

Council Hikes Tie-Down Fees at Airport

Torrance Press-Herald

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CHRISTMAS CANDY . . . Mrs. Peggy Gehrke (at right) taste-tests candy which will be given to employees at Torrance Memorial Hospital Friday while Mrs. Mary Reinardy, a registered nurse, checks department lists to make sure everyone gets a box of candy. Taking a rest from carrying the candy to the hospital is John VanWaardenburg, maintenance engineer. The candy is a traditional gift to hospital employees from Torrance Hospital Association directors. (Press-Herald Photo)

TEA Leader Charges Board Is 'Polarized'

STUDENTS TO ATTEND

Safety Meeting Set Tomorrow

Ten Torrance high school students will attend sessions of the Governor's Traffic Safety Conference in Los Angeles tomorrow and Friday. The students, selected from each of the city's high schools, will be sponsored by the Torrance Safety Council. Purpose of the conference is to "direct imaginative thinking to California's future traffic problems."

STUDENTS will make plans for a local safety conference, to be held next February, following this week's sessions, a school official said. Participants in the February meeting will include the Torrance PTA Council, the city's Safety Council, the Torrance Police Department, and representatives of the school system.

Governor Ronald Reagan will be the keynote speaker at the conference. Discussion sessions will be devoted to "The Roadway," "The Driver," "The Car," and "Law Enforcement and the Courts."

STUDENTS who attend the conference include Cara Armstrong, Tom Summers, and Mike Belzer of Torrance High; Michelle Chiapetta and Michelle DeArmitt of South High; Rich Schwanbeck and Clare Nonoshita of West High; Mark Hubert and Lori Rotlante of North High; and Don Whitney of Shery High.

PTA council will accompany the group. The local conference, to be under the direction of James Becker, chairman of the Torrance Safety Council, will be held next Feb. 21.

Lighting Contest Under Way

Entries in the Torrance Junior Chamber of Commerce Christmas Lighting Contest will be accepted through Dec. 20, according to an announcement made today by John Dunbar, chairman of the event.

Judging of the contest entries has been scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday, Dec. 20 and 21, with winners to be announced just before Christmas.

Entries will be accepted in both religious and novelty classifications and trophies will be presented to first and second place winners in each classification.

Winners also will be guests of the Jaycees for a dinner next month, Dunbar said. Entry forms are printed on page A-2 of today's Press-Herald. Additional entry forms may be secured from the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, 1510 Cravens Ave.

Telephones Now Open To Santa

Telephone lines to the North Pole, established so that Torrance youngsters can talk with Santa Claus, will be open from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. through Friday.

Established with the aid of Wright Anserfone of Torrance, the lines will enable Torrance children to give their Christmas list directly to Santa.

City and school officials, firemen and policemen, and service clubs are cooperating with the Torrance firm in maintaining the telephone service to the North Pole.

Children may talk to Santa today, tomorrow, and Friday by calling

320-7660

This marks the 10th year in which Wright Anserfone has sponsored the long-distance program.

Trustee Calls TEA Director An 'Agitator'

By HENRY BURKE
Press-Herald Staff Writer
The use of one word to describe the position of the Torrance Unified School District board of trustees triggered the latest feud between the board and the Torrance Education Association.

As the trustees were prepared to adjourn a routine meeting Monday night at 10 p.m., TEA Executive Secretary Noel Marble offered a few remarks to substantiate the position of his association in dealing with the board.

In a carefully prepared statement, Marble referred to the trustees as "polarized." This term, described by Board Chairman Bert Lynn as "fixed," touched off an hour of dialogue between Marble and members of the board.

Lynn accused Marble of being a professional agitator and challenged Marble "to change my mind about you." Marble, a former teacher, became full-time executive secretary of the teachers' association last year. Two months ago the group paraded at three high schools to protest the board's handling of salary negotiations.

THE ADVISABILITY of hiring a consultant on a joint basis (cost to be divided equally between TEA and the school district) to handle negotiations between the two bodies was offered by Marble, but board members are not convinced an impasse has been reached between them.

The goal of the district is to present a salary "package" Feb. 1 and have it completed by June 1.

LITERATURE recently distributed by TEA, condemned the district for entertaining a plan to modify the kindergarten program. Dr. J. H. Hull, school superintendent, pointed out,

however, that the measure was first placed on the Nov. 6 agenda. It provides for single session kindergarten classes in selected schools in the district, a program financed by state funds.

THE SCHOOL district delayed by one week the awarding of a bid for the construction of additions to Madrona and Hillside schools.

Bids were submitted on an individual and combined basis and the county counsel will be asked to prepare a written opinion whether Hahn Construction (\$117,300 combined) or Harman-Wolff Construction (Madrona \$93,700) and Robert L. Reeves Construction (Hillside \$20,000) qualifies as low bidder.

Harman-Wolff submitted a combined bid of \$118,700 and Robert L. Reeves submitted a joint bid of \$119,500. Hahn did not itemize the two projects.

ACTION WILL be taken Feb. 1 on the proposal to have student pictures taken in the elementary schools. The board will investigate the experience of other school districts which make individual and class pictures available for purchase for the students.

