

Vietnam Hero to Get Jaycee Service Award

Torrance

Press-Herald

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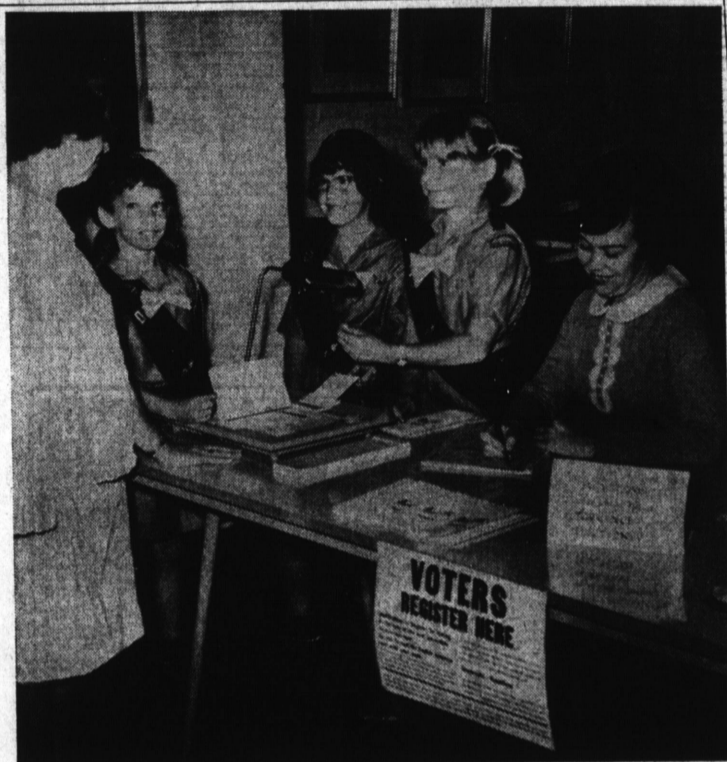
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NEW VOTING DEVICE . . . Junior Girl Scouts of Troop 1001 will demonstrate to voters the new IBM Votomatic device to be used in Torrance during the April 9 municipal election Saturday. At the same time, deputy registrars will be on hand to register voters for the election. Deadline to register is Feb. 15. Here, Mrs. Robert A. Leavitt of the League of Women Voters gets a demonstration from Bonny McDonald, 9, Lorissa Boxer, 9, and Leslie Williams, also 9, while Mrs. Irwin Boxer makes preparations to register voters. The demonstration will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Better Foods Market, 5305 Torrance Blvd. (Press-Herald Photo)

Council Scores Trustee For Salary Issue Stand

Move to Take Pay Hike Off Ballot Delayed

By NATALIE HALL
Press-Herald Staff Writer

City Councilman Ross Sciarrotta launched a vigorous attack against Bert Lynn at last night's council meeting, scoring the Torrance school board president for "innuendoes" against the "integrity" of the City Council in setting up the Charter Review Committee.

Sciarrotta was referring to remarks made by Lynn in a speech last week to the Serotoma Club.

His voice beaking with emotion, Councilman Sciarrotta blasted Lynn's implication that the council was politically motivated in setting up the Charter review group. The councilman said he personally resented Lynn's remarks because he, Sciarrotta, had served as chairman of the council subcommittee which made provisions for setting up the review committee.

"WHEN HE attacks our integrity, it's time to strike back," Sciarrotta exclaimed. "How can you call the Charter Review Committee a rubber stamp," he went on, telling how the council had set up safeguards against turning the committee into a political tool.

Sciarrotta explained that a majority of council members had selected seven review members, asking the seven to select five more members by a majority vote.

After debating Lynn's speech on charter review, in connection with proposed councilmen's pay raises, the council decided to table a move to withdraw the salary hike from the April ballot.

Councilmen, who now choose \$100 per month plus (See SALARY, Page A-2)

Councilmen To Select Appraisers

A controversy over the selection of appraisers for public works projects came to the fore at last night's City Council meeting. Councilmen voted unanimously to keep final selection of appraisers within the Council's control, following recommendations of a subcommittee composed of Councilmen David K. Lyman, Jay Beasley, and Ken Miller.

City Manager Ed Ferraro has asked that he and City Attorney Stanley Remelmeier be given the right to name appraisers. Ferraro believes that the current procedure takes too long and that many qualified appraisers refuse to submit bids under present circumstances.

