

Anti-Vietnam March Slated Next Sunday

Torrance

Press-Herald

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WALKING EVIDENCE . . . Cherie, a miniature toy poodle worth \$1,500, cuddles in the arms of Karen Reed, a records secretary at the Torrance Police Department, while Detective Bob Holmes books the tiny dog as evidence in a grand theft case. Police traced Sherie to a Los Angeles home for women parolees Wednesday after the pooch was "dognapped" Monday from the home of an elderly Torrance couple, the Charles R. Duncans, 1221 El Prado St. Four-year-old Cherie is just six inches high. (Press-Herald Photo)

\$2.4 Million Paid for Urban Renewal Project

Plane Taken By Trio

Two young brothers have admitted trying to take a wild ride in a stolen airplane at the Torrance Municipal Airport earlier in the week. Torrance police traced the boys after presenting their descriptions to Walteria school officials, who said the boys and their younger sister and brother had been truant for the past two weeks. The four children were found to be living in an unfit home without parental supervision. The oldest boy, 13, was taken to juvenile hall, and the younger three, ages 12, 11 and 7, were placed in local foster homes.

POLICE obtained the boys' descriptions from airport sources, who said the two had been asking questions about the plane. The would-be pilots apparently removed the keys to the plane from a nearby locker, police said. The youngsters were unable to get the plane off the ground.

The aircraft, a Cessna 150 valued at \$7,000, was spotted by a tower official at 7 a.m. Wednesday. The plane was upside down and had sustained total damage to the landing gear, propeller, right wing, and tail section, police said.

Officials of Rolling Hills Aviation, owner of the aircraft, said the craft had been secured in the tie down area of the airport. It was found at the north side of the airport near the boundary fence.

Model Breaks Wrist in Crash

A Torrance model broke her wrist Wednesday when the car she was driving hit a parked vehicle on Pacific Coast Highway near Nece Avenue.

Taken to Little Company of Mary Hospital by ambulance was 19-year-old Donna Lee Montoya, 2122 Del Amo Blvd.



FIRST FUNDS . . . City Treasurer Thomas C. Rupert (seated) and Lawrence Irwin, deputy executive director of the city's Redevelopment Agency, examine a treasury check for \$2,427,378 received by the city Friday. The funds are the first to be received for financing the city's Meadow Park Redevelopment Project. Shortly after receipt of the funds, the Redevelopment Agency completed its first escrow, thus acquiring the first piece of property in the 54-acre project area. (Press-Herald Photo)

BOARD VOTES

Chamber Backs Renewal Plans

Directors of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce have voted to endorse the city's Meadow Park Redevelopment Project.

The action came Tuesday evening at a special meeting of the Chamber's Board of Directors, Edwin Sullivan, assistant general manager, told the Press-Herald.

Chamber directors voted to back the proposed project fol-

lowing a presentation by City Manager Edward J. Ferraro and members of his administrative staff.

APPEARING before the Chamber directors with Ferraro were Lawrence Irwin, deputy executive director of the Redevelopment Agency; City Attorney Stanley Remmelmeier; Charles Shartle, planning director; William Dundore, city finance director; and John J. McKinnon, superintendent of building and safety.

Sullivan said the Chamber's "overall policy has generally been in opposition to federally financed local urban redevelopment," but noted the directors agreed to support the Meadow Park project "because of the particular reclamation and redevelopment aspects" of the project.

The Chamber, in a letter to Ferraro, had asked a series of 14 questions about the project, including questions about possible alternatives to federal financing.

FERRARO, in his reply, told the Chamber board that private investors could not develop the project because they are discouraged by high costs and the necessity to design streets, sewers, storm drains, and other such facilities in the project area. (See CHAMBER, Page A-2)

Federal Funds Arrive; First Parcel Bought

A check for more than \$2.4 million — representing the city's first advance from the federal government for financing the Meadow Park Redevelopment Project—was received here Friday.

Shortly after receipt of the funds, the city's Redevelopment Agency closed a \$127,000 escrow, thus acquiring in its own name the first parcel of land in the 54-acre project. Another \$762,000 in escrows is due to close within the next few days, according to Lawrence Irwin, deputy executive director of the Redevelopment Agency.

IRWIN SAID the funds were taken from a \$6.5 million loan authorization granted by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Actual amount of the check was \$2,427,378. Another check is expected shortly after the first of the year.

City Treasurer Thomas C. Rupert said he cleared the check through San Francisco by telephone and immediately invested \$2 million in short-term treasury bills. Interest on the investment over the weekend is expected to be about \$1,400, he added.

Irwin said pending escrows, funds to be repaid to the city, and offers made on other property in the project area will account for all of the \$2.4 million advanced yesterday.

SOME \$380,000 in funds, advanced from city sources when legal action halted the project last Oct. 31, will be repaid Tuesday evening, Irwin explained. At that time, the Redevelopment Agency will acquire title to property purchased by the city dur-

ing an early acquisition program and during the month-long delay in the Meadow Park Project.

Acquisition of all land in the project area is expected to cost about \$5.1 million, Irwin told the Press-Herald. That does not include several parcels owned by the city. That land will be turned over to the Redevelopment Agency and the city will receive credit for the property toward its ultimate one-third of project costs.

Acquisition of property by the Redevelopment Agency was halted Oct. 31 when the City Council ordered a special election on an anti-urban renewal petition circulated by Active Citizens of Torrance (ACT).

AT THAT time, HUD froze all federal funds except for administrative costs.

A taxpayers' suit was then filed seeking to have the ACT petition declared invalid. Judge Ralph Nutter of the Los Angeles Superior Court subsequently issued a preliminary injunction prohibiting a special election.

