

## Warrior Trails

By Cathy Focarazzo

West's first political convention has come to an end.

We-No-Con was quite a success and it turned out to be much more than just a convention. It was a frank, honest, and rather open air way of throwing oneself right into an election, and really counting. You were not merely a number but a representative of others and you really felt like a part of everything. No speeches or demonstrations were particularly outstanding and the redundant balloting and voting got tiresome but it was all forgotten by the word-wars between the section leaders and

the grand-scale confetti fights. The streamers, confetti and other items covered the floors, the chairs, the stage, and the delegates. The candor of the delegates was also remarkable. One delegate would stand up and say "NO" to a candidate sitting right next to him. It was not a matter of soft feelings but an issue of who was qualified and who was not, cut and dried.

I found it to be a remarkable refreshing experience for two days, Tuesday and Wednesday. My favorite part of the whole convention were the cuts that each section leader hurled at

## Preschool Workshop Scheduled

Harbor College has scheduled a preschool education workshop on campus for mothers and their preschool children, who are between the ages of 3 and 5 years. The workshop will be held Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday mornings from 9 to 10 a.m., July 7-30.

The workshop is open to residents of the Los Angeles Harbor College District and is limited to mothers and their preschool children. A limit of two children may be enrolled per family if both are between 3 and 5.

the other according to his section letter which could have ranged from A to L. I hope that the convention will continue because for a premiere, this was quite a success.

THURSDAY, the Los Angeles Philharmonic graced West with two absolutely tremendous concerts. They did several beautiful pieces including Beethoven, Chavez and a percussion original by the conductor, William Kraft. The students were enthralled by the silvery smooth tones of the truly distinguished and world-famous orchestra. More cultural things like that are needed at high schools. Surprisingly, the students enjoy it.

Saturday, the band, drill team, majorettes, and flag twirlers marched in the Armed Forces Day parade and brought in a few more of those trophies. More later.

## Garden Checklist

1. Ants in your garden? Get rid of them, ants spread a multitude of insect pests. Chlordane dust or spray will do the job.

2. There are a multitude of summer blooming shrubs which can be planted now. Here are a few: Lantana, Raphiolepis, Choisya ternata and Pieroma.

3. By now you should have picked up and destroyed all of the old Camelia flowers which fell to the ground. This is the best prevention for blossom blight disease which would make next year's buds drop off before blooming.

4. This is a good time to obtain new varieties of Fuchsias, Geraniums, and Chrysanthemums for your garden.

5. Container-grown shade trees can still be planted and nurseries have a good selection for your city.

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Robin Lynn Abati, a graduating senior from Banning High School, has been named winner of the Outstanding Student Award in an annual program sponsored in cooperation with the California Savings and Loan League. Miss Abati received a cash award of \$100, and an engraved medallion. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Abati of Wilmington, is editor of the Banning year book, president

### Wins Outstanding Student Award

of the school's International Affairs Club, and was elected to Girls' State. She also is a member of the Scholarship Federation, Inter-Club Council, and Girls' Athletic Association. With her here (from left) are John Bertram, who presented the award; Miss Abati; her mother, Mrs. Fred Abati; and Mrs. Virginia Van Kirk of Banning.

## Widows Urged to Check Social Security Early

During the past year, two out of every three young widows in the South Bay area did not find out that they could collect monthly social security benefits for themselves and their children until sometime after their husband's death, Miles Davis, social security district manager, said today.

"Most of them did get to the Torrance social security office before any benefits were lost," Davis said. "But the surprising thing is that so many young wives are not even aware that social security provides protection for the family if the husband and father dies and this protection is worth as much as \$75,000 to \$100,000 to an individual family. In a number of cases, the funeral director suggested that the widow get in touch with the social security office. In others, the visit to the social security office was made in the faint hope, rather than the expectation, that payments could be made to the family."

SOCIAL security survivors benefits are now in their 30th year, Davis pointed out. Over the years since January, 1940, when the first monthly checks were mailed out, more than \$23½ billion has been paid to young widows and children. About 95 out of 100 mothers and children are protected right now if the family breadwinner should die, he noted.

Every young family, he said, should take account of social security benefits in its financial planning. Every young husband should make sure that his wife knows that social security is not just retirement insurance, but that in case of his death, social security will also provide an income for her and the children until the family's grown.

When a father — or a working mother — dies, monthly benefits can be paid to the children at least until they are 18,

or up until age 22, if they continue in school and remain unmarried.

PAYMENTS are made to their mother, too, while any of the children under 18 are in

her care. Their benefits are based on the worker's work under social security, Davis said, and a family may qualify if the worker had social security credit for as little as a year and a half of work in the three

years before his death. The amount of a family's benefits depends upon the worker's average earnings under social security and the number of people in the family. Payments range from a minimum of \$82.50 per month for a widow and one child to \$434.40 per month.

A booklet, "Social Security for Young Families," is available free of charge from the Torrance social security office, Davis said. It describes the survivors benefits that are

payable when a worker dies and also the disability benefits that can be paid to him and to his dependents if he becomes unable to work for 12 months or more.

Readers may pick up a copy at the social security office which is located at 1408 Crenshaw Blvd., or they may ask for a copy by mail or by phone.

The office is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, and from 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Wednesdays.



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