

May Building Permits Exceed \$4.5 Million

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TO LEAD CLUB . . . Officers of the newly formed Exchange Club of Del Amo Center-Torrance discuss plans for the club following their election at a meeting last week. Pictured are (from left) James T. Fox, vice president; E. J. Irvine Jr., president; Marshall Kosberg, secretary; and Bruce Pierson, treasurer. The new club is sponsored by the Exchange Club of the South Bay and will receive its charter from the National Exchange Club July 12. New members of the board include Daniel Berke, Ray Navarra, Mort Greenberg, Carl Corzan, Mike Kasino, and Roger Rolapp. Irvine, Berke, Corzan, and Joe Reilly compose the executive committee. (Press-Herald Photo)

5,000 to Graduate in Ceremonies This Week

Exercises Set Wednesday at High Schools

Almost 5,000 students — 4,965 to be exact — will graduate from Torrance schools this month, according to Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools. This represents a decrease of 15 students from last year and the first decrease in the number of graduates in the district's history.

Biggest decrease is in the elementary school level where 2,680 eighth graders will receive diplomas, 32 less than a year ago. Although more high school seniors are graduating this June, less adults are receiving night school diplomas.

Receiving high school diplomas are 2,098 students, 35 more than last year. Only 187 persons will graduate from adult school, however, as compared with 205 a year ago.

COMMENCEMENT exercises will take place Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Columbia School and the Torrance Adult Evening High School will hold ceremonies Monday. High school graduations will be Wednesday at 8 p.m., and elementary graduations Thursday evening.

Handing out diplomas will be school board members, former board members, district administrators, and a retired industrialist.

All ceremonies will take place at the home school with the following exceptions: Carr exercises will be held at El Camino College, Fern-Greenwood at Torrance High School auditorium, Madrona at Torrance Recreation Center, Seaside at South High School cafeteria, Victor at West High School gymnasium, Newton at South High School gymnasium, Adams at Lomita Park gymnasium, Hickory at El Camino College auditorium, Wood at Torrance High School auditorium, Riviera at South High

School cafeteria and Torrance High School at El Camino College.

DIPLOMAS will be presented as follows:

Monday: Columbia, 7:30 p.m., Dr. Louis Kaplan, assistant (See SCHOOLS, Page B-3)

Library Budget Slashed

Budget for the new Civic Center Library, slated to open in May, 1970, was slashed by more than 10 per cent Wednesday at the first budget hearing session.

Councilmen voted 6-1 to give City Librarian Russell West \$45,000 with which to open the proposed library. The management staff had asked for roughly \$52,000.

Sole dissenting vote was cast by Councilman William J. Uerkwitz.

MAYOR Albert Isen questioned the need to hire 29 new employees to staff the new library, only to be told by West that 29 people would be the minimum number needed to carry on operations.

West said the new library would be 10 times the size of any of the existing branch libraries in Torrance, adding that he hoped to keep the new library open a challenging 70 hours per week. He said the library would open with 75,000 volumes and grow rapidly during the first year. Total capacity would be 100,000.

(See BUDGET, Page B-3)



FOR TEEN DRIVERS . . . Torrance and Redondo Beach Jaycees, in cooperation with the Lincoln-Mercury Division of the Ford Motor Co., will sponsor their second annual "Teen Driving Championships" tomorrow at the Torrance Police Department. Shown displaying the top trophy to be awarded are (from left) Andy Papp of the Torrance Jaycees, Dan Bridges of the Redondo Beach Jaycees, and Bill Hopkins of Bill Hopkins Lincoln-Mercury. Local winners will compete in state competition in Santa Maria, with more than \$12,000 in scholarships at stake. Teenagers who have not had a moving violation since Jan. 1 are eligible and winners will be selected in both boys and girls competition.

Five-Month Totals Top \$13.7 Million

Building activity in the City of Torrance continues at an upward pace.

During the month of May, total valuation of proposed build-

ings for which permits were issued stood at \$4,530,245. That figure for May, 1968, was \$1,572,255.

Total building valuation from January through May, 1969, came to \$19,590,990. For the same period in 1968, the figure was \$13,713,290.

PERMITS for 71 single family dwellings were issued at a total valuation of \$1,851,675. For May, 1968, only 18 new dwellings at a total cost of \$470,455 were applied for.

May, 1969, was also ahead in terms of new apartment house permits. Some 90 new units will be built at a cost of \$874,790. In May, 1968, 60 units were issued permits at a construction cost of \$585,650.

Six permits for new commercial buildings were granted, at a total valuation of \$239,925. Five such permits were granted in May, 1968, at a total valuation of \$32,880.

NOTEWORTHY permits granted last month include a

permit for a 68-home development on the 19700 blocks of Linda, Mildred, and Redbeam Avenues, Applicant for the \$1,773,395 project was R. A. Watt Co. (Boise-Cascade).

Coldwell Banker and Co. was granted a permit to build a \$71,585 commercial building at 21825 Hawthorne Blvd. and Goodyear Service Store was granted permission to build a \$120,000 store at 21770 Hawthorne Blvd.

G. L. Schuler was issued a permit to build two apartment houses at 3656 Garnet Ave. The 71-unit apartment will cost \$687,590 and the smaller 19-unit apartment will cost \$207,200.