Councilmen, following Judge Nutter's ruling, reversed their vote, refused to call a special election, and ordered the ACT petition filed. At that point, HUD released funds for the project, specifying that no demolition could begin in the project area until all legal action was complete.

JUDGE NUTTER, at the time of his ruling, gave ACT until tomorrow to file an appeal to the taxpayers' suit. No answer had been filed as of Friday.

Rupert told the Press-Herald. (See FEDERAL, Page A-2)

Tell It to the Judge . . .

A routine traffic arrest ended a burglary spree for two Gardena pranksters Thursday. San Diego police stopped Edward Keating, 19, and Robert Carlow for a moving violation and found their car full of stolen goods. The booty included judges' nameplates removed from doors and benches at the South Bay Municipal Court, 823 Maple Ave., sometime between Dec. 1 and 6. Torrance police detectives drove to San Diego Friday to bring the suspects back for booking.

Robbery Suspect Jailed . . .

A Torrance man, identified by police as an ex-FBI agent, was arrested Thursday in connection with the robbery of a Garden Grove bank. William Francis Maher, 41, of 2649 W. 233rd St., was arrested on suspicion of robbing the Garden Grove bank Tuesday of \$700. He also is a suspect in seven other southland robberies, police said. He is being held in the Orange County Jail in lieu of \$25,000 bail.

Tax Bills Due Tomorrow . . .

The first installment on 1967 Los Angeles County property taxes are due tomorrow, Harold J. Ostly, county tax collector, has announced. Payments must be postmarked on or prior to Dec. 11 to avoid payment of penalties. Last year, Ostly said, taxpayers paid an additional \$2.5 million in penalties because of late payments. Failure to receive a tax bill does not mean property owners are excused from the Dec. 11 deadline, he added. More than 20,000 tax bills currently are unclaimed, he explained. Ostly said taxpayers who mail payments tomorrow should take them to the post office in order to make sure they will be postmarked in time.

STUDENT GROUP MEETS

Council Told Jobs Plentiful in Area

There are plenty of paying jobs for Torrance teenagers. The problem is not how to create jobs, but how to groom students for available jobs. These facts about local youth employment keynoted Wednesday's meeting of the Torrance All-City Youth Council.

Council members, representing five area high schools, discussed job opportunities with work experience directors including Ronald Hinders, North High; John Davis, South High; and Dennis York, Torrance High.

The advisers reviewed the school district's three basic employment programs. They are as follows:

• A work-experience plan which releases students from one or two classes per day so that they may assume part-time job. Counselor and employer jointly grade the student on his work.

• A Christmas program gives students an extra week off for vacation jobs. The 500 students involved in this program began their training in October, staying after hours to learn how to find employment, file applications, and pass interviews.

THE CITY Youth Council

was told that one of the problems of summer jobs for teenagers is that many employers have misconceptions about requirements. Many fear that they will have to buy extra insurance, pay higher salaries, or offer extra benefits.

In reality, the employer need only fill out a work permit application for the student and meet state labor law which he must do anyway, the council was told.

The Youth Council learned that it could help create more jobs by publicizing existing programs such as the State Youth Employment Office and the school programs.

YOUTH COUNCIL representatives elected the following officers to serve for the coming year: Lynn Curtis, South High, permanent chairman; Lenny Schapira, South High, vice chairman; and Col-

(See JOBS, Page A-2)

5,000 Expected to Parade Here

Five thousand placard-carrying demonstrators from all over the Southland will converge on Torrance Sunday, Dec. 17, to protest United States involvement in Vietnam.

Announcement was made Wednesday that a protest group, South Bay Vietnam Summer, had accepted the Sunday date for their mammoth anti-war parade down Torrance Boulevard. Ralph Cramer, chairman of the organization, said the parade would begin about 10 a. m. and culminate with a rally at Torrance Civic Center.

The decision to hold the parade Dec. 17 came after protesters were denied the right to hold the march Saturday, Dec. 16, down Hawthorne Boulevard.

Superior Court Judge Ralph H. Nutter ruled that the City of Torrance had the legal power to regulate the time and place of such a demonstration.

Judge Nutter upheld all stipulations of the Torrance License Review Board except one: protesters will not be required to furnish 25 chemical toilets along the parade route.

The group must pay a permit fee of \$500, however. The permit will not be officially granted until this sum is received.

THE LICENSE Review Board considered only the health and safety aspects of the parade, according to Jerome I. Scharfman, assistant city manager and member of

the review board. The intent and ideology behind the demonstration were not discussed.

"People have the constitutional right to express their feelings in terms of a parade and rally—anywhere in the USA," Scharfman said.

THE ASSISTANT city manager noted that the entire Torrance police force will be needed to control the parade and "that may not be enough." Only a minimum number of policemen will be assigned to patrol the rest of the city, he said.

Scharfman added that protest officials had shown a desire to cooperate with city authorities and are willing to meet with police to discuss control of the paraders.

Governor Wallace To Visit

Governor Lurleen B. Wallace of Alabama will visit Torrance this afternoon to meet backers of her husband's effort to qualify his American Independent Party for the California ballot.

Governor Wallace is scheduled to visit Torrance headquarters of the AIP drive, 1307 Post Ave., from 6 to 8 p. m. today.

She will also make stops in Long Beach, Huntington Park, and Hawthorne during her visit to the southland. She is due to visit the Hawthorne AIP office, 11930 S. Hawthorne Blvd., from 6 to 8 p. m. tomorrow.

To qualify for the California ballot, AIP must register some 66,000-plus voters by Jan. 2.

Burglars Hit Officer's Home

Two teenage boys from Redondo Beach are suspected of breaking into the home of Torrance Police Officer John Ainsworth Thursday and taking \$688 worth of jewelry, household appliances, and clothing.

Neighborhood witnesses obtained the license number of the boys' vehicle and alerted police.