figures show approximately a \$600,000 decline for July, 1967, as compared with July, 1966.

Man Held As Three Are Hurt

The collision of two autos at Artesia Boulevard and Western Avenue sent three persons to Gardena Medical Emergency Hospital and one man to the Torrance police station on a charge of felony drunk driving Thursday night.

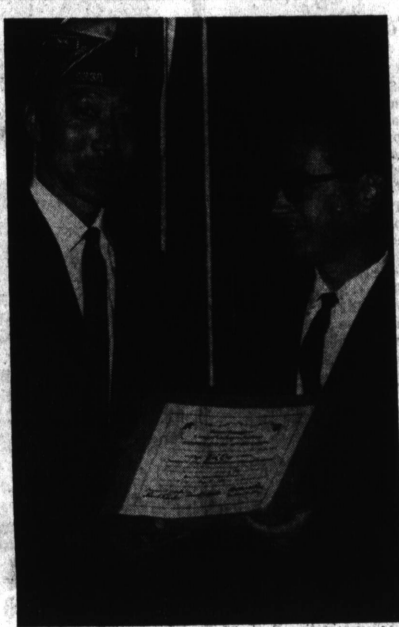
Major improvements being constructed include a 71-unit apartment building at 3649 Emerald St. by the Schuler Investment Corp. and a \$940,000 housing tract at Atkinson Avenue and 180th Street. Comprised of 36 homes, it is being built by Danalou, Inc. Permits also were issued for two restaurants in Torrance, a \$70,000 Howard Johnson restaurant and a restaurant and bar owned by Robert Earls, both on Hawthorne Boulevard.

Car, Train Collide at Crossing

An auto driven by Joseph Macchio, 41, of 1651 W. 247th Place, Harbor City, collided with a Santa Fe freight train Friday near 203rd Street on Western Avenue and was dragged some 55 feet before engineers could halt the train.

Witnesses said the auto ran into the train's path at about 40 miles per hour as the train was crossing Western Avenue at approximately 5 miles per hour. All signal devices were working at the crossing, police reported.

Macchio was taken from his totally wrecked auto to Little Company of Mary Hospital with possible back injuries and minor cuts from flying glass. Damage to the front part of the Santa Fe engine, was described as a bent hand rail and a broken step ladder.



HONOR COMMANDER ... Commander Tak Eno (left) of the Nisei Memorial Post 9938 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, receives a citation from the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors for leading the Pledge of Allegiance at the Aug. 1 meeting. Presenting the citation is Phil A. Pennington, deputy to Supervisor Kenneth Hahn. Eno, of 2010 W. 180th St., served from 1943 to 1946 in the U.S. Army Signal Corps and saw duty in the South Pacific.

\$3,500 Taken By Men

A masked bandit brandishing a revolver and his partner acting as a frightened customer made off with more than \$2,000 in cash Thursday morning from the Thriftmart market at 22217 Palos Verdes Blvd.

The 4 a.m. robbery took place after a customer told a clerk that he would have to return to his car to get his money to pay for groceries.

But when he returned, the clerk found himself confronted with another man threatening him with a 32-caliber revolver. The clerk reported the alleged customer told him, "He means business, he might shoot us."

HOWEVER police reported as the stocking masked man took cash from two registers, the customer was not held at bay or threatened with the gun.

After all customers and the manager were rounded up near the safe and made to lie on the floor, the manager was forced to open the safe. During this time, witnesses said the alleged customer stood in back of the bandit.

The two men fled after the bandit conveniently took the customer as hostage. Witnesses said the customer was about 35 years old while the bandit appeared to be about 25 years old.

SOUTHWEST Savings was the victim of a \$1,581 robbery Wednesday by a young man with a paper sack and a note.

Although no weapon was seen, a teller filled a paper sack with bills from her cash drawer after she was handed a note reading, "Put all the bills in the bag. I have a gun. Don't say anything."

Another employe in the savings and loan, 1603 Cravens Ave., reported he noticed Charles E. Chapel.

Decision Due on Park - - -

A decision on the city's request for use of land for a park on American-Standard property in the Pueblo area is expected to be made this month, according to company officials in New York. At that time, the decision will be announced by Jack Day, Torrance plant manager, they said. The city and the Pueblo Community Club have asked that the company offer approximately three acres of unused land for a park and baseball diamond. Earlier, Day had said that the decision might take several years of study by company officials.

School Board to Meet - - -

Members of the Torrance Board of Education will convene at 7:30 p.m. tomorrow for a regular meeting. Chief items on the agenda is a public hearing and final action on the school district's \$22 million budget for 1967-68. The meeting will be held in the district's administrative offices, 2335 Plaza del Amo.

Burn Victim Succumbs - - -

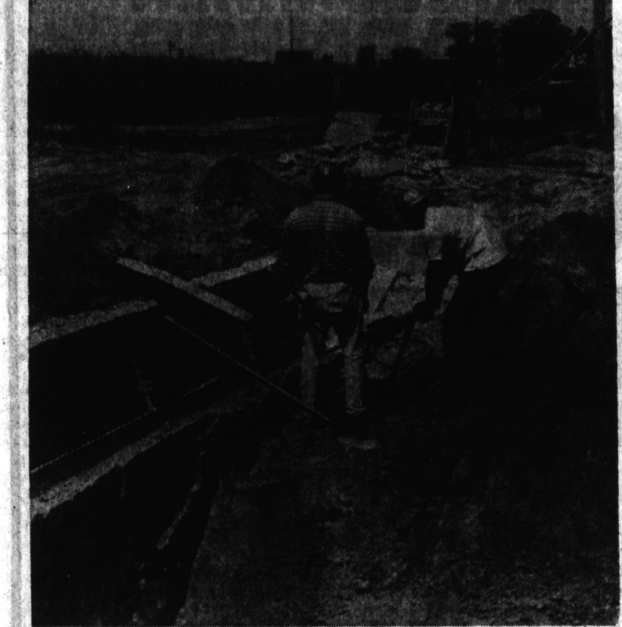
Burns sustained Jan. 30 were listed as the cause of death Wednesday of 69-year-old Morris E. Williamson who died Wednesday in a Torrance convalescent home. Williamson, of 1900 W. Artesia Blvd., was burned in his trailer home when he tried to light an oven. At the time of injury, he was taken to Gardena Emergency Hospital with burns on the upper portion of his body. He was later released but admitted to the convalescent home on July 28.