The school district will explore the possibility of obtaining a single photographer on the basis of a competitive bid for the lowest net cost to the student.

Young Scientists

Two area high school students have been honored by the Southern California Industry-Education Council as part of the annual Youth Medalist Award program.

The science students are Linda Ross of Carson High School and Robert Rashid of Narbonne High School.

Christmas Leave Delayed . . .

Lance Cpl. Donald R. Lambert, 20, will spend Christmas in a hospital in Da Nang, Vietnam, instead of at home. Lambert, of 1619 W. 203rd St., was shot last Friday while on patrol in Quang Man, Vietnam. He was scheduled to arrive home in time for Christmas, according to his mother, Mrs. Fay Lambert. Lambert is in fair condition, according to a telegram from Gen. Wallace Greene, Marine Corps commandant.

Lomita Councilman Quits . . .

Ray H. Ferrin, a Lomita councilman for nearly four years, resigned his post Monday evening. Ferrin, 66, told his colleagues he plans to move to Kern County shortly. He and his wife, Edna, have made their home at 1836 254th St. He received a plaque from Mayor Joe Haslam commemorating his service to the city.

Murder Trial Ordered . . .

Alfred Tovar, 21, of Los Angeles has been ordered to stand trial Feb. 13, 1968, in Superior Court on charges of murder and assault with intent to commit murder. Tovar, who appeared in court here Monday, is accused of gunning down Johnny Rivera, 20, of 2130 Del Amo Blvd., during a birthday party last Nov. 11. He also is accused of injuring a second youth, Ysidro Ramirez, 19, of 2104 Del Amo Blvd. Tovar entered pleas of not guilty to both charges during his court appearance Monday.

Manager's Proposal Adopted by Council

By NATALIE HALL
Press-Herald Staff Writer
Despite opposition from the Airport Commission, Torrance City Councilmen last night voted unanimously to boost rates at Torrance Municipal Airport. The new rates were suggested by Airport Manager Jack Egan. The council supported Egan's proposed increases with one minor exception —

the city's levy on oil. Egan asked for a charge of three cents per gallon on aircraft fuel and 15 cents a quart on oil. A City Council subcommittee lowered the oil rate to 12 cents a quart.

Airport Commissioners, who feel such high rates may be detrimental to the airport, suggested a 2.75-cent charge on each gallon of gasoline sold. They objected to any increase in the present levy of 9 cents per quart of oil.

LAST NIGHT'S vote also increased "T" hanger site charges from \$10 to \$16.96 a month for a typical 1,080-square-foot site, in line with Egan's proposal. The Airport Commission had suggested an increase to \$12.50.

Also raised was the present charge of \$70 per month for a 100-by-100-square-foot service site. Cost will now be \$98. Commissioners had proposed a charge of \$87.50.

Speaking against the extent of the Council's rate increases, Airport Commissioner Brian J. Bell said his commission had voted down Egan's proposals, 6-to-1. Bell noted that the airport man-

ager's recommendation purported to increase current and projected revenues by \$10,000 per year. Under terms of the commissioners' counter proposal, revenues would be increased by \$26,000, which is \$16,000 more than basic request of the airport manager.

AIRPORT commissioners, therefore, believe their more (See COUNCIL, Page A-2)



TO DELICATE SCHOOL . . . William Leahy, principal of the new Grace Wright Elementary School, and Gall Siebert (at right), 14, discuss plans for tonight's dedication ceremonies with Mrs. Grace Wright, for whom the school is named. Mrs. Wright was a member of the first Torrance Board of Education. The school will be dedicated in ceremonies beginning at 7:30 this evening. (Story on Page A-2) (Press-Herald Photo)

Crime Up In City, FBI Says

Crime is up in Torrance just as it is in other parts of the country.

According to the FBI crime index for the first three quarters of this year, a nationwide 16 per cent increase was reported.

Compared with the first three quarters of 1966, Torrance this year has shown an increase in forcible rape, robbery, burglary, car theft, and larceny (more than \$50).

However, there were fewer murders and aggravated assault cases.

COMPARING the first nine months of 1966 and 1967, the number of forcible rapes jumped from 15 to 17; the cases of robbery leaped from 75 to 80; and the number of auto thefts skyrocketed from 441 to 531.

Burglary figures jumped from 1,253 in 1966 to 1,395 in 1967, and larceny cases rose from 1,294 in 1966 to 1,564 for the period of January through September.

Only one murder was reported during the first nine months of this year, while four were tallied in the same period of time in 1966. Cases of aggravated assault also dropped from 88 in 1966 to 72 in 1967.

\$700 Taken In Robbery Of Market

An armed robber held up Endo's Market, 2323 Cabrillo, yesterday afternoon, netting \$710 in currency.

Haruko Endo, market owner, told Torrance police that a man in his early 20s pointed a revolver at him and told him to put the cash in a white paper bag. Endo said the robber was about 5-foot-8 and was wearing a tan jacket.

After grabbing the cash, the suspect escaped in a white station wagon.