Adults To Get Degrees

One hundred eighty-seven adults will receive high school diplomas in graduation ceremonies to be conducted by Torrance Evening High School at 8 p.m. Monday in the Torrance High School auditorium.

Keynote speaker at commencement exercises will be Dr. Owen H. Griffith, program manager, Electronics Division, Northrop Corp., and immediate past president of the Torrance Board of Education. He will discuss the topic, "Education in America, the Challenge."

Following the playing of the processional by the Torrance High School Concert Band, under the direction of John Spence, Rev. Charles E. Phelps, pastor of the Community Baptist Church, will deliver the invocation.

MELTON NYGREN will lead the flag salute and Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools, will introduce the keynote speaker.

The Class of '69 will be presented by Raymond Collins, adult education principal, and accepted by Dr. Richard D. Guengerich, assistant superintendent, secondary education.

Diplomas will be presented by Board of Education members Mrs. Kenneth Watts, Burton Belzer, Stanley Dunn, Bert Lynn, and Dr. Griffith.

Preceding the recessional, Rev. Phelps will deliver the benediction.

Torrance Navyman Missing

A Torrance sailor was identified Wednesday as missing following the collision of an Australian Aircraft carrier and the U.S. Navy Destroyer Frank Evans.

Defense Department spokesmen said Boilerman Fireman Appren. Robert J. Searle was missing and presumed dead. His wife Thelma lives at 1344 W. 225th St.

Spokesmen for the Defense Department also announced the death of a Torrance soldier in Vietnam. He is Spec. 4 Gary L. Grubbs, son of Mr. and Mrs. V. A. Grubbs of Torrance.

The soldier's wife, Catherine, lives in Denver, Colo. Specialist Grubbs was killed May 27.



STUDENTS FOR PROGRESS . . . El Camino College student Eddie Castillo (far left) presents a check to Pueblo Community Club President Ruben Ordaz. The student contribution will be placed in the Community Club's general fund for later use in the development of recreational facilities for the Pueblo. Also present for the ceremony were Armida Grajeda, vice president of the Pueblo Community Club, and Torrance City Councilman Donald E. Wilson (far right). The Community Club, in cooperation with the City of Torrance and many civic groups, will stage a mammoth fiesta in October to raise additional funds for the recreational facilities.

At Annual Meeting

Chamber to Name City's Distinguished Citizen

The 1969 annual meeting of the Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce has been scheduled for Friday, June 27, George M. Ebert, president, announced today.

The meeting will be held at Lococo's Restaurant in Manhattan Beach at 7:30 p.m. A social hour will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Highlight of the meeting will be the naming of the city's Distinguished Citizen Award winner.

New officers and directors of the Chamber also will be installed, Ebert explained.

"This will be a marvelous opportunity for those members who have been unable to attend all of the monthly luncheons and mixers or participate in committee work to again renew their association with

their fellow members," Ebert said.

Robert L. Reis, chairman of the event, said the meeting also will serve to honor those members of the board who have done so much for business and the community during their terms of office.

Reis said past events have been sellouts and urged Chamber members to make their reservations early.

Serving on the committee are Past President Larry J. Bowman and Brian J. Bell.

Lions Club To Install President

Services Slated Sunday For Graduating Classes

Leo F. X. Salisbury will be installed as president of the West Torrance Lions Club in ceremonies scheduled for Saturday, June 14.

Salisbury will succeed Darrell J. Flieder as president of the local club.

Installation ceremonies will be held at Sam's Cafe, during a dinner meeting of the club.

Other officers to be installed are Bill Delaney, first vice president; Jim McLeod, second vice president; Bob Halbert, third vice president; J. V. Lattier, secretary; Dick Martin, treasurer; Don Banker, Lion tamer; and Dr. Dave McCandlish, tail twister.

New members of the board of directors are Joe Altobelli and Flieder, two-year terms; and Dr. Wynn Mooring and Denny Skinnell, one-year terms.

The club is the sponsor of the East-West All-Star-Football game, to be played at El Camino College in August.

Baccalaureate services will be conducted for the graduating class of four Torrance high schools Sunday.

Services at North High School will be conducted at 2 p.m. in the gymnasium with Rev. Charles Treffrey, pastor of the South Bay Church of God, delivering the prayer and benediction and Rev. James O. Miller of the Hope United Methodist Church of Torrance featured as speaker.

Delivering the Torrance High School address at 3 p.m. in the El Camino College auditorium will be Rev. William Rolader of the First Lutheran Church of Torrance. Rev. Arthur Nagel of the First United Methodist Church will lead the prayer and the Rev. Lloyd Newlin of the First Baptist

Church of Torrance will give the invocation and benediction.

REV. LOUIS Smith of the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd will speak at West High School gymnasium at 3 p.m. Prayer and benediction will be delivered by Rev. Gary Freeman of the Church of Christ, Torrance.

Final baccalaureate service will be conducted at 4 p.m. at South High School gymnasium by Rev. Augustine O'Gorman of St. James Catholic Church. Delivering the prayer and benediction will be Rev. Charles Neigh of Waleria Community Church.

Rev. Charles Phelps of the Community Baptist Church of Torrance will be spiritual leader at adult education graduation Monday evening.