Army Band To Perform In Redondo

The Fort MacArthur 72nd Army Band will highlight the summer concert series today at City Park in Redondo Beach. Sponsored by the Redondo Beach Parks and Recreation Department, the concert is scheduled at 2 p.m. in the bandshell adjacent to the library at Torrance Boulevard and Pacific Street. Nearly three quarters of a million persons view the band each year as it makes an average of 140 performances at parades, dedication ceremonies, county fairs, and community concerts. The unit was formed in November, 1951, at the Army's West Coast Atomic Research Center, Camp Hanford, Wash. In February, 1958, the band was transferred to Fort MacArthur, where it has since been assigned.



GRADUATE NURSES ... Three newly capped registered nurses chat with Betty Wendland (left), an R. N. and director of educational nursing at Harbor General Hospital, during a reception held last week at the hospital for registered nurses who have just graduated from El Camino and Harbor colleges. All three new nurses are Torrance residents and Harbor College graduates. They are (from left) Mrs. Annette Rodgers, Mrs. Connie Bowman, and Mrs. Ernestine Stansbery. (Press-Herald Photo)



MOVING DAY ... Workmen use jackhammers to clear off lip of a 65-ton storm drain catch basin on Sepulveda Boulevard near Normandie Avenue after Change in street improvement plans required that four such structures be moved back an additional three feet. Huge cranes were called in to help with the moving chore after state officials required a wider roadway than had been designed, according to a Los Angeles public works official at the site. New connections to the drain system were made without relocating the huge drains, he said. (Press-Herald Photo)

Early Morning Meeting Slated to Fill Vacancy

By TIM O'DONNELL, Press-Herald Staff Writer
 City Councilmen have scheduled an unusual personnel session for 6 a.m. tomorrow to discuss candidates eligible to fill the council seat left vacant by the resignation of H. Ted Olson.

The early-morning time was decided upon so that all six of the remaining councilmen could be present in the event a selection is made.

The council meeting scheduled last Tuesday was postponed until Thursday night because there were not enough councilmen in town to constitute a quorum.

THE MEETING Thursday began with only four members. George Vico came in late and J. A. Beasley, who

is still on vacation, did not attend. During Thursday's meeting, councilmen voted to conduct a series of on-site inspections of 234th Street west of Cabrillo Avenue to examine a drainage problem. The problem is the subject of a citizens' petition submitted by residents of the street.

COUNCILMEN were shown pictures of the area in question and those who had visited it agreed that it was the worst example of conditions which reportedly exist at approximately 300 other locations throughout the city.

The matter will come up for action in two weeks. City Manager Edward J. Ferraro's recommendation to

begin condemnation proceedings to acquire land for a Victoria Knolls Park was adopted by councilmen.

THE COUNCIL voted to release \$4,721 in back pay for Water Department employes for emergency overtime callouts from March, 1960 to February, 1967.

The problem arose in reporting overtime hours for emergency callouts and employes were paid for one hour of overtime instead of the stipulated minimum of two hours for each emergency callout.

Councilmen approved the sale of city-owned lots located at Via Valmonte and Hawthorne Boulevard to Telo Koletos and Mrs. Frances Glabe. The lots are separated by Via Valmonte and are on separate sides of the street.

City engineers determined that because of the high slope of the property it is unusable for city purposes.

Press-Herald to Print Assessments for Area

Assessor Philip E. Watson announced this week that assessed valuations for this area will be published in the Press-Herald Wednesday.

Watson said publication of the assessed valuations is part of a countywide program. In some areas only changes in the assessed valuation from last year will be published, while in some areas the full

assessment roll will be published. Purpose of the publication is to notify property owners of changes in their assessed valuations and to facilitate the property owner's comparison of his valuation with valuations of neighboring properties, Watson said.

Watson has followed a policy of providing a public audit of his department's real property assessments since 1964 when he became the first assessor in the state to adopt a policy of full disclosure of assessment information.

The State Legislature provided for mandatory mail or published notice of all assessment changes in the wake of assessment scandals in Northern California in 1965. In addition to the publication of changes in community newspapers, Watson's office will mail a notice to all property owners whose assessed valuation changed this year, along with information explaining their rights of appeal.

"This publication permits taxpayers to compare their assessments with others in their areas without necessitating a trip to the assessor's office and a tedious search of county records," Watson said.

Station Held Up By Pair

Two men with handkerchiefs over their faces took \$65 at gunpoint Friday from a service station at 18605 Western Ave. after tying the attendant in a rest room. Employee Russell Day told police the men walked into the station with an old .22-caliber rifle and told him to get into the woman's rest room. He was tied with a woman's stocking and rope before the men searched the station for cash. Money from a soft drink machine, cash from the station's cash box and Day's wallet were taken.