The council's measure calls for the city manager and city attorney to narrow bids down to three names, leaving final choice to the council.

Ferraro was granted more time to revise his recommendations. The controversy followed a vote in the choice of appraisers for the Del Amo Boulevard widening. The council made Ernest I. Johnson, who submitted a bid of \$2,350.

Pay Measure Opposed . . .

The city's Charter Review Committee, appointed by the city council to study possible revisions in the City Charter, has told the council it will oppose a ballot measure which would raise council pay from \$100 to \$300 per month. Larry Bowman, chairman of the committee, told the council in a letter his committee is "not prepared to make any presentation for the April ballot; nor until the review of the entire charter is completed." Bowman also said the committee "urges that no piecemeal amendment of the charter be undertaken, including any change in the council salaries." The vote to oppose the salary issue was unanimous, Bowman reported.

Chamber Meeting Slated . . .

Dan Moore, director of educational services for the Los Angeles Times, will address members of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce tomorrow at a luncheon meeting. The meeting will be held at the Jump 'n Jack Restaurant, not at the Indian Village as previously announced by the Chamber. The session is open to the public and reservations can be secured by calling the Chamber offices, Brian J. K. Bell, membership relations chairman, said.

Suspect Admits Robbery . . .

A 31-year-old Torrance man arrested Jan. 10 in connection with the robbery of a market at 23004 Crenshaw Blvd. has pleaded guilty to the charge in South Bay Municipal Court. Kenneth Eugene Comer, of 1525 1/2 W. 205th St., was ordered to appear Feb. 13 in Superior Court for sentencing on the charge. Comer was arrested after witnesses wrote down the license number of his car. Some \$300 was taken in the robbery.

Officer Dragged By Car

A Torrance police officer was dragged 75 feet by a fleeing vehicle early Sunday morning while he shouted for the car's driver to stop.

During the course of the ensuing struggle, the car's teenage driver chipped two teeth and suffered a laceration on his chin that required 10 stitches to close.

Miraculously escaping unharmed was Officer Michael B. Dersham. Dersham reported that he and his partner were patrolling on Sartori Avenue near Torrance Boulevard when they spotted a suspicious looking vehicle idling at the curb. The time was 3:30 a.m.

THE OFFICERS said they turned on their overhead lights and got out to investigate. They commanded the car's driver to wait but the car slowly pulled away from the curb.

Dersham ran along the left side of the car, thrusting his gun in the window by the driver's head, again commanding him to stop. Suddenly the car lunged forward, slamming the windowpost against the officers' arm, the report said.

The car then dragged Dersham some 75 feet, with his right arm and shoulder partially inside the vehicle. The officer then managed to hit the driver with his gun, bringing the car to a halt, police reported.

THE DRIVER, Jeffrey Kean Elrod, 18, of 2202 W. 179th St., was arrested for assault with a deadly weapon against a peace officer. He was also charged with driving under the influence of an intoxicant. (See OFFICER, Page A-2)



SIGNING UP . . . Clara Conner (left) and Martha Shook, who will head the Torrance division during Heart Association's February campaign, discuss plans for recruiting volunteers. The campaign is planned Feb. 15 through 18, with Heart Sunday planned for Feb. 18. Torrance residents contributed \$7,507 during the 1967 campaign, Mrs. Conner reported.

Miss Torrance Pageant Slated

The search for a new Miss Torrance to succeed Susan Foster, who has reigned for the past two years, is underway, officials of the Torrance Jaycees have announced.

Miss Torrance of 1968 will be selected during the annual Miss Torrance Beauty Pageant, scheduled at the Torrance High School auditorium March 9.

The pageant is an official preliminary to the Miss California and Miss America pageants and can lead to a \$10,000 college scholarship, according to Arne Dreier, pageant director.

All single girls who will be between 18 and 28 years of age by Sept. 4, 1968, are eligible to enter the contest. All contestants must be a high school graduate and must have lived in the Torrance area for at least six months.

Entry forms are available at the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, 1510 Cravens Ave.

DR. SMITH makes his home in Rolling Hills with his wife, Ann, and their daughter, Phyllis. He also has two sons—James, married and teaching at San Clemente High School, and Bruce, a pharmacy major at USC.

The new president has been first and second vice president of the SCVMA and a delegate to the Southern Veterinary Medical Association's House of Delegates. He has also served on the SCVMA's finance, ethics, grievance, and liaison committees.

Navyman Picked for Top Jaycee Honors

A 22-year-old Navyman who received the Silver Star for heroic action in Vietnam has been named by the Torrance Jaycees to receive the group's Distinguished Service Award. Navy Engineman 3/C Michael L. Meeks, who received the Silver Star Dec. 23 from President Lyndon B. Johnson, will be honored by the Jaycees tomorrow evening at the annual awards dinner.

The Jaycee award will be accepted for Meeks by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert

E. Meeks of 5208 Maricopa St. Cong attack on his Mekong Delta river patrol boat.

THE PRESENTATION will be made by Assemblyman L. E. (Larry) Townsend, who will be the featured speaker at the combination awards dinner and bosses night. This week is National Jaycee Week.

In addition to the Silver Star, Meeks holds two Purple Hearts and his unit is to receive the Presidential Unit Citation. Meeks also is to receive the Navy Accommodation Medal.

He is due home from Vietnam in about a month, the Press-Herald was told yesterday.

MEEKS earned the Silver Star—the nation's fourth highest military decoration—for his action during a Viet

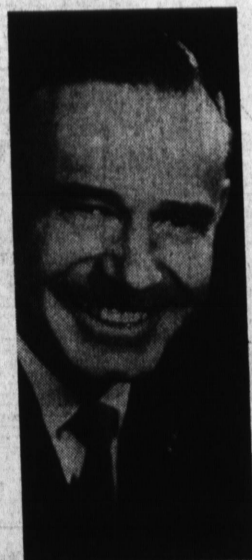
During the week-long celebration honoring the Jaycees and their contributions to individual communities throughout the nation, America's 10 Outstanding Young Men of 1967 are being honored.

Assemblyman Townsend (D-Torrance) will discuss the 1967 and 1968 sessions of the legislature during brief remarks. Now in the second session of his freshman term in the Assembly, Townsend is a member of the Public Utilities and Corporation, Transportation and Commerce, and Natural Resources and Planning and Public Works committees.

He is a former member and chairman of the Torrance Civil Service Commission.

INSTALLED SATURDAY

Local Veterinarian Heads Group



DR. ROLLIN R. SMITH
Elected President

Dr. Rollin R. Smith, Torrance small animal practitioner, has been installed as president of the Southern California Veterinary Medical Association for 1968.

Installation ceremonies took place last Saturday in Los Angeles. Judge John A. Shidler of the Southwest Superior Court acted as installing officer.

Dr. Smith becomes the 49th president of the nation's largest local veterinary medical association. The SCVMA represents more than 650 veterinarians in Los Angeles and Orange counties.

The new president believes the SCVMA should concentrate on the further development of a "continuing education" program for veterinarians. He plans to extend this program which enables SCVMA members to keep pace with the rapid changes in veterinary medicine.

Dr. Smith, a native of La Porte, Colo., was graduated from Colorado State University in 1934.

He has operated the Harbor Animal Hospital here for the past 23 years. He previously practiced in the Palm Springs and Hollywood areas.

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The new president has been first and second vice president of the SCVMA and a delegate to the Southern Veterinary Medical Association's House of Delegates. He has also served on the SCVMA's finance, ethics, grievance, and liaison committees.

Dr. Smith is a member of the CVMA, the American Veterinary Medical Association, and the American Animal Hospital Association. He is also chairman of the Torrance Family YMCA board and a member of the Lion's Club and the Toastmasters.

Mounties Install Officers

The Torrance Mounted Police will travel to Palm Springs Saturday for installation ceremonies.

Art Harkness will be installed as captain with Jack Aylesworth serving as lieutenant. Other officers are Jack Phillips, secretary-treasurer; and Paul Parker, Bud Walsh, Dud Manier, Bill Lambert, and Earl Morgan, sergeants.

Lt. D. C. Cook of the Torrance Police Department will be installing officer and coordinator.

The Torrance Mounted Police have given more than 15 years of service in the Harbor area and in Southern California.

They are on call at the request of Torrance Police Chief Walter Koenig, ready to assist in an emergency.

The Mounted Police have participated in numerous parades, traveling as far as Santa Maria and Palm Springs.

Group members own their own mounts and equipment and provide transportation for their horses to parade sites. Their work is done on a volunteer basis.